

Eisenhower, Taft Split Over Korea Cease-Fire Talks

By Joseph Hansen

The exact status of the negotiations for a truce in Korea are hidden at present behind a veil of secrecy. What concessions have been made by the two sides, what points of difference remain, how important the differences are, who is to blame for the latest stalling — all the facts about these issues involving the possibility of an armistice or the resumption of full-scale fighting remain unknown. The doors have been closed to public view at Panmunjom in direct violation of the right of the peoples of the world to know the truth and to see for themselves what answers the representatives of the contending powers propose on questions involving the immediate fate of millions of human beings.

The only revelations about the new secret offer made by the Eisenhower administration have come from the highly unreliable Syngman Rhee dictatorship. In this case there may be some truth to Rhee's reports since he is violently opposed to Eisenhower's proposals. He says they involve "concessions" to the North Korean and Chinese negotiators.

According to Henry S. Hayward, Chief Far Eastern Correspondent of *The Christian Science Monitor*, Rhee's dissatisfaction is at least partly due to belief that the Communists will accept the new truce overtures. (May 27). The South Koreans, he continues, "may have reason to believe that success is

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SWP Leadership Plans Program of Activities

A rounded program of activities to guide its local branches was adopted by the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party at its plenary session May 21-24. The program dealt with the type of work to be carried on in the Communist Party on October 27, 1928.

The meeting of the National Committee was preceded by a hard-fought and thoroughgoing discussion throughout the party on a number of political and organizational questions. Debate upon the internal situation occupied the greater part of the plenum. Majority and minority positions were presented on the major political developments since Eisenhower's election and the tasks of the party and on American Stalinism and the correct tactical approach to it.

It outlined the record and policy of the party in the fight for civil rights and in defense of all victims of reactionary repression. The program envisages the formation of a Labor Party by the unions as the central need of the American workers in fighting war, McCarthyism and the threat of a depression. It recommends running Socialist candidates for office wherever feasible.

All these tasks are designed to promote the aim of building an independent party of revolutionary Socialists firmly rooted in the main section of the organized working class of the United States.

An \$18,000 fund campaign is to be launched June 15 for party-building purposes and to facilitate the realization of this program of action. Plans were made for celebrating next fall the 25th anniversary of the Socialist Workers Party which traces its origin to the expulsion of the initial Trotskyist group from the

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McCarthy Linked to Catholic Hierarchy

By Joseph Keller

Senator Joseph McCarthy, whose methods remind us of the Spanish Inquisition, is getting more and more open backing from the powerful and authoritarian Catholic hierarchy. For instance, public praise of McCarthy was spoken on May 31 by the Rev. Edward Lodge Curran, president of the International Catholic Truth Society and pastor of St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church in Brooklyn.

Addressing a communion breakfast of 1,800 firemen, the prominent priest boasted that "out in the forefront of those ferreting out communism is that great American, great Marine and great Catholic, Senator Joe McCarthy." He claimed that McCarthy, who is detested even by many Eisenhower Republicans, is a "controversial figure only in the minds of Communists and fellow travelers that he has on the run." The Rev. Curran urged his audience to "stop the smear campaign against Joe McCarthy."

This alleged "smear" campaign includes the damning revelations of the Senate Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections about McCarthy's shady financial transactions. One of the matters probed was the mysterious sources of the \$172,623 McCarthy deposited in secret bank accounts from 1948 through 1952 and the addi-

tional sum of \$96,921 banked by the senator's administrative assistant Ray Kiernan.

"GO IT ALONE"

The Rev. Curran's defense of the fascist-like McCarthy was significantly combined with a pronouncement on Far Eastern policy. He urged the U.S. to "go it alone" in Korea if the true moves fail in Korea and the UN allies of the U.S. decide to pull out. This is along the lines of McCarthy's own provocative proposals for spreading the war in the Far East, even to bombing ships of all countries carrying goods to China.

McCarthy's great initial publicity arose out of his smear campaign against Prof. Owen Lattimore in 1949 and 1950. Lattimore, a Far Eastern expert, was an adviser to the State Department under the Truman administration. The Senator's key witness against Lattimore was Louis Budenz, who deserted the Communist Party in 1945 to rejoin the Catholic Church and secure a well-paying job as a "professor" at Fordham University, a leading Catholic institution.

When Senator Dennis Chavez of New Mexico, himself a Roman Catholic, denounced Budenz in 1950 as a liar, paid informer, bigamist and self-confessed participant in the GPU preparations to murder Leon Trotsky, the Very Rev. Laurence J. McGinley, presi-



SEN. McCARTHY

dent of Fordham University, publicly defended McCarthy's odious witness "as a teacher and as a Christian gentleman" and assaulted Chavez's statement as "even lower than that reached in the columns of the *Daily Worker*."

