

# Cyrus Eaton Hits FBI Tyranny in Nat'l Broadcast

By C. R. Hubbard

MAY 5 — National television viewers who saw the Mike Wallace show last night heard Cyrus S. Eaton, Cleveland millionaire and industrialist, blast the FBI for snooping and spying on the American people. It isn't often that TV audiences are treated to denunciations of J. Edgar Hoover's agents. There is almost an unwritten law that public attacks on the FBI should be suppressed. In recent years several books glorifying the federal political police have been widely circulated.

## MORE THAN HITLER HAD

Mr. Eaton, the 74-year-old industrialist who has sponsored a number of international conferences of nuclear scientists at Pugwash, Nova Scotia, said that Hitler at the height of his power, "never had such spy organizations as we have in this country today." Mincing no words, he said there were "scores of agencies" engaged "in investigating, in snooping, in informing, in creeping up on people."

Undoubtedly millions of people in this country have been made aware, directly or indirectly, of the tremendous growth of the FBI since the 1930's. Resentment and anger are countered by a well-organized campaign to portray the FBI as necessary guardians of "national security."

Eaton pointed out that the FBI had "sold itself in a marvelous way." Then he said, "But I always worry when I see a nation feel that it is coming to greatness through the activities of its policemen." The importance of the FBI is enormously exaggerated, he said. "They make no contribution to the upbuilding of this country and its respect abroad."

Eaton's work with representatives of science throughout the world has given him a picture of sentiment in other countries. In one of these con-



In this Issue  
"Why I Am  
A Marxist"  
(See Page 2)

## Youngstown Takes 2nd Place in Socialist Fund

By Murry Weiss  
National Fund Drive Director

MAY 7 — The steel industry may be down to 47% capacity but the Youngstown branch of the Socialist Workers Party has jumped from 13th to second place on the scoreboard of the Socialist Expansion Fund. (See page two.)

The layoffs and short work-weeks in steel and auto and other industries have confronted SWP branches in such cities as Youngstown, Detroit, and Buffalo with great difficulties. But we are proud to again note that these branches have been leading the drive to raise \$20,000 to expand the work of the socialist movement in 1958.

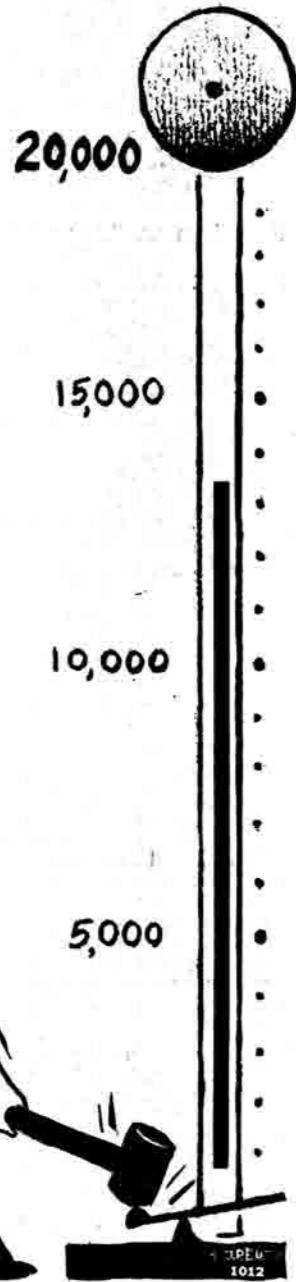
Last week we received \$1,683, the second best week in the three-month drive which has 24 days to go to the May 31 deadline. The New York Local led the way last week with a contribution of over \$500 edging its way ahead of Los Angeles for the first time in the drive.

A big help to the New York Fund was the May Day Celebration last Saturday. A record crowd jammed 116 University Place to enjoy a magnificent International Smorgasbord, hear talks, dance and sing way into the night. Those present contributed generously to the Fund.

The toughest job is now at hand — the crucial wind-up period of the drive. We have been going along at a steady pace gradually cutting down the initial lag. Now the successful and prompt fulfillment of the quota of \$20,000 by May 31 depends on every branch making a final spurt.

Fund activities are being scheduled throughout the country for May.

We hear that the Twin Cities branch is planning a big social affair for May 17 to "make up the difference between pledges and our full quota." Twin Cities Fund Director, Fannie Curran, writes: "We will certainly exert every extra effort needed the last few weeks of the drive and that means that victory is definitely in sight."



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## Both Parties Help Boost Stingiest Jobless Aid Bill

### AEC Head Now Aping McCarthy

Efforts of the Atomic Energy Commission to stymie the growing American demand for a halt to nuclear tests became more invidious when AEC chairman Lewis Strauss, on April 4, sought to smear the anti-test movement as "Soviet-inspired."

Interviewed on a national TV hook-up, Strauss cynically asserted that anti-bomb protest coming after the Soviet Union instituted a unilateral test ban and just prior to U.S. tests in the Pacific "runs up a signal which warrants inquiry."

Avoiding the fact that the major impetus to the protest movement has derived from widely publicized statements by prominent individuals and groups, Strauss hypocritically declared he would be in a better position to judge the "sincerity" of those sparking the protest "if they came out in the open." Strauss' agency has been nailed "in the open" in a series of deliberate falsifications and distortions in its campaign to justify continuing the deadly tests.

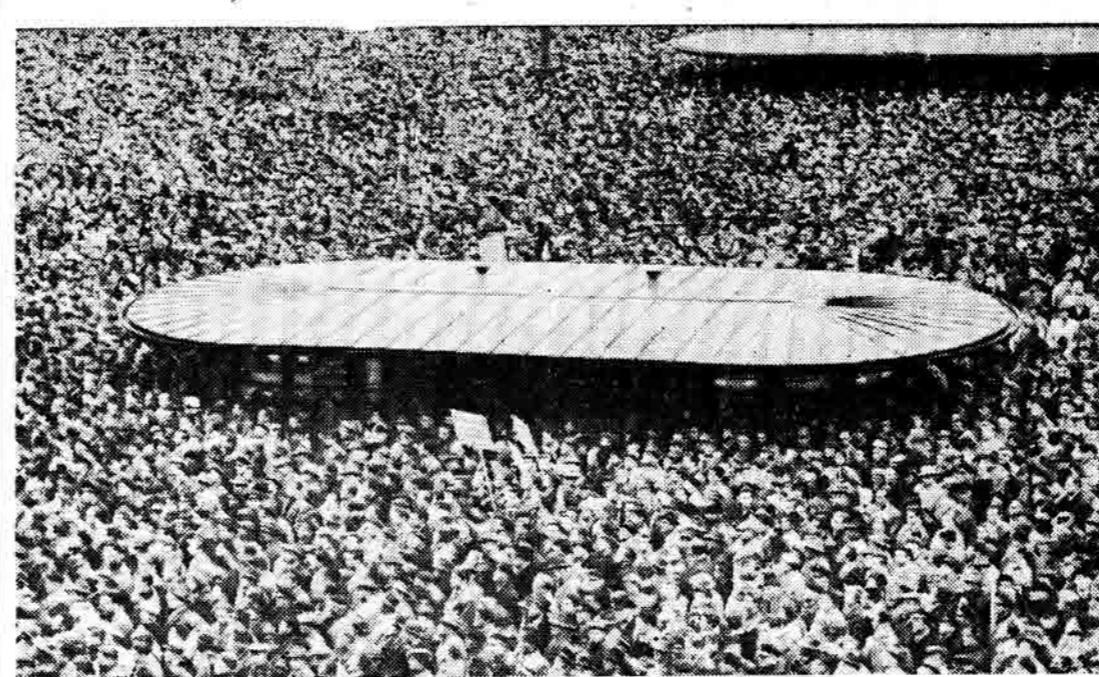
#### 'MODERN McCARTHY'

His current red-baiting attack was vigorously and accurately characterized in a May 5 statement to the U.S. Senate by Clinton P. Anderson (D-N.M.). Anderson declared: "Nobody actually got called a tool of Russia, but the implication is there . . . The chairman of the commission thus seeks to become the modern apostle of McCarthyism."

