

## WHY FRENCH ASSEMBLY KILLED THE EDC

(See Page 3)

Build a Labor Party Now!

# THE MILITANT

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## Last-Minute Writ Blocks Move to Deport Skoglund

NEW YORK, Sept. 1 — A last-minute writ of habeas corpus held up temporarily the scheduled deportation on Aug. 27 of Carl Skoglund, 70-year-old Minneapolis labor leader who has been held a prisoner on Ellis Island since last May.

The elderly former leader of the Minneapolis truck drivers Local 544, who has been the target of government attack for more than 15 years, had been hustled aboard ship without even having time to gather his personal possessions or arrange for a few friends to say goodbye. Part of the things he had with him on Ellis Island had to be packed in a grocery sack because he was denied time to get luggage.

Deportation proceeding against Skoglund started in 1941, concurrent with the Smith "Gag" Act indictments of the 18 Socialist Workers Party and CIO leaders, including Skoglund. A prolonged series of Immigration Department hearings took place between 1941 and 1952 during which time Skoglund remained free on bond. He admitted mem-

bership in the Communist Party from 1923 until 1928 when he last left.

Under the 1952 McCarran-Walter Immigration Act, which makes Communist Party membership at any time in the past grounds for deportation, Skoglund was ordered deported. The sole ground for this order was his one-time membership in the CP which ended 26 years ago. He has lived and worked in America more than 40 years.

Under the authorities' instructions he sought and obtained permission to return to his native Sweden. Meanwhile, he appealed to the Attorney General to grant him discretionary relief on the grounds of his advanced years and the serious heart condition from which he is suffering. The Attorney General has authority to grant such relief under an amendment to the law.

Skoglund was ordered to Ellis Island last May for what he thought was to be a hearing on his appeal. Instead he was ordered deported forthwith. His lawyer, Stanley Lowell, managed to block the order, but Skoglund's bond was cancelled. His appeal for discretionary relief was denied by the examiner and the Board of Immigration Appeals. The Attorney General has authority to overrule this Board and to release Skoglund.

The writ of habeas corpus will come up in court on Sept. 14, at which time further efforts will be made to prevent Skoglund's deportation.

Funds to finance the fight for Skoglund are badly needed. They should be sent to the Civil Rights Defense Committee, 19 W. 10th St., New York 11, N. Y.

CARL SKOGLUND

## Fight Continues in Ohio Jim Crow School Case

By Jean Blake

HILLSBORO, O. — Act I of the dramatic struggle to end segregation in the public schools of this southern Ohio community has ended. Philip Partridge, county engineer who set fire to colored Lincoln school July 5 to hasten the abandonment of that Jim Crow blight, has returned home from Lima State Hospital where a judge sent him for mental tests. He was ruled sane and now is free on bond pending grand jury action in September on an arson charge.

The school board has rejected the petition of the Parents and Citizens Committee for School Integration and is repairing the fire-damaged Lincoln school for reopening in the fall on the old segregated basis. A determined group of colored parents and citizens is refusing all compromise offers and preparing to send their children to mixed schools or no schools in September, and to take court action against school officials unless the children are admitted on an integrated basis.

Partridge, a 43-year-old former Sunday school teacher and Boy Scout cub pack chairman, was declared legally sane following 35 days' detention at Lima.

### PECULIAR VIEW

In a peculiarly worded letter which might well be subjected to psychiatric examination itself, Dr. R. E. Bushong, superintendent of the state hospital, said that Partridge "has superior general intelligence, but has been rather poorly adjusted for several years. He is rigid, greatly inhibited, overly conscientious and has, for a long time, been sympathetic toward the underdog."

He said Partridge "knew arson was wrong, but his crusader's spirit will not let him consider the consequences of such an act."

Persons who know the young county engineer well commented

to this reporter that it is those who preach Christianity and brotherhood but support segregation in the community who are "poorly adjusted" and suffer from split personalities. "There's something wrong with a society," they added, "where principled consistency is called 'rigid,' being 'overly conscientious' is considered a flaw in character, and 'sympathy toward the underdog' a dangerous weakness."

Mrs. Irma Jean Curtis, one of the leaders of the group demanding integrated schools, told this reporter that she did not know Mr. Partridge, but her uncle,

(Continued on page 2)

By Ed Atwood and Bill Talbott

DETROIT — Why did the members of Studebaker Local 5, CIO United Auto Workers, agree to accept a 15 to 20% wage cut (30¢ an hour in most cases) and important changes in their working conditions in South Bend, Ind.?

At first they voted down the wage-cut proposal by three to two at a meeting attended by about 5,000 of the plant's 11,000 workers. But then the pressure was put on them for a solid week: "If you don't take the wage cut, it's goodbye to your jobs." At a second meeting, attended by over 10,000 workers, the vote was 5,371 to accept the new contract and 627 against. The other 4,000 voted with their feet.

The pressure was applied by the company, by the local politicians, by the local politicians. But the decisive factor was that it was also applied by the union leaders, local and international.

## Racists Seek Recruits in Detroit Plants

By Robert Himmel Jr.  
SWP Candidate for Congress  
(1st Mich. District)

DETROIT — Encouraged by the spread of McCarthyism and the resulting growth of fascist groups throughout the country, Detroit racists have begun to organize openly against the Negro people.

White workers in several auto plants and United Auto Workers locals here have received leaflets distributed by a new white supremacist gang that calls itself the National Association for the Advancement and Protection of the Majority of the White People, Inc.

### SPREADING OUT

This outfit was formed in Georgia a few weeks after the U.S. Supreme Court issued its ruling that segregation in the public schools is unconstitutional. Now it is spreading out in an effort to recruit members in other parts of the country.

The leaflet distributed here urges white people, for the sum of \$7 a year to be sent to the Georgia headquarters, to join the Jim Crow organization, and its activities to uphold segregation. It says:

"The organization was charted and dedicated to get the white people of America to unite in one common cause against any further aggression by the NAACP or any other minority group, which are now attempting to destroy the white race."

Combining red baiting with Negro baiting, the leaflet charges that "the NAACP has been inspired by other racial groups, and especially by the Communist Party . . . to break down every tradition of the white people of America, and . . . to cause us to be pushed back and become slaves, servants of this great monster the NAACP."