SOURCE OF MATERIAL

The material McCarthy and Budenz used to smear Lattimore had been initially published in *China Monthly*, published by the American China Policy Association, in which Catholics appeared to be most closely interested. The ACPA president was Mrs. Clare

Booth Luce, prominent Catholic convert now ambassador to Italy and wife of the *Time*, *Life* and *Fortune* publishing tycoon. Another source of McCarthy's material was William J. Goodwin, registered lobbyist and agent for Chiang Kai-shek. Goodwin was once active in the fascist Christian Front organization of Father Coughlin.

Budenz had introduced as the "first corroborative documents" for his testimony against Lattimore an article by Father James F. Kearney, in the December 1948 issue of *Columbia*, published by the Knights of Columbus. This article by a leading Jesuit was a bitter denunciation of the U.S. State Department for refusing to support intervention in China to aid the disintegrating Chiang Kai-shek dictatorship. It contains the first published attack on Lattimore.

HIERARCHY'S HOLDINGS

The Rev. Kearney indicated that the American Catholic hierarchy's rabid campaign for U.S. military intervention in China is based on vital material interests. He wrote that the Chinese missions of the Vatican face "ruin." The Catholic hierarchy has vast land holdings and investments in the Far East — including Indo-China and the Philippines — which it might lose if the colonial revolts continue to spread.

The Catholic hierarchy has long been seeking a national political figure through which it can extend Catholic power in America. In the years of the depression it had Father Coughlin. It would be in keeping with the hierarchy's aims to get behind McCarthy. He has become the spearhead of the political witch hunt in America. Through him the Catholic hierarchy can attempt to discredit and victimize the Protestant clergy and others who stand in the way of Catholic advances.

It is this latter fact which Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam undoubtedly had in mind when he denounced the recent attacks on the loyalty of President Bishop Henry Knox Sherrill of the Protestant Episcopal Church and former president of the National Council of Churches.

"Strange, is it not," observed Bishop Oxnam, "that the great Protestant leaders of this nation are under such vicious attack?"

U.S. Casualties Rise To 135,362 Total

A new total of 135,362 United States battle casualties in Korea was announced on June 3, an increase of 199 over the previous week's report. This does not reflect the recent heavier fighting when losses rose sharply.

HEED THESE VOICES!

The following are some of the outstanding voices representing the growing protest of millions in America and throughout the world against the barbaric death sentence of the Rosenbergs:

Dr. Harold C. Urey, world-famous atomic physicist and Nobel prize winner declared: "Accepting the verdict as correct, I am outraged by the unequal punishment which has been given." The Rosenbergs "were convicted on testimony which I do not believe is conclusive beyond a reasonable doubt. . . . I believe the Rosenbergs are or have been Communists or sympathetic to Communist ideas. I regard such people as unreliable generally, but I do not believe in punishing people unless they commit crimes."

In a clemency letter, Chief Justice Wolf of the Supreme Court of the state of Utah declared:

"From the standpoint of justice, I think the conviction rests on too shaky a foundation. . . . This conviction was obtained during a period of mounting hysteria by evidence of witnesses whom the law considers unreliable because of the very hope of reward or mitigation. . . ."

Some 2,300 clergymen in a petition to Eisenhower said: " . . . the death sentence is an indication of our national weakness rather than our national strength. It is a reflection of our growing hysteria, fear and insecurity. . . . It further reduces the range of our freedom to think and act. It contributes to a paralysis of critical thought. It furthers the mood of suppression that becomes increasingly characteristic of our way of life."

4th Int'l Pleads For Doomed Pair

The executive committee of the Fourth International has made public the text of a telegram sent to President Eisenhower on May 27 branding the impending execution of the Rosenbergs as a "preparatory act for World War III." The wire, dispatched from Paris by Pierre Frank, follows:

"President Eisenhower, Washington: We protest the projected execution of the Rosenberg couple which we consider a preparatory act for counter-revolutionary third world war. We demand clemency."

"Executive Committee, Fourth International"

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Demand Witch-Burners Halt Legal Murder of Rosenbergs

Stop This Political Witch-Burning



WOMAN LEADER, METHODIST BISHOP DECRY RED-BAITING SMEAR ATTACKS

McCarthyism and its threat to all but the most openly reactionary elements in America is arousing the fears and protests of even prominent Republicans. Mrs. Dwight F. Davis, a leading woman Republican, has been inspired to denunciation of the political witch hunt by the case of Mrs. Mildred McAfee Horton, wartime commander of the Waves and former president of Wellesley College, whose appointment to a UN assignment was blocked for undisclosed "security" reasons.

Mrs. Davis, wealthy widow of the late Davis Cup donor, is a former President of the Women's National Republican Club and a former member of the Republican National Committee. In an exclusive interview in the May 31 *N. Y. Herald-Tribune*, she re-

vealed herself as "one of the angriest women in the United States" because of the current witch hunt against everyone to the left of Senator Joseph McCarthy, J. Edgar Hoover and the Gestapo-FBI. Her anger is directed particularly at the smear of Mrs. Horton, whose nomination as U.S. delegate to the United Nations Economic and Social Commission was held up for "security" reasons, "in the ugly current phrase," as Mrs. Davis described it. The FBI snappers had made a report on her. Afterwards, stories about her "unreliability" appeared in the press. She had denounced the House Un-American Activities Committee's demand in 1949 to examine Wellesley's social science textbooks.

