

War Costs Soar, Point to Raging Inflation in '51

By Joseph Keller

Most people don't realize it, but we are sitting on an active inflationary volcano that is expected to erupt by next spring. When it explodes, the American standard of living — such as it is — is going to be wrecked.

Present retail prices don't tell the tale, although everyone knows they've gone up plenty since the start of the Korea war. The big explosion will take place when retail stocks bought last spring are exhausted and the new wholesale prices are passed on to the retail buyers.

Some idea of what consumer prices are going to be like can be gleaned from the facts about the increases in military procurement costs revealed by Undersecretary for Air John McCone to the House Armed Services Committee in Washington on Oct. 3.

As of the beginning of September — the survey does not show the latest price hikes — crude rubber had soared 128.9%; fuel oil 54.5%; Philadelphia scrap steel, 52.1%; copper, 23.6%; coffee, 23.3%; lumber, 28.7%; tin, 32.9%; lead, 33.3%; and cotton print cloth, 42.9%. In many instances according to the Department of Defense survey on which McCone's report was based, wool, cotton and food items have more than doubled.

Price increases to the air forces, McCone said, have added \$360 million to the costs of the new aircraft program, equivalent to 750 F-86 jet fighter planes. That's how many less planes can now be bought with the funds appropriated only last month by Congress.

NO LIMIT ON PROFITS

Congress passed a law last month which included a section that could send a worker to jail for 10 years for violation of a safety rule in a "defense plant." This is called "sabotage." But there is nothing in the laws about penalties for the war profiteers, including all the biggest corporations in the country, who have forced up prices to the point where they are "destroying (fighter planes)" faster than enemy action or sabotage could have done," as the Scripps-Howard press stated.

What is important to keep in mind, however, is that the cost of the gigantic military program is mounting so fast that a sizeable part of the \$18 billion of addi-

(Continued on page 4)

WHY IS DUBOIS SILENT ON AID TO YUGOSLAVIA?

NEW YORK, Oct. 11—Joseph Hansen, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Senator from N. Y., today repeated his challenge to Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, American Labor Party

machine that runs the American Labor Party.

"The Stalinists do not hesitate to call Yugoslavia 'fascist.' Presumably, if you were to speak out in behalf of Yugoslavia that would make you a 'fascist' too despite all you have said against the war-mongers in America. It is because you would find such an epithet on the lips of a Stalinist hack unpleasant that you think it better to maintain your silence on aid to Yugoslavia?"

"Of course, there is also the possibility the Stalinists have you so well surrounded that you did not get my previous letter. Just in case, I am sending you a copy of it in the hope that this one gets through the iron curtain."

Instead of 1,000,000 tons, the loss of corn is now put at 2,000,000 tons. This is on top of severe damage to the wheat crop. Only 30% of the potato crop can be counted on and huge losses in vegetables are involved in the disaster. The need for substantial aid is obviously urgent.

However, both Moscow and Washington are taking advantage of the plight of the Yugoslav people to try to wring concessions from the Tito regime.

Hansen declared that Yugoslavia has "turned away from capitalism and its destructive wars and set out on the road to socialism which is the only road to peace."

"How many such examples are there in the world today?" he asked DuBois. "As a candidate given to talking against war and its danger, it would seem not only reasonable but your elementary duty to call attention to the peaceful course taken by Yugoslavia and to insist with all your powers on sending aid to these heroic people."

THERE'S THE RUB

"However, Yugoslavia has maintained her independence against Moscow as well as Washington. There's the rub for the Stalinist

United Mine Workers and the AFL International Typographical Union, the union officials decided to "live with" the Taft-Hartley Act.

This complacent and compliant act not only helped to plant the T-H bomb under the American labor movement, it emboldened political reaction to construct the McCarran-Kilgore bomb and set it under the very foundations of America's democratic institutions.

If the full explosive power of the Taft-Hartley Act has not yet been released, it's not because those who made it don't want or intend to do so or that its destructive potential has been mis-calculated.

What has prevented the ruling class from doing what is possible with the Taft-Hartley Act has been the formidable resistance put up by such unions as the miners and typographical workers. In their last strike, the miners openly defied two Taft-Hartley injunctions, smashed

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Grace Carlson Wins Fight to Get on Ballot

JIM-CROW BRASS HATS CONDEMN NEGRO OFFICER TO DEATH AS 'EXAMPLE'

By Clyde Turner

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 12—Hennepin County Auditor Fitzsimmons today announced that Grace Carlson had won the right to appear on the ballot as the SWP candidate for Congress from the 5th District.

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 9—Confident supporters of the candidacy of Grace Carlson for Congress, 5th Minnesota District, filed 1,379 signatures in the County Auditor's office Saturday. Only 500 signatures are required on a petition for nomination as a representative in Congress.

Press reports announcing the filing quoted the Socialist Workers Party candidate as saying that if her petition is not accepted, she will seek a writ of mandamus to require Robert Fitzsimmons, the County Auditor, to show cause why the name of Grace Carlson should not appear on the ballot.

On Sept. 28, Fitzsimmons ruled that only 190 of the 690 signatures submitted that day were "registered" voters. As reported in last week's *Militant*, an investigation by an SWP committee revealed that the so-called "check" of signatures had been inadequate.

Despite the difficulties thrown in the way of obtaining a place on the ballot for the Socialist Workers Party, campaign workers are going ahead with plans to publicize the party's election platform. Yesterday, 1,000 copies of a special Minnesota Election Edition of *The Militant* carrying Grace Carlson's picture, biography and program were sold and given away here in a "doorbell distribution." Distributors reported a very friendly response.

SWP Candidate for U. S. Senator from Pennsylvania

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 8—Only the intervention of the aroused American people can forestall the U. S. Army's execution of 1st Lt. Leon A. Gilbert of York, Pa., Negro officer condemned to death by an Army court martial board in Korea Sept. 6.

The 24th Infantry Regiment combat officer knows this, and has written the facts about his victimization, suppressed by Army censors at the time of the court martial, to his wife urging her to publicize them because he believes "the more the public knows concerning my case, the better it will be."

The charge on which Lt. Gilbert was railroaded was that on July 31 he refused to advance with his command of twelve men, in violation of Article of War 75.

The facts, as reported by the victim himself in a letter to his wife which was published in the Oct. 7 *Pittsburgh Courier*, are as follows:

THE FACTS

"1. I was without sleep for six days and nights and was suffering with dysentery. I was shaken up beyond being able to control myself at the time.

"2. I never left my position until I was ordered to report to the colonel by Major Donoho.

"3. The outpost line was tactically useless because the enemy had penetrated between it and our main line of resistance.

"4. The colonel did not know the situation of Company 'A' on the outpost line and never asked me.

"5. I had at no time during this incident withdrawn behind the main line or even on it. All

this happened in front of our main line.

"6. I was not given a second chance to go up, but ordered to the rear. Not wanting to disobey this order I then went.

"7. It was not my platoon to (Continued on Page 2)

L. A. Thought-Control Law Ruled Unconstitutional in First Test

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 8—In its first court test, the recently passed Los Angeles County thought-control, anti-Communist ordinance was declared unconstitutional.

