

Japanese Unions Ask World Labor Action on Korea

Japan's largest national labor organization, the General Council of Japan Labor Unions with 3,000,000 members, is reported to be issuing an appeal to the trade unions in other countries to launch nationwide movements to end the Korean war.

This heartening news of world significance was reported in an Associated Press story from Tokyo on Feb. 11. It was given exactly one paragraph of space in several metropolitan newspapers in New York.

"Kyodo News Service said today the 3,000,000-member General Council of Japan Labor Unions had decided to appeal to labor unions in foreign countries to launch nation-wide movements to halt the Korean war," stated the dispatch.

This anti-war call from the most militant and powerful section of the Japanese labor movement cannot be dismissed easily.

'Grave Concern' Voiced by Nehru Over Chiang Move

Voicing the anti-war sentiment of the people of India, Prime Minister Nehru on Feb. 18 bitterly scored Gen. Eisenhower's ominous release of dictator Chiang Kai-shek's troops for attacks on China, saying that it "has caused grave concern not only here, but all over the world."

Nehru branded the "talk of a blockade of China or other such steps" as "obviously not talk of peace, whatever else it might bring."

Without mentioning Eisenhower by name, Nehru said that "a soldier is a very fine person in his own domain, but this intrusion of the military mentality into the chancery of the world presents a very great danger."

SWP Candidate in L.A. Makes Anti-War Appeal

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 7 — Myra Tanner Weiss, who has filed as an independent candidate for mayor of this city but who advocates the platform of the Socialist Workers Party, outlined her views this evening over radio station KNK. She made clear in the few minutes at her disposal that her candidacy offers the voters of America's fourth largest city an opportunity to register their opposition to Eisenhower's plans to extend the Korean war.

The stenogram of the interview is as follows:

"Could you introduce yourself, Mrs. Weiss, as briefly as you could?"

"I am the Los Angeles chairman of the Socialist Workers Party. I also ran for vice-president of the United States in the 1952 national election campaign. I have been active in the Socialist movement and the labor movement here in Los Angeles for about 18 years."

"And aside from being a housewife, you are a full time party functionary?"

"That is right."

"Do you think in light of the fact that the Los Angeles city elections are run on a non-partisan basis—that is, there is no party labeled, do you think this will hurt you because you are identified with your party?"

"Not in the least. You see it depends upon what you want in the election campaign. The other candidates, I believe, are looking for a job, but I am anxious to get the socialist ideas before the people of Los Angeles, and what is important for me is to identify myself. What I want to do is to convince the people that we need a new society, a socialist society, and before the people can vote for socialism, they have got to know what it is all about."

"Specifically what is the Socialist Workers program in the city election campaign?"

"It is impossible to separate the city election issues from the national election issues because this city can't solve its own problems separate and apart from the nation. We can begin to find the solution, but only in connection with those national and international problems. For this reason my principal plank in this campaign is in opposition to the Korean war and I am opposed to the present plan to extend the war to the mainland of China. Secondly, I believe that the American people and the city of Los Angeles can make progress only when the working class of this country begins to oppose the rule of Big Business. I think this should be done through an independent Labor Party. Big Business today, through Eisenhower, is ruling directly. Through Tru-



MYRA T. WEISS

THE MILITANT

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'Bring GIs Home from Korea' Letters Deluge White House

Negro People Urged to Seek Labor Party

LOS ANGELES, Feb. 15 — In a talk at Forum Hall celebrating Negro History Week last night, Richard Kirk stressed one of the main planks in the municipal election platform of the Socialist Workers Party — the need to build an independent Labor Party dedicated to the interests of Negroes, workers and others in the low-paid brackets.

Kirk said that the decision faced by the Negro people today was as difficult as the decision faced by Frederick Douglass in the fight for emancipation from slavery.

Douglass was called upon to break with the Abolitionists and their leader William Lloyd Garrison because they were against political action, Kirk pointed out. Douglass and his associates realized that the emancipation movement was doomed to defeat unless it entered the political arena. Douglass made the hard choice.

Today the Negro people and the workers are faced with a similar hard but necessary choice — either world destruction, degradation and chaos through further support of the capitalist parties; or a beginning of the solution of the problems of poverty, jobs, discrimination and war through independent political action looking to the establishment of a new society of equality and plenty.

Berkeley Socialist Club Announced

BERKELEY, Calif., Feb. 13 — Formation of the Eugene V. Debs Socialist Club was announced through an open letter distributed on the campus of the University of California during the three-day registration period that ended last night.

According to the letter, the new club is primarily concerned about the ominous war plans of the Eisenhower administration. It invites students who want to do something about the "terrible drift towards war and barbarism" to join the club and help "in the struggle for a democratic, socialist world."

The statement brands the Stalinist bureaucracy as a "cancerous growth" in the Soviet Union, but holds that American Big Business is the real "world aggressor."

MYRA T. WEISS

man, it ruled indirectly, and it cannot possibly give us peace and prosperity both."

"I believe you ran for the school board here in Los Angeles a couple of years ago, Mrs. Weiss. In light of that, could you tell us what you think of the present school board's recent decision in the UNESCO controversy?"

"I feel the decision there reflects the general trend toward witch hunt and reaction, and an attempt to destroy academic freedom in the school system. I am very much opposed to it for this reason. I am personally not in favor of the UNESCO, because the UNESCO is simply a tool of the United Nations, and the United Nations is the sponsor of the present war in Korea."

