



"It's got me beat."

The trials of being a Foreign Minister under Washington's overlordship are graphically demonstrated in this picture of Britain's Herbert Morrison (l.) and France's Robert Schuman. In London Prime Minister Attlee has been hospitalized with ulcers. When you read on p. 3 of the popular uprisings all over the world against U.S. policy, you may ask: Who's next on the ulcer list?

#### THE KINDEST COP IN THE WORLD

## Trial of the Trenton 6 turns into low comedy

By William A. Reuben  
GUARDIAN special correspondent

TRENTON, N. J. THE fact that six men who could not possibly be guilty stand for the second time in jeopardy of their lives, after over three years in jail, could not keep spectators from outbursts of incredulous laughter in the courtroom here on Friday as testimony was given by a 230-pound man in immaculate dove-grey gabardine, white silk shirt and maroon tie brocaded with the figure of a parrot.

Frank A. Naples, Mercer County detective chief and ranking officer in the 1948 investigation into the murder of junk dealer William Horner, is the witness whose inability to respond to a defense subpoena had been explained for eight weeks by the prosecution with variations on the theme that he was "recuperating from a heart ailment" at Miami Beach. On Monday the prosecution had in effect been required to produce Naples when Judge Ralph A. Smalley ruled that before three remaining Trenton Six "confessions" were read, the jury should hear how they were obtained.

Naples' testimony contradicted not only that of previous police witnesses but every major point of what he himself said at the first trial.

**SOME CAVIAR, MR. ENGLISH?** These were some of the contradictions brought out by defense attorney Pellettieri:

- Previous police witnesses unambiguously agreed that defendant Collis English got no rest on the night of Feb. 6, 1948, first night after his arrest on suspicion of committing "the most brutal crime in the city's history." Naples said English was sleeping when the detective chief arrived at the police station, and that he called to him: "Collis English, wake up, please"—then: "Collis English, will you please wake up?"

The whole round-up of the six Negroes was carried out with old-world gallantry, according to Naples. When Naples and English stopped at a diner

on the way to arrest Ralph Cooper and Horace Wilson, Naples said he asked: "Mr. English, what do you want for breakfast?" And Naples thus described his dawn arrival with a dozen cops at the one-room cement blockhouse where Cooper and Wilson were arrested: he pulled off the bed covers, saw a woman, several children and a Negro man, and:

"I asked the man his name and he said, 'I'm Mr. Wilson,' so I said, 'Will you please get up and get dressed, Mr. Wilson?' and then when he did I put the handcuffs on Mr. Wilson."

- Every other police officer testified the name English gave them with two others the first night he was questioned was "Buddy" Wilson. Naples said it was "positively" Horace Wilson, although this flatly contradicted his testimony at the first trial. Naples' explanation: "I meant to [say Horace] and if I didn't I'm sorry."

- Naples insisted that English described James Thorpe to police as a man with one arm (which in fact he is). Every other state witness had testified to the contrary, and at the first trial Naples' answer to the same question was: "No, he did not." Naples' explanation: "I didn't remember, I guess."

- Naples flatly denied ever interviewing the one eye-witness to the crime, contradicting his testimony at the first trial. His explanation: "I didn't see her in the police station, I saw her in the Prosecutor's office."

**WHAT DID YOUSE SAY?** Asked about English's treatment during his four days and nights of interrogation at the police station, Naples said: "He could have walked out of the police station any time he wanted to." Pellettieri, incredulous, asked: "You would have let him walk out?" Naples replied: "You know better than that. You as a lawyer know he couldn't have walked out."

Loudest laugh came after Naples denied sending English back to a cell, telling him he would stay there until he gave a statement. Naples' previous testimony was then read, showing he said he had done just that. "Oh," said Naples, "did you say you or youse?"

# NATIONAL GUARDIAN

the progressive newsweekly

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NEW YORK, N. Y., MAY 2, 1951

## Dehumanized Zones — Here and Abroad

### Of dignity & Willie McGee

AS the methodical slaughter of Koreans by their "liberators" continues, and permanent atomic contamination of a "dehumanized zone" across that country is proposed by a Congressman and seriously discussed, and pinpointing of targets for the impartial atomization of Russians proceeds publicly with "Christian" blessings—so also runs on like the babbling brook the talk by our leading citizens about the essential nobility of American motives in this vast destruction of human life.

We are assured that it is all being done — the plans for enlarging the holocaust are all being made — to preserve individual human dignity.

The GUARDIAN remains unconvinced that it is dignified to be dead, or that the killing of babies and the weak and innocent generally lends dignity to the killer.

Because we like human beings and are in favor of dignity for all, we protest with all the spirit that is in us against what we see in this traditionally decent land: a purposeful campaign to cheapen human life not only in the sphere of mass murder (war) but in the sphere of retribution against individuals at home ("justice").

THE land that was made great by the shining humanitarianism of an Abraham Lincoln, a Franklin Roosevelt, is leading the preparations for massacre on a scale of which Hitler never dreamed, directed specifically against a nation which does not have a single soldier fighting anyone anywhere.

We are bound to recall how, before he let loose the last holocaust, Hitler systematically "stealed" his people to regard human life as unimportant in Germany itself.

We refuse to stand on our heads with 99% of the U.S. press to avoid seeing the obvious fact that the same process is going on here, now. And we insist on seeing as a symbol of this process the approaching execution of sharecropper Willie McGee in Mississippi.

Unless the President personally intervenes, Willie McGee will die next week. This "unimportant" and—we believe—innocent life will follow to extinction the lives of the Martinsville Seven, who committed the same crime of having black skins (even if really guilty, they would not have been executed had they been white).

And still the preachers and politicians will talk of our mission to preserve human dignity. And still the progressives of America, who take Lincoln and Roosevelt literally and fight and cry out for justice for "the least of these," will be denounced as a deadly peril to civilization.

MEANWHILE, at Trenton, N. J., the pitifully crude frame-up against six "unimportant" Negroes—six lives sentenced to extinction three years ago, which would long since have been blotted out by Jersey "justice" had not progressives rallied to their defense—cracks up before the embarrassed eyes of those who shouted that the Trenton defense was a "Communist propaganda plot."

Everyone knows—though now as the frame-up is laid bare those who were silent before must pretend not to know—who is responsible for the fact that the Trenton Six are still alive. It is the same people who defend the right of Koreans to live and be free. These people know that what America does elsewhere is a reflection of what it does at home.

In opening the American Labor Party election campaign last year Vito Marcantonio posed the question:

"Who were the patriots in Hitler's Germany: those who said yes to the persecution of the Jews, who cheered his invasion of Czechoslovakia to halt 'Soviet aggression'; or the anti-Nazis who opposed him even though opposition meant concentration camps?"

