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Truman Signs Price Gouge, High Rents, Big Profits Law

Truman Dreads Peace in Korea; 'Snafu' Charged

Why is there no cease-fire in Korea, and why does it appear possible that there may be a breakdown in the negotiations for a cease-fire?

The real reasons behind the maneuverings and evasions of the Truman administration are clearly indicated in two articles in the N. Y. Compass, written by I. F. Stone, independent liberal journalist. "The Truman Administration," he says, in the first of these articles, on July 31, "seems to fear the success of the Korean cease-fire talks more than their failure. . . . On the surface, the snafu is incredible. An Army spokesman calls in the press Friday afternoon for a special 'on the record' briefing, which makes headlines implying that the Reds are only using the peace talks as a blind to save themselves from defeat and prepare a new offensive. A spokesman for Secretary of Defense Marshall disavows the briefing and denies that it indicates any change in policy."

TRUMAN'S SPEECH

"But the next day at Detroit, the President himself makes a speech — which also creates headlines — implying that the peace talks are a ruse, intended to throw the American people off their guard while new aggressions are planned. . . . In his follow-up article the next day, Stone gives the clue to this obvious display of bad faith: 'The answer boils down to this. While it looks as if neither side can win the war, it also looks as if 'our own' side is sure to lose the peace. . . . Monday . . . the (South Korean) Ambassador argued against the idea of an all Korean election after a cease-fire. . . . The fact is that the Rhee regime fears an all Korean election. . . . It lost the last pre-war election in South Korea. . . . it understandably fears new elections. . . . But this is only the beginning of the headaches that peace promises. . . . Peace will make it more difficult to protect Chiang Kai-shek. It will make more difficult the imposition on the Pacific area

NEW YORK POLL

This theory was tested out by the New York Post, which undertook a similar petition in New York City. Out of 161 New Yorkers interviewed, only 19 would sign the basic documents of U. S. law, history and tradition. Some of those who signed did so because they had read of the Madison incident, and knew that the petitions were being circulated as a test. The most general reaction in both cities was one of fear of the consequences of signing a petition. "I don't sign anything," was the repeated answer. "How do I know what you're up to," said others. One secretary said: "You wouldn't be trying to make me lose my job, would you, Mister? You put your name on something these days, and it's no telling where it might show up later." "My husband told me never to sign anything." "I signed something once and my kids gave me such heck I promised them never to do it again." One man started to sign, and his woman companion said: "You might get into trouble these days." He crossed his name out and handed back the petition. "I DON'T WANT TROUBLE"

(Continued on Page 2)

Few Sign Petition For Bill of Rights; Fear Witch Hunt

The fantastic effects of the witch-hunt and mental strait-jacketing today borne by the American people are made clear in two polls conducted by newspapers, one in Madison, Wis., and the other in New York City. In both cases, petitions containing nothing but excerpts from the Constitution and the Declaration of Independence were circulated. In both cases, the overwhelming majority of those approached refused to sign the petitions.

The Madison petition, circulated by reporters for the Madison Capital Times, was signed by only one person out of 112 people interviewed. This was mentioned by Harry Truman in his Detroit speech in an effort to prove that his Republican opponents are causing a reign of terror in this country. He insinuated that the refusal of people to say that they believe in the Declaration of Independence in Madison, Wisconsin, is due to that fact that Wisconsin is the home state of Senator Joseph McCarthy, the Republican witch-hunter.

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"I DON'T WANT TROUBLE"

A frightened man begged in broken English: "Please, sir, don't make me sign. Only six months I'm here. I don't want trouble. Please."

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CP Leaders Arrested Without Indictments

Even more flagrantly than in the past, the Truman administration trampled on the Bill of Rights with both feet in its July 26 roundup of 12 West Coast Communist Party leaders.

In the two previous arrests of Stalinists under the reactionary Smith Act, the Department of Justice at least went through the motions of taking the case to a grand jury and securing indictments charging violations of law, no matter how vague or flimsy.

But it dispensed with this formality on July 26. An FBI agent appeared before a United States Commissioner in Los Angeles with a "complaint" that the 12 were suspected of violating the Smith Act. The Commissioner obligingly issued warrants for their arrest, although absolutely no specific charges were introduced against them.

After they were picked up, it was announced that a grand jury would be asked to indict them the following week. The alibi for this arbitrary procedure was the government's claim that the 12 were arrested before they were indicted in order to prevent them from going into hiding.

On July 31 a federal grand jury in Los Angeles acted in accordance with the government's wishes and issued indictments that "legalized" the arrests. The indictments were patterned along the lines of the ones obtained in the New York cases — charging "conspiracy" because the defendants had exercised their rights of free speech and association.

The Bill of Rights explicitly forbids excessive bail. But the Truman administration, while hailing the Bill of Rights with hypocritical zeal, has made a complete mockery of this provision and in effect has canceled it altogether in the present case.

\$925,000 BAIL
William Schneiderman, most prominent of the 12 arrested, was held in \$100,000 bail. The other eleven were held in \$75,000 bail each. This makes a total of \$925,000 for the 12, a sum that it is impossible to raise, especially while the government is hounding those who provided bail for the Stalinists in the past.

By contrast, the government asked only \$5,000 bail for the notorious vice czar Frank Costello after he was indicted last week.

All the signs point toward an increased tempo in the government's attacks on the CP. Reports from Washington issued Chicago and Detroit as the next areas in which the Department of Justice will strike in line with its announced program of seizing some 2,500 persons in the coming period.

With the precedents set in Los Angeles — circumventing the need for indictments and destroying the right of bail — it can be expected that the Department of Justice will act with even greater arrogance and disregard of traditional legal procedures. The mass raids that characterized the Palmer days after World War I seem closer now than at any time since the beginning of the current witch-hunt.

Success in the case of the Stalinists will only embolden the government to use similar methods against other sections of the labor and radical movements. That is why the labor leaders' approval or acceptance of what the government is doing to the democratic rights of the Stalinists is a crime against the labor movement itself, which militant workers must actively oppose.

More Unions Aid Legless Veteran

Responding to the appeal of the Kutchur Civil Rights Committee, an additional number of unions last week made contributions to its defense fund for the legless veteran James Kutchur, celebrated victim of the Truman loyalty purge. Kutchur's discharge for his socialist beliefs from his clerk's job in the Newark Veterans Administration was upheld this June by a Federal Judge in Washington. His case is now being taken to the U.S. Court of Appeals for a hearing this fall.

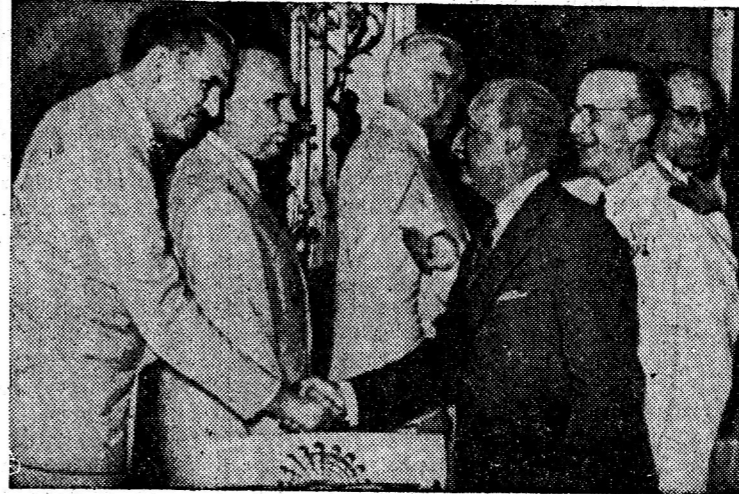
Among the labor bodies aiding his fight for justice are Chrysler Local 7, UAW-CIO of Detroit which gave \$25 and UAW-CIO Local 337 of Cleveland, Ohio, and three steel locals: United Steelworkers of America-CIO, Local 3120 of Cleveland, Ohio; USA-CIO Local 1136 of Chicago Heights, Illinois; and USA-CIO Local 1330 of Youngstown, Ohio. The United Rubber Workers Local 111 of Kearny, N. J., Kutchur's home state; Machine Tool and Die Local 155, UERMWA of Philadelphia; and Teachers Union Local 555, UPW of New York City round out the recent contributors.

ASK REINSTATEMENT

Abraham Lederman, President of the New York Teachers Union, whose members have likewise been persecuted because of their opinions, wrote: "Our Executive Board, confident that if freedom of thought is to survive in our great land a civil service worker must be judged solely on his performance on the job, voted to reaffirm its support of the legless veteran. They urge that he be reinstated and be given the back pay which he has lost."

Contributions to help Kutchur carry his case through the higher courts should be sent to 19 West 10th St., N. Y. C. 11, N. Y.

Franco and Friends



While U.S. workers are suffering a reduction in living standards, these senators were fixing up a deal to give billions to Franco to prop up his dictatorial regime. This new aid comes at a time when Spanish workers have shown by a series of strikes they are moving toward his overthrow.

J. McFall, assistant secretary in charge of congressional relations, is shaking hands with Franco. Behind them (l. to r.) are: Senators Brewster of Maine, Smith of New Jersey and Hickenlooper of Iowa.

Cleveland Truckers Win Rank and File Strike

By Jean Simon

CLEVELAND, July 30 — Militant pure and simple trade unionism won a technical victory here today. Striking members of AFL Teamsters Local 407 ratified a con-

tract granting virtually all of the union's demands. But as the limits of collective bargaining were reached with the signing of the agreement, the employers were able to fall back on their political reserves. They turned to the boss-dominated Wage Stabilization Board in Washington, while the union members, with no Labor Party to represent their interests,

were left helpless in the next stage of their fight for an eight-hour day and wage increases.