"The Socialist Workers Party is not in any way connected with the Communist Party, is it?"

"No, we are the opponents of the Communist Party traditionally in the working class."

"I wonder if you can tell us frankly what you think your chances are."

"If you mean what are our chances of being elected, I don't believe they are very great at this point, because as I said before, the people have to know what the socialist program is before they are ready to vote socialist, but I think they will vote socialist, if not in this election, then in subsequent elections, because there is no solution offered by either the Republican or Democratic Parties."

Workers of the World, Unite!

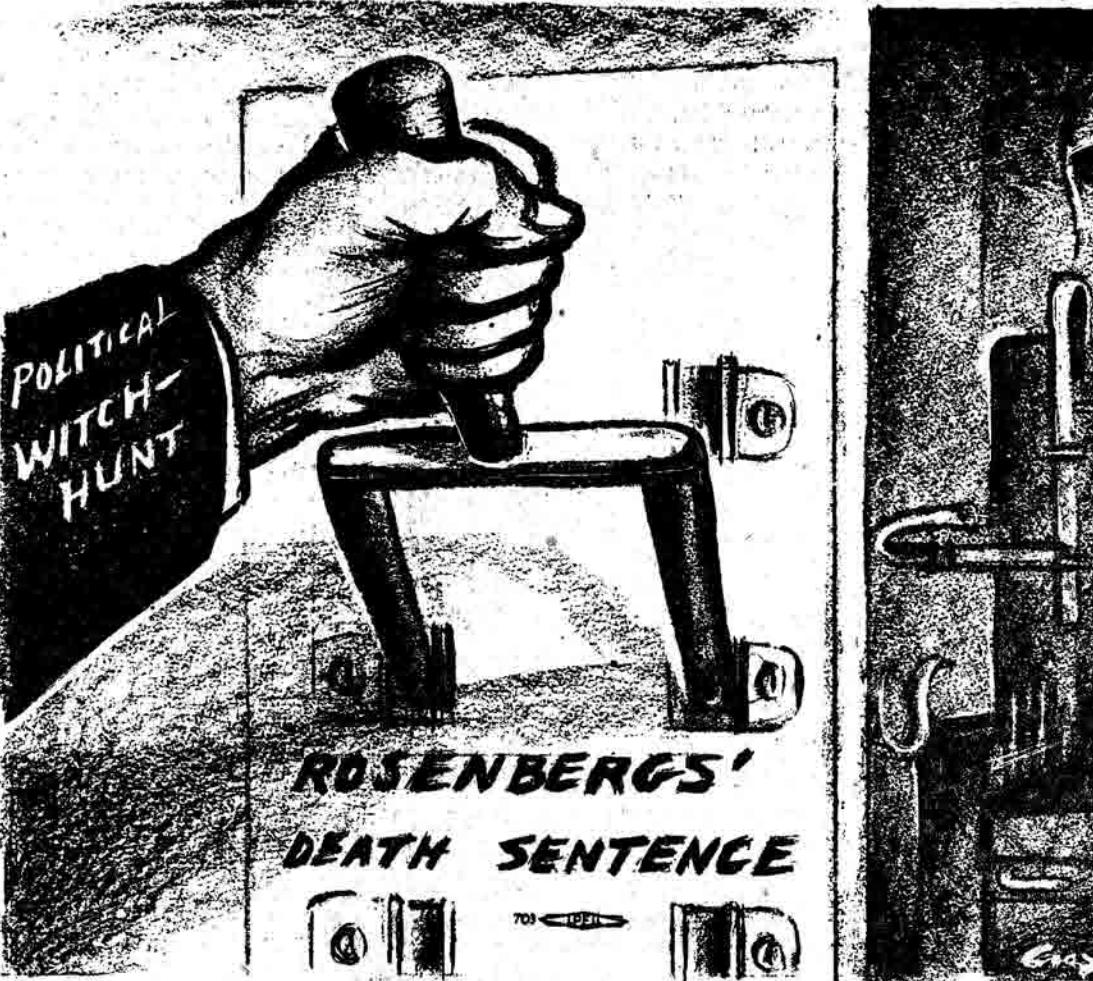
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The Hand on the Switch



Save the Rosenbergs!

An Editorial

In the Death House at Sing Sing, in the shadow of the electric chair, Julius and Ethel Rosenberg wait. In New York, their uncomprehending children wait. Throughout the nation, the editors scream: "Pull the switch." And everywhere throughout the world, the wave of protest mounts. Even in this country, where the facts of the Rosenberg case are least known and lies are most widely spread, doubt and protest are rising.

Protests from scientists, religious leaders, jurists, unionists and liberals show that the conscience of America has been touched. It is bothered by the bitter insistence of the wolf-pack on invoking the death penalty for espionage in peace-time for the first time in our history, and in a case where the alleged espionage was committed when the foreign power involved was an ally.

Doubts are rising over the government case itself. The prosecution, unable to demonstrate any actual contact with foreign agents, charged the Rosenbergs only with "conspiring" or "intent" to transmit information. The entire

case rests upon the testimony of one weak mortal, who bargained with the FBI for his own skin. Testimony of the Rosenbergs was called "more believable" than the testimony of David Greenglass which convicted them, by the two top atomic scientists of our day, Dr. Harold C. Urey and Albert Einstein.

