

Withdraw Aid From France!

An Editorial

A Tunisian official directing the rescue work told Thomas F. Brady, the New York Times correspondent who reached Sakiet-Sidi-Youssef the same day it was bombed and strafed, "They did it with American planes, bombs and bullets." In the Tunisian Assembly there were bitter remarks about the United States charity in powdered milk for Tunisian children being balanced with "planes and bombs to kill the children."

Yet the most authoritative voice of U.S. capitalism, the New York Times, dismisses the murderous use of American-made and American-donated weapons against women and children of a neutral country with the editorial assertion (Feb. 10): "The ignorant and the deliberately misinformed will hold us [the United States] responsible where we were in no degree to blame."

What is the legal description for the person who furnishes a murderer the means of committing the crime? An accomplice! That is precisely the relationship between the Big Business government in Washington and the French imperialists in the crime of Sakiet-Sidi-Youssef. Not only did the Wall Street government furnish the planes, rockets, bombs and machine gun bullets used against the unsuspecting Tunisian villagers, but it foots the bill of the French military operations to boot. Just last month Washington granted \$655 million more to French capitalism to make up the balance of trade deficit resulting from the expenses of the war in North Africa.

Washington is disturbed about possible diplomatic repercussions of the French bombing because Tunisia is independent and neutral. This is therefore technically different from the slaughter of Algerian villagers who want their freedom. For three years U.S. imperialism has been the accomplice to that crime—in which Sakiet-Sidi-Youssef atrocities are weekly occurrences—as armorer, paymaster and diplomatic interference-runner.

The recent AFL-CIO Executive Council meeting in Miami condemned the French attack on Sakiet-Sidi-Youssef and sent \$1,000 to the Tunisian union movement for medical relief. While far from a militant clarion call to action, the AFL-CIO resolution is in the right direction. But American labor must go further. It must tell Washington: "No more U.S. planes, bombs, guns or money for the dirty war in North Africa!"

Forging Arab Unity



President Gamal Abdel Nasser of the United Arab Republic greets Prince Mohammed El Badr of Yemen, who arrived in Cairo to discuss federation of his country with Egypt and Syria. The new Republic is designed to strengthen Arab unity in its struggle against British, French or U.S. domination.

Hide French Terrorism

State Dept. Glosses Tunisia Act

By GEORGE LAVAN

The U.S. State Department and America's Big-Business-controlled newspapers are engaged in covering up and falsifying the true story of French imperialism's barbarous attack on the people of a country with whom France is supposedly at peace.

The Feb. 8 attack on the Tunisian village of Sakiet-Sidi-Youssef was carried out by the French air force with planes, bombs, rockets and bullets furnished by American taxpayers for "defense of the free world." After three successive waves of aircraft had without warning rained made-in-U.S.A. murder on the unarmed Arab village, the death toll stood at 37 men, 11 women and 20 children. Of the approximately 100 maimed and wounded 40 are women and children.

The blatant dishonesty of the official French communiqué, that only "military objectives" had been hit, was exposed by foreign reporters who reached the demolished village later the same day. Their count of the destruction included two schools, 130 homes, 85 stores and shops, the postoffice and seven other public buildings, as well as two clearly marked Red Cross trucks. As for the victims, they were civilians—mostly poor peasants, their wives and children.

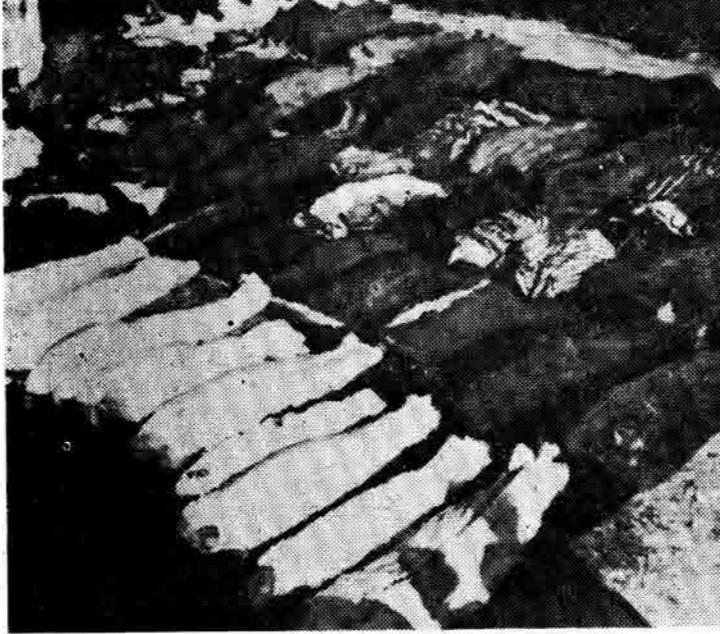
ANOTHER LIE

Though the State Department and the kept press found the French government's lie about "military objectives" too raw to try to pass off on the American public, they have been assiduously spreading another lie. This is that the French action was angry retaliation against anti-aircraft fire from the village (located slightly less than a mile from the Algerian border) which had damaged several French planes.

Neither French nor American reporters, who reached Sakiet-Sidi-Youssef that same day, could report any trace of anti-aircraft artillery or emplacements. The biggest weapons possessed by the detachment of the Tunisian National Guard stationed there were three sub-machineguns and one .50 caliber machine gun. None of these weapons could have been effective against French aircraft unless they were low-flying and almost directly overhead—that is unless they were violating Tunisian territory.

The anti-aircraft batteries are pure myth as another story. The U.S. press is trying to cook up, namely that the attack was ordered by some as yet unnamed, but hot-headed, (Continued on Page 2)

Victims of U.S. Aid to France



Lying unidentified in rows are some of the 75 victims of the French bombing of the Tunisian village, Sakiet Sidi Youssef. The planes that dropped the bombs, and the bombs that crushed a school building, two Red Cross trucks and killed and wounded many, were part of NATO equipment given by the U.S.A. to France.