### TALMADGE A BACKER

Among the "character references" listed for the new outfit is Herman Talmadge, governor of Georgia who has threatened to uphold segregation by force and violence. Its organizer and general counsel, R. L. Addleton, is assistant attorney general of Georgia.

The local branch of the NAACP has sent a telegram to Walter Reuther and Ken Bannon, director of the UAW Ford department, urging them to make an "immediate investigation" and take "corrective action" to discourage further distribution of this leaflet by union members.

## New McCarthy Probers Follow the Old Routine

### Latest Probers



Sen. Arthur Watkins (R-Utah), left, chairman of the six-man committee that opened hearings on Aug. 31 on censure charges against McCarthy. E. W. Chadwick, center, is special counsel and Guy deFuria, right, assistant counsel of the committee. These faces are new, but the probe-McCarthy routine is well-worn by now.

## FORD LOCAL 600 SCORES ACCEPTING OF PAY CUTS

DETROIT, Aug. 28 — In a full front-page attack on

the policy of accepting wage cuts to "enhance" each individual company's "competitive position," Ford Local

600's newspaper Ford Facts to

day declared: "NO WAGE CUTS

AT FORD'S — WILL FIGHT FOR PAY INCREASE IN '55."

Without directly attacking CIO and United Auto Workers President Walter Reuther, the officers of the country's largest union local take issue with the course set by Reuther when he approved the pay slash by Studebaker corporation.

"Approximately 20,000 Kaiser, Studebaker and Nash workers are forced by their employers under the threat of losing their jobs, to accept pay cuts — which trend, if followed to its ultimate conclusion, could eventually jeopardize the wage and job security of more than one million Ford, General Motors, Chrysler and other workers, states Ford Facts.

"We in Local 600 do not intend to stand idly by while wages in the auto industry are cut. We not only intend to maintain our present wage structure, but we also intend to further add to the present wage structure in the 1955 negotiations."

Only three days before this statement, the danger it warns against was emphasized by what

Ford Facts answers: "If this idea of accepting wage cuts in order to enhance the competitive position of employers were carried to its silly conclusion — and the Ford, General Motors and Chrysler workers join in this stupid project — it would only be a matter of time before the Independents would be driven out of business completely."

"If there are in the auto industry better wage rates and better working conditions than we have in the Rouge Plant,"

Ford Facts continues, "then we want to fight to raise our standards."

NEW YORK, Sept. 1 — Myra Tanner Weiss, vice-presidential candidate of the Socialist Workers Party in 1952, will start next week a coast-to-coast lecture tour on

the subject, "The Struggle for Socialism and the 1954 Elections."

The first meeting will be held in Newark at 52 Market St. on Friday night, Sept. 10.

Besides discussing the issues in the current election campaign, she will deal with such questions as these: Is war the only alternative to depression?; how the threat of McCarthyite fascism must be combated; the crisis in U.S. foreign policy; the struggle to end Jim Crow; how a Labor Party will be built.

Born in Salt Lake City in 1917, Myra Tanner Weiss completed her education at the universities of Utah and California. But instead of continuing work in the field of chemistry, she became a socialist and has devoted her energies during the last 19 years to the cause of labor, the minority groups and socialism.

Working as a migratory worker herself, she helped organize the agricultural workers of Southern California. For her courageous defense of Mexican immigrant workers, she was made an honorary member of the Mexican agricultural workers union. In 1940 she served as a delegate of the Fish Cannery Workers Union to the AFL Central Labor Union in San Pedro. She won national prominence in

## Labor Starts to Waken To Booby-Trap Hidden In Anti-“Red” Measure

By Art Preis

The Department of Justice officially announced on Aug. 27 that labor unions will be the first target of the new so-called "Communist Control" Act. An Associated Press dispatch reports that "the Justice Department said today it was laying the groundwork for action against labor unions that appeared to be red-infiltrated or red-dominated."

Nevertheless, this editorial contains a mush-mouthed apology for the Congress liberals who introduced the first law in American history to outlaw any political party and who subsequently voted for those Republican parts of the measure directly aimed at unions, which the CIO had denounced.

The Sept. 1 Advance, organ of the CIO Amalgamated Clothing Workers, doesn't pretend there was anything good in the liberal's proposals or motives. It describes as "heinous" the actions of "many of the Senators and Representatives voting for it" who "have long stood out as champions of civil liberties." All the Amalgamated's leaders can say about the liberals is that "we are at a loss to understand . . . They sum up the law as a "severe blow at civil liberties."

### AFL'S ILLUSIONS

However, the top AFL leaders are trying to kid themselves — and what is worse, kid the Federation's members — that this law is not meant for their unions. The Aug. 27 AFL News-Reporter carries the headline: "AFL Units Not Affected by New Anti-Red Law." They nourish this illusion on the dry crust of an amendment by Sen. Irving Ives (R, N. Y.) which states that any union affiliated and in good standing with a "national federation . . . whose policies and activities have been directed to opposing Communist organizations" shall be "presumed prima facie not to be a Communist-infiltrated organization."

But let President George Meany and his fellow AFL officials ponder the following exchange on Aug. 12 in the Senate over the very amendment by Sen. Ives that they think will save their hides. This dialogue comes from Page 30.

(Continued on page 4)

## MYRA T. WEISS STARTS NAT'L SPEAKING TOUR

NEW YORK, Sept. 1 — Myra Tanner Weiss, vice-presidential candidate of the Socialist Workers Party in 1952, will start next week a coast-to-coast lecture tour on



MYRA TANNER WEISS

1946 for her exposure of the arson-murder of four Negroes at Fontana, Calif.

Dated for the first part of the tour follow:

Newark—Sept. 10

Allentown—Sept. 11

Philadelphia—Sept. 12-13

New York—Sept. 17

Boston—Sept. 18-19

Pittsburgh—Sept. 23

Youngstown—Sept. 24

Akron—Sept. 25

Cleveland—Sept. 26-27

## How to Refute Arguments for Wage-Cuts

By Ed Atwood and Bill Talbott

The union simply did not have an answer to the company's demands and economic theories. Its leaders have completely abandoned traditional union arguments against wage-cuts. All they did was parrot the arguments of the "big three"—Ford, General Motors and Chrysler.

