

THE MILITANT

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The 30-Hour Week — Why It's Practical

— See Page 5 —

JOIN THE MARCH ON WASHINGTON TO PROTEST THE VIETNAM WAR!

Johnson Keeps Edging Toward Nuclear Brink

By George Saunders

After two months of bombing raids in North Vietnam, the Johnson administration has not achieved its announced aims. Guerrillas in South Vietnam, far from being ordered by their alleged "superiors" in Hanoi to stop fighting, are pressing the independence struggle harder than ever. So Johnson keeps pushing toward the nuclear brink.

There is no sign that, as Johnson's advisers forecast, the North Vietnamese Lao Dong party, headed by pro-Moscow moderate Ho Chi Minh, has been terrified by the bombings into urging their southern compatriots to lay down arms.

In fact, the bombing raids may have strengthened a militant wing in the Lao Dong party that favors "a harder line toward the West." "There is reason to believe that Ho Chi Minh . . . may be among those who have bowed to the young militants," said a report in the April 4 *New York Times*. The first use of MIG fighters against U.S. raiders on April 4 may be a confirmation of this report of a tougher line in Hanoi.

That was the situation, then, as President Johnson delivered his first policy speech on Vietnam since the escalation began.

Johnson has been extremely reluctant to be pinned down on his Vietnam policies. However, a great deal of questioning and criticism has arisen over his risky and seemingly purposeless violence — from neutral and allied governments, as well as from individuals in this country and abroad. Feeling this heat, "Vomit Gas" Johnson decided that he had to get up there and "explain to the folks" just what the U.S. is up to in Southeast Asia.

That the South Vietnam guerrillas have not been paralyzed by Johnson's raids is attested to by a whole rash of guerrilla actions reported in the first week of April. South Vietnam's National Libera-



Ho Chi Minh

tion Front, in its March 22 statement on the widening of the war, declared its resolve to "arm the whole people," "fight continuously . . . without giving a moment's respite to the U.S. aggressors and their stooges," and to "widen the liberated areas [and] . . . transform the liberated areas into firm strongholds."

At the U.S. base at Pleiku, (Continued on Page 5)

By Jack Barnes

Nat'l Chairman, Young Socialist Alliance

If you feel the urgency of stopping the U.S. war of atrocity in Vietnam, you should join and build the April 17 March on Washington to End the War in Vietnam. Young and old, student and non-student, are being urged by the organizers of the March to pitch in to make this the largest and most effective demonstration possible.

Growing numbers of Americans are expressing doubts about the war and a desire for a peaceful solution. A powerful March on Washington demanding an end to this war NOW will help mobilize that sentiment into a movement — a movement which, if it becomes powerful enough, can stay Johnson's hand.

Every voice of protest must be heard now, and the best place to make your voice heard will be in Washington on Saturday, April 17, along with thousands of others.

Students for a Democratic Society, the organizers of the March, report that thousands of students are planning to converge on Washington from every major campus in the East and Midwest. Two busloads are coming all the way from the Bay Area in California, where a large sympathy demonstration is also being planned. There will also be delegations to Washington from Southern states.

Women Strike for Peace and other peace organizations have endorsed the March and are actively working to build it. A large turnout of adults will join the protest.

SDS is printing thousands of posters with such slogans as "End the War in Vietnam!" "Withdraw Now!" "Negotiate" "I Won't Fight in Vietnam" and others. The demonstrators begin picketing the White House at 10 a.m., and

then march to the Washington Monument at 1:30 p.m. where they will hear speakers, and finally march to the Capitol to present their protest to Congress.

Among the speakers will be journalist I. F. Stone, Senator Gruening of Alaska, Bob Parriss of SNCC, and Paul Potter, chairman of SDS.

The petition the marchers will present to Congress will say in part: "This war is inflicting untold harm on the people of Vietnam. It is being fought in behalf of a succession of unpopular regimes, not for the ideals you proclaim. Our military are obviously being defeated; yet we persist in extending the war. The problems of America cry out for attention, and our entanglement in South Vietnam postpones the confrontation of these issues while prolonging the misery of the people of that war-torn land.

"You must act now to reverse this sorry state of affairs. We call on you to end, not to extend, the war in Vietnam."

March committees have been formed on many campuses with many different organizations participating. Buses, trains and cars are being organized to carry demonstrators to and from Washington.

The fact that SDS is calling for an immediate end to U.S. aggression in Vietnam assures that the action will be in heartening contrast to many previous peace demonstrations which were weakened because the leaders proceeded on the mistaken notion that if they watered down the purpose of the action they would win broader support for it. Such an approach served only to blunt the effectiveness of such actions.

A big turnout in Washington will let Johnson know there is a serious and significant opposition to his reactionary war in Vietnam. All out for the Washington March April 17!

Need for Federal Occupation Remains Urgent

Racist Alabama Officials Continue Violence

By Barry Sheppard

APRIL 6 — The tear-gassing and smoke-bombing of Negro demonstrators in Camden, Ala., underscores the continued urgent need for federal troops in Alabama to protect the rights of Negroes.

The White House is fostering the impression that it discharged its duties by providing troops for the five days of the Selma-Montgomery march and by proposing a voting-rights bill to Congress. But when the mayor of Camden himself throws tear gas to break up a peaceful assembly of Negroes petitioning for redress of grievances — and their grievances are many — then it is clear that the Constitutional rights of Negroes are not being protected.

Johnson has sworn to protect the Constitutional rights of all citizens. But in Alabama Negroes are being denied these rights at this very moment by city, county and state officials, and Johnson is doing nothing about it. Federal troops should be sent to Alabama now to enforce the Constitution and to arrest every state and local official guilty of depriving black citizens of their rights.

Mayor Reginald Albritton of Camden, backed up by local cops and Colonel Al Lingo's state storm-troopers, broke up a demonstration

in front of the voter-registration office with tear gas and smoke bombs on April 5. Albritton, who swaggers around with a .45 pistol on his hip, has broken up similar demonstrations in the past few days.

The racist, sadistic mentality of this "official" was reflected in his justification of the use of smoke bombs: "We could have beaten them with sticks." In addition to the thugs in uniform, Albritton brings along a "rescue squad" of armed white-supremacist civilians when he breaks up peaceful demonstrations.

These events in Camden are a repetition of the events in nearby Selma which led to mass beatings and to killings of civil-rights workers. Camden is in Wilcox County which adjoins Dallas County. Negroes outnumber whites in Wilcox County four to one. Very few Negroes there are registered to vote.

Since the departure of federal troops, reprisals have begun against Selma Negroes who took part in the march. The *Philadelphia Tribune* of April 3 reports that at least a dozen have been fired from their jobs, many have been arrested on charges such as "reckless walking," and students and faculty members at the all-Negro Alabama State College have

been expelled for supporting the march.

Nothing tangible has been achieved as yet by Alabama Negroes. Withdrawal of the federal troops leaves them again at the mercy of state and local officials. While a voting-rights bill has been

promised, it remains to be seen how strong the bill will be when passed. (See article on page 2.) But, at best, it will be several years before Negroes in Selma can even vote against the state and local officials.

Under these conditions of no federal protection for Alabama Negroes and a deferred right to vote — if indeed, they do get it — Rev. Martin Luther King has projected the idea of a boycott of Alabama.

King's proposal is to put pressure on the state's racist government through an economic boycott of goods produced in the state, and to have the federal government implement the 1964 Civil Rights Act by not giving Alabama any economic aid. King's proposal has been attacked by the Johnson administration and the capitalist press nationally. Union leaders gave it the cold shoulder.

The Northern big-business press has used the proposed boycott as a pretext for opening a campaign against King and the civil-rights movement, piously warning against tactics which will "hurt Negroes, too." Alabama's racist officials joined in this hypocritical chorus of concern for the Negroes of Alabama — but Alabama Negroes

(Continued on Page 4)



Johnson

How to Join D.C. March

For New Yorkers who want transportation to and from the April 17 March on Washington, there will be buses leaving from 116th St. and Broadway, and from Bryant Park at 42nd St. and Sixth Ave. A train will be leaving from Penn Station at 34th St. Buses will leave at 6 a.m., the train at 7 a.m.

Round-trip bus tickets are \$6, and round-trip train tickets are \$8. For information about buses, call MO 2-5988; about train, call AL 4-2123.

THE NATIONAL PICKET LINE

The former "boy wonder" of the CIO, James B. Carey, has resigned as president of the International Union of Electrical, Radio, and Machine Workers (IUE). The announcement of his resignation followed an April 5 report by the U.S. Department of Labor that there had been a massive miscount of votes cast in the elections for a new president last fall.

Carey's opponent, Paul Jennings, obtained a restraining order on Dec. 1, based on charges that the votes were being fraudulently counted. As a result, all ballots were impounded before the count had been completed, and were later turned over to the Labor Department.

Carey supporters claimed he had been elected by a margin of more than 2,000 votes, but the Labor Department count gave the election to Jennings by a whopping majority of 23,000.

Two Mississippi union leaders told a recent public hearing of the U.S. Civil Rights Commission in Jackson, Miss., that white trade unionists have been threatened and beaten by the same groups which have been terrorizing Mississippi Negroes.

State AFL-CIO President Claude Ramsey, a native Mississippian, said groups like the Klan and the John Birch Society "start out with a base of racial prejudice, but it doesn't take them long to move elsewhere."

An example of "elsewhere" was provided by Otis Matthews, an official of a Woodworkers local in Laurel, Miss., who reported how he was savagely beaten by the Klan last summer.

"They tied my hands and put a blindfold on my eyes," he said. "They drove me a short distance into a dump ground . . . They laid me down on the ground, tore my pants off and began to administer a beating along with a lecture on keeping my mouth shut, doing what I was told, and quitting my activities."

Matthews reported that he re-

fused to be intimidated. "I go armed," he said, "and my family are pretty good shots too, and my wife is not the scarey type."

Meanwhile, T. H. Vincent, regional director of the United Packinghouse Workers, has charged that the armed, mounted, civilian posse, used to brutalize civil-rights demonstrators in Selma, Ala., was used against an organizing campaign of his union in 1958.

Vincent was attempting to organize a packing plant in Selma, that employed mainly women workers, when he was threatened by Sheriff Jim Clark and abandoned the effort. He said that "50 to 75 farmers on horseback, deputized by Clark, showed up at the plant. They carried rifles, squirrel guns and baseball bats."

100 manufacturing plants in the San Francisco Bay Area were closed by a strike of 7,000 machinists April 1. The strikers rejected a final offer by the California Metal Trades Association which represents the struck plants. It offered piddling wage increases and fringe benefits ranging from 16 to 28 cents an hour spread over three years.

More than 2,000 UAW members closed down three Detroit plants of the Ex-Cell O Corp., a manufacturer of machine tools and packaging equipment on April 2. A membership meeting voted down the company's last offer of a three-year contract with wage increases 42 cents an hour below what the union had asked for.

Women members of the United Packinghouse Workers of America, according to a survey conducted by the union, play a leadership role roughly proportional to their numbers in the union.

In 282 locals women held 542 executive offices. This included 24 presidents, 38 vice-presidents, 102 recording secretaries, 74 financial secretaries, 11 secretary-treasurers, 198 executive-board members, and 94 trustees. In addition, there were a total of 388 women shop stewards, including 56 chief stewards.

Total union membership is 73,957, of whom 15,557 are women.

