

## DULLES' PROPAGANDA -- AT WHOM IS IT AIMED?

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Build a Labor Party Now!

# THE MILITANT

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## Legless Veteran Writes Book on "Loyalty" Purge

NEW YORK, Sept. 9 — Pioneer Publishers today announced the publication on Oct. 1 of a new book, "The Case of the Legless Veteran," by James Kutch. It is Kutch's own story of how he was purged from a clerical job with the government in 1948, and of his five-year fight to clear his name of "disloyalty" charges and recover his job.

A native of Newark, N. J., Kutch tells how and why he became a socialist during the depression of the Thirties, and of his experiences as an infantryman in the U.S. Army, which ended when he lost both his legs in the battle of San Pietro almost ten years ago. After the war, he learned to use artificial limbs and went to work for the Veterans Administration.

But two years later he was discharged under President Truman's "loyalty" program because of his freely admitted membership in the Socialist Workers Party, one of the groups arbitrarily included on the Attorney General's "subversive" list without a hearing or the right to defend itself against unspecified charges.

Most of the book deals with Kutch's experiences as a victim of the witch hunt — his appearances before several "loyalty" boards, his meeting with Attorney General (now Supreme Court Justice) Tom Clark, his appeals

to President Truman and Eisenhower, his suits in federal court, his national tour to mobilize public support for his reinstatement. Eight hundred national and local labor, liberal, civic, veterans, religious and minority-group organizations, representing several million Americans, have rallied behind the movement to vindicate the legless veteran. His report on how this support was mobilized makes useful reading in these days of the witch hunt.

Equally revealing is the chapter Kutch devotes to the Communist Party, the only organization that publicly attacked his fight to be reinstated.

A stirring human document, dealing with one of the most hotly debated issues in America today — civil liberties — The Case of the Legless Veteran is sure to arouse thought and discussion wherever it is read.

The book, which will sell for \$1.00, was published by a British firm, New Park Publications Ltd., and Pioneer Publishers, 116 University Pl., New York 3, N.Y., is the American distributor.

An article written exclusively for The Militant, James Kutch, will explain the history of the book and the circumstances which led to its being published abroad, rather than in his own country. See next week's Militant for this article.

## An On-the-Spot Report Of Great Ceylon Strike



As the leading working class party in Ceylon, the Lanka Samasamaja Party is playing a decisive role in the great labor struggles there. Above is shown a past rally of 30,000 in Colombo under the auspices of the Lanka Samasamaja, which is a section of the Fourth International (Trotskyist).

CEYLON, Aug. 18 — The general strike and hartal (closure of shops, boycott of schools etc.) struggle of August 12 is a landmark in the history of Ceylon. It is undoubtedly the biggest mass upheaval that has taken place in Ceylon in this century. It has been a terrific experience for the masses and the entire labor movement. A most important aspect of the struggle was that it was not opposed in principle to a hartal, took the position that it wanted over a month to prepare for a hartal, that it was not incorrect to say that in this particular action the militancy of the rural masses was greater than that of the urban workers.

The struggle arose principally as an effort to restore the rice subsidy. It has today developed to a higher level — into a struggle to replace the United Nationalist Party (capitalist) Government.

Following the mammoth meeting on Galle Face Green in Colombo, on July 23, which was held under the auspices of all the parties in the Opposition, and which a tear-gas attack by the police (with baton charges) failed to disrupt, a committee of all the Opposition parties, together with the trade unions, came into existence for the purpose of taking further action in regard to: (a) the removal of the rice subsidy (b) the other attacks on the standard of living of the masses and (c) the attacks on democratic rights through banning of demonstrations in Colombo, restriction on use of loudspeakers, etc.

"You ask for a project apartment," she said, "and they ask you how many children you have."

The Rosario's problem of low wages and unbearable housing conditions is shared by the over-

## "The House I Live In" -- Puerto Ricans in Harlem

By Harry Ring

Clara Rosario will soon bear her third child. Her husband Ephraim earns \$40 a week. Out of this they pay \$13 a week for two tiny rooms in an East Harlem "furnished apartment" building. They share a bathroom with 30 other people.

"Life is a struggle for us," Mrs. Rosario told the Post during its recent study of New York's Puerto Rican population. "Where am I going to have enough room for the baby when I don't have enough room for us now?"

"I have tried to find bigger rooms," she explained, "but they want eighteen and twenty dollars a week and I have enough trouble trying to manage on what we pay now."

"You ask for a project apartment," she said, "and they ask you how many children you have."

The Rosario's problem of low wages and unbearable housing conditions is shared by the over-

whelming majority of the city's 425,000 first — and second — generation Puerto Ricans.

### "MOST UNDERPAID"

The Puerto Rican people "are the most underpaid workers in the city today," flatly asserts Frank Meunch, Regional Director of the Wage and Hour Division of the State Employment Service.

And a Brooklyn Grand Jury, established to investigate the general housing conditions that led to the horrible death of seven Puerto Rican men, women and children in a blazing Brooklyn fire trap July 8 last year, said: "Slums are being created faster than they are being eliminated. Overcrowding is the germ of the slum disease. Occupancy of dark, damp and filthy cellars that defy description, and families of six, seven or more cooking, eating and sleeping in one room, lacking proper toilet facilities, are spreading the slum blight. . . .

"Shocked as we were by the

death of seven persons, we were more appalled as the evidence adduced before us disclosed that the greatest city in the world is surely, but not slowly, being permitted to deteriorate and decay."

In 1947 before the present large-scale immigration, the City Housing Authority estimated a housing shortage of 900,000, including unsafe, unsanitary, violation-ridden, old-law tenements. This problem, the Grand Jury further charged, "has been intensified by . . . profiteering landlords . . . and further intensified because of lack of adequate enforcement over the past several years."

### THE "COMPLAINT SYSTEM"

The Grand Jury found the City Building Department operating with a "complaint system" under which no inspection of private dwellings is made unless a tenant makes a complaint directly to them. Even at that it found the

staggering number of 264,535

complaints pending as of last January first.

The Grand Jury checked the complaints against the actual housing situation. It chose for its test 15 square blocks in three typical Puerto Rican and Negro neighborhoods of Brooklyn for which there were 576 complaints on file.

The test revealed 3,122 violations of dwelling laws, 402 of which they described as hazardous. They found 6,911 violations of the electrical code, 2,075 violations of the sanitary code, and 337 violations of the fire code. The total number of violations came to 12,445. Of the 739 buildings checked, they discovered 94 were

"either recorded as, or found to be illegally occupied, after being condemned as unfit or unsafe for human habitation."

What do these startling figures mean in terms of the human beings who are compelled to live under these conditions? Reporters for the N. Y. Post went into

some of these buildings in each of the City's Puerto Rican communities and talked to the families that lived in them. Here are a few of the things they came up with:

### THE BELGADOS

Mrs. Margaret Belgado and her husband, Pablo, live with their four children in a lower West Side rooming house. They occupy a single room, a long narrow space which has in it a three-quarter bed, two worn army cots, a three-burner stove, an antique ice box, a basin-size sink, a small wardrobe closet and two chairs. For this the landlord gets \$60-a-month rent.

Mr. Belgado is sick and cannot hold down a regular job. The City Welfare Dept. has come to their aid with a grand total of \$25.50 a month.

"Things go very bad for us in Puerto Rico when my son in the Army gets married and stops sending us money," Mrs. Belgado told the Post. "We sold everything

we had for a hundred and fifty dollars and came here two years ago.

### "LET PEOPLE DECIDE"

"My son still sends us a little money now and then," she explained, "and my husband sells potatoes in the street. And I sew dresses for people. That is how we live."

"Often we have no food. Thank God my children are able to eat hot lunches in school. Otherwise they would starve. As it is, I buy rice and beans and cook once a day. The children don't eat breakfast just supper here. Sometimes we have milk and fish but never both together. If anyone needs clothes we have to cut down on food."

"Things are very bad here, the same as in Puerto Rico."