RANK & FILE UPSURGE

In the most militant rank-and-file upsurge in recent labor history, local freight truck drivers and dockmen (loaders) took control of negotiations begun May 1 out of the hands of their officials. Through strike action July 6-7, they forced employers and union officers to tear up a contract signed May 29 which provided only a five-cent hourly raise for drivers and three cents for dockmen. Then they took negotiations out of the hands of the officers and put a rank-and-file negotiating committee responsible to membership meetings, in charge.

When the negotiating committee reported back on July 22 that no progress was being made because the employers were stalling, the ranks rejected a proposal by Mayor Thomas A. Burke for arbitration, and voted to strike immediately.

After eight days' complete shut-down of all city freight hauling, the employers today agreed to the long-overdue eight-hour day, with time-and-a-half for all Saturday work and overtime Monday through Friday; a ten-cent hourly increase for drivers and

14 cents for dockmen; a clause against discrimination in employment, because of age. The only concessions by the union were acceptance of a slightly shorter vacation period than they had demanded, and absence of a clause providing for overtime on a seniority basis to be under union control.

THE JOKER

But the joker in the deal is that none of the gains other than the 3 and 5 cent increases contained in the contract thrown out by the membership July 6 go into effect until they receive WSB approval. This swindle was so apparent to the rank-and-file that at the meeting of 1500 men held today to vote on the contract, there was

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Industrial Accidents On the Increase

According to the U.S. Dept. of Labor Bureau of Labor Statistics, industrial accidents have risen sharply this year compared to last year. There have been 16% more injuries in industry this year. In the first three months of the year an estimated 110,000 workers have lost 2.2 million man-days of work due to disabling accidents.

This is the same period during which the big corporations intensified the speed-up drive.

New Act Provides Cost-Plus System and 20% Rent Hike While Wages Remain Frozen

Unrestricted profits were given the green light July 31 when Truman signed the new "Defense Production Act" in spite of the opposition of the whole labor movement.

The new law guarantees business men their "customary percentage margin of profits over cost of materials." But the workers are guaranteed nothing. The wage-freeze is still on.

Truman signed the bill with the excuse that any kind of "controls" law is better than none. While the labor leadership had been threatening prior to the passage of this Big Business-dictated legislation, they only hinted that they would like to see the bill vetoed. But now that it is signed, they have shown no signs of any effective protest movement.

CIO STATEMENT

Emil Rieve, as spokesman for the CIO, stated prior to the passage of the controls law that labor would again withdraw from all government posts if the old law was not improved. The new law is even worse than the old. But labor remains as Truman's window-dressing.

The new law removes all sham of price and profit control. It provides the following:

PRICES: Manufacturers are allowed to increase their prices to take care of increased cost of production, thus guaranteeing them a high profit, removing all risk. The term "cost of production" was broadened to include the cost of advertising and selling. Thus, by padding the latter accounts, industrialists can put any price tag they please on their products. They will charge all the traffic can bear.

This will not only lower the purchasing power of the workers, but will hike the already tremendous costs of the war production program. As the cost of armaments soars, taxes on low incomes will be increased.

RENTS: A nationwide 20% increase in rents was provided. Reports from Washington indicate that landlords are already flooding rent control offices with demand for new increases.

BEEF: The act removes all restrictions on slaughtering. The act further prohibits future roll-backs on beef prices. The small meat markets will have to pay premium prices to get any beef, and will pass this on to the consumer.

WAGES: The act continues wage controls. While a certain amount of elasticity remains, labor will be hard put to keep up with skyrocketing prices, since

High Price of Meat Brings Blood Shortage

The American Red Cross has blamed the high cost of meat for a shortage of blood. The proportion of rejects of volunteer blood donors has risen sharply due to a lack of iron in their blood. Officials stated the iron was lacking because people willing to give blood couldn't afford to eat enough meat.

This is a case of literally draining the people's blood to supply big fat profits for the monopolists who control the meat trusts.

the complex machinery of the Wage Stabilization Board will prevent prompt and automatic handling of wage demands.

Immediately following passage of the Act the Chrysler Corporation demanded a 9 1/2 per cent price increase, based on "increased production costs."

TRUMAN'S RESPONSIBILITY

In his veto message, Truman pointed out the act will bring about higher prices and "deplorable" its provisions. But not once during the Congressional debate on the issue did he crack the party whip, as he did for example, when he pushed through the draft-strikers law during the 1946 railroad strike.

The labor leadership, meeting in Washington in a session of the United Labor Policy Committee, confined their action to sending messages to Congressmen and to lobbying. They refused to rally the powerful pressure of the 16 million organized workers, through mass meetings, demonstration and protest strikes.

Now the ULPAC is left with the alternative of continuing to serve on the government boards, administering this soak-the-poor legislation, or once again resigning in protest.

Thus far, CIO and AFL leaders have confined their statements to advice to vote right in 1952. But they still serve as flunkies of the capitalist politicians.

The responsibility for the wave of high prices and lowered living standards rests squarely with the labor leaders who have failed to give political leadership in the form of an independent labor party, which could put labor representatives in Congress.

Liberty Being Stifled, Says ACLU

The American Civil Liberties Union has called on the American people to exercise their own civil liberties, to support others in exercising them and to be vigilant in demanding that government officials observe and enforce freedom of expression, due process and equality before the law.

This advice was contained in the ACLU's 30th annual report, covering the 18 months before the beginning of this year, which was issued last week as a pamphlet under the title, Security and Freedom: The Great Challenge.

ACLU Executive Director Patrick Murphy Malin, in an introduction, warns: "There is a growingly inclusive and pervasive social atmosphere of fear and intolerance, stifling the good old American habits of speaking one's mind, joining the organizations one believes in, and

observing the principles of fair hearing and holding a man innocent until he is proved guilty. Guilt by accusation, or — worse — by innuendo, is abroad in the land."

INROADS ON FREEDOM

Most of the report's contents prove the truth of this statement in detail, showing "the inroads on freedom of expression and due process being made in the name of national security by federal, state and local law-makers and administrators, and in some cases, the courts, and by private groups."

The report condemns the McCarran Internal Security Act of 1950 as "the worst departure since the Alien and Sedition Acts of 1798 from the central principle of American law that a man is accountable only for his own illegal acts, not for mere associa-

tion with persons who hold obnoxious opinions."

It condemns McCarthyism and the House Un-American Committee, the purge of government employees, the "loyalty" oaths being imposed on teachers and other public employees, wiretapping, increasing censorship, race discrimination and attacks on democratic rights of unpopular individuals and groups within the unions.

Some of the effectiveness of the report's criticisms is undoubtedly vitiated by its acceptance of the premises of the governmental forces it criticizes.

Director Malin, for example, agrees with the witch-hunters when he says that revolution is a "real and hateful" fact, "in the present as in the past," and that Americans should support the government in doing "its utmost

to prevent or punish . . . revolutionary acts." (Ironically, this is on the same page where Malin praises "our fathers" for having brought forth on this continent a new nation "conceived in liberty" — which was certainly a revolutionary act of the first order, "hateful" only to King George III and his Tory sympathizers.)

The report also suffers from a failure to analyze the real source of the attacks on civil liberties — the determination of the capitalist class to hang onto and increase its privileges and profits, which can be achieved only by regimenting the people at home and abroad.

Despite such faults, the report collects a lot of useful information for opponents of the witch-hunt. Copies are available at 35c each from the ACLU, 170 Fifth Ave., New York City.

Notebook of an Agitator

THE IMPORTANCE OF LOVING STALIN

Reporting on "Ideological Tasks" at the Fifteenth Convention of the American Communist Party, Betty Gannett examined the situation in the party ranks and found it serious, if not dangerous. It seems there are some weak spots through which enemy counter-propaganda is making its way like flood waters seeping through the cracks in a dike. She calls for an ideological sandbag brigade to seal up the leaks. She notes that this subversive propaganda is directed not only at the USSR, but also — and this is where undue familiarity becomes intolerable impudence — at "its great leader Stalin."

"It should be of great concern to us," says the reporter, "that these Trotskyite-Titoite slanders at times find subtle expression even in our own ranks. Thus, a comrade here and there will fall prey to the lying contention about the 'deification' of Stalin, and the slander-propaganda with which the anti-Soviets seek to conceal the profound love and admiration of the Soviet people for the great leader of the land of socialism."

Such an attitude toward "the brilliant successor of Lenin," who, all party members are required to believe, "is loved and revered by the hundreds of millions of ordinary people throughout the entire world" — to say nothing of the ten million or more Soviet citizens in forced labor camps and the rest of the police-ridden working population in the USSR with their "work cards" and internal passports, who are simply nuts about Stalin — this irrelevant attitude must be knocked down. And the culprits through whose ignorance or negligence this attitude finds "subtle expression even in our own ranks" must be named and called to order.

Two sleeping sentinels who allowed this deviation to pass through the lines are singled out for special mention as horrible examples. One of them is a writer on "The Daily Peoples World," a Stalinist organ published in San Francisco, by the name of Nat Low. And the other culprit — this is self-criticism in excelsis — is none other than the reporter herself, Betty Gannett. She admits having been negligent in her duty to admire Stalin in one respect on one particular occasion and seeks restoration to Stalinist normality through the catharsis of public confession.

NAT LOW'S 'CRIME'

This Nat Low is a dirty dog who had the unspeakable nerve to criticize George Bernard Shaw for once having expressed the opinion that "Stalin is the greatest statesman in the world." That, Low had said, reveals Shaw's "obsession with the Great Man idea." But Low is not going to get away with that kind of "capitulation to this slander" of the Trotskyites-Titoites and other criminal under-estimators of the loved and revered Stalin, if Betty Gannett can stop him, and she thinks she can. She goes to work on the errand columnist-capitulator with the favorite instrument of Stalinist surgery — the hatchet. "What place," she demands, "has such an 'evaluation' in a Marxist newspaper?" She formally declares, ex cathedra, that "Low the Marxist does not understand what apparently Shaw the Fabian grasped, that there is no antagonism between leadership and the people in a socialist society."