"We do not gain security for this nation by challenging a Mrs. Horton. And we lose, meanwhile, what is most precious in the

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Electrocution of Couple Designed To Terrorize Freedom of Thought

By Harry Frankel

Political assassination under cover of "legal" mumbo-jumbo came closer to the Rosenbergs this week as last-minute moves by defense counsel failed to slow down the witch hunters' death drive. Thursday, June 18, is the date set for execution of the courageous couple, and world-wide protest has failed to secure a stay despite the fact that important new evidence indicates that government witnesses, upon whose testimony the hysterical death-sentence was obtained, had perjured themselves.

Throughout the world, delegations asking commutation of the death sentence are constantly visiting U.S. embassies. The Women's International Democratic Federation, on the eve of the World Congress of Women opening in Copenhagen on June 5, wired President Eisenhower a demand for clemency and that all new evidence be considered. The Federation represents 135 million women in 65 countries.

MASS RALLIES

In this country, the Committee to Secure Justice in the Rosenberg Case announced a nationwide series of actions including a National Clemency Train to Washington on Sunday, June 14, outdoor meetings and floats in the nation's principal cities, and a mass meeting in Union Square, N. Y., on Thursday, June 11. Militant readers have indicated that they will participate in the demonstrations in an effort to make them as large and forceful as possible.

The biggest new development in the case is that a handwritten document by David Greenglass, on whose unsupported testimony the Rosenbergs were convicted of espionage, has been uncovered. This document, from the files of Greenglass' own attorney, O. John Rogge, shows that Greenglass substantially changed his testimony in the ten months preceding the trial in March 1951.

"TRIAL" HYSTERIA

The trial itself was held in an atmosphere of hysteria in which the Rosenbergs could not possibly have been given a fair trial. Further, Judge Kaufman who presided gave unmistakable evidence of prejudice. Among other things, he called the Rosenbergs "traitors" when they were not on trial for treason. The government dared not risk a trial for treason since, under the Constitution, this requires the testimony of two witnesses to an overt act, and the government had only the word of stool-pigeon Greenglass, whose testimony is furthermore unreliable since he personally stood to gain from it.

Further, the fantastic allegations in the trial that the Rosenbergs "gave" the atom bomb "secret" away has been exploded by top atomic scientists Urey, Condon, Lapp and Eistein. When the trial opened, the government promised to take three months to present its case, and offered to call 118 witnesses including top atomic scientists. In fact the government took 8½ days to present a vague, weak and self-contradictory case; did not call a single atom scientist. Many physicists whom the government had only the word of stool-pigeon Greenglass, whose testimony is furthermore unreliable since he personally stood to gain from it.

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(Continued from page 1)

Christian Science Monitor, who has frequently proved reliable in reporting views of the State Department that do not jibe with their publicity hand-outs, indicates that the White House is even considering "an eventual accommodation" with Communist China" if a truce goes through. "Recognition and admission to the United Nations lie clearly down that road."

This of course may only be a carrot proffered the Macs to induce them to concede to Eisenhower's arbitrary terms for a Korean truce. Actual recognition of the New China might then be indefinitely delayed.

Eisenhower's maneuvers — even the small concessions he may be prepared to give — should not be taken as indicating he is trying to achieve peace. His real aims are just the contrary. Like Truman, he is organizing America and the largest coalition of powers the world has seen for but one purpose — a new world war. The projected victims include the Soviet bloc countries, the colonial areas and revolutionary movements of the workers wherever they may occur.

But the preparations for this frightful conflict require a different course in the field of diplomacy from that followed by Truman — perhaps even some partial retreats. For in order to lead his giant coalition into war in the most effective way, Eisenhower must don the deceptive appearance of a peace-lover. That is one reason why he cannot afford to adopt Taft's views on foreign policy and must make a public break with the Ohio senator.

In the final analysis, Eisenhower has no fundamental differences with the "Pacific First" crowd. That is why the N. Y. Times could say editorially May 31 that Eisenhower "still looks on Senator Taft as his friend and in many ways supporter."

Joseph C. Harsch of The

Woman Leader, Methodist Bishop Decry Smear Attacks

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American tradition. A watchdog body is required to raise the alarm when there are other cases like that of Mrs. Horton. An energetic organization is needed to take the part of other victims of the same brand of snide attack — and especially of the humbler people who have nowhere to turn when agents of their own government unjustly decide to destroy them. I stand ready to join with other right-thinking citizens, if such an organization is formed."

There are indeed many "humble people" who have been victimized for years by the witch hunt, which was launched officially in 1947 by Truman through his "loyalty" purge order affecting two million government employees. The outstanding victim of this order has been the legless World War II veteran James Ketcher, who has been conducting an unrelenting four-year fight supported by hundreds of labor and liberal groups, to get restored to his job as clerk with the Veterans Administration.