### RENT — \$268

Gonzales Corchado, 67, and his wife, Mercedes, 63, live five flights up a mustard brown staircase on West 101st St. With their four

(Continued on page 4)

## McCarthyites Aim Big Smear Barrage at Organized Labor

### Lovell Scores Housing Head In Detroit

DETROIT, Sept. 5 — Frank Lovell, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor, today requested a hearing before the Common Council to demand the "immediate discharge" of Harry J. Durbin, director-secretary of the Detroit Housing Commission. Lovell's request for a hearing followed the disclosure that Durbin is directly involved in a \$7 million private-housing venture.

Lovell said that because of this he would demand that the Common Council "investigate the Cobo administration to probe Cobo's connections with vested interests, such as the real estate profiteers, that make him unfit for public office."

"As you know I am a candidate for mayor in the coming election. I believe my appearance before the Council is of vital importance to the citizens of Detroit, because it now becomes clear why the Cobo administration has scuttled all public housing projects."

Lovell's election platform takes a forthright stand on housing: "Drive the bankers and real estate profiteers from the City Hall. Housing is an all-year problem."

"Rent control! Strictly enforced by neighborhood tenant committees. Roll back rents!"

"Stop all evictions! The mayor must declare a state of emergency. Refuse to evict any family unless other housing is available!"

"Build homes! Instead of white marble waterfront monuments to this real-estate controlled administration, build low and middle-income housing!"

"Tax the corporations! Thousands of families were brought to work in Detroit by the corporations. They bear the social responsibility to see that these people are properly housed."

Urging that organized labor fight to remove Cobo and his appointees from public office, Lovell declared, "Harrassed tenants will give full support to this. It will be a long step toward rent controls and low-cost public housing for all, without discrimination or prejudice."

Reports on aggregate corporate earnings for the first six months of 1953 show an increase of profits over 1952 of more than 16%. All indications are that 1953 will top the all-time record for profits in 1950.

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### Next in Line



## Wall Street Seen Victor In West German Election

By Murry Weiss

With the great world revolutionary tide moving against them, American Big Business and the West German monopolists nevertheless finally scored a significant victory in last Sunday's West German elections. The return to power with a consolidated parliamentary majority of Adenauer, the leading European proponent of Wall Street's foreign policy has been jubilantly hailed by Washington and London.

Is it the beginning of a major reversal in the world anti-capitalist, anti-Wall Street trend of developments? What are the causes of this capitalist triumph?

The capitalist vote in Sunday's election showed two tendencies: a definite increase in the vote for the capitalist parties relative to the total vote, and a consolidation of the forces of German capitalism around Adenauer's Christian Democrats.

The Christian Democrats polled

150 seats in the Bundestag as compared with 136 in 1949 and the Stalinists who had 15 seats in 1949 lost all of them. A union vote — as we would like to believe — were giving a vote of confidence to American foreign policy.

The combined vote for the working class parties (the Social Democrats and the Stalinist Communist Party) showed a slight absolute increase over 1949 but dropped considerably in relation to the total vote. There were over 6 million more votes cast this year. The Social Democrats polled 7,939,774 as compared with 6,934,975 in 1949. Their percentage of the total vote dropped from 29.2 in 1949 to 28.8 in 1953. The Stalinist vote was cut in half. They polled 607,413 as compared with 1,361,706 in 1949. Their percentage dropped from 5.7 to 2.2. The Social Democrats got

150 seats in the Bundestag as compared with 136 in 1949 and the Stalinists who had 15 seats in 1949 lost all of them.

Not all the capitalist press hailed the elections as an unqualified victory for the Western bloc. The Wall Street Journal, for example, put it this way: "It is by no means clear that the German people have bought the idea of rearmament and becoming a pawn of Wall Street."

The relative prosperity in West Germany which indubitably has a reality, although it is much exaggerated insofar as the condition of the working class is concerned, has had a momentarily softening effect on the class struggle. However, it must be understood that this "prosperity" is

by no means clear that the German

(Continued on page 2)

## Inquisition Starts Nov. 1 As Cover for Attack on Union Living Standards

By Art Preis

The McCarthyites are now levelling their smear-and-slander artillery point-blank at their biggest and main target — the American labor movement. Starting Nov. 1, the special Senate Internal Security subcommittee, headed by McCarthy's protege, Sen. John M. Butler, Maryland Republican, will begin its inquisition on "Communist penetration of our trade unions."

Sen. Butler indicated that the Congressional filth-throwers will aim at all sections of the labor movement. After naming as potential victims the independent United Electrical Workers, American Communications Association and Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, Butler added ominously:

"These are but a few of the Communist-dominated unions which present a continuing threat to our national security."

Butler's announcement of his witch-hunting expedition into the unions followed Attorney General Brownell's assertion in the Sept. 4 U.S. News & World Report that the "Communists" are a "greater menace now than at any time" and that "there are more in labor unions than anywhere else."

Brownell said he would cooperate with the Butler subcommittee which "will be investigating not only whether there has been any violation of the present law but also whether there is any need for additional legislation . . ."

This "additional legislation" includes Butler's own anti-labor bill to give the Subversive Activities Control Board power to brand any union as "Communist-dominated." A union so designated would be denied NLRB recognition. A union which is merely being "investigated" by the SACB on "complaint" of an employer would have its collective bargaining rights automatically suspended even before a hearing. Thus, em-

ployers would be able to block recognition of any union at any time merely by making a "complaint" of "Communist-domination" to the Big Business-ruled SACB.

Union-hating employers and newspapers are licking their chops at the prospect of the anti-labor tid-bits the Butler "hearings" will provide. The N. Y. Daily News, one of the most rabidly anti-labor newspapers in the country, hailed the Butler "hearings" and gloated that the "inquisition" into the unions "promises to be a violent and highly educational affair . . ."

This "educational" affair is undoubtedly designed to unleash a general smear barrage against organized labor. The witch-hunters intend to do a job of intimidation done by previous "probes" of government employees, teachers and professors, public entertainers, scientists, liberal Protestant clergymen and others.

The latest threatened "investigation" is carefully timed to

screen a parallel major offensive against labor's living standards and union-won conditions in the plants. It will coincide with the drive in Congress this fall to impose a national sales tax on the workers. It will also seek to terrorize resistance to the post-Korean-war campaign of the corporations to reduce employment costs and increase production by a speed-up offensive in anticipation of a "recession."

NEW YORK, Sept. 8 — "The most urgent issue of all facing New Yorkers is the question of their very survival in a war of H-Bomb destruction."

This is the forthright warning issued by David L. Weiss, Socialist Workers Party candidate for mayor, in his campaign address delivered over television station WABD tonight. Representatives of Democratic and Republican mayoralty aspirants also appeared on the program.

"If elected Mayor of New York, I would call for a city-wide popular referendum, a vote of the people, on the policies that are leading to war. Such a referendum would reveal that the people do not want to threaten anybody with the H-Bomb. They want to bring home from foreign soil the one million six hundred thousand American troops abroad, one half million of whom are still in Korea."

"They want no new Korea. They want to stretch out the hand of friendship to the peoples of all lands and build a happy, secure and free life for everybody here at home."

"LET PEOPLE

## GM PAMPHLET REPEATS AN OLD LIE ABOUT SOCIALISM

By Murry Weiss

Many years ago when I was on a socialist tour in California, I spoke to the Junior Chamber of Commerce in a small town somewhere in the San Joaquin Valley. I believe it was through the efforts of a local sympathizer who convinced this organization that it would be very stimulating and "broadminded" to listen to a socialist.

When I was through with my talk about the causes of the Longshoremen's strike then going on in San Francisco, the justice of the workers' demands and the prospects for America going socialist, a young woman, whom I had thought rather attractive up to that moment, indignantly asked me, "Why do you want to divide everything up? If you did that I might end up with the wheel of a railroad train or something and what would I do with that?"

I forgot if I succeeded in convincing her that we weren't trying to get her to divide up her home in return for the wheel of a railroad train and that socialists don't propose "dividing the wealth" in that sense. Anyway it was the first and last time I spoke before that kind of organization and I haven't had many occasions since to deal with this argument.

