

Last Ditch Clemency Fight in Rosenberg Case

World Protest Rises in Effort To Save Couple

By Harry Frankel

With their execution scheduled for their wedding anniversary, June 18, repeated batterings against the walls of "justice" have thus far failed to secure a stay of execution for the Rosenberg couple. Ethel and Julius Rosenberg are in the Sing Sing death house after a hysterical 1951 trial which featured flimsy "evidence" of espionage and a vindictive death verdict motivated by political hatred.

In an important new development of the clemency campaign, Hugo Ernst, general president of the AFL Hotel and Restaurant Employees and Bartenders International Union, one of the largest in the AFL with its 400,000 members, came out for clemency by signing a Rosenberg petition. Also, on June 1 the Uruguayan Chamber of Deputies passed a resolution calling for clemency with only one dissenting vote.

Attorneys Emanuel Bloch and John F. Finerty (who served in the past as counsel for Sacco and Vanzetti, for Tom Mooney, and for the Commission of Inquiry into the Moscow trial charges against Leon Trotsky) representing the Rosenbergs, have taken their plea to the U.S. Supreme Court for the fourth time. In the meantime, Federal Judge Irving R. Kaufman again refused a stay of execution and a new trial.

The Rosenbergs have appealed Kaufman's refusal to the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, which has, at this writing, reserved decision.

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SWP Asks Clemency For Rosenberg Couple

NEW YORK, June 10 — Farrell Dobbs, National Secretary of the Socialist Workers Party, sent a strong message of protest on the Rosenberg case to President Eisenhower today. The message calls attention to the flimsy evidence in the case, the hysteria surrounding the trial, the recently uncovered new evidence, and the unprecedented severity of the sentence. The full text follows:

President Eisenhower

White House

Washington, D. C.

Mr. President:

Julius and Ethel Rosenberg have been convicted of espionage and sentenced to die on June 18 on the basis of a patched-up, perjury-ridden "case" that was jammed through the courts in a few hysterical days.

Thousands who have studied the evidence have been convinced that there was no fair trial. Hundreds of thousands of others, with no special legal training or knowledge of the case, are willing to concede a possible violation of the law by the Rosenbergs, but are horrified at the unprecedented use of the death penalty in a peace-time espionage case.

New evidence in the form of material exhibits which the prosecution never produced at the trial has been uncovered by the defense. Some of this evidence demonstrated perjury on the part of the government witness on whose unsupported word the Rosenbergs are to be put to death.

To disregard these facts and send the Rosenbergs to the death-chair despite all doubts and protests means to assist in an act of cold-blooded murder.

We demand that you halt the death march of the government agencies who are trying to cover up their fabricated case with the

Race Terrorists Indicted in Florida

Six members of the Ku Klux Klan were indicted for perjury on June 4 in Miami, Florida. The indictment by a Federal grand jury is the first move to bring to justice the anti-Negro terrorists who have been conducting a campaign of burning, bombing, flogging, attempted kidnapping and murder since 1949.

The charges of perjury are in connection with a long list of racist acts described by the grand jury as "a catalog of terror that seems incredible." The murder of Harry and Harriet Moore, NAACP leaders in Florida, on Christmas night, 1951, was only mentioned by the grand jury.

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The reduction in funds means that the small staff of 897 will have to be cut by about 110 employees. This would mean suspension of operations against gypsies who practice such things as saturating frozen fowl, fruits and vegetables with water before freezing to bolster their weight.

The food sanitation program of the agency would also have to be lowered by about 25%.

The agency is currently seizing a weekly average of 164 tons of decomposed and otherwise unfit food.

House Opens Way For Impure Foods

"Let the buyer beware!" This

is the slogan of the House of Representatives seems to have had in mind when it slashed the appropriations for the U.S. Food and Drug Administration. If the Senate does not restore the fund, consumers will have little or no government protection against rotten foods, poisonous drugs and gyro products.

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LEGGLESS VETERAN MAKES HIS TENTH APPEAL IN "DISLOYALTY" FIRING

WASHINGTON, June 4 — James Kutcher today appeared before the Loyalty Review Board of the U.S. Civil Service Commission to seek reinstatement to his job in the Newark Veterans Administration. This was the tenth appeal made by the legless veteran in his five-year fight against the government loyalty purgers.

He was represented at the hearing by Daniel Pollitt of the noted Washington law firm of Rauh and Levy. Kutcher's attorney presented three main arguments in pleading for a reversal of the decision against him.

First, after the U.S. Court of Appeals had set aside the original order of discharge in October 1952, the Veteran Administrator did not grant Kutcher a proper hearing under the Executive

Order because his case had been referred back to a higher level than the Branch Loyalty Board. Second, Kutcher was not informed of the specific nature of the charges against him in time to prepare an adequate defense.

Third, and most important, the evidence did not sustain the finding of disloyalty. The only basis for such a finding under the Truman Order would be that Kutcher advocated the violent overthrow of the government. The record showed that neither he nor his organization, the Socialist Workers Party, held such views.

The three-man board which heard Kutcher's appeal will have to deliver its decision in a few weeks since the Loyalty Review Board is being scrapped under the far more arbitrary "security system" recently established by Eisenhower.

Swiss Socialists Hit 'Blood-Verdict'

The following telegram was sent to the U.S. Embassy in Switzerland by the Swiss Socialist Workers League.

"Protesting against blood-verdict in Rosenberg case

The death sentence for allegedly transmitting not very important information to an allied power in peace time and in a poorly proven case is unprecedented in American history. It is an act of political witch-hunt aimed at causing war hysteria and has no more in common with justice than the frame-up trials in the countries controlled by the Kremlin."

(Continued on page 3)

Who Will Lead Struggle Against McCarthyism?

By Murry Weiss

Who will lead the struggle against McCarthyism? This is the question raised in the June 6 issue of *The Nation*. In the first of a series of articles, the editors of the liberal weekly discuss the "crisis in leadership" of the anti-McCarthy forces.