Mrs. Davis's appeal for organized opposition to the witch hunt should help arouse unified action on the part of the labor movement and civil liberties groups, as well as all other organizations concerned with the preservation of the Bill of Rights.

OXNAM'S DENUNCIATION

Another significant voice of opposition to the campaign to intimidate, smear and silence even the most mildly liberal people is that of Methodist Bishop G. Bromley Oxnam, long an outspoken defender of liberal views and institutions in America. On May 28 he issued his sharpest criticism yet against the witch hunt, singling out for special attack the House Un-American Activities Committee.

Addressing some 250 Protestant ministers at a conference of the Washington Ministerial Union

White Terror Against Africans Denounced by British Socialists

Victim of Imperialism



A British overseer and a native policeman handcuff an African in Kenya accused of membership in the Mau Mau society. Hundreds of Africans have been killed while allegedly "resisting arrest" or by hanging after kangaroo trials. Thousands more have been thrown into concentration camps to break their resistance to British theft of natives' land.

for establishing the truth about Kenya. It is generally admitted that the Kikuyu are the most advanced and educated tribe in Central Africa — which explains, of course, their solid adherence to the cause of African independence. Their leaders are not witch doctors but people like Kenyatta, agricultural scientists educated in white universities and conversant with and sympathetic to . . . socialism! (Kenyatta, for example, was once a member of the British Independent Labor Party.)

The Kikuyu long ago abandoned the old tribal forms of organization. The so-called chiefs have been appointed and are paid by the British Government. They are in fact henchmen of the enemies of Kikuyu people — informers!

The closing of the schools because of their nationalist propaganda completely exposes the alleged purpose of British rule in Kenya which is supposed to be solely for the purpose of "educating the natives up to the point of self-government." "Self-government" is meaningless without national independence — and national independence is the primary object of African nationalism.

The school teachers were therefore guilty of putting into practice what we are alleged to have been encouraging them to do ever since the British went (uninvited) to Kenya!

IRELAND OVER AGAIN

It is Ireland all over again! Even the "Black and Tans" are there — hooligan white settlers armed to the teeth and ready (and authorized) to shoot any Kikuyu on sight. The Jan. 4 Observer describes these "black and tans" — this so-called police reserve — in the following terms: "In the police reserve there were young men of whom 'undisciplined sadists' would not be an unfair description . . . boasting of the way they had beaten prisoners . . ."

The terror has been accurately described by the correspondent of the Economist on March 21: "It is quite probable that ugly things are now happening in Kenya. The number of Kikuyu shot 'trying to escape,' 'for refusing to halt,' or 'attempting to wrest a sten gun from a guard whilst under arrest,' has suddenly risen. Yet the Kikuyu are said by the whites to be inherently cowardly people. It is either a brave or a very desperate man who will try with his bare hands to wrest a sten gun from his guard."

The press of this country, all the Government speakers and — be it admitted — most of Labor's main spokesmen paint Mau Mau as some kind of "relapse into barbarism," a sort of "wild blood lust" which has unaccountably swept over a normally peaceful people.

Never was such a lie so assiduously propagated against a brave and oppressed people.

SUPPORTED BY PEOPLE

First of all, Mau Mau has the support of almost the entire Kikuyu population. The same correspondent quoted above, who is by no means sympathetic to Mau Mau, writes:

"The Kikuyu who take no active part in Mau Mau attacks, but who give the Mau Mau gangs at least passive support, for example by concealing their whereabouts and supplying them with food, are not just terrorized into doing so. The Mau Mau gets a degree of sympathy which is not entirely born of fear (although Mau Mau reprisals against informers are swift and terrible). There can be little doubt that probably the majority of the Kikuyu believe the whites stole their land . . ."

The leaders of African nationalism have never disguised their hatred of informers — the appointed chiefs paid by the whites. It is the very least we can do if we are to maintain the honor of British Labor.

OTHERS INVOLVED

And not only the Kikuyu are involved. All the tribes are awaiting the outcome of the struggle. The arrest of Odede who is not a Kikuyu and was a Government-nominated member of the Kenya Legislative Council is proof of that. The battle for African independence has been joined and sooner or later, the whole of Africa will become involved.

Terror will only spread the fire and guarantee a gigantic blood letting. That is the policy of Lytton.

We believe that every socialist must place himself on the side of the Kikuyu who are fighting in the forest and the mountains — the people who are led by the so-called Mau Mau. Walter Sisulu, secretary of the South African National Congress, is reported by the Observer as saying — "The entire African people are bitter against the British Government.

We regard Mau Mau as a legitimate organization of the Kenya Africans." With that we are.

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THE AMERICAN WAY OF LIFE

The American Way of Life

The Washroom Menace

The foundations of the Republic are cracking. A New York State Supreme Court Justice has just ruled that past membership in the Communist Party is not grounds for dismissal of a public washroom attendant. The judge has thus opened the way for subversive infiltration of one of the most sensitive areas of the nation's security.