### "WHO OWNS AMERICA?"

I was reminded of this incident while thumbing through a booklet called "Who Owns America?" It's one of the series generously distributed free by the Employee Relations Staff of General Motors. According to the booklet, America is owned by "just about all the people living in it" — and most of them within the modest income group." I think we can safely assume they mean the workers own America since everyone knows their income is very "modest."

The author of the booklet, a certain Harold F. Clark, is advertised as "a noted economist." Having had some dismal experiences with the weighty opinions of this type, I took a deep breath and plunged in: "In every age, there have been those who thought the solution to existing economic problems was to divide up the wealth of the country." I remembered my old acquaintance, the Junior Chamber of Commerce beauty with her heavy-weight "railroad wheel" argument. And sure enough, Mr. Clark rolled it out; except that as a "noted economist" writing for a big corporation, he made it 50 million "railroad wheels."

### \$20,000 HOUSE

He says: "Let's show the fallacy of that notion with the example. If we took the total wealth of the United States — a trillion dollars — and divided it evenly among the 50 million families of our population, it would buy a \$20,000 house for each family unit." Sounds pretty good — better than ending up with a train wheel. But our "noted economist" is a masterful demolisher of socialist dreams. We are no sooner relaxing in our \$20,000 home with a glass of beer in front of a 24-inch TV screen, than Mr. Clark smashes the TV set and snatches the beer out of our hand.

"But there would be nothing in the house; not a piece of furniture; not a piece of clothing; there would be no food." Mr. Clark goes on to show why there would be nothing — no factories, railroads, telephones, or electric lights. The entire trillion would be spent to house 50 million starving American families in dark, cold, empty houses, with children and adults running around naked as jay birds.

He ends up triumphantly on the last page with the declaration: "It is perfectly clear that we could divide up the wealth of the United States and each family would have a \$20,000 house; but if nothing were left with which to keep producing additional wealth, our economic world would soon collapse."

### THE HOUSE AND FURNISHINGS TOO

Let's see if we can get out of this uncomfortable dilemma. Mr. Clark has put us in. And let's accept the terms of his example — how to get a \$20,000 home for every family in the United States and still keep the brickyards, lumber mills, glass factories, plaster and cement mills, steel mills, furnace foundries — in brief, those parts of the economy required to furnish materials to build homes; and, for good measure, we will include all the rest of the economy needed to supply everything we need or want.

Our solution, of course, won't be acceptable to General Motors. Our problem is how to produce useful things and still keep the full power of our productive machine going. General Motors prob-

# What Audience Is Dulles' Propaganda Aimed At?

By Joseph Hansen  
(Fourth of a series)

Woodrow Wyatt, a British Labor Party member of Parliament, assailing John Foster Dulles Sept. 6, said that never before had a man "spent so long in preparing himself to be Foreign Secretary and made such a fool of himself and his country when he finally got the job."

This impression of the head of the State Department is fairly widespread, not only in Europe but also among liberals in America. Dulles seems to act more like a bull in a china shop than a smooth diplomat trying to win friends and influence people abroad. For instance, in a single press conference Sept. 3, he said things that ruffled feelings in Italy, Germany and Japan.

Dulles' course can be dismissed as a consequence of stupidity, or a manifestation of colossal boorishness, which is another form of stupidity. However, it is dangerous to underestimate a foe, particularly a class enemy.

Before we write off Dulles' speeches as nothing but a typical symptom of the lack of regard American Big Business has for the feelings of its allies abroad, which only hurts Wall Street, let us once again check the diplomatic problems faced by Truman and now Eisenhower.

Wall Street's major line of world strategy since the close of World War II has been the preparation for World War III, as I have indicated in previous articles. Part of the preparation has been the building of the most gigantic military coalition ever seen. It includes the Western Hemisphere, Western Europe and the Mediterranean, and the Pacific from Japan to Australia.

If you assume, as it seems only common sense to do, that the major diplomatic problem facing the capitalist class in the U.S. is to arm, inspire, and lead this vast coalition into war on the Soviet Union, China, and the colonial countries that are now seeking freedom from imperialist domination, the State Department's course since 1948 and even earlier seems irrational.

### PROVOKED CRISES

It has provoked one diplomatic crisis after another with the Soviet Union, truculently rejected



DULLES

all overtures for a deal with the Kremlin, everywhere taken the initiative in one form or another to stir up trouble, and has thus succeeded in proving itself in the eyes of the world to be the aggressor. Even Hitler tried to avoid getting into such an unfavorable diplomatic position by making disarmament proposals, in accordance with the standing rule of capitalist diplomacy to try to appear to be seeking peace when you are preparing for war.

On top of this, the State Department seems to pay no attention to the complaints of its allies about this uncomfortable state of diplomatic affairs. Instead, Dulles, as before him Acheson, gives them stern lectures about speeding up their rearmament.

I repeat, this course seems irrational — if you consider that the State Department's major problem is to lead its tremendous coalition of powers into war under a plausible diplomatic cover. But it happens to face a bigger problem — the problem of convincing the American people they should fight another war and submit to the lowered standard of living, loss of freedoms, bitter sacrifices, frightful bloodshed and destruction, and even danger of total annihilation that this war entails.

Just how crucial this problem is, is not generally appreciated even by those who pose as ex-

perts on such things. To grasp it, you have to understand the weight of the American people as a force in world politics.

### POWER MIRRORED IN POPULATION

In the last century, Karl Marx made the rather startling statement that the sparsely settled United States was actually more populous than teeming India. He explained this assertion, which seems to fly in the face of the facts, in the following way: Populations, viewed from the standpoint of economics, must be weighted by the relative development of their industries. That this is a correct way of viewing populations is dramatically shown when countries go to war. If political factors do not intervene, the war boils down to a conflict between their relative industrial powers. Thus, in Marx's view, the high level of American transportation, agricultural and industrial production even in the last century gave the U.S. a greater population than India.

It was on the basis of such considerations that Trotsky could say in 1929, ". . . in the last historic analysis all the problems of our planet will be decided upon American soil."

The preponderance of the United States by the end of World War II could be expressed in two graphic sentences: "Three-quarters of the world's invested capital and two-thirds of the world's industry were concentrated inside the United States. The other third of industry was shared over the other 95% of the earth's inhabited surface." (Howard K. Smith in "The State of Europe.")

If we translate this into terms of population, as Marx viewed it years ago, then so far as industrial power is concerned, two-thirds of the world's population is concentrated inside the United States. The other third is spread among the other countries of the world.

The face of the power-sensitive State Department is turned toward this two-thirds. It is with this two-thirds that it sees its major diplomatic problem.

The problem has two sides. If

the American people can be coaxed, frightened, bamboozled

psychologized — in brief, hypnotized and high-pressure into

going willingly, even enthusiastically, to war, then the world's most colossal force has been successfully lined up behind Wall Street's banners. American capitalism then has fair chances of getting a new lease on life by conquering vast new areas for exploitation. If, on the other hand, the American people remain unconvinced, disquieted, potentially ready to turn on Wall Street, then war can mean the quick finish of capitalism — the definitive finish on a world scale.

### A PROPAGANDA DEPT.

That is why what Dulles does in public is calculated above all for its effect on the American people. The State Department, so far as its public declarations are concerned, has really been converted into a government propaganda department aiming primarily at the American audience.

The provocative diplomatic abroad is designed to furnish one incident after another to inflame

public opinion in America. The high-handed attitude toward the allies is likewise designed for its effect on the public at home. The witch hunt with its spectacular raids, trials and spy scares is part of the pattern.

Demagogues like McCarthy and others in the most reactionary wing of the Republican and Democratic parties take advantage of this for their own ends — appearing as powers holding a club over the State Department. But the real club is the need the State Department feels to convince the American people that the "reds" are a genuine danger against whom we must go to war no matter what the cost.

Denying with the mightiest power on earth — the American people — Wall Street understands very well that to simply launch World War III without adequate preparation could prove the shortest way to suicide. Precisely because of the power involved, it must move cautiously, test the

ground again and again; not only advance when possible, but be prepared to make detours and even retreats if the advance proves to have been too precipitate. Dangerous as retreats may be, Wall Street feels it cannot afford to lose this game and a costly retreat is better than a suicidal advance.