Dr. Edward U. Condon, another leading scientist, showed a chief prosecution point, Greenglass' story of a "freehand drawing" he made of a "lens," to be false. He said: "the essence of the lens lies in the precise shape which Greenglass did not know and could not have transmitted by a freehand sketch in any case."

The witch hunters have run wild in America. They have hurled filth, deprived non-conforming men and women of jobs, and clanged the iron doors on the innocent. Now they want blood. Will this be permitted in America?

This nation must hear the truth as the entire world beyond our shores has heard it. In the few remaining weeks, the volume of protest must grow.

The Rosenbergs must not die!

Unions Face Trap in T-H Amendments

By C. Thomas

The open hearings now being conducted before the House Labor Committee in Washington on amending the union-busting Taft-Hartley law have already disclosed that the gulf between the interests of labor and capital on this legislation is unbridgeable.

Sen. Taft, co-author of the anti-labor law, fired the opening gun by submitting a series of 16 amendments which were immediately dismissed by the CIO as "piddling and trivial." Besides being "completely inadequate," a number of Taft's amendments are designed to strengthen the repressive provisions of the Taft-Hartley law.

The CIO is proposing seven "truly fundamental" revisions which Taft has brushed aside with the remark that "they just want to repeal the law."

The Chamber of Commerce, National Association of Manufacturers and other such Big Business outfits are demanding additional restrictions to strangle the unions. Some of their spokesmen in Congress have already introduced bills to outlaw industry-wide bargaining, place a

ban on mass picketing, extend the strike-breaking injunction provisions, etc., etc.

PLAYING CAGEY

The AFL is playing cagey. They have refrained from spelling out their specific proposals but have announced that President George Meany will present them in person before the Congressional committee. The report is that they are angling for some kind of deal at the expense of the CIO.

President Eisenhower, says the *Wall Street Journal*, is ducking the issue by tossing "the ball to Congress."

Amendments are pouring in from all directions. "The field's wide open," says Taft.

UMW STAND

What, if any, are the prospects of amending the Taft-Hartley law in any essential aspect favorable to labor?

The United Mine Workers, which heads the consistent labor opposition to any compromise with Taft-Hartley, categorically rejects the "amendment" approach as a peace and demands

the "compromising attitude of the AFL and CIO." On the controversial NAM-Taft-Hartley Act, the Journal insists, "the coalition will function as a well-oiled engine since the labor committees in both Senate and House are stacked" with Taft-Hartleyites.

The "patchwork approach to the subject of T-H is right down Taft's alley," says the UMW Journal, "and they lost no time in introducing a handful of synthetic amendments which don't really change anything."

According to the Feb. 14 *Labor Daily*, Samuel K. McConnell, Jr., chairman of the House Labor Committee and a Taft-Hartley supporter from the beginning, "indicated pleasure that the CIO was willing to discuss T-H amendments, rather than insisting on repeal."

T-H GANG PLEASED

The Taft-Hartley gang is tickled pink by the decision of the union leaders to modify labor's fight for repeal by seeking amendments which have no chance of resulting in any real concession

to labor. It is taken as evidence that the union leaders have become reconciled to living with Taft-Hartley instead of conducting an uncompromising fight for its repeal. This, of course, facilitates passage of further repressive measures against the unions.

The first retreat of the union leaders on the signing of the so-called "non-communist" affidavit permitted the labor haters to clamp the unions in the Taft-Hartley vice. Since its adoption in 1947, the Taft-Hartley law has been instrumental in halting the spread of union organization, especially in the open-shop South. But that's not enough for the big business tycoons who rule the roost in Washington and Wall Street. They seek to sharpen and extend the union-smashing legislative weapons for use at an opportune time to crush the still powerful labor movement.

Big Business has never for one moment abandoned its campaign for the enactment of those original provisions contained in the more deadly Hartley version of the Taft-Hartley Act which were deleted in the final version.

Two of these provisions, the ban on industry-wide bargaining and mass picketing, have now been introduced in the form of amendments.

HARTLEY'S REVELATIONS

In his book on the Taft-Hartley Act, published in 1948, Hartley has a chapter on "What We Left Out." "I don't think any of these omitted provisions," he insists, "can be regarded as discarded for all time. . . . The principal question is not if they will be enacted, but when."

As to "when" the opportune moment would arise, Hartley writes: "Time after time the labor unions created a favorable atmosphere for further strengthening amendments to the Taft-Hartley Act. John L. Lewis, in particular, set the stage for an anti-monopoly law that could have been passed by both houses in less than a week had the Republican leadership seen fit to act.

"After Speaker Martin stepped in and 'settled' the coal strike in April (1948), I was asked when I thought there would be as good an aroused American people must bring organized power to bear on the White House and Congress. Demand a speedy, bloodless end to the Korean war! Demand the withdrawal of the American troops from Korea without further delay!"

(Continued on Page 2)

WHY DE-CONTROL? NEW POLICY BEGINS

By Harry Frankel

With his action ending price and wage controls, Eisenhower has taken the first step in a Big Business offensive against the labor movement.