That settled the case of Nat Low, this shameless "evaluator" who obviously doesn't know right from wrong. There is nothing more to be said. The matter has been disposed of by an official pronouncement, and "the rest is silence," to shift the quotation marks from Gannett to Shakespeare. True, there is no real argument advanced. No uncontested facts are adduced, no proofs are offered. No allowance is made for a difference of opinion about Stalin and Shaw's estimate of him. And as a matter of course, nothing is heard from Nat Low in his own defense. His deviation

has been outlawed by assertion, by pronouncement. That is the Stalinist method of indoctrination. That is Stalinist ideology rammed down your throat. You can choke on it, but if you want to stay in the Communist Party you can't talk back.

Betty Gannett's own error, which she confesses with the whole-hearted abandon of an exhibitionist-convert at a revival meeting, was somewhat different from Low's. It was far less serious, it would appear at first glance, and the ordinary person with a tolerance for human peccadilloes might not even notice it. But the convention reporter couldn't rest until she got it off her chest. What had Betty Gannett done that impelled her to flop down on the convention floor in groveling repentance? She hadn't failed to love Stalin — God forbid! — but she had slipped up on another obligation which all well-behaved American flunkies owe to the Moscow boss. You can believe it or not, but Betty Gannett, a ranking hatchet-woman in the camarilla of Stalinist functionaries, and a convention reporter in charge of ideology at that, failed on one dreadful occasion to pay the required tribute to Stalin's literary style — that special method of putting words together, peculiar and individual to Stalin, which Trotsky once said affected the reader like a mouthful of chopped-up bristles.

STALINIST LITERARY CRITICISM

She had showed lack of "vigilance," she said, "in an issue of the pre-convention discussion bulletin, when the editorial committee, and I, a committee member assigned to compile the contributions, allowed to be printed without comment an article on 'simplicity of language' which conspicuously omitted the name of Stalin." Mark that down in your book, if you are thinking of joining the Stalinist party, so you won't forget that your requirements to "love and admire" Stalin include also his literary productions. For, says Gannett, "Stalin above everyone else has presented the most complex theoretical propositions with a mastery, simplicity, clarity and power." Didn't you know that? Well, you'd better start learning lest you too become guilty of the fatal omission which Betty Gannett fell into in a moment of weakness and forgetfulness under the pressure of "Trotskyite-Titoite slanders" about the "deification" of Stalin.

The merits of Stalin's literary style are at best debatable — a "moot point," as the lawyers say — and I can get you plenty of critics who will take the negative. But that doesn't faze Betty Gannett, who follows one straight line from politics to art. "Who," she asks — "who can ever forget the great lesson of linkage to the people which Stalin presented for us, in the symbol of Antaeus which he drew from Greek mythology?"

Well, to tell you the God's truth, Betty, I not only forgot that Stalin had presented the symbol of Antaeus to us; I didn't even know he had done it in the first place. I have read references to the mythical story of the giant who drew his strength from the earth in the writings of so many others that the symbol has become rather trite. But I'll be a long time forgetting your reminder that Stalin showed the genius of his originality by "presenting" it also. And every time I think of Stalin I'll think of Antaeus and remember that he was finally finished off by Hercules. Could this victorious Hercules stand as a symbol of the revolutionary working class catching up with Stalin and all his gang of corrupt and crooked functionaries, and dealing out to them the fate of Antaeus? I think so, and I hope with all my heart it will not be long delayed.

J.P.C.

Next Week: The Bureaucratic Mentality.

Steep Increase in Child Labor; Six-Year Olds Toil in Fields

By Murry Weiss

The "white death" dope scourge is not the only example of how profit-greedy American capitalism destroys the lives and health of children and teen-age youth. Capital reaps its profit from yet another harvest — the labor of children.

In case you think child labor went out with the horse and buggy, don't kid yourself. The toil of children is big business in this country. And if you ever take a twelve-cent bus ride along Fifth Ave., and see those palatial residences with their carefully fed and pampered inhabitants, just keep this in mind: Lots of that lush easy living comes out of the sweated labor of kids in the factories and fields.

AFL REPORT

Maybe you think that's just socialist propaganda? Well, don't take our word for it. Consider the government's own reports. Or take a look at the July issue of the *American Federationist*. This is the magazine of the AFL, the mouthpiece of William Green, who is so devoted to the capitalist system you would think he discovered "individual enterprise" himself.

Gertrude Folks Zimand, Secretary of the National Child Labor Committee, writes the article in the AFL magazine using government figures. Here are some of the facts she cites:

- 1. In March 1951, 1,972,000 minors, aged 14 to 17, worked in industry and agriculture.
- 2. Last October — a school month — 867,000 children under 16 were employed in agriculture.
- 3. In the same month, 600,000 children, aged 10 to 15, worked in non-agricultural occupations.
- 4. "Approximately one child out of six does not complete the elementary grades and half of those who enter high school drop out, usually for employment, before they graduate."

5. Since last June child labor has been on the increase. It has "reached a higher peak than in any year since 1945."

6. The worst of the picture doesn't show up in statistics. The author tells us that in 1945, for example, thousands of children under 14 were at work, "but were not included in the census counts."

The article reminds us that, "Factories in the Fields" is not merely the title of a book. It is a stern and tragic reality for many thousands of American children. Even six and seven-year-olds are being employed . . . and many are working under conditions that resemble the factory employment of the early days of the century. Working for long hours — often from sunrise to sunset — in stooping, crawling, back-breaking positions, they labor to supplement the meager income of their parents."

What do William Green and his cohorts have to say about this monstrous situation? And, what do they propose to do about it if they can take time out of the crusade against the "red menace"? Zimand, speaking for the AFL, expresses alarm, indignation and other worthy sentiments. She calls for an aroused public: "When the public is aroused, it will demand protection for American children."

This idea of an aroused public is couched by Zimand with an older idea: "There must be no relaxation of existing federal and state laws governing the employment of children, and these laws must be strictly enforced." We must ask however: Can the labor movement carry out such a program with its present political policy? How can the public be aroused to protect children from mercenary capitalist exploitation when the labor movement, calls on this same "public" to vote for the political representatives of these exploiters? It just doesn't make any sense.

Furthermore, existing legislation is totally inadequate in two respects. First, federal child labor legislation applies only to industries engaged in interstate commerce; that leaves vast sections of industry free to operate under the legislative "whims and fancies" of the forty-eight states. Second, the capitalists covered by federal legislation blithely violate all restrictions with the secure feeling that they will go unpunished. Why not? They know the workings of capitalist justice even if William Green doesn't. When an organizer for the National Farm Labor Union (AFL) goes to a field 20 miles out of Fresno, Calif., with a loudspeaker truck to make a union speech, he is arrested by their sheriffs for disturbing the peace and breaking the anti-noise ordinance. But do you ever hear

A Farm Laborer



of one of the growers going to jail for violating federal laws on child labor?

AVOID THE LAW

Gertrude Zimand gives an example of how the rich farmers get around such legislative barriers to child labor as compulsory school attendance: "One community decided to 'comply technically' with the law. It opened a school for migrant children from 5 p.m. to 9 p.m. so they could finish a long day's work first. Naturally no child showed up for the night classes. But the federal law doesn't require children to go to school. It merely prohibits their work when schools are in session. So the empty

school and the idle teachers were maintained to 'comply' with the law and legalize child labor." You see how clever these rich and patriotic growers are when it comes to coming profit out of the sweat of children?

The fact is that any legislation restricting capitalist greed is only as strong as the power of the workers to enforce it. This is a tested principle learned by the unions through bitter experience. But the first step to eliminate capitalist exploitation of children is to bring union organization to the unorganized industries. If the adult worker makes a living wage the little ones won't have to toil to "supplement the meager incomes of their parents."

Cleveland Truckers Win Rank and File Strike

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more argument against than for it. "We've been out a week and all we're getting is what we had before," one striker shouted.

"Let's stay out!" another said. President Frank Gloven replied: "I don't like it, your committee doesn't like it and I know you don't like it. But if you don't take it and do stay out, you'll be striking against Uncle Sam. I want no part of it and I know you don't."

"The hell with the WSB!" yelled another striker.

Gloven said he was sure the Board would approve the contract. Endorsement by the membership was reportedly recommended unanimously by the negotiating committee elected by the rank-and-file. When a standing vote was taken, almost a hundred members voted against ratification, but the majority carried for it.

Meanwhile, the same dilemma of pure and simple trade unionism, which fails to combine independent class political action with collective bargaining, faced several other unions here today.

THE WSB TRAP

CIO-UAW members at the local Alco plant, on strike since June 11 over the issue of making a 3-cent increase retroactive, voted to go back to work on the basis of retroactivity to Jan. 22, with the proviso that wage negotiations be reopened any time the WSB revises the wage freeze upwards.

AFL Teamsters Local 52, wholesale bakery drivers, who were scheduled to go on strike this morning, yesterday accepted a contract with a pay increase and improved vacation provisions, also subject to WSB approval.

On a state-wide basis, more than 6,000 over-the-road drivers struck last night against viola-

tions by employers of a contract signed November 1949. William J. Welch, chairman of the Ohio Highway Drivers' Council of the AFL Teamsters Union, said these violations included failure to pay and chiseling in payment for layovers in inter-city runs, for time lost during breakdowns, and "dead-heading" from one city to another with empty trucks.

Since employers cannot use their Wage Stabilization Board machinery in this dispute, they secured a strike-breaking threat from Gov. Lusche in advance to the effect that he would see to it that no "motorist" on state highways is interfered with. Today the union struck back by barring the Governor's personal representative, Albert A. Woltman, Ohio director of industrial relations, from a meeting of union and employer representatives.

NEW LEADERSHIP

Background of the local teamsters' strike settled today, Local 407's first since 1935, includes a history of domination by the late President Edward Murphy, noted chiefly for his willingness to settle for anything rather than strike. The current upsurge which put the local back into the hands of the ranks following Murphy's death, will provide the new rank-and-file leadership with a very insecure base if they stick to pure and simple trade unionism because they will not be able to win gains the membership must have if the labor movement permits itself to be tied hand and foot by the wage freeze of the bosses' parties in Washington.