Meanwhile, government agents moved to prevent a dramatic anti-test demonstration by seizing the 30-foot ketch, the Golden Rule, which was heading into the Pacific zone of the presently scheduled U.S. tests in an effort to block the explosions. The four pacifist crew members of the Golden Rule were arrested on charges of criminal contempt of court and jailed in Honolulu.

An injunction against their sailing into the test area had been issued by a federal judge after the AEC issued a ruling barring entry into the 390,000 miles danger area. Without legal precedent, the AEC decree is in clear violation of international law safeguarding freedom of the seas.

### 150,000 W. Germans Protest A-Bomb



A view of part of a giant rally of 150,000 in Hamburg last month. It protested plans for arming West German military forces with nuclear weapons. Similar demonstrations are being held throughout West Germany, and the Socialist Party is pressing for a national referendum on the issue.

### The Auto Negotiations

By Fred Halstead

The secrecy of the auto negotiations was broken for a few days last week to reveal the corporations pushing their offensive from a position of power. The auto bosses advanced impervious to volley after volley of "public spirited" press releases from the Reuther leadership of the United Auto

extend the existing contracts for three months, foregoing a six-cent hourly "annual improvement factor" wage increase which falls due each summer under the contracts signed in 1955. This very real retreat was further dressed up for public approval by proposals to remove excise taxes on automobiles and cut prices so as to stimulate sales. The union also asked an extension, during the three months, of Supplementary Unemployment Benefits for those workers who have already exhausted them. This would be financed out of existing funds, costing the corporations nothing.

With the General Motors, Ford and Chrysler contracts expiring at the end of May, the corporations hold a stock of over 800,000 unsold cars — enough to supply current demand for two months even if production were stopped completely. At least 400,000 of the UAW's 1.3 million members are already unemployed and not paying dues. The union's strike fund will stand at least \$10 million short of the \$40 million goal when the contracts expire. A two-month strike in General Motors alone would nearly exhaust this since benefits, according to the UAW constitution, must be paid to all striking members as a matter of right.

**OFFER EXTENSION**  
In face of this situation, the UAW leaders announced publicly, April 28, a proposal to

extend the existing contracts for three months, foregoing a six-cent hourly "annual improvement factor" wage increase which falls due each summer under the contracts signed in 1955. This very real retreat was further dressed up for public approval by proposals to remove excise taxes on automobiles and cut prices so as to stimulate sales. The union also asked an extension, during the three months, of Supplementary Unemployment Benefits for those workers who have already exhausted them. This would be financed out of existing funds, costing the corporations nothing.

The "Big Three" quickly replied with rejections and counter-demands that the contract be extended without change for two full years. Then GM took the initiative by announcing termination of its contract with the union as of May 29. Termination of the Chrysler contract had already been set for June 1 for Ford.

**HOPE FOR CHANGE**  
The union itself is committed to stalling in the hopes of a change in the economic situation. But the initiative is entirely with the corporations. Technically, after May 29, GM could legally violate seniority provisions, for example, which would force the union to strike for its very life.

This, however, would mean a bitter showdown. More likely is a compromise around a one-year contract, which Woodcock, according to the May 3 Business Week, said might be "agreeable." This would probably (Continued on Page 4)

### Democrats' Maneuvers Behind the Scenes Kill Better Measure

By George Lavan

MAY 8 — With both capitalist parties publicly committed for months to extending unemployment compensation for the millions of jobless whose benefits have already run out or soon will do so, the House of Representatives finally passed the stingiest and most anti-labor bill possible.

The Democratic Party, which controls the House with 234 seats to the Republicans' 200, was supposed to be sponsoring a slightly better unemployment compensation extension bill, but when the vote came, only 148 Democrats voted for the better bill.

#### STANDARD PERFORMANCE

This is another example of the shell game regularly pulled on pro-labor voters by Northern Democrats, just as they pull the same trick on Negro voters with civil-rights legislation. To maintain a reputation as "friends of labor" the liberal Democrats pretend to fight for legislation favored by unions and civil-rights organizations. Behind the scenes the real leaders of the Democratic Party, a coalition of Southern racists, politicians and big-city machine leaders, decide what is really going to be passed or defeated. All that the Northern Democrats ask is that they be allowed to make the record and put on a good show for their constituents.

#### HOPE FOR CHANGE

This statement can only impress upon the workers in the plants the idea that they will have to take whatever the company dishes out in the way of speed-up and contract violations, until a more opportune time for resistance arrives.

#### THE UNION

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#### THE GOVERNMENT

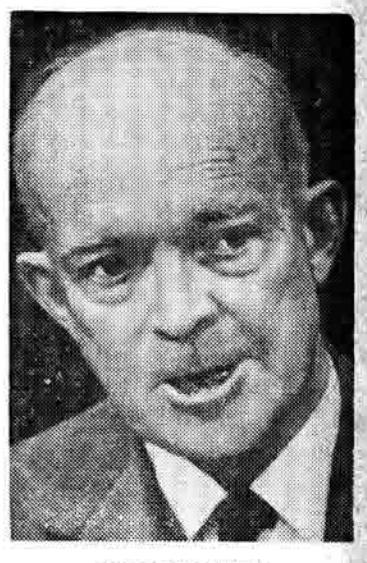
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#### THE PUBLIC

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#### THE WORKERS

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EISENHOWER

only aid for some two million uninsured jobless.

That the Democratic leadership agreed to sponsor this bill for a longer extension of benefits to more people is explained by the fact that it was tacitly understood the bill was not to be passed but used only for campaign propaganda in the fall elections. The Democratic-controlled House committees arranged that amendments and substitutions to the bill could be voted right on the floor rather than having to be referred back to committee as is the customary House procedure. Then the signal was given to the Southern Democrats to get out their knives and whittle down their party's bill without fear of punishment.

With understatement verging on irony, the N.Y. Times (May 2) news story of the bill's defeat remarked: "It was apparent that the Democratic leadership had done little to keep the Southerners in its camp." Equally apparent was the lack of real fight for the bill by the Northern Democrats. Reaching the House floor April 30, the bill was defeated next day and a substitute, combining the worst features of it and the (Continued on Page 4)

## Dulles Sees Soviet Production as the Real 'Peril'

By Harry Ring

Allen W. Dulles, chief of the U.S. military and political espionage service, the Central Intelligence Agency, spoke before the United States Chamber of Commerce, April 28. His subject was, "Dimensions of the International Peril Facing Us." The title, speaker and audience combined to suggest one more dreary tale of cloak-and-dagger activities by "Communist agents." But instead Dulles provided his audience with a set of surprisingly candid admissions about the Soviet Union and about the nature of the "peril" to the U.S. it is supposed to represent.

Taking note that the Chamber of Commerce "occupies a key position of influence in our nation's approach to international as well as domestic problems," Dulles marshaled an array of extremely important facts and figures which hammer home one central point — the planned economy of the Soviet Union is proving itself far more dynamic than the capitalist mode of production and this presents a major challenge to the future of the capitalist system.