Justice of the Peace Myer B. Marion in Belvedere Township Court yesterday declared that the measure violates the basic guarantees in the 1st and 14th Amendments to the Federal Constitution and abrogates due process of law. He added that its wording is so broad and capable of such different interpretations as not to inform the man of ordinary intelligence of the nature of the prohibited act.

County authorities have already indicated they will appeal the verdict to the Superior Court.

Judge Marion ordered the first victim of the ordinance, Henry Steinberg, legislative director of the Communist Party in the county, released and his bail exonerated.

The verdict declared: "The ordinance is defective because it violates basic constitutional privileges guaranteed to the individual by the 1st and 14th Amendments to the United States Constitution."

"It is first of all a violation of the right of freedom of speech, freedom of press and freedom of assembly. The power of the state in the exercise of its police power to curb speech advocating the overthrow of the government by force and violence is unquestioned. And if the ordinance were to reach unerringly only those against which it is obviously aimed there would be no question of its constitutionality on this ground. But it encompasses people beyond the pale of its professed objectives."

How to Stop Law from Blasting Our Rights

By Art Preis

Some people — too many, in fact — take the McCarran-Kilgore police-state law complacently. They say it won't be vigorously enforced and that it will be possible to "live with" this law. To justify this belief, they even cite the experience, so far, under the Taft-Hartley Act.

"This law will be just like Taft-Hartley," they say. "You fellows shouted about how bad Taft-Hartley would be and how it would cripple and destroy the unions. The unions are still here, aren't they? T-H hasn't hurt us."

This kind of argument reminds us of what the old watchman at a Bucyrus, Ohio, steel mill told Senator Taft recently. "I guess you're a CIO member," Taft said to the worker. "Sure," the old man replied, "been one since 1936." The Senator continued, "The Taft-Hartley law hasn't hurt you so far, has it?" "No," said the old worker, "the Taft-

United Mine Workers and the AFL International Typographical Union, the union officials decided to "live with" the Taft-Hartley Act.

This complacent and compliant act not only helped to plant the T-H bomb under the American labor movement, it emboldened political reaction to construct the McCarran-Kilgore bomb and set it under the very foundations of America's democratic institutions.

If the full explosive power of the Taft-Hartley Act has not yet been released, it's not because those who made it don't want or intend to do so or that its destructive potential has been mis-calculated.

What has prevented the ruling class from doing what is possible with the Taft-Hartley Act has been the formidable resistance put up by such unions as the miners and typographical workers.

In their last strike, the miners openly defied two Taft-Hartley injunctions, smashed

them, and forced the government to retreat. One big strike after another — steel, auto, electrical equipment — has made the government and employers cautious and hesitant about enforcing Taft-Hartley to the maximum.

They are waiting until the unions are weaker, demoralized and drained of militancy. Then — WHAM! — they're going to let loose the full force of Taft-Hartley.

FEELING THEIR WAY

That's the way it is with the new police-state law. Right now they're feeling their way with it, testing the resistance. If they come up against some stiff opposition of the type the miners gave Taft-Hartley, they'll take it easy, use the McCarran law more cautiously.

It's not safe to say of either of these laws, "Well, it hasn't hurt me yet." That's the kind of attitude the police-statists want to cultivate in the workers. Lull and disarm the people, get them to relax their opposition and then, when they're least ready — let 'em have it!

The only real safety against the McCarran-Kilgore and Taft-Hartley laws — really companion laws designed and put over by the mortal enemies of organized labor — is in smashing them altogether. These laws have to be resisted tooth and nail by the organized mass might of the people, by a relentless and uncompromising struggle.

Mass action by the workers is all that has prevented the Taft-Hartley law from being totally enforced and destroying the labor movement. Had that action been united and on a large enough scale, the Taft-Hartley law would no longer be on the books. The greater the mass resistance to the McCarran-Kilgore law, the less likely is it to be enforced.

And if the resistance is great enough, the law will be wiped off the books and its perpetrators off the political map.

This strike is being waged in support of the workers' demands for a bonus of three months' wages including the dearness allowance and recognition of the Mill Mazdoor Sabha as the representative union of the textile workers.

Since 1942 the textile workers have received an annual bonus. Although the principle of bonus calculation advocated by the union was not accepted, the amount of the bonus was sufficient to keep the workers from striking. This year, however, the Industrial Court not only rejected the just principle of bonus computation, but awarded a bonus equal to only two months' basic wages and excluded 10,000 from even these meager benefits.

The strikers are demanding recognition of the Mill Mazdoor Sabha as sole collective bargaining agent of the Bombay textile workers, a status which the government, under the Bombay Industrial Relations Act, has conferred on the Congress-sponsored Rashtriya Mill Mazdoor Sangh. The workers' case was supposed to have been argued by the RMMAS at hearings preceding the (Continued on page 2)

Stalin Leaves North Koreans In the Lurch

Friction Between Moscow and Pyongyang Revealed by Former Soviet Army Officer

By Joseph Hansen

SWP Candidate for U. S. Senator from New York

When the U.S. armed forces were "pressed into a small beachhead" in South Korea, "relatively little help to the Korean Communists" from either China or Russia "would have meant a Dunkerque for General MacArthur." This view, expressed by

questionably have been different if the North Koreans had possessed adequate air and amphibious forces. Why did Moscow fail to

provide the North Koreans with these forces, especially air power, in advance?

The author continues: "Colonel Zurov posed the question of the necessity of creating a strong air force as an essential of any modern war. Kubanov, to close the discussion, told him that the matter had been settled elsewhere."

This indicates that in the Soviet mission responsible military leaders recognized the need to construct amphibious and air forces to give the North Koreans fully modern army.

The Moscow decision ruling out an air force was made against the opposition of the representatives of North Korea. "Kubanov, later told me: 'Because of political considerations, we cannot organize a Korean air force that will correspond in importance to the armor of the future army. The representative of the Central Committee of the Korean Communist Party had tried to obtain a sufficient air force from the authoritative body — the Politburo — was clear: We must act swiftly as possible and devote ourselves to creating an army."

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Report from Europe

German Political Parties and Remilitarization

By Ernest Germain

The problem of the remilitarization of Germany today dominates the inter-imperialist discussions. The necessity of such a remilitarization in the frame-work of building up the military power of capitalist Europe seems obvious from the bourgeois point of view. But the ways and means of this remilitarization pose again, under new conditions, the old problem of the balance of power on the European continent.

Whatever may be the various schemes for "integrating" the capitalist armies of Europe into a single striking force, each state is considering this problem from a narrow "national" viewpoint, and is forced to do so, lest it lose its small margin of survival in the world market to the benefit of a competitor. The attitude of American imperialism of Britain, France and the Benelux powers toward the problem of German remilitarization does not indicate so much what these countries have at present in common, as it demonstrates the sharp rivalries and contradictions which continue to exist between their respective ruling classes.

At least of equal interest is the way in which the different German political parties reacted to the problem of remilitarization. These various reactions are a good barometer of the views of the various layers of German society as to the political future of their country, and they show at the same time what powerful forces are at work to undermine the present one-sided relationship between the "victorious" powers of World War II and the "vanquished" German bourgeoisie.