(2) The way to save the jobs of the workers now employed and to provide more jobs is to improve the competitive position of the company.

(3) This must be done by bringing the wage rates of Studebaker down to the level of the big three, and by giving the company contract revisions in working conditions, seniority and disciplinary provisions which will allow it to improve its productivity up to the level of its competitors. In short, the same conditions and wages must prevail in Studebaker as now exist at Ford and GM.

(4) The workers have only two alternatives: Accept the above conditions or lose their jobs.

At first glance these arguments may seem very strong. But a second look reveals them to be the traditional company

arguments against union organization in the first place and against union demands for improved wages and conditions even in the best of times. The difference is that this particular corporation can obtain a larger share of a constricting market only at the expense of its competitors.

The end result would be simply putting UAW members in other plants out of their jobs. This is, as every union man should know, against the first and most fundamental principle of union organization: Solidarity of the workers in the struggle to better their standard of living, regardless of race, nationality or religion and whether they be of one trade, one factory, one industry or one country.

(5) According to the company's argument, it plans to grab a bigger share of the market by lowering wages, and even by the union. That is the

(Continued on page 2)

## Humphrey's Voice, McCarthy's Hand

By L. P. Wheeler

"What Joe hath wrought!" is the "impious if not inappropriate epithet" for the 83d Congress proposed by Los Angeles Times columnist Holmes Alexander.

In his Aug. 24 column, Alexander offers persuasive arguments to prove that "whether you like it or not, the prime mover" of the frenzied anti-labor, thought control legislation of the 83d Congress "has been McCarthy."

Alexander makes his point by drawing a contrast between the Congresses of 1950 and 1954: "Four years ago . . . there was the greatest weeping and gnashing of teeth (by the liberals) you ever heard over the debating of the Internal Security (McCarren) Act." Alexander cites the names of the liberals who denounced and voted against the McCarren Act: Graham, Green, Kefauver, Leahy, Lehman, and Murray. When Truman vetoed the McCarren Act these six Senators were joined by five others — Chavez, Douglas, Humphrey, Kilkenny, and Taylor — in unsuccessfully trying to sustain Truman's veto.

"Now comes the measure of the change-over," says Alexander. "If you want to find the ring-leaders of last week's orgy of hate-the-Commies and outlaw-the-Communist-Party, go back to the names just cited, all but three of which are still on the Senate roster. In 1950 these men couldn't abide the reasonable and judicious (!) Internal Security Act. In 1954, they stampeded for measure after measure, vote after vote, that was unreasoning and injudicious, although popular and often demagogic."

### "WHO ELSE?"

Alexander then asks: "Has McCarthy been the prime cause of this change?" And he answers, "Who else?"

Leaving aside Alexander's praise for the McCarren Act and his views on McCarthy, there is no denying that he makes a strong case for McCarthy as the prime mover of the witch hunt in general and the 83d Congress, witch hunting in particular.

Alexander argues: "Undoubtedly there have been other Red baiters, both before and after Joe came along . . . But try and name one man other than McCarthy who did more to bring this Red conspiracy to public attention and keep it there, willy-nilly, by hook or crook, until the fires of indignation were kindled and ablaze. . . This should be the answer to the jeering cries of 'What's he ever accomplished?'"

This is precisely the kind of blow to the solar plexus the liberals have asked for. This is exactly what the McCarthyites are claiming and have claimed all along. They say, sure, it is the Democrats and now the Republicans who make the formal moves against the "Communists." But only after the McCarthyites "dig out the reds" and force the authorities to take action. For the time being that's the role the McCarthyites claim for themselves — watchdogs of the nation's security.

### WHERE 'CREDIT' GOES

Therein lies the irony of the events of the last week of the 83d Congress. The Democratic liberals will not get one bit of credit for their super-witch hunting measures. The "credit" will all go to McCarthy. And the Democrats will not alter the matter one bit by bemoaning the injustice of it all. The McCarthyites will reap the benefits of every bit of witch hunting the liberals engage in, and all the liberals can buy by their maneuver to outflank the chief witch hunter is another swift kick in the teeth.

It is not only the Democrats who cannot get McCarthy off their backs no matter how much they emulate him. The Republicans also have a considerable problem along these lines. And they respond very much the same way the Democrats do. Brownell,

## Eisenhower Propaganda Makes Tricky Use of Jobless Figures

By Joseph Keller

With the November elections not far off and control of Congress at stake, the Republican administration can be expected to pitch the voters some of its trickiest curves on the economic situation. Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell, for instance, on Aug. 27 issued the statement that unemployment has been showing "seasonal improvement." This is based on figures for unemployment compensation compiled by the Bureau of Employment Security of Mitchell's department.

During the week ending Aug. 14, the number of persons receiving unemployment payments fell by 34,000 to 1,716,200. This is nearly 900,000 more than the 822,100 drawing compensation on Aug. 15, 1953, but almost 500,000 less than the 1954 peak figure of 2,213,100, reported on Feb. 27.

People not acquainted with the mechanics of the unemployment compensation system might be led by Mitchell's figures to assume that employment in factories has been rising whereas the opposite is true.

### EXHAUST BENEFITS

Mitchell claimed the decline in unemployment compensation cases was largely due to "improved job opportunities." But, he reluctantly conceded, some of the decline has been due simply

to claimants exhausting their state unemployment compensation benefits.

Just how big has this latter factor been? Mitchell seemed to have lost his notes on this very pertinent question. The CIO Committee on Economic Policy, however, has taken the trouble to get the information.

The CIO committee reported on Aug. 14 that during the period when Mitchell claims benefit payments declined "almost 500,000" the number of workers dropped from unemployment compensation rolls because they had exhausted their total benefit was more than 800,000.

This decline in payments, in other words, is a serious indication of the inadequacy of unemployment compensation as protection during prolonged periods of joblessness.

### SOME EXAMPLES

Back on May 30 Herbert Koshetz, author of "The Merchant's Point of View" column in the N.Y. Times, had noted this significant fact: "Figures on unemployment insurance, however, must be examined carefully because in some instances the declines are the result of benefit rights becoming exhausted, as is the case in Michigan."