The evidence presented by Dulles to document "the seriousness of the Soviet economic threat" provides striking confirmation of the Marxist view that socialized property forms are superior to the capitalist forms.

Explaining that since 1928 the Soviet Union has developed from a primarily agricultural and industrially backward nation into the world's second economic power, Dulles reports that the Soviet economy has been growing, and is expected to continue growing through 1962, at a rate roughly twice that of the United States in 1956, and, in 1958, will probably exceed our own.

The fact that the USSR is

overtaking the U.S. in the expansion of industry looms up even larger in terms of the present industrial slump. Dulles soberly notes: "Since 1956, Soviet output has continued its rapid expansion. In the first quarter of 1958, Soviet industrial production was eleven percent higher than a year ago. In comparison, the Federal Reserve Board index shows a decline of eleven percent in the United States."

In the crucial field of steel production he reveals that "in the first quarter of 1958 the Sino-Soviet bloc has for the first time surpassed the United States in steel production . . . the USSR alone turned out over 75 percent of the steel tonnage of the United States." (In 1956, at the height of the boom, Soviet steel output was about 50% of that in the U.S.)

According to Dulles, "Investment . . . as a portion of the gross national product in the USSR [since 1956] was significantly higher than in the United States. Furthermore, investment funds in the USSR were plowed back primarily into expansion of electric power, the metallurgical base, and in the producer goods industry. In these fields it was over 80 percent of that plant at an unparalleled rate."

Explaining that since 1928 the Soviet Union has developed from a primarily agricultural and industrially backward nation into the world's second economic power, Dulles reports that the Soviet economy has been growing, and is expected to continue growing through 1962, at a rate roughly twice that of the United States in 1956, and, in 1958, will probably exceed our own.

And the Soviet Union is not just making propaganda capital, he explains. During the past several years it has also made

impressive strides in breaking through the U.S.-imposed economic iron curtain and is rapidly expanding its foreign trade with capitalist countries.

Seventy percent of such trade gains, Dulles said, has been with the industrial countries of West Europe. The USSR has increased its ability to export such products as petroleum and metals — including aluminum, tin, zinc and iron-metal alloys.

The USSR is already a supplier in traditional Western metal markets," Dulles warned the assembled business men. "Over the years, the USSR may well become a major source of such industrial necessities in Western Europe." By 1972, he estimated, the Soviet Union may be able to supply two-thirds of West Europe's crude oil requirements.

If this trade continues to expand, he said, "they will have available a new and formidable weapon of economic warfare. By withholding supplies, or by raising prices, or by dumping commodities, the Soviets in effect will have a seat at the council tables of the great industrial nations of Europe."

Furthermore: "The Communists have no interest rate problems. They have no legislative restrictions. The USSR has developed an attractive package credit deal — long (Continued on Page 4)

# Ceylon Socialist Explains 'Why I Am a Marxist'

We publish below an article by Colvin R. de Silva, one of the leaders of the largest working class parties in Ceylon, the Lanka Samasamaja Party. The article was originally published, March 11, in *The Dinamina* and republished, March 13, in the English weekly, *Samasamajist*. — Editor.

I am a Marxist because I think that Marxism, both as a philosophy and as a guide to action, is correct.

As a philosophy, Marxism attempts an interpretation of the world. It attempts to understand reality.

Marxism holds that matter is real. Our understanding of the nature and structure of matter has, of course, changed with the increase of knowledge. But Marxism insists that, whatever its nature and complexity, matter exists as a reality independent of its apprehension by the human mind. As the philosophers say, matter is an objective fact.

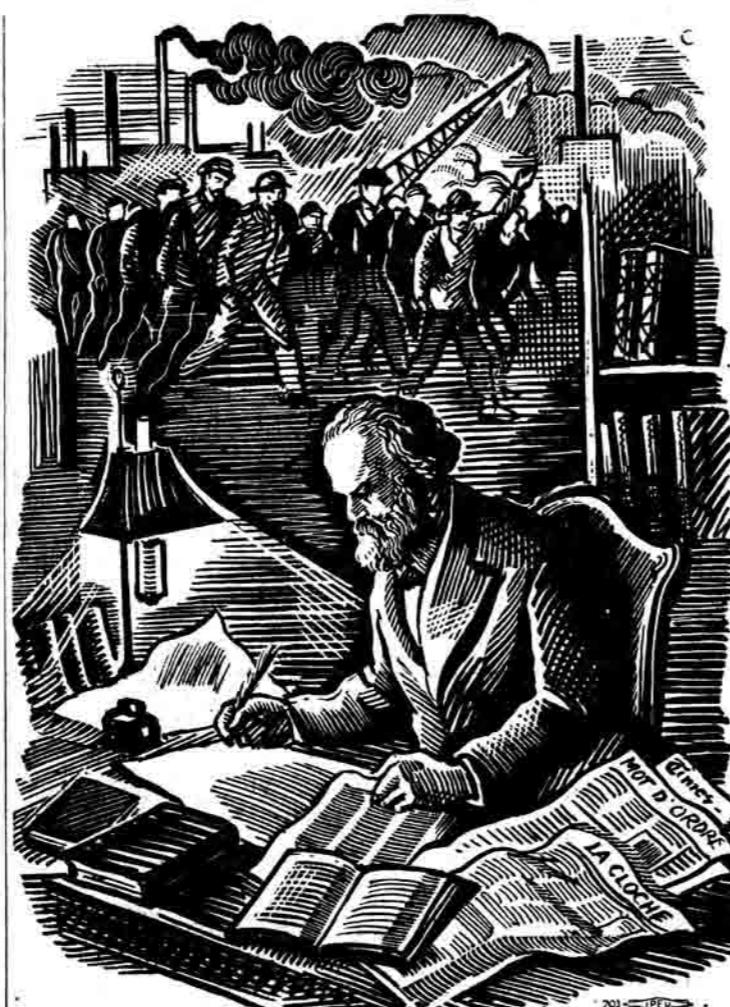
The above view of matter is, I may say, not peculiar to Marxism. Other schools of philosophy hold the same view. All schools of philosophy which hold this view of the nature of matter are called materialist. What is said above will no doubt show the precise meaning of the word "materialist" in this context.

The task of philosophers is to understand the world. The task of man is to change the world. And the high aim of man is to master the world by learning to control the forces of nature.

## No Eternal Verities

In the field of social change Marxism operates with certain principles. Incidentally, these principles are deduced from the facts of historical development and are subject to verification and reformulation. Marxism does not present its principles as eternal and absolute verities in the manner of revealed religion. The Marxist verities are relative verities. They are themselves subject to development as our knowledge and understanding develop.

In the field of social rela-



KARL MARX is shown in drawing above at work at his desk writing his pamphlet on the Paris Commune of 1871. May 5 was the 140th anniversary of his birth. He died in 1883. During his lifetime of work as theorist and organizer of workers' struggles few accepted his view that the struggle between the workers and capitalists in modern society would lead to socialism and the organization of planned economy. The validity of this theory was demonstrated in the victory of the Russian working class in the Revolution of 1917. No other writer of the 19th century made such an impact on the 20th century as Karl Marx. The books he wrote are studied today in every language in the world.

tions, the first point that Marxism stresses is that society, like all other phenomena, is in constant change. What is more, Marxism points out that these changes are not confined to changes within an eternally lasting social system. Social systems themselves change in the far more fundamental sense that there are in history differing social systems which have replaced one another.

The moment this above fact of history is realized it is natural to enquire why social sys-

tems rise, fall and disappear, giving place to other and new social systems. Marxism finds the answer in man's inventive power, and in particular in man's constant change of the way he produces things. These changes in the way of producing things require changes in

the way of organizing the production of things. In turn, changes in the way of organizing production require changes in the way that men themselves organize in societies.

