

Top ADA Leader Accepts Post on McCarran Board

By John F. Petrone

On Oct. 23, exactly one month after the enactment of the McCarran-Kilgore police-state law, Truman appointed the five members of the bipartisan Subversive Activities Control Board, empowered under the law to order any group in the country to register as "communist action" or "communist front" organizations.

Truman's appointees, who will receive \$12,500 per year, are: As chairman, and for a three year term, Seth W. Richardson of Washington; as members for two-year terms, Peter Campbell Brown of New York and Charles M. LaFollette of Virginia; as members for one-year terms, David J. Coddair of Boston and Dr. Kathryn McHale of Logansport, Ind.

Richardson is a Republican and a former assistant attorney general in the Hoover administration. More recently he has served as chairman of the Loyalty Review Board, in charge of the Truman "loyalty" purge of government employees which set the pattern and paved the way for the McCarran-Kilgore law. In that post Richardson repeatedly refused to uphold challenges by any of the purge victims of the Attorney General's arbitrary "subversive" list, which he accepted as gospel.

Brown is a lawyer, a special assistant to Attorney General McGrath, and a Democrat. Coddair is a lawyer too, a former member of the Maritime Commission and a Republican. Dr. McHale is an educator, psychologist and — most important qualification of all — a member of the Democratic national committee from Indiana.

The most revealing selection, however, was that of LaFollette. A former liberal Republican congressman from Indiana, he served until recently as executive director of Americans for Democratic Action, the "super-liberal outfit" that has supported Truman so passionately. He is still closely identified with the ADA.

His appointment represents the liberal sugar-coating on the enforcement of the McCarran-Kilgore law. His acceptance of a post to enforce a law which the ADA denounced in the strongest terms and said should never be passed throws new light on the Oct. 1 statement by ten Senators, most

ALIEN ARRESTS RECALL 'PALMER RED RAID' ERA

In zealously enforcing the McCarran-Kilgore police-state law, the Truman administration and its Department of Justice have opened up a campaign against so-called "alien subversives" that is strikingly reminiscent of the "Palmer Red Raid" period. As in those shameful years after the first World War, America is today witnessing official terrorism and repression, midnight invasions of homes, raids and mass arrests.

On Oct. 23, the Department of Justice announced the beginning of a nation-wide "round-up" of non-citizens who McGrath claims are "communist propagandists" and deportable under the new law. The first persons scheduled for arrest and detention without bail contained 86 names. The seizure of 29 of these was announced within a day after the list was made public.

Most of them had previously been arrested for deportation, but the country of their origin would not accept them. Under the new law the government can keep them under arrest at Ellis Island for six months; after that, if they still cannot be deported, the Immigration Service can keep them under "indefinite surveillance."

GOVERNMENT'S AIM

Newspapers made it clear that the government intended to use the law to hound and harry them until they will want to get out of the U. S. For one thing, it will be very difficult for them to earn a livelihood under "surveillance."

The 86 are but a tiny part of the hundreds of thousands of non-citizens, many of whom have spent their lives here, who face harassment, detention and surveillance or deportation because at some time they may have been associated with trade unions, fraternal or political organizations that the Department of Justice says are "communist."

One of the accused, who came here from Yugoslavia 37 years ago at the age of 17, is designated as an "alien subversive" because he was once active in the National

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Germain Series On Yugoslavia Starts Next Week

A new and timely series of articles on Yugoslavia by The Militant's European correspondent, Ernest Germain, will begin in the next issue of this paper.

The decisions of the SABC are to be appealed to the courts. A Washington lawyer representing 107 people tried to get an injunction on Oct. 23 to restrain the Attorney General from enforcing the law and challenging its constitutionality, but it is highly unlikely that the administration will stop enforcing it until the law is repealed or the courts act on the appeal of persons convicted under it.

Germain has carefully checked scores of such reports against one another, and compared them with printed material from Yugoslav sources and foreign correspondents. The result is objective material and Marxist interpretation of the high caliber readers of The Militant have long come to depend on getting from Germain's articles.

The scope of the series is best demonstrated by the subject matter of the eleven articles:

1. New Course in Yugoslavia.
2. What Has Been Achieved.
3. Economic Difficulties.
4. Political Opposition.
5. Workers Councils.
6. The Struggle Against Bureaucracy.
7. Freedom of Expression.
8. The Solution of the National Question.
9. Foreign Policy and the New Course.
10. How Could It Happen?
11. Permanent Revolution: Theory and Practice.

This exclusive series will undoubtedly be of great interest to the growing number of workers and students who want to know the truth about what is going on in Yugoslavia today. Readers of The Militant are urged to order extra copies for sale to their friends and acquaintances, and to dress for subscriptions as the handiest and surest way of getting the entire series.

In St. Louis, where a mother of two children, Mrs. Antonia Sentner, was arrested, her lawyer told a federal court that he has been unable to learn why, except that McGrath had ordered it, and that an offer to supply any bond had been refused. The judge accepted an application for a writ of habeas corpus, saying every person has the right to know why he is arrested. A hearing on the application will be held later. Mrs. Sentner had previously been freed on bail pending deportation proceedings.

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FLINT TRIAL COMMITTEE CONDEMS WITCH-HUNT, FINDS ACCUSED INNOCENT

By Emmett Moore

FLINT, Oct. 16 — A seven-man Chevrolet union trial committee flatly rejected charges of subversiveness and conduct unbecoming a union member brought against Theodore Karpel by 115 workers in Chevrolet UAW Local 659. The

trial committee accused the company of participation in this action to expel a union member on trumped-up charges, and vigorously denounced the entire witch-hunt.

In a month-long investigation that was open to all local union members the evidence demonstrated that a few misguided and bigoted workers had been duped by forces outside of the union to commit a purge of all workers with radical beliefs.