Hence the hesitations and postponements after postponement of World War III despite a diplomacy that has breathed fire and smoke and rattled atom bombs since 1945 and even tried to use the civil war in Korea as a possible opener. Hence also the cease-fire in Korea.

The American people are proving hard to mold according to the blueprint laid down for World War III, but Wall Street dare not let its impatience run away with its better political judgment. America's ruling 60 families see the main danger not abroad but here at home. And in this they are right.

## I Can't Balance My Budget When Eisenhower Tries to Balance His

By Reba Aubrey

It's a real problem these days trying to get from one pay day to the next. Scrimp as you will, there's barely enough carfare left to get to the job when the next paycheck is due.

Checking over your budget to see what's wrong, you conclude that you've either got to get more money, or cut down on expenses. It's nice to think about getting more money, but with nothing practical in sight, like marrying into a rich family or falling heir to a fortune, you decide to give your expenses a going over.

The face of the power-sensitive State Department is turned toward this two-thirds. It is with this two-thirds that it sees its major diplomatic problem.

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expenses; 16 minutes for miscellaneous items. That totals 5 hours 20 minutes, and, according to the tax experts, all your needs are comfortably accounted for.

What about the next 2 hours and 40 minutes you've got to put in to complete your 8 hours? You

donate those final hours — the longest single section of the day — to the government. The pay you get for that time covers

your expenses a going over.

You're already buying less meat than you used to and then only the cheaper cuts. You can't do anything about rent — either you pay or the landlord offers to get the sheriff to help you move out. You seldom get closer to a new outfit than window shopping. You don't visit a doctor unless the symptoms are alarming and then only after they've lasted a while. Your recreation is determined strictly by the cash outlay, so you usually wind up at home with a library book.

With expenses cut to the bone already, how can you possibly cut any more?

By this time you see you've got to really sharpen your pencil and go over every single item. There's one huge outlay each week that is especially irritating — withholding taxes. That's a tempting piece of change, but not much can be done about it. The boss collects it for the government before you even get your hands on it. Considering the way prices keep going up, maybe they're right in not trusting people to pay the withholding tax of their own free will.

FOR CITY HALL

What else? The last time the grocer rang up the cost of the sandwich spread, the bread, milk and wax paper, I was startled into asking what the extra few cents were for. "Tax on the wax paper," he said. Actually, if you stop to notice, almost everything seems to be taxed — cigarettes, gasoline, movies, talcum powder — and that's not counting the sales tax in many cities and states. Every time you shop in the Five & Ten in New York, for example, the clerk drops part of your wages in a little box attached to the cash register — that's for City Hall.

But I didn't have any idea how much taxes really disrupt the family budget until the other day when I sent for a report I read about in the paper. The report is by the Tax Foundation, Rockefeller Plaza, New York. They figured out how much time you spend each day working just to cover the taxes you pay — taxes of all kinds, direct and indirect, visible and invisible.

The Foundation assumes you

earn \$4,500 a year, and spend it all. That's about \$86.50 a week.

For many families that would be a lot better than they're getting now. However, I won't argue whether this is the true average "urban wage earner" or not. I'll take their figures until I see better ones.

THE PRESIDENT

Pres. Eisenhower, of course,

may come up with something helpful. A Washington columnist

reports that the administration is considering issuing government bonds which would pay perhaps 2½% interest — and this interest is to be tax-free. Each member of the family would be permitted to invest up to \$250,000 in these bonds. Thus a man and wife with two children could buy one million dollars worth and be assured a \$25,000-a-year income by the government — and no withholding or income tax whatsoever deducted. This sounds like a good bet, a very practical way to ease the tax burden — for the rich.

But I'm still feeling necessity's sharp pinch. Something's got to give some place and I can't wait for Eisenhower to come to the rescue.

### WHAT THEY DID IN 1776

After again checking the already whittled-down amount allowed for groceries in my budget, I looked up a couple of books in the library to see what had been done in similar situations when taxes got too burdensome. In 1776 unjust taxation was one of the things that caused the people to rebel. They organized a revolution, kicked out the tyrannical British government and put in the kind they themselves wanted. Thomas Paine, one of the participants in these deeds, described the new America as follows: "There the poor are not oppressed, the rich are not privileged. . . . Their taxes are few, because their Government is just; and as there is nothing to render them wretched, there is nothing to engender riots and tumults."

I wonder what he would say about the situation now.

## WALL STREET SEEN VICTOR IN WEST GERMAN ELECTION

(Continued from page 1)

founded on the revival of West German economy without the staggering costs of rearmament and militarism. To carry out the next stage of Wall Street's plan and turn Germany into an armed camp, with the working class forced to shoulder the burden, will take a lot more than an electoral victory.

The great bloc of industrial workers' votes went to the Social Democrats, revealing the anti-war, pro-socialist sentiment of these masses. The Social Democrats campaigned against Adenauer's pro-American policy.

The German working class, organized independently, is hostile to the plans of its own capitalists and Wall Street and possesses a socialist consciousness and tradition. It will not easily be transformed into anti-Soviet cannon fodder!

### DANGER SIGNALS

The most general and deepest cause for the consolidation of capitalist power in West Germany is the treacherous policy of the Stalinist and Social Democratic leaders of the working class. The long list of betrayals, the lost revolutionary opportunities, the derailment of the revolutionary struggle for power is a matter of life and death.

A recent Gallup poll finds that

in listing variations of popular worries in different parts of the country two out of the major worries are common to all sections: "the high cost of living and fear of a recession resulting in unemployment." The other worries are the housing shortage and slums, "industrial problems," "farm problems," rent, civil rights, taxes, conservation, and the weather.

## Flint Buick Strike Vote Speeds Seniority Pact

By Emmett Moore

FLINT, Aug. 29 — The huge Buick Local No. 599 UAW-CIO has voted to ratify a new seniority agreement after three months of negotiations and a series of strike actions by the membership. These stemmed from speedups, company-imposed penalties against rank-and-file workers and the firing of one committeeman.

The Buick union succeeded in winning an improved seniority agreement, reinstatement of fired workers who were pawns in the negotiations, and other minor grievances. They failed to gain security against speedups, the primary issue leading up to the strike vote.

From the beginning of negotiations last March, the Buick leaders couldn't make up their minds. It took a flurry of wildcats and firings to prod them into action. At a membership meeting in May, a thousand workers voted authorization for strike action. Yet the Executive Board, which had authority to set the date for a strike vote, postponed this necessary deed for two successive months.

Company representatives, observing this, became more smug and contemptuous of the Buick union bargaining committee. Here were people threatening to strike but afraid to take a strike vote. Week in and week out the company taunted the bargaining committee unmercifully. They reminded the committee of the 1948 negotiations when Buick workers voted down strike action by a huge majority. The officers were prodded by the company into taking a strike vote two months after it was authorized by the membership.

In anticipation of an adverse union vote, the corporation lifted pressure on the shop committee temporarily by slowing down the speedup drive. Realizing the seriousness of the situation, the union officers called key militants out of the shop to organize the campaign for a favorable vote. PAPER PUBLICIZES FACTS

Two special strike issues of the union paper were issued by the union. In the first one, the primary problem of speedup was highlighted. In the second, the expiration of the local seniority agreement was featured. These two issues of the paper brought the membership out of their state of apathy. They began

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# THE MILITANT

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## Government for the People

Most union leaders on Labor Day took digs at the Republican Administration and Congress. This is not hard to do since the Republican Party is so openly anti-labor and pro-Big Business. Where these union officials did a disservice to the workers is in their attempts to puff up the previous Democratic administrations and Congresses and represent them as fundamentally different and superior to the present ones.

James B. Carey, secretary-treasurer of the CIO, said in a radio broadcast that "after 20 years of government for the people, this country has now turned to government for profit." CIO President Reuther used a similar formulation, stating that "a host of special interest groups have moved into Washington with a bitter zeal to reverse a 20-year trend of government for the people."