The rank-and-file leadership of Local 407, together with that of unions all over the country, must demand that labor representatives get off all phoney government wage control boards — and stay off this time. The dilemma faced by all wage workers must be discussed at a national labor

conference of democratically elected representatives of the entire labor movement.

To fight the wage freeze, high prices and profiteering now in effect, workers will have to replace the capitalist politicians in power in Congress with their own representatives, elected by an independent labor party. Until then, unions will continue to make headway in negotiations, only to be blocked by the employers through the WSB and other government agencies.

Truman in Detroit Lays Off Prices

In his last speech prior to final Congressional action on the "controls" law, Truman spoke in Detroit at a celebration of that city's 250th anniversary.

He did not say one word about high prices, the wage freeze or the profit-grabbing provisions included in the new "controls" bill.

That is how he "fought" to prevent profiteering and run-away prices from making more drastic inroads on the workers' pay envelopes. But the labor leaders blame the GOP-Dixiecrat coalition alone.

FEW PEOPLE DARE TO SIGN RIGHTS PETITION

(Continued from Page 1)

pendence, said: "I see you are using an old Commie trick, putting God's name on a radical petition." Still another complained of being subjected to a "gang of dangerous radicals."

In New York as well, many of those approached by the Post reporters had the same notion. The "most general reaction," they report, "was that we were subversives engaged in an un-American enterprise." A Wall Street broker thought he saw right through the whole thing. He "smiled cynically," and said: "No thank you. You can't trick me on that. I happen to think they did just right by your boys."

EXCESSIVE BAIL

"He pointed to the section of the Bill of Rights which reads: 'Excessive bail shall not be required, nor excessive fines imposed, nor cruel and unusual punishments inflicted.'"

"You think I don't know that this is just a trick to get low bail for those damned Commies?" he asked. "Well, you won't get away with it."

A policeman on guard at the National City Bank was so outraged, he practically spluttered. "Beat it. You guys got your nerve. Kee-rist, you're even asking cops now."

And a "well dressed man" intervened when some Wall Street secretaries were approached: "Why don't you let those ladies alone. Take your god dam Red racket somewhere else." And a Park Avenue matron walking a dog got violent, after reading half of the Declaration of Independence: "They should put you in jail with the rest of them," she ranted, crumpling up the petition. "You — you — you damned Communist!"

A LAWYER'S JUDICIAL DECISION

Others in both Madison and New York doubted the whole thing. "You're trying to pull something — that isn't in the Constitution," was the judicial decision of a Madison lawyer who gave the document a careful reading.

A woman in Madison's Vilas Park got indignant. "Young man, are you trying to tell me that this is a copy of the Declaration of Independence?" She gave the preamble a heated reading, out loud: "that whenever any form of government becomes destructive of these ends, it is the right of the people to alter or abolish it, and to institute new government. . ."

It made her mad: "That may be the Russian Declaration of Independence but you can't tell me that it is ours."

The most striking anecdote of the whole affair is related by a Post reporter:

"A woman pushing a baby carriage along Rivington Street read it and silently handed it back. She stopped up the street, left the carriage, came back and reached for the petition. She scrawled 'Roberta Rucci, E. Houston St.' and wordlessly turned away."

Hats off to Roberta Rucci of E. Houston Street, who, in the U. S. in 1951, decided to take the risk of signing the Declaration of Independence, just as others took that risk in 1776.

THE MILITANT ARMY

We still haven't heard from all the branches of the Socialist Workers Party about their local

banquets honoring the winners of the Big League Militant Circulation and Sales Campaign. No doubt it's more pleasant to just enjoy such a banquet than to have to write about it. While we're waiting for the reports, here's an item or two:

From Flint, winning branch in the Konikow League: "We are very proud of our handsome banner and shall admire it always." The comrades report that the campaign gave them a big lift in spreading the message of socialism in this automobile center. "The fruits of our labor are already beginning to come forth."

Literature Agent P. S. of Minneapolis: "The campaign was a real boost to the party and The Militant and to me personally. It was a wonderful experience to visit the Chicago branch. I know that Paul feels the same way about his free vacation to the East Coast. All of us gained from our experience and I hope those we met gained something from us."

Grace Carlson, 1948 candidate of the Socialist Workers Party for Vice President of the United States: "I am sure that all of the branches are having the same gratifying experience as the Twin Cities, that is, that The Militant campaign gave us a whole new group of sympathizers."

Lillian Russell, Oakland Literature Agent: "We expect to continue our work of spreading The Militant. The reception that The Militant received in the working class areas of this city and the wonderful contacts that we made as a result of concentrated sales work are going to continue to pay off. You can continue to expect a

steady flow of subs from this end."

The Newark Branch apparently has resolved to keep up the good work begun during the campaign. "Besides regular visits each week to homes for subscriptions," writes Ruth Franklin, Organizer of the branch, "we have a team which goes out each Tuesday."

"Of course our sales were excellent during the trial of the Trenton Six due to the fine front page articles and pictures defending the victims and exposing the frame-up."

"Our star salesman is Jimmy Kutcher. Last night Jimmy sold 18 copies in less than an hour. He has an excellent approach. He says something like this, 'Just a moment, sir (or lady), I have a workers' paper here I would like to tell you about.' This stops everyone in his tracks because he certainly wants to hear what it's all about. So you see we are very proud of Jimmy Kutcher."

From Los Angeles, Al Lynn writes that The Militant "reads very well in general." He suggests that it would be well to include notes about international events which are not reported in local papers. "Such items arouse extreme interest when they are reported in branch meetings. A column of international notes would easily have one of the largest reading publics." He would also like to see a "similar column of events in America based on clippings sent in from local papers."

We were shocked to learn that George Hadley of Rock Creek, British Columbia, died recently. Comrade Hadley was long a devoted reader of The Militant and contributor to the cause of socialism. We are sure that his efforts to help build a better world made an enduring impression on those who knew him and that they will pick up the banner which he carried to the end.

B. P. J. of British Columbia reports that J. P. C.'s article,

Such an organization drive among the "forgotten people" of the American working class will require something more than the present leadership and policy of the labor movement. The burning need for such organization is there — the words are there; what we must have now is deeds.

The migrant agricultural worker lives under the constant threat of vigilante violence. The men, women and children who harvest the nation's crops have learned what a struggle for unionization means — for them it is tantamount to a civil war. A serious organization campaign would have to marshal the full financial, organizational and political resources of the labor movement. And this is exactly what the labor movement must do — not simply to help the migrant worker and to do away with the scourge of child labor, but for its own self defense. Because the conditions of the starved and defenseless workers and children in the unorganized industries constitute a living threat to the better conditions of the organized working class.

TEXAS MILLIONAIRES

The state of Texas prides itself on having produced more millionaires than any other state during the last years. Maybe three boys, Pablo, Jose and Victor who live in this state know why it has so many millionaires. They are 3 out of 4000 cases in a recent survey. In addition to 25 hours of school, "Thirteen-year-old Pablo set pins in a bowling alley from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m. six nights a week and until 1 a.m. on Saturdays." "Fourteen year old Jose, 'washed dishes in a restaurant seven days a week from 1 p.m. to 11 p.m.' And fifteen-year old Victor works as 'a package boy six days a week from noon until midnight.'"

We say to Pablo, Jose and Victor: When you hear the words "socialist" and "revolution" they mean an end to this rotten system that breeds millionaires out of your labor. These words mean an end to the same system which will in a few years claim your body for the imperialist war machine. You can do a lot more with your lives than make some rich parasite richer. You are a part of the working class that will organize a socialist society where work and education and the labor of all will be united for the good of all. That is what the Socialist Workers Party stands for.

"The Writer and the People," in a recent issue of The Militant, "was appreciated by several people to whom I read it." He tells us that there appears to be some dissatisfaction among Canadian soldiers. In one case a number of them "stormed a court house and smashed a hundred windows because they were falsely informed that two of their mates had been arrested." He ends his letter by commending The Militant on its "clear cut stand against war."

P. L. D. of Pennsylvania sent a contribution and the names of friends to receive sample copies of The Militant. "Rest assured that you have many friends working for justice. The big shots need to know that they just cannot go on unchecked in their wanton waste of human life and property."

G. L. D. Michigan, sending a change of address, says, "I enjoy reading The Militant. Keep it coming."

L. B. Courts of Sharonville, Ohio, a life-time socialist, writes that even though he's 80 years old he hopes he'll still be "coming down the pike for another six months" and so renewed his subscription accordingly.

S. R. of Detroit, enclosing \$2 for a one-year renewal, tells us that he got his first issue of The Militant at the UAW Convention. "Enjoyed it very much. I know the other delegates liked it also."

R. W. of Berkeley, Calif., sent in for \$1 worth of the May 14 issue containing the cartoon by Laura Gray showing Reuther, Murray and Green as white-wings behind the horse, Wage Stabilization Board, ridden by C. E. Wilson. In R. W.'s opinion, "Back on the Old Job" — is one of the greatest labor cartoons of all time."

For contributions to help meet our publishing costs, we want to thank N. B. of New York, \$5; R. S. of New Orleans, \$2.74; and "A Well-Wisher" of Brooklyn, \$50.

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Truman's Shabby Maneuver

We despise Senator Joseph McCarthy as much as anyone else, and we are willing to insist that he take his share of the blame for the "Red" hysteria that has been whipped up throughout the country.

But our contempt for Senator McCarthy cannot possibly be so great as to blind us to the shabby maneuver pulled by President Truman in his Detroit speech last week.

Truman tried to fob off the entire responsibility for the current thought-control reign of terror on McCarthy, by referring to the Madison, Wisconsin, petition test, which we have described elsewhere in this issue. Briefly, the president's idea was that the people of Madison were afraid to sign a petition reaffirming the Declaration of Independence and the Constitutional guarantees of the Bill of Rights because Madison is in Wisconsin, hence, "McCarthyland."