A big controversy has been going on inside Germany between the government and the opposition ever since the problem of remilitarization was squarely put before German public opinion by the projects of the Western occupation forces. This controversy, which is mainly but not exclusively ascribed to Doctor Adenauer's reactionary governmental Christian Social Union (CDU) and Kurt Schumacher's Social Democracy, is by no means a controversy on the necessity of remilitarization. On the contrary, both government and opposition express the same desire to build up, with utmost speed and efficiency, a military force capable of checking a "threatening Russian attack." And this unanimity only expresses the unbounded fear of a Russian occupation under which all shades of bourgeois and petty-bourgeois opinion are living today in Western Germany.

THREE ATTITUDES

The differences lie elsewhere. They lie in the relationship of Germany towards the Western imperialist powers as it will develop out of the remilitarization plans. Here three different shades of opinion can be distinguished: The main bulk of the Rhineland

bourgeoisie, which is backing the government and which is today in close relation with the Catholic Church, the inner ruling power of Federal Germany, is for passively following the lead of Washington. Its blueprint for remilitarization calls for a "security force" which is exactly as big as American imperialism is for the time being willing to grant its new German partner.

This shows that decisive circles of the German bourgeoisie have a realistic enough estimation of the present relationship of forces inside their own country as well as on the European theatre of the "cold war," not to endeavor any playing around with "independent policies," which could only land it under the heels of both Wall Street and the Kremlin. To be a "loyal servant" of American imperialism and to win more and more concessions and margins for independent action only through the repeated affirmation of that loyalty—that's what Mr. Adenauer's foreign policy amounts to.

SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LINE

The remilitarization policy of the Social Democratic Party, supported significantly by some of the most reactionary parliamentary circles at Bonn, asks for a stronger fighting force—in fact a real army and not a "security force"—a close "integration" with the military apparatus of Great Britain and France, a greater amount of independence from the American managers of the world imperialist camp, and a greater amount of autonomy for Germany in general.

In other words, the German Social Democratic leaders say to the Western powers that they are quite willing to fight for the imperialist camp, but that they would like to fight under their own command and with the "right" to decide "independently" on their participation in that fight (which is guaranteed by their entire method of reasoning right from the start). They are only trying to get bigger and quicker concessions out of the occupation forces by exploiting more cunningly the inter-imperialist contradictions, especially British-American rivalry.

As a matter of fact, Schumacher's main political report at the annual Congress of the German Social Democratic Party, held in Hamburg at the end of May, was bluntly centered around this idea. At that time Schumacher thought it wise to declare that his party would accept remilitarization only under the condition that Germany was granted the right of independent foreign policy. Since then this stand has been reversed and today Schumacher only tries to bring a bigger army figure out of the Western allies an attempt which in the long run will be crowned by success.

But the big industrial revival of the past year is rapidly bring-

ing a new and formidable force on the German political scene: the old masters of the Ruhr coal and steel industry who are looking for the moment to different parties and groups to defend their specific point of view, without definitely choosing any one among them. These circles and their mouthpieces in the first place the former Wehrmacht generals grouped in an organization called "Die Bruderschaft"—come out for a traditional German policy of trying to utilize the contradictions between the Western powers and Russia to get concessions from both sides—without committing themselves in advance to any of the blocs.

These circles naturally favor an army as big as possible—thereby

supporting the Social Democratic claim for a "bigger" force—while being quite willing to withdraw formally behind vague terminology like "security force" or "protective police" in order not to unduly alarm French public opinion. They stand above all on the principle that every German force should be commanded by German officers—in fact they want to find jobs again after five years of forced unemployment. And they come out openly for the idea that Germany should only line itself up with the Western allies in case it receives big "compensation"; otherwise it would try to repeat the "coup" of Rappallo or the Ribbentrop-Molotov deal of August 1939.

This policy of "not provoking"

the Russians while trying to force the hands of the Western imperialists toward a stepped-up remilitarization of the country has found advocates in the very government itself, where the Minister of the Interior, Mr. Heinemann, clashed with Premier Adenauer on this question, while receiving somewhat reserved support of the Social Democrats for at least part of his proposals.

Not the least important of the reasons why the heavy industry circles try to follow a policy of a "middle course" between the two big power blocs is their vital interest in a development of trade with the Soviet bureaucracy's "sphere of influence." This in turn means that many of these circles retain friendly relations with in-

situations and individuals in Eastern Germany, which makes them "suspect" in the eyes of the panic-stricken red-baiters at Bonn. Premier Adenauer openly motivated his refusal to have his confidential remilitarization memorandum to the Western Allies made known to his own Minister of the Interior, by the fact that high ranking functionaries of that ministry are in suspicious contacts with Eastern Germany.

GOVERNMENT ORIENTATION

Social Democratic and heavy industry circles have at the same time, although with different arguments, been accusing the government of "neglecting" the problems of German reunification. Here again the position of Adenauer is explained by narrow provincial interests—the Rhineland bourgeoisie looks toward the West, and not toward the Eastern German provinces for its markets and sources of raw materials—and by some sober realism: since the Americans have accepted for the time being the division of Germany as a settled fact, Adenauer understands quite well that there is no force in Germany which could do away with that fault without foreign support of some kind.

We find in this political orientation an interesting reflection of an old tendency of the Catholic Church to consider the present division of Germany as more or less definitive—it is precisely this division which establishes its supremacy in the Federal Republic!—while the heavy industry barons of the Ruhr and the Protestant churches supported by them have an evidently bigger interest in the inhabitants of the Soviet zone of occupation, which are not only their traditional clients but also their traditional support.

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Monday, October 16, 1950



"For a whole series of stages, the bourgeoisie entrenched its power under the form of parliamentary democracy. Even then, not peacefully and not voluntarily... But precisely with the (first world) war there begins the distinct decline of capitalism and above all, of its democratic form of domination. It is now no longer a matter of new reforms and alms, but of cutting down and abolishing the old ones. Therewith the bourgeoisie comes into conflict not only with the institutions of proletarian democracy (trade unions and political parties) but also with parliamentary democracy, within the framework of which arose the labor organizations."

— Leon Trotsky, *Fascism, What It Is, How to Fight It.*

TROTSKY

LENIN

Best Congress Since the 80th

"Best U.S. Congress Since 1938 Reversed Reactionary Trend" is the startling headline that greeted us in the Sept. 29 AFL Weekly News Service. We read on to see if it wasn't a gag. It wasn't.

In all seriousness the AFL leaders credit the 81st Congress with "completely reversing the reactionary trend" because "this was the first Congress in 12 years to broaden New Deal legislation."

It's true this Congress, the Republicans as well as Democrats, did like old age pension benefits up to the purchasing level they were at back in 1939 before war inflation had cut them in half. But now Truman and Congress have doubled the war budget which has set off a bigger inflation and already sliced the new benefits 15% in purchasing power.

Another thing the AFL leaders point to is the new housing program. They don't mention that Truman's undeclared war on Korea has shot the housing program, inadequate as it is, to pieces.