This may not be clear at the moment, chiefly because Eisenhower's action does not put an immediate squeeze on the labor movement. As a matter of fact, his action was demanded by the CIO at its last convention. The CIO said that wage controls were oppressive and discriminatory, and price controls had become farce. Needless to say, however, the reasons which Eisenhower and his Wall Street advisers had for the de-control are different from those advanced by the CIO. The question is: What were these reasons?

It appears to me that the basic motivation for the Republican action was to yank the federal government out of the sphere of labor-capital relations on its old basis precisely in order to prepare its re-intervention later on a new basis.

In his "State of the Union" address, Eisenhower rejected "political expediency," "slanted partisan appeals" and "government paternalism" in the field of "labor relations." Of course it is nothing but typical Republican demagogic to speak of the past Democratic administration as though it were "partisan" towards labor and against business. The reactionary and anti-labor character of the Democratic administration was becoming increasingly evident to any careful observer of labor's real gains or losses.

But it must be understood that in the twenty years of Democratic rule, a certain mode of operation had developed which was maintained to the end. Because it was tied up in a loose electoral bloc with the unions, Negro organizations, etc., the Democratic Party had to work out a governmental role which gave the appearance of mediator between the contending classes. Thus the Democratic regime, with its ties and obligations, had to create a complicated structure of balances and a network of appearances behind which facade capital worked its will.

However, not in every case were mere appearances involved, and in some important instances the Roosevelt and Truman administrations can be said to have played the role of actual mediator, placing restraints from time to time upon the most battle-minded sections of the capitalist class.

Eisenhower's de-control action is intended to cut off this former role clearly and demonstratively. By dumping former policies, dissolving former agencies, shedding thousands of personnel tied up with the old policy, he at one and the same time cuts away the old role and prepares for federal intervention in the class relations, when it is required, on a more open and unrestrained pro-capitalist basis.

He is aided in this action by the fact that, despite the war program, controls may at the present moment be eliminated without any big immediate repercussions.

It must be added that this was the direction in which the Democrats were heading also, but their progress was impeded by past traditions and structures, and the electoral entanglements involved in its mode of rule. The Republicans—and this was Wall Street's big victory in the elections—were able to install a new regime based on the same reactionary program but without previous alliances and restrictions.

Does this mean that we can expect an immediate all-out drive against the unions? Not necessarily. We are only witnessing the first steps in the deck-clearing process. The progress of the class struggle and the political and economic situation, both on an international and national scale, will however lead inevitably to that stage, and it is this which Wall Street is now beginning to prepare for.

LABOR FACES TRAP IN MOVES FOR AMENDING TAFT-HARTLEY

(Continued from page 1)
an opportunity for amending the Taft-Hartley Act as the one we had just lost.

"I replied: 'In 1953.'"

BIDE THEIR TIME

The labor haters await only a "favorable" opportunity. Such "incidents" as the 1948 coal strike can be created by the employers whenever it suits their purpose. The only effect of the retreat of the union leaders from their previous position, of outright repeal will be to embolden the Taft-Hartley gang to push their own amendments. They know that labor is going to get nothing substantial out of their demand for "truly fundamental" revisions favoring the unions.

The Wall Street Journal, Jan. 27, summed up the whole business

by quoting what they call "one old-time Capitol Hill labor expert," who said, "I don't think anything will get through that he (Taft) doesn't want, and when he gets through you can still call it the Taft-Hartley law."

Sixteen candy stores in the Flatbush section of Brooklyn were visited by a delegation who objected to the display of books proscribed by the Decent Literature Committee of Our Lady Help of Christians Roman Catholic Church. Included on the list were comic books, crime novels and reprints. The store owners removed the books from the shelves and posted signs indicating their compliance with the orders of the self-appointed censors.

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Killing of Koje War Prisoners -- Atrocities or 'Communist Plot'?

By Art Preis

Hardly a week goes by without more murders and wounding of Korean and Chinese war prisoners in U.S. prison camps. A steady stream of massacres has been perpetrated against POWs confined behind barbed-wire in compounds on isolated, desolate islands off South Korea. The latest massacre resulted on Feb. 9 in death to five North Korean prisoners of war and injury to 19 on Koje Island. "There were no U.N. casualties," reported the Associated Press.

Col. C. C. Cadwell, U.S. commander of the prison camps, complained the killings followed a "deliberate attempt" by the "Communist prisoners" to carry out "the plan to constantly harass the U.N. command." They forced the camp commander to order their wounding and death with gas, concussion grenades and bullets by "shouting Communist songs in violation of written orders," reported the United Press.

These massacres, which have taken a toll of hundreds dead and more than 1,300 wounded, have been explained invariably as a diabolical Communist plot, engineered all the way from North Korea. The Communist generals pass the word mysteriously to the isolated prison camps and the POWs proceed to hurl themselves into machine-gun fire and under tanks.

This excuse for the repeated mass-murders of unarmed prisoners has appeared completely phoney to most of the world. Therefore, Gen. Mark Clark in Tokyo on Jan. 29 issued a "hitherto secret intelligence study" which "proved" that generals Nam Il and Lee Sang Jo, the two top North Korean delegates to the Panmunjom truce talks, had been "assigned to mastermind the incidents within the United Nations' prisoners of war camps." The report claimed they "hold direct responsibility" for the so-called "riots."

TIMELY "PROOF"

This "proof," dug up so conveniently by the U.S. command's own "intelligence agents" from their "interrogation" of POWs was presented to the world only after the facts leaked out about the report of the International Committee of the Red Cross, which had investigated the massacres of February, March and April 1952.