One of Little Rock 9 Ousted in Racist Move

Governor Faubus and the white supremacists of Little Rock have scored an important victory in Little Rock. Minnie Jean Brown, one of the nine Negro students in Central High School, has been expelled. The racists are jubilantly crowing their new slogan—which has already been displayed on placards within the school—"One down and eight to go!"

The White Citizens Councils and Ku Klux elements in Little Rock have been steadily regaining their confidence ever since the federal government announced that it would not take any legal action against Faubus and the ringleaders of the segregationist mob which beat and kicked Negroes in front of Central High.

The atmosphere in a school is a pretty good reflection of the atmosphere in the community. In Central High a small core of racist students, aping the renewed aggressiveness of their adults, began a twofold campaign. By threats and violence they intimidated the small group of white students who had displayed friendliness to the nine Negro students. Simultaneously they began an increasingly vicious campaign of harassment and violence against the Negro students.

Minnie Jean Brown, 16, was particularly singled out for such treatment. In several instances she flared back at her tormentors. For this she was twice suspended. First was a cafeteria incident where a white boy tripped her and she accidentally spilled food on him. The second instance involved a

white girl who pursued her through the corridors calling her a "nigger bitch," until she retorted with the epithet "white trash." The white girl thereupon hit Minnie Jean with her handbag.

SHE TALKED BACK

For this second "offense" Minnie Jean was suspended. Central High principal, J. W. Matthews, stated: "She was suspended for talking back to a white girl. Minnie Jean had no right to retaliate." Superintendent of Schools Virgin Blossom thereupon recommended her expulsion. The School Board voted this on Feb. 17.

What we see now is a "separate but equal" application of school regulations. There is one code for the persecuted Negro students in Central High and another for the tormenting whites.

Minnie Jean was a particular target of the racists. Now they will choose another. Minnie Jean's heroic conduct before Faubus' national guardmen and the howling racist mob, as also her courage during her days of persecution in school, were not merely for herself but for the cause of Negro equality. Her expulsion is a blow to the cause for which she fought so valiantly.

The Peruvian government suspended the Constitution, Feb. 2, in order to break a strike of 650 policemen in two cities.

Despite the gloom of investors on Wall Street with the general stock decline, coupon-clippers perked up their spirits with the news that the U.S. government would spend more than \$5 billion on missiles in the 1958 fiscal year.

Among the recipients of this new arms bonanza are Western Electric; Douglas, Lockheed and North American aircraft companies; Sperry Rand Corp.; Raytheon; Radio Corporation of America; and General Motors and Chrysler. All together, the companies awarded contracts read like a who's who of Big Business.

The Feb. 9 New York Herald Tribune points out that "As is well known, the Defense Department has discouraged publication of total contracts held by these producers." So those investors who don't have pipelines have to guess how much of the government handout each company is getting.

Of even greater interest to the American people would be the contents of these government missile orders. Just how much above cost will be pocketed by those taking over research and production of the missile program? That information isn't easy to come by. But it is safe to guess that the contract terms are enough to gladden the heart and fill the pockets of a few U.S. billionaires.

Land speculators and rent gougers are also having a field day at the Air Force Missile Test Center on Cape Canaveral, Florida. Land values that stood at \$10 a "front foot" a short time ago are now selling for as much as \$600. Meanwhile base workers complain of the long distances from work to housing facilities, skyrocketing rents in the absence of any controls and lack of facilities in trailer camps.

(Continued on Page 2)

U.S. Economy Sinking Deeper Into Depression

AFL-CIO Calls Conference To Map Plans on Jobless

By FRED HALSTEAD

FEB. 19—As virtually every major business index continued to decline nationally and as unemployment topped 10% in several key states, the AFL-CIO executive council last week issued a call for an emergency "economic and legislative conference" to be held in Washington, D.C., March 11, 12 and 13.

In announcing the conference of representatives of all AFL-CIO affiliates, Federation president George Meany said he couldn't help being "scared" by the growth in unemployment. The officially-reported increase of 1.1 million jobless from mid-December to mid-January was the largest increase for any month since the government started keeping records in 1941 and was at least twice the "normal" seasonal increase.

That figure put unemployment for last month at 4 1/2 million. Later regional figures indicate that unemployment is still rising at a sharp rate. For the week ending Feb. 1, 7.1% of the workers covered by unemployment insurance were out of work on a national average.

DEMAND MORE MISSILES

The AFL-CIO conference is expected to limit its action to putting pressure on government officials for increased federal spending, for needed public works, housing, and improved welfare programs, as well as for an immediate increase in arms expenditures. The AFL-CIO executive council meeting in Miami beach last week called for an increase in war spending from the present \$42 billion annually to a \$55 billion annual rate by 1959.



MEANY

The latest published figures indicate, however, that the post-Sputnik increases in war spending have failed to "prime the pump." The Feb. 17 Wall Street Journal reports that while new armament orders increased by 1.5 billion from the third to the fourth quarter of 1957, total new orders of all kinds received by the nation's manufacturers declined by \$3.7 billion in the same period. The Journal comments that "it wasn't last year's temporary cuts and stretchouts in defense spending that brought about the recession now under way.

... the Government, big as it has become, doesn't yet swing the whole economic system."

SAME AS PREWAR MODEL

The admission of that fact of capitalist economic life is now becoming common among business economists. Asher Achinstein, of the research staff of the Library of Congress, is reported by the Jan. 11 Business Week as saying, "the postwar U.S. economy is basically the same as the prewar economy, and not a new model economy that has seen the breakup of the business cycle."

Speaking of governmental control of monetary and fiscal policies Achinstein says "these tools are not likely to be adequate when the durable goods and construction industries show sizable contractions. If these conditions should prevail in the near future, a decline substantially greater than the one we have had in the postwar period is likely."