The viewpoint they take is of interest because it expresses the growing fear in labor and liberal circles that McCarthyism is more than an exaggerated aspect of the witch hunt, that the Senator from Wisconsin, who has acquired ominous power, is the product of profound social forces that threaten to destroy every vestige of independent critical opinion and even the labor movement itself.

The liberals and certain labor officials manifest an air of panic at the way powerful sections of both capitalist parties encourage McCarthy. The Nation says, "McCarthyism, meaning the worst bipartisan reaction, may score

heavily in 1954 and even triumph in 1956."

It has become obvious, even to labor officials who have carried the witch hunt into the unions, that McCarthy has a black-list and a timetable which include them. They aren't kidding themselves about the place of the Democratic party on this black-list. The Nation cites a recent cartoon in a labor paper showing a witness before a Congressional Committee stating "that he is not and never has been a member of the Democratic party."

NO CHAMPIONS

According to *The Nation*, the movement against McCarthyism is growing, but it "has curiously failed to provide champions willing to take on Goliath."

The question that arises — where will these champions come from?

NEXT VICTIM
McCarthy has good reason not to fear the Democratic "left." Far

may expect no serious answer from the liberals. Their fear and panic before the McCarthy menace is great, but not as great as their inability to come up with an answer.

The trouble is that the liberals and labor officials are tied to the same political power structure of capitalism that is producing McCarthyism. They see in the feeble left wing of the Democratic party the source of all hope. But McCarthy knows better. The Nation admits that the current "power situation" (the direct and indirect support McCarthy is getting from the Democratic and Republican parties) "enables McCarthy to feel that he has nothing to fear from the Democratic 'left,' which, already punished and smeared, he proposes to destroy in 1954."

NEXT VICTIM
McCarthy has good reason not to fear the Democratic "left." Far

from considering it the center of leadership against his fascist-like movement, he regards it as his next major victim. Let us remember that this "left" composed of labor officials and liberals, with the organized power of 17 million trade unionists behind them, squandered this power in futile "lesser-evil" politics in 1952 and permitted Eisenhower to take power.

McCarthy's GOAL
That's McCarthyism — counter-revolution on the domestic front. The basic program of this domestic counter-revolutionary drive for that show-down is now. Above all, a united and independent political line for labor must be hammered out. What will the labor movement do in 1954? To remain trapped in the policy of supporting candidates of the capitalist parties is to invite disaster.

NEED FIGHTERS
In Congress labor needs a powerful caucus of its own genuine representatives. It needs tough trade unionists who will

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Workers of the World, Unite!

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XVII - No. 24

267

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, JUNE 15, 1953

PRICE: 10 CENTS

"How Soon Can I Go Home?" Every GI in Korea Is Asking



Generals, Politicians Of Both Parties Fear Bring-Boys-Home Drive

By Art Preis

"How soon can I go home?"

This "first reaction of all soldiers interviewed" by the Associated Press after the signing of the prisoner of war agreement in the Korea truce negotiations is causing nightmares for the Wall Street war-makers and their Washington agents.

They are painfully recalling the giant "bring us home" demonstrations by the GIs after World War II. All the capitalist political spokesmen, as a cease-fire appears close, are turning their attention to the "main danger" — the American soldiers in Korea and their folks here at home.

The official attitude is summed up by the Scripps-Howard newspaper: "Administration will fight any 'bring the boys home' drive with everything it's got."

Thus, generals, corporation executives and politicians of both major parties are joining in a drive to stem the anticipated nation-wide demand that this most unpopular war in American history be really ended by bringing the troops home at once.

Voicing the views of Eisenhower the Assistant to the President Sherman Adams in a public address on June 7 spoke of the "danger" of a Korea truce. He warned of a repetition now of "the terrible pressure" brought upon every member [of Congress] to see that the World War II boys got home at the earliest possible moment." (Associated Press, June 7.)

Gen. Walter B. Smith, Under Secretary of State and former Ambassador to Moscow, declared "we cannot relax" and must keep the troops in Korea "for some period" even if a truce is signed. In Seoul, Lt. Gen. Maxwell D. Taylor said today an armistice would not justify departure from

(Continued on page 3)

The Cost Of Korea

U.S. battle casualties since Truman announced the Korea "police action" on June 27, 1950, according to a UN summary on May 29, total 136,129.

There are more than 1,500,000 veterans of the Korean war; another half-million members of all armed forces are still engaged in Korea.

Money cost of the war so far for the U.S. Army alone, according to Secretary of the Army Robert T. Stevens, is about \$15 billion.

South Korean battle losses as of April 30 are estimated at 256,901. Fifteen UN allies sustained losses totalling 13,512.

Combined Chinese and North Korean battle losses are estimated at 1,347,000.

"2,000,000 civilians have been killed in the war so far," said J. Donald Kingsley, agent general of the UN Korean Reconstruction Agency, on May 22, 1951. On June 6, 1951 — two years ago — South Korean ambassador Dr. You Chan Yang said there were then "nearly 3 million" civilian casualties.

WALL STREET BEWALES NATURE'S "DIRTY TRICK"

By David Stevens

A "cliff hanging crisis" threatens in the next few weeks. "This scary episode will come when the 1953 winter wheat harvest reaches its peak rolling through Kansas, Nebraska and the states to the east along the Ohio River about the first of July." So speaks the sober and conservative *Wall Street Journal* (June 3 and 4) as if it were describing a spreading agricultural blight. In the grave opinion of Under-Secretary of Agriculture True D. Morse, "This is not apt to be a temporary situation." And an anonymous Republican farm-bloc member of Congress declared, "Judgment day is just around the corner."

These fearsome predictions concerning the fate of the Republican administration and the entire national economy itself are fully justified. America, it seems, has been cursed with a near-record bumper crop of wheat and corn. Piled upon the mountains of grain stored from past years, the new crop threatens to overflow all available elevators, bins and warehouses. "Nature has played a dirty trick," complains the *Wall Street Journal*. "Where to put all the wheat has become a splitting headache."