Detroit's welfare department, as reported in the Aug. 19 Michigan CIO News, revealed that thousands of workers in that key auto city have exhausted their benefits.

In steel, July and August were, statistically speaking,

## German Strikers Tangle with Cops



Police and strikers clash outside a metal factory in Munich, Germany, following a walkout of 220,000 Bavarian workers seeking wage increases. The fighting started when police tried to escort scabs into the plant. Nine persons were injured in this dispute. Full strike figures from all parts of Germany have been blacked-out in the U.S.

## The Rich Texas Oilmen Who Finance Fascists

By Harry Ring

"I have no faith in either the Republican or Democratic parties," says Haroldson L. Hunt of Dallas, Texas.

Hunt is the most powerful of the group of Texas oilmen who hit the headlines when it was revealed that they were throwing their weight behind America's would-be Hitler, Senator Joseph McCarthy.

As the political spotlight remains focused on McCarthy more light is being thrown on Hunt and his Texas associates. The country was impressed a year ago when it was reported that Hunt was worth \$200-million. It is now reported that this was a gross underestimation.

According to an Aug. 8 United Press article by Preston McGraw, Hunt's fortune is just ten times that amount. McGraw estimates that he is worth around \$2-billion, entitling him to the rank of "richest man in the world."

A publicity-shy "family man," Hunt is said to live quietly in a home described as a replica of Mount Vernon, the only difference being that it is five times the size of the original. His name first came into the national headlines when he associated himself with the ultra-reactionary MacArthur for President movement.

His staggering wealth flows from ownership or control of enormous oil reserves in 13 states and two Canadian provinces. The Hunt Oil Co. is considered the largest independent oil producer in the country.

Recently Hunt expressed "high regard" for the fascist Senator from Wisconsin, but asserted he would support Eisenhower for a

second term. While Hunt may feel that his boy isn't ready to contest as yet for the White House, he isn't missing any tricks that will help make him ready. Hunt's personal "foundation," Facts Forum, pumps pro-McCarthy propaganda over a network of some 500 radio and 80 TV stations.

### NOT ALONE

While Texans put Hunt into a specially created category of "millionaire," he is by no means without relative peers among the McCarthyite oil barons.

We haven't seen a precise estimate of the wealth of Clint Murchison, the oil king who has McCarthy as a house guest at his palatial Mexican ranch and California ocean resort hotel. But there are indications of the scope of his financial power. He is the sole owner of 23 companies whose products range from chemicals to candy. He is reported to have a controlling interest in an unnamed New York publishing house as well as several banks and an office equipment company.

It was Murchison, in combination with Sid Richardson, who laid the cash on the line that enabled Robert B. Young to wrest control of the Central Railroad from the Morgan-Vanderbilt interests. The two Texans put up close to \$20-million to swing that deal.

Richardson is reportedly second in the U.S. only to Hunt in personal wealth. His oil reserves are said to be as great or even greater than Hunt's.

Hugh Cullen of Houston, Texas, is another enthusiastic contributor to McCarthy's fascist cause. Some conception of the size of his fortune is gleaned from the fact that he has been

estimated \$160-million to various educational and charitable institutions.

### HOW THEY GET IT

Contrary to the general trend of U.S. capitalism, which since World War I has been producing fewer and fewer millionaires, most of the oil kings have amassed their incredible fortunes since the 1930's. Hunt is often portrayed as the Horatio Alger of Texas. He attended only grade school and in his youth worked as a ranch hand and lumberjack. He is said to have made his first oil strike on the traditional "borrowed \$50."

However, Labor's Daily, which is seriously concerned with the sinister social and political power wielded by these men, gives a more rounded explanation of how they made good in such spectacular fashion.

"The oil millionaire of today is the product of tax legislation passed by our elected representatives in Congress," it explains. "Federal tax laws give the oilmen a 'depletion allowance' on their oil reserves that permits them to pocket 27 1/2% of their gross income before paying any 'depletion.'

An example of how this works is the oil company with a gross income of over \$19-million, which wound up paying taxes on only \$2 1/2-million after computing its "depletion."

This money, Labor's Daily warns, "has elected many candidates for public office—defeated others. Their backing has put millions of dollars of programs on radio and TV; designed for influencing the thinking of the American people."

Hitler would have given his right arm to have started out with that kind of power behind him.

"We have about 300 names on our petition now," Mrs. Curtis said, "and we haven't talked to half the people yet. We are reorganizing our old NAACP branch so we can have a more permanent body to fight our battles, and we are not going to let our children go back to a segregated school."

A visit to Hillsboro last week

and interviews with both colored and white residents threw light on the community setting and some of the principal characters which Partridge had worked with in Wilmington, Ohio, a few years ago to successfully eliminate segregation in the schools there.

Mrs. Curtis is herself an inspiring example of a new type of leadership in the Negro community. A worker in one of the local factories, she was born and raised in the nearby community of Sammamish, and went to mixed schools there and in Leesburg, Ohio.

Together with four other members of her committee, she met with the school board Aug. 9 to present a petition calling for immediate integration. Asked whether addition of another teacher at Lincoln would satisfy them, she said: "No. The whole setup is wrong and will have to go."

In a heated session, the chairman of the board, who did most of the talking, claimed that two-thirds of the whites "would be down on our necks" if the board sent any white children to Lincoln, and that the parents would put the white children up to fight the colored children if any were admitted to the white schools.

### IMPLIED THREAT

When one of the parents protested that she thought "there are some white Christians in the community," a member of the board said he knew one white man who said he would "take some dynamite and blow the church off the school ground."

This implied threat of violence, Mrs. Curtis explained, referred to the aim some whites have long had of removing the colored Wesleyan Methodist Church (erected 1874) which adjoins the property of one of the white schools and which the congregation has refused to give up. Calling the property "school ground" is only wishful thinking by those who want to appropriate it.

It will be interesting to see colored residents say, whether the law-abiding school board members who condemn arson by Partridge will report the person threatening arson against the colored church to police.

"At one point the board chairman told me I'm too radical," Mrs. Curtis said, "but I figure it doesn't hurt me to be called something I don't know anything about."