Today the question cannot but be asked: Who is for justice and human



WILLIE MCGEE  
Six days to live

dignity—the machinery of the state which persecutes and kills people for not being white, or the little band of virtual outlaws who defy all smears to voice and swell the protest?

THE GUARDIAN is proud today of every smear that has been directed at it, and at the Civil Rights Congress whose fight for the Six we supported. Looking back over our files since October, 1948, when we first asked if a "new Scottsboro" was taking shape at Trenton, we can only say that the extent of the frame-up was only hinted at in our columns, in light of what is now admitted by the State's own witnesses.

And proudly we ask, at this eleventh hour:

WHO WILL STAND UP WITH US FOR HUMAN DIGNITY IN THE FIGHT FOR THE LIFE OF WILLIE MCGEE?

THE EDITORS

What you can do:

- Write to President Truman TODAY. Insist that he intervene to save Willie McGee. See that everyone you know does the same.

- If your organization has not yet gone on record to the same effect, raise the question on the floor IMMEDIATELY.

Next week may be too late.

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MAY 2, 1951

## THE MAIL BAG

### Solidarity—in practice

WASHINGTON, D. C.

One of your correspondents urges that minority groups draw closer together. This excellent idea should be taken up from every possible angle. For instance, I note that Scott Nearing, in his news commentary, World Events, recommends a dozen other periodicals—NATIONAL GUARDIAN among them—as valuable sources of information. Furthermore, his Washington office systematically encloses in its outgoing letters and packages the literature of a wide range of progressive organizations as well as sample copies of other periodicals. If this example could be widely followed, the progressive movement would benefit in many ways.

We talk and sing about "Solidarity forever!" Our organizations should practice it among ourselves. Oldtimer

### Africa calling DuBois

KUMASI, GOLD COAST, W. AFRICA  
The GUARDIAN has given me and my colleagues a glimpse of hope for the future sanity of the world but especially of those United States.

From one still active in the old country of Africa—a tribute to Dr. DuBois. Keep up the good fight to the last round! (Dr.) R. E. G. Armattoe

### Julius MacCaesar

PROVINCETOWN, MASS.

About the MacArthur affair—may I suggest that you turn to the opening pages of Shakespeare's Julius Caesar and read: "Now wherefore rejoice, what conquest brings he home . . . ?"

Albert Muldavin

### The tears come later

NEW YORK, N. Y.

The extraordinary outburst for Gen. MacArthur, preeminently a martial figure, is a demonstration for war. The plaudits, hosannas and almost hysterical excitement bring to mind a famous chapter in English history of the 1730's. When Sir Robert Walpole, then prime minister, could hold out no longer against a clamor for war against Spain, the populace of London went wild with joy. Flags were on dis-

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fifth grade class, pronouncing the words which her students were to write down. When she came to the word "dropped" all the children thought she had given the signal for an atom bomb drill and promptly crouched under their desks. PAK

### And so he did

BROADUS, MONT.

Enclosed \$60 in final payment on \$100 pledged. Am busy farming and things look pretty bad but I guess we have to keep on trying. Elmer Watters

### Well, Senator?

GARY, IND.

Enclosed find carbon of dispatch in reply to a recent public announcement of Sen. Homer S. Capehart (R-Ind.): "Dear Senator:

"In reply to your recent announcement that you were willing to fight anybody who calls me a warmonger or the Republican Party a war party, I should like to state, with all due respect, that you are a warmonger and that the Republican Party is a war party." Nelson Algren

### Oink, oink!

SOUTH BEND, IND.

I thought the letter objecting to so much space devoted to your Buying Service rather dumb. Don't your readers know that this is like the pig, "the darlin' that pays the rent"? Gladys W. McCaughan  
Well, not quite, but we hope it will soon be true. Ed.

### Petran's eye opener

MONTREAL, QUEBEC

The public owes you a world of gratitude for Miss Petran's "Does the Soviet Union Want War?" I earnestly hope you will reprint it. It has lifted the scales from my eyes. Pierre Drouet

play throughout the city, the bells were deafening.

Said the peace-loving statesman bitterly: "They are ringing the bells now; they will be wringing their hands later." Paul R. Hall

### Vanity is not vanity

BRONX, N. Y.

John Gunther writing in the N. Y. Compass says this: "The general is so vain that he is not vain." Which to me is but stupid and obscurantist playing with words and could only come from one who is badly bitten with the hero-worship bug. Below I am playing with words, too, but I think my meanings emerge much more clearly.

### THE SOMETHING-NOTHING

In near-by (far-off?) Strangipal Once was—thus wasn't—a general Who stood so low that Everest-high He loomed (to hero-hungry eye). His sea-green blood, therefore, was red

### How to read a newspaper . . . . . by Walter Her



"I have been informed by an undercover source . . ."

While shallow brow and narrow head—

Thus ocean-deep, almost as wide As the whole world—the world denied!

So senseless: this nonentity, Nothing but him the mind could see! In weakness strong like Hercules! (To all who worshipped at his knees)

So dead! So dead! He looked alive! And so No-star that for a Five He was mistaken every time! And Oh! so priceless that a dime Bought dozens like him; but what's more:

'Twas peace he waged when he waged war! So obvious! To you and me— This solid senile mystery! Poppa Gander

### Drop: as in bomb

NEW YORK, N. Y.

A friend who teaches school in California recently told me this story which I would like to pass on as one illustration of the tragic conditioning for war the American people are undergoing. She was teaching spelling to her

### Voting in St. Louis

ST. LOUIS, MO.

I now realize why the politicians in the city of St. Louis do not want voting machines. They are afraid of an honest election.

I was the Progressive Party candidate for Alderman in the 18th Ward. The report to the Board of Elections shows that I got only 24 votes. I voted in the 7th precinct and, according to the election judges, I did not receive a single vote. Apparently, I did not even vote for myself! Earl White  
4019 Cook

### Just can't shoot

PASADENA, CALIF.

The other day my mother, reporting on a "Missionary Society" meeting, said that a member quoted her son's letter from Korea: "I just can't shoot at those kids and I'm not going to."

Congratulations on the liaison with John W. Powell in Shanghai. I "knew him when." His Dad taught journalism in a Chinese Government school with me. More power to the GUARDIAN! Lenore K. Hartigan

### Crusaders and Voice

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN.

The GUARDIAN needs to crusade for an economic program and not just report briefly on good resolutions passed by the better farm and labor groups. It should really explain why we need the Brannan Plan, MVA, \$1-an-hour minimum wages, federal aids to education, federal pensions, government ownership of railroads to meet the boxcar shortage, government ownership of the farm fertilizer industry, a gigantic slum clearance program and other programs of a similar nature. It should really lambast the enemies of these programs and dramatize what they would mean to our daily lives instead of the Wall St. war program.