Did knifing of the FEPC bill "completely reverse" the reactionary trend? The McCarran-Kilgore law to wipe out

the Bill of Rights? The monstrous militarization program? The new "soak the poor, protect the rich" tax law? If these indicate even a slight reversal of the reactionary trend, then Hitler's Nuremberg Laws deserve to stand side by side with the Declaration of Independence.

If this is the "best" Congress in twelve years, it just goes to show how foul were the preceding Congresses, all but one Democratic-controlled.

Seeking a clincher to its argument, the AFL paper concludes that, after all, even if this Congress did retain the Taft-Hartley law, "neither did the Taft-Hartleyites make the law more stringent."

The AFL leaders' attempts to find some consolation in this Congress reminds us of poor Mrs. Jones. Her whole life was a misery. Her drunken husband beat her up every day. Her daughter was ruined by a traveling man. She gasped with asthma and could hardly walk with arthritis. And there was an eviction order against her. "Mrs. Jones," her pastor asked in commiseration, "isn't there some solace you get out of life?" "Well," she sighed after some thought, "there's always my virtues."

Save Lt. Gilbert's Life!

As more and more facts come out about the court-martial and death sentence imposed by an all-white officers court in Korea on 1st Lt. Leon A. Gilbert, Jr., it is clearer than ever that his only "crime" is being a Negro, with an impeccable combat record in World War II, who after six days leading shock troops under fire tried to save his men when a superior officer senselessly ordered them to advance into certain death.

The whole affair smells to high heaven of an attempted lynching under cover of formal Army regulations and procedure. It appears that the white brass were seeking to "make an example" of someone to impress the troops with the need for instant and unquestioning obedience to command.

They were no doubt delighted that the Gilbert incident gave them an opportunity to emphasize their kind of discipline and particularly because the victim is a Negro and a courageous and model soldier. The all-Negro regiment to which Gilbert was attached has received "too

much" publicity, in the opinion of the white brass, because it has been in the forefront of battle and in the line longer, without rest or leave, than any other troops.

By choosing Gilbert as an "example," some of the white command undoubtedly were thinking of discrediting the performance of the Negro soldiers. It would serve as another "argument" for opposing integration of Negroes into the white units and for maintaining Jim Crow segregation.

See, they would say, the Negroes won't take orders; they can't stand up under fire and if we mix them with whites, they'll demoralize the other units.

We repeat: This smacks of a brutal lynching attempt. Every American with an ounce of decency is duty-bound to protest it with utmost indignation. It is above all the duty of the labor movement — ever the people's bulwark against injustice — to immediately mobilize the most powerful protest movement possible and demand that Truman give Lt. Gilbert complete and unconditional exoneration and release.

planes, especially since there is no lack of pilots. There were close to 500 in the Chinese Army."

These "reasons" for not providing the North Koreans with an air force sound like a sop to the general curiosity of officers like Kanov. An attack by the North Koreans on Japan is obviously fantastic. They were motivated politically, as all evidence shows, by the desire to unify their country and win freedom from the oppressive Syngman Rhee puppet regime.

WHAT THEY FEARED

What Moscow feared was the creation of a Korea able to achieve independence from the Kremlin as well as Washington. That is the real meaning of not acting "the sorcerer's apprentice" who set in motion forces he could not control and which threatened to drown him. The Politbureau, obviously thinking of Yugoslavia, decided to dole out only sufficient arms to win against Syngman Rhee but not enough to create a regime strong enough to stand up against Stalinist totalitarianism.

Relations between Moscow and the North Koreans were already not entirely smooth, it appears. Upon arrival of the Soviet mission in Korea, Kanov found that a "Moscow" bureaucrat, Mikhailov, was "greatly aroused against" the North Koreans. Among other items, it seems the Koreans had "tried by every means to cheat us of several hundred cars."

"They're all thieves and liars," had told our Colonel Miaskov."

Kanov does not reveal what price the Koreans were forced to pay for such things as railroad cars which they got from the USSR, but recalling the stiff prices Stalin charged the Spanish loyalists during the civil war in Spain for poor and inadequate equipment, and visualizing how a Korean patriot would seek to bypass Stalin's watchdogs at the cash register, we can well understand why Mikhailov was "greatly aroused."

COOL WELCOME

The military mission did not meet with a warm welcome. Great reserve was displayed by the North Korean government representatives. Apparently they resented Moscow's unilateral decisions and were worried about the grave weaknesses inherent in an army lacking both air and amphibious forces.

At Pyongyang, the capitol of North Korea, the mission met a delegation of high civil servants, representatives of the trade unions, the Communist Party and the municipality. Khon Men Khi, vice-president of the Council and War Minister, "warmly thanked the Soviet government and Generalissimo Stalin for sending our mission to North Korea." Then "the speaker rather sharply criticized our plan, about the main outlines of which the representa-

tives of North Korea in Moscow had advised him."

North Korean criticisms of Moscow's military plans, it appears, were shared by high-ranking Chinese Stalinists, for Khon Men Khi "declared at once that his government, which was in close contact with the Chinese revolutionary war committee, headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, had worked out with General Chu Teh a plan for reorganizing the army. This plan provided for a very powerful air force, composed of four wings each of 250 modern planes. Of the total, 750 would be fighters and 250 medium bombers."

While recognizing that Russia, needing planes itself, could not give Korea a sufficient number, he asserted that Korea could quite well obtain planes from Sweden and Switzerland, or from Czechoslovakia, with which his government was negotiating a trade agreement. Moreover, General Chu Teh had proposed to give Korea some 300 planes from the Kalgan reserve."

ON THE SPOT

This well-justified criticism with its proposal to obtain planes elsewhere put the Soviet military mission on the spot. They responded by insisting that nothing could be changed "without the formal consent of the Soviet government." And Shtikov, the Soviet Ambassador, put the heat on the Korean Foreign Minister, taking him aside to explain "that

there would be all sorts of difficulties if the prearranged plan were upset."

Kanov then mentions a conversation that casts a revealing light on Moscow's fear of the development of "Trotskyism" in Korea — "Trotskyism" in the Kremlin's dictionary being any mood, trend or force whatever toward independence from the Stalinist bureaucracy whether it is consciously felt and expressed or simply inherent in the situation.

TROTSKYITES

"Colonel Miaskov, who was seated next to me, said in a low voice, 'We've got to be diplomatic with these people, but our orders are definite... Kim Il Sung him Khi, and many others are old Trotskyites, like Mao Tse-tung and Chu Teh, and like Tito too. We can't reject their demands categorically, but we must drag things out and wear them down.'

Kanov asked Miaskov about the possibility of the North Koreans getting planes elsewhere. "No danger of that," Miaskov responded. "Prague will give them nothing without our consent. To buy in Switzerland or Sweden, they would need foreign exchange, which they haven't got. As for the planes in Kalgan, it's our Comrade Klonin who controls them, not Chu Teh."

The Koreans, nevertheless, persisted in demanding planes. "Our

generals proposed several times to adjourn the discussion of air power, but the Koreans would not agree. Each side held firmly to its position, repeating the same arguments."

