

Step Up Smear Of Committee in Carolina Case

NEW YORK, Feb. 22—North Carolina Governor Hodges has stepped up his smear campaign against the Committee to Combat Racial Injustice. The committee, in collaboration with the NAACP, sparked the world-wide protest which compelled Carolina authorities to free James Hanover Thompson and David Simpson, the eight and ten-year-old Negro boys incarcerated because one of them had been kissed by a white playmate.

Joined by his attorney general and racist papers in the state, Hodges is shouting far and wide that the CCRI has raised a huge sum of money which its members are using to line their own pockets and that the committee is a "Communist Front." At the same time vilification of Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Simpson, the mothers of the two boys, is being continued.

A speech on the case Feb. 16 in Charlotte, N. C., by Attorney General Seawell was headlined in the Charlotte News, "Kiss Case' Fund Raisers Attacked." The Charlotte Observer pitched it as "Big Money Seen in Kiss-

NAACP Urges Union to Act Against Racist

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People has demanded that the Textile Workers Union of America, AFL-CIO, "take appropriate action" against its chapter in Front Royal, Va., where the local business agent is a leading figure in the campaign to stop public school integration.

Charles Leadman, the business agent, is collecting a "voluntary" contribution of a dollar a month from the 1,000 white members of the chapter to subsidize a "private" school being used to facilitate the boycott of the high school where Negro students have now been assigned.

It was also charged Feb. 20 that Leadman has engaged in collusion with the local plant of the American Viscose Corporation to penalize Negro workers active in the integration fight. NAACP labor secretary Herbert Hill revealed that six Negroes have been fired, two demoted and several threatened with firing. Among those facing dismissal is the local NAACP president who is father of one of the Negro students assigned to the previously all-white school.

Castro Probes U.S. Companies

By Lillian Kiesel

Two American-owned public utilities, Cuban Electric and Cuban Telephone, are being investigated by the Castro government as part of a general probe into government contracts with private companies hold some of the best land in Cuba. Castro's land reform program calls for dividing up government-owned land first and then uncultivated lands which will be bought from the plantation owners by the government.

Although the sections of American big business with holdings in Cuba are acting with caution and circumspection at the moment in hope of riding out the revolutionary storm, others with rival interests appear less concerned about moves that might provoke the Cuban people.

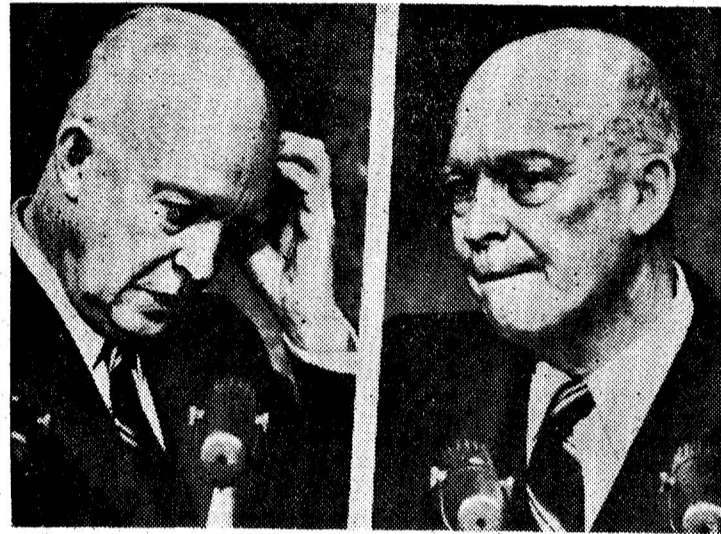
Senator Ellender, Democrat from the sugar-producing state of Louisiana, issued a thinly veiled threat last week when he said that Castro is responsible for delaying extension of the quotas under the United States Sugar Act which assigns the amount of sugar other countries can market in the U.S.

Castro was reported by Associated Press to have answered: "For the most insignificant reasons they threaten us with taking away the sugar quota. I am tired of that."

In a TV speech on Feb. 19 he declared: "If Russia wants sugar we'll sell it to her. We have a right to solve our problems."

Reuther-Meany Propose Jobless Meet in Capital

"It May Be the Only Way"



In these two candid snapshots, Pres. Eisenhower appears to be seriously considering AFL-CIO President Reuther's recent ironic suggestion that the only alternative to providing effective aid for the jobless is "to shoot ten per cent of the population."

General Strike Hits Belgian Coal Mines

FEB. 25 — While the Belgian government deployed troops in the Congo to preserve its rule against the rising freedom movement, it was hit at home by a general strike of more than 100,000 coal miners that lasted almost a week, ending yesterday. The government answered the strikers in much the same way it has answered the Congolese fighters for independence — with troops, clubs, tear gas and jailings.

An estimated 23,000 miners walked out in the Borinage coal basin 12 days ago when the government announced plans to shut down "uneconomic" mines in the area employing some 6,000 men. On Feb. 18 the Socialist Trade Union Federation called for a general mine strike in solidarity with the Borinage workers. Over 100,000 responded in a militant demonstration of determination not to let the government and mine operators make them the victims of a growing crisis in the industry.