Peace, civil rights and economic justice all go together. We can't have any one without the other two. We make a mistake in not fighting for all three together; and we fail to win friends among many former Roosevelt New Dealers by leaving out the economic programs in our coverage of issues.

And let's put more spirit in our fight, like the Popularists when they cried: "Raise less wheat and more hell!" The Old Salt  
When the organized progressive

# IMPORTANT NOTICE



If a bull's-eye like the one above appears with your address-plate on p. 8 of this issue of the GUARDIAN, your subscription has expired and your renewal is due immediately. Your subscription will be continued free for the remaining issues of this month and then automatically canceled if your renewal has not been received by the time we mail out the first June issue.

We are confident that you will understand the necessity of this procedure, and that you will do your best to get your renewal in on time. Newsprint is becoming increasingly expensive and hard to get, hence our supplies must be conserved and most economically expended—which means that we cannot continue to mail papers beyond a reasonable period after the expiration of a subscription.

If the foregoing applies to you, please send your renewal off at once and avoid any possible interruption of your subscription. —THE EDITORS

movement gets into the economic hell-raising and crusading business with both feet, the GUARDIAN will be ready and eager to spread the hell and the crusade. We aspire not to be the movement but to be its voice. Ed.

### Excused, for cause

PENSACOLA, FLA.

I was so busy running around the country about March 1 defending Willie McGee that I forgot to send you my March 1 contribution on my \$100 pledge. Enclosed check for \$20 covering March and April. John M. Coe

### The wind and the sun

CHARLESTON, W. VA.

A third world war will bankrupt our nation. It would cost a trillion dollars. This cannot be raised without resorting to printing-press money, which in the end would be worthless and—like German marks and bonds after World War I—have to be repudiated.

It would destroy hundreds of billions of dollars' worth of property, incapacitate millions of workers, and deprive us of trillions of dollars' worth of good things we could have instead by avoiding war. The cost of it would be enough to provide every family in our nation a \$40,000 home.

We could not win. Most of our allies would desert to the other side. How could the largest army we conceivably could send, hold in subjection nations of 200,000,000 and 450,000,000 on their own soil? Yet by increasing the good things of life for our people to our potential limit we could create such prosperity here that other people would give their right eyes to have us manage for them to get similar advantages.

When the sun and wind in the McGuffey Reader fable vied to get the man's coat off, the wind only caused him to draw it tighter about him, but he took it off readily when the sun began to shine on him. Why don't labor leaders see the possibilities before them for bringing

"peace on earth, good will among men" and the more abundant life? Horace S. Meldahl

### A miracle, Harry

BALTIMORE, MD.

I have just read the speech of Harry Truman at the laying of the cornerstone of the New York Av. Presbyterian Church. He has repeatedly summoned all of us, especially all of us who are Catholics, to follow him "in a war of religion against the Russian atheists. Thus I answer him as a Catholic should answer:

Harry of the Hard Heart, if God has given you a commission to lead the army of the Lord on Har-Magedon's desperate day, you can easily prove your claim. Give us a miracle, Harry Hard Heart, give us a miracle. Cause the sun to rise in the west and the moon from the direction of Elam. Lewis Bayard Robinson

### Christian Science group!

Two Californians urgently wish to be put in touch with the writer of a letter from Oakland signed "Group of Guardian readers" (GUARDIAN, Mar. 7), referring to a book in preparation on the Christian Science Publishing House.

The original letter is missing from our files. Will its author please communicate?



Drawing by Fred Wright

"I refuse to answer on the ground that it might tend to incriminate me."

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# Official U.S. cost-of-living index declared a fraud

By Elmer Bendiner

WASHINGTON'S stabilizers and mobilizers last week stood accused of a vast and clumsy fraud.

In a general sense the evidence had long been on the record. Under existing "controls" prices and profits are still virtually unrestrained; each new regulation seems more complex and less workable than the last. Each has in it the inevitable out for price boosters, like the advertising gimmick the stabilizers borrowed from a typewriter ad: "the magic margin."

By its magic a manufacturer can stretch the margin on his price rises so long as in his own book-keeping he chalks them up to increased costs.

**GAP GROWS:** The great fraud ties wages behind prices, then understates the price rise so that daily the gap grows greater between what a worker

the cost of living wages are to be raised by some fixed percentage.

UE pointed out that even if an honest cost-of-living index were used, the escalator's promise would be a fraud:

For example, if the cost-of-living index goes up from 100 to 150 the worker is asked to be satisfied with a wage increase of 50%. . . . It means that if the worker's wage falls short of his needs by \$800 in the first place, it falls short by \$1,200 AFTER the wage increase.

CIO and AFL in 1944, have exposed BLS before. In June, 1944, the President's committee on the cost of living reported on the "charge that the index does not measure the full cost of living":

We have made it clear that this charge is valid if cost of living is taken to mean the amount of money families spend for the goods and services they buy. The Bureau never has tried, and does not now try, to measure the cost of living in this sense.

chased by middle- and upper-income groups, which show far less of a rise in price than cheaper items. The American Statistical Assn. commented on BLS:

The index represents expenditures of what may be characterized as a moderate income group. In periods of rapidly rising prices there are segments of the population with low (and fixed) incomes for whom the increase in the cost of living is a real hardship. During 1942 and 1943 prices of lower-quality goods and low-rent housing have experienced relatively the most extreme upward rise.

- Fails to consider the deterioration of goods. Those who count their pennies cannot afford to "economize with the best." In wartime particularly inexpensive goods, from clothes to kitchenware, wear out quickly and need replacement.

- Manipulates figures to fit them into the pattern of the index. UE's analysis shows that without exception the effect of such manipulation is to lower the price index.

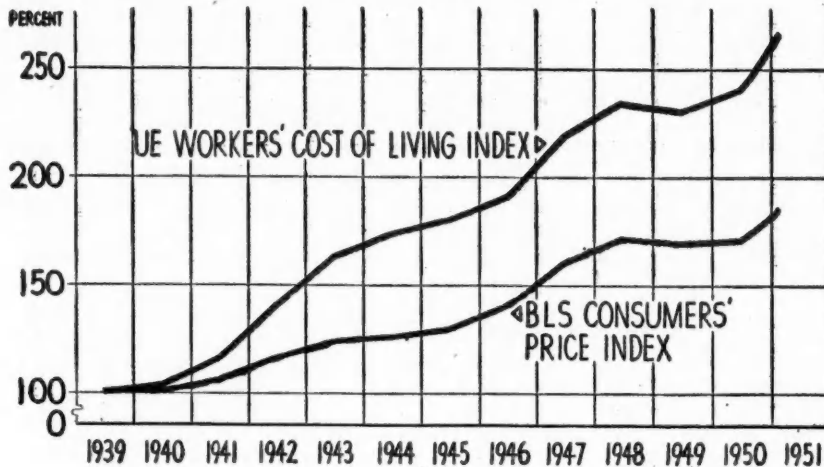
- Does not consider changes in living conditions: greater food requirements for longer work under mobilization, necessary expenditures for housework when both man and wife work; the use of an automobile, often a necessity where workers' homes are far from factories.