We call this a "shabby maneuver" — this is understating the dirty, self-exculpating excuse of a criminal who is just as guilty as his accomplice. While McCarthy has plenty to answer for, what about Truman?

Isn't it the Truman administration that fathered the witch-hunt? Didn't Truman issue the Executive Order under which thousands have been fired without trial, hearing, or even a specification of the charges or even knowing who their accusers were? Didn't a Truman cabinet member, the Attorney General, issue the "subversive" listing which defames and convicts organizations and their members of "crimes" without trial or hearing?

Does the Truman administration, and all of its supporters, ever miss an op-

portunity to heat up the witch-hunt kettle with new, bitter, anti-Red speeches and charges?

For Truman, at this late date, to try to slip out from the onus of being known as the chief thought control whip-cracker is not only shabby, it is laughable and fantastic. McCarthy may have exceeded Truman in wild and sensational charges, but no one holds the candle to Truman as the chief prosecutor and persecutor. In deeds, if not in words, Truman is far ahead of McCarthy.

Of course, Truman was transparently dishonest when he latched on to the fact that the "fear poll" was conducted in McCarthy's home state and that this accounts for everything. Substantially the same results could be gotten anywhere, and Truman knows this. The Post poll in New York City explodes Truman's feeble dodge.

We can't avoid adding a word on the New York Post, which is horrified at the results of the Madison and New York petition stunts. Any regular Post reader knows that this paper has made its own dirty contributions to the current fever. Murray Kempton, for instance, and such hatchet jobs as the recent Post feature on Dashiell Hammett, do their work. They are not the same as McCarthyism, but they serve to line up the liberals, something that McCarthy could never do.

Each plays a role in the hysterical campaign that results in such a frame of mind as was revealed in the petitions in Madison and New York. McCarthy, the Post, Truman, and others, each work on a different section of the population. All together and each separately, they bear responsibility for the fear-ridden minds of America's people.

French Govt. Still Hunting For 'Stability'

By Charles Hanley

Before the recent parliamentary elections in France many French politicians as well as the American bourgeois press hoped for a certain stabilization of the French government. This hope did not materialize.

Despite a new electoral law, neither the "Third Force" nor the pro-fascist de Gaulle movement won an absolute majority of seats in the assembly.

For the time being a coalition between the Gaullists and other capitalist parties cannot be formed, for de Gaulle will not agree to it unless he is made complete master. The conservative groups are not ready to submit to the would-be dictator as they consider Gaullism too costly a solution.

POLICE CONFLICT

The government crisis which began before the elections was due mainly to difference of policy in the social and economic field between the socialists and their bourgeois partners.

The coalition between socialists and the liberal capitalists had been difficult enough before. Now a coalition including both socialists and right wing capitalists is even more difficult. The socialists are asking for a sliding scale of wages, while the capitalist parties refuse to accept this demand. They are determined instead to further reduce the workers' standard of living. They plan to unload the costs of the Atlantic Pact rearmament program on the backs of the workers.

If the socialist leaders agree to this, the crisis inside the Socialist Party of France would become acute. There already exists strong feeling among the socialist rank and file against participation in any cabinet whose economic and financial policy would be influenced by French Big Business.

Several politicians from the camp of the capitalist class have attempted to form a new coalition cabinet. But four weeks after the elections, the crisis continues. All that they can hope for is a patched up compromise government, awaiting the next elections for a clear mandate to one or another party.

CRISIS OF THE SYSTEM

But the cabinet crisis is not merely a crisis of government: It is a crisis of the capitalist system. French capitalism is rotten, and so is its political set-up.

De Gaulle expects the ruling class finally to turn to him when they see no alternative but a fascist dictatorship to save the capitalist system.

In order to prevent de Gaulle from seizing power, a united front of all labor is needed. Such a front could rally the workers behind the demand for a sliding scale of wages to meet rising living costs, and end the crisis of the capitalist Fourth Republic, by creating a Republic of Workers and Peasants... a socialist government of the people.

The Stalinist Peace Program - VIII

The Road of Lenin

By James P. Cannon

Lenin, a disciple of Marx, defined our epoch as the epoch of wars and revolutions, and all experience since 1914 has confirmed his analysis.

In the brief span of thirty-seven years, the world has seen the First World War, and in the midst of it the Russian Revolution of 1917. The decade of the Twenties brought the second revolution in China and the British general strike — flaming signs of crack-up in the imperialist metropolis and the colonial extremity of an obsolete social system. The decade of the Thirties produced the Spanish civil war, and the world-wide economic crisis which set the stage and was followed by the Second World War. Out of this war came a successful revolution in Yugoslavia, post-war revolutionary situations all over Europe, and now the great and mighty tide of colonial revolution rising in the Orient. At the present hour we have a "localized" war in Korea which has already taken a toll of two million lives, and all-out preparations for a Third World War, with international civil war and revolution implicit in the event.

There is absolutely no doubt about it — the truth of Lenin's characterization of our epoch is written in its living history.

Lenin taught that wars are caused by imperialist rivalries and struggles for markets and fields for the investment of surplus capital. World War I confirmed that analysis, and World War II dotted all the i's and crossed all the t's.

TWO OPPOSING SYSTEMS

Lenin also taught that a new social system of planned economy based on nationalized property and reinforced by a state monopoly of foreign trade cannot "peacefully co-exist" with imperialist states "for any length of time." "In the end," said Lenin, "one or the other must triumph."

Lenin further taught that the colonial people, kept in poverty and backwardness by imperialist domination, could find the way to national independence and the development of their productive forces only by revolutions in the colonies joining forces with the proletarian revolutions in the metropolitan centers of imperialism.

Lenin finally taught — what he and all of us learned from Marx — that the class struggle of the workers in the imperialist countries must inevitably culminate in the revolutionary overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of a socialist society.

On that basis — and on that basis alone — taught Lenin, real peace and a good life of freedom and abundance can be secured for humanity. This is the road to peace, according to Lenin.

The peace campaign now being conducted by the Stalinists runs counter to all these teachings, to all the experience of the past thirty-seven years which confirmed them, and to the future social reality which they project. The central theme of the Stalinist peace campaign, as we have seen, is "the possibility and necessity for peaceful co-existence between the capitalist and socialist states." The main agitational slogan is the demand that the U.S. government "negotiate and agree with the Soviet Union." And their slogan of action, waving in all the May Day parades, is "Unity of the Big 5." The method of the campaign is the mobilization of workers' organizations, pacifist societies, church groups, and "sections of the capitalist class" to present this program to the imperialist government on signed petitions, ornamented by pictures of the dove of peace especially drawn for the occasion by Picasso. This is the road to peace, according to Stalin.

STALINIST CAMPAIGN FOR STATUS QUO

The Stalinist peace program is a proposal to maintain the status quo indefinitely. What does that signify for the workers and colonial peoples? It signifies the abandonment of the revolutionary struggle for the socialist transformation of society in the capitalist countries; the reconciliation of the workers to life-long wage slavery for themselves, and the same perspective for their children and their children's children. It signifies the abandonment of the aspirations of the colonial slaves for national independence and a better life.

The Stalinists have proved by their past practices that they are ready and willing to maintain the status quo on that basis. In their current propaganda they again offer this program to the great powers concerned — to the workers and colonial peoples on the one side and the imperialist exploiters on the other. In the service of that program they offer treacherous slogans to the masses and material concessions to the imperialists. The Stalinists for their part are ready and willing — but they are not able. Their program is doomed because neither of the two great powers, neither the workers and the colonial peoples nor the imperialists, can accept it and abide by it.

The imperialists, on their side, through the program enunciated by Acheson in his Berkeley speech a year ago and military preparations to implement it, are serving notice that the Stalinist program doesn't go far enough to meet their requirements. They demand that the Soviet Union and revolutionary China cease to exist as they are at present constituted. The rulers of America may not have taken the trouble to read Lenin, as in general they don't like to bother with theory, but they are convinced in their hearts and in their money-bags that two rival social systems cannot "peacefully co-exist" to their advantage. The peace they demand is a peace that the Soviet Union and revolutionary China cannot give and continue to exist.

The workers and colonial peoples, on their part, cannot accept the Stalinist program because their lives grow more intolerable as the capitalist world system plunges deeper into decay and drives them on the road of struggle against existing conditions. It is precisely the status quo that must be changed in order that peace may be secured and the people may live in a manner suitable to human beings.

FALSE STANDARD OF 'AGGRESSION'

In the cold-war peace, presently highlighted by a shooting, bombing and burning war in Korea, the imperialist diplomats, along with their apologists on the one side, and the Stalinists along with their dupes and stooges on the other, agree on recognizing "aggression" as the one and only unpardonable sin. They tirelessly accuse each other of committing this sin, or of planning to do so, as if nothing else matters. But what doesn't matter and cannot apply is this criterion itself. In the very nature of this epoch in general, and of the present world situation in particular, this term "aggression" is a false and hypocritical standard by which to judge the justice and necessity of an action. It is a trap for the workers and colonial peoples, designed to paralyze action in their own interests.

The very existence of capitalist imperialism is an aggression against the masses, robbing them of their right to a decent existence by force and fraud. The institutions of capitalism — its armies, police and courts — are instruments of this force, as its official propaganda and moralistic preachments are instruments of the fraud. In the black-is-white language of diplomacy and official propaganda, the American intervention in Korea, for example, is not an act of aggression, although a couple of million Koreans — mostly civilians, the old and the sick, the women and the children huddled in their straw-thatched villages — have already been bombed to bits and burned to ashes in the process. All this — this atrocity of the ages — has been done, so it is said, not to commit "aggression," but to repel it. That doesn't change the reality, however, and doesn't bring the dead back to life, the dead who didn't hear the explanation.