It will be readily seen that in the process described above there must periodically come

the need for the radical or fundamental reorganization of society. Marxism has studied deeply the process by which this replacement of an old society with a new society comes about.

The first point Marxism stresses is that this replacement does not simply come about but is actively brought about by the effort and struggle of some group of people within the old society. The group struggling for the bringing into being of the new society clashes with the group struggling for the continuation of the old society. This results in the revolution.

It is to be noted that the

revolution is not just this clash between the rival groups. The revolution consists in the fundamental reorganization of society: in the reorganization of society on the basis of new principles that is to say, in the replacement of the old society with the new. But — and this "but" is all-important — this change, this re-organization, this replacement has not thus far taken place in history without the open and direct clash between rival groups of which we have spoken above. That is why Marx said that force is the midwife of the old society pregnant with the new.

## Historical Perspective

Marxism proceeds from history: and history, let us remember, is the accumulated experience of the human race. History shows not only that societies do change but that they must at a certain stage give place to new and different societies. History shows moreover that these changes, this replacement of old societies with the new, is necessary for the further progress of mankind in its constant quest for the mastery of its environment. Marxism therefore regards revolution as an integral part of the process of social change and not merely as an unnecessary accident.

Marxism is thus a revolutionary philosophy in the above profound sense. It recognizes the role of force or violence in social change and faces up to the fact.

How does Marxism face up to the fact of force as a factor of social change? It does so first of all by seeking to distinguish the human agency which exercises such force in the service of the interests of mankind's progress at each revolutionary period in man's history.

Marxism in its search for this agency found the truth of the class division in society and the fact of the class struggle. Marxism sees that men fall into different social groups from

the point of view of their relation to the means of production; that is to say, from the point of view of the way in which society has organized itself for the purpose of production. These groups constitute the classes of which Marxism so constantly speaks. Moreover, Marxism demonstrates that these classes are in constant clash with each other in the pursuit of their differing—and clashing—interests. In other words, Marxism discerns that the classes are in struggle.

The great value of Marxism in political activity comes at this point. Marxism shows that the struggle between the classes is also the struggle between the past and the future; and that in each society or social system there is a class which will be the agency of the change-over from the existing society to the future new society which mankind will require if it is to progress further at a certain stage. The fundamental task of revolutionaries in each age is to discern that class and to help that class to become conscious of its task and mission.

It should be noted in conclusion that social change, and especially that most rapid form of it which is called revolution, cannot be brought about by the mere will of revolutionaries. There can be no revolution unless and until the given society in the mass and not by narrow

conspiratorial groups working in the first place, not until society has reached the point of the pressing need for revolutionary change will the class that has to carry out the change itself teach them to discover the season of society's ripeness for revolution. For Marxism is not only a program of action but also a tool of political and social analysis. It is indeed the indispensable tool of revolutionaries and the indispensable guide to revolution.

Shown above is a rally of the Lanka Samasamaja Party (Ceylon Equality Party) attended by 30,000 people. The LSSP, the Trotskyist Party of Ceylon, is the official opposition party in the parliament in which it holds 14 seats. The Communist Party of Ceylon has but three seats. Interestingly enough the Soviet Encyclopedia, which never before had mentioned the LSSP in its section on Ceylonese political parties, listed it in its 1957 yearly bulletin (1957) as follows in full: "A Socialist Party. Party leader N. Perera. Press organ: 'Samasamajist' (published in English, Sinhalese and Tamil)."

The Christian Science Monitor (Jan. 11, 1958) printed an interview with N.M. Perera on its front page. The Ceylon correspondent of that paper quotes Perera as saying: "We are a Trotskyist party and we belong to the Fourth International. We recognize the Soviet Union as a workers' state and will support it if it is attacked by an imperialist power. But we oppose Soviet domination over other socialist parties. We have never accepted the proposition that the interests of the working class of various countries should be subordinated to the foreign policy of the Soviet Union." The article points out that the Trotskyists also lead a trade union federation with a claimed membership of 80,000 and that "Among the measures Dr. Perera would carry out, if his party came to power, is nationalization and reorganization of the tea and rubber estates . . ."

less and until the given society is ready or ripe for it; for, in the first place, not until society has reached the point of the pressing need for revolutionary change will the class that has to carry out the change itself teach them to discover the season of society's ripeness for revolution. For Marxism is not only a program of action but also a tool of political and social analysis. It is indeed the indispensable tool of revolutionaries and the indispensable guide to revolution.

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## ... Soviet Economic Progress Held 'Peril'

(Continued from Page 1) term loans, generally for 12 years; 2½ percent for interest rates; repayment in surplus commodities, and room for bargaining on prices."

SOVIET APPEAL

Further, Dulles reports, these countries tend to be more sympathetic to the Soviet mode of production than to the democratic process of economic development." The Soviet foreign aid program, he explains, "has particular appeal to the underdeveloped countries because Russia until so recently was an underdeveloped country itself. "For some reason the recently liberated countries seem to feel that the Kremlin has found a new and magic formula for quick industrialization . . ."

But what of the increasing demand of the Soviet people for better living standards? Won't this throw a monkey wrench into Soviet economic advancement? Not according to the man whose business it is to know the answer to such decisive questions. Dulles flatly states: "The Soviet economy has momentum and versatility and, while I predict that their people will undoubtedly press for an improvement of their lot, some real concessions can be made to them without fundamentally altering the general tempo of their present industrial and military program."

In fact, he reports, "The trend has already started. The Russians have somewhat improved living standards and the national output of such consumer goods as TV sets and washing machines have been stepped up. Some former armaments plants are now producing civilian goods."

Dulles ends with a warning that the Soviet economic challenge "is one that concerns very directly the business leaders of our country."

THE REAL THREAT

He's right. There is no danger of Soviet military attack from the Soviet Union — Dulles made this amply clear. The threat is to the capitalists' profit-making, nevertheless. It is the threat that the Soviet Union will demonstrate to the masses of the world that its economic forms are superior to those of capitalism. It is already demonstrating this to tens of millions of people in Asia and Africa.

Finally Dulles' admissions make clear that as far as their interests are concerned, the American working people have no good reason to regard the Soviet Union as a peril. Certainly, they want no part of it.

## Local Directory

BOSTON  
Workers Educational Center, Gainsborough Bldg., 295 Huntington Ave.  
NEWARK  
Newark Labor Forum, Box 361, Newark, N.J.  
NEW YORK CITY  
Militant Forum, 831 Main St.  
Socialist Workers Party, 777 W. Adams, DE 2-9736.  
CLEVELAND  
Socialist Workers Party 10609 Superior Ave., Room 301, SW 1-1818. Open Friday nights 7 to 9.  
DETROIT  
Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward.  
LOS ANGELES  
Forum Hall and Modern Book Shop, 1702 E. 4th St. AN 9-4963 or AN 3-1533. Book Shop open Mon. 7-9 P.M.; Wed. 8-10 P.M.; Sat. 12-5 P.M.  
MILWAUKEE  
150 East Juneau Ave.  
MINNEAPOLIS  
Socialist Workers Party, 322 Hennepin Ave., 2nd floor. Open noon to 6 P.M. daily except Sundays.  
NEWARK  
Newark Labor Forum, Box 361, Newark, N.J.  
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Socialist Workers Party, 777 W. Adams, DE 2-9736.  
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Monday, May 12, 1958

## Nixon Visits Latin America

Vice President Nixon's "good-will" tour of Latin America has been a rather hollow success so far. The cry, "Go Home Nixon!" has followed him through Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia and Peru. In Paraguay, land of General Stroessner's brutal dictatorship, two students were arrested in Nixon's presence — but without protest from him — during a public welcome for him. One of those arrested, an 18-year-old, had shouted "Long live freedom and democracy."