**ALL KINDS OF WORRY:** Item by item—food, transportation, housing, clothing—UE's index shows a startling rise above BLS figures. The report pictures a group of workers in 1939 tying themselves to an escalator clause based on BLS figures, and finds:

By January, 1951, they would not still be enjoying their 1939 living standard—a depression living standard . . . they would have suffered a 30% cut below that living standard.

The prospect is that working people under mobilization may have to do with less. But industrialists, too, have their mobilization worries. Ernest Breech, executive vice-pres. of Ford, wrote in **Look**:

In the coming months, if a global war has not begun to burn up the produce of our factories, we will turn out so many hundreds of thousands of machines for war there literally will be no place to store them.



(Prepared by the United Electrical Workers)

The assumption that the worker's wage falls short to start with is safe. The average U.S. worker has an income one-third below the basic minimum calculated by the University of California in the Heller Budget.

**FIGURES, NO FACTS:** Compounding that fraud are the gross distortions of the cost-of-living index itself, by the Bureau of Labor Statistics. These figures understate the rise in prices by close to 50% according to UE's own "conservative" cost-of-living index. UE finds that workers' costs have gone up 162% since the last pre-war year, 1939. BLS figures show a rise of only 83%.

While UE's analysis is by far the most devastating, others, including the

Yet it is behind these figures that wages are to be tied, according to the CIO and the wage stabilizers' escalator formula. The cost-of-living index prepared by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics consistently shows far greater price rises than does BLS. UE explains it this way:

The BAE index is used to put a floor under the prices received by farmers. The BLS index is used to put a ceiling on wages.

**CONJURERS AT WORK:** BLS distorts the cost of living because it

- Completely ignores all federal taxes. That factor alone accounts for one-third of the difference between the BLS and UE indices.

- Gives greater weight to items pur-

U.S. representatives in Eastern Europe could find "no indication of preparation for immediate war."

Said Mrs. Leslie Stephens, wife of the U.S. naval attache in Moscow, in Baltimore:

"When we left Moscow there was nothing in the atmosphere that smelled like war."

**NO CHEERS:** The Administration's adoption of the MacArthur program, public acclaim of the deposed general, and Washington's continued efforts to



Drawing by Maurice Becker "How's the market, Mac?"

whip up war scares, left Europe frankly dismayed. Chicago Daily News' William Stoneman reported from Paris:

A wave of resentment swept Western Europe as the result of what newspapers hint is a deliberate attempt by the American government to alarm the public by fake reports on Soviet troop concentrations. . . . If it is proved that these reports are indeed without real foundation the U.S. will have suffered irreparable harm.

The "deeper roots" of the crisis in U.S. relations with its allies were seen by columnist Stewart Alsop in the . . . threatened rupture of the Anglo-American alliance. . . . American strategy is now squarely based on atomic bombing of great population centers [and] total reliance on a willingness to use the atomic

bomb in the most ruthless way. . . . [The British.] totally vulnerable to this form of attack, [are] more and more inclined to challenge the basic concept . . . and thus in a sense, to challenge also the basis of the Anglo-American alliance.

**THE SCHUMAN MESS:** In Paris, Britain and France made no effort to temper U.S. intransigence with regard to adoption of a four-power conference agenda. But the N.Y. Times conceded editorially that public opinion in France, Britain and even the U.S. made it necessary to continue the talks.

Washington war plans were, in fact, running into trouble. The Wall St. Journal reported "general opposition to the Schuman Plan [to organize West Europe's industry for war] among workers and owners in all participating nations." The N.Y. Times' Michael Hoffman in Geneva found

. . . disintegration of the European market for steel . . . greater now than ever . . . in modern times apart from war. Every country . . . is keeping down prices of steel components for its own industry and gouging foreign buyers to the maximum. . . . If [the Schuman Plan] does not result in more steel being produced more cheaply for Western Europe, it will turn out to be a political catastrophe.

**"MORALE NEVER LOWER":** In Germany the U.S. High Commissioner's staff reported that "neutralism . . . has actually gained adherents" in the past few months despite an intensive U.S. campaign against it (Overseas News Agency). Reported ONA:

The neutralists are now estimated at between 55 to 60% of the people who express opinions on politics. . . . It seems evident to most foreign observers here that West German morale has never been lower. Disillusionment over the foreign policy of the U.S. is great; many Germans feel U.S. "recalcitrance" and "aggressiveness" are pushing the whole western world toward war.

The Bonn Government banned a Communist plebiscite against remilitarization scheduled for May 15, ap-

(Continued on Page 4)

## WAR & PEACE M'A circus shocks, splits Europe; Spain boils over

**TO AMERICA,** headlines trumpeted U.S. plans to bomb China. To the world, **Voice of America** boasted of the success on the Chinese mainland—including destruction of a Peking power station—of a "Free China" force organized and led by U.S. and British agents. And on Formosa (Taiwan) employees of Morgan's J. G. White engineering firm, long engaged in fortifying the island, welcomed the first of the new 600-man U.S. military mission. Deputy Defense Secy. Lovett said Formosa now ranks with Europe in military priority.

The Administration was faithfully executing the MacArthur program; but the General demanded a faster tempo to achieve "victory over the nation and men who . . . have warred against us." Sen. Taft (R-O.), more explicit, called

**BEHIND THE BROUHAHA:** MacArthur's promise of quick victory in Korea by war on 475,000,000 Chinese was not ineffective. A Gallup Poll, begun the day after his talk to Congress, showed the number believing his program could end the Korean war rose from 30 to 54%, the sentiment for all-out war on China from 19 to 30%. The public, hitherto cool to "defense" of Formosa, now favored it 6 to 1.

MacArthur's triumphal cavalcade permitted policymakers to intensify propaganda that the nation is already at war. The President tightened security regulations to bar federal jobs to those whose "loyalty" was in "reasonable doubt." J. Edgar Hoover displayed his plan to intern 14,000 to 450,000 "subversives" or "suspected subversives" in event of war or "emergency," in a bid to Congress for \$750,000 to transform four abandoned army camps into concentration camps.