The lie in both these statements is not that we have government for profits now, but that we didn't have government for profits under Roosevelt and Truman. Reuther and Carey well know that we never had more government for profits than under the New Deal and Fair Deal administrations and the Democratic-controlled Congress.

Under Roosevelt during the second world war, corporation profits doubled almost overnight, from \$5 billion in 1939 to \$9.4 billion in 1942. In 1943, corporate net profits for the first time passed the \$10 billion mark. Under Truman, after the war, corporation profits soared on the basis of continued government arms expenditures and price inflation until they were double in 1948 what they had been during the actual period of war. In 1950 and 1951, during the first 12 months of Truman's "police action" in Korea, corporate profits rose to a peak that the Republicans them-

selves may never surpass until and unless, like the Democrats, they take us into still another capitalist war, which they are planning to do.

Under Roosevelt and Truman in World War II we had government by the "dollar-a-year-men" from the big corporations who ran the government agencies. Truman himself, as a Senator in 1942, issued a devastating report on this, although neither he nor anyone else in Washington did anything about it.

A month after he dragged us into the Korean War, it was Truman who, by executive order, curtailed the already inadequate government low-cost housing program by more than two-thirds. And if, as Truman complained in his Detroit speech, the Taft-Hartley Law has not been changed "as promised by the Republican candidate during the 1952 election campaign," neither had it been changed nor repealed after four years as promised by Truman in his 1948 campaign.

It is a shabby deception for the union leaders to speak of the Democratic regimes as "government for the people." They pretended to be for the people; they made big promises; they used demagogic. But there was not a single meager reform yield under the Democratic administrations that was not wrested by bitter mass labor struggles. Or do Carey and Reuther now want to spit upon and bury the militant past of the CIO?

We will not have government for the people until the people themselves run the government. When American labor builds its own political party, runs its own candidates on its own class program and takes power in Washington, then — and only then — will we be able to begin to speak truthfully about government of, by and for the people.

## "Tower of White Lillies"

The biggest movie hit of all time in Japan is the "Tower of White Lillies." It is a simple story of 200 Okinawa high-school girls who were drafted as nurses when the American troops landed in 1945. They are bullied and tormented by their Japanese officers. But they show the courage and adaptability of youth to all conditions. Life goes on. They sing and dance in their off hours despite the bloody war that is raging around them.

Then the Americans come. As their mopping up operation grinds away, one after another of the girls is killed. Not one survives. The laughter and the tears are stilled forever.

The hostile commentator on this movie, Walter Briggs, writing from Tokyo for the N.Y. *Herald Tribune*, says, "Tower of White Lillies" is in a class with 'All Quiet on the Western Front' as effective preaching." But it is precisely its effectiveness that alarms him. And through him we get the U.S. State Department view on the anti-Americanism that is sweeping Japan and finding expression in the most popular medium of culture — the moving picture.

Here is how Briggs describes audience reaction to "Tower of White Lillies": "Tears roll down the cheeks of Japanese audiences. War is horrible! How horrible the Americans are!" Other movies current-

ly showing in Japan depict similar themes and it is reported that a major production on the bombing of Hiroshima will be released shortly.

Apparently American authorities are worried about this trend in the Japanese film. They are also worried about the reaction of Japanese audiences to films from Hollywood. Recently "Task Force," a film about the war in the Pacific, was shown to packed audiences.

The reaction was unexpected. It stirred a great controversy in American circles as to the advisability of showing such films. The audience cheered when any military reverse to U.S. forces came on the screen.

"We're making enemies for ourselves showing such a picture. We're playing into the Communists' hands." This was one reaction reported from an American source.

The American Chamber of Commerce in Japan protested its showing to Warner Brothers," reports Walter Briggs.

Another American authority was quoted giving a different slant on why "Task Force" was shown: "Actually (it) serves the purpose of American policy, which is to encourage rearmament. And it serves to remind the Japanese that we are the best ally they could have: we have the armament, the 'know-how.'"

## A Confessed Mass Murderer

Truman is a confessed mass murderer. If there ever was a candidate for the tribunal of an honest war-crimes court it is this instigator of the "police action" in Korea. The man who gave the order for "operation killer" had a conversation with his Texan pal, ex-Speaker of the House of Representatives Sam Rayburn. Here is the verbatim report of the conversation as it appeared Sept. 6 in Drew Pearson's column:

Rayburn: "You could have negotiated the same kind of truce 12 months ago."

Truman: "I could have negotiated it 18 months ago."

Rayburn: "But if you had there would have been the biggest howl from the newspapers you have ever heard in this country."

Truman: "Yes, plus demands that I be impeached."

We wonder how the mothers, fathers, sisters and brothers, of the GI's killed in the last eighteen months are going to take this news. Truman tells us it was in his power to end the Korean war as long ago as eighteen months! Why didn't he? According to his own statement he was afraid of newspaper howls and threats of impeachment.

This is the measure of the man who started the bloody intervention in Korea at Wall Street's command and kept it going despite overwhelming mass protest and hatred for the war. But it is more than Truman's measure. It is a ghastly in-

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Monday, September 14, 1953

# French Pick Bandit as Morocco Sultan

By Charles Hanley

On August 20, in violation of the Protectorate treaty of 1911, the French imperialists deposed Sidi Mohammed ben Youssef, Sultan of Morocco, and exiled him to Corsica. Mohammed Moulay ben Arifa, a puppet of the French and of the powerful Pasha of Marrakech, became his successor. Fifteen Arab, Asian and African nations formally requested the U.N. Security Council to investigate the French move as a "danger to international peace and security."

The French and their ally, Thami El Glaoui, Pasha of Marrakech, had prepared to oust the Sultan for some time, because despite his pro-French education, he strongly sympathized with the "Istiqlal," an anti-feudalist, anti-imperialist movement which has repeatedly defended the Moroccan labor unions against French repression.

The Sultan's opponent, El Glaoui, is the rallying center of the reactionary feudal elements, the tribal chiefs of some four million primitive Berbers dwelling in the mountains, the ultra-orthodox priests, and numerous village bosses (caids). He is a former robber who supported the French from the very beginning of the Protectorate and helped them to subjugate the Moroccan people.

Three more branches — Philadelphia, Pittsburgh, Newark — joined the 100%ers this week to make a total of six which have already completed their quotas.

"We knew we could do it all the time! Please don't mind if we crow a little; we feel so darn good!" says Alma Seton for Philadelphia. "Here is \$61 on our pledge, which puts us over the top by \$18. And we intend to keep on going."

Chicago is going to town before this campaign is over, according to Hilda Smith who says: "Don't know just how much but we'll be sending you another check this week end. We are working to top Akron's 117% and think we will make it."

Comrade Betty of Pittsburgh writes: "Enclosed is \$15. This makes us 100%. It was a hard pull, but we finally made it."

Some of the other branches are

stepping up their contributions in a determined effort to complete their quotas by Sept. 15. Buffalo, for instance, sent in \$134 which puts them within 10% of their \$1,500 goal.

Chester Johnson of Minneapolis sent this note with \$125: "That makes \$1,044 sent in from the Twin Cities, or 87% of the total. We now have all but \$20 pledged so are certain of making it."

"The city is evacuated and everyone is up at the Los Angeles Summer Camp for this coming week," explains Comrade Jeanne, "but before going we reached the goal we set for ourselves of \$1,900. In fact, we bettered it slightly. The check enclosed for \$316.50 brings us up to \$1,927. We will do the best we can on the balance of our \$2,500 pledge, of course."

Allentown zoomed from way-down to way-up on the scoreboard with a \$35 contribution. The comrades there "hope to be able to send the balance soon."

Boston added \$30 to its score and Cleveland gained \$25. "This includes individual contributions and \$8 from a small house party," explains Jean Simon.

New York chalked up a \$517 gain; Seattle a \$95 gain. Comrade Dan says: "George and I are go-

ing to spend the next two weeks visiting sympathizers to see how much we can raise. We are making the raising of money for the fund our No. 1 activity until Sept. 15."