Neither Mrs. Curtis nor the other young mothers and fathers determined to win equal opportunities for their children are the least bit influenced by either the threats or the promises of the school board, or the cowardice and selfishness of a few Uncle Toms in the colored community who fear they will lose their petty privileges by antagonizing the white supremacists.

"We have about 300 names on our petition now," Mrs. Curtis said, "and we haven't talked to half the people yet. We are reorganizing our old NAACP branch so we can have a more permanent body to fight our battles, and we are not going to let our children go back to a segregated school."

A visit to Hillsboro last week

## ...How to Reply On Wage Cuts

(Continued from page 1)

what is more important, increasing productivity without raising wages. Now, what does increasing productivity mean? Here is what Paul G. Hoffman, president of Studebaker, said it means: "More work for less money." Put out the same job with less labor. In other words, eliminate workers, eliminate jobs.

So, even when we give the company and union arguments the best possible interpretation, it is seen that the course of action suggested by them offers no solution to unemployment in any particular plant and can only aggravate unemployment generally!

How do these arguments jibe with the traditional and even official union arguments on such questions?

In July, the CIO executive board headed by Reuther stated that "wage increases and increased personal income tax exemptions offer the quickest and most direct way of supporting the sagging economy."

The AFL executive council at its quarterly session in August

said, "There is a very real problem of underemployment. The answer is a program of higher wages to increase purchasing power. This should be the common goal of all labor."

Official policy statements by Reuther and the UAW publications to the effect that an increase in purchasing power for the workers is necessary to solve the economic crisis of the country have been so frequent and common that it is not necessary to repeat them here.

Of course, any union militant who has ever participated in the organization of a union or in negotiations, recognizes the Studebaker ultimatum for what they are, company arguments as old as workers' demands for decent conditions. And that the traditional union approach to differences in wages or conditions is to raise the lowest, not to cut the highest.

For whatever reasons, the Reuther bureaucracy has chosen to forget the traditional union position, and their own official statements in this particular instance.

They may reply (though so far they have issued no statement whatever on this matter) that the action at Studebaker is an exceptional case, granting relief for a temporary period to a company with which it has had good relations in the past, in order to keep them in business until the general situation improves.

But it is already clear that this action is going to have only an adverse effect on the general situation. As for this being an exceptional case, the daily newspapers in Detroit, who speak for the employers, don't treat it as such. For two weeks after the first announcement of the proposed wage cuts the press carried on a campaign of praise for this kind of "labor statesmen."

They repeatedly stated that now a company could get cuts from its workers if it needed them. The day after the new Studebaker contract was accepted, the three leading papers in Detroit began their front page articles on the event with the statement that precedent had been established which could be used by other corporations in the future. That is the way the interests view the question. That is the way they are trying to mold public opinion to view it also.

Against this background Mrs. Curtis last year tried unsuccessfully to secure improvements in the conditions of the colored children: better heating in the winter, better equipment, more teachers to take the impossible load of 72 children in six grades off the two women handling it. Improved standards to properly equip the youngsters for admission to junior high school.

Despite several attempts to hold meetings of the PTA with school officials, Mrs. Curtis met with excuses, stalls and alibis, but no cooperation.

**COURT DECISION** The U.S. Supreme Court decision that segregation in public schools is unconstitutional, followed by a statement to the press by Paul L. Upp, superintendent of schools, that Hillsboro schools are not segregated, roused the indignation of colored parents.

Meanwhile Partridge was also outraged by the continuation of Jim Crow schools, but in Hillsboro the invisible wall that divides colored people from white is so effective that there was no contact between Partridge and like-minded persons in the colored community.

So, on July 5 this man, who is described by those who know him as "the kindest, gentlest, most considerate person" and "concerned only for the welfare of his fellow man," apparently decided to act on his own responsibility. Consulting no one in order not to implicate anyone but himself, he set fire to the building which had previously been condemned as unfit for school use, then voluntarily told police of his action so innocent colored people would not be blamed.

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### Defend ALL Unions Under Attack

Organized labor was bitterly opposed to the Butler bill before it became part of the "Communist Control Act of 1954." The liberals, who were supposed to be representing labor's political interests in Congress, also opposed the Butler bill. Then the liberals made their about-face, introduced their measure to outlaw the Communist Party, accepted the Butler bill as part of this measure, and turned the unions over to the mercy of the Subversive Activities Control Board.

The labor officials reacted at first with a stunned silence. Now they are recovering their tongues and saying a few words. But what are they saying and what are they doing? It is all well and good for them to express alarm at the anti-union intent of the act. But is that enough?

Instead of denouncing the liberals for cynically defaulting on their promises to labor, the union officials are covering up the Democratic Party's role.

Instead of drawing the most important lesson from the liberal sellout and reorienting labor's political policy toward an independent Labor Party, the officials are once again boozing it up for the Democratic Party.

### Swallowing a Camel

As pretty nearly everyone expected and as the Militant predicted all along in the course of the televised Army-McCarthy probe, the final reports of the Senate subcommittee members who conducted the 36-day hearings deal more or less mild slaps on the wrists to the principals involved. There were two main reports, a majority and minority, divided on exact political party lines.

The four Republicans shook a mildly reproving finger at fascist Senator McCarthy for "permitting" his aide Roy Cohn to use "undue" pressure to get preferential treatment for McCarthy's other aide Schine who was drafted into the Army. They also waved an admiring finger at Secretary of the Army Stevens for "placement" of McCarthy, Cohn and Schine.

The three Democrats used stronger wording but found essentially the same criticism of both McCarthy and Stevens. They added, however, reference to McCarthy's use of "confidential" and "secret" matter taken from Army files and wondered whether this were not subject to investigation under the espionage laws.

But neither the two main reports, nor supplementary reports by Senators Potter and Dirksen, give the slightest indication of the real issues involved in the dispute between the Wis-

Instead of declaring in no uncertain terms that labor will not tolerate the application of the union-busting measure against a single union in the United States, the officials are "looking the other way" while the Department of Justice singles out such unions as the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers for immediate attack.

Why the Mine, Mill and Smelter workers? Because, first of all, this union is in a battle with the bosses. Secondly, it was the victim of the CIO bureaucrats' witch hunt and was expelled from the CIO. Therefore Brownell believes that such a union can be attacked under the new law without any interference from the labor officials. He has reason to believe they will stand by with folded hands and hope they won't be next.