And all the major durable goods industries have continued to decline since Achinstein's statement. Industrial production as a whole dropped this month to the lowest point since February 1955, down 9.5% from the peak of December 1956 and about 8% since the (Continued on Page 4)

Richest Firms To Share in Missile Bonanza

Despite the gloom of investors on Wall Street with the general stock decline, coupon-clippers perked up their spirits with the news that the U.S. government would spend more than \$5 billion on missiles in the 1958 fiscal year.

Among the recipients of this new arms bonanza are Western Electric; Douglas, Lockheed and North American aircraft companies; Sperry Rand Corp.; Raytheon; Radio Corporation of America; and General Motors and Chrysler. All together, the companies awarded contracts read like a who's who of Big Business.

The other resolution provided for the widest publication and circulation of the first resolution with copies to every local union and to the heads of the Republican and Democratic parties.

It also called upon the union members to register and vote. In a further resolve it proposed to open discussion on ways and means of "opening facilities near the Illinois Unemployment Compensation Offices so that union counsellors can give advice and assistance to the unemployed."

Included in the program adopted by the conference were demands that unemployment compensation laws be amended to provide, as a minimum, benefits for 39 weeks' duration and for a moratorium on all mortgage, installment and other debts of laid-off workers.

WANTS 75% OF WAGES

An amendment was offered from the floor by Jack Spiegel, director of the CIO Shoe Workers, Chicago, that unemployment compensation be increased to 45 weeks and that another provision calling for "improvement" and "increase" in benefits be spelled out to demand the specific amount of 75% of wages for unemployed.

Illinois Unions Demand Governor Act on Needy

By HOWARD MAYHEW

CHICAGO, Feb. 15—The first unemployment conference of the current depression was called here today by the Illinois AFL-CIO. Some 600 to 700 delegates and visitors attended—primarily from CIO unions throughout the state.

The conference unanimously adopted two resolutions. One urged Governor Stratton to "call a special session of the Illinois General Assembly for the purpose of alleviating and eliminating the present economic distress, unemployment, reduced and inadequate purchasing power and need for public assistance."

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However, these assurance were thrown into question in Bernstein's answer to President Sidney Johnson of Swift Local. Johnson reported that "secret symbols" of an unde-

Behind the Recent Purges in E. Germany

By MYRA TANNER WEISS

FEB. 18—The struggle for socialist democracy in East Europe and in the Soviet Union continues unabated. The repressions in Hungary in 1956 slowed the process but could not stop it. The present struggle against "revisionism" in the Soviet orbit, expressed in sharpest form in the recent East German purges, brings to light the internal crisis in the Communist Parties and the extent of resistance to bureaucratic rule.

The sharpest conflict is now manifest in the Socialist Unity (Communist) Party of East Germany. It is only a surface expression of the fact that economic and political problems have not been solved. They have merely been concealed. And they cannot be solved as long as bureaucratic self-interest prevents discussion.

Ulbricht, Stalinist boss in E. Germany, began his purge of oppositionists last October in a heated session of the Central Committee. The proceedings of this meeting were reported in the Dec. 21 issue of Newsletter, published in England, in an exclusive story.

"The overwhelming majority of the speakers," the Newslet-

ter reported, "devoted themselves almost exclusively to either heaping ashes on their own heads or lambasting others for ideological weaknesses. Ulbricht himself behaved throughout like an insulted prima donna, interrupting almost every speaker either with crude insults or with words of encouragement when the speaker happened to be one of his supporters."

At this session two of the six Central Committee secretaries were attacked by name. They were Paul Wandel and Gerhart Ziller. As far as is known, others were denounced only indirectly. Wandel, formerly in charge of cultural affairs and long considered an undeviating Stalinist war-horse, was accused of not acting firmly enough in regard to "socialist realism." More specifically he was charged with failing to report receipt of a letter from a leading actor in East Germany who expressed "doubts." This term was actually used in the discussion.

Wandel was also accused of obstructing an attack on a leading East German writer who recently went to West Germany. And finally, he was accused of trying to replace the Kiel revolt in 1918 that toppled the Kaiser. A founding member of

the Communist Party, he worked against the Nazis during the Second World War, successfully sinking a number of Nazi ships in Swedish harbors.

Olsner joined the Young Communist League nearly 40 years ago. In 1936 he escaped Nazi Germany and took refuge in the Soviet Union. He returned to Berlin with the Red Army.

Schirdewan and Wollweber were accused of having "formed a faction" and attempting "to change the political line of the party." Schirdewan was also attacked for his "slanderous methods," his "attacks against Comrade Ulbricht," and for "misunderstanding the lessons of the 20th Congress of the CPSU."

Evidently some of those purged worked for a time under the illusion that they had or could get support from the Kremlin in their attempt to oust Ulbricht. In December Wollweber got word of his impending arrest by the Ulbricht faction. He took refuge at the headquarters of the Soviet troops and was flown to Moscow in a military plane. He reportedly put the case of the Kiel revolt in 1918 that toppled the Kaiser. A founding member of

(Continued on Page 2)

Instructive Debate Over Roosevelt Role

An illuminating clash of views on Roosevelt and the New Deal has been presented in the pages of the *National Guardian*. The controversy was sparked by Vincent Hallinan, 1952 Progressive Party Presidential candidate, with a critical review Jan. 6 of the book, *The Democratic Roosevelt*, by Rexford G. Tugwell. In the Feb. 17 issue, Hallinan is challenged by Adam Lapin, former People's World correspondent, and by C. B. Baldwin, former secretary of the Progressive Party. Hallinan in turn replies to the criticisms.

Hallinan sees Tugwell's laudatory biography of Roosevelt as "an extremely valuable book, though for a different reason than the author intended." He explains, "The value of the book lies in its inside story of the fraud, corruption, greed, treachery, double dealing, deceit, lying and cheating which is the soul of American politics... The innocent will, perhaps, be shocked at Roosevelt's suppleness in adjusting himself to this creed of the jungle.