Already old wheat and corn is being moved into old military warehouses, into 75 old "mothballed" ships in the Hudson River north of New York City and 50 in the James River of Norfolk, Virginia. Grain clogs the lake vessels and the shunting railroad box cars. Grain is being shoveled into farmers' barns despite the Food and Drug Administration's program "to keep wheat clean and free from infestation."

The situation is a sardonic commentary on the recent deluge of articles and books warning us about the danger of over-population and the need for spreading birth-control information so as to prevent mankind from multiplying faster than our food supply. Now, if we are to believe the *Wall Street Journal*, the immediate danger is our being drowned in an ocean of grain.

TO THE RESCUE

But the Eisenhower administration is fully aware of the danger.

It is continuing the measures used by its Democratic predecessors, namely, buying up the "surplus."

(Continued on page 4)

On Tour with Stevenson

DARLING OF LIBERALS WINED AND DINED BY DICTATOR CHIANG

By Manuel Rodriguez

Adlai Stevenson, defeated Democratic candidate for president, is touring the world in the unofficial capacity of a super-ambassador for American Big Business. He reports his tour, his observations and impressions in a series of articles running currently in *Look* magazine. These articles tell a lot about Stevenson and his political type. And they also tell us much about a world in revolutionary transformation as seen through the eyes of a hostile observer. They reveal what *The Militant* claimed throughout the presidential campaign — that the two major parties of Big Business and their leading spokesmen do not differ basically in policy on world issues.

Millions of workers in the United States placed their faith in Stevenson as a "friend of labor" and a genuine fighter for peace. This was mainly due to the glowing recommendation he received from the labor officials. Now we have a chance to check what we missed when we didn't get Stevenson as president.

A tour of the world today is a tour of the revolutionary storm centers where the long-oppressed toilers are seeking to build a new life for themselves on socialist foundations. An honest observer would seek every scrap of information about what is happening, above all in China where hundreds of millions of people are reconstructing society and changing the course of world history.

What are the Chinese people striving for and what are they doing? Stevenson made Formosa his headquarters for this important part of his tour. He tells us that he was well received by the counter-revolutionary hangman Chiang Kai-shek. "I was overwhelmed by my welcome — a bedroom as big as a tennis court, an elaborate civil reception . . . an elegant Chinese dinner at his villa in the lovely foothills back of Taipei." Under these circumstances and from such sources we can well imagine what Stevenson's interests were and what he was after.

He found Chiang impatient for action — "He says communism must be fought with bullets first. Only after its military strength is broken can programs be introduced to win the ideological struggle." Chiang also assured Stevenson that 95% of the Chinese people are anti-communist and will support him. "And so Chiang believes he would soon be on his way to the reconquest of China and the extermination of the communist threat in Asia."

The reaction of Stevenson to this bragging is quite typical of the state of mind of the upper sections of American Big Business policy makers. He says, "And what if Chiang failed? Would we send Americans into the vast morass of the China mainland to bail him out? Where would they come from — Korea? And if his army is lost in the great mainland gamble, who would defend Formosa? For Formosa must be held."

These apprehensions were reinforced by some "sobering news" in Hong Kong. From sources bitterly hostile to the Chinese revolution, Stevenson reports, "The consensus was that it's dangerous to assume that most Chinese are praying for Nationalist liberation. The masses hunger for security — for land and a chance to work it unmolested — and this government is the first in a long while that has been able to enforce its authority in all of China."

Why then must the bloody dictator Chiang be supported in his counter-revolutionary plot to overthrow the revolutionary government of China? The Mao regime was placed in power by the overwhelming mass of people against the discredited, hated and brutal regime of exploitation headed by Chiang. You will notice that Stevenson does not even ponder this question. For him the question is only whether Chiang can succeed and what the possibility of failure would mean to American imperialist interests.

The fate of one-fourth of humanity, striving for a new life under the greatest difficulties and despite the inheritance of backwardness imposed on them by all the Stevensons and Chiangs of the past, is of no interest to the representative of Wall Street.

But can the American workers be indifferent to these vast revolutionary changes that are taking place throughout the world? The American workers would be blind and thoroughly corrupt if they accepted the point of view of this haughty representative of the American bankers. The Chinese workers and working farmers are our brothers and our allies. Stevenson and Chiang are just the despicable representatives of the world-wide corporations and the cliques of ruling billionaire families.

Stevenson's tour should serve to awaken American workers to two things — first, the revolution in Asia is our revolution and it should be defended by the working class and its organizations in this country; second, the Stevensons are the sworn enemies of every progressive action of the masses. They are not and cannot be the leaders of the American people in the great future which will join the American workers with the world-wide march to socialism.

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Evaluation of USSR Is Crucial For Socialists as War Nears

By Harry Frankel

THE END OF REVOLUTION by Fritz Sternberg, John Day, New York, 1953, 191 pp., \$3.

The chief idea in Fritz Sternberg's new book, which he subtitled "From November 1917 to the Most Revolutionary State in the World," is that the USSR is a state of an entirely new type; neither capitalist nor socialist nor a transitional form between capitalism and socialism.

Sternberg is well acquainted with the remarkable rate of growth of Soviet economy; his first chapter provides a useful sketch of that progress. It would be hard for him to deny that Russia is building upon the demonstrated superiority of nationalized and planned economy over capitalist anarchy. Sternberg claims to be a socialist; that is to say, he wants to bring about a planned economy, and he wants to bring it about in a democratic and non-Stalinist form. But if Russia represents an alternative to capitalist economy that has already conquered one-third of the globe, and which is at the same time not a transition to socialism in any way, shape or form, but is instead a permanent police state, then all socialists, would be faced with an insoluble dilemma.

THE DECISIVE QUESTION

We would have to admit that the prospects for socialism are practically negligible in the foreseeable future, because the contradictions of capitalism are being eliminated in a way not foreseen by Marxism.

The decisive question as it emerges for socialists is thus the following: Is Russia a link which continues capitalism in a "state" form, is some claim, or is it a fresh link starting an entirely new chain which is non-capitalist and non-socialist, or is it a link in the chain of transition from capitalism to socialism?