In truth, aggression can no more be outlawed in the present relationship of classes and nations than the blows and counter-blows of contending armies in the field, for the relationship is one of antagonism and struggle all the time. Just as the very existence of predatory capitalism is an act of aggression against the masses, so the very existence of the Soviet Union, with its nationalized property; the labor movement in the developed countries of capitalism; and the surging revolutionary movement of the colonial peoples — they are all standing and unceasing acts of aggression against the imperialist world system. In the language of Marxism this is known as the class struggle. And this struggle, this "aggression," however unconscious of its goal its participants may be at the moment, is designed and historically destined not to maintain the status quo but to change it fundamentally — and nothing can stop it.

CLASS STRUGGLE DETERS WARMAKERS

It is this struggle of the workers and colonial peoples, spontaneously developing as the unavoidable result of the decay of capitalism and the insoluble contradictions engendered by it — it is precisely this struggle, despite all the inadequacy and treachery of the leadership at the moment, that is today the main, indeed the only real, deterrent to the outbreak of a Third World War.

The colonial revolutions, by the demonstration of their mounting power throughout the Orient, are doing a thousand times more to slow down the war plans of Washington than any pacifist prayers and petitions. One has only to read the testimony of the General Staff members and of Secretary Acheson before the Senate Committee for proof of this out of their own mouths. The revolutionary sentiments of the undefeated European workers and the fear of civil war at home are the main reasons for the stumbling reluctance of the European bourgeoisie to go along with the war plans of Washington. An aggressive and politically independent labor movement in the United States, firmly resisting war and fighting its own independent fight on class struggle lines against its real enemy — the ruling capitalists — would be the biggest road-block of all in the way of the war-mongers and war-makers.

Imperialist capitalism is the cause of war, and the struggle for peace is inseparable from the struggle against capitalism. The peace campaign of the Stalinists, by which they sabotage the class struggle of the workers and try to deflect it into pacifist petition campaigns for diplomatic deals in the momentary interests of the Kremlin bureaucrats, is no less treacherous than the jingo sell-out of the workers during World War II. The fight against perfidious Stalinism, in the name of the class struggle policy of Lenin, is a necessary and inseparable part of the fight for peace.

The class struggle of the workers, merging with the colonial revolutions in a common struggle against imperialism, is the only genuine fight against war. The Stalinists who preach otherwise are liars and deceivers. The workers and colonial peoples will have peace when they have the power and use their power to take it and make it for themselves. That is the road of Lenin. There is no other road to peace.

Malik in New Peace Bid; Hints At Sell-Out Deal

By Harry Frankel

Stalin's pleas for some kind of a deal with imperialism began to take on an urgent note last week. Jacob Malik, Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister, replying to questions submitted to him in Moscow by a group of visiting Quakers, made it clear that the Kremlin is ready to sell out the interests of the millions of workers and colonial peoples if Stalin can get any kind of a guarantee of non-molestation from the imperialist governments.

In replying to the Quakers, Malik repeated the now familiar, often repeated, proposals for a five power peace pact, unconditional banning of the atom bomb, peaceful settlement of German and Japanese issues, etc. But in addition, he added to his reply a quotation from the 1936 interview of Stalin by Roy Howard, in which Stalin says "to attempt to export revolution is nonsense."

THE REAL MEANING

This harmless sounding phrase had a great significance in 1936 as the formula under which the Communist Parties of most of the world gave up their opposition to capitalist governments. The 1936 interview was part of the so-called "People's Front" swing during which the interests of the working people were shamelessly trampled on and betrayed by the Kremlin in exchange for an alliance with Anglo-French-American imperialism.

A series of other indications make it plain that the Kremlin is making a serious effort to effect a deal with imperialism and is ready to offer sizeable concessions to try to make the deal a reality. First there was Malik's proposal to negotiate the Korean war. Korean negotiations have under way for several weeks, and two of the issues that have been seriously disputed have been yielded by the Koreans, probably in consultation with the Soviet high command.

TROYANOVSKY

Further, a new English language newspaper, called News, has been issued in Moscow, built around the theme that "peace is possible" between Russia on the one hand and England and the U.S. on the other. Ex-Ambassador to the U.S. Troyanovsky, of People's Front fame, was dug out of moth balls to sign an article on Russian-U.S. amity. This fact is significant in view of the well known Kremlin style of opera-

tion: changing spokesmen with policies. The News articles have been reprinted in Izvestia, official Kremlin organ.

While the Stalin remark quoted from the 1936 interview innocently repeats the truism that revolutions cannot be "exported" it has a great significance in Soviet diplomacy. In 1936 and the years following, it came to mean the vigorous use of all Russian strength, including most prominently the Communist Parties of Europe, to suppress revolutionary movements of the masses. Thus the rising French revolution was betrayed into the hands of the executioners of the French workers, the Daladiers, the Peoples Front partners of the Stalinists. Likewise, the Spanish workers and peasants, disarmed of their socialist program and

robbed of socialist leadership by the Kremlin, went down to defeat before fascism.

Repeated Kremlin bids for "peace" have been spurned by imperialism over the period of the last two or three years. This is because the imperialists are determined once and for all to destroy the Soviet bloc and to open up the resources of the Soviet Union and the buffer zone to imperialist exploitation. It is unlikely that any offer the Kremlin can make will be enough to deter the imperialists from their aim. But the Kremlin's offers, which undoubtedly include the offer of Stalinist assistance in crushing the revolutionary wave among the workers and colonial masses, should put the anti-imperialist masses on their guard against a Kremlin betrayal.

KREMLIN BUREAUCRATS INSTITUTE NEW SERIES OF PURGES IN EAST EUROPE

Every day's news from and about East Europe testifies to continuing unrest and resistance to the Kremlin's yoke. In the last week alone, there was new evidence of purges in progress in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia and Poland.

The Cominform paper itself confirmed the rumors about sharpening dissension in Bulgaria when it called the situation in that country's Communist Party "intolerable" and quoted Bulgarian Premier Chervenkov's recent admission that "there are still quite a few party leaders who are reluctant" to carry out party decisions.

A few days later, the Yugoslav press, which seems well informed about Bulgarian developments, reported the arrest of Maj. Gen. Slavcho Trinski on "Titoist" charges. Apparently Trinski is a popular figure, with a reputation among the masses that does not depend on the authority of the Kremlin; this alone would be enough to account for his purge.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

From Paris, C. L. Sulzberger of the N. Y. Times reports information pointing to a widespread purge of the Czechoslovak army. Sulzberger quotes from a Ministry of War warning to the top Czechoslovak military commanders against those officers who op-

posed the application of "Soviet methods" in the organization of the army.

This year four of the Czechoslovak top generals have either been arrested or committed suicide. The Stalinist authorities speak about the targets of the purge as "imperialist agents," but that is their standard name for opponents from the left as well as the right.

PURGE IN POLAND

A similar development is taking place in Poland. The Warsaw radio announced that nine senior army officers, including four generals, would be tried on charges of sabotage and espionage for Anglo-American imperialism. A specific accusation is that the nine were trying to help the imperialists "tear away the Polish Western territories from the mother country and annex them to neo-Nazi Germany." That could well mean that the nine were opposed to the dismemberment of Poland which has been carried through by the Kremlin.

This trial confirms the view taken in last week's Militant that Soviet Deputy Premier Molotov's bellicose speech in Warsaw — nine days before the announcement of the latest arrests — was motivated primarily by the Kremlin's concern over the unrest in East Europe. Molotov knew all about the coming arrests when he

spoke, just as he knows about the hate for the Stalinist oppressors all over Eastern Europe.

When he threatened Tito in that speech, he was also giving a warning to the bureaucrats and masses in the satellite countries. The false and reactionary policies of the Yugoslav leaders during the last year may have alienated much of the East European people's sympathies for Yugoslavia, but have not quelled their desire for independence from the Kremlin.

MORTAL WEAKNESS

Superficial commentators regard the never-ending purges in East Europe, and inside the Soviet Union itself, as signs of the Kremlin's indomitable strength. Actually, they are evidence of mortal weakness. A really strong and stable regime has no need for continuous purges.

This will be shown again and again as the crisis of Stalinism deepens and the peoples today oppressed by the bureaucracy get an opportunity to take decisive action against it.

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SWIMMING GAMES MARSHMALLOW ROAST

Chicago Socialist Workers Party

"Old China" Gone Forever

China and the Kremlin are playing different roles in Korea. China entered the war, not because it is a puppet of Stalin, but because it was alarmed at the United States government's intention of installing powerful, hostile military forces on China's border. The Soviet bureaucracy, on the other hand, is interested in Korea mainly as a means of pressuring Washington into a "peace coexistence" deal.

This analysis, in opposition to the propaganda of the State Department and the ravings of the Stalinophobes, is the one that The Militant has made steadily of the situation in the Far East. It has been confirmed time and again, especially by the Kremlin's policy of deliberately withholding from the Chinese and Koreans the supplies necessary for a decisive victory.

Now our analysis receives additional support from Robert Guillain, Far Eastern correspondent of the well-known conservative Paris newspaper, Le Monde. In a series of articles contrasting the horrors of combat in Korea with the luxury and profiteering at U.S. headquarters in Tokyo, Guillain gave a graphic report of the contrast between the heroism of the Asian peoples struggling against imperialism and the treacherous policies of the Kremlin bureaucrats. Following are excerpts from his dispatches, printed on June 27 and 28:

The commander of a tank company, after returning from combat, told me:

"At first, when we held a crossroads, they attacked us in waves, armed only with poor rifles and grenades. They ended up by being on top of us. They swarmed over the tanks, they tried to find windows, openings, something or other there, they sought to force their grenades into the periscopes and smash the observation lenses. We shot at each other from one tank to another to rid ourselves of these locusts.