A day previous in Argentina, a student group representing the University Federation of Buenos Aires challenged Nixon's assertion that the U.S. government regards dictatorships as repugnant. The students cited the U.S. role in organizing the 1954 coup in Guatemala. Nixon vainly denied this. After an hour and a half of debate, he shut off the discussion, saying "We can sit here all morning with you saying we did intervene and we say we did not . . ."

The facts are on the side of the students. With the fake claim of keeping

"Communism" out of the Western Hemisphere, the U.S. State Department organized the overthrow of the legally elected Arbenz government. It did so because Arbenz was instituting land reforms which, while slight, were highly repugnant to the United Fruit Company.

Eisenhower then boasted that: "It would be deceitful if he tried to hide his pleasure over the ouster of the Communists in Guatemala."

An AP dispatch on the events reported frankly that U.S. Ambassador Peurifoy could be credited with the "major part" in toppling the Arbenz government.

Just before Nixon left to spread the gospel about "U.S. non-interference" in Latin-American affairs, a March 16 article in the N.Y. Times saluted the work of the U.S. Central Intelligence Agency. It flatly stated: "It has been established that the agency was behind Guatemala's 1954 revolution." Change "revolution" to its right name — "counter-revolution" — and you have the facts in a nutshell.

## The Couple Behind the Statistic

Less people are getting married as a result of the recession. Newly released statistics show that there were almost 11% fewer marriages in Detroit in the first three months of this year than in the same period last year. In New York there was an 11% drop in the first two months of the year. The pattern is nation-wide.

The experts are now busy calculating what these statistics mean in terms of curtailed buying of new homes, furniture and appliances. They are even trying to dope out the long-run economic effects of the consequent drop in the birth rate.

Cold, hard statistics are necessary and valuable tools. But they should also give cause for some thinking about the human problems that are so coldly mirrored in the figures.

The particular statistics at hand tell us that there are some 900 young couples in New York who were going to get married early this year, but the recession blasted their plans. There were another 375 such couples in Detroit. How many of these young men and women are now

living with a bitter, frustrating personal crisis?

It's easy to visualize a typical couple. Perhaps they have been engaged for a good while. The marriage was postponed until he finished his hitch in the service. The girl was working and both were trying to put some money in the bank. The young man finished his army hitch and found a job. Their life together, their own home, the prospect of raising a family was in close sight.

Then comes the crushing blow of the layoff slip for one or the other, perhaps both.

How to make the payments on a home, buy the furniture? How to summon the courage to embark on a whole new phase of life without elementary financial security? The marriage is postponed. Two young people have been blocked from attaining a vital human goal.

For the experts it's an instructive new set of statistics: For the human beings involved it is a cruel and undeserved blow.

## Khrushchev's Anti-Semitism

Anti-Jewish actions by the Soviet government and anti-Semitic utterances by its top officials continue to arouse the indignation of socialists in this country.

The deeds and statements are so outrageous that people who are generally supporters of the Khrushchev regime are troubled by them. Thus on April 20, Morning Freiheit, a Jewish-language daily associated with the Communist Party, again took issue with Khrushchev's slurs upon the Jewish people. (The Worker, however, saw fit to remain silent.)

Freiheit's latest protest came after Khrushchev, in a press interview, declared in typical anti-Semitic vein that Jews are too individualistic and dislike collective labor and group discipline. He offered this assertion as an "explanation" for the failure of the autonomous Soviet Jewish state of Birobidjan established in the 1930's. (He was silent about the part that Stalin's purges of Birobidjan leaders undoubtedly played in the venture's failure.)

Besides the falseness of the charge

and reactionary character of such "generalizations" about the Jews, such statements by Khrushchev, Freiheit points out, serve as further grist for the anti-Soviet propaganda mills.

Furthermore, says Freiheit, the Soviet Jews are still subject to governmental discrimination. "The injustices inflicted on the Jewish people during the last years of the Stalin regime have been repaired only in part . . . fundamentally the distortion has not been eliminated."

Soviet Jews are being denied the rights granted nationalities in the Soviet Constitution on the claim that they have been "assimilated" into the general population. At the same time, as Freiheit points out, ". . . in their passports and in statistical records the Jews are designated as a nationality."

We subscribe to Freiheit's conclusion: "The Jewish question still awaits its fundamental Leninist solution . . . The regrettable interview under discussion emphasizes the extreme urgency of this problem."



"But we couldn't have developed a clean bomb without the tests."

## In the Bomb's Shadow

By Theodore Kovalesky

All day it was warm and beautiful, too warm and too beautiful — a summer day in April. Then in the early evening the sky clouded over and the rain came down. As the night wore on the rain pounded harder. A wind swept across the city, and lightning began to shoot from the sky. It must have been about 3:30 A.M. when a bolt knocked down the transmission line and shorted out the air raid sirens throughout the area.

The heavy wailing rose out of the blackness. Men and women stirred in their beds, then awoke. A husband muttered thickly, then suddenly leaped from the bed, crying, "Get the children!"

But his wife, more wide awake, said, "But Paul, it can't be a raid. See, the street lights are still on."

Telephone calls poured through the lines to the Civil Defense Office. Surely this couldn't be a drill, not at this hour!

And the bored voice, growing more irritated with each successive call, kept repeating, "No, ma'am, there's

nothing to worry about. There's no air raid. There's just a short circuit in the line somewhere."

Somewhere there was no panic, no general panic, that is. All the little individual panics remained separate and died down when no hydrogen bomb fell. Finally the sirens moaned to silence, and a shaken city returned to sleep.

There were high, ice-bearing clouds, the newspapers explained later. They refracted the sun's light, spun a rainbow around the sun and enclosed the rainbow in a halo. The name for it: a 22 degree halo complex.

It sounds pretty. It sounds like one of the little phenomena you call the kids out of the house to look at. "See the pretty rainbow, Shirley?"

But it wasn't the time for enjoyment. People looked up, not with delight, but with apprehension, and rushed to their telephones to call the Weather Bureau, the newspapers, the radio stations.

What was it? Was it dangerous? Was it radiation? Surely it must be radiation from the bomb tests. Would an atmosphere full of strontium 90 put glowing rings around the sun?

They sat around the bar drinking their beer slowly, getting up only to saunter to the men's room and back or to drop an occasional nickel into the juke box. It was late, and the oil refinery behind the fence across the street was nothing but a design of electric lights strung through the darkness.

What did they talk about? The usual things, work or the lack of it, women, prizefights, the atomic bomb tests, and the possibility of war.

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The minutes moved on, the talk rose and fell. The barroom camaraderie was soothing, comfortable.

Then abruptly the plate glass window blew in like a gust of hail, and through the gaping frame poured an unbelievable immensity of sound. The lights were puffed out like candles, and in the darkness barstools overturned spilling men onto the glass-strewn floor where they lay shocked and bleeding.

For a moment there was total silence. Then Feeny was on his feet, screaming, "The Russians, the Russians!" He ran out through the broken door, followed by the rest of the men.

Soon it was apparent that an atomic bomb had not fallen.

The men stood around grinning sheepishly at themselves as they watched the fire engines speed into the oil refinery, where a tank far inside the fence had blown up, leaving a great hole in the ground, leaving also not the slightest trace of two workers who had been in the immediate vicinity at the time of the blast.