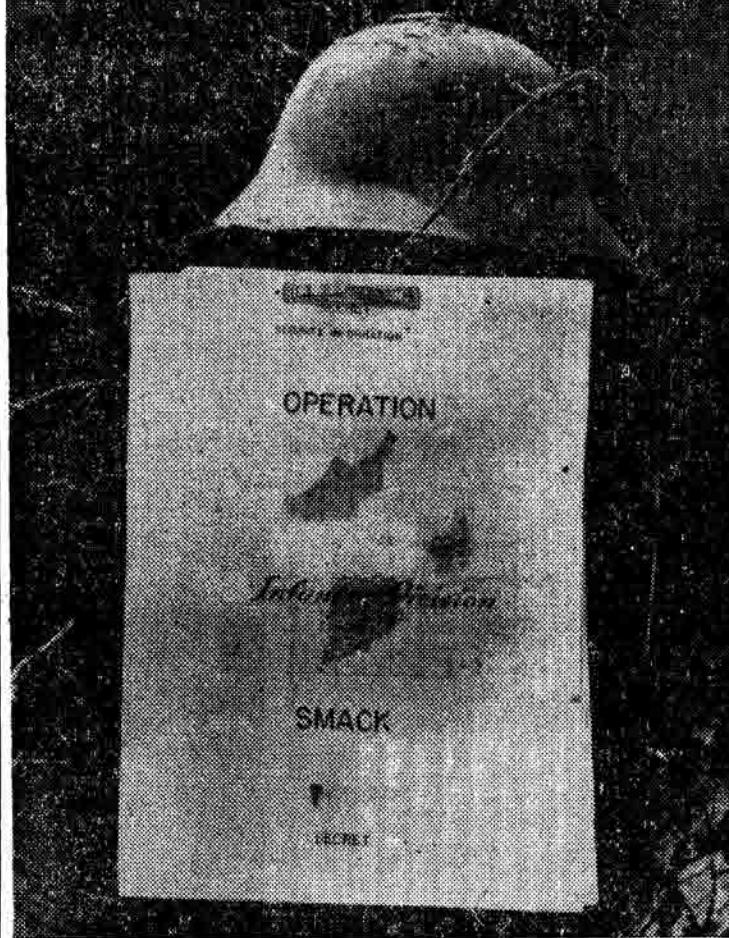
To this day, the capitalist press has concealed the detailed contents of this report from the American public. But we do know of its existence and general findings. A dispatch from Gen. Clark's headquarters in Tokyo to the Dec. 21 N. Y. Times details his reply "to criticism by the International Red Cross in Geneva of the United Nations' Command's treatment of the prisoners on Koje Island and in stockades near Pusan earlier this year." These "findings in Geneva" found that "the Allies 'appeared' to have acted in contravention of the Prisoners of War Convention in denying food and water and using force against the Koje Island mutineers." This is all the dispatch permits us to know about the Red Cross report.

On Dec. 23, the Times carried a Washington dispatch reporting that a "State Department spokesman" had complained of the

shoddy treatment of the

U.S. top command's shameful actions against war prisoners.

Operation Smack Program



Shown against barbed wire and helmet background is bound copy of battle orders for Operation Smack, name given to successful infantry raid by U.S. seventh division in Korea. Charge that battle was a show put on for visiting brass and war correspondents raised storm in Congress. It was alleged that the raid on T-Bone hill cost needless casualties.

The Depression Danger and the War Danger

By Harry Frankel

(Last of a series of four.)

Life Magazine, in a typically glossy appraisal of U.S. economic prospects (Jan. 5) said: "Won't everything start collapsing when defense spending declines? The answer is no. The reason is: our economy has been equipped with a number of stabilizers."

This is an often-sounded note in the reassuring articles published these days about the American economy. Like publicity agents for an airline, the businessmen and economists assure the public: "Don't worry. We used to have big crashes, but we don't expect to have any more because our flying machine is equipped with the latest thing in built-in stabilizers. You can soar with impunity, so get on board."

More cautiously, the Commerce Department's survey "Markets After the Defense Expansion" says: "Nothing has taken place which will automatically prevent the recurrence of the traditional downward spiral... or keep it from proceeding once it has been set off. The chain has, however, been weakened..."

The highly touted "stabilizers" break down into three general categories: (1) The regulation of financial institutions and speculative markets, (2) the props to personal income and (3) the tax structure.

WILL THEY WORK?

(1) Any theory that the present regulations over banking, such as regulation of interest rates and deposits, or over stock and other speculative markets, such as certain restrictions on margin trading, can prevent a collapse is a false one. The crash of speculative markets, the bank panic, etc., were not the causes of the 1929

collapse, but symptoms and consequences of a far deeper process.

This can be seen from the fact that, in 1929, the first sign of the crisis was not the stock market collapse, but the beginning of a decline in heavy industry in the summer of that year, five months before the panic. Thus while the tinkering with the financial and credit structure might soften the initial panic impact, it does not touch the basic crisis tendency.

(2) The next class of so-called "stabilizers" refers to those, such as unemployment insurance, social security, veterans' benefits, etc., that are lumped together under the title "transfer payments." These transfer payments came to only 2% of the national income in 1929. That was before most of the New Deal legislation had enlarged the importance of this factor. But in 1946, at the postwar peak of transfer payments, they amounted to only 5% of the national income. It can be seen that this "shock absorber" acts within only a very limited range.