"The day after, they came at us again in a narrow pass. They charged at us with their Bangalores, something like torpedoes or mines, and struck at us from above with these weapons which did not explode. A youngster hurled himself on the last tank with an explosive charge. With his equipment he hit as hard as he could the armor plate on the rear of the tank until the charge exploded. He exploded with it. The tank went on its way intact."

These are figures of a new China, hard to

recognize for those who have known China before. Where is the Chinese soldier of yesterday, so pitiful a puppet and scorned as ruffraff?

If they fought with equal equipment, the Chinese army would have no reason to envy any army in the world.

Whole divisions have been sent into battle with the lightest armament against the terrifying firepower of the best equipped armies a Western power has ever put into action.

For the second time they advanced without artillery, without tanks and without aviation, because they had not received such arms from Russia which alone could have provided them to them.

It should be recognized that Russian policy toward China is inspired by a cold realism which not only let the Chinese army undergo a terrible bloodbath without giving it the means of achieving victory but considers that this is just as well. It is a good thing for the Soviet Union that China does not become too strong. It would be dangerous if the Chinese army triumphed over the combined forces of the United Nations.

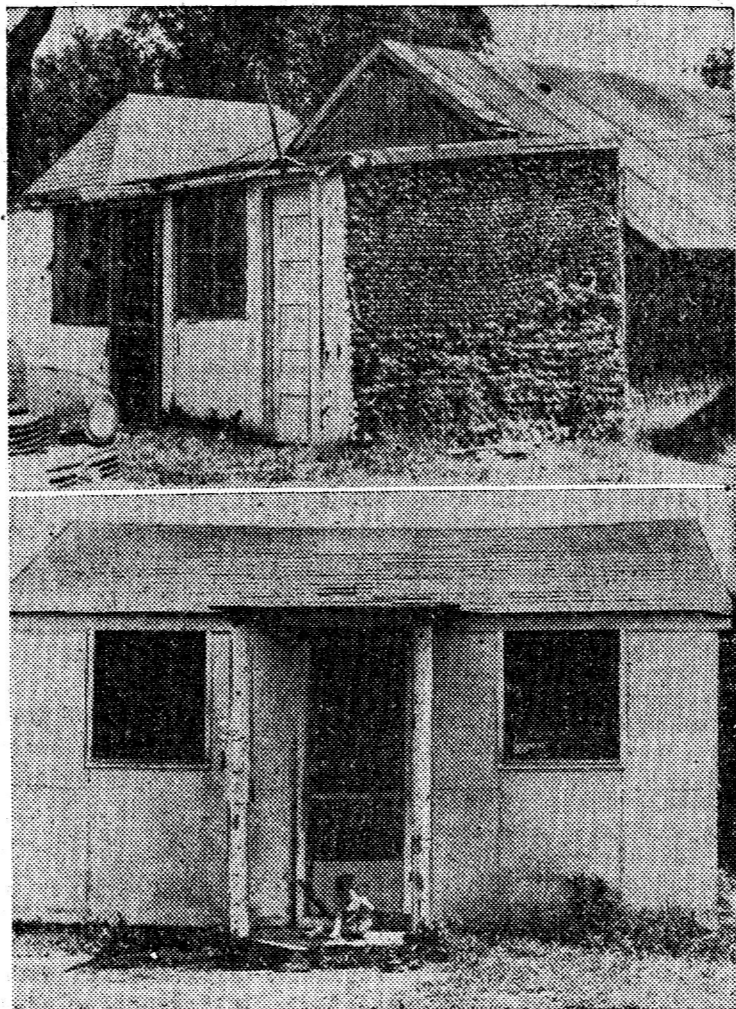
What about the Soviet planes? Everybody expected them, and the Chinese above all. They kept themselves in readiness and stubbornly repaired about fifty aerodromes on North Korean territory under powerful bombardments from American planes. Until the last moment, it is obvious, they kept these grounds ready for the day — which did not come — when the airplanes which would save them would arrive from Siberia or the Russian Far East. For the USSR had them "by the thousands," as General Marshall told the American Senate.

But no: the anticipated equipment never entered the fray. The far too few planes that the Chinese air force possessed never risked themselves beyond the "MIG Alley" prudently maintained along the Yalu River. This was in striking contrast to the treatment accorded the North Koreans: they had been "groomed"; at least at the start of the Korean affair; they had had tanks, artillery, planes.

It looked as though China was not permitted to achieve victory. Would not a victorious China be a terrible obstacle?

China does not want to be a satellite country but the great ally of the USSR! She would be a difficult ally; that would be her way of being a satellite.

Hovels for GIs



A Senate committee which investigated three southern training camps exposed the fact that soldiers are paying sky-high rents for rat-trap dwellings. At top, shack at Fort Breckinridge, Ky., built of mortar, whiskey bottles and beer cans. Bottom, roof of flimsy house propped up by pipes.

FEPC ORDINANCE BECOMES MAJOR ISSUE IN DETROIT

DETROIT, July 30 — A coalition of labor, religious, civic and professional groups have presented the Detroit Common Council with a draft of a proposed ordinance for

"equal employment opportunities" in an attempt to sidetrack the petition of the Detroit Labor Council for an FEPC law.

The newly proposed ordinance, submitted by the Citizens Committee for Equal Employment Opportunities, does not differ greatly from the Labor Council petition.

Father Finnegan, chairman of the Equal Employment committee, pointed out in a statement that the proposed ordinance would prevent submission of the FEPC ordinance to the voters next fall.

This action of the Detroit labor leadership came only after the Detroit Labor Council, under Stalinist auspices and now supported by Ford Local 600, began to force a showdown by obtaining the 30,000 signatures necessary to place the FEPC issue on the ballot. Previously the labor leaders had contented themselves with begging and pleading with various public legislative bodies for some FEPC action.

REUTHER'S MOTIVE

Walter Reuther, UAW-CIO President, Frank X. Martel, President of the Detroit and Wayne County AFL, and now compelled to take further steps.

Reuther and his associates claim that their opposition to a referendum is based on fear that it would sharpen race relations. Far more likely, however, is that they fear placing the issue on the ballot would compel all individuals

UAW Leaders Crack Down On Fight Against Speedup

DETROIT, July 30 — The International Executive Board of the UAW-CIO at a special session July 23, placed Ed Coto, West Side Regional Director of the union, as an administrator over DeSoto Local 227.

This action was taken to suppress the DeSoto workers, who like the workers in the Chrysler plants everywhere, have been waging a bitter struggle against the speed-up drive of the corporation. The International board stated that the DeSoto plant has been shut down 80 working days since the first of the year by "unauthorized stoppages."

At one point the local union leaders under pressure from the top UAW officials, brought charges against a number of workers for allegedly leading the unauthorized work stoppages. When the local union trial committee failed to uphold these charges, the International leadership felt it must directly assume the job of terrorizing the workers and forcing them to remain at work.

WIDESPREAD SPEED-UP

This action against the DeSoto workers assumes special significance in view of the widespread speed-up drive by all the major auto corporations. It can serve only to encourage the companies in their offensive against work standards.

So severe has this speed-up drive been that during the past several weeks there has hardly been a day when there has not been one or more shut-downs by workers protesting increased output demands.

Plymouth, Chrysler Kercheval, Chrysler Jefferson, DeSoto, Hudson, Briggs, Ainsworth and many more plants have seen the same kind of struggle. At Hudson, the plot of the corporation, which has been unable to sell its cars, was so glaringly apparent that even the International officers, after a do-nothing policy of several weeks, were finally forced to declare a lockout existed. They urged the membership to refrain from going to work until the "Company makes available

work to its employees in good faith."

The Hudson company was cutting manpower on key jobs, and then shutting down the plant as remaining workers refused to work above their normal pace. By this tactic, the corporation hoped through short pay checks to force the workers to accept the new production quotas and at the same time shave the company heavy costs which would occur if a regular lay-off took place, entitling workers to compensation.

Hudson workers were advised to seek work elsewhere by the International Union. Pressure of the union for more government contracts to Detroit plants has not brought much in the way of results for laid off workers, or for those suffering from speed-up and partial unemployment.

MANY DISPUTES

Workers in the Ford plant in Monroe, Michigan also walked off their jobs last week, protesting disciplinary action against a worker accused of responsibility for an earlier strike. At one point last week more than 42,000 auto workers in Michigan were idle because of speed-up disputes.

In addition many more have been out of work because of unemployment arising from alleged "material shortages." Such shut-downs have hit most General Motors plants in Michigan.

In this critical situation involving the twin problems of speed-up and unemployment the only action to come from the special session of the International board was a crack-down on the workers. The verbal campaign

conducted by the top officers on the growing unemployment problem bore fruit in kind this past week.

Truman in his Detroit 250th anniversary speech assured the auto workers that unemployment would be slight and limited. But this was so much verbiage. There was no definite program to take care of the needs of the unemployed.

C. E. Wilson, war production head, took a verbal slap at Detroit's large corporations for failing to assign major parts of their many millions of war contracts to the Detroit area. The UAW leadership is already hailing this as a great victory won by their committees in Washington, giving credit to Sen. Moody.

But the auto workers are looking for something far more substantial than just words and promises. Ford Local 600 renewed its demand for an emergency conference of the union to discuss speed-ups, wage freezes, layoffs and the high cost of living.

Reuther, who in his April report to the UAW convention, supported a demand for full wages for unemployed, has remained silent on this demand at the very time it is most needed. One fact emerges in the present situation in auto: Either the full resources of the union will be mobilized to beat back the speed-up offensive and win full paychecks for unemployed workers, or the workers will suffer a severe set-back threatening all their gains made since the beginning of the union. By rallying behind the Ford Local 600 demand for an emergency conference, a basis for a fight can be laid.

D. P.'s In Kansas

By Thomas Raymond

If you worked at the Topeka, Kansas, plant of the John Morrell & Co., meat packers, you would be out of a job today. All 1200 workers employed there are jobless today, following an announcement by the Company President, G. M. Foster, that the board of directors is closing this plant because of flood damage. The "substantial expenditures" needed to rehabilitate the plant, he said, would not be warranted by business prospects.