The strikers did not win their demand that the shutdown order be rescinded. Instead, their leaders accepted a compromise under which the government will guarantee to resettle and find work for those displaced.

In fighting for continued operation of the mines, the strikers were bucking not only the Belgian government but also the other countries belonging to the European Coal and Steel Community. The "community" is a common market operation including Belgium, France, Italy, the Netherlands, West Germany and Luxembourg.

The other members of the "community" have been pressuring the Belgian government to lower coal costs by shutting down "uneconomic" mines in the Borinage basin in order to meet the competition of U.S. coal being dumped on the European market. To ease the resistance of the workers affected by this, the Belgian government was given \$120 million to retrain and re-employ displaced miners. Instead the government handed the money over to the operators in the form of a \$6-a-ton subsidy to lower prices.

Belgian coal came into heavy surplus. Seven million tons were left unsold at the end of last year and the figure is expected to rise to 14 million by the end of this year. This brought the abrupt government decision to shut down the most unprofitable mines with brutal disregard of the fate of the 6,000 men involved.

The Borinage miners have a stirring history of militant struggle and a strong revolutionary socialist tradition. In this strike they demonstrated that their fighting capacity has not been lost. When four of their leaders were arrested in one area, they marched 2,000 strong to the local jail in the face of tear gas and fire hoses.

With the mines solidly shut, they acted to extend the effectiveness of their action des-



Yugoslav Communist Party spokesman Djuro Pucar derides Khrushchev's latest Stalin-type attack on Titoists as "revisionists."

Dodge Local Unemployed Study Action

DETROIT, Feb. 18 — The unemployed members of Dodge Local 3 organized themselves long before Walter Reuther and the UAW executive board established an organizational structure for this purpose. (See other story on page four.) A meeting of the Local 3 unemployed committee today showed the value of such activities.

The meeting, held in Local 3's hall, was attended by at least 300 members — which is more than the usual attendance at the local's monthly membership meeting.

Seven or eight leaders of the committee sat on the platform. None is an official of the local. The atmosphere was completely democratic. The members were attentive and demonstrative in their reactions. It was plain that they came because they feel the committee's activities will have an important part in determining whether or not they get back to work.

Chairing the meeting was Edith Van Horn, who gave a report on the UAW executive board's administrative letter telling how unemployed committees are to be formed. She was one of the delegates from the city-wide UAW Production and Skilled Workers Unemployed Committee who had appeared before the UAW executive board on Feb. 4, urging it to throw the union's full weight behind a militant program to combat unemployment. (The city-wide committee has been functioning since last November as coordinating body of several unemployed groups like Local 3's.)

Her report, expressing satisfaction over the International's active entry into the unemployed fight, was accepted without discussion.

The next report was given by Manatee Smith, a co-chairman of the city-wide committee. He told about some of its recent activities:

(1) Its appearance Monday before the DSR (transit) commission, requesting that workers getting welfare or jobless compensation be allowed to ride the city-owned buses at a half-fare of ten cents.

(2) Its participation in the recent Michigan AFL-CIO legislative conference in Lansing, where it backed the AFL-CIO proposal for payment of jobless compensation for the full period of unemployment, and

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Sign Cyprus Agreement



Greek Premier Karamanlis (left) shakes hands with Turkish Premier Menderes after they reached agreement with British to make Cyprus an independent republic. Britain will retain military bases. How Cypriotes, who wanted island returned to Greece, will react to deal remains to be seen, but they held joyful demonstrations over release of hundreds of British-held political prisoners.

Discuss Way To Dramatize Work Needs

By Harry Ring

FEB. 25 — The Executive Council of the AFL-CIO opened the possibility yesterday for effective action by the union movement in behalf of America's unemployed millions. Caught between the demand by jobless unionists for such steps as a big march on Washington and their own fear of head-on collision with the high command of the Democratic Party, the Council sought a compromise—a "mass conference" in Washington to dramatize the plight of those out of work.

United Auto Workers President Walter Reuther, speaking on behalf of the international executive board of his union, began by proposing a march on Washington. This was opposed by AFL-CIO President George Meany, who thought that a legislative conference was going far enough. After some argument, agreement was reached on holding a mass conference in Washington.

Preparation of the gathering was assigned to a special committee headed by Reuther. The committee was empowered to "develop plans for the calling of a mass conference in Washington to effectively dramatize the desperate plight of millions of unemployed workers and their families and to petition the President and Congress to take immediate, effective steps to get America back to work." A date has not yet been set for the meeting.

It can safely be assumed that the top union brass will do everything it can to limit the size, militancy and demands of the projected assembly. However, unemployed unionists have been chafing at the lack of action and may seize this opportunity to stage a demonstration that will shake the complacency in ruling circles.

Union militants, worried about the heavy unemployment in every important industrial center in the country, can be expected to do everything possible to assure widest publicity to the project; to organize fundraising and the transportation needed to get the biggest possible jobless delegation to Washington. Many of them will undoubtedly work out dramatic send-offs for the motored.