Phila. Parley Held On Campus Rights

PHILADELPHIA — Tom Morgan, one of the three student defendants in the Indiana "subversion" case, spoke to 150 at the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee conference on Democracy on the Campus held here March 27.

The conference's morning sessions heard descriptions of current campus civil-liberties cases. In addition to Tom Morgan, Robert Vogel of the Berkeley Free Speech Movement, J. A. Kennedy of the University of New Mexico DuBois Club, and Allen Krebs, professor at Adelphi College in Long Island, N.Y., addressed this session.

Morgan outlined the legal and extra-legal aspects of the Hoosier witch hunt which is threatening himself and two other Young Socialist Alliance members with one to three years in jail. J.A. Kennedy discussed the tactics used by the University of New Mexico administration to keep the DuBois Club off the campus. Allen Krebs described his firing by Adelphi because of his political beliefs.

During the afternoon Frank Donner, author of *The Un-Americans*, spoke on intimidation on the campus. The remainder of the afternoon was spent working on a "Student Bill of Rights."

What It Does and Doesn't Do

Johnson's Voting-Rights Bill

By Dick Roberts

APRIL 6 — In place of what should be a simple straightforward bill, once and for all providing voting rights to all American citizens of voting age, the Johnson Voting Rights Bill is a complicated series of partial measures.

With the latest of several revisions, the bill provides two new avenues for legal action where discrimination occurs during voter registration. The first avenue applies to areas which have literacy tests, had voter registration below 50 per cent of those of voting age at the time of the 1964 elections, and in which the population of the area is at least 20 per cent Negro.

This triple provision applies to six states — Alabama, Louisiana, Mississippi, Georgia, South Carolina and Virginia — and to 34 counties in North Carolina. The U.S. Attorney General, upon receiving a petition from 20 persons who have been prevented from voting because of racial discrimination in any of these areas or upon his own motion, may send federal registrars to process the registrations.

The second avenue, introduced into the bill by an April 2 agreement between the Justice Department and Senate Republican leader Dirksen, applies to states without literacy tests. In these areas the Attorney General is also empowered to send in federal registrars, but he must first prove the existence of discrimination in a federal district court.

This agreement extends the bill's coverage to Texas, Tennessee, Florida and Arkansas; which escaped the bill's original provisions because they did not require literacy tests, although in many counties in all four states registration is far below the 50 per cent level.

In spite of widespread public sentiment against the Southern literacy tests, there is no provision in the bill which strikes down literacy tests in any area covered. On the contrary, the bill specifically ties the federal registrars to state laws:

Section 5 (b) of the bill states: "Any person whom the examiner finds to have the qualifications prescribed by State law in accordance with instructions received under section 6 (b) shall promptly be placed on the list of eligible voters." (Emphasis added)

Section 6 (b) gives the Civil Service Commission and the Attorney General the power to prescribe the conditions for listing the voters who have been examined by the federal registrar, but it does not state what these qualifications for voting shall be:

"The times, places, and procedures for applications and listing pursuant to this Act and removals from eligibility lists shall be prescribed by regulations promulgated by the Civil Service Commission and the Commission shall,

Slate Cleveland Teach-In To Protest Vietnam War

CLEVELAND — Professors from four colleges and universities here have announced plans for a "teach-in" to protest continuation of the war in Vietnam. The "teach-in" will take place April 15, the night before scores of Cleveland college students leave for the April 17 March on Washington to End the War in Vietnam.

Faculty members sponsoring the "teach-in" include Dr. Melvin Allershand, Dr. M. Medrich and Dr. Nils J. Carlson of Western Reserve University; Dr. B. Plonsey of Case Institute of Technology; Dr. Paul Olynyk, chairman of Cleveland SANE and professor of chemistry at Fenn College; and Dr. E. Brachever of Cuyahoga Community College.

'The Injustice Will Be Prolonged'

"For us in Mississippi, the injustice will be particularly prolonged. In May or June of this year municipal elections will be held . . . This will mean that mayors, local law-enforcement officers, and other officials . . . will be elected for four more years before Negro registration under this new law will be large enough . . . How effective will this bill be . . . in Selma if Negroes en route to the courthouse must pass by Sheriff Jim Clark and his posse?" — Mrs. Victoria J. Gray of Hattiesburg, Miss., testifying before the House Subcommittee on the Judiciary No. 5 in support of the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party's call for immediate elections in the South.

after consultation with the Attorney General, instruct examiners concerning the qualifications required for listing."

Clearly, the central weakness of the bill is that it doesn't strike down literacy tests altogether. Twelve other states which have literacy tests remain untouched by the bill, and these are not used only to keep Negroes from voting. California, for example, has a literacy test which discriminates against Mexican-Americans who are literate in Spanish but not in English.

Similarly, of New York City's resident population of over 750,000 Puerto Ricans, an estimated 330,000 are prevented from voting merely because they can't write English.

Of the black people in the South who today are leading the struggle for voting rights, many undoubtedly are illiterate. They need and deserve the right to vote so they can end the system which kept them illiterate and threatens to do the same to many of their children. Activists in the Southern voter-registration campaign are rightfully demanding that age and residence be the sole qualifications for registering.

Completely ignored by the Johnson bill is the power granted Congress by the second article of the 14th Amendment, to reduce the Congressional representation of racially discriminating states in proportion to the number of Negroes denied the right to vote. (It is under this provision that the Mississippi Freedom Democratic Party is attempting to unseat Mississippi Dixiecrats.)

An amendment to the voting bill, giving states until 1970 to comply with the 14th Amendment under penalty of loss of Congressional seats, was proposed in the House March 18 by Rep. Sidney R. Yates (D-Ill.). However, there is no indication that Yates' proposal is being taken seriously.

In arguing for the inclusion of this loss-of-seats provision in the Voting Rights Bill, Yates cited the following instructive example of how states have been able to put off compliance with previous voting-rights bills (1957, 1960 and 1964) through legal maneuvering:

A suit was filed in 1962 in Perry County, Alabama, to implement the 1960 Civil Rights Act. A state court entered an order denying the pattern of discrimination. The Justice Department then appealed this decision and the lower court was reversed. The case went back for retrial.

"Subsequently," Yates explained, "the court entered an order that a pattern of practice did exist and, finally in September 1964, a voting referee was ap-

pointed to take registrations for the last elections.

"The voting referee approved 35 applications for the right to vote and rejected 110 applications by Negro citizens . . . Many of their cases are now on appeal back to the district court, to see whether or not the voting referee made an error."

Although the first avenue of the proposed bill — applying to the "hard core" segregation areas — would go a long way towards preventing such legal delays, the second avenue leads straight to the Southern district courts which have obstructed civil-rights suits in the past.

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee has pointed to a number of other weaknesses in the present voting-rights bill, and suggests specific amendments to deal with them. SNCC emphasizes the necessity of immediately holding new elections in the areas affected by the bill.

Ralph Featherstone, who represented SNCC at hearings on the bill before the House Judiciary Subcommittee No. 5, stated that a "degree of terror and intimidation yet unseen in the civil-rights movement" would follow passage of the bill, and it was necessary to vote out the racist police apparatus as soon as possible.

Featherstone noted that Governor Wallace's term expires in January 1967, Neshoba County Sheriff Rainey's not until January 1968, and the law-enforcement officials' terms in Jackson, Miss., as late as July, 1969.

The actual implementation of the bill requires clearer definition. It does not make federal action mandatory upon receipt of the petitions of complaint, but leaves it to the Attorney General's discretion. Thus there is still room for foot-dragging or inaction if it should so suit the Justice Department — an agency which has seen fit to postpone meaningful action on Negro voting rights for nearly a century.

Finally, the bill does not require that petitioners' names be kept secret and "it in no way guarantees their protection, either while voting, or in their jobs. The government should provide federal troops for protection of all Negroes seeking to register and vote."

N. Y. Folk Sing to Aid Family of Malcolm X

NEW YORK — A top-notch group of performers will be featured at a folk concert here for the benefit of the family of Malcolm X. The program includes: Len Chandler who has appeared at New York's Village Gate and Gaslight Cafe and who participated in the March on Montgomery; Julius Lester, a recording artist; Joe Wilson, a young blues and topical folk singer; Louise Jeffers of the Organization of Afro-American Unity; and the Riverside Trio.

The benefit is sponsored by Students Against Social Injustice, a teen-age group. It will be held on Saturday afternoon, April 10, 3 p.m., at Christ Church, 344 W. 36th St.

Tickets, at \$1, may be obtained at the door, or in advance at the Student Peace Union, 5 Beekman St., or the Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place.

Weekly Calendar

AD RATES

The rate for advertising in this column is 40 cents a line. Display ads are \$2 a column inch. There is a ten per cent discount for regular advertisers. Advertising must reach us by the Monday prior to the date of publication.

CHICAGO

The Friday Night Socialist Forum will not meet Friday, April 16, in order to support the March on Washington to End the War in Vietnam. Anyone interested in going on the march can call WE 9-5044 during afternoons.

LOS ANGELES

MARXISM VS. EXISTENTIALISM. Speaker, William F. Warde. Fri., April 16, 8:30 p.m. 1702 E. 4th St. Ausp. Militant Labor Forum.

MINNEAPOLIS

The Friday Night Socialist Forum will not meet Friday, April 16, in order to support the March on Washington to End the War in Vietnam.

NEW YORK

MALCOLM X. Tape of speech he gave at the Militant Labor Forum Jan. 7, 1965. Sat., April 10, 8:30 p.m. 116 University Pl. Open house to follow, free refreshments. Contrib. \$1.50. Ausp. Militant Labor Forum.

IS WORLD WAR III INEVITABLE? Eve of March on Washington talk by Jack Barnes, national chairman, Young Socialist Alliance. Fri., April 16, 8:30 p.m. 116 University Pl. Contrib. \$1. Ausp. Militant Labor Forum.

PUBLICATIONS

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Successful Philadelphia Forum

Speech by James Shabazz

PHILADELPHIA — More than 150 people jammed into a meeting of the Militant Labor Forum here April 3 to hear James Shabazz, secretary to the late Malcolm X and president of the Muslim Mosque, Inc. A major section of the audience was from this city's black ghetto.

Speaking on the subject, "The Prospects for Freedom in 1965," Shabazz made a slashing indictment of the racist power structure and an inspiring appeal for militant struggle against it.

"We see the methods that they are willing to use in their unjust cause of oppression. When we become as willing to use the same methods to become free in our just struggle for liberation as the Declaration of Independence entitles us to, then the prospects for freedom will be brighter.

"And the reference to the Declaration of Independence that I make," he added, "is that when such government fails to secure these ends it is the right of the people to alter or abolish such forms of government."

Price For Freedom

The measure of the desire for freedom, he declared, is the price one is ready to pay to achieve it. "Just to be sitting down like a bump on a log saying 'I want freedom' means nothing. What are you willing to pay for it? What is the price others have had to pay to be free? Blood! Life! Brother Malcolm wanted to be free and he paid the price. That's the price for freedom. To be cut down in the prime of youth, knowing that you have left your offspring and that they will have the fruit that you have planted but has not yet come to fruition. When we are able to measure the price that we are willing to pay in terms of breath and heartbeat, then the prospects for freedom will be much, much brighter."

"We have seen this country take the world," he continued, "and rule it by certain means and methods. But when we want to become free they dictate to us means and methods that they have never used themselves."