Karpel had been accused of violating shop rules, getting into fist fights, eviction from his apartment, exhibiting a "subversive" film (*Native Land*) in the YMCA, distributing "subversive" literature to high school students, etc. His accusers did not attempt to link him with any political party.

In spite of careful investigation the committee was unable to find a single person who would admit authorship of the charges. Many had never read the charges before signing. Many did not know what they were putting their signatures to when questioned by the committee. Even before the trial committee started to investigate the issue, 96 workers withdrew their names from the petition when they became aware of its significance.

HIT 'SUBVERSIVE' LISTS

The trial committee, dealing with the core of the charges against Karpel, stated, "The charge of being a member of a subversive organization is a broad and sweeping charge due to the fact that agencies of the

state hierarchy, which may be

one reason why Truman does not want the report made public. The

government is so "inefficient" and "corrupt" that "after an inflow of some 2 billion U. S. dollars" it is "already 180 million dollars in debt," with "unpaid bills . . . piling up" and "teachers, even soldiers, aren't paid regularly."

Quirino's constabulary is "more feared by villagers than Communists" which leads to the fear that "Communists will continue to make gains." The report proposes that Washington force the Philippine government to make a "major house-cleaning," then lend it another \$250 million with "tight U. S. controls, plenty of supervision."

CORRUPTION RAMPANT

Government corruption is rampant. President Quirino's three brothers and 19 Senators and 83 Representatives are involved in a

plot to sell entry permits to Chinese into the Philippines. Top politicians got rich on the "sale of U. S. Army surpluses."

Part of the report involves

the great land-owning Catholic

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In effect, the proposal is to

reestablish more open and direct

U. S. control over the Philippines,

rather than permit the Philippine

peasants and workers to do their

own "major house-cleaning" against the U. S.-supported government of the landlords, clerics

and capitalists.

Protest War And Reaction -- Vote SWP

Grace Carlson's Ballot Struggle Taken to Court

MINNEAPOLIS, Oct. 25 —

Attorneys for Grace Carlson, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress from the Fifth District, today filed an appeal with the state Supreme Court against a district court ruling of Oct. 21 barring her name from the November Minnesota ballot. The Supreme Court will hear the case on October 31.

Grounds for the appeal — made by Attorneys Josiah Baker of Mankato, M. J. Myer of Chicago and C. R. Hedlund of Minneapolis — are that state courts have no jurisdiction in determining qualifications of congressional candidates, that Congress determines qualifications of its own members.

In his ruling last Saturday, District Judge Frank E. Reed

ruled that Grace Carlson was

ineligible to run for office because of her conviction in federal

court for violation of the Smith

act in 1941. He held that the

federal felony of which she was

convicted was also a felony under

Minnesota's criminal syndicalism

statute. This decision came as the

result of a suit filed by Stanley E.

Danielson, secretary-treasurer of

the Transit Employees' union,

which was brought last week by

Sydney W. Goff, a well-known

St. Paul criminal lawyer.

At this same hearing, Grace

Carlson filed a counter suit charging

"collusion" between Danielson

and County Auditor Fitzsimmons.

The Danielson suit asked that the

county auditor be restrained from

placing the SWP candidate's

name on the ballot. The Carlson

affidavit charged that the Danielson

suit was a continuation of the

previous hostile attitude of

the auditor. (Fitzsimmons twice

rejected the Carlson petitions for

a place on the ballot, but was him-

self overruled by the Hennepin

County Attorney.)

Grace Carlson's affidavit asked

the dismissal of the proceeding

against her on grounds that the

suit was "collusive and sham as

to the said parties named as

petitioner and respondent herein

and a persistent bureaucratic

effort to rule out the nomination

of Grace H. Carlson for Congress

in the Fifth District."

Meantime, the attention given

to the campaign by the public press

evidences continued interest in the

effort to put Grace Carlson on the

ballot.

In the Oct. 22 debate over television station WPIX

with Joseph Hansen, Socialist Workers candidate for Senator, Ewart Guinier, spokesman for Paul Ross, Ameri-

can Labor Party candidate for

mayor of New York, ended up in

independence in the elections.

Hansen cut him off and asked another question:

"Why did Ross take the job in

the first place? Didn't he know

that in 1941 the Communist Party

exposed O'Dwyer as 'Nazi-supported' and an enemy of labor because of his 'connections with anti-Semites and Negro-haters'?"

"Paul Ross had nothing to do

Report from Europe

New Party Arising in Germany

By Ernest Germain

Two important events marked the end of the summer in Western Germany. For the first time since the monetary reform — and in fact for the first time since 1933! — a well organized and successful strike movement swept through several branches of industry, forcing the employers to grant important concessions, even to categories not directly involved in the strike. The weekly paper, *Freie Tribune*, has started publication, and several thousand vanguard workers have already regrouped themselves around this organ of the future Independent Workers Party of Germany.

These two events are intimately interrelated. They are two clear indications that the years of prostration of the German labor movement are nearing their close. They are the first signs of a new upsurge of the German working-class movement, on which revolutionists all over Europe have pinned so many hopes.

It is true that since 1945 there have been several important strike movements in Germany. The

workers struck often for 24 hours in important industrial towns and even in provinces (Lander) against the return of former Nazis to high government or industrial posts. But these movements were purely demonstrative in character; they were led from the top and there was not a very strong participation of the masses, who followed rather passively the directives of their leaders.

A series of stronger actions also took place during the first postwar years — actions against hunger, against starvation rations, against dismantlings. These actions again were of a special character and while allowing the young generation to collect first experiences of class solidarity and class consciousness they fall under the sign of desperation rather than of growing militancy of the workers.