General Kubanov finally rose from his seat to end the embarrassing situation by adjourning the meeting. "The plan approved in Moscow will remain the basis for our work," Kubanov said. "We shall also take into account, as far as possible, the proposals of Comrade Khon Men Khi."

But the Korean spokesman "was not yet beaten. He refused to sign the minutes."

Finally, the Soviet representatives agreed to another meeting "to settle the air force question definitely."

PRESSURE UNSUCCESSFUL

The Korean Stalinists appeared fairly well united in their dissatisfaction with Moscow. Kim Il Sung, head of the Korean government, continued the pressure through other channels for an air force. However, he did not succeed and the second meeting did not last long.

Kim Il Sung "had talked directly with Molotov, and understood that resistance was futile. Molotov had been categorical. He promised only that a group of 150 planes would be readied and put at the disposition of the Korean command. This figure had been planned from the beginning, but had not previously been an-

ounced, so that it looked as if we were giving the Koreans some satisfaction."

Kanov's eyewitness account thus lifts a corner of the veil on relations between Moscow, the Koreans and the Chinese Stalinists. His articles ring true in the main, for what he reveals corresponds with Moscow's record in similar situations.

The Kremlin tries to head revolutionary struggles to use them as small change in its reactionary foreign dealings. It tries to restrain such struggles, to keep them under strict control. When the mass pressure grows great, Moscow will make concessions to avoid loss of leadership but such concessions are always of a partial, miserly character.

It may well have been in North Korea that the Kremlin felt it would have lost control of the independence movement if it had offered too strong opposition to local initiative. In fact Moscow may have felt forced to go along with its efforts to unite Korea.

From Stalin's viewpoint a Korean defeat is a lesser evil than establishment of a truly independent Korea which could help give new dynamism to revolutionary socialism and start new contingents down the road taken by the Yugoslavs.

Thus Stalin helped defeat the North Koreans by denying them adequate aid and shares with American imperialism the guilt for the terrible setbacks dealt the Korean movement for independence.

This conclusion is bound to be drawn among all politically advanced working people as the facts become known. Once again Stalinism stands exposed as counter-revolutionary to the core despite any incidental help it may give out of reactionary calculations to a progressive struggle. Of all roles, Stalin does not want to play that of a "sorcerer's apprentice" conjuring up revolutionary independence from Moscow.

Official Policies Scored at Laborite Parley

we naturally turn in anger against whomever we believe to be the cause of that compulsion. But we have no animosity against Russia and the Russian people. All we ask is to be left in peace to complete our task — as we demand that they should be left in peace in 1947."

Morrison, known to be an advocate of going slow on further nationalizations, exclaimed: "We may be asked specifically whether cement, sugar, and industrial assurance are dropped. The answer to that is No! (Loud cheers)." Even Foreign Minister Ernest Bevin was very militant — though by proxy. He is quoted as saying, "The great labor movement of the AFL and the CIO and their political committees would bring down any government in the United States that set out on a path of aggression." Naturally, the "left wing" Minister of Health, Aneurin Bevan, caught the mood of the conference best of all the current leaders, and he showed it by stressing the "concessions" they had been "compelled" to make to the capitalists up to the present.

RANKS DISSATISFIED

The whole tenor of the discussion from the floor was indeed to the effect that the rank and file was dissatisfied with the lack of progress toward socialism and disappointed in the non-socialist policies of the government. On the very first day, the presentation of the report of the National Executive Committee was followed by a barrage. H. Ratner (East Salford), a delegate from

an industrial section representing a party body of 4,000 members, moved rejection of a statement on Korea. The London Times paraphrased his remarks — which were also the subject of vicious editorial comment in the N. Y. Daily News — as follows:

"The divisional Labor Party (East Salford) thought that intervention in Korea was an attempt to maintain a foothold for imperialism in Asia and to impose upon the Korean people a regime which they had rejected in the elections last May. The Asian peoples would not tolerate imperialist rule, nor that of native stooges. The Korean episode could not be dismissed as a mere Communist plot directed from Moscow. Although everyone knew that Russia used genuine popular movements to suit her own diplomatic ends, this was no excuse for the Labor Party to ally itself with the reactionary forces of American capitalism."

Another delegate, A. H. Upton (Tonbridge), seconded the motion with a similar speech, but before further discussion could get underway, Secretary Morgan Phillips called for a cessation of the debate in view of the special point on foreign policy later on the agenda and the motion was lost.

Delegate G. Healy (Streatham) protested against the atmosphere of witch-hunt and persecution of party members who expressed opinions that on some points might coincide with those of people termed fellow-travelers. The secretary assured the conference that this matter was getting consideration.

A number of questions from the floor asked whether aid was forthcoming to Yugoslavia, in view of the blockade by the Cominform countries. Replying for the leadership, Hugh Dalton said that the government was "anxious to have most friendly and helpful relations" with Yugoslavia, and had the same attitude toward China.

MANAGEMENT DEBATE

The delegates then launched an attack upon the management of the nationalized industries by the government. R. Openshaw, a member of the new General Council of the Trade Union Congress, speaking for his own powerful Amalgamated Engineering Union, proposed a resolution calling upon the government "to cease re-employment in nationalized industries of former owners of units unless they were known to be favorably disposed to the new order; to ensure that at least half of the members of boards were working class representatives elected by the workers; to fix salaries of executives more consistent with a socialist economy; and to curtail administrative expenses."

One delegate after another rose to support this resolution and to implement it with other motions, including demands that compensation to former owners be cut in half. When Arthur Deakin of the Transport and General Workers Union got up to oppose these resolutions he was greeted with jeers. On the vote, however, the bloc ballots cast by his union and those allied with him in the right wing defeated the resolution 2,727,000.

Shocked by the result, Bullock reversed himself and ruled that a separate vote on the report was required. The vote showed the report was defeated by 3,898,000 to 3,521,000, an even bigger setback for the effort to save face for the leadership.

Later, on a resolution calling for equal pay for equal work for women, the leadership was swamped 4,490,000 to 2,367,000 — almost two to one. Of the major reports, only the one on Public Ownership, which was couched in vague and legalistic language hiding its reactionary intent from the delegates, got unanimous approval for the General Council.

Signs of rank and file pressure were discernible in many other

debate took place when Bevin returned to England from the Foreign Ministers' meeting in New York. Speaking on resolution from the floor, which considerably toned down militant anti-war sentiments expressed in 39 different resolutions from local organizations, delegates expressed the fear that "rearmament could not prevent war" but the contrary; said that the people they represented were perturbed by the growing tension and the "complete tie-up" with American militarism; and, like Scottish MP Emrys Hughes, warned the leaders that "by next year they would find a revolt among the rank and file after the economic consequences of rearmament."

The whole prestige of Bevin and the solid support of the trade union bloc behind him were required to defeat this resolution. Nevertheless it mustered 881,000 votes, mainly from the local branches of the party, against the 4,861,000 rolled up by the leadership. The whole discussion was a disquieting sign for the leaders — the rank and file's socialist convictions were beginning to penetrate on foreign policy even as they were making themselves felt much more strongly on domestic policy.