"Why doesn't Lyndon Johnson go to Saigon," he asked, "and stand up in an officer's club and say: 'We shall overcome.' If he says that this [non-violence] will guarantee a free election for Negroes — some day — then why in hell isn't he willing to let the same thing be the case in Vietnam?"

"Why wasn't the CIA willing to let it be this way in Cuba? Why does he demand a different method for us than he uses in the rest of the world?"

Discussing the effect of the assassination of Malcolm X on the freedom struggle, he said the immediate prospects for freedom were dimmer as a result of Malcolm's death. But, he firmly added, "It was thought that by murdering him — in public — it would so frighten elements in the liberation struggle that all of us would



James Shabazz

throw up our hands and say that the oppressor is too much to deal with.

"Those of us who had some fear concerning death," he continued, "had it removed by Brother Malcolm's assassination. It removed from us any fear we had of dying. And as far as I'm concerned, it had the very positive effect of showing black men how to die!"

"And I say to you here who are black," he continued, "not omitting those sincere whites — no, you cannot be omitted — but to those of you who are black particularly, because it is on your shoulders, it has been for 400 years, for those of you who think that this struggle is going to be won without other Malcolms, then you better pull out right now. There's going to be blood and there's going to be more blood."

"But if you make up your minds," he said, "that there is a glorious way to die in defense of those human rights that you say you want, and you understand this and you live your life in this manner, then the prospects for freedom are very, very bright."

Commenting on the relationship between whites and blacks in the liberation struggle, Shabazz said: "It's difficult in this society to look at someone who is not your color and identify with him . . . but when the invisible forces that control this country are exposed I think that a lot of white people — not as many as black people — but a lot of white people will say, 'Well look, in order to invalidate the black liberation struggle you've got to invalidate the whole ten amendments to the Constitution of the United States.' . . . This is the other side of being a democracy. You can't say, 'I'm only for invalidating the Constitution for black people.' When you invalidate it for those white people you don't like, too.

"That goes particularly for white radicals," he said. "When they put us in concentration camps, they're not going for any separate but equal when they put

you in camps too . . . So it is very good for me to hear that some white people are getting an understanding of what is going on. This makes the prospects for freedom brighter."

Expressing his belief that it is utopian for blacks to look to the white working class as an ally, he added: "But the bridge is narrowing between blacks and those white people who have decided that they're not going to stand back and look at what's going on as if they're not involved, but they're going to say: 'This is a threat to me also.' When this is done, when this selfish, rather than paternal view, is taken — the view that 'I'm in this because I think it's a threat to me as well as to black people,' this is the healthiest kind of relation that can exist between the white people and black people in this country today."

Assailing the power structure, which he charged carries on its oppressive policies internationally, he declared: "There is an invisible government that is international in scope, which is comprised of a minority of people who control a majority of the wealth of the world, and which will stop at nothing to keep the majority of the people oppressed and enslaved."

In addition to this "invisible government," he said, there are visible governments that parade as the very opposite of what they are. The U.S., he said, is a prime example of this.

What country, he asked, outside of this one would dare send troops into another country in the guise of ensuring it free elections? What other country would have the unmitigated audacity to do this but the powerful and corrupt U.S. — "We are dealing with a vicious racist government," he declared, "that will stop at nothing to keep the black man enslaved. Why? Because capitalism and slavery are synonymous!"

The meeting contributed \$101 to the defense of Reuben Francis, a close associate of Malcolm X, who New York Police charge shot and wounded one of the men accused of murdering Malcolm. Francis is charged with felonious assault and illegal possession of a weapon.

The medical examiner's office in Boston has stated that Leon Ameer, former Black Muslim, died from an accidental overdose of a sleeping compound. Ameer died in his hotel room on March 13 in Boston.

Police claim that there was no evidence of anyone else having been in his hotel room just before he died, and no evidence of violence. Police theorize that Ameer, who is said to have suffered from epilepsy, used the drug to relieve anxiety and tension.

Although he had left the Black Muslim movement, Ameer was never a member of the Organization of Afro-American Unity, according to Malcolm X's sister, who has become the head of the OAAU. After Ameer left the Black Muslims, he was severely beaten. He charged he had been beaten by members of the Black Muslims.

Shortly before his death Ameer expressed fears that he would be assassinated, and said that someone was trying to poison him. The medical examiner has discounted the possibility of poisoning, and bases his conclusion about the sleeping compound being the cause of death upon chemical analysis. The examiner, Dr. Richard Ford, claims the compound could cause death if taken in excessive amounts.

Ameer's wife reportedly is unsatisfied with the ruling of the medical examiner, and feels that too many questions remain unanswered regarding her husband's death.

Detroit Pickets Protest Killing of Negro Youth

By Derrick Morrison

DETROIT — "Azzam Must Go" is the cry of a black neighborhood, following the killing of John Christian, a 20-year-old Negro, by Jacob Azzam, a white storeowner.

Jacob Azzam is a member of a family which operates a grocery store and a liquor store at the corners of 14th and McGraw.

On March 1, according to five witnesses, the Azzams were physically harassing and threatening to throw through the store window a youngster they accused of stealing a 12¢ cake. Christian intervened and offered to pay for the allegedly stolen cake. Two male members of the Azzam family grabbed him and a scuffle ensued. Another Negro who entered the store pulled a knife and offered to go to Christian's aid. When Christian attempted to leave the store with the boy, he was shot by Jacob Azzam.

Story Distorted

The daily press flagrantly distorted the whole story and reported that the Azzam family was defending itself against a knife attack by the slain man. Upon this reasoning, Wayne County's notorious racist prosecutor, Samuel Olsen, declared the killing of Christian was "justifiable homicide."

The day after the shooting some 30 to 40 pickets appeared outside both stores, demanding the Azzams leave the community. Since then local people have picketed every day. According to Comer McNeil, organizer of the group, picket lines are being maintained in front of the stores from 10 a.m. to 2 a.m. "We get up with them every morning and go to bed with them every night, for seven days a week." The boycott is 90 per cent effective, McNeil says, attributing this to the humiliation and insults long suffered by black customers of the stores. The shooting, he says, was the straw that broke the camel's back.

Many of the picket signs charge that this is the third shooting in which members of the family have

been involved. Pickets say that one member of the family was on the Detroit police force and shot a Negro, crippling him for life. Upon investigation, the city found no justification for the shooting and awarded the victim \$23,000 compensation. The second shooting, they say, was when the father fired at a Negro outside the store but missed.

Those now patronizing the stores are mostly policemen, a few whites from suburbia, and some Uncle Toms.

A demonstration at police headquarters on April 3 by the Adult Community Movement for Equality and McNeil's group called for a re-investigation of the killing of Christian.

On April 5 Prosecutor Olsen replied by hauling five people into court on conspiracy charges in connection with the picketing. Police were seeking 33 others, 19 of them on John Doe and Mary Roe warrants. The basis for these arrests is Olsen's contention that the picketing is not to redress any grievances but to put the Azzams out of business.

Plead Innocent

Among those arrested was picket captain Comer J. McNeil and his wife. All pleaded innocent. A hearing was set for April 15. The criminal conspiracy charges brought by Olsen carry a maximum penalty of five years imprisonment and a \$2,500 fine each.

Nevertheless, picketing of the Azzam stores is continuing.

This mobilization of black people over the killing of a neighbor reflects the growing consciousness of Negroes in ghettos throughout the country that they must take control of their own communities if they are to survive in a racist society, if they are to prevent more killings by racist cops and white storekeepers. The conviction is growing that, to effect any real changes, blacks must control the politics and economy of their own communities.

Brooklyn Students Back Prof. In Academic Freedom Fight

NEW YORK — Two hundred students — almost half those in the auditorium — walked out in the middle of a March 29 speech by Brooklyn College President Harry D. Gideonse on "Berkeley — Its Educational and Moral Meaning." The students arose after their spokesman had interrupted Gideonse to inform him: "We are leaving as a formal protest against the philosophy and methods of this administration."

Outside, the protesters held a meeting and condemned the dismissal of faculty member Robert M. Sitton who last week rescinded his "loyalty" oath. This oath is required of all teachers in public schools and colleges in New York.

Dr. Sitton is quoted in the Queens College *Phoenix* as saying that in North Carolina where he had taught last year he had advocated illegal civil-rights demonstrations. Had there been a "loyalty" oath there, he might have broken a provision of it. "I would reserve the right to do so under the Free Speech (First) Amendment. I am simply expressing my constitutional opinion and right and, as a result, I have been fired from my employment."

At another student protest meeting, Sitton announced that William M. Kunstler, the noted civil-liberties lawyer, had agreed to take his case testing the constitutionality of New York's "loyalty" oath.

Sitton also criticized the "publish-or-perish" system imposed on

faculty members by university administrations to the detriment of teaching ability and interest in the students. He advocated that students have a voice in the hiring and firing of instructors.

He further charged that in present college setups there were too many deans, that they didn't have enough to do and so meddled in other people's business. "The faculty tends to get lost in a morass of deans," he said. "The faculty should be supreme in any educational institution. The administration should do the paper work and keep the buildings warm. The time has come for faculty members to stand up and be counted."

The Student Protest Movement at Brooklyn College is holding meetings almost every day to protest the administration's policies. In addition to petitions and vigils for Dr. Sitton's reinstatement, students and faculty members have submitted a list of grievances to President Gideonse. These include demands for freedom of speech, a representative government system with a voice in forming college policies, freedom of students to dress "within the limits imposed on other citizens," and promotion of the free expression of ideas on the campus.

Dr. Sitton will speak Friday, April 9 at 8:30 p.m., at the Militant Labor Forum on "Free Speech on the Campus," sharing the platform with Professor Staughton Lynd of Yale and James Bingham, defendant in the Indiana "subversion" case.

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Monday, April 12, 1965

HUAC and the Klan

President Johnson's proposal for a Congressional investigation of the Ku Klux Klan following the murder of civil-rights worker Viola Liuzzo is a deliberate move to placate public opinion without taking any effective action to strike at the root of such atrocious killings. The proposition is all the more odious in that the projected probe will be turned over to the notoriously racist House Un-American Activities Committee.

The time for "investigations" is long past. Effective federal action is needed. Since April 1963 there have been 13 publicized murders of people active in the Southern civil-rights struggle — killings perpetrated by "lawless" Klan gangs and by "law-enforcement" officers alike. Indeed, in some cases it has been hard to separate the two.

These murders occurred — and more of them will surely occur — because the federal government has stubbornly refused to carry out its sworn duty to uphold the law of the land. And, as is so obviously necessary in the South, to do it by force of arms.

Mrs. Liuzzo might well be alive today if Lyndon Johnson had not been so indecently anxious to withdraw the troops which he so reluctantly mobilized to protect the Alabama marchers. The civil-rights assemblage at the State Capitol in Montgomery had not even been fully dispersed before the troops were pulled out.

Furthermore, a probe of the Klan by HUAC will do little, for example, to inhibit the mayor of Camden, Alabama, from hurling smoke bombs at children. But it will provide the Negro-hating bigots who run this discredited committee, the opening and pretext for a smear attack on the civil-rights movement.

For a number of years now HUAC has been looking for an opening to direct its witch-hunting activity towards militant civil-rights leaders in the South. Johnson's scheme gives them the perfect opening.

With a new-found "impartiality," this committee, which has always directed its fire solely against those concerned with social progress, will now proclaim the need to probe all "extremists" in the South. Their whole reactionary record makes clear who the victims will be — the militants of the civil-rights movement. And, if things go well for them, perhaps a few of the "moderates."