BUILDING STRIKE

It is only since the "normalization" of economy, i.e. since the monetary reform, that the workers have had occasion to recover

physically through the re-establishment of a normal labor demand, and socially through the normalization of the process of production — their potential of struggle and militancy which has now found its first expressions. Above all the strike of the building workers at the beginning of September 1950, which ended with a wage increase of 14 DM an hour (something like \$2 a week, making an average weekly wage of \$14) has shown the first real signs of militancy for many years.

Participation of rank-and-filers in the strike action was very marked and did not decrease after ten days of strike. Strike committees and picket lines were set up. Rank and filers sharply criticized the conduct of the leadership who accepted the arbitration board's verdict, and wanted to continue the strike action in order to get a bigger increase.

MIDDLE CADRES

During the years of passivity of the great mass of the working class the few attempts at united action were invariably initiated by the middle cadres of the working-class organizations (local and provincial leaders of the trade unions, the Social Democratic Party, the Communist Party, etc.). Whereas the national leaderships of these organizations did everything possible to extend even more the passivity of the workers, these middle cadres, mostly with a fine record of pre-Hitler and later of underground militancy, constituted in a certain sense the nuclei where all the remainders of socialist consciousness were concentrated.

These same middle cadres have assimilated more or less instinctively the lessons of pre-Hitler class struggle in Germany. They are full of distrust toward reformism and Stalinism. They have been even more disgusted by the policy of betrayal followed by these two organizations since 1945. They are ready for a new revolutionary working class party in Germany, and they can build up a party which, whatever its political weaknesses might be, can right from the start wield an important influence among the masses themselves.

To build such an organization, at a time when the big traditional working-class parties have thoroughly discredited themselves as never before (the CP by its foul "national front" policy, the SP by accepting the remilitarization policy of imperialism) and when the preconditions for an upsurge of mass action are slowly being prepared, the expelled middle cadres of the Communist Party convened a conference of working-class militants near Dusseldorf on July 23 and planned to issue a weekly paper, *Freie Tribune*. They also drafted a preliminary political platform and started a programmatic discussion. Since then, seven issues of the *Freie Tribune* have appeared regularly.

The paper has met with a great response among the advanced militants of the German working class. There is hardly an important town or an important factory in which it has not already penetrated. Hundreds upon hundreds of letters of approval have been received from all parts of the country. From Berlin there came an order for a huge bundle — several thousand copies.

On Sept. 10, the provisional committee for the launching of the Independent Workers Party, which was elected at the July 23 conference, met for the first time to draw a balance sheet of the results obtained, which surpassed all expectations. Everywhere in Western Germany, the vanguard militants who had remained outside the traditional parties or had

tried to organize oppositions within them were joining the organization built around the *Freie Tribune*. This movement has a great future and it is the task of all revolutionists to assist it with all their forces.

AMAZING PROGRESS

Of course, the *Freie Tribune* could not from scratch work out a rounded program providing all the correct answers to the burning questions of German and International politics. The paper reflects in a certain sense all the hesitations, illusions, hopes and confusions of the German vanguard and isolated and defeated for so many years. But its political progress has really been amazing. It has in a few weeks done more for the international education of the German vanguard than was done during all the years since 1945.

It has taken a correct and courageous stand against re-militarization, around the correct slogan: "Let the people vote on rearmament." It has attacked violently the measures of the bourgeoisie, the occupation forces and the red-baiting Social Democratic bureaucracy against members of the CP. It has denounced the resurgence of fascism and of the power of the big industrialists. It has taken up all the past threads of Marxist traditions in Germany, and above all, it has entered a frank and public discussion with its readers on fundamental programmatic questions, which will serve to clarify the minds of the advanced workers and to hammer out the program for socialist revolution of the German proletariat.

Further hindering a slave-

How Resistance Killed The Fugitive Slave Law

By George Lavan

Following a half-hearted battle against the McCarran police-state bill in Congress, Senators Lehman, Douglas, Humphrey and other "liberals" of their stripe urged opponents of the unconstitutional law to "loyally obey" it.

In 1850 reaction also ruled the country. The slaveholders with their northern political allies passed the Fugitive Slave Law. Fortunately political cowardice, the trademark of today's liberal opposition, was unknown to the Abolitionists. They scorned "loyal obedience" — their program was intransigent opposition.

Passage of the law was prepared by a campaign against the Abolitionists. Newspaper denunciations, thunderings by the clergy and educators, mob actions against Abolitionist meetings set the stage. Opponents of the bill were labeled wild radicals, infidels, seditionists, etc.

The new law provided that any alleged fugitive slave in the North could be seized and shackled wherever found, could not have a trial by jury, could not testify or summon witnesses, had no right of appeal and could be shipped South to his alleged master no matter how long he had been free. Enforcement was to be by the federal circuit courts which would appoint commissioners to conduct the hearings "in a summary manner." Should the commissioner decide against the Negro his fee was to be double what it would be if the defendant were acquitted.

As soon as the law was passed Negroes began arming themselves or fleeing to Canada. White Abolitionists joined the Negroes in forming self defense guards and vigilance committees to watch known kidnappers.

THE RESISTANCE OF THE NEGRO PEOPLE

Compare the public statements of the fighters for freedom and the "loyally obey" whimperings of the Fair Deal liberals of today.

THE BURNS CASE

Under direction of President Buchanan, federal authorities in Boston tried and sent Anthony Burns back to slavery. To do this the city had to be placed almost in a state of siege. Federal troops, marines and 22 companies of the state militia were needed to move the prisoner from the courthouse to a government vessel. He had to be returned by sea, since moving him overland was impossible against an aroused public. Troops held back 50,000 onlookers as Burns — surrounded by a guard with drawn sabers — was marched to the pier. Business in Boston came to a standstill, houses were draped with mourning. The government never again attempted to enforce the Fugitive Slave Law in Boston.