BRITISH UNIONISTS FORCE CHANGE ON PAY FREEZE

The recent conference of the British Trades Union Congress was the nearest thing to an upheaval that the traditionally slow-moving British labor movement has

experienced in a long time. Not only did the delegates upset the move on collusion on steel between the capitalists and right wing union leaders, but the basic for a revolutionary policy was put forward, although as yet unsuccessfully, by some of the biggest unions in the country.

The TUC General Council maneuvered on every important issue, but the tide was too strong for these experienced fakers. On the wage-price-profit issue, the resolution presented from the floor to lift the wage freeze was declared by chairman Hugh Bullock to be an amendment to the Council's Report on Wages and the Economic Situation — a vote for the resolution would be considered a vote against the report, he ruled, in an effort to evoke authority. But the resolution carried by 3,949,000 against 3,727,000.

Shocked by the result, Bullock reversed himself and ruled that a separate vote on the report was required. The vote showed the report was defeated by 3,898,000 to 3,521,000, an even bigger setback for the effort to save face for the leadership.

"As a step towards an equality of sacrifice, Congress demands: (a) The suspension of interest payments on compensation in Nationalized Industries, except in needy cases to be determined by Committees established by the Government and Trade Union Committees.

"(c) The pressing forward of the Extension of State Ownership of all the basic industries, and the elaboration of a plan of production based on the needs of the people, and not on the needs of the Capitalist market."

Such resolutions incorporate the essential elements of a transitional program toward revolutionary power in the economic field. The sentiment they express cannot fail to penetrate into the field of foreign policy and to face British labor with the task of selecting a new revolutionary leadership.

In view of the elemental force of the Korean struggle for independence and its reflection in the attitude of its leaders even before setting out to unify the country, one can see Stalin not overly bothered at the crushing of the Koreans by American forces even though it means the serious weakening of the Soviet Union in the Far East. To the Kremlin, the Koreans are highly expendable.

From Stalin's viewpoint a Korean defeat is a lesser evil than establishment of a truly independent Korea which could help give new dynamism to revolutionary socialism and start new contingents down the road taken by the Yugoslavs.

Thus Stalin helped defeat the North Koreans by denying them

Prussianizing the U.S.

By George Breitman

With the enactment of the McCarran-Kilgore police-state law, it is clear that the structure of capitalist democracy has been seriously impaired and that the political life of the country has entered a new stage. The principal force in this change for the worse is the capitalist class, which plays a far different role today than it played in the 18th and 19th centuries. In those days it was willing to accept and in fact needed the support of the masses to consolidate its own rule against such competitors as the slaveholding class, and it performed progressive functions politically and economically.

But all that has changed since the growth of monopoly, the crisis of world capitalism and the drive of the American capitalist class to make a colony out of the rest of the world. Where in the past the capitalists at least tolerated the maintenance or extension of democratic liberties, today they are actively hostile to the Bill of Rights and aggressively assault its very foundations. This is something new in this country, and for that reason the closest parallels to what is happening here today won't be found in American history, but in European.

Although there is much that is Nazi-like in the spirit of the McCarran-Kilgore law, we reject the notion that its enactment represents the victory of American fascism. The experience of Europe teaches us that fascism is the naked dictatorship of finance capital, resting on a counter-revolutionary mass movement recruited especially from the desperate middle classes. Today there is no such mass movement in this country. The McCarran-Kilgore law is something imposed from above; it does not reflect the sentiments of large numbers of people; as yet, most Americans don't even know what is in the law.

This law greases the way for the growth of fascist tendencies, but fascism today is not a big power in American life. For one thing, the capitalist class has not yet felt the need for a Hitler, which is a costly proposition. Even more important, the working class has not yet suffered any decisive defeats and will have numerous chances to take over the leadership of the nation before fascism can make its bid.

A more precise understanding of what is happening to American democracy can be derived from an earlier phase of German history when the Prussian officer caste was in the saddle as the servant of German capitalism and the enemy

of the nation's liberties. Even many liberals recognize the fact that the last decade has seen the emergence of the American military caste into positions of real power in key governmental spheres. They demanded and got the peacetime draft; they are demanding and will probably get permanent conscription; they already have control over millions of youth and a major part of the federal budget; in the field of production, their demands have priority over those of the great mass of consumers; they decide who can and who cannot work in the most important industries; and their power continues to spread all the time. Unless checked, they will soon occupy a position comparable to the one held by the military caste in Prussia.

Capitalist militarism has little understanding, patience and use for democracy. To the brass hats it is a nuisance at best, a source of weakness and inefficiency that should be rooted out. He knows what he wants to do — make an arsenal and training camp out of the U.S. and a zone of occupation out of the rest of the globe — and he doesn't want to spend time explaining, arguing or defending his course. A soldier can't talk back when he is given an order; why should a worker have that privilege? Why not substitute the Articles of War for the Bill of Rights?

The McCarran-Kilgore law is the brass hat's dream. It is designed to do for politics what basic training is intended to achieve with the rookie — regimentation and intimidation. Under favorable circumstances and with the proper administration, it might prove to be just as effective as military discipline. Whether or not the brass hats actively favored the new law doesn't matter; if they had been asked to draw up an "anti-subversive" bill of their own, it would not have differed essentially from the one passed by Congress.

In this sense we can say that the new law is another and very advanced stage in the Prussianization of America. We think this term is helpful for purposes of action and orientation because it aids us to understand what the capitalist rulers have NOT yet achieved as well as to estimate how far they have already proceeded on the road of reaction. They have taken long steps toward regimenting the nation — but at the same time they have not been able to crush the power of organized labor or to hogtie the masses. Therein lies the source and the hope of effective resistance to their schemes to deprive us of our liberties.

A Letter to Italy

By John F. Petrone

Dear Uncle:

I read your letters about conditions in Italy today with great interest. From what you write I can see that things are indeed unhappy there. But don't get the impression that the U.S. is a paradise. On the contrary. This country seems to be becoming a madhouse. Since you are old enough to remember the days when Mussolini came to power, you would probably experience a shock of recognition if you could see and feel the political situation here today.

"Communism" is the issue, the only issue, that the dominant political parties are willing to discuss during the current election campaign. It is like an obsession with them; they must dream about it at night. Every policy, every proposal, every act must be motivated by them from the viewpoint of its relation to or effect upon "communism." Both the Democratic and Republican Parties ask to be given power primarily because they have been or will be better fighters against "communism" than their rivals. Congress votes for a loan to Franco; its supporters justify it as a blow against "communism," its opponents denounce it as aid to "communism."

For the liberals and some of the radicals, this too has become the chief criterion. Passage of the McCarran-Kilgore registration and concentration camp bill and defeat of the bill to curb racial discrimination in employment are alike deplored by them first of all on the ground that these steps "play into the hands of communism." One begins to wonder when it was that any public issues were debated from any other standpoint, and one goes to the movies expecting any day to be confronted with a film in which the hero pleads for the hand of the heroine as an "anti-communist" measure.