Yet Civil Defense Administrator Caldwell still complained of the people's "shocking apathy." The Wall St. Journal refused to

. . . believe that World War III has begun or that it is inevitable. To assume either . . . is to be truly defeatist, to assume them and act on them aggressively might be catastrophic.

**ALL IS PEACEFUL:** Even as they beat the war drums, some policymakers confessed they had no evidence of Soviet plans for war. John Foster Dulles in Tokyo "personally doubted" that Russia seeks a general war now or would be provoked into one by a separate Western peace with Japan. Asst. Secy. of State McGhee drove a hole through recent Belgrade-Washington alarms by telling Congress

for air and naval war on China, the U.S. to "go the limit" in aiding a Chiang Kai-shek invasion of the mainland and not to hesitate over "the possibility that the Russians may come into the war." He served notice the bipartisan investigation of Far Eastern policy, beginning May 3, would be aimed at putting over this policy.



(Continued from Page 3)

parently in the fear, said the N.Y. Times, that it "might have produced a very large vote against rearmament and for a peace treaty."

In Belgium, Parliament expressed bitterness over U.S. Ambassador Murphy's recent "blunt" warning that Marshall aid will be cut off if the government doesn't increase spending for arms. Former Premier Paul Henri Spaak, ardent pro-American, found U.S. relations with Europe "more difficult," anti-U.S. feeling growing.

**BEVAN BLURTS IT OUT:** In Britain, the Wall St. Journal found anti-American feeling at "such a point that it is believed even a Conservative government... would have to defer somewhat to it." Resignation of Aneurin Bevan from the Cabinet, blasting the Labour Government for allowing itself to be "dragged too far behind the wheels of American diplomacy," was certain to strengthen the neutralism throughout Western Europe. Bevan won support of the Executive Committee of the All Scottish Trade Unions, got 6 votes to 13 in the British Congress of Trade Unions Executive Committee, admittedly had far greater support in Labour's rank and file than in Parliament.

From Paris, Harold Callender reported to the Times that Bevan had... blurted out what politicians generally have hesitated to acknowledge publicly—that European states cannot finance rearmament on the proposed scale and at the same time maintain their programs for expansion of normal industries, for building houses, for raising the levels of social service.

Last month French housewives paid 10% more for electricity, 6% more for gas, 8% more for coal, 20% more for



Freles Volk, Germany

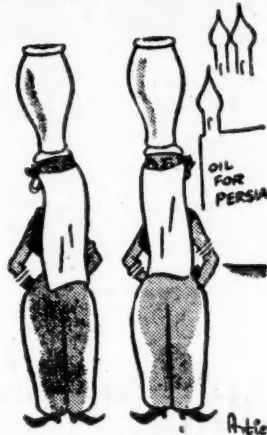
W. German Finance Minister: "Prices are going down and down."

telephones. The Communist-led General Confederation of Labor won a smashing victory in elections for employes' delegates among 434,000 workers on the national railroads—topping the 1949 vote. The chronically-tottering government faced a new crisis when the Assembly failed by three votes to override a Senate veto of its electoral reform bill to reduce Communist representation in Parliament; President Auriol refused to accept Premier Queuille's proffered resignation.

In Italy 500,000 transport workers staged a 24-hour nationwide strike for higher wages; 600,000 metal workers struck "in solidarity" with the unemployed in their trade.

**SPAIN SHOWS ITS METTLE:** Most significant and least expected revolt against soaring living costs and war policy came in Franco Spain, where strikes are illegal, strikers face bayonets and death. Following the great strike in Barcelona in March—despite government threats and reprisals—came a wave of strikes in the northern industrial provinces. In Bilbao, where half a million struck, handbills attacked the U.S. as "starving Spain and the rest of the world."

The basis of the strikes was economic—90% of the Spanish people are hungry. The government, riddled with corruption and inefficiency, has no program to bring down living costs. In Barcelona and Bilbao owners of factories sided with the strikers; white collar workers, students, small businessmen and workers were united. Spaniards were angered by Washington's announcement of the release of \$5,000,000 for wheat 48 hours after the Barcelona strike, knowing it would only



Daily Express, London

"I keep finding Communist leaflets in my jar."

be used to keep the government in power.

Since the government cannot solve the food situation, the strikes, Spaniards here said, would grow and spread. Inevitably they were taking on a political cast of protest against the regime—and proving (to Europe at least) the insanity of U.S. wooing of Franco as a military ally.

**PERSIA IN FERMENT:** In Iran popular ferment against imperialism, and the disciplined two-week strike of 27,000 workers at Anglo-Iranian Oil's Abadan refinery, forced Parliament to vote immediate nationalization of the company. For half a century Anglo-Iranian has governed Iran (Persia)—a state within a state, with its own police and military detachments, enforcing a standard of life on the people not much different from the days of Cyrus and Darius. The infant mortality rate is 500 per 1,000 live births. Prices have risen 1,000% since 1939. Hundreds of thousands are unemployed.

Last week Premier Hussein Ala, U.S. favorite, resigned when Parliament insisted on going ahead with nationalization, despite British warnings of "serious consequences" and the presence of British warships at Abadan with complements of 5,000 or more men. Parliament demanded, and the reluctant Shah agreed to, the appointment of Mohammed Mossadegh, National Front leader who has led the fight for nationalization, as Premier. He is reportedly anti-Western, anti-Soviet, and neutralist.

**UNITED NATIONS**

**Lying U.S. 'leaks' thicken peace fog**

AS the North Koreans and Chinese opened a new offensive and drove once more across the 38th Parallel to the outskirts of Seoul, peace-minded delegates sadly admitted that UN had lost another—perhaps its best—chance to end the war.

Gen. Ridgway had said that once North Korean-Chinese forces were out of South Korea it would be a "tremendous victory" and peace might be possible; there had been a hint from China to the 12 Arab-Asian mediating nations as UN forces reached the Parallel, and a peace feeler from North Korea following MacArthur's recall. But nothing had been done by anybody at UN; delegates seemed scared to "embarrass" Washington by pressing for peace in the midst of the MacArthur uproar.

Washington was busy railroading through its warlike Japanese peace treaty and re-emphasizing its determination to hold China's Formosa island. It seemed clear that continuance of the fighting, with a continual seesaw of offensive and counter-offensive, had become a necessity to the U.S. government.

**PLANNED CONFUSION:** Meanwhile the U.S. was "leaking" stories that the 14 powers with troops in Korea had

agreed to bomb Manchuria if mass air attacks were launched from there. At the same time the confused authors of the "leaks" were saying that no agreement was necessary because the men in the field would know what to do to protect their armies.