Though the next president in his inaugural address urged the people of the North to "respect cheerfully" the hated law, its opponents had won their fight. The people of the free states increasingly recognized the law for what it was and increasingly disobeyed it "cheerfully" and started on the road to destroy not only the law but the system that gave birth to it.

THE MILITANT ARMY

Chicago Shows How Consistent Work Builds Circulation

The reorganization of the Chicago literature committee with Frank R. as Literature Agent has led to increased sales of *The Militant*. Frank has raised the bundle order twice this past month so Chicago now gets 100 copies each week. Here is how he has included on this list.

UNBECOMING CONDUCT

Perhaps what revealed most strikingly the complicity of the company in the charges was the accusation that Karpel's conduct was unbecoming to union members because he opposed the recently signed five-year no-strike contract. If this charge had been sustained, almost 40% of the delegates at the last national GM conference who voted against the five year contract could be tarred with the same brush.

The trial committee bluntly tossed out this charge, declaring, "To condemn a union member for taking an active part in contract settlements either for or against, would destroy the democratic rights of every member of the most democratic labor union in the world."

Two of the trial committee members did not concur with the report. Nor did the Flint Journal, the public mouthpiece of General Motors. For three straight days it tried its best to distort and smear the stand of the committee.

GOOD EXAMPLE

This decision helped slow down the wave of hysteria sweeping through the UAW locals which has been instigated by the corporations and police, and is abetted by the silence of union officials who fail to understand that the fate of the union is tied up with immediately putting an end to the witch-hunt.

The Chevrolet trial committee has set an example that could be well emulated by all other UAW locals. It has reaffirmed that this union, at least in the ranks, still believes in uniting all workers regardless of race, creed, color or political beliefs.

WHO'S THAT MAN ACROSS THE TABLE?

The McCarran law "may well lead us to become afraid with whom we walk, talk or have lunch," John M. Eklund, president of the AFL American Federation of Teachers told a meeting in Portland, Ore.

The SWP candidates alone deserve our support. Only by voting *Row E* can we vote our determination to bring about a Socialist America in a Socialist world.

During a recess a group of Boston colored men entered the courtroom and quickly spirited the prisoner away. He was next heard of in Canada. The U. S. Senate nearly had a nervous breakdown. President Fillmore issued a proclamation signed by Daniel Webster ordering immediate prosecutions.

IN PENNSYLVANIA a group of Negroes fought a pitched battle against slaveowners and sheriffs. Forty were prosecuted for "treason to the U. S. by levying war against the same."

Many Negroes, free as well as runaway, were sent to the South. In some cases children born in freedom were awarded as a sort of dividend to the slaveowner claiming the mother. Many Negroes could not be taken alive and were murdered by the slavecatchers.

The resistance of the Negro people and the agitation of the Abolitionists opened the eyes of the people to the hateful law. The success of the Abolitionist fight for public support was dramatically demonstrated in 1854.

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In February 1851 the authorities tried to deport a Negro named Shadrach from Boston to Virginia.

Members of the local attending the hearing were shocked to learn that the state police had accumulated a "subversive" file of 4,000 names immediately after the war. Undoubtedly anyone who had ever been active in the union in the entire city of Flint must have been included on this list.

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"Every Saturday we are selling at an elevated station nearby a newsstand. Two weeks ago Ruth and Snow sold 36 copies. The plans are for a regular sale of 50 a week in this area. The last two times the comrades sold out in 30 minutes. The aim of this campaign is to build up our newsstand sales of *The Militant* by making it better known. The newsstand owners are friendly as they realize that this type of activity will build up sales for them. We plan to sell at the present station for about a month and then move on to another station."

"This Thursday Comrades Marge and Don will start regular sales at the University of Chicago. We plan to increase the tempo soon and go to union meetings and plant gates as well."

The good relations between the company and the union referred to in the charges are a figment of the mind . . ."

As "proof" of Karpel's "subversive" activities, his accusers noted that he had been ejected from his apartment. The committee's investigation disclosed that his "alleged subversive activities in this instance, however, are based on the fact that he chose to many fakers who preach liberalism at election time only to stick the knife of betrayal in the back of the working class at the first wish of his Wall Street masters.

Despite the threats of Burt Beck and his double-crossing flunkies, the gag put upon us by the Call and all the rest, the message of Socialism is reaching more and more Socialist Party members every day. By Nov. 7, I am convinced, all true Socialists in New York will heed the call of the Socialist Workers Party and vote straight *Row E* for Bartell, Barker, Preis, Ring and Hansen.

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TROTSKY

"In so far as the proletariat proves incapable at a given stage of conquering power, imperialism begins regulating economic life with its own methods; the fascist party which becomes the state power is the political mechanism. The productive forces are in irreconcilable contradiction not only with private property but also with national state boundaries. Imperialism is the very expression of this contradiction. Imperialist capitalism seeks to solve this contradiction through an extension of boundaries, seizure of new territories, and so on. The totalitarian state, subjecting all aspects of economic, political and cultural life to finance capital, is the instrument for creating a super-nationalist state, an imperialist empire, the rule over continents, the rule over the whole world."

—Leon Trotsky, Last Article, Fourth International, Oct. 1940.



The War in Indo-China

Amid celebrations of military victory in Korea, the capitalist press has started playing up another "crisis" in Asia — this time in Indo-China.

For more than four years the French overlords have waged with little success a major war to keep the Indo-Chinese people as their colonial slaves. Financially the war has been so costly that Paris could never have carried it on without the Marshall aid funds. On top of the large-scale military aid already extended to the French colonial despots, the Truman administration now proposes to add additional hundreds of millions of dollars.

The Indo-Chinese military forces are today actually stronger than they were at the outset of the hostilities. They have grown so powerful that they have been able to rout the strong French garrisons along a 200 mile front, in one case wiping out an entire column of 3,500.