Months later the explosion was almost forgotten. At lunch time one warm day, a man picked up a torn work shoe near the fence and held it gingerly, wondering. But his friends shrugged. You can always pick up an old work shoe in the yard of any factory. It could have belonged to anybody. So he threw it down again. It's probably still there hidden by the tough weeds.

But the men who were in the tavern haven't forgotten. They laugh at their sudden panic that night. But then, immediately, they ask defensively, "Well, OK. What would you have thought?"

Meanwhile the bombers are continually in the air, poised with their nuclear cargo. They skirt the borders of the Soviet Union, waiting, always waiting for the radio message that will order them to invade and unleash the hideous weapon.

Meanwhile the stockpile of hydrogen bombs grows ever larger.

The depression deepens. People remember the old saying, "Either you have a depression, or you have a war."

And they wonder, will they try to head off the depression that way?

Will there be war? Will there be peace?

The air grows soft with spring.

But there is more in the air than spring. There is fear.

Haven't you felt it?

It sounds pretty. It sounds like one of the little phenomena you call the kids out of the house to look at. "See the pretty rainbow, Shirley?"

example to the world at large and establishes a new standard for those who aspire to provide the utmost in modern living at moderate cost for city dwellers everywhere . . . You will be living in the future."

If you want some concrete details about what's ahead of you in this idyllic future, I'll mention just a few of the 51 features listed in the brochure: air conditioning in all apartments, uniformed attendants, private terraces up to 18 feet long, acres of landscaping, full-service underground garage, forced fresh-air corridor ventilation, telephones in all elevators, dishwashers in one or two-bedroom apartments.

The biggest bargain offered was 2½ rooms on the second floor, without a terrace, for \$132. The same size apartment higher up, where there is more light and air, including a terrace, will run as high as \$190. Three rooms with terrace will cost at least \$220 and possibly \$258. Five rooms with two baths may set you back only \$268, but if you want a terrace and want to live high, as much as \$398.

I live in a "cold" tenement and I have a keen personal interest in slum clearance, so I dropped into the renting office of the new project to look over the model buildings and get a little information. I was given a beautiful brochure which describes the new buildings as "the shape of things to come . . . made a living reality." Washington Square Village "sets an

example to the world at large and establishes a new standard for those who aspire to provide the utmost in modern living at moderate cost for city dwellers everywhere . . . You will be living in the future."

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I left the rental office feeling a little confused. Title I projects are definitely considered slum clearance, otherwise it

would not be possible to subsidize them with city and federal funds, but I seriously doubt whether many of the former residents of the slums that have been cleared will move into Washington Square Village. They have been cleared away with the slums themselves. They will never "live in the future," but will find some other dingy tenement to replace the one from which they were forcibly removed.

While it may be a bonanza for city officials, wrecking companies, land speculators and builders, this kind of slum clearance is obviously not intended to improve the living conditions of people who occupy slums.

THE HITCH

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## May Selection Book-a-Month Plan

THEODORE WELD: CRUSADER FOR FREEDOM. By Benjamin P. Thomas. Rutgers University Press, 1950. 307 pp. \$4.25 (Book-a-Month price \$1.00 plus 15 cents mailing charge).

The man who "abolitionized" the Middle West, the most effective anti-slavery pamphleteer, the greatest single influence in winning students to the cause, the trainer of professional agitators, the behind-the-scenes strategist and researcher for ex-President John Quincy Adams and the small group of anti-slavery Congressmen during the fight to preserve the right to petition. This is but part of the record of Theodore Weld and he has long been the least known of the great abolitionists.

The fault was not wholly the historians'. Weld made a personal fetish of avoiding publicity, honors and high office in the abolition movement. But though he shunned the limelight he didn't shun danger. His barnstorming tours, his personal braving of dangerously hostile audiences give his career an epic flavor. Previously students of the anti-slavery crusade could find only brief references to Weld's key work. With this first biography he is established as one of the foremost abolitionists.

Though Weld was always a political abolitionist and thus was against Garrison in the movement's split, he married Angelina Grimke, one of Garrison's prize disciples. The Grimke sisters, of an aristocratic, slave-owning, South Carolina family, were the first women to take the public platform. Though this "shamelessness" horrified the conventional-minded, the Grimkes won thousands to the cause of anti-slavery. This book contains excellent accounts of these two remarkable women.

Weld's debut was stormy. It was organizing the greatest academic freedom struggle America had seen. He won over his fellow students at Lane Seminary to active abolitionism. This included intensive educational and social work among Cincinnati's free Negroes on terms of equality that infuriated the pro-Southern business interests. Their pressure on the college administration led to an order prohibiting the students from such activity. The result was mass secession in 1835 which eventually wound up at newly-founded Oberlin College which accepted abolitionism and Negro students.

In addition to leading this fight, Weld was building anti-slavery societies throughout Ohio and organizing a state convention. At the same time he personally converted to abolitionism the former Mississippi slaveowner, James G. Birney, who later would be the presidential candidate of the Liberty Party.

This excellent book has a few shortcomings, reflecting the author's timid liberalism. For example: After the Civil War the Grimke sisters discovered that a deceased brother in South Carolina had had two children by a slave mistress. That Weld and the Grimkes welcomed these nephews as kin and helped them through college is gratuitously pictured by the author, projecting his own feelings, as an excruciatingly subjective test of character.

Weld's contributions to the struggle for emancipation and equality are too numerous even to mention in a brief review. They make this book worth the attention of all those who continue that struggle today. Besides filling an important gap in abolitionist history, the book is easy and fascinating reading.

— John Thayer



### Steel Unionists Urge "30-for-40"

YOUNGSTOWN — A resolution demanding the 30-hour work-week at 40 hours pay as a means of combating unemployment was adopted by a conference of District 27 of the United Steel Workers. The delegates represented 41,000 steel workers in the Canton-Massillon-Columbus area. Of these 41,000, there are now 13,000 totally jobless and many other thousands on reduced work weeks. The demand was also supported by a similar conference of District 19 in the Pittsburgh area. Of the 50,000 steel workers in that district, half are now unemployed. Both conferences also adopted resolutions calling for substantial increases in unemployment compensation (state benefits and company-financed combined). They demanded up to \$80 a week instead of the present 65 percent-of-earnings limit.

### ... Stingy Jobless Aid

(Continued from Page 1) Republican bill, was quickly passed 223-165.