I enclose clippings about this McCarran-Kilgore registration law (which the liberals urge the people to "loyally obey") — also of course as

an "anti-communist" move — until the day when it may be repealed). This is regarded by the political wheelers as such a wonderful "anti-communist" measure that scores of municipalities are imitating it. I mention this because it may affect me. My job requires that I travel between New York and New Jersey every day; like almost a million other commuters, the train I use passes through Jersey City each time, although I do not get off there. Last week the City Commission in that city gave its preliminary approval to an ordinance requiring registration of all "communists" living in, working in or "passing regularly through" Jersey City. A public hearing on this measure will be held on Oct. 17, after which the Commission will take final action.

Jersey City is a municipality I have little use for, and I rarely go there. But according to this ordinance I would have to get off the train at least once and register myself with the authorities as a "communist" (the fact that I am a confirmed anti-Stalinist has nothing to do with it; by "communist" they mean not only Stalinists but anyone who accepts Marxism or even "associates" with those who do). If I register, my boss, as a "patriot," would undoubtedly fire me without five minutes' notice; my union, headed by Social Democrats, would not lift a finger in my defense. But if I failed to register, I would be liable to a fine of \$20 and a year in jail for each day I remain unregistered. A month's failure to register could, as you can see, be equivalent to a life sentence. And not even the most optimistic liberal would assure me that the courts would declare this ordinance unconstitutional, assuming I could raise the money to take the case through the courts.

So don't envy us too much, uncle. We get more to eat in the old country, but we also have less liberty.

Your devoted nephew,
John

Ford Rolling-Mill Men Strike Against Pay Cut

DETROIT, Oct. 9 — The Ford rolling mill workers walked out to protest a huge wage cut and held out determinedly for four days in spite of the greatest pressure from the Reutherite union officials.

The action was provoked when these workers and other steel operations men were notified that the new pay schedules provide for straight-time pay for 40 hours, including Saturday and Sundays. This will mean a weekly loss of \$30 to \$60. Up to now, steel operations workers have received time and a half and double time for Saturdays and Sundays respectively when their work week fell on these days.

The Ford management answered the protest by laying off 8,800 pressed steel workers.

UAW President Walter Reuther last year traded away many long standing union conditions for his miserable pension plan. Among these horse trades was his agreement to set up a union-management committee to study the pay practices of the steel industry and bring the Ford steel operations practices into line with the rest of the steel industry. When Reuther was "selling" the pension agreement to the Local 600 work-

ers at the October 1949 membership meeting, he threatened the steel operations workers with loss of their jobs if they didn't accept the findings of his proposed "fact-finding" committee. He said Ford would seek other steel sources and shut down the various steel operations.

Thus, instead of working to raise the level of the workers in the steel industry to that of the auto workers, Reuther has helped drag the auto workers down to the level of the steel industry.

After a year's study of the steel industry by this six-man committee, they passed the buck to the "impartial" umpire. As on all important issues, the "impartial" umpire, Shulman, sided with the company.

As soon as the strike started, Carl Stellato, president of Local 600, ordered the men back to work. Typical of the Reutherite bureaucracy, Stellato had the "sanctity" of the contract above the workers' interests. A majority of the executive board upheld him by an 18 to 5 vote.

When the rolling mill workers refused to return to work, Stellato went down to the gates to personally harangue them. The entire membership must defend their brothers in the rolling mill if these threats are put into action. He attempted to turn the rest of

the Ford workers against the strikers with a leaflet saying that, "If you were sent home in the last three days, it was because of an illegal, unauthorized work stoppage which took place in the rolling mill." Stellato blamed the strikers for the layoffs, although it was the UAW leadership who made the sell-out agreement that forced the workers to strike.

In spite of the stand taken by Stellato and Bannon, the union's national Ford director, the majority of the workers in the other units were sympathetic to the cause of the strikers.

In the course of the strike Stellato set up another of his intellectual committees to take up disputed issues. His "runaway shop" committee has still not gotten all the facts after five months of existence. He substitutes "investigating" committees for militant action. These committees investigate, report and discuss. Ford still says, "No!"

The Ford Motor Co. has threatened disciplinary action against the strikers. The union leaders are also reported to be considering disciplinary action. The entire membership must defend their brothers in the rolling mill if these threats are put into action.

By Daniel Roberts
SWP Candidate for Congress,
First Washington District

"How could he do it?" That is the question progressive workers and students are asking in the First District. They refer to the vote that Hugh Mitchell, the liberal Democratic incumbent, cast for the McCarran-Kilgore bill.

Some ask the question in dismay; others in anger. But there is no question that this vote shook them all up. The great liberal has been found wanting on one of the cardinal principles of democracy — the upholding of freedom of speech. That he also voted to sustain Truman's veto does not lessen the anger and dismay. These workers and students are quite right. The vote FOR the bill is the true mark of the man.

Mitchell's vote for the McCarran-Kilgore bill did not come as a surprise to the Socialist Workers Party. We knew such an act was being prepared by his whole prior record.

Mitchell is a typical representative of the Americans for Democratic Action and their bigwig and small-time politicians in and out of office. They play at reform. But in the steady march of Big Business towards a police state and intensified exploitation of the American workers, the liberals simply tag behind. They get excited over handing out a crumb here and a peanut there, and endlessly vaunt their democratic principles. But they are rushing headlong down the road to reaction.

The Congressional record of the ADA liberals shows one steady surrender without battle

after another to the Taft-Hartleyites, the race-baiters, the war-mongers, and the witch-hunters whom they proclaimed with loud fanfare they were going to fight. Mitchell's record in the 81st Congress will serve to illustrate this point.

A LIBERAL RECORD

Mitchell voted against Marcan-tonio's motion for outright repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act. He voted against the anti-segregation amendments in the housing and education bills. He voted for the toothless FEPC after a fair employment bill with enforcement provisions failed of passage. He shouted approval for American imperialism's war against the Korean people and sought to embellish it with liberal verbiage. What was there left for him to do after such a record but vote for the police-state bill?

I talked to Mitchell two years ago about the case of James Kutcher, the legless veteran who was fired from his clerical job with the Veterans Administration because he belongs to our party. Kutcher's courageous fight against Truman's "loyalty" program inspired true fighters for free speech everywhere throughout the country.

It is precisely in such a situation as this, she stated, "that the issues are most clearly drawn. How is it possible for a Democrat to be endorsed and supported by Republicans unless — as the Socialist Workers Party has long maintained — the two major capitalist class parties are in reality twins, tweedledum and tweedledee, both equally intent on destroying the organized movement, denying equality to Negroes and other minorities, throwing all political opponents into concentration camps, and dragging this country into a third world war.

"It is precisely here, too, that we see the tragic fallacy of labor leaders refusing to see the obvious — that no capitalist politician can serve the interests of the workers. Do the workers want a new world slaughter from which they have nothing to gain but the privilege of being maimed for life or killed? Ask the workers how they feel about being drafted for World War III. Better still, let the people vote on war. Yet Holifield, endorsed by the leaders of both the AFL and the CIO, supports all the war measures, hypocritically called 'defense measures.'