ONE-THIRD OF INCOME

Consider for example unemployment insurance, which is by far the most important of the "cushions" to personal income that would come into operation in case of a crisis. A worker who draws unemployment insurance receives only about one-third of his usual income, on an average. Moreover, this support continues for only 26 weeks, a very short time when compared against the duration of mass unemployment during the last crisis. On top of all this, the unemployment insurance funds at present contain only about \$9 billion, or only a portion of the projected decline in the arms market. Thus the limits on what can be accomplished by this most important of all the "stabilizers" are very tight indeed.

(3) The final "automatic stabilizer" is, we are told, the tax structure. If a decline of consumer income sets in, then tax payments, being tied to income, will be lower, thus restoring consumer purchasing power. This is not a very strong stabilizer either. Under present tax laws, the drop in personal income compared to the drop in after-tax income would be in the ratio of about 20 to 17, in case of a "moderate" depression. This means that, for every \$20 of income drop, the actual drop will be

\$17, due to the fact that taxes will be lower. In other words, the decline in personal income can be arrested by about 15% by the lowered taxes. But even that small effect would be lessened in the case of a deeper depression.

LOWER TAXES, HIGHER SPENDING?

There is another side to this tax matter. It is an example of how the capitalist economists like to eat their cake and have it too. When they talk about all the other stabilizers, they assume increased government expenditures for unemployment compensation, for public works, for bank deposit insurance, for maintenance of farm prices, etc. In other words, for any of these other government props to work one must visualize a great increase in government expenditures. But when they come to taxes, they talk about a big drop in federal taxes that would lighten the load on consumers and increase purchasing power in their hands. How they propose to have both at the same time they do not explain. Nor do they bother to take account of the fact that, while we entered the last depression with a negligible government debt, we would start the next one with a debt of fantastic size.

Thus while we can agree that present government programs of support to income would slightly soften the initial impact of a crisis, they could never hope to significantly retard the progress of such a crisis; nor would their initial effect extend very far into a crisis of long duration.

This series of articles has attempted to estimate the possibility of an economic decline in case the present arms expenditures decline in the absence of larger warfare, to a "maintenance level." We have found that the prospects, in such a case, are for economic decline and even severe crisis.

WITH A WHIMPER?

A word of caution is now necessary. An extended and deep economic crisis comparable to that of 1929 would certainly, by its effects on European capitalism, by its effect on U.S. social struggles, and by giving the leadership in the world industrial race to the Soviet Union, mark the rapid and final doom of world capitalism. In such a case, socialists would be gratified to find the capitalist world ending, as the poet said, "not with a bang but a

In the first article of this series (The Militant, Jan. 19) I wrote that "if it becomes clear that a drop in the arms program would initiate even a small-scale depression, then the arms program would be restored even if it became necessary to extend the present war or initiate global war." The threat of depression, coming in absolute concordance with the more fundamental causes of the Wall Street drive towards war, would be an irresistible spur to the capitalists and militarists. The timetable of the U.S. economic boom will very likely be a significant factor, perhaps even the most important factor, in the timetable of the war drive.

THE WAR DANGER

This analysis cannot be taken in any mechanical way. The capitalist class is by no means the master of its own fate, even in the present American situation where it appears to be so much the master. The imperialist war drive may produce a world holocaust long before the crisis tendencies in the American economy burst their present restraints. Or, on the other hand, a sizable economic decline may catch the capitalists unawares before they have launched the war.

But it would be foolish to think that the U.S. capitalist class, with servile tools occupying the top government posts, would permit an economic decline to develop so far as to actually cripple its ability to launch a war and explode giant class battles here. For these reasons, we must regard the foregoing analysis of the depression danger as in reality an analysis of the war danger.

Advanced workers and experienced trade union militants will readily understand the lengths to which American capitalism will go to save its rule. They know the nature of the beast. The recent warnings of the top leaders of the AFL and CIO about the danger of depression are absolutely inadequate. The real danger is world carnage triggered by Wall Street to save capitalist exploitation. The labor leaders close their eyes to this danger, because they are harnessed to the "anti-communist" war chariot. But the socialist workers will carry this message to their fellow-workers: Stop the war drive before it is too late, and stop the depression danger by taking control of the capitalist world out of the hands of the capitalists!

The End

The American Way of Life

New Light on Wilson's Patriotism

C. E. Wilson, former General Motors president and now Secretary of Defense, won't have to sell the old family mansion after all to keep his new job. In fact, he'll be able to buy one or two new ones. His annual net income figures to be HIGHER than it was before, despite the loss of his GM position and the sale of his GM stock.

Last month the newspapers played on our heart strings about how Wilson had demonstrated "\$2,500,000 Worth of Patriotism" when he disposed of his GM stocks, paying a capital-gains tax of \$500,000, and gave up his \$2,000,000 GM salary for the next four years to "serve his country."

Capitalists who sacrifice even a dime for anything—including patriotism—really suffer. So I could see what anguish it must have cost Wilson to make the Supreme Sacrifice of \$2,500,000, even if it still left him \$6,000,000 or \$7,000,000 away from the Poor House.