The French who had only a short while ago confidently expected to mount an offensive in this same area are continuing their withdrawals, according to the latest dispatches.

In Indo-China there is no mass support whatever either for the French or their puppet, the former Emperor Bao Dai.

FEPC and "Moral Positions"

Senator Lehman (D, N.Y.) has asked President Truman to issue an executive order, similar to Roosevelt's FEPC order of 1941, providing that "all defense contracts must contain a clause barring discrimination in employment under such contracts."

"Such action would, of course, be no substitute for the enactment of federal legislation... requiring fair employment practices in all employment" but would be taken "while we continue to work for this legislation," Lehman wrote Truman.

An executive order applying to some industries would certainly not be the same as a federal law covering all industries, but despite Lehman's pious promise about "continuing" to work for such a law, it would in fact be a "substitute" — the Democratic Party's substitute for the FEPC law they promised to enact if elected.

Lehman and Truman won't admit it publicly, especially on the eve of an election, but they know, just as millions of Americans have found out in practice, that neither their party nor the Republican Party nor both of them together is able to get Congress to enact a bill outlawing discrimination in employment. To

Ironically enough, the French are hated even by some of their own puppets. This was strikingly revealed two weeks ago when Tran Van Huu, Premier of the Bao Dai cabinet, bitterly criticized the "French attitude" and demanded "independence for Vietnam and equality in its relations with France."

So tenuous has the French position become in Indo-China that reports have emanated even from Paris of trying to unload the whole mess into Washington's hands. Needless to say, this is intended primarily to get more military supplies and even American troops. But it nevertheless underscores the fact that left to their own resources, the French stand unquestionably be thrown out of Indo-China, as, indeed, they should be.

The Indo-Chinese have every right to be free and independent and to live under a government of their own choosing. The Truman administration is determined to deny them this right.

No subterfuges, no demagogic pretenses can obscure either the issues or the ruthless role of American imperialism in the case of Indo-China. Here it stands nakedly as the backer of colonial slavery.

do so would require a genuine struggle with the Southern ruling class, and not the kind of mock battles they wage periodically in Congress — and neither capitalist party is willing to engage in such a struggle, especially in "times of crisis" like the present.

Viewed properly, Lehman's plea is an admission to the Negro people and all other opponents of job discrimination: The best you can expect from capitalism is a temporary executive order, which will apply only to part of industry, and which you can expect to be hastily withdrawn as soon as the "crisis" is over, just as was done with Roosevelt's FEPC in 1945.

In explaining his request, Lehman added: "In addition, such action would certainly strengthen our moral positions among all the peoples of the world." That, along with the desire for re-election, is a motive for the request, but we doubt that it would have the result intended. Why should the peoples of the world have any higher regard for the morals of American imperialism when they learn that it is willing to take limited measures against discrimination in employment only during periods of "crisis" but refuses to do so in "normal" times?

Bombay Textile Strike Called Off

By V. Karalasingham

BOMBAY, India, Oct. 18 — The Bombay City textile strike involving 225,000 workers was called off on Oct. 15 at a public meeting held at the Kamgar Maidan, Parel, attended by over 50,000 workers. The decision to terminate the strike was taken by the strike committee two days earlier, after the strike showed the first ominous signs of collapsing when 45,000 reported for work that morning. What caused this was not the intimidation and terror of the Congress Police and goondas but the fact that the men were literally starved into submission.

The workers struck for a bonus of three months' wages including the dearest allowance and recognition of the M.I. Mazdoor Sabha as the textile workers' representative and their collective bargaining agent. Since 1942 the Industrial Courts awards have been adequate to keep the workers from striking. But this year the Industrial Court awarded a bonus of only two months' basic pay (\$19).

Last week the Appellate Tribunal gave its judgment which, on all the major questions, reaffirmed the award of the Industrial Court. According to the Appellate Tribunal the claim for bonus arises only after provision has been made for (a) "prior charges" and

(b) "fair return on paid up capital and on reserves employed as working capital." By this decision the amount which should have come to the workers by way of bonus has now been turned over to the millowners.

The strike committee rejected the award since it did not meet any of the demands including that of the recognition of the MMS as the representative union, and called upon the workers to continue the struggle. This decision was ratified at a mass meeting of the strikers last Wednesday held at Bandra, a suburb outside the city limits, where the prohibitory order of the police did not operate. The 50,000 who attended the meeting further resolved to defy the prohibitory order and to hold a meeting at Kamgar Maidan on Parel on Thursday.

POLICE BRUTALITY

Although a ring of police was thrown round the Kamgar Maidan several hours before the scheduled time, over 20,000 crowded the approaches to this ground and a dingdong battle ensued between the armed police and the workers who attempted to break through the cordon. As usual the police lathi-charged and tear-gassed the assembled workers. Finally the police opened fire, killing two and injuring 25.

Despite the high militancy

shown by the workers at the meeting and the determination displayed during the two-month strike, the workers were already beginning to be weary of the prolonged struggle. The important factor in this connection was the hunger to which they were exposed in the course of the long struggle. Ever since the strike commenced on Aug. 14 the mill shops where the workers bought their food rations refused to sell them their cereal quota on credit, although it has been the practice to do so. The strikers managed the first few weeks on their 13 days earnings in August.

But it soon became evident that not all the determination of the strikers could satisfy their growing hunger. They held out as long as they could; the limit of endurance was reached on Friday when 45,000 reported for work as not victims of capitalist propaganda but to avail themselves of the credit facilities to draw their rations from the mill shops.

This was a clear warning that unless the strike was called off in time there would be an organized rout. The strike committee therefore took the decision to call off the strike on Monday. Despite the wishful thinking of the capitalist press, the defeat of the strike has not demoralized the men or shaken their confidence in the MMS — as the

massive attendance on Sunday amply testifies. If anything, the men feel that they have "let down" the union for reasons beyond their control!