And at the same time — and Johnson is surely aware of this — a well-publicized probe of the Klan will help take some of the curse off the committee as an agency of the ultra-right in this country.

It should be sufficient to recall that HUAC was originally established in the mid-thirties for the purported purpose of investigating Nazi activities in the U.S. That investigation for some unexplained reason never got very far. But the committee was very soon carrying on its smear campaign against every liberal, labor and radical force in the country.

Southern Dixiecrats see a similar opening in Johnson's cynical proposal. They have welcomed the projected probe of the Klan and coupled their welcome of it with a vigorous red-baiting attack on the civil-rights movement, particularly against the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee.

In an April 1 speech in the House of Representatives, John H. Buchanan, Alabama Republican and member of HUAC, welcomed the Johnson proposal and added this qualification to his support:

"The danger and the difficulty lies not only in the activities of that vicious criminal minority [the KKK] . . . but goes beyond . . . and stems from the greatest threat this country faces now or has ever faced; namely the threat of world communism." The next point in his speech was a vile attack on James Forman, executive secretary of SNCC.

It will be a sorry day if the civil-rights movement is gulled by Johnson into accepting an "investigation" of the Klan by such bigots as a substitute for federal protection of the Negro people of the South. The demand for troops to the South should be intensified.

... Alabama Racist Violence

(Continued from Page 1)

seem ready, willing and able to make the sacrifice to get some kind of pressure on the state's racist power structure.

The hypocrisy of those who attack the boycott proposal, because it would hurt the "innocent" as well as the guilty, is revealed by the contrary stand of these very people on the boycotts imposed by the U.S. government on trade with Cuba and China. Where the U.S. government wants to put pressure — in this case on revolu-

tions against its domination — it finds boycotts which "hurt the innocent as well as the guilty," perfectly justified.

The civil-rights movement should back up King's proposal for a boycott and for cessation of federal aid to Alabama until all Constitutional rights for Negroes are secured there. The labor movement, too, should support this proposal. The unions have long given lip service to Negro demands for civil rights, and now they have an opportunity to give meaningful support.

Vietnam War Protested

Rally Packs Carnegie Hall

By Ruth Porter

NEW YORK — Over 2,500 people, responding to a call of the University Committee to Protest the War in Vietnam, attended an Emergency Meeting at Carnegie Hall April 1.

"This country is waging a war so evil and so dangerous that the imagination can hardly comprehend it," declared the chairman, Staughton Lynd, assistant professor of history at Yale and Freedom School co-ordinator during last summer's Mississippi Project.

"We will not sit by in silence; we intend to act. Hundreds of U.S. professors have placed protest ads in major newspapers. Thousands of students will march on Washington April 17 — and adults are not excluded. Two thousand Americans have signed a declaration of conscience pledging civil disobedience," Lynd said.

He thereupon introduced Senator Ernest Gruening (D-Alaska), the only member of the Senate besides Wayne Morse who voted against giving President Johnson a blank check for war in Vietnam.

"It is hard to believe that the U.S. has allowed itself to be drawn into this unspeakable mess in Southeast Asia," said Gruening. "It is important that everybody be informed as to just how we happened to get in there because Americans think we are in a 'noble' war."

He then traced the history of the war in Vietnam, pointing out that the U.S. was the first to violate the Geneva Accords of 1954 by persuading the puppet regime in the South to ignore the treaty provision for elections after two years and by sending in U.S. armed forces. Then President Kennedy escalated the situation by sending in "advisers" who were in reality combat troops. This not only violated the Geneva agreements, Gruening said, but the United Nations charter. "We have also violated the treaty barring poison gas," he declared.

"The government of South Vietnam is a non-existent government for all intents and purposes, and

we have taken over the war," he said. Despite Johnson's statement that "we seek no wider war," the war has been escalated.

"What can we do now?" the Senator from Alaska asked. "The terms we have offered — that North Vietnam cease its aggression — are ridiculous because we are the aggressors. This is a civil war, based on the determination of the people to run their own show. They drove out the French and they don't want anyone else there. Our policy has failed. Suggestions for negotiations — by de Gaulle, U Thant, the Pope — have fallen on deaf ears in Washington."

Gruening then proposed that for a four-week period there should be 1) cessation of U.S. raids on North Vietnam; 2) a cease-fire in South Vietnam; and 3) negotiations.

"Ultimately the question is going to be settled by Asians, by the people themselves . . . The white man cannot settle the problems there . . . The Asian people can work out a much better solution than we, and certainly better than we can work out by force," he said. "If I had my way, I would pull the military out regardless of anything else."

At this point, Prof. Lynd announced various protest activities in which the audience was invited to participate. Most notable of these was the April 17 March on Washington, called by the Students for a Democratic Society and now supported by almost every peace group in the country. Lynd introduced Charles Capper of SDS who said one of the March's objectives was to bring together all those opposed to the war in Vietnam. "Buses are coming up from Selma, Montgomery, from Georgia, with people who know what oppression is, people who know that an oppressive war is not in their interests," he said. It was also announced that Robert Moses, director of the Mississippi Summer Project, would be one of the speakers at the April 17 March.

The chairman next introduced Robert Browne, professor of economics at Fairleigh Dickinson University, who spoke from first-hand knowledge of Vietnam, having spent six years in Southeast Asia working for the Agency for International Development (AID).

Browne proposed immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces. "The solution will have to be a Vietnamese solution," he declared. "The great powers cannot impose a solution on Vietnam that will be a lasting one . . . Any government in South Vietnam that is going to be a truly representative one is going to be a communist government . . . We should withdraw immediately and be prepared to give aid to any government which may be formed."

In conclusion, Browne warned: "Vietnam is now being used as a preparatory ground — in preparation for the war against China. This is the only explanation for the otherwise inexplicable policy that we are following in Vietnam."

The final speaker was veteran Washington correspondent I. F. Stone who for the past 13 years has published the highly informative *I. F. Stone's Weekly*.

Against CP Wishes

Stone asserted that the uprising in South Vietnam had broken out against the wishes of the Communist Party, which was then pursuing a policy of peaceful co-existence, and against the wishes of the government of Ho Chi Minh in North Vietnam. The rebellion broke out because the government of Ngo Dinh Diem tried to give the land back to the landlords and because it was executing veterans of the Vietminh who had been militant in the struggle against the French.

The State Department charge that North Vietnam had stirred up the guerrilla war in the South was a myth, Stone declared. "You can't stir up a guerrilla war among contented people . . . People don't become guerrillas because they read a pamphlet by Karl Marx. They do it because they are so outraged by what is being done to them that they would rather die than take it. That is why a small guerrilla army can defeat the greatest military power in the world today . . . People don't revolt if they get satisfaction for their aspirations . . . To operate abroad by thinking that revolutions are made by strings from Moscow or Peking is completely ridiculous."

Stone then asked: "Who are we going to bomb or blame when the peasants of Brazil revolt?"

"The most important thing about this war is the way it has blotted the moral sensibilities of the American people," Stone continued. "We talk about Vietnam or China as if they were inhabited by some lower order of humans. When we burn up their villages, we take it for granted . . . How long are we going to let our government impose death, fire and misery on people on the other side of the world? . . . The Vietnam war is not a war about democracy but dictatorship . . . This war is corrupting democracy at home . . . A half dozen men are making the decisions in Washington on the basis of very inadequate information."

Stone's concluding statement: "The fight against the war is the fight to re-institute democracy at home . . . this war is dishonoring our best traditions and endangering our future," drew heavy applause.

Prof. Lynd announced that the collection taken in the auditorium amounted to \$2,500. The meeting ended with the sending of a telegram to President Johnson, which said: "Twenty-five hundred people in Carnegie Hall tonight ask you to support Senator Gruening's proposal for a one-month cease-fire in Vietnam."

Indiana High Court Refuses To Rehear 'Sedition' Case

The Indiana Supreme Court has denied a defense appeal for a rehearing of the case of the three Indiana University students indicted under the state's "Anti-Communism" Act. In effect, the State Supreme Court upheld its Jan. 25 ruling against the students, who were officers of the Indiana University Chapter of the Young Socialist Alliance in Bloomington, Ind.

Defense attorneys Leonard Boudin and Daniel Taylor are now appealing that ruling to a panel of three federal judges.

The basis of the present indictment is a meeting of the three defendants — Tom Morgan, Ralph Levitt, and Jim Bingham — with friends and two local attorneys on May 2, 1963. The meeting's purpose was to plan a defense against an indictment handed down the day before, May 1. This first indictment was based upon a public meeting the defendants attended on March 25, 1963. Local Prosecutor Thomas Hoadley has since dropped this first indictment.

Prosecutor Hoadley charges that the defendants "assembled" on May 2 to advocate the "violent overthrow" of the State of Indiana and of the United States. Actually, the meeting was in a private home, where the defendants discussed legal defense, the retaining of lawyers, and the problems of raising money to meet legal expenses.

Support continues to grow for the defendants. Over 800 professors and other figures have be-

come sponsors of the Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students. Ralph Levitt is presently on a national speaking tour explaining the facts and issues of the case to campus audiences. At California State College in Fullerton, Calif., he spoke before 140 students on March 30. A few days before, an enthusiastic audience of 60 at Arizona State University in Tempe, Ariz., interrupted him three times with applause. The Arizona meeting was organized by the Young Democrats.

Jim Bingham, who is also on tour, spoke April 1 at Western Reserve University in Cleveland under the sponsorship of the WRU chapter of Students for a Democratic Society and the Student Christian Union. That night, he spoke at nearby Kent State University.

The Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students is working to publicize the case and raise funds for the legal expenses. To meet the immediate appeals cost facing the defense, \$9,000 must be raised. Send contributions to: Committee to Aid the Bloomington Students, P.O. Box 213, Cooper Station, New York 3, N. Y.

NEW YORK — More than 300 people attended the benefit folk concert held by the New York CABS chapter April 3. The Danny Kalb Quartet, Judy Roderick and John Hammond were joined by surprise guest Phil Ochs. The evening was a notable musical and financial success.

The 30-Hour Week — Why It's Practical

[There are indications that as automation continues to make unemployment a permanent accompaniment of "affluence," union militants are again looking to reduction of the work week with no reduction in pay as the solution. The slogan of the 30-hour week with no reduction in pay was raised by some of the local unionists who supported the I. W. Abel slate in the recent United Steelworkers election.

Below we reprint an article from the Feb. 4 *Lorain Labor Leader*, the official weekly paper of Steelworkers Local 1104 in Lorain, Ohio. The article appeared on the paper's front page and was entitled, "The 30-Hour Week; Why It's Practical." It was written by Carl Roberts, president of Local 1104 and a supporter of the Abel slate.

That Local 1104 is campaigning on the issue would appear from its front-page story of Feb. 25 which features an account of the visit to the district of Walter J. Burke, candidate for USA secretary-treasurer on the Abel slate. The article headlined Burke's support of a shorter work week and said: "He [Burke] said that it now appeared that the most logical solution for the rapid elimination of jobs in the steel industry through automation was adoption of the shorter work week. He indicated he was becoming a little disgusted with some of labor's so-called friends in Washington — even President Johnson — who are beginning to 'edge' on their former pledge of support for a shorter work week."

Included among the union's demands presented to big steel in the current negotiations is one for a 32-hour work week. There is no indication, however, that the union leadership is pressing this demand.]