But that's just it. They will be next. The crushing of independent unions today will only prepare the way and make easier the crushing of AFL and CIO unions tomorrow. The rank and file must not go along with this stupid and treacherous policy. Every union member in the country must demand the support of any union attacked under the new law.

By Daniel Roberts

The defeat of the European Defense Community treaty by the French National Assembly is a check on the war drive of the U.S. government and a new step taken by French imperialism towards attempting a deal with Stalinism.

The EDC was designed to unite the countries of Western Europe militarily for war against the Soviet Union. Thereby the American promoters of the scheme hoped to weld an effective counter-revolutionary fighting force for the European continent, just as it is trying to do in Asia.

The normal economic links of Western Europe are to the Eastern European countries. What the U.S. government held out to European capitalists was an economic and military "community" backed by U.S. dollars and troops, which would seek to unite Europe by military force and restore capitalist property relations throughout the buffer zone and in the Soviet Union itself.

#### WHAT FRENCH FEAR

But the French capitalists are not very eager for this solution. Alarmed by the swift economic comeback of German industry during the last four years, while French industry continued to stagnate, the French capitalists fear that German industrialists would be top

dogs, in the "defense community" and the French would increasingly have to take orders from the Germans.

In the second place, the French capitalists fear war itself. They fear that war at this time when the working class movement is still intact could unleash a revolutionary wave that would sweep them out of power. They also fear that in a war between the U.S. and the Soviet Union, with Western Europe as the main battleground, the holocaust would wipe out French cities and industries, decimate the population and wipe the capitalists themselves off the face of the earth.

In the third place, the great bulk of the French population is opposed to German rearmament and to war against the Soviet Union and no government can expect to remain in office at this time that pushes for the EDC.

However, while the French capitalist politicians have been increasingly opposed to EDC for these reasons, they kept stalling for two years on ratification of the treaty, and matters were brought to a head only under the premiership of Mendes-France.

The Mendes-France government has made moves to grant a certain amount of home rule to Tunisia and Morocco within the framework of the French Union (the euphemism for the French empire) and needs the help of the Stalinists to keep the colonial movement there within the bounds of the modest reforms.

But aside from Moscow aid for a German solution, the Mendes-France regime needs the help of the Stalinists at this time for its program of domestic and colonial reforms. The Kremlin has made this offer to the U.S., French and British government on a number of occasions.

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But aside from Moscow aid for a German solution

## Drought Can Be Ended

By Carl Goodman

"Everybody talks about the weather, but no one does anything about it," said Mark Twain. This is still true today, although weather continues to be a major problem in the U.S. with floods in the springtime, drought in the summer and whole areas of the country transformed into a dust bowl for lack of timely rain. This spells ruin for countless farmers and sky-high prices for fruits and vegetables in the cities.

But something could be done about the weather. In fact it can be brought under man's strict control at least wherever it affects him economically. This is the judgment of Capt. H. T. Orville, USN (Ret.), head of the U.S. Weather Bureau. Writing in Collier's on May 28, 1954, Orville urges the government to enter the weather control field with "an effort as large as the Manhattan Project for the development of atomic energy. Mastery of the weather is theoretically possible if our research is expanded on that scale."

Orville believes that within 40 years weather can be brought within mankind's complete control if a "Manhattan Project" type of program is launched.

"By milking rain or snow from reluctant clouds at the proper time and place," he predicts, "we may be able to transform vast barren areas like the dust-bowl into fertile crop-productive land." Rain on order would also curb forest fires that destroy an average of 16,000,000 acres of U.S. timber every year. We might also be able to prevent rain, for the farmer when he wants to dry his hay, for the fruit grower who fear fungus promoting dampness. Thunderstorms that wreck crops through hail and tornadoes that bring death and destruction may be busted up before they get under way. These are some of the things

that Orville believes can be accomplished in the near future.

But, he says, we will not have to wait 40 years to begin controlling the weather. He favors an interim program to apply "electronic devices already in existence or now under development." Cloud seeding is already successful, he maintains, in several areas where rain-making has become a commercial venture. For instance one rain-making firm in 1953 increased the water in the Dallas, Texas drainage basin 363% while in nearby drainage basins not subject to cloud-seeding the amount of water ranged from a decrease of 22% to an increase of 19% in the same six-month period.

Will Orville's recommendations be acted on? It is hardly likely that they will be under a capitalist government. Capitalist statesmen launch huge projects on the order of the Manhattan Project on atomic energy only for war purposes — for discovering instruments of death, not for planning abundance. Any benefits that accrue to mankind from these undertakings — such as the productive uses of atomic energy — are by-products of the research and not the main concern of capitalist governments.

Manhattan Projects — that is, the pooling of all the best scientific brains in a given field with vast sums at their disposal — need to be launched in a great number of fields where man seeks to complete his mastery over nature. There is the weather to conquer, diseases to conquer, new types of foods, raw material, and power to be discovered. All these problems could be solved in a planned way and in a definite span of time through Manhattan Projects.

But it will take a Workers and Farmers Government and a socialist society producing to satisfy the needs of the population to embark on Manhattan Projects of this nature.

## Who Is to Blame?

By Joyce Cowley

The sadistic murders committed by four Brooklyn boys were conveniently timed for Police Commissioner Adams, who is demanding 7,000 more cops in New York. The newspapers, which were already hysterically attacking young delinquents, and hoodlums, reached a new pitch of frenzy in their sensational accounts of the case. Dozens of letters from an "aroused public" suggested punishments for these boys as sadistic and brutal as the crimes themselves.

"Exterminate the teen-age beasts!" writes one woman who also objects to "gentle treatment" like a trial and talking to the parents. Another advocates lashings which should be televised to "frighten and discourage others."

Various authorities made the usual comments on lack of parental discipline and coddling by the courts. One newspaper suggested universal military training as a cure; perhaps it felt these young sadists were good officer material. The most frequent demands were for stricter enforcement of the law, heavier penalties for young criminals, corporal punishment for unruly children in school and at home and, of course, the "fear of God."