"Are concentration camps and thought-control in the interests of the workers? Of course not. Every thinking worker knows that

THE KUTCHER CASE

I briefed Mitchell on the Kutcher case and asked him to take a stand against that kind of outrage. This was right before the 1948 elections. Mitchell assured me he was opposed to any persecution for ideas such as Kutcher's dismissal represented. "Come see me after the elections," he said. "It would not be wise for me to say anything publicly now."

I again talked to Mitchell about the case after the elections. He told me: "I prefer not to commit myself on just one case. (Even a test case!) I prefer to attack the loyalty program as a whole. I can be more effective that way." That is the last we ever heard of Mitchell on the question of free speech — until his vote for the McCarran-Kilgore bill. His cowardly evasions on the Kutcher case paved the way for his later vote.

The Reuther-Scholle masterminds play right into the hands of the Republicans. In the first place, labor gives up a labor program; in the second place, it spreads confusion, disappointment and apathy among the rank and file. With such week-kneed and knuckle-headed leadership is no wonder the corporations' politicians have a field day in the state of Michigan.

WHO WAS CAPTURED

In 1948 the CIO leaders set out to reform the Democratic Party. They promised to use the Democratic Party for working people. They said that the Labor Party, which had great prospects, was too difficult to organize. In two years their forces appeared to have won a majority in the Democratic Party. How has their "get-rich-quick" theory worked out? As was foreseen by the advocates of a Labor Party, the union leaders have themselves been captured and housebroken by the rich blue-bloods in the Democratic Party. Labor does the legwork, but the millionaires run the party.

As the crisis of capitalism grows more acute and as it drives America's Sixty Families ever more on the road to war and attempted mastery of the world, the possibilities for it to grant even the most moderate reforms grow smaller and slimmer. Police-state laws, intensified Jim Crow, the hamstringing of organized labor, and support to counter-revolution abroad — these are the inevitable manifestations in the ruling class efforts to meet the crisis of American capitalism.

The would-be democratic reformers within the camp of the capitalist parties have no choice but to fall in line and march along.

Only those who take their stand

on the side of independent working-class politics and the struggle for socialism can be trusted to uphold the democratic rights of all working people at home and abroad.

Tax the Rich!

"Repeal all payroll taxes. Abolish all sales taxes. No taxes on income under \$5,000 a year. A 100% tax on incomes over \$25,000 a year. Tax the rich, not the poor." From the SWP 1950 Election Platform.

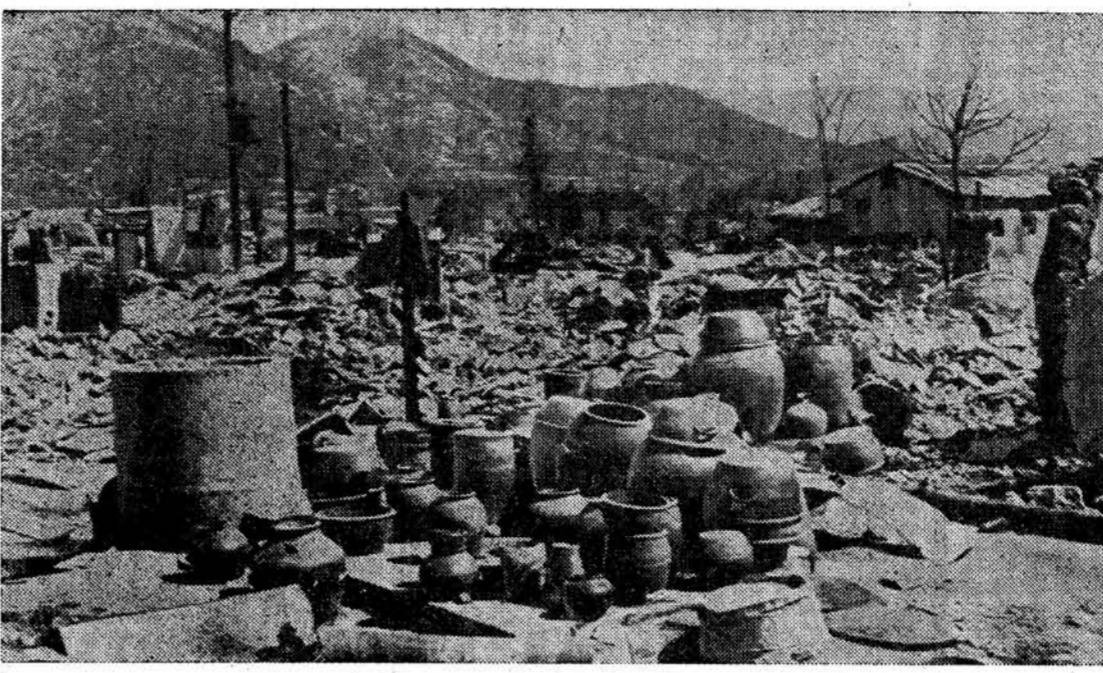
THE MILITANT

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Remnants of a Korean Village



Not much is left of Korean cities and villages after MacArthur's troops get done "liberating" them. In the scene above, the few pitiful objects not blasted to bits have been carefully collected and placed together in the foreground. The scene is typical of the ruin and devastation that have been created in most Korean communities.

Why Mitchell Voted for McCarran-Kilgore Law

Myra T. Weiss Certified For California Ballot

By Lois Saunders

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 8 — Myra Tanner Weiss was officially certified this week by Secretary of State Frank M. Jordan as a candidate for the House of Representatives from the 19th Congressional District (Los Angeles).

Comrade Weiss, whose name will appear on the ballot as an independent candidate, has plunged into an energetic speaking campaign, addressing three separate union and community meetings in as many evenings.

Following official certification, Comrade Weiss also issued a challenge to incumbent Chet Holifield, her sole opponent, to debate with her such issues as "The Bill of Rights or the Concentration Camp," or other subjects vital to the interests of the workers.

Holifield, darling of the labor bureaucrats of both the AFL and CIO, is the official standard-bearer of both the Democratic and Republican parties, as a result of the peculiarities of California's cross-filing system. The Independent Progressive Party (Wal-laceites) and the Stalinists supported Holifield when he ran for Congress two years ago. By refraining from running a candidate of their own in the present election, they give tacit endorsement to his candidacy.

In an interview, Myra Tanner Weiss was asked why she chose to run against a man who seemingly has such formidable backing — Republicans, Democrats, labor leaders, Progressives and Stalinists.

"It is precisely in such a situation as this," she stated, "that the issues are most clearly drawn. How is it possible for a Democrat to be endorsed and supported by Republicans unless — as the Socialist Workers Party has long maintained — the two major capitalist class parties are in reality twins, tweedledum and tweedledee, both equally intent on destroying the organized movement, denying equality to Negroes and other minorities, throwing all political opponents into concentration camps, and dragging this country into a third world war.

"It is precisely here, too, that we see the tragic fallacy of labor leaders refusing to see the obvious — that no capitalist politician can serve the interests of the workers. Do the workers want a new world slaughter from which they have nothing to gain but the privilege of being maimed for life or killed? Ask the workers how they feel about being drafted for World War III. Better still, let the people vote on war. Yet Holifield, endorsed by the leaders of both the AFL and the CIO, supports all the war measures, hypocritically called 'defense measures.'

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