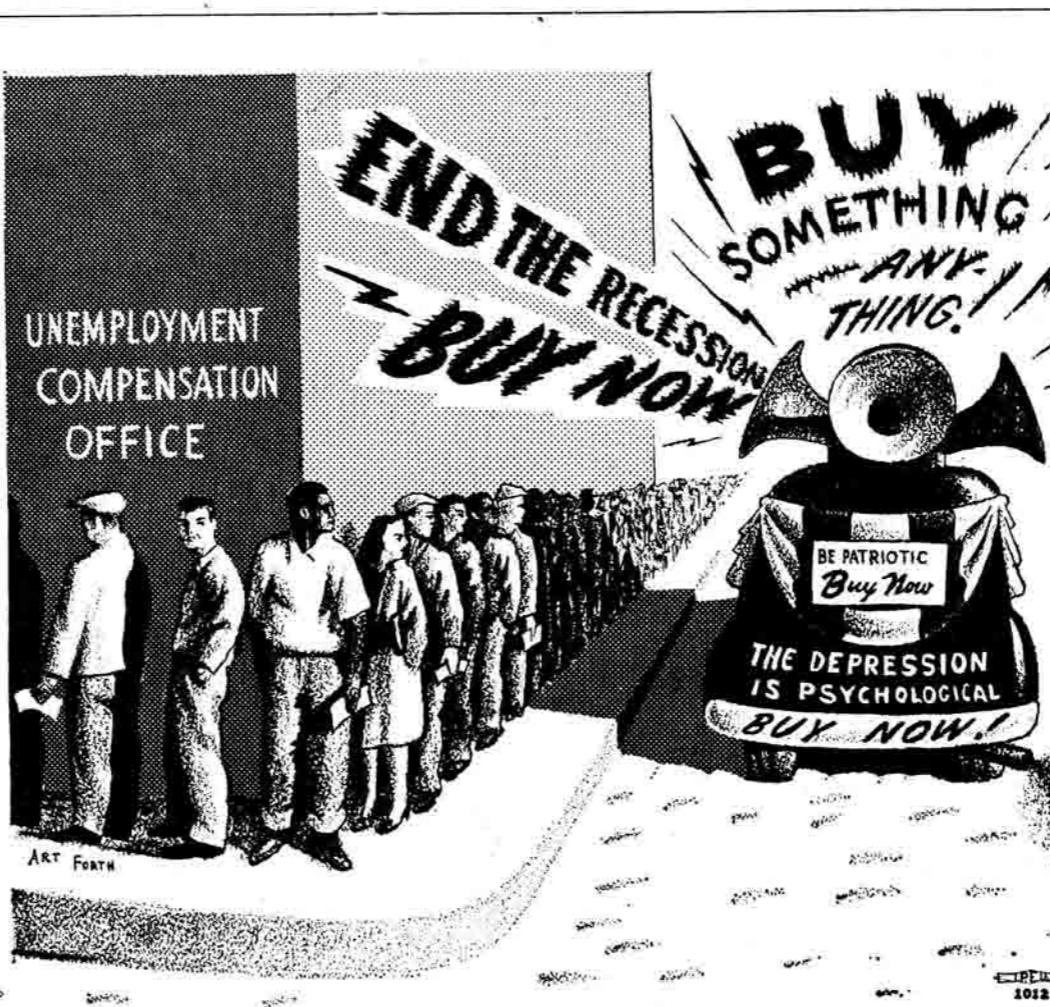
This substitute bill does nothing whatever for uninsured jobless. For those exhausting their unemployment insurance benefits between July 1, 1957 and April 1, 1959 (when the temporary law itself expires) there will be an extension. It will be half again the number of weeks allowed by state law. In most states this will come to another 13 weeks, but in others it will be less.

Incorporated from the Democratic-sponsored bill is a provision that may kill, or at least delay, extension in many states. This requires specific ratification of extension by a state's legislature before federal loans become available. Since state legislatures are strongholds of reaction, as is shown by their refusal in a number of states to permit jobless workers to receive the SUB (Supplementary Unemployment Benefits) due them under union contracts, some may refuse to ratify. Even if this is not the case, there will be the delay of calling special sessions of the legislatures or refusal by reactionary governors to call special sessions.

The successful substitute bill was sponsored by Representatives Simpson (R-N.Y.), Harrison (D-Va.) and Herlong (D-Fla.). To Democrat Herlong went the reactionary honor of introducing the measures. He attacked the more generous bill as a "dole" which would aid some "people who just don't want to work." He boasted after its passage that his was superior to the original Republican bill because it made the extension or not of compensation "completely voluntary with the states."

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# THE MILITANT



### ... Auto Negotiations

(Continued from Page 1) ably be an extension of the present contract or a new one involving only minor gains.

The union would then hope for a changed economic picture at the expiration time. But the auto bosses would have won an all-important point—namely for the workers to sacrifice because of the recession. Furthermore, speed-up would continue against a rank-and-file laboring under a spirit of retreat. With all this, there is no assurance that when the extensions expire, the union would not face similar or worse economic conditions in which to negotiate.

This situation confirms the wisdom of those forces in the union who pushed the demand for 30 hours work for 40 hours pay. That minority of delegates who stood up against Reuther's machine at last January's special UAW convention and pressed for the union to keep the shorter work week as its major demand this year was actually fighting to put the union in a position of strength at the 1958 negotiations.

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In juking that demand, Reuther was following the logic of his position which counts on concessions from the bosses without real struggle. In an economic crisis, that becomes the logic of disorderly retreat. Reuther now attempts to

counter the bosses' power moves with appeals to "public opinion." But in the class struggle it is power that counts. The "public" is impressed by power. Especially so if that power consists of the mobilization of the largest section of the "public" — the working class — around a struggle for real social gains. "Thirty for forty" is a demand that the workers should not be forced to sacrifice during recession. On the contrary, the recession, when it is urgently needed to reduce unemployment, is precisely the time it should be fought for most vigorously.

Had the leadership of the UAW devoted the past year to popularizing this demand, to getting the rest of the labor movement on record in favor of it, and to rallying the resources of the major unions behind it, the UAW would now enjoy a powerful bargaining position instead of a weakened one.

#### FARMERS LEAVE

The Department of Agriculture reports that some two million persons in the U.S. left farms last year.

#### BUSINESS FAILURES

There were more business failures in Southern Wisconsin in 1957 than at any time in history including 1932.

### Steel Output In Buffalo At 34.5%

By Charles Seaman

BUFFALO—As Wall Street's happiness boys sing out that the bottom of the recession has been reached, steel production in the Buffalo area has dropped to 34.5%. Wickwire Spencer is down to one furnace out of three, Republic two out of nine, and Bethlehem Steel is operating only eleven out of thirty-five.

Thousands of steel workers in the area are walking the streets and just about all are on short work weeks. The rank and file are deeply concerned about the worsening conditions. Regardless of the cheerful idiocy of the politicians, cold reality dictates to the men that no work equals no money, no money equals no buying, and no buying equals more layoffs. Steel union members are earnest and eager to find out what can be done to reverse the trend. Attendance at union meetings is larger and talk focuses directly on the problem of cutbacks.

#### CALL FOR UNITY

One union member at a recent meeting made an appeal for unity among the membership. "We've got to bury our differences. The company is getting tougher by the day and we better stick together." He was referring to disagreements that have arisen among the workers on seniority, job rights and available work. Men agreed that the company policy of forcing them to share the work is making it tough.

Unfortunately, many of the brothers who are laid off weren't there to point up their problems. With SUB and state benefits amounting at most to 65% of their take-home pay, many family men are finding it harder to meet their bills. The cost of living is continuing to rise. One-third of the membership is out of work and more layoffs are looming. The feeling among the ranks is that the steel companies will lower SUB payments, claiming that the fund is being exhausted.

Recently the steel companies threw out a feeler to the union about foregoing the July wage increase that they are guaranteed under a three-year contract. The men were inflamed over this arrogant attempt to wring on the contract. MacDonald has assured the membership that no deals will be made, but this indicates what the steel corporations have in mind.

To counter such attack the union must propose action that will meet the unemployment problem. The New York District leadership of the United Steel Workers has shown some concern but no direct action has been taken. As a first step they could organize unemployment committees, call for a moratorium on debts in order to check the growing tide of repossession, evictions and foreclosures. Measures such as these will weld the unemployed workers to their union, strengthen their union consciousness and act as an effective force to resist the anti-union drive of the steel corporations.

## Minn. Unions Press Demands For Wage Hikes

By Tom Leonard

MINNEAPOLIS, May 1—The trade union movement is pressing for substantial wage increases in current contract negotiations despite continuing layoffs in this area.