The Soviet economic structure, nationalized and planned, is non-capitalist; it represents an escape from the contradictions of capitalism. This form thus has the decisive advantage over capitalism in the present world struggle. It is viable where capitalism is not.

If the Soviet nationalized economy is viable, it will in the long run produce an economic abundance far surpassing anything we have seen under capitalism. If we could assume, for example, a prolonged period of economic

development of the two world blocs, uninterrupted by either war or the intervention of the masses in the form of colonial and proletarian revolutions, there is no question that the Soviet bloc would in the end produce at such a rate as to make even Fordland loom meager by comparison. That is the trend as anyone can see it from the figures.

DOWNTIME OF CAPITALISM AND OF STALINISM

Of course such an assumption is to be taken seriously. We are not in a period of prolonged peaceable development, but one of wars and revolutions. This being so, we must understand that the coming clashes of nations and classes will, no matter what their forms and complexities, hasten and complete the downfall of

capitalism and the socialization of world economy.

What must be noted about both of these basic variants, or any of their permutations and combinations, is that neither of them leaves any room for the continued existence of Stalinist dictatorship, terror, economic inequalities, etc. The intervention of the proletariat and the growth of economic abundance, two great factors working as a team, will destroy continued dictatorship on the Stalinist model.

In other words,

the economic forms which now exist in the Soviet Union and in Eastern Europe are viable and powerful. Stalinism is not; it is temporary. And the economic form of nationalized means of production and state planning, when stripped of the Stalinist political

monstrosity — what would that be other than socialism, or more exactly a form immediately transitional to socialism?

It is not necessary to speculate far into the future. Even today, with the growth of Soviet production and the sweep of the world revolution, we see signs of a breakup in the traditional mode of Stalinist rule, and the opening of crevices in the Stalinist structure through which the masses will penetrate. Some have said that with Stalin's death the era of Stalinism has come to an end, and there is a great deal of truth in this; Stalin's death being a symbol and catalyst of a deep-going process. The recent tremors signalize the teetering of a doomed political structure.

If the Soviet bloc of nations

is a misshapen transition link in the chain of social forms between

capitalism and socialism, what

then becomes of those "socialists" who misunderstand this reality?

Very simple: They cease to be

socialists and are merely ap-

pendages to the imperialist, anti-

socialist war machine. That is

what happens to Sternberg.

BOOK OF SMALL VALUE

Very little in this book is of

value or interest. This is in sharp

contrast with most of Sternberg's

other work, which is crammed

with important statistical data on

the collapse of capitalism and how

it is coming about. In this book

the only valuable section is the

first chapter, where Sternberg

draws a rough proportional sketch

of the advance of Soviet economy

as a portion of world economy.

The sections dealing with the

living standards of the Soviet

workers are nothing but a rehash

of Harry Schwartz of the N. Y.

Times and other such "experts."

Sternberg claims that the living

standards of the Soviet people

are about the same as under

Czarism. By no stretch of the

imagination can such a claim be

sustained. Even with all Stalinist

inequities and distortions, such an

idea, perhaps true in the Thirties

is completely out of kilter in the

Fifties.

The blasts against the chimpanzee only leave me puz-

zled. So far as I can see, a chimpanzee is in every way as

good as any king or queen, and a whole lot more fun. The

chimpanzee has about as much say in the political affairs

of the world, and probably a little more savvy. His actions,

while admittedly uncouth on occasion, are far less offens-

ive than those of a royal family that spends \$280 million

out of the purse of a poverty-stricken nation just to get

crowned.

You may differ with my opinion placing chimpanzees

on an equal level with royalty, but you are bound to respect it.

After all, I have behind me the opinion of a French-

man (the French got very familiar with royalty) who said:

"Kings are in the moral order what monsters are in

the Fifties."

White I'm usually partial to the BBC, with its fine music

and drama, in this case I'm on the other side. If U.S.

commercials upset the blessed dignity of the coronation,

then I say: "Hurrah for commercials! Hurrah for tooth-

paste and sewing machines! And three cheers for the

chimpanzee!"

— Thomas Raymond

WHO WILL LEAD FIGHT AGAINST McCARTHYISM?

(Continued from page 1)

take on McCarthy and Mc-

Carthyism, the Taft-Hartley

crowd, and the whole Big Busi-

ness gang.

The McCarthys look like

"Goliaths" only to frightened

liberals and cowardly labor bu-

eaucrats. They are giants only so

long as the invincible power of

the American working class re-

mains dormant and stifled. The

burning task in the fight against

McCarthyism is to bring the power

of the American working class

onto the political arena in open

opposition to both the capitalist

parties and their offspring of Mc-

Carthyism.

The bankrupt policy of the

bureaucracy has brought the labor

movement to a political impasse.

To continue on that road into 1954

means sure defeat. An inde-

pendent Labor Party for the 1954

elections is the only answer. In

future articles we will discuss,

the significance of a Labor Party

in the struggle against Mc-

Carthyism and the steps that

should be taken to launch it.

The Wilpo cabinet was ousted

from office in Indonesia when it

tried to move out 250,000

Javanese squatters from rich

lands leased to foreign capitalists.

Seven of these squatters, who

occupied the land following

World War II, were killed when

they resisted police units trying

to dispossess them.

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THE MILITANT

Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION
116 UNIVERSITY PL., N. Y. 3, N. Y. Phone: AL 5-7408

Editor: GEORGE BREITMAN
Business Manager: JOSEPH HANSEN

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent The Militant's policies. They are expressed in its editorial.

"Entered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N.Y. under the act of March 3, 1879."

Vol. XVII - No. 24

Monday, June 15, 1953

Why There Is No Peace

On the very eve of a truce in Korea, all the carriers of Big Business propaganda in the U.S. began to beat the drums — "Don't bring the boys back home. Don't relax the 'defense' effort. Don't think this means real peace."