VESTED INTERESTS

"This book will help persuade the reader," Hallinan continues, "that no leadership can maintain a liberal policy against the will of the vested interests which control the nation's policies."

Discussing World War II, Hallinan expresses his belief that "The net effect of America's entry... was to the benefit of humanity. It smashed fascism in Europe and Asia and facilitated the advance of the world revolutionary movement."

But he also presents the imperialist motivation for U. S. entry into the war and hits at Tugwell's repetition of the claim that Japan "delivered a treacherous blow at Pearl Harbor." In reply Hallinan cites the evidence, presented by the noted American historian Charles A. Beard, that Roosevelt planned "how to maneuver the Japanese into firing the first shot."

In his reply to Lapin, Hallinan adds on this point: "... I always expected that sooner or later, the U. S. and Japan would go to war to determine whose buccaneers would exploit China. Unhappily, the Chinese snatched the prize from our jaws in the very moment of victory."

Discussing Tugwell's views on "progressive capitalism" and Henry Wallace, Hallinan declares: "If Tugwell correctly describes his fuzzy economics and petulant vanity, the Progressive Party had a weak champion in Henry Wallace."

In his reply, C. B. Baldwin argues that the political chicanery attributed to Roosevelt was actually the work of underlings. He charges that Hallinan's criticism of Wallace is not consonant with "political" wages range from \$1 to \$2.50.



ROOSEVELT

integrity" and insists that Wallace "performed a great service for peace." Reiterating his support of New Deal concepts, Baldwin asserts that progress will not derive from "a cynical distortion of the most fruitful period of our lives."

MEANING FOR TODAY

Adam Lapin argues that "Roosevelt made his place in the history books because he understood something of the times in which he lived... Of course, he was trying to save capitalism. But to a greater degree than any other recent President, he identified himself with at least some of the demands and aspirations of the people." Lapin's central point is that "It just makes no sense to ignore aspects of the New Deal which are meaningful for today."

In rebuttal, Hallinan agrees that it is not abstract history at issue. He writes: "I would forego lacerating the sensibilities of the Adam Lapis with regard to their hero, except that the Democratic party is now using him (Roosevelt) to coax youth into its verminiferous apparatus."

To keep abreast of the world," he continues, "we, in this country, must bring about a planned socialist economy... Even with its decor of the New Deal, the Democratic party is only, at best, a surrey with the fringe on top" in an "age of jet propulsion."

California's industrialized farm laborers form the largest single group of unorganized workers in the U. S. today. Field work wages are below \$1 per hour while in the processing sheds

WANT FREEDOM

The accused intellectuals also demanded "complete freedom for the Communist press to attack short-comings, weaknesses, corruption and distortions." They expressed the heretical view that the Communist Central Committee was "incompetent" to direct literary activity.

One of the principal Bulgarian offenders was Emil Manov whose novel failed to show "the party's constant concern for improvement of living con-

ditions." Literaturny Front also reported that Manov "displayed a disdainful attitude towards the criticism directed at him and failed to understand his mistakes because of his incorrect conception of socialist realism."

Todor Genov's play "Fear" was banned because it "twisted" reality and had a "politically harmful and slanderous

Comments on the SWP's United-Ticket Proposal

Down to Earth

To the National Committee, Socialist Workers Party

Sirs:

I read your notice in the *National Guardian* and am glad that there is a move to unite all those who are working for a cooperative commonwealth.

The important problem is to unite all who stand for a planned economy and production for use and not for profit. Their platform should be broad enough to have the support of all who believe in such a program.

Here are some suggestions for you to consider.

If a platform is drawn up it could be prefaced something like the following:

As the Republican and Democratic parties are at present directing all their efforts to solving the mysteries of outer space and planning trips to the moon, it becomes necessary for some one to look after the problems of the people who are still on earth.

I suggest two planks in your platform:

(1) Negotiations for peace. Instead of negotiating from strength — which means that one side would dictate all the terms — we should negotiate with all countries as equals, and, if each side would be willing to compromise at certain points, the result would be much more permanent.

(2) All citizens should have the right to travel anywhere in the world without having to be questioned about politics, re- it is implied that there is a

ligion or other personal opinions.

It would be OK to have a ticket in areas where it would be possible to get on the ballot. But at present it would be impossible in many states to get a third party on the ballot. However, we should call on all who agree with us in those areas to withhold their support from any candidate for U. S. Congress who will not pledge themselves to support at least some of the preliminary steps for peace such as stopping the atom-bomb tests and negotiating for peace.

Hope to hear of your progress.

"Old Timer"
Elyria, Ohio

P.S. If a new party is formed, would it not be a good idea to call it the United Socialists of America or some such name?

Don't Call On Capitalist Cops

I am a worker and a reader of the *National Guardian*. I am accepting your invitation to comment on your electoral policy.

You say that you want to "arrive at the most effective electoral policy in 1958." The danger in this is that you will corral a lot of votes by raising hopes that cannot be fulfilled.

For example, you state: "Socialism offers the only permanent solution to the problem of capitalist depression." From this

About the SWP Proposal

The letters printed on this page are to the National Committee of the Socialist Workers Party in response to its advertisement in the Feb. 3 *National Guardian*, entitled "For a United Socialist Ticket in the 1958 Elections—A Proposal to the Radical Movement." The text of the proposal was reprinted in the Feb. 10 *Militant*.

"We are of the opinion . . ." said the SWP National Committee, "that a united socialist ticket, challenging the two parties of Big Business, would meet with the approval and perhaps the enthusiasm of tens and even hundreds of thousands of militant workers. . . . A united campaign in 1958 might well end the present isolation of the American socialist movement and bring it into the main stream of political life where it rightfully belongs."