When the story of the "agreement" appeared in the N.Y. Times April 26 (it first appeared two days before in the Christian Science Monitor), French and British authorities added to the confusion by promptly "correcting" it. The agreement, they said, was that the U.S. field command would not bomb Manchuria unless the other 13 powers agreed. On the 27th, UN observers who knew of the "correction" looked for it in vain in the U.S. papers.

The episode recalled to mind the occasion a few weeks ago when the U.S. planted a story that, at a closed meeting of the UN subcommittee on sanctions in Korea, the U.S. delegate had spoken about the type of economic sanctions to apply. Others who were present at the meeting firmly denied this, saying that the U.S. delegate had in fact requested nothing, suggested nothing. But the "leak" had the desired effect of appeasing those in the U.S. who fear "appeasement."

**PEACE**

**Six years later—some still remember**

LAST week there was an anniversary remembered by few; the tumult for bigger and better wars crowded news of it from the nation's press. Wednesday, April 25, marked the sixth year since six U.S. soldiers crossed the Elbe river in Germany in a small boat and made the historic link-up with Soviet armed forces. They swore an oath that day, sealed in blood, that all nations of the earth must live in peace. While they



That's what this German peace sticker says. And the male jackass says to the lady: "You don't understand. The atom bomb will not fall on us, the un-political people."

were doing that, the allied governments met together in San Francisco to found the United Nations:

The prayers of the people of the world are with us. They are spoken in many tongues and in the words of many creeds. But they are as one voice, rising from the tragedy and suffering of war, in prayer for lasting peace. Thus fortified, and with guidance of Almighty God, we must and shall fulfill the purpose for which we have come together.

**THE SPIRIT OF '45:** Neither the UN itself nor the U.S. government made formal acknowledgment of the day, but some 50 members of the New York Committee for Peaceful Alternatives gathered in the Meditation Room of the UN building at Lake Success and offered prayers for peace. The delegation presented a scroll to Andrew Cordier, assistant secy.-general, urging a re-dedication of the UN to its original objectives.

At the UN headquarters building in New York City a delegation of 100 women organized by the Women's Committee of the American Labor Party met with Dr. William Agar, represent-

ing the UN secretariat, and urged a negotiated peace in Korea.

**ACTION:** The Committee for Peaceful Alternatives was on the last lap of preparations for a "crisis conference" of its membership—scattered in 110 chapters in 35 states—in Washington, D.C., May 9 and 10. About 200 delegates were expected. The conference call said:

We are not willing to believe that brute force is a substitute for human reason. We are not willing to stake America's security solely upon military power. We affirm our consistent belief that the only sure road to peace lies in negotiation, mutual disarmament, economic cooperation among nations, and in holding ties of friendship and brotherhood with the people of good will everywhere in the world.

Sen. Ralph E. Flanders (R-Vt.) was scheduled to address a public meeting on the evening of May 9. Featured speakers at conference sessions include Dr. Willard Uphaus, exec. secy. of the conference, Bishop W. J. Walls, secretary of the Board of Bishops of the A.M.E. Zion Church, and Dr. Mark A. Dawber, former exec. secy. of the Home Missions Council of North America. Delegates planned to visit Congressmen and government officials.

Another peace congress, with 5,000 delegates expected, was being prepared by the American Peace Crusade in Chicago from June 29 through July 1. It was sponsored by 230 prominent citizens including four Protestant bishops and 78 other clergymen. A feature of the congress is a talent competition for prizes for the best poster, song, emblem, drama, photography, reportage and poetry. Entries can be submitted to the American Peace Crusade, 1186 Broadway, New York 1.

**PLOWSHARES, PLEASE:** During the week the American Friends Service Committee (Quakers) sponsored full-page advertisements in selected U.S. newspapers asking: "Which Shall It Be: Swords or Plowshares?" The statement listed four practical steps to peace, urged their support by all:

- A new kind of negotiation.
- Strengthening of UN as a peace-making agency.
- A new approach to disarmament now.
- Economic, financial and technical assistance to eradicate poverty and disease throughout the world.

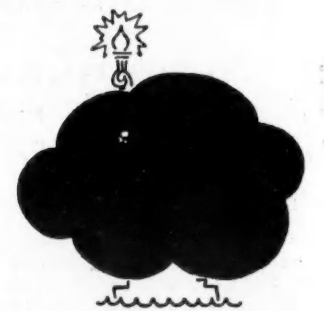
The organization offered free copies of two pamphlets on peace to anyone who would write for them to 20 S. 12th St., Philadelphia 7, Pa.

**BACK TO SALEM:** On Friday, two days after the anniversary of the meeting at the Elbe and the founding of UN, a great American, Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, appeared in a Washington courtroom to defend himself against a federal indictment charging him with being a "foreign agent" as head of the former Peace Information Center. Attorneys for him and four of his associates argued for dismissal of the indictments; delegations came from Washington, Baltimore, Philadelphia and New York.

**FREEDOMS**

**WILLIE MCGEE**

**Truman has until May 8th to act**



THE entire student body (more than 500) of Dillard University in New Orleans assembled around the campus flagpole one day last week, stood for a full five minutes in silent prayer for the life of Willie McGee, Mississippi

Negro condemned to die May 8 on an unproven charge of "rape." Dillard's was not the only prayer offered last week. Around the country there were few, if any, Negro churches whose congregations did not pray for McGee. There were some white ones, too. But as time ran out—with this issue of the GUARDIAN McGee's execution day is less than a week away—the one big question was: will Truman act?

It was up to the President because Mississippi's Governor Fielding Wright long ago made it plain there was little hope of clemency from him. He set May 5 as the day he would hear McGee's attorneys in a formal appeal for a pardon, but he was required by law to grant such a hearing. A week earlier McGee himself had filed an appeal with the governor in which he said:

Important as my life is, of greater importance is that no State or Government should be guilty of sending an innocent man to his death.

**STORM OVER WASHINGTON:** To bolster this appeal the Civil Rights Congress, which for six years has led the fight to save McGee, was sending delegations of white women to Mississippi in relays. One such group, scheduled to make the trip to Jackson May 3, will try for a meeting with the Governor.

But CRC was putting most pressure on the federal government. On Wednesday a 100-strong delegation of New York trade unionists, headed by United Public Workers' Ewart Guinier and United Electrical Workers' Charles Fay, conferred with Atty. Gen. J. Howard McGrath, who said the Justice Dept. had made a full investigation of the case but refused to report its findings. The delegation saw 22 Congressmen. The United Labor Action Committee reported that Rep. Emanuel Celler (L-N.Y.) had asked McGrath to make public the Justice Dept.'s findings.