The court ruling involves 57-year-old Bonaventura Pinggera of 116 E. 120th St., Manhattan, a Swiss-Italian who became an American citizen in 1942. Pinggera, for ten years a "temporary" New York City washroom attendant, had carefully awaited the opportune moment to penetrate more deeply into the government apparatus. In 1951, he felt the time was ripe for his next bold move; he took civil service examination for "permanent" status. His plot worked. In September 1952 he went on the payroll as a full-fledged washroom attendant grade one — grade one, no less — at \$2,110 a year. Then came the culmination of his cunning scheme. He was assigned to the St. Mary's Park comfort station, St. Mary's Ave. and E. 149th — in the Bronx!

Here he might have carried on his dirty work indefinitely had fate not intervened in the form of a Municipal Civil Service Commission investigation. Four months after assuming his new status, Pinggera was called in by the commission "for inquiry as to fitness." Under merciless interrogation, Pinggera broke down. To the horror of the commissioners, he confessed he had belonged to the Communist Party from 1936 to 1939, when he was expelled for criticizing the Stalin-Hitler pact. The commission fired him.

Pinggera then applied all his craftiness. He appealed to the New York Civil Liberties Union which aided him in obtaining a court hearing for reinstatement on his job. He found a dupe — if not worse — in the form of Justice Aron Steuer. On May 27, the judge ordered Pinggera reinstated, declaring in part:

"It is a bit difficult to visualize how a washroom attendant in his official capacity can give aid to his country's enemies. To believe that the conspiracy involved in 'going underground' [the Civil Service Commission's claim] would be employed to obtain such a position borders on the fantastic."

But do not think this ruling will go unchallenged. The country does not lack for vigilant patriots. The Wall Street Journal, for one, has not been taken in. It sternly enquires if Judge Steuer "knows all the facts about washrooms," adding that "as a Communist courier Whittaker Chambers used the subways, a dusty hole in the wall and even after he left the party he hid papers in a pumpkin. A washroom might fit quite as neatly into the twisted pattern of Communist schemings . . ."

Why even J. Edgar Hoover will tell you that funny things can happen in washrooms and that even here we must practise patriotic vigilance to plug any leak that might endanger our national security.

— By Lewis Peterson

THE MILITANT ARMY

Although the campaign for subscriptions to The Militant was concluded several weeks ago, the three subs.

The next Sunday brought one six-months sub from a person who had never taken our paper before, but who was interested in our program. We spoke to him for about a half hour answering his questions and selling both him and his friend a copy of the pamphlet by Joseph Hansen, The Socialist Workers Party, What Is and What It Stands For. Another year sub was sold to a veteran who had taken our paper for six months and just needed to be visited to renew.

In between that Sunday and the following one, I had gained enough confidence to talk to two of my relatives about the paper. After a few discussions I got a sub from each and sold two more pamphlets.

A week later I received a call from one of them who was very enthusiastic about the Hansen pamphlet and confessed that while she was a liberal when I was still in elementary school she had not known of our ideas. She now wants to become better acquainted with them.

"A young Compass Club member was my next contact. After several long discussions he took a sub, a Hansen pamphlet going along with it.

The next afternoon, on my lunch hour, I began talking Militant to another office worker whom I had known for years. It seemed to be just the right time, for the girl too seemed to be looking for answers to the political questions of today, remarking, "How can anyone help being political nowadays?"

"On the last Sunday of the campaign Janet and I sold another sub to The Militant after a ten-minute discussion with a person who had never read the paper before. I'm certainly proud that I was the top subletter in New York, but more than what I did for the campaign is what the campaign did for me."

Our sincere thanks to S. R. of New York for his contribution of \$20 to help meet the printing costs of The Militant. Thanks also to the friend S. R. of New York for \$10; to J. K. of San Francisco for \$8; and to J. K. H. of Chicago for \$1.35 sent in with his renewal to The Militant.

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Capitalist Future and Jobs

By Jean Blake

We have made the point on many occasions that Negroes in the United States, as a group, because they are Jim Crowed into a lower caste within the working class, have less illusions about capitalism and its future than even the working class as a whole.

Few Negroes, for example, are as naive as many white workers who fall for and repeat unquestioningly the propaganda dinned into our ears on the radio, in the schools, and through every other medium of expression — the propaganda that we have democracy, freedom and equality in our society.

Particularly in a period like the present, of relatively full employment in the richest and most productive capitalist country in the world, it is difficult for many white workers to recognize how the capitalist system discriminates against them as a class. They are not constantly being "hit in the belly," to use an old expression, by the injustice of a class system that reserves for a small minority of the population the ownership and control of the means of production and all the "rights" and privileges that go with that ownership.

It is true that many white workers are no longer such rock-ribbed believers in the stability of the capitalist system as they once were. Many workers realize how superficial the present "prosperity" is. They fear that capitalism can no longer maintain full production and employment without war.

But lack of confidence in capitalism is even more widespread among Negroes.

Add Ashes -- One Dash

By Thomas Raymond

The scaling of Mount Everest, a magnificent personal achievement for the two men who stood at its summit for the first time in human history, is also a symbol of the striving of mankind for the highest peaks in every region of endeavor.