In their own twisted way these spokesmen for Wall Street know that there is no peace under capitalism. The overriding tendency of American Big Business is to make war, all-out war, on the Soviet bloc. The sooner the better, to their way of thinking. The main obstruction to this aim is the turbulent revolutionary movement of the working class and colonial people throughout the world and the unwillingness of the American people to be dragged into a hopeless world conflict to put down this revolution.

Success in this mad drive to conquer the world is unattainable. Even if they can temporarily foist such a course on the American people the destruction of the world-wide revolutionary movement now unfolding cannot be achieved. Nevertheless, Wall Street feels compelled to head toward war just the same.

Eisenhower's address to the Junior Chamber of Commerce in Minneapolis June 10 indicates what it is that drives Big Business towards war: "Again and again," he said, speaking of military and economic "security," "we must remind ourselves that this is a matter not only of political

principle but of economic necessity. It involves our need for markets for our agricultural and industrial products, our need to receive in return from the rest of the world such essentials as manganese and cobalt, tin and tungsten, without which our economy cannot function."

Markets, raw materials and profits for American Business, these are the prizes that drive capitalism toward war in 1953 as in 1914 and 1939. With this difference — that today the pressure on American Big Business is far greater than ever before; it is a matter of life or death for their economic system. There is an additional important difference between now and the first and second world wars. Today it is no longer a fight to divide the markets among the big imperialist powers — that fight has been pretty much won by Wall Street — it is the final and unavoidable conflict between the decaying capitalist system and its successor the socialist system. This is at bottom the issue that will be decided by World War III.

Whatever the twists and turns in the diplomatic field, whatever the secondary differences among the Wall Street policy makers and their satellites in Europe, the American working class must learn the lesson of history — there is no peace under capitalism. Until this monstrous system is destroyed the horror of war will continue to plague the earth.

Right to Fair Trial Endangered

When the American revolutionists won their freedom from British rule, they wrote into their new Constitution ten amendments known as the Bill of Rights. Among the basic rights they safeguarded was the right to a fair trial. Article VI of the Bill of Rights requires that the accused "be informed of the nature and cause of the accusation; to be confronted with the witnesses against him; to have compulsory process for the obtaining of witnesses in his favor . . ."

This vital section of the Bill of Rights has just been struck a grievous blow by the U.S. Supreme Court. In a little-publicized five-to-three decision June 8, the court upheld the use of secret FBI records, kept from the accused, as the basis for an adverse ruling against two conscientious objectors by a Draft Appeals Board. The ruling led to their imprisonment when they refused to submit to induction.

The two victims, Harry Gray Nugent of Brooklyn and Lester Packer of the Bronx, objected to military service on religious grounds. Their claim to exemption was denied by an Appeal Board on the basis of secret reports of the FBI and on secret testimony of unnamed informants. The defendants were denied access to both the secret reports and the secret testimony of their unnamed accusers.

Three Supreme Court justices — Felix Frankfurter, Hugo L. Black and William O. Douglas — dissented from the decision in language that leaves no doubt they regard the ruling as extremely damaging to the rights of accused persons. They de-

clared that the "very purpose" of a draft hearing was "to give registrants an opportunity to meet adverse evidence." Justice Frankfurter said it was a "mockery" to suggest that a registrant was accorded the chance to meet adverse evidence effectively if he was refused even information on its source. Justice Douglas said the use of statements by informers whom the accused are not allowed to confront had such "an infamous history that it should be rooted out from our procedure."

The whole "loyalty" purge instituted by Truman and intensified by Eisenhower is based on such procedure. This procedure was the basis for the recent conviction of the young scientist William Perl on two counts of perjury in a witch-hunt trial in which the Department of Justice failed to produce one scrap of evidence to substantiate its charge that Perl was linked to an "atomic spy ring." The prosecuting attorney "said this secret data could not be made public but would be supplied to the judge in private before sentence is imposed . . ." (N.Y. Herald-Tribune, June 8.)

The highest court in the land has now put its official seal of approval on just such monstrous judicial tyranny. It has thereby added another plank to the coffin of civil liberties in America.

If the labor movement and all other defenders of the Bill of Rights don't unitedly demand and win a reversal in these cases, the witch hunters will have gone a long way toward placing the American people at the mercy of judges empowered to hand down sentences on the basis of undisclosed evidence alleged by unnamed informers.

Stratagem That Failed

The June 4 Wall Street Journal featured a revealing article on the theme that Durkin's appointment was an Eisenhower "stratagem that failed" and that Durkin "will be the first Eisenhower cabinet member to resign." This same mouthpiece of the financiers and speculators originally lauded Durkin's appointment as Secretary of Labor. What caused this seemingly sudden change of attitude?

On Dec. 8, 1952 The Militant explained the political motives for the inclusion of Durkin in GOP's millionaire cabinet. "Eisenhower is anxious to take the curse off the Republican Party," we pointed out editorially. "The anti-labor reputation of that party is a handicap to the incoming administration." And we added that Eisenhower "doesn't want an open break with labor now. He wants a continuation of the present relations so that war preparations can go on undisturbed. He wants to jolly labor along as Truman and Roosevelt did."

The June 4 Wall St. Journal confirms this explanation, saying that "Mr. Durkin's appointment was intended to work political magic . . . Mr. Eisenhower was supposed to prove (by it) that he and his party were not 'anti-labor' . . . By choosing an AFL man over a CIO bigwig, the Ikemen hoped to begin breaking up the old pro-Democratic, anti-GOP coalition." Besides this it was intended to help put a "modified" Taft-Hartley across.

But it hasn't worked out that way. Both AFL and CIO remain anti-GOP. Even Durkin has accepted only a single proposed

revision of Taft-Hartley, namely, the one "which would ease the way for union shop agreements in the construction industry." Up to now he has not dared accept the others. "Unfortunately for the GOP and the building trades, which want this modification, however, Mr. Durkin dares not plead their case, lest he be cross-examined on other Taft-Hartley questions." "An impasse in legislation" has thus been created.

Between the interests of the monopolists and those of labor there is an abyss, so profound that all the Durkins in the AFL and CIO cannot afford to ignore it.