A closer examination of this and many similar cases indicates a need for something quite different from fear and force. Koslow, the so-called brains of the gang, needed psychiatric care. This was known because he was actually under treatment at the age of seven. His mother discontinued the treatment because she felt it was somehow shameful to have her child going to a psychiatrist.

A study of other teen-age murder cases reveals the same need for early care. Take Henery Agard, condemned to life imprisonment at the age of 16. The child of an unmarried mother who worked in a factory at night, he wandered the streets unsupervised at all hours. At eight he was arrested for unnatural sex acts, at ten for setting fires at school and breaking into a tavern to steal cigarettes, at eleven for assaulting and breaking the leg of a 14-year old girl.

## Notes from the News

"WE ARE HARDLY LIVING," said Benton Kiser, one of the 1,001 unemployed coal miners in Danie, Va., who were standing "the other day . . . for hours in the hot sun to draw a ration of beans, shortening and canned beef." A breadline without bread," explains Labor in its Aug. 21 issue. Another miner, Alonzo Hurd, thinks "the present situation . . . in the coal fields is worse than any I experienced in Hoover's times and it keeps getting worse — not better."

"THE SITUATION ISN'T SERIOUS — so far," that is. "Rising withdrawals of saved-up cash are causing increasing concern among bankers and life insurance officials" in the nation's financial capital. The Aug. 27 Wall Street Journal quotes one New York savings bank official as saying: "We've had 5,000 depositors close out their accounts so far this year. That's twice as many as in all 1953." Another banker predicts that "if withdrawals continue to rise at the present rate they're going to make a big dent in the new money we have available for investment." What could be worse?

A MAN'S HOME IS NOT HIS CASTLE if the man is a Negro and buys a home in a white section of Louisville, Ky. Shortly after Andrew Wade IV, Negro contractor, moved into his new home, "shots were fired into it and a cross burned nearby." Then an "explosion damaged the house heavily," after which county police maintained a "24-hour watch," asking Wade to provide a list of approved visitors. Later when the police refused entry to Wallace W. Tircuit, a friend whose name was overlooked on the list, Wade came to his rescue. Both Tircuit and Wade were arrested, reports the Kansas City Call. When

Judge Michael Hellmann fined Tircuit \$20 for "breach of peace," Wade interrupted the judge, saying: "I don't want a prejudiced decision in this." The judge responded: "Your attitude shows why the police did arrest you. I don't like any man calling me prejudiced. \$100 and 30 days."

"NO SELF-RESPECTING AMERICAN can cast a ballot for anyone who voted for these bills," says an editorial in the Aug. 30 National Guardian on the "Communist Control Act." But only the previous week, after this law had been passed, the Guardian printed approvingly a report on the American Labor Party's decision to withdraw a number of its candidates for Congress in districts where major party candidates are "committed to fight against McCarthyism." Candidates whom the ALP will not oppose include Rep. Klein of Manhattan and Rep. Celler of Brooklyn. Klein didn't have the nerve to vote for or against the new police state law, while Celler voted for it.

SGT. LOUIS REHAK, Baltimore cop who murdered a sleeping Negro last May, was completely exonerated by a grand jury that "deliberated" on the case for all of three hours. His victim, James D. Broadus Jr., 22 year old veteran, was asleep under a tarpaulin covering in his own backyard when Rehak, hunting another man, discovered him and shot him down in cold blood.

DAVID J. McDONALD, president of the CIO United Steel Workers, has been urged by Local 2175, USA-CIO, in Minnesota, "to invite representatives of all labor unions to a Congress of Labor to elaborate a concrete program of action to meet the growing menace of unemployment."

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# THE MILITANT

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## BOARD RULES MAYHEW OFF BALLOT IN CHICAGO

CHICAGO, Aug. 30 — Howard Mayhew, Socialist Workers Party candidate for Congress in the 2d District, has been ruled off the ballot by the Board of Election Commissioners. This decision was made Friday, less than 24 hours after a public hearing on the validity of Mayhew's petitions, which contained 2,400 signatures over the legal requirement.

Objections to the petitions were filed by Wauwata Manly and Catherine Janis. They were represented by Frank J. Dowd, the same lawyer who had acted in 1952 to bar the socialist candidate from the ballot in this district.

Supposedly called to deal with petitions containing 12,000 names, the hearing was quickly turned into a McCarthyite witch hunt probe. Dowd charged that man with Mayhew's political beliefs had no right to a place on the ballot. He reminded the Board that Eisenhower had just signed the infamous "communist control" law.

Dowd asked Mayhew if he was a member of the SWP. According to the Sun-Times, "Mayhew said that if he answered questions about his affiliations with the party, he would leave the way open for questions about associates; therefore he invoked the Fifth Amendment."

Commenting on this incident in a statement to the press Mayhew said, "I am proud to state that I am a member of the Socialist Workers Party. I made it quite clear to the board that I had nothing to hide regarding my political beliefs or affiliations."

Mayhew is being represented by F. Raymond Marks Jr., Acting Director of the Chicago chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union. Marks is acting on his own as the ACLU has taken no official position on the case.

By James O'Hara  
NEW YORK, Aug. 31 — After a year of desperate struggle against the government, the employers and the AFL, the independent International Longshoremen's Association came into the clear today, legally certified as the New York dockers' bargaining agent, with a series of demands to the shipping bosses. Put on the table was a demand for a straight 10c an hour wage increase, a 3c. increase in the boss's contribution to the health and welfare fund, and a union shop provision in the contract.

This latter demand is dynamite. If the ILA secured it, the AFL would be virtually eliminated from the docks. AFL leaders would have done the same thing themselves if they had won. Dave Beck, teamsters leader and one of those in charge of the AFL longshoremen's union, is already trying to salvage something out of the AFL defeat. Following the advice of the civil war general who said "if you can't lick 'em,

... Unions Named As First Target

(Continued from page 1)

13551 of the Congressional Record. It follows Senator Cooper's specific query to Sen. Ives about the AFL, CIO and United Mine Workers.

"Mr. COOPER. But there would be nothing in the (Ives) amendment which would prevent an inquiry by the Attorney General or a determination by the [Subversive Activities Control] Board either against the federation (AFL) or against an affiliation of the federation, if the facts were thought sufficient to require such an inquiry.