The NC then suggested several propositions, "... with such elaboration or modification as may finally be agreed upon . . ." for platform planks of a joint slate. These included proposals for combatting the cold war, for meeting unemployment, for aiding the struggle against Jim Crow, for extending democratic rights and for independent political action against the Big-Business-dominated parties.

In conclusion, the NC asked "May we hear from you either directly or through your comments to the National *Guardian*?"

Copies of the text of the Socialist Workers Party proposal may be obtained by writing to 116 University Place, New York 3, N. Y.

Temporary solution. The reader receives a strong impression that you are offering the shortened work week at no decrease in take-home pay and a government guarantee of full employment or adequate permanent relief as such a temporary solution.

Actually, the only temporary solution of capitalist depression is the succession of hot and cold wars which we have been witnessing since 1940. Capitalism escapes choking on its surplus by shooting it off or declaring it obsolete.

I believe that the last two sentences in Proposition 3 which call for FEPC legislation and immediate enforcement of the Supreme Court order to

end segregation in the schools should be eliminated. Marxists should not call the capitalist cops to solve the difficulties of the Negro people.

I sincerely hope that we will be able to work out our disagreements without loss of principle.

D. L.
Masپeth, N. Y.

Hails Common Sense

Hail to your common sense in your ad in the *National Guardian* of Feb. 3, 1958.

I was glad to see somebody with the intelligence and courage to challenge what is going on in Washington, D. C. right now.

I will enclose a copy of a

bureaucratic clique. On Feb. 8 *Nowa Kultura*, official organ of the writers union, announced the resignation of its chief editor, W. Wroński. And the staff of *Po Prostu*, suppressed last fall, were told to look for jobs outside the field of journalism unless they could see their way to write "a suitable account of their attitude toward party policy."

MONKEY JOKES

Some staff writers for the youth paper, *Szandar Młodych*, are also out of jobs. They were accused of publishing "monkey jokes" at the expense of both the Polish party and the Soviet Union.

An example of a "monkey joke" was the publishing of a captionless picture of an old woman blowing her nose over an announcement of a meeting of the Central Committee.

On Feb. 17 Gomulka assured a N. Y. Times correspondent that "revisionism" was a "by-product" of the October events in his country which "was false and belonged to the past." He assured his interviewer that it "was never strong and is now disappearing."

Gomulka obviously considers his own rule to be the legitimate product of the mass upsurge of October 1956 and the struggle for socialist democracy which he labels "revisionism" only incidental. But the continued resistance to bureaucratic oppression in Poland shows that this "by-product" is far from "disappearing" despite repressions.

By the year 2100 the amount of Strontium 90 ingested by the human race will be increased 100 times even without further nuclear testing. Thus reports *Science*, official organ of the American Association for the Advancement of Science. The report concludes that this will constitute one-fifth of the present "safe" maximum allowable. It will be twice as much as is "safe" for children.

What Is

A 'Revisionist'?

Witold Wroński, who resigned under pressure as editor of *Nowa Kultura*, leading Polish cultural magazine, is one of those labeled "revisionist" in the Stalinist world today.

In November 1956, Wroński was in Budapest and saw the Hungarian revolution at first hand. He wrote a truthful account of it, demonstrating that the revolution was a struggle for socialist democracy. His diary was published in *Nowa Kultura* and reprinted in *France Observateur*, French socialist weekly. It is invaluable for any student of the Hungarian events. Apologists for the Kremlin have never refuted his testimony.

Small wonder that the U. S. State Department has bent all its efforts to hushing the story up. It has even pressured, or bribed, weak-spined President Bourguiba to forego Tunisia's complaint in the United Nations — where it would at least be debated publicly — for Anglo-U. S. mediation behind closed doors. Also small wonder that the people of Tunisia are increasingly angry over Bourguiba's retreat.

It thus turns out that to Stalinists the term "revisionist" includes the honest defenders of workers' democracy.

letter that will make clear to you how and where I and many others who are with me stand on these matters and on which we are working day and night to bring an end to this madness.

We do not care for the label under which you carry on, so long as it is cooperative, that it leads to Brotherhood — including the good of humanity as a whole — Truth and Justice towards all.

E. H. L.
California

In the long run you will find it wisdom to drop your No. 4, "For political freedom throughout the Soviet bloc." The rest is all good.

Scores Silence on Rent, Profit, Interest

Dear Sir:

I have just finished reading in the *Guardian* of Feb. 3, 1958 a "Proposal to the Radical Movement, for a United Socialist Ticket for 1958."

I could not find one word about Rent, Profit or Interest.

Just when did the Socialists cease to adjure capitalism?

S.M.A.
Iowa

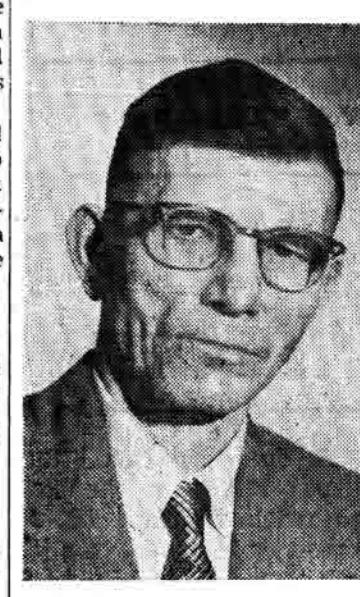
Suggests Name

Sirs:

I think your proposal for a UNITED socialist ticket is swell. One suggestion. Since, to most Americans, the word "socialist" means shooting people who disagree without trial, call it "The Co-operative Economy Party" or the "American Co-operative Commonwealth Party"

and you will get ten times as many votes. You can't re-elect Americans after 50 years of betrayal by most "socialist"

Rallied Radicals



JACK WRIGHT, socialist candidate in recent Seattle City Council primary elections received strong backing of prominent radicals. He polled 5,554 votes. (See editorial, page three.)

and "communist" parties to like those names!

Rev. Hugh W. Weston
Marblehead, Mass.