The comrades in San Francisco sent in \$32. They say: "Our fund campaign is in slow gear but the fund director is plugging away and hopes to tap some more sources for money."

## \$18,000 Fund Scoreboard

Branch	Quota	Paid	Percent
AKRON	\$ 150	\$ 175	117
PHILADELPHIA	400	418	105
CHICAGO	1,500	1,510	101
NEWARK	500	500	100
PITTSBURGH	30	30	100
ST. LOUIS	75	75	100
Buffalo	1,500	1,346	90
Minneapolis-St. Paul	1,200	1,044	87
Los Angeles	2,500	1,927	77
Allentown	60	45	75
Boston	550	379	69
Cleveland	350	240	69
New York	4,500	2,828	63
Seattle	450	278	61
Oakland	250	137	55
Milwaukee	400	202	51
Youngstown	450	217	48
Flint	250	115	46
San Francisco	1,000	446	45
Detroit	1,500	603	40
General	385	178	46
Total through Sept. 8		\$18,000	\$12,693
			71

## Report from Ceylon on General Strike

(Continued from page 1)

prepared to call for a hartal unless it was assured in advance of its success, and that therefore it could not decide whether to join in a hartal until it had first had time to make inquiries and judge the situation in the country.

Whereupon the Lanka Samasamaja Party (LSSP), which is the Ceylonese Trotskyist party, the Communist Party-LSSP United Front, the Ceylon Labor Union, the Ceylon Trade Union Federation, the Ceylon Federation of Labor, the Ceylon Mercantile Union, the Harbor and Dock Workers Union, and the Federalist Party decided to call the strike and hartal for August 12. (The Federalist Party issued a separate statement, since it insisted on embodying the principle of non-violence which the other parties did not agree to.)

The Ceylon Indian Congress (and along with it the Ceylon Workers' Congress which is CIC dominated) had originally agreed to come in provided all the Opposition parties (that is, including the capitalist SIFP) came in. After some delay, they declared that they were not joining the strike and hartal, but would instruct their organizations to hold protest meetings on the 12th — after work! Consequently, participation in the strike and hartal was the order of the day.

There was practically a complete strike in the harbor, the Government factory, the Way and Works Department, the Railway Workshops, and in a number of private firms. In the plantations, where the All Ceylon Plantation Workers Union (the LSSP led union) had a base, tens of thousands of workers (including large numbers of those belonging to the Ceylon Workers Congress) struck work. Exact figures are not available, but in one district (alone (Ratnapura) it is estimated that 30,000 workers struck work on that day. The total number of plantation workers who struck work would certainly exceed 30,000.

The hartal was a great success in most of the towns, and even a greater success in the villages.

**MASS PRESSURE**

However, the most significant feature of the movement was that the masses went further than they were called upon to do by the hartal and strike committees. In practically all areas road blocks (by the felling of trees across the road, the building of obstructions resembling barricades, and even human obstructions caused by large numbers lying across the road) was the order of the day.

In a large number of places transport was obstructed by the cutting of telegraph wires, the destruction of small bridges, etc. Buses which were plying despite the hartal were forcibly stopped by stone throwing and sometimes by the masses stopping the buses on the road, and sending them back. The few buses plying in Colombo had disappeared from the streets by noon.

In order to make the breakdown of railway transport doubly certain, the masses cut signal wires, removed rails, and in certain cases forcibly stopped the few trains that were running and compelled the passengers to alight and walk home. In one village (Waskaduwa, in the Panadura electorate) hundreds of people had removed one mile of rail track during the night of the 11th.

**CLASHES WITH POLICE**

Clashes of the masses with police and military were widespread. In some parts of Colombo there were pitched battles between the unarmed masses fighting with stones on the one hand and armed police and military on the other. Hundreds were injured by rifle fire of the police and military. The number dead is not definitely known yet.

In the village of Egoda Uyana (in Moratuwa electorate just outside Colombo) women were in

the forefront. Six people here were injured in the shooting. The masses everywhere showed that they had the courage not to retreat in the face of bullets. In Colombo, a worker named Edwin

an LSSP sympathizer who participated in demonstrations and other activities, attempted to appeal to the troops to withhold fire. He advanced step by step on the military. He was shot and riddled with bullets by the officers. He was given a Trotskyist Party funeral even though no procession or speeches were permitted by the regulations now in force. (No funeral may take place without special permission of the police)

It is noteworthy that the ranks of the police were on the whole sympathetic and did not do much shooting. The shooting was done principally by the police officers and by the military. It is also noteworthy that militant mass action took place only in the areas which are relatively politically advanced and where the LSSP had its organizations. In the areas where the CP is supposed to be strong (the extreme South) no such actions took place at all.

**GOVERNMENT REPRESSIONS**

It is clear that the success of the strike and hartal, as well as the militancy of the masses, came as the greatest surprise to the Government and the bourgeoisie, who had perhaps been themselves deceived by their own propaganda before the 12th.

On the afternoon of the 12th, the Governor General declared a State of Emergency all over Ceylon, and ordered a curfew in the Western and Southern Provinces, where the most militant actions had taken place. Under these special powers, regulations have been promulgated which ban meetings or processions, permit the requisition of private property, make strikes in essential services offenses punishable with 20 years imprisonment, make any attempt to bring pressure to bear on the Government by word, action or symbol, punishable with the same sentence, make looting, arson, trespass (on prohibited areas) punishable by death, etc., etc.

The printing presses of the LSSP and the CP have been sealed, offices have been raided, and widespread arrests have been made. Over a thousand are being held on remand (without bail) and among them are party leaders like Cholmondeley Goonewadene (ex-MP of the LSSP), K. P. Nair (District representative of the All Ceylon Estate Workers Union, Kandy branch) and Merrill Fernando (Member of Moratuwa Urban Council). The arrests are still continuing, as well as police beatings. Some CP'ers have

also been arrested. In some villages which went into militant action on the 12th, the entire male population is hiding in the jungles to avoid the police terror which is now being unleashed through indiscriminate beatings and arrests.

The Colombo Municipal Council passed a resolution supporting the hartal. This was made possible by a vote of 14 to 11 in spite of the fact that the Left is not a majority, since some United Nationalist Party (government party) members were persuaded not to attend! The Council hoisted a black flag (symbol of the hartal) on the Town Hall. Because of this the Council has been suspended by the Government.

The Moratuwa Urban Council, which is Samasamajist controlled, also participated in the hartal by closing its office and suspending work on that day.

## Letter to An Editor

By Jean Blake

The August 15 issue of a leading Negro weekly, the Cleveland Call and Post, concluded an editorial on "The Moral Bankruptcy of South Africa" with the following paragraph:

"Will South Africa be permitted to fester and contaminate the rest of the world as did Hitler? Or, will the United Nations, supported by the great powers, be empowered to end this 'tragic-comedy' before it becomes a world drama?"

We'd like to ask the editor who wrote that: Are you serious? Do you really think the main danger of spreading racial discrimination throughout the world, even in places not already diseased, comes from South Africa? Isn't there a more powerful nation — the most powerful — that has already done more than South Africa in that respect? Wasn't it the U.S. Army, if you please, that brought Jim Crow to Europe during World War II?

And to which "great powers" in the United Nations would you entrust the ending of this "tragic-comedy"? Britain, with its brutal, counter-revolutionary policy in Kenya? France, with its vicious and predatory treatment of natives of Indo-China and Morocco? Or the great "leader" of the United Nations and the "free world" without whose aid neither Britain nor France could continue the fight to the death to exploit all colonial peoples?

In your own paper, Mr. Editor, which I read with great interest, in the same issue as your amazing editorial, here are a few current events noted in the nation that remains the "great white hope" of the imperialist world:

"ITALY, Texas — Something new in methods of segregation was introduced

here last Monday night when Negroes were given their own city hall, their own mayor and their own city council. . . ."

"WASHINGTON — The 83rd Congress closed its first session here this week without having enacted a single civil rights measure. . . ."