What the strike has highlighted is that in the conditions in India the success of any struggle of the workers, however modest the demands, necessitates the mobilization of the full strength of the working class either industrywise or citywise. In the strike just concluded, one sector of the working class of the city was pitted against almost the full might of the capitalists and their state. Every coercive arm of the state, except the army, was mobilized against them. Even though the struggle was heavily loaded against the strikers from the very beginning, the workers fought bravely and have shed many of the illusions that had captivated them since Aug. 15, 1947.

In engaging in this first sustained struggle the workers have proclaimed their independence from the bourgeois Congress Party and this fact augurs well for the future. And in the fact that they have not only built but strengthened their mass organization, the Hind Mazdoor Sabha, and are fortified by the lessons of the struggle just concluded, lies the hope that their future struggles will be victorious.

For Washington and the UN to talk of "democratic elections" anywhere in Korea is a joke. Who is there in Korea, outside of elements like Rhee, upon whom the American rulers can rely to keep the landlords and capitalists in power? A farce called an "election" may some day be held, all right — but only when MacArthur and Rhee have made sure there will be left no organized opposition against the kind of brutal puppet government the U. S. had previously imposed on Korea.

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'Phone, Don't Write'

By Larissa Reed

The stink-bomb exploded by Lt. Governor Hanley's letter, revealing how Governor Dewey bribed him to check out as a competitor in the New York election, has fouled up not only the Republican Party's campaign, but the editorial offices of the paid press. True, a yellow journal like the *Mirror* isn't as embarrassed as the "high-class" papers. It simply doubles in brass behind the brazen deal in buying and selling public office contending that all the "purloined letter" proves is that poor old Joe Hanley is really an "honest" man at heart, who only made the mistake of spilling his guts on paper. He's "old enough to know better," the *Mirror* rebukes him, and W. Kingsland Macy (to whom the letter was sent) "is old enough not to chirp." In gangster-like words, the *Mirror* reprimands the political conspirators for a clumsy job of concealment, not to speak of the fact that there was insufficient honor among thieves.

But the scandal is very embarrassing for the N. Y. Times, which poses as a defender of truth, justice, and good clean government. Like the yellow journalists, the Times editors, too, say in essence that it isn't the crime against the public that is so bad, but that the public was let in on the crime. "The writing of the letter was a ghastly mistake," it states, emphasizing its rebuke to the conspirators that "politicians should telephone and not write." Then the "independent" Times, like the die-hard Republican *Herald-Tribune*, makes a tear-jerking apology about the personal "tragedy" of poor old honest Hanley, who was only trying to provide for himself and his family and pay his debts.

In case this pill isn't swallowed by the mass of underpaid workers who have to provide for their families and pay their debts the hard way, both of these "high-class" papers make "high-class" political appeal. The *Herald-Tribune* enjoins its readers to regard this public outrage as only "an incident in a race run for large ends." The Times adds that it will "have to be weighed on the realistic scale of practical politics." "Large ends" and "practical politics" is the double-talk of capitalist newspapers to cover up the crimes of capitalist politicians.

But the Times, understanding that a major scandal of this type can be injurious to both capitalist parties, warns its "Democratic friends"

to refrain from showing too much "political glee." It states correctly, "The Democrats, now firing shots from a glass house, have always taken care of 'Joe' under an endless variety of names and circumstances."

But how can one crime excuse another? That's the dilemma of the unhappy liberal N. Y. Post. "Where are the voices of civic virtue?" it grieves. The press is supposed to be "the conscience of the country." Yet in this awful scandal the Times pleading for "charitable judgment on this explosive political incident." Alas, admits the Post, "a payoff is a payoff," whether Republican or Democratic. The "impeccable Mr. Dewey" has been caught buying off a man — and yet the Times' "devotion to Dewey is unaltered."

But the real pitch of this paper is revealed in Dr. Frank Kingdon's column. Kingdon wails in the name of "civic virtue" that "even the most dire politician on the other side" cannot "be happy about this debacle... it smears our whole public life... encourages public cynicism." His own contribution against such cynicism is an appeal to his readers to "renew" their "faith" — in the same parties pointing their filth-smeared fingers at each other.

This pre-election Republican Party scandal is competing for headlines with Democratic Party scandal. It's generally at election time that the capitalist political thieves have a falling out, and the voting public gets a peek behind the scenes. But in the Democratic Party scandal, which reveals the close links and millions of dollars in bribe-transactions between capitalist office-holders and the gangster underworld, Mayor O'Dwyer had the good sense to take it on the lam before it broke. He didn't write any incriminating letters, or receive any, or reveal, or have revealed, any of the crooked deals of his party. O'Dwyer knew how to telephone. So while "poor old Hanley" is in the doghouse and broke, O'Dwyer has cashed in on a big-paying job far removed from the New York electoral hotseat.

The reproaches of the capitalist newspapers against their politicians are fully deserved. There should be more honor among thieves — not to speak of more caution. If only to spare these press hirings such acute embarrassment.

Prices and Personnel

By Fred Hart

Truman denied at his Oct. 19 press conference that political considerations were responsible for his failure to impose wage and price controls. The reason, he said, was the government's inability to get "qualified men to take necessary posts" because they do not want "to submit themselves to character assassination and to allow their private lives to be hung on a clothesline."

Spokesmen at the National Security Resources Board amplified his statement. They said that "the industrial and business woods had been combed time and again since the passage of the National Defense Production Act, but no man of standing had indicated a willingness to take the unpopular post of Price Administrator." (N. Y. Times, Oct. 20.)