One thing you can be sure of: our giant corporations will fiercely resist every attempt to shorten the work week. The argument they will use over and over again is that "it's neither economically

sound nor practical." They'll imply that those who advocate the six-hour day 30-hour week are either dreamy do-gooders who lack the know-how and hard sense needed in the business world, or wild-eyed radicals who want to cause economic chaos to attain their own sinister ends.

American businessmen began using this type of argument back in the early 1800s when, to their amazement, working people objected to toiling from sunup to sundown and they've been using it ever since.

Andrew Carnegie, one of our early steel magnates, gave his fellow industrialists his formula for business success and national prosperity, boasting: "Every ton of pig iron made in the world by 1886, except in two establishments, was made by men working in double shifts of 12 hours each, having neither Sunday, nor holiday the year round." The 12-hour shift continued in most steel mills until 1923.

In 1916, when workers in the Westinghouse plant in Pittsburgh tried to reduce their work week to an eight-hour day 48-hour week, management declared in a newspaper ad "It, the eight-hour day, is not practical or economical, nor for the best interests of the employee or the employer, cannot be put into successful operation, will drive industries out of Pittsburgh, destroy competition."

Who's Practical?

With the benefit of hindsight, we can now judge who were the practical men: the advocates of the short work week or the hard-headed businessmen. You don't have to be an economist to realize that the U.S. is producing a lot more goods today than when the people were working a 12-hour day, six-day week; that we're producing goods cheaper; that our wages and standard of living are higher and that businessmen are making more profits.

Our trouble is that we haven't reduced working hours enough. In the two decades that the 40-hour

week has been on the statute books, industry's output per man hour has risen 70 per cent and up, on average. And we're only beginning to feel the full impact of automation.

It's simple arithmetic that, if the work week remains riveted at 40 hours a week, every increase in productivity is bound to mean fewer jobs and reduced purchasing power. And isn't that the way to bring on a depression?

Only His Share

And this reduction in hours with no pay cut is possible and reasonable. For all the employee would be asking for is his share of the benefits that now go to the corporations as a result of increased productivity. This he is entitled to; he is not asking for favors. The resulting profits of employers may be a little smaller but the welfare of the workers would be enhanced with the general welfare of the country.

Since all employers engaged in Interstate Commerce would be obliged to comply with the provisions of the 30-hour week law — particularly on government contracts — no one would be at a competitive disadvantage.

In industries where the work week has been reduced to between 37½ and 35 hours and less — printing, garment, rubber, mining, brewery, fur and others — the adjustment has been made without panic or economic catastrophe. There's every reason to believe that the 30-hour week could be put into operation just as smoothly.

Some people say, "Isn't the 30-hour week at 40-hours' pay inflationary? Wouldn't industrialists simply raise prices and leave us as bad off, or worse than before?"

Of course, they'd use it as an excuse to raise prices, but that wouldn't make it justifiable. Look how they increased prices through the worst months of the recession, even though demand had slumped and there were more than five million unemployed. And when they cut labor costs by heavy layoffs, they didn't pass on the savings to the public. They just pocketed the difference as added profit.

As to inflation, it's downright absurd to picture the average worker as a menace to our country's economic stability, because he's trying to improve on his gross weekly pay to maintain a family in health and modest comfort at today's prices. And it's just as absurd to imply that our monetary system would be seriously disrupted if the unemployed were given jobs where they could contribute to the nation's wealth.

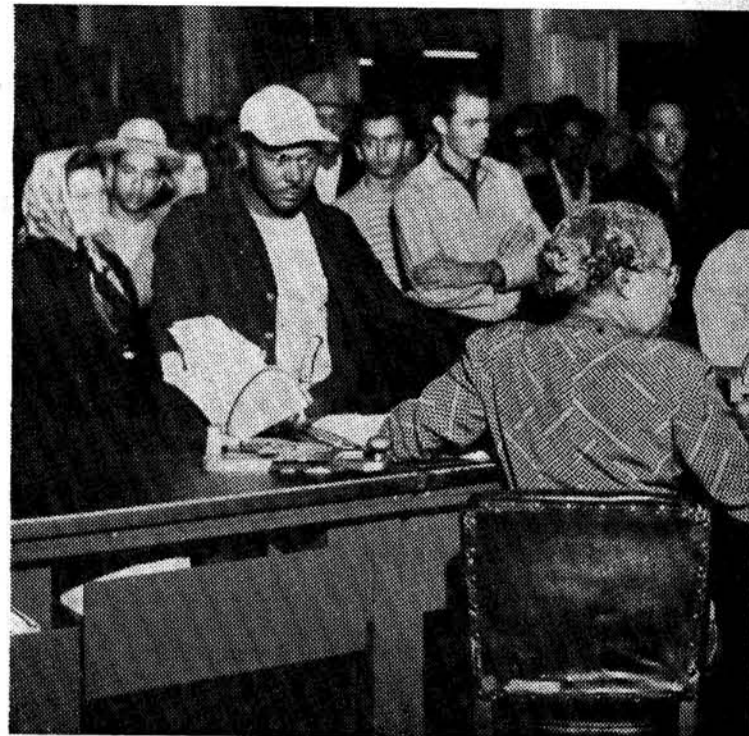
Inflation

In so highly industrialized a society as ours, there's no excuse for inflation. We can produce all the goods that our people require at progressively lower prices. Inflated prices and inflated profits are what have been shrinking the value of our dollar.

A more subtle argument against the 30-hour week is that the employed workers really don't want it. It's put this way: "If we get the 30-hour week we'll have to forget about wage increases for several years. What we need right now is more of the green stuff in the pay envelope." People who fall for this line are missing one of the most important advantages of the 30-hour week, namely, that it puts the unions in a stronger, not a weaker position to negotiate wage increases.

A 30-hour week would thin out the ranks of the unemployed and even make for labor shortage in some industries. Isn't it better to negotiate for wage increases when labor is in short supply than when there are millions of unemployed desperately hunting for jobs and willing to work for lower pay?

The labor movement over the years has proven that it is possible to win shorter hours and better conditions than in the non-union



THE PROBLEM. Scene at Detroit unemployment-compensation office points up need for shorter work week. In addition to periodic layoffs, workers in Motor City are victims of steadily shrinking job market brought about by continuing increase in labor productivity.

shops, and also get higher wages.

I have heard workers say, what would happen to overtime. Lots of workers anxiously depend on overtime and it's no mystery why. It would be better, of course, if workers didn't need to put in overtime to make ends meet. But for those who want it, their chances of getting more of it under a 30-hour week would be greater. Employers would have to pay overtime at the end of a six-hour instead of an eight-hour day.

Overtime wouldn't be quite as exhausting; I certainly don't want any misunderstanding: I do not advocate overtime.

Big-business propagandists also argue that the U.S. industry would not be able to compete on the world market if it were saddled with the expense of a 30-hour week. Loss of foreign markets would mean fewer jobs, they point out.

The facts belie this threat. American exports, amounting to about \$16 billion in 1959, come to a fraction of total U.S. industrial production and less than 3.5 per cent of gross national product. They totaled about \$1 billion more than our imports of foreign goods in that year.

There is one final argument to be disposed of: the 30-hour week would give workers too much leisure. They would become bored and unhappy.

This contention is advanced by people who obviously have never put in a day's work in a factory. It's hard to imagine any worker who'd be unwilling to give up the last two of his eight hours on the assembly line each day, for fear that he couldn't find anything outside the plant as physically, mentally or spiritually rewarding. One wonders whether the nation's five million working mothers would resent having to leave the factory two hours earlier each day, so they could spend a little more time with their kids or get some rest before starting on the household chores.

Who's Bored?

The ones who become bored, and bitter, and demoralized are the unemployed. But how and where are jobs to be found for them, without establishing the 30-hour week?

All it takes to make the law of the land is a one-paragraph amendment to the Wages and Hours Act. Also a supplementary paragraph raising the minimum hourly rate by one-third, so that there would be no cut in weekly take-home pay for workers earning the minimum wage.

The big question is: Who is going to get Congress to agree to these amendments? The group that could rally the massive support needed to put it over is the AFL-CIO. Not only because it's the biggest membership organization in the U.S. but because its main reason for existence is to help workers earn a decent livelihood.

Unless the labor movement succeeds in winning a 30-hour week, unions will continue to lose membership and strength in industries where advanced techniques and automatic machinery are displacing manual labor. The most shocking example is the case of the United Auto Workers Union which in recent years has lost 500,000 members — one third of its membership.

Establishing the 30-hour week is only part of the task facing unions. We must also see that workers earn a decent livelihood under the shorter work week. This means, at the very least, that there must be no cut in take-home pay when the 30-hour week is instituted.

Not Wishful Thinking

You can expect that many industrialists will try to circumvent the spirit, if not the letter, of a 30-hour week law by cutting weekly wages proportionately. For Congress cannot tell employers what to pay their workers — it can only set minimum standards. The wage issue will have to be settled where it has always been settled — around the collective bargaining table.

We can and must achieve these objectives; this is not merely wishful thinking.

Just remember that when the unions fought for unemployment insurance and social-security and minimum-wage laws, these issues were regarded as even more remote and unattainable than the 30-hour week is looked upon today. Nevertheless, these vital social gains were won for America's working men and women. Today, everyone accepts them as a matter of course. We even brag about them to the world as examples of our social progress. Isn't it therefore reasonable to expect that, with a labor movement more than three times the size of that of the 30's, with far greater funds and resources, the 30-hour week can become the established pattern in our economic life? Therefore every union member, officials and rank and filers, should make the all-out effort to make the 30-hour week a reality. The time is NOW. We must employ the unemployed. It's getting later than you think and it could be YOU.

... Johnson's Vietnam War

(Continued from Page 1)

"there is an atmosphere of tension and alertness," reports John Hughes in the April 6 *Christian Science Monitor*. Two battalions of liberation fighters were flushed near the base, he says, where they had "no good reason to be."

"The American command here believes it stumbled on new reinforcements making their way to neighboring Binh Dinh province," where they are making "an apparent bid to slash South Vietnam in two here in the central highlands."

Other reports have indicated that the guerrillas are regrouping and concentrating forces in the central highlands region, possibly for a major offensive, and that they may bring in artillery. Artillery was the decisive weapon in the 1954 Vietminh victory over the French at Dienbienphu.

Not on Defensive

"All this hardly conveys a picture of Viet Cong forces on the defensive or in retreat," comments Hughes.

"The official theory of the war ... has proved to be unworkable," declared Walter Lippmann in his March 30 column, a strongly-worded attack on Johnson's brinkmanship. Lippmann asserted that "for all practical purposes the Saigon government has lost control of the countryside, and its followers are increasingly holed-up in the cities."

"This condition of affairs," he says, "has been well reported by Richard Dudman in a series of reports in the *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*, and his findings are confirmed in all essentials, though not yet publicly, in the well-informed

quarters in Washington." Something else "not yet publicly confirmed" but known to all the well-informed, Lippmann reveals, is "contingency plans" to send 350,000 American infantrymen to take over the fighting, because "Saigon has lost the source of military manpower" and this "deprives it of the means of winning the war."

That the Johnson administration is seriously considering sending 350,000 GIs is confirmed by other sources, for example, John W. Finney (*New York Times*, April 3) and Marquis Childs (*New York Post*, April 6).

The administration is also weighing the possibility of war with China, as indicated by McGeorge Bundy's bellicose remarks April 4 on "Meet the Press." He warned that in another war like Korea, China would not be spared from U.S. air attacks.