But even while I got a lump in my throat with the newspaper visions of Old Glory flapping in the breeze over the haloed head of the old GM labor-hater, a little whisper in the back of my mind told me there was something not quite right about this picture.

The famed tiger-tamer Clyde Beatty, musing on the approach of his fiftieth year, recently said: "My reactions are slowing up... Those babies are beginning to worry me." And I thought, well, if those cats do get him, it won't be because he's killed himself about any change in them.

Applying that thought to C. E. Wilson, I asked myself, "Has this typical specimen of a capitalist tiger changed, or have my reactions slowed up?"

I had to confess sadly to myself that perhaps my reactions had slowed just the tiniest bit—especially after I read in the financial section of the Sunday, Feb. 8, N.Y. Times an article by Burton Crane. Mr. Crane gives the detailed facts put together by the well-known tax experts William J. Casey and J. K. Lasser. And what they figure is that Wilson isn't losing, but making on the Defense Secretary deal.

If Mr. Wilson sells his General Motors stock for \$2,700,000, pays \$450,000 in capital gains taxes and puts the balance into 2½ per cent tax-exempt municipal bonds, his "take-home" pay will rise under any method of figuring," explains Mr. Crane. "Next year he will get \$22,850 more after taxes than he did as president of General Motors at the peak of his earning powers."

The figures submitted by tax experts Casey and Lasser to the Senate Armed Services Committee showed that if Wilson had gone into the Cabinet and been allowed to keep his GM stocks, his net income after taxes, would have been \$102,500. But by investing the net proceeds from the sale of his GM stocks in tax-exempt municipal bonds—"which seems a sensible thing to do"—Wilson will get an "after taxes total of \$145,600, or a favorable difference of \$43,000," explains the Times financial writer. "By this method of figuring, that last total is actually \$26,100 higher than the total he would have received as president of General Motors, drawing full salary."

So, I guess I can wring out my crying towel and hang it up to dry. The tiger hasn't changed his stripes. The capitalists aren't turning soft, either in the head or heart. We still need socialism.

Lewis Peterson

THE MILITANT ARMY

Literature Agent Jacki Booth writes that the Chicago comrades are making plans for the extension of regular

Militant sales at street corners, college, campuses and union meetings. "We have already started some sales at Roosevelt College, UAW Local 719, and two street corners. Participating in these sales have been Don and Muriel Belle, John, Kenny, Mary Lou, Ines, La-Floria, Bob and myself. Other work includes a distribution of papers at Harvester by Mari and continued sales at the Post Office News Bookstore."

San Francisco Literature Agent Nick Bennett reports plans to start up Militant sales at trade union meetings. He and Bertha sold 12 papers last week at a longshore meeting.

Literature Agent Helen Sherman tells us that the Minneapolis comrades really look forward to receiving their issues of Socialist Outlook. She writes, "Interest in the British Labor Party has sharpened

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Asians Against Whom?

During his election campaign, General Eisenhower first raised his slogan, "Let Asians fight Asians." This was intended to convey the idea that there are vast forces in Asia eager to fight "communism." All they would need is arms and supplies, plus U.S. commanders and military training, and these "anti-Communist" forces would be able to replace American troops on the battle lines.

This is an alluring idea to desperate mothers, fathers and wives ready to grasp at any means to save their loved ones in Korea. By projecting this idea, Eisenhower hopes to blunt the edge of the popular demand to end the war and bring the American troops home from Korea. If the people will just accept the war a little longer, Eisenhower implies, soon a great force of Asians themselves will take over. Meanwhile, of course, the U.S. troops will continue on the battle lines in full force.

This whole proposition is a fraud and one of the crudest deceptions ever practised on the American people.

Take the people of South Korea, whom U.S. bombers are supposed to be "liberating." Eisenhower is trying to sell the idea that they will provide a force, in time, to relieve all or most American troops from the front lines. The potentialities of the South Koreans as holders of U.S. battle lines are more accurately disclosed, however, by the Scripps-Howard staff correspondent in Korea, Jim G. Lucas. Writ-

ing from Seoul, Feb. 6, Lucas reluctantly admitted:

"The truth is that the Koreans are sick to death of war. . . . They know mainly that we have never shared their burdens, their misery or their privations. We eat well; they never get enough. Since we came here, their homes have been destroyed, their rice paddies trampled. This has been going on three years. They are often afraid of us. . . . They do not understand us. In their hearts, they associate us with all that has happened since 1950 and we had never come. . . ."

The greatest non-Communist nation in Asia is India. Will the people of India fight as "Asians against Asians"? Their views are reliably reported by Taya Zinkin, Bombay correspondent of *The Wall Street Journal*, in a Feb. 13 dispatch on India's reaction to Eisenhower's threat to use Chiang Kai-shek's troops against China: "The Eisenhower administration's new 'get-tough' policy in Asia is being almost unanimously condemned by the people of India — the country whose views often provide the lead for the rest of South East Asia."

Far from any serious prospects of Asians fighting Asians for the benefit of Wall Street's war in the Far East, the probabilities are the other way around. The overwhelming majority of Asians hate U.S. business interests, their striped-pants diplomats, arrogant brass hats and invading troops. All they ask is that the Americans go home and leave them alone.