Despite Truman's explanation, it is hard to believe that political considerations are not involved. To impose wage freeze now, when most workers have not yet received raises to compensate for the price rises since June, would unquestionably antagonize the labor movement and cost votes on Nov. 7.

Price control, on the other hand, while in great demand among workers and housewives and low income groups generally, is something Truman has no intention of establishing, no matter how ineffectually, unless he clamps a freeze on wages at the same time. In fact, as the experience during World War II proved, for a capitalist government price control is primarily a pretext for wage controls.

Nevertheless, there are some important conclusions to be drawn from Truman's explanation. One is that the administration, characteristically enough, turns first of all, if not exclusively, to the circles of "industry and business" to staff the key jobs in its war mobilization program.

W. Stuart Symington, head of the NSRB, is a corporation executive. So is William H. Harrison, head of the National Production Authority. Alan Valentine, administrator of the Economic Stabilization Agency, has been director of several corporations. Cyrus W. Ching, a corporation official for decades, is now chairman of the new Wage Stabilization Board. And evidently the price

administrator must come from the same circles to be considered as "qualified."

When union leaders tell their members to vote Democratic on Nov. 7, the members ought to ask them to explain why, if the Democratic administration really is the "friend of labor" that the union leaders claim it to be, it doesn't seem to think of finding a union man to take the job of price administrator.

Actually, of course, it doesn't matter much one way or another who gets the post of price administrator — it will still be run, as Truman's explanation indicated, along lines acceptable to the capitalist class, that is, more or less like the wartime OPA.

That kind of price control the workers and consumers could well dispense with. It may formally keep prices within certain restraints but it doesn't protect the housewife against the black market or deteriorate in quality of commodities and it doesn't stop profiteering. In short, it doesn't safeguard living standards against price rises.

I have been shown a letter that you have been circulating to all the voters who signed the petition placing me on the ballot as candidate for Assemblyman in the 20th District, San Francisco. In this letter you accuse me of using "unfair tactics," an absolute falsehood which you cannot prove in any way.

I was placed on the ballot through the hard and devoted work of my supporters who followed the laws of the state by obtaining more than the required minimum of 2,080 valid signatures.

This was no easy task since the laws passed by your parties govern the nomination of independent candidates are stringent.

You accuse me of "camouflaging" my party affiliation. This is false. I am running as a worker and a Socialist. If the laws of this state were more democratic I would be able to run under the designation of the Socialist Workers Party. I proudly make my affiliation known in speaking to organizations and voters of the District. Part of my program is to liberalize the election laws to allow minority parties a place on the ballot.

I registered under the name of the Independent Progressive Party early in 1948 when it appeared to have the possibilities of becoming a labor party based on and controlled by the trade unions of California. However, when it endorsed Wallace, the liberal capitalist, I publicly dissociated myself from it, and have vigorously opposed its policies ever since.

GIVE VOTERS A CHOICE

The Republican and Democratic parties which endorse you are both war parties. You played a leading role in advocating the police-state laws which these parties passed in Sacramento last month. I am running in this election to give the voters the choice between a capitalist party candidate and a working class, socialist candidate.

The Socialist Workers Party which endorsed me is opposed to all measures which are so rapidly converting this country into a police-state in Wall Street's drive

Profits Never Rose So Fast Before

In the second quarter of 1950, profits were 34% above the first quarter, and 59% above the second quarter of 1949. Net sales set a record of \$43.5 billions, 13% over the first quarter, while costs and expenses rose only 11%, which meant a bigger profit.

John Mitchell, president of Local 735, has been placed on trial by the Reutherite opposition on the trumped up charge of forcing the acting recording secretary to change the local executive board minutes. The Reutherites' plan is to force Mitchell to spend his time answering phony charges. Louis Macchette, president of Local 22, has a minority on the local executive board, with the Reutherite majority doing its best to squander the local funds.

To further obstruct the functioning of these locals, the regional offices refuse to process grievances that cannot be settled on a local level.

Rude Pale, a leading opponent of Reuther, was defeated for president of Local 235. A week after his return to work, he was slapped with a week's penalty lay-off for violating a smoking rule which most of his fellow workers were likewise violating. The rest of the workers did not get so much as a verbal reprimand. Pale had worked in this plant for 21 years without getting even a written reprimand. The Reutherite officers and shop committee refused to process Pale's grievance any further when the management agreed to call him back one day short of the week's end.

A few months ago in Local 15,

Sophie Smith, a Reuther opponent, yellow dog pledges not to sign a was laid off for two weeks. The company claimed there was no job which this worker with 14 years seniority was capable of doing. The Reutherite committee refused to process her grievance. She was called back to work only when the women in her department threatened to strike.

In Fleetwood the Reutherite committee refused to take up the grievances of four workers who did not receive the vacation pay to which they were entitled. Later these workers got their vacation pay despite the committee's failure to take up their case.

DEMORALIZE MEMBERS

Workers are losing interest in the union because of the leadership's do-nothing policy. For the last seven months Local 15 has held no membership meetings. The local officers arbitrarily called the meetings off during the summer months in violation of the local by-laws. Other meetings were not held for lack of a quorum.

In Local 262 the Reutherite officers and committee are permitting their members to sign

a grievance in case of future penalties. These pledges have been signed by workers who have been penalized and have been returned to work. This is a low point for the UAW even in GM.

In Local 735 the Detroit Transmission Unit of GM and in 22 Cadillac, anti-Reuther presidents were elected despite the all-out effort by the International to defeat them. The progressive presidents of these locals are being given a hard time.

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In Fleetwood the Reutherite committee refused to take up the grievances of four workers who did not receive the vacation pay to which they were entitled. Later these workers got their vacation pay despite the committee's failure to take up their case.