The Labor Department itself remains unorganized. Durkin is by law entitled to 3 assistant secretaries. "But up to now, none of these positions has been filled," said the Wall St. Journal, "either because the Secretary's recommendations have been rejected at the White House or turned down in the Senate before they ever officially got there."

The anti-labor Cabinet members insolently refuse to discuss in Durkin's presence. He has reportedly complained that "when he walks into a room where other officials are gathered 'they all stop talking.'"

Durkin supplied a footnote to this obscene farce on June 9 when he "denied rumors that he was planning to resign because of disagreement with other cabinet members over labor policy" and predicted a revision of Taft-Hartley "in a few weeks," notwithstanding all reports to the contrary.

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Case of Joe Williams

By Florence Hayes

The story behind the trial of Joe Williams of Compton, Calif., before the Douglas Long Beach Local of the CIO United Automobile Workers Union for "conduct unbefitting a union member" contains a valuable lesson.

A few weeks ago an explosive situation was building up in Compton, a suburb of Los Angeles, over Negroes moving out of their narrow Central Avenue ghetto to homes in heretofore white areas. A series of incidents, ominously similar to the preliminary stages of the Cicero, Ill., riots occurred. Small property owners picketed the home of a Negro family which had dared to cross the artificially determined "boundary" beyond which Negroes "must not pass."

During the afternoon of the fourth day of harassment, housewives, carrying placards bearing insulting and threatening signs, marched back and forth while a small knot of men shouted encouragement from the curb.

One of the men wore a United Automobile Workers CIO badge pinned to his shirt. He was Joe Williams, an auto worker, also president of the Compton Crest Improvement Association. This is one of the small property-owners groups that is spearheading the drive to keep Negroes out of Compton's "white" neighborhoods.

Behind these organizations, egging them on and using them as tools, are the real estate interests and the big-money boys, and behind them is Compton's city government.

During the four days, the Jackson family kept a constant vigil inside the house never

more than a few feet from their loaded shotgun. All night they watched over their children with the dread of mob action or terrorist bombing ever present. Outside their home, the mounting barrage of filthy insults, threats, "pickets" and — Joe Williams with his union badge. The Compton police refused to disperse the pickets. As night fell, the ranks of housewives were swelled with men. Still the police refused to act.

Late at night, Los Angeles County Sheriff's officers finally stepped into the picture and sent the crowd away. Since then there have been no new flagrant acts of intimidation, but the situation remains tense and fresh flare-ups are feared.

The United Automobile Workers, stung by the blow struck at its anti-discrimination policy through the action of Joe Williams, brought him up on charges in his local. This is an important act and certainly better than passing another letter-perfect resolution "deplored the regrettable incident" of race hatred. However, what calls for explanation is not only the presence of Joe Williams and his union badge on the racist-mob side of this fight, but the absence of a few hundred union pickets on the side of the Jackson family.

Many workers live in Compton, the heart of the industrial area of Los Angeles. Action on their part can stop the Negro-hating hotheads. It is the responsibility of the union movement to organize such action, to be prompt and vigilant, and to carry into deeds the many fine words that have been heard in speeches, resolutions and union convention orations.

Lyrics by Sylvia Porter

By Joyce Cowley

When I woke up on Monday morning, June the first, it was wet and cold. I had to go back to work after a three-day holiday; the rent was due and the mail box crammed with the usual assortment of first-of-the-month bills. I felt kind of low — that is, until I read Sylvia Porter's column in the Post and learned that I was living "an economic ideal," "experiencing the rarity of virtual perfection."

Curious as to just why this authority found everything so perfect, I carefully checked her points.

"You can get a job for the asking. You can get top pay for your work."

Right below Miss Porter's column, Murray Kempton discussed a strike at the Ketay Manufacturing Co. on lower Broadway, where members of Local 3 of the AFL Electrical Workers Union are trying to get a raise of 15 cents an hour. The present starting wage is 85 cents an hour or \$34 a week. Top wages! Maybe Sylvia Porter just writes for the Post. She should read it, too.

"You can sell the goods you make in gratifying volume with gratifying ease and make gratifying profits. Retail stores are zipping along at a yearly rate of \$172 billion. Corporate profits before and after taxes are ballooning."

I'm not a department store or a corporation, which may explain why I can't appreciate perfection when I see it.

"You can buy a vast variety of the things you need and want."

Who, me?

"There are no shortages anywhere." She ought to see my pocketbook, after the rent is paid.

"You can buy or build a house where and as you wish." I was beginning to get interested in this one but of course she had to add — as an afterthought — "if you have the cash." I knew there must be some catch.

"The desperate housing shortage of the first postwar years has been wiped out by years of sensational building."

Notes from the News

THE TEXAS LEGISLATURE has enacted a law requiring every textbook author to sign an oath that he is not and never has been a member of the Communist Party and is not and has not been for the preceding five years a member of any organization on the U.S. Attorney General's "subversive" list, a list arbitrarily compiled without giving the organizations thus smeared a chance for advance hearing.

LOUIS FRAINA, better known under his pen name as Lewis Corey, faces deportation for having been a member of the Communist Party 30 years ago. Fraina was born in Italy. He played a prominent role in the founding of the Communist Party after the first world war. Shortly thereafter he separated from the party but wrote a number of valuable books along Marxist lines during the thirties, mainly on American economy. During the last 15 years Fraina has been moving steadily to the right. He became an outstanding supporter of the State Department line and the labor bureaucracy. Last January he was arrested by the immigration authorities. At that time he was educational director of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butcher Workmen. After his arrest he was dismissed by the union.

WILLIAM PERL, former physics instructor who was convicted for perjury (see editorial in June 8 issue of *The Militant*) was sentenced this week to five years imprisonment. Judge Sylvester Ryan rudely brushed aside the jury's clemency recommendation. The trial, based on "guilt by association" evidence of the flimsiest kind, was notable for the brazen precedent set in abrogating trial by jury. The prosecution in-

roduced "evidence" from the confidential files of the FBI which it refused to place before the jury. This evidence, given in secret to the judge, and decisive in convicting Perl, was supposed to have proved Perl's connection with a "spy ring" — he was not on trial for the prosecution demanded the most severe sentence and the Judge obliged by handing down the maximum of five years in prison. The judge and the Court of Appeals refused to grant bail pending an appeal of the case to a higher court. The appeals court ruled that defense counsel had not made a "sufficient showing of substantial error" in the trial to warrant Perl's release on bail.