Having achieved nothing but to horrify the world and reveal the true nature of U.S. imperialism by the bombings of North Vietnam, Johnson and his Dr. Strangeloves can think only of further escalation. But these are acts of desperation that cannot stop the Vietnamese people's revolutionary war. Nearly half a million French troops failed to "pacify" Indochina. A long, bleeding, Algeria-type war would provoke a tremendous outcry from half a million American families at the death or maiming of their loved ones for a gang of Saigon war-lords.

And war with China would solve nothing for the "Great Society," for the Soviet Union would almost inevitably be forced to throw its military might into the scales.

'Secret' Speech to Be Kept That Way

An Unusual Chinese Publishing Venture

By Tom Kerry

The Chinese News Agency, *Hsinua*, announces in its Feb. 25 issue, a most ambitious publishing project designed to rescue from oblivion the voluminous speeches, articles, statements and random observations of the "arch revisionist," Nikita Khrushchev. The Herculean task of compiling and editing this material has been undertaken by the Chinese publishing house, *Shijie Zhishi* (World Knowledge), which announces that the third volume of the collection has just come off the press.

"A rough count," the *Hsinua* news release observes, "shows that his public statements during his eleven years of office come to as many as ten million words, truly a flood of putrid verbosity. Consequently," it adds, "by the method we have now adopted 'Khrushchev's statements' will come to as many as 30 separate volumes. Thus," it concludes, "Khrushchev will have his own complete works to leave to the world, saved from oblivion for people to savour."

This is truly a gargantuan project. Just to "savour," let alone digest, 30 thick volumes of Khrushchev's "putrid verbosity," is enough to induce an acute case of malignant indigestion even among those dedicated scholars fortified with cast-iron stomachs. This thought may have occurred to the sponsors of the project, for they add: "People may ask: After all, what is the use or necessity of expending so much energy and wasting so much paper to publish the complete works of Khrushchev?" What indeed!

Peking answers its own query by explaining that such an "encyclopedia of revisionism" will serve a useful purpose by providing anyone concerned with the



Mao Tse-tung

complete record of "what Khrushchevism is, and can trace the history of its growth and bankruptcy." Did I say the "complete record?" Well, not quite! For there is one notable omission... the historic 20th Congress Khrushchev speech which initiated the process of de-stalinization.

"It is a matter of regret," the *Hsinua* news item sorrowfully observes, "that for the time being the shameful secret anti-Stalin report which Khrushchev delivered at the 20th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party will have to be omitted; though some Western newspapers carried in full the copy of the report obtained by the State Department of the United States of America, it was never made public by the Soviet Union."

Such touching concern for the niceties of diplomatic protocol would be more convincing were it not for the fact that Peking has not hesitated to make public the intimate proceedings of ultra-se-

cret conclaves attending the dispute between Moscow and Peking. The "explanation" is so lame it limps.

It is true that the "revisionist" bureaucrats in the Kremlin have concealed to this day from the Soviet masses the explosive text of the Khrushchev de-stalinization speech which scored the bloody tyrant as a criminal, frame-up artist, torturer and murderer. If the Maoists were at all concerned with serving historical truth they have the power to rip asunder the veil of secrecy which in Russia has shrouded Khrushchev's recital of Stalin's crimes.

Instead, they seize upon a flimsy pretext to keep the "shameful secret report" concealed, not only from the people of the Soviet Union, but also from the people of China.

The Maoists trace the origin of the Sino-Soviet dispute to the 20th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party in 1956; more precisely to the Khrushchev de-stalinization speech. Yet they propose to publish 30 full volumes of drivel, comprising ten million words, and omit what is admittedly the key to an understanding of the origin and development of the controversy.

The truth is that since the 20th Congress in 1956 the Maoists have been engaged in a world-wide campaign seeking to prettify Stalin, to renovate and refurbish the hideous myth of Stalin, the benign and benevolent deity whose only true disciple now resides in Peking. To this end it is the better part of wisdom to keep the "shameful secret report" out of Khrushchev's 30-volume compilation. This serves well the interests of the bureaucrats in the Kremlin and Peking but not those of truth, historical accuracy or elementary political hygiene.

The 'Generals' Complain

By Lawrence Stewart

Conservative civil-rights leaders are deploring "unfocused and undisciplined outcries" from within the movement. In the guise of unity, they are attempting to stifle legitimate dissatisfaction with certain policies.

Whitney M. Young, the head of the National Urban League, in his March 28 column in the *Newark News* expands on the complaint made in a Washington sermon by Rev. Jefferson P. Rogers, an official of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, about "the foolish kind of racialism of those who stage unplanned and needless sit-down demonstrations." This was in reference to the White House sit-in and several others during the agitation for federal action in Selma.

Young writes: "I find myself in agreement with the reverend in principle. These demonstrations tie the hands of a President who has shown himself to be the most eloquent advocate of equal opportunities for Negro citizens to occupy the White House since Lincoln."

Knuckles Under

Young's article reflects two things: 1) a knuckling under to the kept press's red smear campaign against the young militants in the civil-rights movement; and 2) the fear of the established conservative leadership of losing control of the movement.

Young cites the "angry and vociferous minority, flouting the will of leaders like Dr. King and Roy Wilkins of the NAACP and CORE's James Farmer." Only modesty prevented him from naming himself. Significantly, he didn't include James Forman or John Lewis in his list of leaders, since the organization they lead, the Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), is the prime target of the witch hunt and his ire is directed at them.

Keeping Ranks in Line

Young says there are other important ways to protest. For example, "tutoring one child from a slum environment in algebra one night a week for a year."

He has "no sympathy for the self-styled hero who tries to win the war all by himself, fires at his allies in the process, and who then tells the generals — men who have been under shot and shell for years — that they aren't militant."

They are militant enough when it comes to keeping the rank and file in line! Their stock answer to those who question policy is: "If you don't feel comfortable, get out!" Robert F. Williams, president of the Union County (North Carolina) NAACP, led his branch

in armed resistance to Ku Klux Klan terror. General Roy Wilkins hauled him up on trial for saying Negroes should "meet violence with violence." By suspending Williams, General Wilkins paved the way for the FBI later to put a dead-or-alive poster out for him. Williams fled the country in the face of frame-up charges and death threats. General Wilkins remained shamefully silent, looking the other way.

No Class Form

As the Generals see it, the Black Revolt should be a "peaceful revolution." For them the enemy has no social or class form — it's simply a matter of some ignorant, prejudiced whites refusing the Negro his rightful place in the mainstream of American life. The walls will come tumbling down, they say, if only we are disciplined enough to engage in planned, reasonable protest with dignity. Then white men of good will will lower the barriers. And these claim to be the Generals who gained their battle experience "under shot and shell for years!"

The submission of militants to the will of these leaders and their white-controlled organizations would mean the end of real unity and of the struggle.

Black people are disgusted with relying on the very forces responsible for perpetuating the denial of human rights. Last year's ghetto riots were a sign of this, whether that is realized or not. Then, the Generals ran around like chickens with their heads off, trying to calm things down — all the while assuring the "man" that the eruptions were caused by the "irresponsible" elements.

Unity For Struggle

We are also fed up with the turn-the-other-cheek tactic being made into a principle of the movement.

Unity is of vital importance, but only if it is unity for struggle, unity based on the Black Revolt, not on the utopian "peaceful revolution" the Generals dream of.

We must also have unity with other oppressed peoples — in South Africa, the Congo, Vietnam. We are all victims of the same ruling class.

Meaningful gains can be made by putting an end to the frustrating cycle of prayerful protest followed by unfulfilled promises of politicians. Where we have the vote it should be used to gain political power — with representatives answerable to black people. The chains holding us in second-class citizenship can be broken. Unity, in independent political action, is the order of the day.

World Events

Storm Police Hq. in Spain

A significant demonstration occurred March 12 in Mieres, a city of 65,000 in Spain's Asturias coal-mining region. Some 8,000 miners from various parts of the country area gathered in the town.

After police arrested 15 demonstrators, about 1,000 others took the police station by assault. They stripped it from top to bottom and bashed the faces of some 30 cops they found inside. The police had to send an emergency call to Oviedo, the provincial capital, for reinforcements who finally put down the demonstrators.

Belgian Sit-Down Strike

Since mid-March coal miners in Liège, Belgium, have been conducting a militant sit-in strike to protest projected closing of the Batterie pit by the government Coal-Mining Directorate. The strike is unofficial, not recognized by either the social-democratic or Catholic trade unions. It is receiving strong support, however, from the newly founded Walloon Workers party. A strike-solidarity committee is collecting money, blankets, food, etc., for the men down in the mine. An earlier unsuccessful sit-in strike was supported by the Walloon Workers party, but the Belgian authorities were able to pressure the miners — most of whom were Italian — with deportation threats. The Batterie strikers are appealing to their fellow workers to strike against other projected pit closures before the general election May 23.

Guerrillas in Brazil

Guerrilla action was recently reported in two small towns in Rio Grande do Sul province in southern Brazil. Some 40 men

were said to have attacked a military police post and seized a quantity of arms. The men, dressed in the olive-green uniforms of the official armed forces, were reportedly led by Jefferson Cardim de Osório, a former colonel and "left nationalist," who had been expelled from the army and deprived of all civil rights after the right-wing coup of April 1 last year. The Brazilian government claimed that he was captured two days after the raid.

The guerrilla fighters got away with a machine gun, 30 rifles and a case of cartridges. They temporarily took over two radio stations and broadcast an appeal to the people of the area to support them and join the National Liberation Movement.

Revolutionary Groups Unite

The Buenos Aires socialist paper, *Palabra Obrera*, reports that the organization it represents has united with FRIP (*Frente Revolucionario Indoamericano Popular*) to constitute a new revolutionary organization. The two groups had previously participated together in many class-struggle actions. The unification represents an encouraging step toward the building of a mass revolutionary-socialist party in Argentina.

At a founding congress in the north of Argentina at the end of January, a militant, internationalist program was adopted by the new organization. It includes demands to meet the immediate problems of Argentine workers and demands leading toward a nationalized, planned economy.

The weekly *Palabra Obrera* and the bi-weekly *Norte Revolucionario* were designated as the official organs of the new party.

World Faces Food Crisis

"The next 35 years, till the end of the century, will be a most critical period in man's history, warns B.R. Sen, head of the UN Food and Agriculture Organization. "Disaster of an unprecedented magnitude" will result, reports Sen, if food production is not sharply increased. For example, to reach "acceptable" levels of animal foods (meat, dairy products, etc.) by the year 2000, Sen, said, "developing" countries would have to increase production by five times, a rate which none are achieving.

Official Verdict Is 'Suicides'

Four Puerto Ricans Die in New York Jails

By Tom Leonard

NEW YORK — Until recent picketing broke the curtain of silence, very few people outside the Puerto Rican community were aware of the fact that in the last two months four Puerto Ricans had died in their cells in police stations, suicides by hanging, according to the official reports.

The dead men were:

● Osvaldo Rivera, 20, who allegedly hanged himself with a scarf Feb. 13 after being arrested on a burglary charge.

● Jaime Gonzalez, 33, who allegedly hanged himself with a torn shirt Feb. 13 after being arrested on a drunken-driving charge.

● Cesar Ruiz, 25, who allegedly hanged himself with his shirt March 5 after being arrested on a robbery charge.

● Alfonso Betancourt, 42, who

allegedly hanged himself with his shirt March 23 after being arrested on a drunken-driving charge.