Capitalism could not permit this event to pass, however, without adding the taste of ashes to the draught. In a news account of the climb, the N.Y. Times inserted the following paragraph:

"The twenty Sherpa guides belong to a caste of mountain dwellers on the southern slopes of the Himalayas, with their capital at Namche Bazar. They have been an indispensable part of this, as of every preceding Mount Everest expedition.

"Seven Sherpas died on the mountain in the 1922 expedition and many others have died since with later expeditions. But the supply of these good-humored, devoted and highly courageous men never fails."

One would think that the Times could, at least this once, restrain itself from introducing the note of condescending chauvinism which one feels in these words. Apparently, however, imperialist hauteur

Notes from the News

THE TWO LARGEST UNIONS in this country, the CIO United Automobile Workers and Steelworkers have advanced the guaranteed annual wage as one of their main demands. At his news conference last week President Eisenhower asserted that the demand was entirely up to the unions and management with the government disclaiming any intention to "interfere."

WILLIAM Z. FOSTER, 72-year-old National Chairman of the Communist Party, was judged too ill to stand trial on the five-year-old indictment charging violation of the Smith "Gag" Act and Judge Sylvester Ryan granted an indefinite continuance. The Stalinist chieftain has a bad heart condition and the court-appointed physicians admitted that bringing him to trial would lead to the "grave possibility of serious (perhaps fatal) consequences to the defendant or of permanent impairment to his health."

WALTER REUTHER "is in periodic communication with the White House, and his requests for appointments with President Eisenhower are honored with comparative alacrity," Marguerite Higgins reveals in the May 31 N. Y. Herald Tribune. The head of the CIO and the United Automobile Workers told the reporter that the CIO favored Adlai E. Stevenson in the last election and that "if the CIO had it to do over again, it would probably support Mr. Stevenson again." What labor got out of supporting Stevenson, Reuther did not say. Nor did he report any benefits from his social calls on Eisenhower.

TEN MEMBERS of Local 222, CIO Oil Workers International Union won office in the recent elections in Lockport, Ill., according to Federated Press June 1. The offices won by union men include the top position of mayor, which was taken by Daniel T. Lambert, head of the Peoples Party. William J. Brown and Norman F. Solley were elected aldermen. Joseph Darin, a former Local 222 member, was also elected alderman. Other Oil Worker members won on the Democratic ticket. In nearby Joliet township another Local 222 member was elected assistant supervisor. In Rockford, four CIO members won office and Milton Lundstrom of the AFL International Typographical Union was elected mayor. William E. White, president of the American Newspaper Guild Local was named city clerk. Three other CIO members were elected aldermen.

STUART DENTON MORRIS, British clergyman and General Secretary of Great Britain's Peace Pledge Union, who was detained by immigration authorities at Ellis Island for two weeks on a finding he was an inadmissible alien, was released May 29. He came to the U.S. on a 60-day permit to lecture for the War Resisters League. The Board of Immigration Appeals ruled that there was no evidence the 63-year-old

They are closer than most whites to the unpleasant realities of capitalism and therefore have less illusions about the economic facts of life. W. O. Walker, publisher of the Cleveland Call and Post (and a supporter of capitalism), expressed in his column of May 23 what is generally recognized among his readers:

"Let's not kid ourselves; the present era of plenty of jobs and easy money will not last always. Eventually peace will descend upon this war-weary world, and with peace will come a cessation of squandering of our tax money on guns, ammunition and handouts in a desperate effort to buy friends and allies. When this peace era does finally arrive, jobs will not be as plentiful and spending money not as free. . . .

"We are only fooling ourselves if we think that, because employment in the big cities is plentiful and easy, the same condition exists in the hundreds of smaller towns of the state. Conditions in many of these towns are deplorable. Isolated and left to themselves, new to the community in which they live, economic conditions among many of our people are alarming."

Mr. Walker reflects what the Negro workers know about the future which capitalism has in store for them. But he offers no program and therefore no leadership pointing to a better future.

Real leadership will indicate what must be done to change things, how to end the inequalities and injustices of capitalism and substitute the socialist system of production to serve and advance the human race.

The scaling of Mount Everest, a magnificent personal achievement for the two men who stood at its summit for the first time in human history, is also a symbol of the striving of mankind for the highest peaks in every region of endeavor.

Capitalism could not permit this event to pass, however, without adding the taste of ashes to the draught. In a news account of the climb, the N.Y. Times inserted the following paragraph:

"The twenty Sherpa guides belong to a caste of mountain dwellers on the southern slopes of the Himalayas, with their capital at Namche Bazar. They have been an indispensable part of this, as of every preceding Mount Everest expedition.

"Seven Sherpas died on the mountain in the 1922 expedition and many others have died since with later expeditions. But the supply of these good-humored, devoted and highly courageous men never fails."