TAX DEDUCTIONS for child-care expenditures made by working mothers is provided for in a law passed by the Oregon State Legislature. The original Bill presented by Rep. Maureen Neuberger, contained far more substantial provisions to meet the pressing needs for working mothers than the final version which suffered from sweeping amendments. Nevertheless Mrs. Neuberger felt a step forward had been taken since it was "important to get the principle of child-care deduction written into law." One of the limitations of the present law is that it allows deductions only from incomes of less than \$3,000 either by a widowed or divorced mother or by a husband and wife jointly.

SELF-ANSWERING PHONES are now available on the market. The robot attachment answers the phone, refts off a prepared statement, invites the caller to leave a message and records the message. One "robot" replaces 35 workers. Note to Ed: How, please?

5,000 Longshoremen Picket Gov. Dewey

By R. Bell

NEW YORK, JUNE 9 — Over 5,000 longshoremen, spearheaded by rebel Local 791 of the AFL International Longshoremen's Association, paraded uptown from the waterfront to picket the Bar Association Building, scene of open hearings called by Governor Thomas E. Dewey on the State Crime Commission's proposals to "reform" the port. The longshoremen were particularly incensed about the proposals to license, register and fingerprint dockworkers and set up state-operated fink halls, under pretext of combatting "crime" on the waterfront.

As for crime, Meany declared, the city and state law-enforcement agencies have all the power they need to enforce the laws against crime and apprehend the criminals.

A HOAX

The imposition of restrictive labor legislation under the guise of stamping out crime is nothing but a hoax. It is a matter of public record that crime on the waterfront has flourished because of the collusion between greedy employers, crooked politicians and corrupt labor officials. As a number of waterfront employers testified at previous hearings, the practice of handing out "gifts" to ILA officials was considered a form of "strike insurance." It is only since ILA president Ryan and his henchmen have the lost the power to keep the longshoremen in line that the hue and cry over crime on the waterfront reached its crescendo.

What the employers of the port want is "strike insurance" that will deliver the goods. At the hearings conducted by Dewey, for example, chairman of the New York Shipping Association, John V. Lyon, centered his demands on legislation outlawing "wildcat strikes," and on giving the employers greater control over hiring and firing.

Oddly enough, the demand for measures to ban "wildcat strikes" was echoed by Louis Waldman, attorney for "King" Joe Ryan. It is these strike protest actions which have disrupted the amicable relations between Ryan and the employers and given rise to the numerous crime hearings. Symbolically, it was the rebel longshoremen, who have consistently led the opposition to Ryan, that picketed the Dewey hearings for which Waldman and Ryan both apologized to His Honor, the governor.

Evicted from Met Life Project



Mr. and Mrs. Michael Decatur and their two children (above) were forcibly evicted from their apartment in Parkchester, New York housing project owned by the multi-billion Metropolitan Life Insurance Co. The Decaturs were first and only Negro family to live in the 12,500-family project, built 13 years ago. Tenants who barricaded themselves in the apartment with the Decaturs were carried out by the police.

CANADIAN STEEL UNION BACKS JAMAICA FIGHT

Peter Farnsworth

Canadian steelworkers are stretching out a firm hand of solidarity to bauxite workers in the West Indian Island of Jamaica. The Canadian district of the United Steelworkers of America (CCL-CIO) contributed \$3,000 to the Jamaican bauxite workers organized in the National Workers Union during their recent strike to up their pay from 19 cents an hour to the equivalent of 66 cents an hour. Similar work in Canada and the U.S. pays \$1.46 an hour.

In view of the fact that the strike has continued solid for close to a month, the claim by the AFL union that a "majority" of Hearns employees had signed membership cards with the rival union appears to be absolutely phoney.

What the move boils down to therefore is nothing but an excuse offered by the AFL raid to permit the courts to ban present picket lines pending an NLRB election. While no exact information is available at present, such moves have been undertaken in the past by raiding unions in indirect or even direct collusion with a struck company.

In such a raid, the outside union offers assistance in breaking a bona fide strike by making it look like a jurisdictional dispute. In return, the raiding union hopes to win bargaining rights away from the striking union. Needless to say, such a practice is about as low as a union can go, and will undoubtedly anger the Hearns strikers enormously if it proves to be the meaning of the AFL move in this case.

Meanwhile the Hearns strike continues solid, with the company stepping up its barrage of "communist" charges against the union. District 65 was among those unions expelled from the CIO in 1949 for "communist domination" but has recently been readmitted to the CIO after a change of policy and the ousting of some officers.

Now the Canadian district has appointed to its staff Ken Stirling, the Jamaica leader of the NWU. The entire services of the steel union, its legal, educational, and research departments, will be at the disposal of the Jamaican workers. This appointment represents the first time that a North American union has given direct organizational assistance to a member union of the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions. It also opens up the possibility that the Canadian Steelworkers Union will extend its jurisdiction to embrace as members workers in the Commonwealth areas of the Caribbean.

Canadian and U.S. workers have a big stake in strengthening the workers in the West Indies who have long served as a source of cheap labor for Canadian and U.S. monopolists. The Aluminum Company of Canada, one of three in the bauxite field, ships ore to Canada to be processed into aluminum by members of the Steelworkers Union.

Working-class parties hold 39 seats in the Indonesian Parliament. Socialists and PKI (Stalinists) have 15 seats each, much of the Stalinists' strength coming from emigre "Nanyang" Chinese residents in Indonesia. Partai Buruh (Workers Party) has 5 MPs, while Partai Tan Malaka's Trotskyist Partai Murba (Masses Party) occupies 4 seats. New elections are due within year.