Foster rounded out the picture by adding: "While the loss is great, available adjustments in Federal income tax provisions and other items will substantially offset the loss so that the financial position of the company will not be affected materially."

"Now doesn't that little item give an all round picture of capitalism in action? It's just too rich; we have to go after it and take it apart."

First of all, here is a plant producing 12% of the meat supplied by one of the big meat packers. It is damaged by a flood which could have been prevented by a series of dams similar to that in the Tennessee Valley, and which were not built because private capitalist power interests feared that the cheap electric power would show them up, as happened in the TVA.

This meat packer, who banded with his fellow packers to smash the packinghouse strike when the workers struck for 19 cents an hour in 1948, blithely closes his plant in the middle of a

prolonged period of meat shortage when there is not supposed to be enough meat to go around and steak is up to \$1.30 a pound. He even issues a statement bragging that the company will not lose any money on this account, because the government has ways of taking care of people who operate big plants and decide to shut them down.

Meanwhile, the workers at the plant, who three years ago were crushed and forced back to work by the packers who then also had the help of the government, don't have any such assistance to brag about. They have to go out on their shoe leather and pound the pavements looking for another job. Although the company released no statistics, outside of that one gleeful, all important item that they weren't going to lose any money, isn't it safe to assume that many of the 1200 workers were there a long time? Ten years? Twenty years? Ever since they started to work, maybe?

Every decent minded reader can add up, in this tiny news item, at least a dozen different brutal, callous, selfish, arrogant crimes against the people of this country. Yet the people who committed them remain, not only free and respected, but the "leaders," the rulers of our society! And, think of it, those who suggest that this system is wrong, can be locked up for "conspiring to teach and advocate" something that Mr. G. M. Foster, the moneymaking President of the board of directors of John Morrell and Co. doesn't care for.

Short Subjects

"The more successful the Marshall Plan becomes in reaching the goals set for it by ECA in Washington, the more of a failure it is in Paris." This is the report of Stan Steiner, ECAPASS reporter just back from France. Before ECA there were 77,000 unemployed in France. Now there are 220,000. In 1947, a French worker's wages were about three-quarters of his pre-war wages; now after three years of Marshall Plan "help" from the U.S.A., wages are down to less than half of what they were before the war.

The N. Y. Daily Mirror has opened a big campaign to bar "thousands of pro-Reds" from N. Y. housing projects. By "pro-Reds" and "Communist-liners" the Mirror in this case means registered members of the American Labor Party.

The California Legislature recently passed a bill permitting expulsion of school teachers who express unacceptable thoughts outside of the classroom. Governor Warren vetoed the bill.

A Vet Looks At "Liberation"—U.S. Style

By George Flint

I met a soldier from Korea the other day, here in Seattle and he told me this story:

"A missionary was trying to convert a Korean peasant, and he told him: 'If you do this you'll go to hell and if you do that you'll go to hell and if you do the other thing you'll go to hell, too.' The peasant answered: 'I'll do all these things that you warn me against right away, and be ready to go first thing in the morning. I can't stand any more of this American liberation.'"

I was reminded of my own observations in North Africa when we "liberated" the Arabs there during the second World War. I have meant to write something to The Militant about this for some years. The Korean liberation looks to me like the same business all over again.

On the ships a few days before the landing in North Africa, the troops were given an orientation on the purpose of the war. We were told we were going as liberators. We were given cute little American flags to sew on

our shirts, which was really supposed to send them. And if this failed, there was to be a recorded speech, straight from the horse's mouth, by Franklin D. Roosevelt, broadcast in Oran.

However, when we landed, the American Army re-installed Darlan, Boisson and Company, the very same French militarists who had governed for Hitler.

Some landowners took fright and disappeared until the armistice, but all property owners were soon reassured, and the leading paper in Oran announced that life would go on as usual. And it did, maybe a little worse than usual for the Arabs.

AN ARAB'S OPINION

One Arab school teacher told me how the people felt about it. He said: "Everybody says they have come to liberate us: the Germans, the Italians, the French, the English, and now the Americans. Why don't they all get the hell out of here and we'll liberate ourselves!"

The majority of the ruling and better-off classes, especially in the cities, were Europeans. The

top brass of the U.S. Army was thicker than thieves with these rulers. The officers soaked up the same kind of lingo and arrogance towards the natives they had supposedly come to liberate. Once a French storekeeper said to me: "The Arabs are troublemakers and you must watch out for them. They talk to you but they do not tell you what they are really thinking. They are waiting, they are waiting to make a revolution." (That old boy turned out to be pretty sharp, after all, when you consider what has been going on in the Near East, Middle East and Far East since the war.) Well, it wasn't long until the American officers, and, I'm sorry to say, a good many enlisted men, were talking that way too.

When we first landed, as a matter of fact, many American soldiers had a very arrogant attitude. They regarded the low standard of living of the Arabs as a proof of their inferiority. I personally had many heated discussions where I found myself a minority of one. But there were some things which they couldn't

stomach, and which made them doubt their holy mission. For instance:

AN OFFICER'S APPROACH

At Kasserine Pass, our self-proclaimed 75 millimeter howitzers on half tracks were knocked out. We were temporarily given 75 mm. rifles on half tracks, and we were pulled back a little ways behind the lines to give the gunners practice on the new weapons.

The Company Commander was giving firing orders to the gunners. After the first round, he called for a raise in elevation, giving the number of degrees he wanted. He zeroed our gun in on an Arab shepherd. We told the Lieutenant, and he yelled to the C. O.: "But Captain, we're right on an Arab tending his sheep." The Captain snapped back: "Fire away. He'll move after the first shot."

Everyone grumbled under his breath, and one soldier said out loud: "And we're supposed to be fighting for democracy." The Lieutenant quietly told us to change the reading before firing. After I was wounded, I spent

some time in a hospital in North Africa near Ain El Turc, close to a small village. I was on crutches, and I usually spent my time up on the hill, but I once made a trip down into the village with a small crippled kid, who came up there to visit us. This kid needed crutches worse than I did, but he didn't even have a cane; only a crooked stick which he used very cleverly to help him get around.

The Arabs were not made happy by my visit. Screams preceded me as I went through the pathways between the different huts: "An American is coming, an American is coming." The boy translated for me.

The men were furious, and hurled curses at the child for bringing me there. In short, I was not welcomed as a liberator, because they didn't look upon the Americans as liberators. These people living in their backward hovels didn't expect to see their lot bettered by us because they saw our great technological development only in the form of guns, tanks, bombers, and so on. And I guess that is the way it is in Korea now.

The Negro Struggle

Army Jim Crow NOT Abolished

By Jean Blake

A United Press report last week stated that the army has announced "it is ending segregation of Negroes in its forces in Korea and throughout the Far East command"; that the "all-Negro 24th Infantry Regiment . . . is being abolished" to be succeeded by an "integrated" regiment in which "Negroes and whites will fight shoulder to shoulder."

"Defense sources predicted," the item continued, "that segregation will be abolished throughout the entire army in the not too distant future."

Many white readers of the UP dispatch from Washington probably took the report at face value, but most Negroes, taught by long experience with such official pronouncements to examine them with suspicion, were inclined to analyze the report more carefully.

In the first place, disbanding the 24th Infantry Regiment does not mean an end to segregation, as colored soldiers who served in other units can testify. Army segregation and discrimination takes many other forms: Negroes in so-called mixed units are segregated in smaller units; assigned dirtier, more difficult, or more dangerous tasks; discriminated against in advancement, privileges, and recreational facilities. Negro officers are shunted into assignments that do not include whites under their command.

Secondly, the order applies only to Korea and the Far East, not to Europe or the United States — and then it was issued only after the cease-fire and peace negotiations had begun.

Facts About Discrimination

For a detailed account of the widespread discrimination which is maintained in the army it is only necessary to refer to the series of articles on conditions in army camps in the United States currently appearing in several of the leading Negro newspapers. Under the banner headline "Fort Lee Worst," The Afro-American last week published a report by James L. Hicks, correspondent for the Negro Newspaper Publishers Association, on Jim Crow at Fort Lee, Va.

"Lt. Lee's commanding officer, Gen. R. C. L. Graham, uses age-old 'divide-and-rule' technique" according to Hicks "in brazen defiance of President Truman's orders."

"Yes men's" council members (Negro) have special privileges, often approve jim crow regulations.

"Every phase of activity is segregated including officers' clubs, swimming pools; half million dollar club for whites is used mainly by white civilians.

"Taxpayers' money — \$60,000 — now being used to build special club for use by the posts' 42 colored officers."

The Pittsburgh Courier July 21 printed as the 16th in a series by Collins C. George, a front-page story headed "Bias Increasing at Fort Lewis."

"Like the progress of an insidious disease," George reported, "jim crowism seems to be creeping over Fort Lewis (Wash.) which apparently at one time was as nearly free of racial discrimination as any of the U.S. Army camps, and still remains one of the better ones."

"Within recent weeks nearly every Negro unit at the fort has been transferred to the 'North Fort,' a temporary area separated from the main post. Post authorities deny that this is an attempt at jim crow, but it would be difficult to convince any of the men that the concentration of Negro troops in one area was purely accidental."

In view of these facts, it is clear that the disbanding of the all-Negro 24th Infantry Regiment, while a welcome event, is certainly not motivated by a change in the basic jim crow policy of the government. Instead, the 1952 elections and the complete loss of faith in "the President's civil rights program" is the explanation of the Administration's attempt to rebuild its political fences with the Negro masses.

But the Negro vote will not be bought that cheaply. Closing down the 24th Infantry is no substitute for ending jim crow in the army. The political "yes-men" among the Negro leaders who say that it is, or who try to convince the voters that the capitalist parties ever will abolish segregation and discrimination are a most serious barrier to the advancement of the Negro people, and should be eliminated from their self-appointed positions as leaders.



CLYDE TURNER