Earlier in the week a delegation of Negro leaders, headed by Charles Collins, director of the Harlem Council of the American Labor Party, conferred with secretary to the President David Niles and left with him 25,000 messages of protest. Collins told him:

"The Negro communities in New York and throughout the nation expect the President to back up his word in civil rights with this single last-minute action which can guarantee the saving of this innocent man."

The CRC was pushing a nationwide petition campaign with a goal of 250,000 signatures.

**"MANKIND WILL NOT FORGIVE":** From France protests came to the President from two of that country's leading actors, Jean Louis Barrault (*Children of Paradise*) and Gerard Philippe (*The Devil in the Flesh*). A cable to Truman from three top artists, writers, musicians, scientists of the Soviet Union said:

We protest against this crime which is a revival of the terror of the Middle Ages, and which constitutes a direct challenge to all of world humanity. . . . If the voice of the honest and humane people is not heard and the execution takes place, mankind will never forgive those guilty of this monstrous murder.

In Toronto, Canada, the Natl. Fedn. of Labor Youth led hundreds in a parade through the streets to the U.S. Consulate, where an official refused to accept a prepared statement.

To all Americans, for the last remaining week, the CRC appealed urgently for telegrams, letters, post-cards, phone calls to the President to halt the execution.

**PROGRESSIVE PARTY**

**Oakland PP candidate gets 20% of vote**

In last November's elections California's Independent Progressive Party got 15% of the vote—the biggest ever given to any third party there except LaFollette's.

Local elections, providing the first test of IPP's staying power, showed that in Oakland at least IPP was still growing.

Running for a Board of Education

**TRUMAN'S MOBILIZATION MESSAGE**

**Labor is sold out again**

By John B. Stone  
GUARDIAN staff correspondent

WASHINGTON  
**A**T the height of their "revolt" against the Administration, America's labor leaders, grouped in the United Labor Policy Committee, issued a Declaration of Independence from the mobilization setup. Chief target was the Defense Production Control Act, due to expire June 30. The Declaration said of the act:

It contains fatal weaknesses and built-in special privileges. . . . It is the duty of Congress to adopt a new law in the national interest and not for special interests.

On April 5, after a clubby session with President Truman who told them their position would get a sympathetic hearing, the labor leaders marched back into the war-making machinery. They told newsmen:

"It will give us a chance to breathe down Truman's neck over the head of [mobilization tsar] Charlie Wilson."

**BLOW THE MAN DOWN:** Last week, with the labor leaders safely back in the fold, the President breathed down their necks. In a special message to Congress he asked that the Production Control Act be extended in force for two years. He did ask for six amendments, but only one met labor's demands: rent control power over business and housing properties. Here's how Truman reacted to other labor criticisms:

**TAXES:** Labor protested special considerations accorded "wealthy indi-



**MICHAEL V. DISALLE & FAMILY**  
*Somebody loves him*

viduals and big business." The President said the \$10,000,000,000 he had asked in new taxes (mostly from low income brackets and in sales taxes) be passed immediately.

**PRICE CONTROLS:** Labor denounced Michael V. DiSalle's price orders as a fraud. The President praised them as a bar to inflation.

**LIVING SUBSIDIES:** Labor had de-

manded them to keep food costs down. The President said they might be needed, asked for no authority to implement them.

**CREDIT CONTROLS:** Labor has for months been complaining about them. (they allow the wealthy to buy what they will). Mr. Truman was exuberant about them, asked for more.

**WAGE STABILIZATION:** The President promised to erase wage inequities, but added:

"It is obvious that workers will have to forego substantial increases in wages which would be permissible if the dangers of inflation were not so great—Just as businessmen and farmers will have to forego substantial increases in income for the same reason."

**THEIR OWN FAULT:** Mr. Truman did not furnish a chart comparing recent increases in wages and profits to back up his equality-of-sacrifice theme, but he was unkind enough to infer that the labor movement itself was to blame for wage inequities because it had walked out of the Wage Stabilization Board.

In view of the President's message, it is interesting to go back to what the ULPC declaration said about wage controls:

An equitable system of wage stabilization can be made effective when living costs are actually controlled. . . . Labor cannot be committed beyond [June 30] on any wage formula until we know what the new law provides.

Now labor knows what the proposed new law provides—or doesn't provide. And the man who made the proposals is their protector in the White House. Labor's rank and file will be asking for an explanation; new and fascinating gyrations are to be expected from their leaders in providing one.

**CHICAGO**

**PP-ers 'killed in action'**

**T**HREE members of the Illinois Progressive Party were instantly killed and three others injured, one critically, on April 5 while driving to the state capital at Springfield as part of a delegation opposing the repressive Broyles Bills. Their car crashed into a truck which stopped suddenly in front of them on a highway near Plainfield, Ill. The dead:

**LIONEL J. MLIN**, 27, exec. secy. of the Illinois Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act; a U. of Chicago graduate student working toward his Ph.D. in history, World War II vet and former AVC leader.

**PAUL STEINER**, 24, IPP leader in Chicago's 39th Ward, World War II vet and a student at the Institute of Design.

**MRS. COLEEN ALLEN**, 22, Negro leader of Local 208, Intl. Longshoremen & Warehousemen's Union, a machine operator at Cole Industries.

Another ILWU leader, Mrs. Mary Duffy, 22, also a machine operator at Cole Industries, mother of an 8-month-old child and wife of a GI, is in critical condition in St. Joseph's Hospital, Joliet. Slightly injured were Mrs. Frances Taitz, 28, 39th Ward IPP leader; and Damier Winokur, 21, also of Chicago.



Large crowds attended funerals of the three and tributes were paid them by many labor and other groups, including the Chicago Committee to Repeal the McCarran Act, headed by Rabbi Samuel Teitelbaum and Rev. Armand Guerrero. A memorial for the three victims will be held May 17 at Metropolitan Community Church.

**THE ARTS**

**Dmytryk & 'curious schmoe' tell all**

**L**ARRY Parks was the first of the big-name Hollywood figures charged with Communist Party membership to

tell all to the Un-American Activities Committee. Last week he was still having his troubles, wondering if informing really pays. Metro was stalling release of his newest picture, *Love Is Better Than Ever*, so it could "learn more about the public sentiment" (*Variety*) following his confessions, and it seemed he might lose the leading role assigned him in a new movie.

His poor reward didn't keep others from talking. Edward Dmytryk, one of the original Hollywood Ten jailed for refusing to answer committee questions, came back to the stand with a change of heart. He said he had once been a CP member, named six directors who he said had been co-members with him, and 16 other Hollywood figures.