Indonesian Workers Hold 39 Seats in Parliament

OATH REQUIRED

Canadian steel director C. H. Millard, when he flew to Jamaica to give advice to the striking National Workers Union, was

allowed to land only upon signing a declaration that he would not "at any time address any group of persons on any topic relating to political or trade union matters, or discuss such matters with any group of persons, or participate in any way or in any negotiations arising out of any trade dispute." Two days after his appeal to the British Colonial Office these restrictions were lifted but the ban on his colleague from the U.S. Steelworkers, Mike Zonnerach, was enforced.

According to T. Fairclough, treasurer of the Jamaican Peoples National Party, 300 to 400 Jamaicans die every winter from a vomiting disease which is really due to starvation. Most of the workers in Jamaica work on the sugar crop which is seasonal employment. At least 20% of the working force are unemployed at any one time. While wages have risen from 50 cents to about a dollar a day, rice, the staple food, has skyrocketed from 3 cents a pound to 14 cents.

The National Workers Union is affiliated to the Peoples National Party which has 11 seats in the legislature and is the official opposition to the government headed by Alexander Bustamante. The PNP outvoted Bustamante's so-called Jamaican Labor Party 202,000 to 198,000 in the last election. The Peoples National Party has close relations with the Canadian farmer-labor party, the CCF, which the Canadian district of the United Steelworkers strongly backs.

Wall St. Bewails Crop Prospects

(Continued from page 1)

The average price that farmers can obtain for corn in the open market today is \$1.53 a bushel. They can, however, in effect sell their corn directly to the government for \$1.67 a bushel. For wheat, the Chicago market price is now \$2.02 a bushel while the government price is \$2.53.

This naturally results in the government getting millions upon millions of bushels of wheat and corn which it must store with little hope of selling. As long as the market price remains low, the government must refrain from selling for fear of still further depressing the open market price. By keeping these huge stores off the market, the government encourages maintenance of high prices on the open market.

But this system, conjured up by the wizardry of an army of government economists, doesn't always work out too well. For example, the market price of new wheat has dropped so low that an unprecedented gap exists between it and the government price. The market price usually begins to drop when the wheat comes in. However, this year the decline in price occurred in advance of the crop. Prices have magic of their own.

OUT OF YOUR POCKET

The dollars needed for price supports come out of the taxpayer's pocket. You pay high taxes to keep up high prices so that you can pay more money for food and clothing. This is one of the features of capitalist prosperity. Meanwhile millions of tons of foodstuffs lie in warehouses rotting away as if there were a depression. An ingenious system.

The government is unable to store more grain. It hasn't got the room. Grain can't be supported when it can't be stored. It therefore may be dumped on the market where it will knock prices down even lower than they are now. The early price decline anticipates this "storage crisis."

George Bradley, Chicago area director for the Commodity Credit

Corporation, in charge of disposing of old corn in government-owned bins states that "... 25 to 30 million bushels of old corn is deteriorating so rapidly that it should be put on the market as soon as possible." But "... we can't unload it on the market as we're committed not to depress the market." It will take a lot more wizardry to solve that one. Even the building of more storage bins won't stop the old grain from rotting.

The only solution that the government can find is to build a vast network of storage bins for the new grain that keeps pouring in. Let the old stores deteriorate, increase taxes to pay for the billions more needed for this, and curtail production.

Why not free all this food for the hungry all over the world? No, that is called "dumping" and "depressing" the prices. You would pay less for your food. That would bring down other prices, too, and lower farm and industrial profits all around, bringing on a depression. The only way to handle the scourge of plenty under capitalism is to store and destroy.

But even this treatment of the disease of abundance doesn't seem to guarantee salvation for the profit system. Under-Secretary of Agriculture Morse declared last week: "I fear that if the government must resort to buying bins and putting them up to store corn, we will have to look at them in the future as monuments to the failure of free enterprise."

TRUE FACTS DEMANDED IN MURDER OF TRESCA

NEW YORK, June 4 — Confirmation or refutation of two opposing charges in connection with the 1943 murder of Carlo Tresca, anti-fascist editor, was asked today in three letters sent by Norman Thomas, head of the Tresca Memorial Committee, to District Attorney Frank S. Hogan, Police Commissioner George P. Monaghan, and William S. Paley, chairman of the Columbia Broadcasting System's board of directors.

Those charges are: (1) that Tresca was killed by the Mafia at Mussolini's order, and (2) that he was slain by a Communist thug, who afterward was murdered in Europe.

His committee's three moves were made, Mr. Thomas explained, because of a television show entitled *Death of an Editor*, lately presented by CBS, which in a simulated news program, showed the Tresca killing to have been done at Mussolini's command, and a subsequent protest in the N. Y. weekly *Enquirer* by its publisher, Generoso Pope, Jr., who asserts that the supposed facts on which that broadcast was based are wholly untrue.

The CBS script, televised May 12, and presented as "history," averred that \$300,000 was paid to the Mafia, an alleged terrorist organization, for the murder, easily recognized from the TV portrayal, Mr. Thomas states, as that of Tresca. Mr. Hogan contends that this never happened, and cites J. Edgar Hoover, head of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, as authority for his assertion that the Mafia is nonexistent. The *Enquirer* editor also declares that the Tresca slaying was a "Communist" crime.

"Officially the murder of Carlo Tresca is carried as unsolved," Mr. Pope's protest said. "But the New York police do consider it solved. According to their secret files, Tresca was slain by a Communist thug who was himself murdered later in the Balkans."

In its three separate letters the Thomas committee made the following requests:

District Attorney Hogan was asked to call upon the CBS management for "any factual evidence on which your *Death of an Editor* TV script was based," and also to check with the Police Department "to see if by any possibility of circumstance it has evidence on the Tresca case that has not come to your attention."

Police Commissioner Monaghan, Mr. Thomas wrote: "Is it true that your department's 'secret files' contain evidence that Tresca was slain by a Communist thug who in turn was murdered in the Balkans?" If so, we urge that you give that evidence to District Attorney Hogan and at

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