One would think that the Times could, at least this once, restrain itself from introducing the note of condescending chauvinism which one feels in these words. Apparently, however, imperialist hauteur

Quaker spokesman would attempt to seduce troops from their allegiance or that his organization urged resistance to military conscription or illegal avoidance of conscription. Because of his detention, Mr. Morris lost 12 lecture engagements but said that he had been treated courteously. Courtesy of the witch hunt that is.

AMBASSADOR TO ITALY, Clare Boothe Luce, declared in Rome 10 days before the election that the Italians had better vote right or suffer the consequences of loss of aid from the United States. The State Department and the Vatican are backing the De Gasperi slate. Mrs. Luce, a prominent Catholic like McCarthy, motivated her opposition to letting the Italians make a free, democratic electoral choice by talking about the "wiles of totalitarianism" to which the Italian people might fall "unhappy victims."

NEW YORK DOCKERS can clean up waterfront gangsterism and corrupt union officials by following the example of the fur workers, Francis J. Murnane maintains in the June Catholic Worker. The fur workers were confronted with similar conditions, he says. "They had to fight the Lepke mob. They organized fighting squads. Whenever the gangsters beat up a union official or perpetrated other acts of violence, a signal was sounded in the fur district and fur workers came pouring out of the shops, converged on the trouble area, and DEFEATED the gangsters. Take a gun away from a gangster and inevitably he is a craven coward. The fur workers cleaned up the industry and built a powerful union."

IRVING FERMAN, Washington Director of the American Civil Liberties Union expressed his organization's opposition to all wiretapping in testimony before a Congressional committee. However, he cancelled out this position by saying that "if" national security "requires" the legalization of wiretapping then it should be used only in cases involving "treason, sabotage, espionage, kidnapping, or threatened kidnapping." In McCarthy's dictionary militant union activities, including strikes, comes within the meaning of "sabotage" and anyone who thinks differently from the Wisconsin senator can be considered committing "treason."

AN AVOWED ATHEIST won citizenship papers when a federal Circuit Court of Appeals reversed a lower court decision that an atheist cannot be granted citizenship. The case involved Wladyslaw Plywacki, a former citizen of Poland and inmate of Nazi concentration camps. A judge in Hawaii refused him citizenship on the grounds he could not take the required oath since he did not believe in any deities. The San Francisco Court of Appeals state that it was legal enough if an alien simply affirmed his loyalty to the U.S.

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THE MILITANT

SUBWAY FARE STEAL PUT OVER IN NEW YORK

By David Stevens

By an 11 to 5 vote of the Board of Estimate on June 1, New York City's \$1,700,000,000 transit system was leased to a five-man Transit Authority empowered to jack up fares to 15 cents. This will be the second fare increase since the traditional five-cent fare was raised to 10 cents in 1948. For the average New York family the two fare increases spell about a \$200 yearly boost in the cost of living.

Without a public hearing, and basing themselves on the 1948 legislation under the old corrupt O'Dwyer administration which repealed the law requiring the consent of the people for any fare rise, the city administration rammed through this decision under cover of lame excuses and blame-shifting.

"We are only fooling ourselves if we think that, because employment in the big cities is plentiful and easy, the same condition exists in the hundreds of smaller towns of the state. Conditions in many of these towns are deplorable. Isolated and left to themselves, new to the community in which they live, economic conditions among many of our people are alarming."

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Another "slip" in the same story fails even to list the Indian, Tensing Norkey, one of the two who made it to the top, as a member of the expedition. Still elsewhere, it is reported that "the British climbers" had given Queen Elizabeth a "world-shaking coronation present." Again, it is reported that the expedition consisted of "thirteen Britons."

In general, the total effect of the reports has been to make it appear as though "thirteen Britons," aided by a group of "servants," made this successful attempt on Everest, and that one mountain climber, accompanied by an inferior assistant whose achievement has naturally a lesser significance, reached the top.

Just leave it to the capitalist racists to add their quota of bitterness to the thrill that ran through the world when the news of the conquest of Everest came across the wires.

No sooner was the Transit Authority established than it announced its hired engineers are certain that the transit coin-collecting machines can be adjusted for a higher fare by the deadline date of July 30. In the meanwhile the Authority, anxious

to do a good job, is applying to the United States Mint at Philadelphia for an emergency supply of tokens for more immediate use.

Where will the new millions of dollars milked from the people by turnstile robbery go? The fare increase is being demanded to make up for a prospective transit operating deficit of \$47,000,000 yearly. This deficit, however, could be turned into a net profit if it were not for what is termed "servicing the debt."

Each year the city turns over to a group of Wall Street sharks the "normal" payment of interest of \$72,800,000. For the year 1953-54 interest will have risen to \$114,900,000. These enormous sums are sheer tribute to big money interests that over the last 60 years have realized their initial investment in the transit system many times over. A moratorium on the debt would stop the daily steal from the people and help solve the city's financial problem.

But this solution requires a city labor administration instead of the present Wall Street administration.

The new Transit Authority shows its true class face in its refusal to meet with the heads of the Transport Workers Union "at this time." It is too busy with the pressing problem of adjusting the coin-collecting machines.