"SPRINGFIELD (Ohio) — Although the family of Lawrence Neal, 25-year-old veteran convicted of rape of a 68-year-old white woman insist they told the truth in establishing an alibi for the accused man, most of the relatives remain in jail pending court action on charges of perjury this week. . . ."

The place to look for a solution to the problem of South Africa is not the UN, Mr. Editor. The place to look is to South African labor.

In the same issue of your paper was an NNPA story from Cape Town: "South African Labor Minister Schoeman last Wednesday said it would be 'race suicide' to give incentive to the 1,000,000 Africans in industry and commerce to form trade unions."

Schoeman was speaking on the Native Labor Bill which would make permanent a "wartime measure" banning native strikes.

You may not know it, Mr. Editor, but Premier Malan knows that the solution to the problem of exploitation and the racial segregation which supports it lies with South African labor.

Look to the native workers, not to the UN, and support them in their struggle if you want to see the viciousness and degeneracy of capitalism in its death agony wiped out.

## Don't Get Sick in Michigan

By Patricia Stall

The moral of this story is: Don't get sick. At least not in Michigan and definitely not this year. But if you're determined to have a ruptured appendix or pneumonia or a baby or just grow old, here is what you can look forward to — overcrowded, understaffed hospitals a n d "nursing homes," many of which lack necessary facilities for proper treatment and even proper fire protection.

All age groups, all types of care are involved. General hospitals are so overcrowded that patients are forced to leave after staying only short periods. Convalescent care is considered to be "troublesome" by hospital administrators and they "want no part of it."

Children in need of mental care are kept in jails. There is no room for them in mental institutions.

And there is no place for old people to be taken care of properly. The lucky few get into state institutions but most are pushed into "hospitals" that crowd five beds into 60 square feet—one bed in each corner and a fifth in the center of the room. Patients have to sit next to their beds. They mustn't lie in them during the day because that makes the linen get dirty faster. Their main occupation is staring at the blank walls.

Some are allowed to watch television for a while in a basement or stitch on a rug or sew a quilt in the yard. But, as one official said, the treatment of chronic, mental patients and seniles in Detroit is "just one grade better

than kicking them out into the alleys to forage for themselves among the garbage cans."

Although Detroit hospitals gladly accept public donations from anyone through different charity drives, they are not willing to extend their services to anyone. Discriminatory practices against Negroes are a well-known fact both among patients and doctors.

Much is said but little is done about these conditions. The "facts" are "deplorable"; the situation is termed "regrettable" and the newspapers say "something must be done."

The responsibility for correcting existing abuses is shifted from state to county to city to private operator. Only recently an important step forward in hospital regulation was killed in legislative committee. This was a bill designed to set up minimum standards for all hospitals, public and private.

While these facts about conditions in Michigan were again in the press, Britons were observing the fifth anniversary of their National Health Service. Twenty million people among workers' families are receiving proper medical treatment for the first time under Britain's health plan which is financed by the government and 10% by the users. Even at that, Britain spends only a little over 3% of its gross national income on health.

And in Michigan there are not even adequate provisions for taking care of those who are already very ill.

## Notes from the News

A CHICAGO JIM CROW FIRETRAP went up in flames and burned 18 Negroes to death. The South Side tenement became a roaring inferno on Labor Day. Within 20 minutes the 1890 vintage building was a charred and smoking grave, according to the Chicago Fire Dept. A fire engine company stationed on the same block got there "too late" although it travelled only 100 yards. The tenement, slated for demolition, was allowed to stand when Congress killed the Federal Housing program one month ago. The building was designed originally to house four families. But 17 families with 150 people lived in it. One of the owners is a wealthy landlord living in California. A spokesman for the Chicago Housing Authority said, "We offered the owners a fair price, but they wouldn't part with it." At the very moment when flames were taking the lives of 18 Negroes, hoodlums in another part of Chicago besieged a Negro family who had moved into a previously all-white project to escape the firetrap, rat-infested slums of the Jim Crow ghetto.

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SOMEONE'S GETTING IT. Farm income was down 6% in the first eight months of this year as compared with 1952. Average prices to farmers for their commodities were down 10% but the cash backslide was kept to 6% by the increased volume. At the same time the cost-of-living index of mid-July was reported to be at an all time high by the Bureau of Labor Statistics.

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A POSTAL BAN on Kinsey's statistical report on "Sexual Behaviour in the Human Female" was asked by Representative Heller. A spokesman for the Post Office Department pointed out that there was no legal authority to "police" the mails. Heller then referred the Postmaster General to Section 1461, Title 18 of the United States Code, and proposed that the book be stopped on the grounds that "Every obscene, lewd, lascivious or filthy book, pamphlet, picture . . . shall be considered nonmailable matter."

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MCCARTHY'S ATTACK on James Wechsler, editor of the N. Y. Post, has disturbed the Cleveland Plain Dealer. When the 11-man subcommittee of the American Society of Newspaper Editors gave a report on McCarthy's witch-hunting investigation of Wechsler and then left it up to the editors of the press to make up their own minds on whether freedom of press was violated by McCarthy, the Plain Dealer said the subcommittee's failure to take a forthright stand "smacked of spinelessness." The Cleveland paper stated where it stood in an editorial Aug. 14: "The answer to the issue raised by congressional investigations of newspapers, it seems to us, is to stand on the First Amendment, refuse to answer and fight the case all the way to the Supreme Court."

RECORD SPEAKS FOR ITSELF. In his Labor Day speech, Truman said that in the 1952 election campaign "the Republican candidate promised" that the Taft-Hartley Law "was going to be amended in a way that would correct its injustices." But, continued Truman, "I haven't read of anything being done along that line, and I've been reading the record." In the 1948 election campaign, the Democratic candidate promised that the Taft-Hartley Law was going to be repealed. But we didn't read of anything being done along that line after the Democratic candidate got in office and we've likewise been reading the record.

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IRRESISTIBLE LAW OF PROFIT MEETS IMMOVABLE FORCE OF LAW. A few weeks ago there was a great to do about enforcing immigration laws and keeping the "wetbacks" (Mexican workers who illegally cross the border to work on the farms sweatshops of the Southwest) out of the country. Attorney General Herbert Brownell declared "that the administration planned positive steps" to stop this influx which reaches 3,000 a day and runs to over a

## THE MILITANT

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## Govt. Ducks Indictment of McCarthy

The Department of Justice is laying the basis for a refusal to indict and prosecute Senator Joseph McCarthy for fraud, bribery, election law violations, income tax evasion and other charges raised in the semi-suppressed report of the Senate Privileges and Elections subcommittee on Jan. 2.

Attorneys for the Justice Department, according to a North American Newspaper Alliance dispatch from Washington on Sept. 5, have made a seven-month study of McCarthy's tangled and obscure financial dealings as disclosed in the Senate report. The Senate subcommittee had uncovered documents very damaging to McCarthy and raised the question of whether he had used his position for personal gain, "peddled" his influence, violated election laws and misappropriated for his own use cash he had solicited for his "anti-Communist" activities.

The administration lawyers, in their report, do not dispute the accuracy of the Senate subcommittee's factual findings. They do not deny the shady nature of his financial manipulations. They merely contend there is no legal basis for indicting the Wisconsin witch-hunter. According to their claim, McCarthy has carefully remained within the technical requirements of the law.

## NOT THEIR PROVINCE

On the charge of income-tax evasion, the Justice Department issued no findings on the ground that this is in the province of the Internal Revenue Service of the Treasury Department.

The Senate subcommittee revelations of numerous and large secret bank deposits by McCarthy between 1950 and 1952 are not challenged. He made these when he was appealing for funds for an "anti-Communist" crusade. He made numerous withdrawals from these same special accounts for soybean speculation, for payment of his income taxes and other personal items unrelated to his red-baiting campaign.

## NO COMPLAINING WITNESS

However, it is the contention of the Justice Department's legal lights that to have violated the law McCarthy would have had to be involved in fraud and embezzlement. An indictment on such charges requires a complaining witness and those who gave the dough to McCarthy are still his warm personal and political friends.

Even if he had used for himself all the money "donated," the lawyers noted, the recipient of a gift of less than \$3,000 does not have a tax liability even if the total of many such gifts far exceeds the taxable \$3,000 limitation.