The city medical examiner's office officially reported all four deaths as caused by asphyxiation by hanging.

But a Bronx physician, Dr. Sergio S. Pena, declared that he could find no evidence of strangulation when, at the family's request, he had examined the body of Jaime Gonzalez. "It would have been impossible to loop that sleeve around his neck as the police said he did," Dr. Pena stated.

Roberto Lebron, president of the Puerto Rican Bar Association and chairman of the legal committee of the National Association for Puerto Rican Civil Rights, also cast doubt on the police reports.

He pointed out that two pathologists in Puerto Rico, where Ruiz's body had been sent for burial, had examined it and been unable to

find any evidence of death by hanging. "Not only do we have these medical reports," said Lebron, "but how did Rivera get a scarf into his cell? These are matters that require an in-depth investigation."

The alleged suicides were publicly called into question March 27 by several hundred Puerto Ricans who picketed Police Headquarters at 240 Centre St., and by an additional 300 who picketed City Hall the next day. The demonstrators, denouncing police brutality, demanded the resignation of Police Commissioner Murphy and the establishment of a civilian review board with a Puerto Rican member.

On April 3, several hundred pickets marched in front of at least 14 police precincts in Manhattan, Brooklyn and the Bronx. Leaders of the demonstrators have pledged to continue the protests until their demands are met.

Letters From Our Readers

[This column is an open forum for all viewpoints on subjects of general interest to our readers. Please keep your letters brief. Where necessary they will be abridged. Writers' initials will be used, names being withheld unless authorization is given for use.]

Alice Herz

New York, N.Y.

Nothing, I think, has more revealingly demonstrated how utterly our materialistic society has failed to comprehend one of man's oldest and most imperative moral precepts — atonement through self-sacrifice — than the

scant and often pejorative reportage given by the press of the United States to the self-cremation of 82-year-old Alice Herz on a street-corner in Detroit.

But there are many in this and other lands whose uncorrupted ethic demands of each man an undivided accountability to his conscience and the willingness to die, when need be, in witness thereof. These will receive with reverence and understanding this deed of unsullied purity by a wise and deeply dedicated woman who had suffered grievously from injustice and evil and who finally was moved to give her life in expiation for the sins of her fellow men.

She could do no other. In India, in Japan, in China, through all Asia and Africa, millions will respond to this simple, age-old act of penance, so unheeded here and so soon forgotten as the astronauts soar into space and the blind juggernaut of a mechanized civilization grinds into the dust man's ancient, artless humanism.

All of these will from now walk with renewed faith and a fresh strength in their lifelong remembrance that Alice Herz died to reaffirm the belief of the martyrs in the ultimate importance of personal responsibility; that when a man is right and willing to die for his righteousness, he may save the world.

Taylor Adams

Anti-English War

New York, N.Y.

While American imperialism is murdering the innocent people of Vietnam (North and South), its propagandists are busily engaged in murdering the English language. I should like to pass on to you a letter from a reader of the *Saturday Review* (4/3/65) commenting on this:

"The present crisis in Vietnam has, among other things, served to undermine the English language. While English teachers are attempting to show the unity of ideas and words, the Washington spokesmen are tearing down the very meaning of the language . . .

"American soldiers, thousands of miles away from home, are fighting for 'defense' of their homeland. Vietnamese, both in the South and in the North, who are fighting the Americans are called 'aggressors.' For a while, the American pilots who carried the bombs and napalm for the annihilation of Vietnamese villages were merely 'advisers.' (Has any newspaper ever carried an item about one of our 'advisers' giving 'advice' against dropping the bombs?)

"We still cling to the idea that a 'friendly government' in Vietnam requested our aid — even though that government and many others have long since gone into oblivion. Our definition of the 'free world' includes not only Franco and Salazar and Chiang Kai-shek but also the military dictators who have been running South Vietnam . . ."

Many more examples can be added to this excellent commentator's list. Barbed-wire concentration camps, involving forced labor, are called "strategic hamlets." Burning the homes, possessions and crops of Vietnamese farmers

is called "protecting the peasants from Communism" and poison gases are called "humane warfare."

R.S.

P.S. Perhaps it might be a good idea to invite *Militant* readers to submit similar examples? Like the *Readers Digest* has "Daffy Definitions," you could have "Washington's Dirty War on Words" or "Monstrous Meanings" or "Liars' Lexicon."

U of Mich. Teach-In

Chicago, Ill.

The readers of *The Militant* may be interested in some of my observations of the recent faculty-organized "Teach-in to Protest the War in Vietnam" at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. It took place while I was there for a speaking engagement. Between 2,500-3,000 students and faculty attended. [See report in our last issue.]

I was surprised by the accurate historical presentations and by the conclusions of the three main speakers: John Donahue, an anthropologist from Michigan State University, Robert Browne, an economist from Fairleigh Dickinson University in New Jersey, and Arthur Waskow, a historian from the Institute for Policy Studies in Washington, D.C.

Donahue and Browne had lived at least three years in Vietnam. They sketched the historical background of U.S. involvement, the violations of the Geneva Agreement by the U.S., the atrocities of the U.S. and South Vietnamese armies, and the ingenuity and determination of the rebel forces. They pointed out that North Vietnam did not initiate the struggle against Diem in the South. Donahue said it is "not an invasion

from the North" but a "war of liberation, a civil war."

At the outdoor rally the speakers included Michigan Supreme Court Justice Paul Adams, Dr. Bergman of the UM Philosophy Department, and Al Haber of the Students for a Democratic Society. All called for an end to the war, either through negotiations or immediate withdrawal.

In the discussion period after the first outdoor rally, Donahue answered a question about alleged guerrilla terrorism by saying "The Viet Cong have never killed unnecessarily" and describing incidents in the village he lived in. He said "The movement in the South is an independent movement . . . has received very little aid from the North."

The April 17 March on Washington sponsored by the Students for a Democratic Society was pointed to as a very important action. A proposal to expand the Faculty Committee to End the War in Vietnam to a faculty and student committee received a standing ovation. Hope was expressed that the Ann Arbor teach-in would spread to other schools and lead to a national faculty and student committee against the war in Vietnam.

Joel Britton

God, Gas and Country

Glens Falls, N.Y.

Again, not surprising of course, our government is denying that any pernicious or permanent effects will result from the gas now being used in Vietnam. And our editorialists, also not surprisingly, are backing the government in its dictum, one such claiming that "the gas is a non-lethal type, merely causing a temporary nausea, that discourages those breathing it from doing whatever they

are doing." Too bad these gentlemen could not also be given some such gas when writing their articles on Vietnam — and on several other places also.

This attitude reminds me of that taken some years ago when it was reported that the U.S.-led forces were using germ warfare on the Communists in Korea. It was, of course, vehemently denied, General Matthew Ridgeway saying "it was a lie, as God was his witness."

I haven't the slightest doubt that if at the time it was said that the Communists were the ones using germ warfare, there would be no denials, and General Ridgeway would have said it was absolutely true, producing as witnesses not only God but Jesus, the Virgin Mary and the Angel Gabriel.

K.M.G.

Thinks We Were Right

New York, N. Y.

The *Militant* consistently pointed out that a vote for Johnson in '64 would be a vote for war and reaction. More than any other voice in America, *The Militant* and Presidential candidate Clifton DeBerry predicted, and asked people to prepare for, the policy of escalation now being carried out in Vietnam by the "liberal" Johnson, the darling of the Communist Party and of the other proponents of "lesser evilism."

The question of independent political action is not limited to the month of November every four years. The aggression in North Vietnam underlines the fact that it is, and will be, a burning issue. Clarity on this issue is indispensable for effective action against war and aggression.

R.L.

10 Years Ago In The Militant

"The marked decline in service by the Post Office under the Eisenhower administration is being made up in another direction — book burning. Rumors and isolated stories of the arbitrary confiscation of newspapers, magazines, pamphlets and books from abroad by the postal authorities have recently received confirmation.

"The March 14 issue of *The Peacemaker*, a well-known pacifist publication, reveals that its inquiries have led it to the conclusion that 1,000 copies of a pamphlet by A. J. Muste entitled 'The Camp of Liberation' have been burned by postal authorities in Boston, Mass. . . .

"The pamphlets destroyed by postal authorities . . . were all from England. In addition to the pamphlet by Muste, a pamphlet by John Banks entitled 'Third Camp,' publications of the Movement for Colonial Freedom and the Union of Democratic Control, have been burned. Several publications, sent from England to the American Friends Service Committee in Cambridge, Mass., are also presumed incinerated." — April 11, 1955.

20 Years Ago

"The nation's fighting soft-coal miners weren't fooling when they voted two weeks ago, by an eight-to-one majority to authorize strike action if they didn't obtain an acceptable contract.

"Last week, following termination of their old contract on March 31 and despite a 30-day further extension of the former contract, an estimated 100,000 miners in some 300 mines throughout eight states engaged in spontaneous strike actions to show the profit-greedy operators they mean business.

"Many of the strikes were concentrated in the 'captive' mines of the steel corporations, traditionally the worst holdouts among the mine operators.

"The boss press and government spokesmen had tried to picture the miners' strike vote as a mere gesture. The press actually tried to conceal the extent of the walk-outs during the early part of last week. But Secretary of Interior Ickes' blustering demand last Thursday for a government mine 'seizure' and his admission of the closure of over 200 mines disclosed the real situation . . .

"Under this pressure, the hard-boiled mine owners rapidly softened. On April 9, with 200 mines still reported closed, spokesmen for the operators announced that a 'tentative agreement' had been reached with the UMW negotiating committee, with only one union demand still in dispute." — April 14, 1945.

It Was Reported in the Press

Bares Poverty Pocket — Congressman Richard White, a Texas Democrat, put the spotlight on a hidden pocket of poverty. In a March 30 speech, he declared: "Mr. Speaker, the words 'poverty amidst plenty' and 'pockets of poverty' have become familiar ones these days. The casual observer would hardly look for such pockets of poverty in an industry largely reputed to be among the nation's wealthiest, but nevertheless, they exist. They exist among the independent oil producers of this country."

Refresher Course — A Prentice-Hall management-development course offers "coldly realistic help" to the executive who "doesn't mind shoving other men aside."

Anchored to Statue of Liberty? — To relieve overcrowding in New York's prisons, Correction Commissioner Anna Kross proposes to rent two obsolete aircraft carriers from the federal government and use them for floating jails. In addition to providing space for excess prisoners, she says, "it might motivate the boys. It might give them a feeling of service." But Herman Stichman, an aide to Gov. Rockefeller, threw cold water on the proposal. He said it was

a poor idea security-wise, that prisoners would be "jumping over at night faster than you could put them in in the daytime." Besides, he added, prison ships in the harbor might make a poor impression on foreign visitors.

The Wild West — A campaign leaflet for Willard E. Ehlers, an aspirant for Board of Trustees of San Diego, California, Union High School, reads: "Vote for Ehlers. We may yet need American VIGILANTES. Bill Ehlers, if elected, will be vigilant against — Kooks, Beatniks, Homosexuals, Cigarette Wheelers, Smut Peddlers, Dope Pushers, Communists, Left-Wing Preachers, Oleaginous Masons, Zion Zany Jews, Fellow-Traveling Catholics, German Nazis, Bull-Headed Englishmen, Federal School Subsidies, Medical Blunderers, UN Miscreants, Race Equality Fakers, Miscegenators and all other Socialist Slop Swishers."