UAW Thaws GM Contract



General Motors official Harry Anderson announces change in GM's five-year contract with the CIO United Automobile Workers. Seated third from left is UAW President Walter P. Reuther. The union forced the reopening of the supposedly frozen contract. GM agreed to add 19 cents of 24 cents cost-of-living escalator wage increase to permanent basic wage.

SALES TAX SEEN BACKED BY EISENHOWER REGIME

Signs are multiplying that the Eisenhower administration is preparing to foist the most infamous and unjust form of taxation on the American people. The Big Business demand for a national sales tax to "balance the budget" is reportedly under favorable consideration by White House advisers.

Joseph and Stewart Alsop, the well-known Washington commentators for the Republican N. Y. Herald Tribune, reported on May 31 that it is "an open secret that various forms of sales tax are being considered." They add that it is a "fair bet" that the Treasury Department, headed by Secretary of the Treasury George Humphrey, "will end by advising the President to take the political risk of crossing this particular Rubicon."

"Crossing the Rubicon" here means opposing the overwhelming popular sentiment against sales taxes. They are an open form of taxation which the consumer clearly observes every time he makes a purchase. They eat directly into the purchasing power of the low-income consumers. Sales taxes reach mainly into the pockets of the wage-earners, who must spend most of their limited pay for living expenses. Persons in the higher-income brackets, save a large share of their money and thus do not contribute as great a share of their incomes in sales taxes.

Finally, the Alsops claim, "every other source of revenue except the various forms of national sales tax has already been tapped up to and beyond the safe limits." They cite just two tax sources, "personal or corporate income."

Blow at Workers

Sales taxes, of course, strike at personal income — but chiefly at the income of the workers. The personal income the Alsops refer to however is the income of the millionaires and billionaires.

If the Wall Street government stopped its spending for imperialist war, such as the invasion of Korea, it would have no problem of balancing the budget. In addition, it can tap rich veins of revenue simply by taxing unused corporate capital and undistributed profits; by putting a 100% tax on all incomes over \$25,000 a year; and by putting a 100% tax on all war profits.

Oppose any form of direct or indirect sales taxes and demand no taxation of incomes under \$7,500 a year. Let the rich pay for their wars.

Beat Jim Crow



Raid on Jobless Fund Approved By Ohio Senate

By L. Cooper

AKRON, May 31 — Labor in Ohio was stunned last week as the State Senate in Columbus passed bills 173 and 174, raiding the unemployment insurance funds and forcing an unemployed worker to accept any job offered him by the unemployment office. The men in the shops here are particularly indignant at the slave-labor provisions of bill 174, which compels an unemployed worker to "investigate any referral" to a job or forfeit benefits. The present law states that the unemployed worker must accept "suitable work." This has given unemployed unionists and others some leeway in avoiding the lowest-paid sweatshop jobs offered them by the unemployment office.

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HAND-OUT TO BOSSSES

Bill 173 cuts in half the annual contributions of Ohio employers to the state unemployment fund. This fund now has \$650 million in it of which \$120 million is accrued interest. Under the proposed bill, this interest would be credited to the present \$5,000 Ohio employers as advance payments to the unemployment insurance fund and they would henceforth pay only 57 cents per \$100 payroll instead of their present payments of \$1.04 per \$100 payroll. The State of Ohio would take in only \$40 million per year instead of the present \$80 million.

The chief beneficiaries of this bonanza would be five Ohio employers who would be credited with close to 50% of this \$120 million. These "hardship" cases are Goodyear, General Motors, Youngstown Sheet and Tube, Republic Steel and U.S. Steel. The bill was openly sponsored by the Ohio Chamber of Commerce and, of course, its puppets.

Their report was followed by questions and discussion in which one student said he had really enjoyed his first visit to the Forum. He had asked the speaker, Milton Alvin, how and when world revolution would occur and had been answered: "You are living in one now." The class thought this amusing and the professor said: "Yes, the Trotskyists talk about world revolution, but did he have any evidence, any facts?"

The other student answered: "Yes, almost all of Asia is in revolution, likewise the Middle East and Africa, and it's beginning in South America."

These students are among a growing number of interested people who are being attracted to the Friday Night Forum series here on "Soviet Russia after Stalin's Death." At the second lecture of the series, an attentive audience last night heard Milton Alvin discuss the internal causes for the present problems of the Soviet Union.

The stormy growth of Soviet economy shows the new nationalized property forms to be more powerful than expected, but the lack of economic coordination due to the mismanagement and parasitism of the bureaucracy has left living standards low and created dissatisfaction, said Alvin. This and the increasing social weight of the workers are primary causes of the crisis facing the regime.

Many questions were asked and answered. After the meeting informal discussion took place around the refreshment table.

The forums are held weekly at 1702 E. 4th St., beginning at 8 P. M.

British Laborites Map Program

The British Labor Party has mapped out a program of "drastic Socialist measures" for its campaign in the next general elections, the party secretary Morgan Phillips said on June 3 in London. No general election, however, has been called although left laborites headed by Aneurin Bevan are demanding one.

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