In the past, for example, the Detroit workers have packed

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Michigan Socialists Name Candidates

DETROIT, Feb. 21 — The Socialist Workers Party, meeting in state convention here today, nominated a slate of candidates for state educational offices to be filled in the April 6 elections.

The SWP nominees are Robert Himmel for State Superintendent of Public Instruction; Evelyn Sell for University of Michigan's Board of Regents; Rita Shaw and Harriet Talan for Board of Governors of Wayne State University.

The party platform, unanimously adopted by the delegates, calls for "a public works program to build more schools; fully subsidized public educa-

tion through college; extension of academic freedom; more student voice in running the schools; an end to racial discrimination in fraternities, sororities and housing facilities; and pay raises for teachers."

In accepting the nominations, the candidates talked on various planks in this platform. Harriet Talan, a 23-year-old Senior at Wayne University, stressed that she was accepting the nomination because she believes "students should have a voice in governing the schools they attend."

Campaign literature may be obtained from the Socialist Workers Party, 3737 Woodward, Detroit 1, Michigan.

Divided Germany - A Ticking Time Bomb

By Daniel Roberts

Attempts by both the Soviet and U.S. governments to ease the cold war have brought the German crisis to a head. Both sides realize that if they are to gain credit before world public opinion for relaxing cold war tensions, they must offer a solution to the problem of divided Germany. But, in truth, both sides have become so deeply involved in Germany—that neither side is able to offer a basic solution. This results in new acrimonious disputes between them.

In common, U.S. imperialism and the Soviet bureaucracy flouted the German people's right to self-determination when they carved up Germany at the end of World War II. Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill claimed that this policy was necessary to prevent resurgence of German militarism and would guarantee world peace. Instead, division of Germany planted a fuse for World War III which burns to this day.

Soon after World War II ended, U.S. big business launched its preparations for World

War III in which it aims at restoring capitalism throughout the Soviet bloc. By means of the Marshall plan and of heavy investments by major U.S. corporations, Wall Street rebuilt the West German capitalist structure. West Germany was then remilitarized. Today, Washington looks on the German capitalist class as a principal collaborator in the war drive. Officers of Hitler's Wehrmacht lead NATO's armies in Europe. Finally, West Germany today holds the biggest concentration of American military bases in Europe.

Victory of the European working people including the German, in their independent struggle for socialism, would have provided the Soviet Union with its most effective means of defense against U.S. imperialism's war threat. The Stalinist bureaucracy, however, stood in mortal fear of working-class revolutions, whose prospects were particularly favorable in Europe at the close of the war. Instead of helping to achieve a socialist Europe, the Stalinists lent their support to Anglo-American imperialism in side-tracking and defeating the post-

war revolutionary wave.

When U.S. imperialism launched the cold war, the Stalinists relied on strengthening the buffer zone they had erected between the Soviet borders and the U.S. armies, on rebuilding the Soviet military forces, and on diplomatic moves seeking a status-quo pact with imperialism. Accordingly, the Soviet bureaucracy integrated East Germany into its buffer zone. Property relations were transformed by bureaucratic-military means, and, as in all other East European countries, the Kremlin foisted a regime of "gendarmes and bureaucrats," totally subservient to Moscow, on the people.

In line with the international thaw he is seeking, Khrushchev now proposes "confederation" of the two German governments. The treaty he proposes to the West would keep Germany neutral and disarmed. All foreign troops would leave German soil. Capitalism would be guaranteed in West Germany, while Soviet property forms would be upheld in East Germany. Fusion of the two parts would depend on negotiations between the two German

governments. Settlement along these lines would begin with U.S. recognition of the East German government. (Current Soviet moves in Berlin are designed to pressure the West to accord such recognition.)

In recent weeks there has been a distinct tendency among U.S. ruling circles to make concessions in the direction of the Kremlin's plan. "The Western powers have reached agreement among themselves that they might be willing to recognize the East Germans as 'agents' of the Soviet Union provided Moscow were ready to offer firm guarantees that the access routes [to West Berlin] would remain open," reports the Feb. 22 New York Times.

The most far-reaching proposal came from Senator Mike Mansfield (Mont.) assistant Democratic floor leader in a Feb. 12 speech in the Senate.

WANTS 'TALK'

How are the "differing economic and social structures" in the two parts of Germany to be "fused in peace"? Mansfield asks. "It is the Germans, themselves . . . who will make the decisive decisions on unifica-

tion, if they are to be made in peace." He proposes accepting the East German government instead of the Russian troops as the valid authority in East Berlin. (This accords with the Soviet demands.) He also proposes that either a United Nations force or a "[West] German militia, fully supported by NATO guarantees," replace the French, British and U.S. occupying troops in West Berlin. Mansfield wants "talk, a great deal of talk," between the two German authorities on the problem of German unification. Finally, he proposes a mutual pullback of Soviet and Western troops "from the points of imminent contact in Germany and Central Europe."

Neither Khrushchev's nor Mansfield's proposals would remove German division or end foreign control over either part of Germany. But Western recognition of the East German government and a withdrawal of foreign troops would nominally leave settlement of the problem in German hands. This could encourage the German working people to intervene in bringing about genuine reunification of their country.