Agrees with Program

Dear Sirs:

Your ad in a recent edition of the *National Guardian* interested me enough to write for a copy of your official organ, the *Militant*. I agree with your program as printed in the *Guardian* but I think it will be a long time before the American workers will be able to see through the fog.

V. P.
Massachusetts

New Jersey Socialists Wind Up Ballot Drive

NEWARK, Feb. 20 — The Socialist Workers Party in New Jersey is currently completing a drive to secure the nominating petitions necessary to place Daniel Roberts, editor of the *Militant*, on the ballot as its candidate for the U. S. Senate. With unemployment widespread, the canvassers are getting the signatures in rapid order despite the frigid weather.

Here are some of the opinions expressed by people as they signed the SWP petition. Most of the canvassing took place outside the unemployment compensation office.

"All these stories about prosperity being around the corner and about a pickup in March are fine. But we can't eat the stories in the newspapers."

"Why don't they stop blowing up money in the sky and take some of it to build roads and schools and put people to work?"

"Will your man help extend compensation for a longer period?"

GOOD IDEA

Quite a few thought it was a "damned good idea to put up a working man."

There were others who said "What good is it going to do" and "Nothing's going to do any good" and went on without signing.

Canvassers heard of bitter experiences at the unemployment office. "I noticed one man who had just signed our petition standing against the wall looking dazed," reported one canvasser. "I asked him what was the matter and he told me he had just come from Paterson to Newark to file for his insurance and was told he wasn't eligible.

"He didn't know anyone in Newark and didn't know what he was going to do. I finally pried the information from him that it took 4½ to get back to Paterson and gave him a half a dollar that he took with real reluctance."



DANIEL ROBERTS, Socialist Workers Party Candidate for U. S. Senator from New Jersey.

An angry and harried woman showed a petition a batch of doctor's prescriptions. "They tell us you have to be fit to take any job if you want to draw benefits. You can't be sick any time. But on the money they pay, I can't afford to fill the prescriptions to stay healthy."

In Ohio, in early February, the Bureau of Unemployment Compensation reports that about 180,000 workers are receiving state compensation. This figure is also stated to be 70% of all the unemployed in the state, which would mean that about 250,000 are totally unemployed in the state.

LOS ANGELES DINNER-MEETING

Speakers:

Vincent R. Hallinan

1952 Progressive Party Presidential Candidate

James P. Cannon

</div

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Monday, February 24, 1958

Praise to Seattle Socialists

When Jack Wright accepted the nomination of the Socialist Workers Party in the recently concluded primary election for the Seattle City Council, he pledged that he would campaign to the best of his ability in the tradition of Eugene V. Debs. We believe he fulfilled that pledge in splendid fashion.

His campaign committee, too, helped show what a determined group of self-sacrificing socialists can do to advance the cause.

A veteran of 40 years of active service in the labor and socialist movement, Wright demonstrated himself to be a first-class socialist banner bearer. This was clear from the news reports about his campaign. For our part, we found it a special pleasure to receive his campaign material. His articles were fresh and clear. They dealt with the variety of issues that confront the working people and offered clear-cut, meaningful socialist answers.

In his electioneering, he displayed the kind of energy and tenacity that is indispensable for an effective campaign. In a day when many doors are still closed to socialist candidates, he compiled the impressive record of speaking before more

than 30 organizations, including 25 local unions. Especially gratifying in this regard was the unanimous endorsement given his candidacy by the membership of his own union, Local 158 of the International Molders and Foundry Workers.

At the same time Wright's campaign was the basis for uniting many radicals in effective socialist political action. He was endorsed by such prominent individuals as Vincent Hallinan; Terry Pettus, Northwest editor of the People's World; C. H. Fisher, president of the Washington Pension Union; Jay Sykes, prominent civil liberties lawyer; Dr. Jay Friedman, member of the National Committee of the American Forum for Socialist Education and others. He was also among five candidates who received favorable editorial comment from the People's World.

The support extended to Wright was reflected in the encouraging vote that he polled. Running 12th in a field of 21, he came within two places of qualifying for the final election. The 5,554 votes that he received was ten percent of the total cast.

We hail Jack Wright and all those who aided in his campaign for a socialist job well done.

Harriman Does It Again

How will liberal supporters of New York's Governor Harriman explain away his veto, Feb. 17, of two bills outlawing unauthorized "bugging" — that is, electronic spying on private conversations? These bills were passed by state legislators as a result of the scandalous planting of a microphone in the headquarters of the Motormen's Benevolent Association by the Transit Authority.

For months officials of that union looked at each other and at their attorney wondering who was the spy, who was informing the Transit Authority about union proceedings. All the time, the "spy" was a microphone hidden by cops in a private hall.

All wire-tapping should be abolished if privacy is to be respected. And there isn't much freedom if it is not. But the State bills were aimed only at ending "unauthorized" wire-taps. The cops could

plant their "bugs," but they would be required to get a court order to do so. Even this restriction on police spy techniques, however, was too much for the Democratic Governor.

The matter isn't changed by Harriman's statement that he would approve similar legislation if it authorized "hot pursuit" eavesdropping by police. That would provide a big enough loophole for a whole police state to jump through. Orwell's nightmarish "Big Brother" would be listening to you, if not actually watching you.

Anyway, Harriman is consistent — against civil liberties, that is. On Feb. 4, he recommended re-enactment of the witch-hunting Security Risk Law, as well as amendment of the Civil Service Law to make Communist Party membership evidence for firing state employees.

Sobell Is Still in Prison

The witch-hunt fever in America is declining. Fear is gradually being supplanted by a growing demand for democratic rights. All this is good. But Morton Sobell, the Number One witch-hunt victim, is still in jail.

Sobell is now serving the eighth year in a 30-year prison term. His wife Helen and his mother Rose Sobell are still forced to spend their days trying to free the husband and son. Many thousands of people believe in his innocence. But the tragic effect of the witch-hunt fever that gripped this country still leaves an indelible mark. Justice is still a stranger to the Sobell family.