Oops, Wrong City — In a recent test, a hundred college freshmen were asked to identify a list of famous people. One of the students identified Robert McNamara as "the man who leads the New York crime syndicate." Obviously the young man is weak in geography.

Uncompromising Rights Fighter — Repercussions of the Southern rights struggle are being felt in New York's City Hall. Mayor Wagner said regulations might not permit the city to pay the expenses of six members of his administration who participated for several miles in the Montgomery-to-Selma Freedom March. But City Council President Scervane, a marcher, took a firm, principled stand on the issue. "There's no question about it as far as I'm concerned," he said. "When I am sent anywhere as an official representative of the Mayor, the city pays."

Thought for the Week (I)

"For two hours Mr. Smitherman proclaimed he was a segregationist. He didn't believe in mixing the races, it was God's will." — Comment of David Susskind on learning that Selma's Mayor Joe T. Smitherman had gone from his TV show to an apartment in the Negro section of Washington where he and a companion were allegedly swindled out of \$107, with liquor and women as the reported bait.

Thought for the Week (III)

"Gosh, no." — Comment by Mayor Smitherman on the report that he had been separated from his money by the offer of a woman.

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School Segregation Doubles in N. Y.; DeBerry Scores Wagner's Inaction

By Alex Harte

NEW YORK, April 8 — "The problem of school segregation in New York City is becoming worse, not better, in spite of all the promises of the Wagner administration," said Clifton DeBerry here today. DeBerry is the Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor in the coming city elections.

"Figures recently released by the Board of Education itself show that there are 18 more segregated schools now than a year ago, and over twice as many as seven years ago," DeBerry said. "The biggest increase in segregated schools has been in the elementary schools."

"In 1957 the Board classified 63 elementary schools as segregated, meaning that their student bodies were over 90 per cent non-white. In 1963, at the time of the first school boycott against this condition of inferior, segregated schools, the number had risen to 134. And last year the number went up to 148 elementary schools. The total number of schools in this city classified as segregated rose from 169 to 187 in the last year."

The SWP mayoralty candidate also pointed out that "this big increase in segregated elementary schools will mean a big increase in segregated education at all levels in the future unless something is done about it now."

Wagner's Failure

"These figures are admissions of failure by the present administration and Board of Education — more than that, they are admissions that the Wagner administration refuses to take the necessary steps to solve the problem. Segregated schools mean inferior schools, mean that Negro and Puerto Rican children in this city, who already have two strikes against them to start with, are given one more dirty deal. The over-crowded, understaffed, unsympathetic segregated schools in this city are a horrible affliction upon the young generation of non-whites, who are the ones who will suffer because of these schools."

"School segregation will only worsen whether there are Democrats or the Republicans in City



CANDIDATE, Clifton DeBerry, interviewed by Harlem newsman.

Hall, because both those parties are part and parcel of the power structure which maintains racism and segregation in New York City. The situation will not be changed until an administration is installed in City Hall which really represents the poor people of this city, which adequately represents the Negro and Puerto Rican communities.

"Such an administration would make certain that valid representatives from the Negro and Puerto Rican communities, who are the most concerned about the problem because they suffer directly from it, would be on the Board of Education. Men like Rev. Milton Galamison, the leader of the school boycotts, who has a good grasp of the problem and what to do about it, should be on the Board of Education."

"An effective protest against this bi-partisan betrayal of our children will be a vote for candidates of the Socialist Workers Party in the fall elections," DeBerry concluded.

Racist Given Ovation By N. Y. Cops

NEW YORK — Since the 1930s when New York cops provided a major base of support for Father Coughlin's fascist "Social Justice" movement, New Yorkers have been aware that the Police Department is a bulwark of racism and reaction. They were given a fresh reminder April 4 when 6,000 cops at the annual Holy Name Society communion breakfast cheered, whistled, and "raised the roof" as William Buckley, editor of the ultra-right magazine *National Review*, defended the Alabama cops who had beaten, clubbed and gassed defenseless Negroes.

"Four weeks ago at Selma," Buckley declared, "the television cameras showed police nightsticks descending on the bodies of demonstrators." But, he asserted, the cameras didn't show "the defiance" of the demonstrators and showed "nothing of the policemen's restraint." He didn't say where the cameramen would have found such restraint.

With these remarks, reports the *New York Herald Tribune*, the ballroom "rocked with applause."

In a red-baiting attack on all of the civil-rights, civil-liberties, community and church groups that have spoken out on the problem of police brutality, Buckley asserted: "Men who rail unthinkingly at policemen . . . tend to have a relationship with revolutionaries."

Discussing the racist murder of Mrs. Viola Liuzzo, Buckley declared that "sitting on the front seat with a young Negro," she got shot, as might have been expected. "Why did this occupy the front pages?" he asked.

Seated on the dais throughout the speech was "liberal" Mayor Robert F. Wagner who, according to the *Herald Tribune*, "applauded politely at the right places." Mayor Wagner sent a well-publicized delegation to the Selma-to-Montgomery March which protested police brutality against Negroes. But he obviously didn't see fit to even march off the platform during Buckley's anti-Negro tirade.



WANT A LIVING WAGE. Some 2,500 workers at Bloomingdale's Department Store in New York are on strike for a minimum wage of \$2 an hour and a 35-hour week. They are members of Local 3 of the Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union, AFL-CIO. The usually busy store has suffered a drastic decline in business since strike began. Present minimum wage at the store is \$1.50 and the company has offered to add a big dime to it.

Spotlight on Conditions In N. Y. Women's Prison

By Constance Weissman

NEW YORK — A scandal over the mistreatment of an 18-year-old college girl in the Women's House of Detention here has afforded the public a glimpse of the degrading conditions women prisoners are subjected to.

Andrea Dworkin, a Bennington College freshman, was arrested for participating in a pacifist sit-down at the United Nations to protest U.S. policy in Vietnam. Judge Anthony E. Maglio felt such protests deserved severe punishment and ordered her to the Women's House of Detention in lieu of \$500 bail. It was the beginning of a holiday weekend and Miss Dworkin, denied the right to make a phone call, spent nearly four days in the prison.

There she suffered brutality and humiliation at the hands of the medical staff and homosexual prisoners who are unrestrained by prison authorities.

Miss Dworkin made her experience available to the public in an affidavit given to *New York Post* columnist James Wechsler.

She testified that, after vaginal searches by nurses, she was brutally examined internally by a doctor. She protested that it was painful, but he continued exerting pressure on her abdomen and breasts. Meantime, another doctor plied her with questions about Bennington. He first told her that he used to go to Bennington looking for girls. "He asked how many girls at Bennington were virgins and I said I did not know. He told me I ought to know more about that than Vietnam. The conversation continued this way as the forceps were being applied," testified the student.

Further Indignities

Later, in the overcrowded cells, infested with mice and bugs, the girls were molested by homosexual prisoners. One of the girls was held down by two women while a third climbed on top of her. Numerous other indignities were inflicted.

Rachel Smith, also arrested at the sit-down, testified in an affidavit: "I agree with Andrea Dworkin that the internal examinations were unusually prolonged and that the continuing belligerent conversation by the

two male doctors was totally unnecessary.

"What I witnessed at the House of Detention was an attempt to totally dehumanize the inmates. One was not even allowed to bring a hairbrush into prison."

Eight days after these revelations, eight state assemblymen toured the House of Detention and described it as a "hellhole" which made them "physically sick." Built to accommodate 450, there were 657 inmates jammed into it, many of whom were awaiting trial and unable to raise bail. One 16-year-old girl, charged with simple assault, had been there 30 days awaiting trial. "If she'd pleaded guilty, she wouldn't have gotten 30 days," said an assemblyman. Other reports were made to Governor Rockefeller and the mayor, all corroborating Miss Dworkin.

Prison Still Used

For at least 25 years, this prison has been a scandal, but it is still used. Ten days after the Dworkin story broke, Wechsler reported that another young political prisoner had been sent there. She is City College student Elinor Goldstein, a member of the Progressive Labor Movement. She had already spent 30 days in a civil jail for refusing to co-operate with the witch-hunting grand jury's efforts to depict last summer's Harlem "riots" as a communist conspiracy.

Called before the grand jury a second time, she still refused to answer. She and other young PLM members, including Vivian Anderson, a school teacher with a six-year-old son, were, at the prosecutor's insistence, then sent to the House of Detention.

One result of the exposure of conditions there was the resignation of the doctor who examined Miss Dworkin. (The other doctor was kept on and neither of their names was made public.) Also, the political prisoners were transferred to another prison.

The State Commission of Corrections voted to call for a hearing at which members could testify about the "unspeakable conditions" they had observed at the jail. It remains to be seen if effective steps will be taken to end the existence of this terrible institution.

Los Angeles Socialists Voice Protest

Picket Line at CBS Gets Results

By Evelyn Reed

HOLLYWOOD, April 2 — A small but highly effective picket line at the CBS Radio and TV studios at noon here today brought swift action in response to placards charging CBS and other stations with denying air time to Oscar G. Coover and Irving Kirsch, candidates for mayor and board of education in the current Los Angeles elections.

A TV cameraman and radio interviewer hurried out in the pelting rain to placate the marchers and record the views and grievances of the two candidates who are supported by the Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance.

"Thus far CBS has ignored our repeated requests by mail and phone for time to present our views to the electorate," said Coover in a radio interview which was broadcast soon afterward at 2 p.m. "What happens to the democratic processes and rights of minority candidates if only capitalist candidates, who can afford to spend hundreds of thousands of dollars on their campaigns, are heard?"

"What would you do if elected mayor?" asked the TV cameraman, in an interview televised as part of the 6 p.m. news.

"Among the first of the many

things I would do," Coover replied, "would be to remove Police Chief Parker, notorious for his brutalities against the Negro people and other minority groups. I would establish a broadly-based police review board composed of elected representatives of minority and labor organizations to safeguard their interests against the city's power structure."

At a press conference earlier today, a score of reporters heard Coover and Kirsch denounce the *Herald-Examiner* for a slanderous article published yesterday in which the two candidates and their party were declared to be "subversive."

Serious Charge

"This might have been treated as an April Fool joke if it were not so serious," said Coover. "The Socialist Workers Party is a legally recognized party which has run presidential candidates in many states since 1948 and has run candidates for mayor in Los Angeles since 1945. The Hearst paper itself admits in the same article that U.S. Attorney Manuel Real told them "that no list in his office specifically identifies any organization as 'subversive' and Communist."

The SWP-endorsed candidates, Coover told the assembled report-

ers, had been singled out for this smear attack because "we have unreservedly supported the civil-rights fighters in Los Angeles as well as Alabama; because we oppose U.S. intervention in Vietnam; and because we back up students and faculties in their fights to defend academic freedom against the boards of regents."

Yesterday, some 500 people at the Hollywood High School heard Irving Kirsch, along with all the other candidates for board of education, at a meeting sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

How to build more and better schools, pay teachers higher wages, and generally improve the educational system without raising taxes, left all the candidates except Kirsch helpless or speechless.

"You say you have the answer," Kirsch was asked in the question period. "How would you solve the problem?"

"It's very simple," he replied. "This is a national problem, yet the government is spending two million dollars a day in the Vietnam war alone; that amount of money diverted into our educational system would be sufficient to pay for all its needs and requirements." Spontaneous applause greeted Kirsch's call for withdrawing U.S. troops from Vietnam.