The lawyers also did not see any evidence of technical violation of the law in McCarthy's acceptance of \$10,000 for a housing pamphlet from the Luston Corporation, although he had been in position to influence Luston while he was a member of the Senate Banking Committee. The attorneys do not deny the facts, however.

## "THE HOUSE I LIVE IN" -- CONDITIONS OF PUERTO RICANS IN NEW YORK CITY

(Continued from page 1)

"We come here, we think this is the land of milk and honey," Mrs. Corchado told an interpreter. "We find this just like Puerto Rico. We are better off in Puerto Rico."

"There they speak Spanish, they know everything. Here you are a stranger. Nobody treats you good or bad. You have money and a nice place to live, good. No money, no place to live, very bad."

She showed their diet. "We buy two bottles of milk one for the morning; we save a little milk from the night. Sometimes we eat only one meal — no breakfast, no lunch, just supper. Rice and beans. What can you do? When you're poor, you take what is there. You don't cry, you live like you can."

WHO IS RESPONSIBLE?

These are the bitter facts of life for the Puerto Rican people who have come here in hope of winning a better life. Who is responsible for the miserable, poverty-ridden conditions that they have been trapped into?

The Corchado's are supported by their daughter who works out as a domestic for \$125 a month. They have been refused aid by the Welfare Dept. because "they tell us my daughter brought us here and she must take care of us."

## Tell AT&amp;T: "Wrong Number!"



Long-lines telephone operators, members of CIO Communications Workers, picket Baltimore exchange in one-day local strike to pressure American Telephone and Telegraph monopoly in stalled negotiations. A national settlement was finally reached. The union charged National Guard intervention in Maryland.

## DETROIT TENANT GROUP HEARS SWP CANDIDATE

DETROIT, Sept. 3 — A well-attended tenants meeting, called last night by Mr. Paul Dennis at the Teamsters Hall, 2741 Trumbull, heard addresses by candidates in the coming city election and

that only the organization of such councils throughout the city would force rents down. Recommending the program of the Socialist Workers Party, he said, "Only united, aggressive action by the trade unions, tenants councils and Negro people of this city can call the greedy landlords and their political agents to order."

Among the speakers were two mayoralty candidates, Frank Lovell, Socialist Workers Party candidate, spoke on the housing issue. James H. Lincoln, the Democratic Party candidate, also spoke, talking about his campaign.

Three candidates for Common Council spoke. They were Dr. Orville F. Linck, State Senator Charles S. Blondy, and James S. Clarkson. Dr. Linck is professor of English at Wayne University and a prominent member of Americans for Democratic Action. Senator Blondy, identified with the Democratic Party, is now serving his seventh term in the state legislature.

Professor Linck denounced the Big Business administration of Mayor Cobo and his appointee, Harry J. Durbin, director-secretary of the Detroit Housing Commission. He advocated a long-range state and national housing program.

Sen. Blondy, sensing the militant temper of his audience, called for immediate action. He advocated re-assessment as an immediate and realizable program, claiming that a city tax on income property based upon the present sky-high rents would force the landlords to reduce rents.

LOVELL TAKES FLOOR

Frank Lovell congratulated the audience upon the formation of the Tenants Council, and declared

that only the organization of such councils throughout the city would force rents down. Recommending the program of the Socialist Workers Party, he said, "Only united, aggressive action by the trade unions, tenants councils and Negro people of this city can call the greedy landlords and their political agents to order."

To this, Lovell replied that although the International Union had not sanctioned the strike, "Your astounding proposal that I threaten our members with suspension or expulsion from the union, stems no doubt from unfamiliarity with the Constitution of the United Steelworkers of America. Please be informed that I am without authority to threaten any member with suspension or expulsion, and furthermore it would be distasteful to me personally, to threaten any man with the loss of his livelihood. Fortunately for all of us there is no authority vested in your company, my union, or even our government, which can force a man to work against his will."

Lovell referred to a number of letters received at his campaign headquarters, 6108 Linwood Ave., since his candidacy was announced. Letters coming from tenants show that rents are beyond the reach of working people.

He cited the typical case of a family living under the worst slum conditions, forced to pay \$20 a week rent. This family was evicted by the landlord because they complained to the health department about the conditions of the house. The eviction order was granted even though the rent was paid in full. After eviction this family found new quarters — for \$25 a week.

Lovell said that if he were elected mayor his first act would be to summon a conference of organized labor, tenants councils, and representatives of the Negro community to deal with the housing question.

He declared it was the aim of the Socialist Workers Party to drive the bankers and real estate profiteers from City Hall; to institute rent controls strictly enforced by neighborhood tenant councils; stop all evictions; build new homes; and tax the corporations to finance the home-building program.

## 'Wildcat' Flares At Lackawanna Bethlehem Plant

BUFFALO, Sept. 5 — A great "wild cat" strike, hitting intermittently in a series of departments as different sections of the workers became aroused and angry, has

This is the longest the basic part of the plant has ever been shut down in an "unauthorized" strike. The company provocations and newspaper statements are playing a major role in keeping the workers out. The company, of course, expects to dis-unite the workers by its present strategy. But the company may find it has overreached itself and actually aroused more union spirit.

There has already been more militant action at the plant gates than in the last two "authorized" strikes put together, more rank-and-file leadership, more determination expressed.

## SUGAR-COATED PILLS

The company has been handing out sugar-coated poison pills about "creating" jobs for the workers by mechanical improvements. Having plowed back into the business a large portion of the surplus millions the workers produced, the company now tells them it has "improved its competitive position" and when "demand for steel slackens off," i.e., in a depression, Bethlehem's Lackawanna Plant, being more efficient, will provide "more stable employment" for its employees.

They only join the company in attaining this worthy goal by working just a "little bit" harder than the employees in other "less efficient" companies. But the Lackawanna workers are uninterested in such phony speedup economics, and will not swallow such poisoned promises.

Another meeting of Local 2601 is being held Sept. 8. USA-CIO staff members, probably including director Molony, may again attempt to persuade the workers to return to work. But the workers are in a stubborn mood. Grievances have been piling up. The coke oven grievance is similar to those of other departments. In spite of artificial divisions which the company tries to foster, the fundamental cause of the workers tends to assert itself. The company has no doubt seized this opportunity, as it thinks, to housebreak the union. But its main accomplishment will be to arouse the best fighting instincts of the workers.

## In the Unions

By Joseph Keller

Vice presidents of the AFL International Longshoremen's Association who claim to represent some 30,000 members, or half the union, in ports outside of New York City, are reported to have

medical care expenditures alone equalled \$56,444,329.78. And you still find some so-called labor leaders who foolishly tell the workers that "strikes don't pay."

The intervention of Dave Beck, dictator-president of the AFL Teamsters, forced the 1,500 striking sand, gravel and concrete drivers in the New York area back to work without a contract after their two-months strike. He ordered them to submit their demands for a 50-cent hourly wage increase to arbitration. The workers had refused to let their Local 282 leaders accept any terms without first submitting them to the union membership for approval. They had twice rejected inadequate offers of the construction materials companies. Beck subsequently sent a letter of praise to reactionary Mayor Impeilitteri who had intervened on behalf of the bosses and had demanded that Beck end the strike.

Harry Lundeberg, secretary-treasurer of the AFL Sailors Union of the Pacific, crowded about the new contract he had negotiated to inform him what he claims is "the first genuine pension plan in the seagoing industry." SUP members will be eligible for \$65 to \$100 per month pensions at ages starting between 60 and 65 if they have worked in the industry during 20 years within the last 25 years, with 200 days of work in any one year or 11 full years of sailing time. The Pacific Maritime Association, representing the shipowners, also hailed the pact. The Association pointed out that this was the first time in many years that a seagoing union on the West Coast had failed to win a general immediate increase in basic wages.

After a walkout of less than a month, William "Big Bill" Hutchesson, president-emeritus of the Carpenters Union who operates through his son Maurice as the union's president, brought his union back into the AFL on Sept. 8.