U.S. Senator William Langer once said, "I pledge that everything I can do

as a member of the Judiciary Committee of the U.S. Senate, will be done to see that Sobell gets justice."

Walter Millis, editor of the "Forestal Diaries" said, "The evidence on which Morton Sobell was convicted was probably perjurious; if it were legally possible the case ought to be reviewed on its merits, while in any event, the 30-year sentence was grossly disproportionate to any crime actually attested against him."

These and many other people have spoken. Now all of us have the opportunity to demand justice for Morton Sobell by signing the petition (see page 4) being circulated nationally in support of executive action for his freedom. We should also ask our friends to sign. Morton Sobell must be free.

School System in Crisis

A society that can't show continuous progress in the education it provides for its children isn't worth very much. And a society that provides the younger generation with even less educational opportunities than its older generation knew is worth still less. No one could challenge this statement. Yet the children of today are worse off than their parents were.

Of course, when the government is spending so many billions on war preparations — straining the productive resources of this generation and those that will come after us — the very basis for progress in education is destroyed.

Within the context of almost total incapacity of the declining capitalist system to solve the crisis of the school system, two trends are particularly to be noted.

First, the Big Business government and the militarists were alarmed when the first Sputnik was thrown into space. It meant that Soviet scientific progress was substantial. This gave them a military concern in the declining U.S. educational system.

They threw \$5 billion for this year into rocket production, yielding immediate profits to Big Business, but didn't even consider a program to solve the crisis in schools. Instead a system for testing children to sift out the gifted ones was worked out. The school system will continue to go to pot. But those who pass the screening test will be helped toward higher education.

This trend is matched by another. Still less education will be provided for the growing numbers of maladjusted youth in the neglected school system.

In New York, over 600 students were summarily suspended from school by a Board of Education decision Feb. 7. They were just thrown into the streets. Four empty buildings are now being readied for special schools for these children. Mayor Wagner, Feb. 12, said, "They might be a little makeshift at the beginning, but they will be equipped with shops and special staff."

But the problem is much bigger than that. So Mayor Wagner and others met with Governor Harriman in his townhouse to consider the problem. Harriman announced they had worked out a "work-activity" program. This apparently will consist of letting the students get part-time jobs, if they can be found.

These capitalist politicians considered proposals to lower the school age limit and to change the child labor law. They decided not to, but the fact that these proposals were even considered is a commentary on the decline of the U.S. educational system.

We should like to make this observation: The capitalists can't have their cake and eat it too. No amount of federal aid to "gifted" children will produce a scientific and cultural upsurge on the foundation of a declining school system for the many.

Line-Ups in W. German Social Democracy

By HANS JOCHEN

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent the Militant's policies. These are expressed in its editorials.

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

aces he advocates guaranteed to win elections.

That last year's disastrous election defeat of the German Social Democratic Party was to be expected; but the peculiar nature of the struggle within that party, which broke out almost the day after the election results became known, could not have been predicted.

During the campaign it became clear, even to the casual observer, that the SPD was a house divided against itself.

Leading figures of the party,

speaking in different parts of the country, would on the same day take opposite viewpoints on such crucial election issues as nationalization of industry or Germany's role in NATO. Essentially, three well defined

positions appeared publicly to be vying for support, all in the name of the SPD.

RIGHT-WING SPOKESMAN

Typical spokesman, for what is undoubtedly the extreme right wing, in this not exactly radical labor organization, was the darling of the capitalist press, Carlo Schmid. A relative newcomer to the SPD, he wants

no part of the class struggle and says so whenever he has an opportunity. He calls it all part of the ideological baggage from the past which he wants to see ditched as soon as possible.

Opening the party to the

middle class elements is a pan-

acea he advocates guaranteed to win elections.

He wants all talk of nationalization ended for fear of frightening the little businessman

whose vote he is out to win for the SPD. Schmid's theoretical underpinning comes from party economist Deist, whose profit-

sharing plan differs little from

the ruling Christian-Democratic party's People's Capitalism.

Neither man hesitated to campaign on his own conception of what he thought the party program ought to be. This in spite of the fact that the party has

a program, adopted and never

repudiated by the membership,

which calls for the basic industries to be nationalized.

Since the election, Schmid and his vocal supporters, have blamed the defeat of the party

on the "outmoded Marxist traditions of the party."

Schmid plays down the importance of

program and claims that the

voter is interested in outstanding

personalities. He calls for

the transformation of the party

from an organization of work-

ers into a "people's party."

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Out of Their Mouths

By JOHN MOLLOY

Professor of Economics Henry C. Wallich of Yale University is quite revealing in his article on the economic outlook in the Feb. 2 New York Times Magazine. He sets down the thinking of the capitalist class in black and white.

First on taxes he writes: "Our past experience gives us no evidence that we cannot bear the present tax load, and even a bigger one provided we do not try to get all of the money from the middle and upper income brackets where it isn't."

That leaves you and me to shell out for increased taxes. The people in the upper income brackets, with their tax-exempt expense accounts, company-supported cars, business conventions in the most exclusive (and expensive) resorts have no money for taxes. Mention the subject and they cry poverty — with a Cadillac under each arm.

Next Professor Wallich tells us this about recession: "So long as those who for a while lose their jobs are decently taken care of such dips leave no deep scars." I doubt if this obviously unscarred individual has ever experienced the decency of the unemployment office, the

'The Bridge on the River Kwai'

By JOYCE COWLEY

The Bridge on the River Kwai is the most powerful anti-war film produced since World War II. As an indictment of senseless destruction and cruelty, it ranks with *All Quiet on the Western Front* and *The Grand Illusion*. At the same time, it is a startlingly frank revelation of the character of the military caste which leads men into war.