DEMORALIZE MEMBERS

Workers are losing interest in the union because of the leadership's do-nothing policy. For the last seven months Local 15 has held no membership meetings. The local officers arbitrarily called the meetings off during the summer months in violation of the local by-laws. Other meetings were not held for lack of a quorum.

In Local 262 the Reutherite officers and committee are permitting their members to sign

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H. Press Nails His Opponent's Fake Charges

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 23 — Harry Press, independent candidate for Assemblyman in the 20th District, who is endorsed by the Socialist Workers Party, today issued a statement branding as false charges being circulated by his opponent Thomas A. Maloney and challenging the latter to a public debate.

Maloney sent a letter to every one of the signers of the petition which placed Harry Press on the ballot accusing Press of resorting to a "truse." "I thought my election was all over," whined Maloney, "but it is not, because of the unfair tactics used by this other man..."

Because of the cross-filing system used in California, Maloney obtained the nominations of both the Republican and Democratic parties. Press, a principled opponent of capitalist parties and politics, could not and did not participate in these primaries. To clarify our opposing programs in the election I challenge you to public debate before the voters of this district. I am open to suggestion as to the time and place of such a debate.

Full text of Press's reply to Maloney follows:

ABSOLUTE FALSEHOOD

I have been shown a letter that you have been circulating to all the voters who signed the petition placing me on the ballot as candidate for Assemblyman in the 20th District, San Francisco. In this letter you accuse me of using "unfair tactics," an absolute falsehood which you cannot prove in any way.

I was placed on the ballot through the hard and devoted work of my supporters who followed the laws of the state by obtaining more than the required minimum of 2,080 valid signatures. This was no easy task since the laws passed by your parties govern the nomination of independent candidates are stringent.

You accuse me of "camouflaging" my party affiliation. This is false. I am running as a worker and a Socialist. If the laws of this state were more democratic I would be able to run under the designation of the Socialist Workers Party. I proudly make my affiliation known in speaking to organizations and voters of the District. Part of my program is to liberalize the election laws to allow minority parties a place on the ballot.

I registered under the name of the Independent Progressive Party early in 1948 when it appeared to have the possibilities of becoming a labor party based on and controlled by the trade unions of California. However, when it endorsed Wallace, the liberal capitalist, I publicly dissociated myself from it, and have vigorously opposed its policies ever since.

The rally was heralded by radio announcements, thousands of printed leaflets and notices in the press. The Negro weekly, the *Criterion*, gave the meeting a particularly good coverage with pictures of both candidates; and the *Sunday Courier*, Buffalo's leading daily, carried a detailed account of the rally.

Gladys Barker's bold attack on Jim Crow in the U. S. Army exposed the hypocrisy of Truman's program for the Negroes. Her appeal for intervention on behalf of Lt. Gilbert, condemned to death by court martial for refusing to lead 12 men to certain death in Korea, aroused a storm of applause from both white and colored workers present.

Bartell warned the audience of the grave dangers ahead for the American working class. He declared that the era of American liberalism was coming to a close, and would be replaced either by a Wall Street police state or the democratic rule of labor. He charged the ruling class of the III, he said, would cause an unequal conquest in Asia and establish a military dictatorship at home. The preparations for World War III, he said, would cause an unequal crisis to U. S. and world economy and precipitate class struggle on a national and international scale.

The dissenting committeeman returned his unsigned pledge card with a letter stating: "You will have to continue down the road of capitulation and betrayal of the worker's interests without my company." He also stated at the meeting, "The government should give us an oath, not us to the government."

The American workers will never submit to a military dictatorship," he said. "Following the fighting traditions of their historic struggles in the past, they will lead the world in the fight against tyranny. Yesterday, America was the center of world democracy. Today, it is the bastion of world counter-revolution. Tomorrow it will become the arena of the greatest social struggle that must end in the victory of socialism on a world scale."

The rate of profit, after taxes, rose from an average of 12% in the first quarter to 15.6% in the second quarter, according to the same report. The bigger the corporation, the bigger was the rate of profit. Corporations with assets of \$100 millions and over enjoyed the biggest increase in the rate of profit — from 13.6% to 17.2%.

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War Mobilization Heads



Alan Valentine, administrator of the Economic Stabilization Agency (left), and Cyrus W. Ching, chairman of the Wage Stabilization Board, are two of the many Big Business executives and directors being put in charge of the economic front in the war mobilization plans.

DETROIT — The Socialist Workers Party of Michigan, as part of its current election campaign, is fighting vigorously to defeat the proposed Amendment No. 3 to the state constitution which would all but nullify the basic liberties defined in the "Bill of Rights" Article II of the Michigan Constitution.

The proposed amendment would suspend the constitutional guarantee of free speech and free press as defenses in "subversion" trials. It would make "subversion" a crime punishable by any penalty later set by the state legislature.

As part of the campaign to defeat this Nazi-like piece of legislation, the SWP is distributing thousands of copies of a printed leaflet throughout the state. Pertinent sections of this leaflet read as follows:

BIG BUSINESS CONSPIRACY

"Defeat the drive of the Big Business interests of Michigan to destroy your basic democratic, civil, religious and political rights! The Republican and Democratic parties have joined hands in an infamous conspiracy to assault the people's traditional personal rights as outlined in the Michigan Constitution.

"Article II has stood in the Constitution since 1835 — for 115 years! It guarantees your religious, political and civil rights! It guarantees the freedom of the press and assembly! The proposed Amendment to Article II would be a club wielded in the hands of profit-hungry, police-minded corporations to oppress the people and destroy their constitutional liberties.

"The political hooligans of the monopoly-controlled auto, food and steel corporations seek to dominate and declare where he stands on the agricultural strikes and other issues. "What have Holifield and Douglas and other so-called 'friends of labor' done to help the organization of the agricultural workers?" she asked. The political hooligans of the monopoly