Productivity and Wages

The National Association of Manufacturers, in a Feb. 8 statement, came out against wage increases based upon rising productivity of labor. They insist that it is too hard to measure increases in output per man-hour of labor, and therefore it is not proper to give workers more pay in return for the higher output they produce.

The American Federation of Labor, in a statement issued the same day, called for pay rises as a means of heading off a major depression in 1954 or 1955. They said there is an "ominous disparity" between how much workers are able to produce and how much they are able to buy.

It is true, as the NAM says, that it is very hard to measure productivity increases for any single year. But it is very easy to estimate productivity increases on a average over a period of years.

All estimates agree that output per worker-hour has been going up at a rate somewhere between 2 1/2% and 3 1/2% per year for the past dozen years. Since 1946, the product produced by each worker in an hour has risen, on the average, about 22%.

Now what about consumer purchases in the same period? Sumner H. Schlichter, Harvard economist whose work is authoritative at least

in business circles, pointed out in the February issue of *Harpers Magazine* that "per capita purchases of consumer goods by the American people have been virtually stationary for six years . . . in the third quarter of 1952 the physical volume of consumer goods bought per capita was less than 2% higher than in 1946."

Thus the American Federation of Labor is right when it says that this "ominous disparity" can lead straight to a depression. But is the AFL right when it says that higher wages can avert the possibility of depression? All depressions under capitalism have been preceded by high wage periods, but the crashes were not thereby averted. Should the disparity between productive capacity and consumption be corrected by big wage increases, this would lead to such a sharp decline in the rate of profit that investment would shrink and a depression be precipitated by a slightly different course.

That is one of the insoluble problems of the capitalist system. But it should not stop workers from demanding wage increases commensurate with their increases in production. If this leads the capitalists into trouble, that is their funeral, not ours. If the capitalist system can't give the workers a rising standard of living based on higher production, then it's time to replace it by a system that will.

Put the Killer Cops Behind Bars

Police brutality against strikers, Negroes and other minority peoples is no new story. It flourishes because almost always superiors support and cover up the brutal actions of their cops.

This is shown by the virtual impossibility of getting justice in a police brutality case. Investigations of crimes committed by the Police Department, carried out by the Police Department itself, almost invariably end in a whitewash. Now it has been revealed that the cover up for police brutality in New York also involves federal officials.

As you might suspect, federal protection in this field is pretty toothless. The maximum penalty under the federal law is one year and \$1,000 fine.

But even this weak federal law seems to irk New York's "finest." According to sensa-

THE ROAD TO PEACE

This pamphlet by James P. Cannon is must reading for anyone opposed to another war. It explains why peace cannot be won by following the Stalinist program and outlines Lenin's real views on this life and death question, with particular application to America.

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tional revelations, they made a deal exempting them from federal investigation of any charges involving police brutality.

Let us recall just a few samples of the tiny percentage of cases involving broken bones, bleeding flesh and dead men.

John Derrick, Negro veteran, celebrating his discharge from the army, killed by police. The killer cops assert, contrary to what eyewitnesses say, that Derrick attempted to draw a gun. First search of his warm body revealed no gun. A cop leaves the scene, returns later, another search is made and this time a gun is "found" on Derrick's body. Over \$1,000 in back pay and mustering out pay Derrick was carrying was never found.

Herman Newton, Negro, killed by New York police. Departmental investigation exonerates the killer cops. An impartial jury hearing the evidence awarded Newton's widow \$50,000.

John Harvey Brown, Negro, beaten by cops and paralyzed for the rest of his life. Awarded \$60,000 by a jury.

Dozens of similar cases have been whitewashed by the Police Department and marked "closed." In the light of the revelation about a secret deal, they should be re-opened — every one of them.

Already the basis exists for prosecutions of New York police officials and a former Assistant Attorney General for conspiracy to deprive New Yorkers of federal civil rights protection. These guilty public officials should be suspended at once from office and prosecuted to the full extent of the law.

And just to make sure that the heat stays on the Police Department, every organization and individual interested in civil rights should keep up the pressure for action. It's high time that sadists and dehumanized brutes in blue uniforms were taken off the police force and put behind bars where they belong.

In all capitalist countries, especially the United States and England, the Trotskyists are conducting a struggle against the imperialist intervention in Korea and China, for recognition of the Mao Tse-tung government, for freedom of trade with China, for help of every kind to the Chinese Revolution.

In Ceylon it is the group of Trotskyist deputies who have headed the struggle for trade with China. The Ceylonese Trotskyists, Edmond Samarakkody and Hector Fernando, participated in the recent Peace Conference in Peking and defended the unity of all the masses of Asia and of the world against imperialism and for the defense of China.

In China itself, ever since the Second Chinese Revolution of 1925-27 the Chinese Trotskyists have everywhere stood for the

independence, the right to self-determination and the right of the Chinese people to rule themselves.

Independently, moreover, of your attitude toward them, they are working in this direction, not confusing the revolution, the social and political conquests of the revolution, with the present political leadership in the country and all its actions.

This leadership, imitating the power of the Soviet bureaucracy and submitting to its pressure, can disfigure the face of proletarian democracy and pitilessly track down every proletarian tendency which does not share its point of view on the past or on how to complete the revolution today.

The Chinese Trotskyists nevertheless will not range themselves

with the right-wing leaders of the Chinese bourgeoisie.

Long Live the Chinese Revolution!

Long Live the World Socialist Revolution