"Mr. IVES. That is correct. That is definitely the intent of the amendment. Nothing stands in the way of such action by the Attorney General or the Board."

Isn't that clear? Any time they want to nail the AFL or any of its affiliates as "communist-infiltrated" they can go ahead. The Ives amendment won't stop them. Ives said so himself, in precise and unmistakable words.

Would it be hard to find the AFL to be "Communist-infiltrated"? McCarthy has found the Eisenhower administration, the State Department, the Army, "communist-infiltrated." Any time the employers give the signal for such action, it would be child's play for the Subversive Activities Control Board, with the aid of a couple of professional informers, to find the AFL "communist-infiltrated."

Labor's Daily, AFL Typographical Union paper doesn't go for the rapid self-deception of the AFL leaders. It says in an Aug. 26 headline: "Unions Are Real Target of Law." And it cites Eisenhower's emphasis on that part of the law specifically designed to create, as Eisenhower said, "a new category entitled 'communist-infiltrated organizations'."

That means unions as such. And it can mean the destruction of all unions unless they get together and organize a finish fight to nullify this latest anti-labor law.

(See editorial on P. 3.)



HOWARD MAYHEW

## Chester Tells How to Block Phila. Racists

PHILADELPHIA, Aug. 29 — Robert Chester, Militant Workers Party candidate for Congress in the 4th District, today called for united labor and Negro action to defend the Wiley Clark family, which was driven from its home by Jim Crow violence last week.

Chester, a gas station attendant and mechanic, bought a house that had been vacant for almost a year in North Philadelphia,

repaired it and moved in with his wife and four children. Crowds incited by white supremacists smashed up the house and forced the Clarks to move out.

"The acts of terrorism and vandalism against Wiley Clark and his family point up a tendency toward hardening of the lines of segregation in Philadelphia," Chester said. "This process can only work toward a long term worsening of the relations between racial groups in the area."

As a candidate of the Socialist Workers Party (whose ballot designation in this state is Militant Workers Party), Chester is an active opponent of Jim Crow in any form and a defender of the right of all persons to live anywhere in homes of their own choosing, without fear of discrimination or intimidation.

"The Clark case is a direct threat to this right," he warned. "It endangers the whole fight for equality and represents the most flagrant attack against the Negro people of Philadelphia in many years."

Chester then outlined his program for meeting this new attack on the Negro people:

### STEPS PROPOSED

"The first step is to repair the damage to the Clark home, and to see to it that Mr. Clark and his family are permitted to return in safety.

"The second step is to see that no repetition of the violence and threats takes place. To this end it is necessary to form a broad defense organization composed of Mr. Clark's friends as well as representatives of the unions, the NAACP and other organizations."

Past experience, Chester said, has indicated that "it is not possible to depend on the police and public officials to safeguard the Clark family permanently. This is the job of those directly concerned in safeguarding equal rights."

### FOR INSTANT DEFENSE

"Once the Clarks are back in their home, the job for such a defense organization will be to carry out an educational campaign in the neighborhood to convince the residents that any further incidents would only be a detriment to themselves and to all working people, white and Negro alike. At the same time the defense organization must be ready to come to Clark's aid instantly, should that be necessary."

"I and the Socialist Workers Party stand ready to cooperate with all other organizations in any such steps toward bringing justice and freedom from fear to Clark and his family."

Chester promised to make the Clark case an outstanding issue throughout his current campaign for Congress.

## Our Readers Take the Floor

### Liberals Blamed For Repression

Editor:

I was glad to see that the Militant had the good sense not to refer to the Democratic congressmen responsible for the Communist Party outlaw bill as liberals in quotes. Maybe some of the followers of Humphrey and Co. do not relish it, but that's official liberalism today, and there is no use putting quotation marks around it as if to imply that there is some other kind of liberalism in business today.

There's only one kind of liberalism that has any strength in this country today, and that's the liberalism that blazed the path for the Communist Control Act of 1954, and many other repressive measures before it.

D. H.  
New York City

### Four Were Victims As Well as Killers

Editor:

The killed and tortured victims of the rage of four Brooklyn teenagers depict the problem of American youth in its most glaring form.

In our approach to the women, we have to avoid sectarianism just as we do in any other field of our activity. It would be well not to fall into the same trap as the Third Period Stalinists, when their sectarianism led them to scoff at the existing standards and made them the object of ridicule by the masses.

It is a serious mistake to overestimate our own standards of what is attractive to the demands of the masses of women. We are not discussing what these stand-

ards were in primitive society, or what they will be under socialism, or what we think they should be now. As a revolutionary party, we have to know what the women want today, since these desires stem from standards which they have to meet constantly in all their activities. We cannot bypass these by saying they are not important, and that we should want to defend any of its members who are victimized by management for standing on their constitutional rights when questioned by congressional witch hunters, and there is no present sentiment in the plant favoring the reactionary General Electric formula (which would automatically suspend all who invoked the Bill of Rights).

Thus ends another round in the struggle against McCarthyism in the Buffalo Westinghouse plant.

It has been a round that must be scored heavily against the workers. But they have an excellent tradition of struggle against the corporation and deep and as yet untapped reserves of militancy, which progressives in the union are hard at work to bring out.

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to conduct a revolutionary struggle to get them. Afterwards, under socialism, when new needs and new desires arise, they may disregard what they are seeking today, but let us not substitute the society of the future for the needs of today.

Sam Stern  
Los Angeles, Calif.

### Determined to Build a Vanguard

Editor:

I have been fortunate enough to read a copy of the Militant and must say I am impressed not a little. I would like to be a regular reader.

If you don't mind, I beg to approach you on a matter of the greatest importance to my few friends and I. As victims of colonialism and slavery who became, and have faith, in the international organization of workers and peasants, we are determined to build a vanguard for the emancipation of workers and peasants of our country from economic servitude.

To build a solid house one needs, first and foremost, the following things: (a) Conviction, (b) determination, (c) faith in one's self and (d) materials for solid foundation. We have a, b and c but not d, which is very important. To build this vanguard we ourselves should be politically and ideologically sound.

We want you to help us to learn Marx's philosophy and socialist political economy and to build a library.

As you must have made out from my letter, I am an African.

A. R.  
England