Most witnesses had either refused to answer questions about their or others' politics, or told all. Star John Garfield set a new pattern, tried to cut down the middle. He said he had never been a Communist, never known a Communist in Hollywood (which at least one committee member refused to believe), and that use of his name by organizations listed as subversive was unauthorized. He promised to sue them, said the CP should be outlawed.

**SOMETHING SMELLS:** Another who told all last week was actor Marc Lawrence, who described himself as "a curious sort of schmoe . . . the kind of a guy who listens to speeches." He confessed to one-time CP membership, named a score of others as Communists. When he finished, Rep. Donald Jackson (R-Calif.) said:

"I congratulate you on your straightforward testimony. I have been much more impressed with you than with some other witnesses of the past few days."

Impressing the committee less were actor Morris Carnovsky, writers' agent George Willner and screenwriter Abraham Polonsky, who refused to talk about their political beliefs or associations. Willner said the hearings "smelled," and had opened the door

" . . . for the self-appointed inquisitor, the two-bit witch-hunter, the professional informer and the frightened amateur finger-man who will blacken his friends to hold his job." Carnovsky called the hearings " . . . an inquisition into the inviolable areas of one's deepest manhood and integrity—the end result is the blacklist, the deprivation by lynch-mob of one's right to life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness in work."

post, IPP candidate Mrs. Frances Willard Johnson drew 20% of the total, ran second with 13,303 votes. Her slogan was: "Education for Peace." Incumbent Carl B. Munck won with 42,129.

**TRIED FOR UNITY:** Rev. Warren L. Broussard, Negro leader, longshoreman, IPP candidate for city councilman,



drew 6,848 in Oakland's third district, 9% of the total.

Rev. Broussard, who also campaigned on a peace platform, sought a unity drive behind one Negro candidate to represent the strongly Negro district. The effort failed and two other Negroes entered the lists.

**Montana PP convention**

In Carpenters' Hall, Great Falls, Mont., Iowa Farmers Union president Fred Stover last week told the annual convention of the Montana PP: "You wanted parity—they gave you Korea."

Former Montana congressman Jerry J. O'Connell sparked the fight against the McCarran Act and for old-age pensions.

While the peace planks of the national Progressive Party took first place in the party's program, the convention planned fights for these objectives:

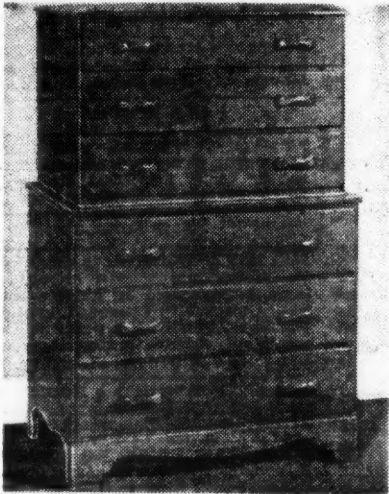
- Land reform and the maintenance of family farms.
- Full citizenship for Indians and other minority groups in Montana.
- End the wage freeze and government-sponsored strike-breaking.
- Make Montana a "public power state" by valley authorities.

The convention reelected these officers: Chairman, L. L. Price; 1st Dist. Vice-Chairman, John Goforth; 2d Dist. Vice-Chairman, Ernest O. Redlin; Secy., Chester Kinsey; Treas., Vera Foutch.



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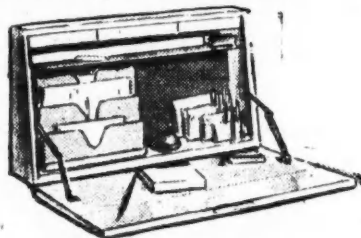
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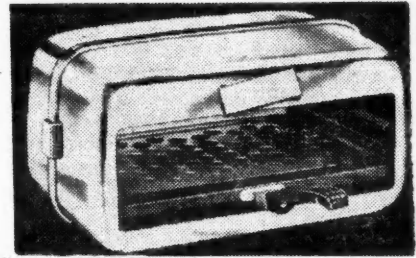
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 18" x 18" **6 for \$2**  
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6 Hemstitched, 8 napkins. Cream	50x84	20.00	14.50
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7a As No. 7. 12 napkins	64x84	25.00	17.00
8 White. Hemstitched, 12 napkins	60x100	23.00	18.00
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**BOOKS The Peekskill story: How it did happen here**

By Cedric Belfrage

**N**O one is better qualified than Howard Fast—a leading protagonist in both acts of the Peekskill blood-bath in 1949—to tell what happened there. And it is good that he has set down what he saw and what was done, and how it felt in an “orderly” society to be set upon by a gang of murderous morons—abandoned by “law and order” forces which stood by watching the crime committed or actively cooperated in it.

Peekskill is something that many would like to forget. But progressives should not forget it, and will not if they read Fast's frankly subjective account, which does the job of re-evoking the atmosphere of mob terror and at the same time breathes determination to resist it. The book will leave you acutely aware of just what degree of fascist lawlessness “can happen here” and be whitewashed by authorities—and wondering, probably, how well you would comport yourself in the circumstances under which Fast suddenly, terrifyingly, found himself on that picnic-ground battlefield.



**WILL THERE BE MORE?** What is more important to ponder is how you can help prevent more Peekskills. Fast's belief is that Peekskill was a trial balloon by which “law and order” hoped to determine how far red-baiting propaganda had reached the American people for Hitler-style “blood and filth”; and that since the people's reaction was unfavorable, a return was afterwards made to “legalized, police” fascism, as exemplified by the McCarran Act and the wholesale jailings of political prisoners.” What he most clearly demonstrates is the discipline and dignity shown by progressives at Peekskill, and especially how the affair showed anyone interested in facts that—contrary to the findings of Judge Medina—it is not from the Left, but from the Right, that violence comes.

Out of the horrible events of that summer two years ago came this demonstration too: that “fascist attacks upon her progressive movement, unless backed by the armed force of the state apparatus, could be easily repulsed or contained.” Should more Peekskills be expected? The answer is in the extent to which the people can retain effective control, through their elective power, over the state apparatus.

PEEKSKILL, U.S.A. By Howard Fast. Civil Rights Congress, N.Y. 127 pp. (illustrated). \$1.

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**San Francisco**

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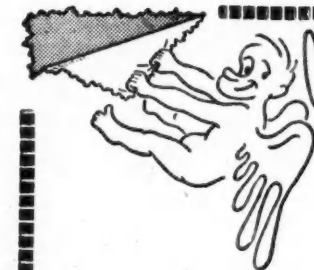
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