Technically the film is remarkable, and you do not feel for a moment that it is a movie with a "message." Ideas flow from the logic of the story; and story, acting, photography and direction all contribute to heightening the tension and building toward the inevitable climax. Even without its harsh portrait of the military caste and its eloquent condemnation of war, this would be an exciting adventure film.

MEN SABOTAGE WORK

The action takes place in a Japanese labor camp where a British officer, Colonel Nickerson, refuses to let his officers do manual work. The Colonel faces torture and death unflinchingly in his fight for this principle. The men back him up by sabotaging the work. The bridge they are building regularly collapses while the men take it easy, deliberately misunderstand orders and go for frequent swims in the River Kwai. When the work reaches a complete standstill, the Japanese Commander is defeated.

Colonel Nickerson, having won his point, takes over the conflict is between the British

building of the bridge. He and his officers won't do any manual labor, but in collaboration with the Japanese, they use their engineering and technical skills to construct a better bridge than the Japanese could have managed by themselves.

The Colonel is motivated by a conviction that the men need work and discipline in order to remain soldiers, to prevent anarchy and chaos. He stops the sabotage and the swimming and drives the men even harder than the Japanese Commander. Finally, obsessed with pride in the good job he is doing, and in an attempt to complete the bridge on time, he enlists the officers (at manual labor) and even the wounded and sick.

In the meantime, a British Commando unit (which includes an escaped American prisoner) has been assigned to blow up the bridge. This American, a sailor separated from his unit and misrepresenting himself as an officer because working conditions in the prison camp and treatment at the military hospital are so much better for officers, has a very reasonable attitude toward the war. He wants to get out of it.

THE REAL CONFLICT

At the beginning of the picture, the conflict appears to be between Colonel Nickerson and the Japanese Commander, but it is soon clear that they are really brothers, both courageously devoted to the interests of world imperialism. The real conflict is between the British

and the American who wants to live like a human being instead of dying like a hero.

The conclusion of the picture, in which the bridge is destroyed and the Colonel, the American and the Japanese Commander are all killed is a horrifying portrayal of waste and devastation. The film closes with the Medical Officer's cry of "Madness!" But this seems less significant, in its expression of the agony of war, than the gesture of the Commando leader who kills his own men so they won't be captured alive and then, mission accomplished, desparingly throws his weapon into the River Kwai.

The critics agree that the film is an extraordinary artistic achievement and the story has great emotional intensity and power, but they begin to contradict each other as soon as they try to explain its basic public opinion in their favor.

Eustace said he would fight the ouster. He has called on the American Civil Liberties Union to concern themselves about it.

Johnson asked that Bernstein have the meaning of the code posted on the walls of the unemployment offices so that the unemployed would be enlightened as to what records were being made concerning them. Bernstein brushed this aside by saying that Johnson should tell his members "not to concern themselves about it."

Jack Southers of UPWA put his finger on the inadequacy of the unemployment benefits and relief "cushions" by pointing out that "Public Assistance Funds" which were \$50 million short even before the economic decline are about to run out. Under these circumstances, proposals by the relief administration to transfer cases from the "general" category to other "special" categories, explained

1954 as its main objective.

Charles Hayes, District Director, UPWA, recited the layoffs in the Packing Industry in the recent period. "Wilson Packing 3,000; Swift 1,000 with more to come; Armour, which employed 7,000 during World War II, is now down to 3,200 with more lay offs threatened."

Hayes attributed the job cuts to the "relentless pursuit for the profit dollar" by the packers and the squeeze of the big monopolies on the farmers.

John Alesia, the Legislative Director for the CIO Steel

Director Joseph Germano, Ger

mano had a "meeting on un

employment to attend in In

diana." Alesia reported 18,600

steel workers laid off in the

Chicago area and 40% of the

steel workers on a short work

week.

AUTO LAYOFFS

Bob Johnson reported to the

conference jobless figures for

the following UAW locals:

6,000 for Local 974; 4,000 for

Local 471; 1,500 for Local 719;

2,200 for Local 588; 1,000 for

Local 751; 2,000 at Allis Chal

mers plant, Local 31, in Rock

ford, the oldest appliance man

ufacturing plant in the industry

is closing, never to reopen, he

said. "The jobless total for

UAW alone is between 25,000

and 30,000 with twice that

number on short work weeks."

Johnson gave as the causes

"the overexpansion of industry,

automation, and rigged prices."

President Eisenhower's pre

diction that an upturn would

come by the end of March is

not taken seriously in the busi

ness world. "It's obvious," says

the Feb. 15 Business Week

about Eisenhower's statement,

"that the effort now is to re

store business confidence via

the old Washington jaw-bone

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The administration — and

the Democratic leaders of Con

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However, this and other re

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Stringer says in the Feb. 18

Christian Science Monitor,

"there exists within [the ad

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In other words, the slump,

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VOLUME XXIII

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 24, 1958

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Post Office Threatens 2 For Picketing

SAN FRANCISCO, Feb. 13—The Post Office Department in a move designed to terrorize postal workers initiated an action to fire two officials of the United Postal Workers Union today.

A list of nine charges were filed against union President Conrad C. Eustace and Secretary Thomas Monroe as an aftermath of picketing by the union on Nov. 27. The picketing aimed at informing the public about working conditions in the Post Office Department. Postal workers along with other government workers have been faced with a wage freeze for the last three years and would like a pay boost to meet the soaring cost of living.

The picketing, which lasted an hour, asked for elementary union demands: union recognition, pay increases, health-and-welfare benefits and freedom of political action.

Government officials, furious at the temerity of the postal workers for daring to call public attention to their plight, are out for vengeance. They seek to make an example of Eustace and Monroe in hopes of deterring such actions in the future.

The trumped-up charges underline the last demand of the postal workers—freedom of political action. Eustace and Monroe are charged with "conduct unbecoming a postal worker" and his service record, said Johnson, and "conduct t