According to statistics released by the state employment security department on April 26, 8.2% of the 593,800 workers in the Twin Cities area—about 49,000—were out of work in March. So far, expected gains in seasonal employment in construction, agriculture, etc., have been offset by continuing layoffs in manufacturing, railroads, and some service trades. The report estimates that from March to July there will be a job gain of 5,200 in non-manufacturing employment compared to 11,840 for the same period last year, while in manufacturing there will be a job loss of an estimated 1,460.

Recent layoffs indicate that the latter figure is a conservative one. The Ford auto assembly plant in St. Paul has laid off about 400 workers for an indefinite period. Nearly 400 workers were laid off victims of a "run-away" shop when Western Electric moved its St. Paul plant to Pennsylvania. The Northern Pacific Railroad is laying off 300 workers in Brainerd for two weeks starting May 2. Currently over 200 Northern Pacific workers are on a two-week layoff at the St. Paul car repair shop.

#### MEMBERSHIP DROPS

Last week in Duluth a conference of District No. 33 of the United Steel Workers of America which represents Northern Michigan, Northern Wisconsin and all of Minnesota, reported that, because of the growing depression, its paid membership had fallen from a peak of 32,652 last October to 26,562 at present. The April 23 Minneapolis Star observed that out of this paid membership, 10,775 reported that they are working only part of the time. Some mining companies are using a system of laying off employees every fourth week. The USW conference went on record demanding "action now—not in the distant tomorrow" regarding a solution to unemployment.

In addition to layoffs, the cost of living continues to spiral upward. The April 24 Tribune reports that "Mpls. retail food index advanced 1.2 percent from February to March," according to the Bureau of Labor Statistics. The report added that "Compared with March 1957, the index for

fruits and vegetables was up 12.2%; meats, poultry and fish 11.8%; and cereals and bakery products 3.5%."

Against the background of layoffs, reduced work weeks and increasing living costs, rank-and-file workers are showing a growing willingness to resort to the strike weapon to improve wages and job conditions.

On April 4, several hundred United Steel Workers' members struck the Thermo King Company and settled three days later for a 15-cent increase and a cost of living escalator clause.

#### WAGE GAINS

On April 25, 230 members of the International Association of Machinists returned to work at the Cornelius Co. with a 10-cent increase after mainaining the picket line for three weeks.

On April 9, Local 183, Laundry, Dry Cleaning and Dye House Workers' union voted to authorize a strike against the 105 plants they have under contract. One of their main demands is "substantial" wage increase.

On April 20, the Minneapolis St. Paul Mailers' union Local 4, voted to go on strike against the Minneapolis Star and Tribune. In addition to a wage increase, Local 4 is demanding a reduction in the work week from 37½ hours to 35 hours.

Another indication of the growing tension between the unions and the employers is the report of Charles Johnson, Minneapolis Labor conciliator, who says that his office has been flooded with 114 requests for conciliation assistance since March 1.

On April 10, Sam Romer, a staff writer for the Tribune, spoke of a threatening "labor storm." He quoted an unnamed company spokesman as saying, "It's not the union leaders who are at fault . . . They know the situation's rough. But they are being pushed by their own people."

Romer also quotes a union leader as saying "I know the company doesn't think the money's there. It might make some sense if we could just suspend everything for a couple of months."

"But the boys aren't happy—and the grocery bills are staying up sky-high. We aren't settling for peanuts, that's for sure."

## Seattle Labor Supports Hospital Strike

SEATTLE, April 26 — The workers at Swedish Hospital here have been on strike for the past six weeks demanding union recognition. The conditions under which they previously labored were intolerable: wages ranging from \$1.09 to \$1.30 per hour, no unemployment or industrial accident insurance coverage, and no bona-fide health and welfare program.

These workers have been newly organized by the Hospital Workers Union, Local 301, which has contracts with only two of the many hospitals in Seattle. It is up against one of the toughest jobs of organizing that has been attempted here in recent years. The Hospital Association, with wide opportunities for publicity in the daily newspapers, radio and TV, is trying the old trick of misdirecting public sympathy for the

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sick and injured to its own advantage.

In the hospitals, which are now claiming to be charitable institutions, it costs \$26 a day for a bed and by the time nursing, medication and extra costs have been tagged on, the average patient pays \$40 a day, exclusive of doctor bills, X-rays and other services.

The pickets at the hospital have been subjected to constant police harassment and surveillance. The police have been in the habit of escorting trucks through the picket line and annoying pickets and union officials. Eugene Hooper, the business agent, was beaten by goons. The auto of the union's international representative was attacked by vandals who broke the windows, windshield and did other damage. Goons or provocateurs have hurled sticks and bombs into the hospital and

annoyed the head of the hospital: windows have been shot out with ball bearings and sling shots—all to try to discredit the strike by casting blame on the union.

At the last regular meeting of the King County Labor Council, the hospital workers' business agent, Hooper, reported on strike progress. He outlined the difficulties being encountered and stated that if his union did not get support from the rest of the labor movement, the strike "would go down the drain." When he and the international representative completed their reports, Jack Wright, delegate of International Molders Local No. 158 took the floor, and after making a plea for solidarity of the unions behind the strike, recommended that all unions send their unemployed members to reinforce the picket line, that the

strike is growing. Incidents like that of one man, who brought his wife to the hospital to have a baby but refused to enter the hospital because he wasn't going to

have "my baby born on the wrong side of a picket line in a scab hospital," hearten the pickets. This husband insisted his wife be taken to another hospital, which the doctor at first refused to do, since virtually all local doctors are engaging in the strikebreaking practice of sending all their patients to Swedish instead of other hospitals. Despite the reactionary hand of the AMA, so flagrantly displayed, the strikers are slowly gaining support and strength.

Here in Washington, labor is faced with the task of defeating Initiative 202, the right-to-scab law. At the Labor Council meeting it was pointed out that a defeat for the hospital workers would be a victory for the right-to-scab forces, and that a small union like theirs presented a weak link in labor's chain unless supported by all unions. But when all stand solidly together, there is no weak link and the smallest union is as strong as the entire labor movement.

Support to the strike is growing. Incidents like that of one man, who brought his wife to the hospital to have a baby but refused to enter the hospital because he wasn't going to

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Recently the steel companies threw out a feeler to the union about foregoing the July wage increase that they are guaranteed under a three-year contract. The men were inflamed over this arrogant attempt to wring on the contract. MacDonald has assured the membership that no deals will be made, but this indicates what the steel corporations have in mind.

To counter such attack the union must propose action that will meet the unemployment problem. The New York District leadership of the United Steel Workers has shown some concern but no direct action has been taken. As a first step they could organize unemployment committees, call for a moratorium on debts in order to check the growing tide of repossession, evictions and foreclosures. Measures such as these will weld the unemployed workers to their union, strengthen their union consciousness and act as an effective force to resist the anti-union drive of the steel corporations.

### Calendar of Events

CLEVELAND  
Militant Forum, Sat. May 17, 8:30 P.M. 10609 Superior Ave., 3rd floor. "The Ohio Right-to-Work Bill." Speaker: Jean Siron.

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TWIN CITIES  
"Radioactive Fallout — What It Is and How It Affects You." Speaker: C. P. Barnum, Assoc. Prof. of physiological chemistry

at the Univ. of Minn.; Thurs., May 15, 8 P.M.; Andrews Hotel, Minneapolis M3; Ausp: Twin Cities Labor Forum.

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PHILADELPHIA — The tragic killing of In-Ho Oh, a 26-year-old exchange student from Korea, by a juvenile gang moved the people of West Philadelphia to hold a mass meeting at St. Andrews Episcopal