

Marines in Lebanon Guard Oil Profits

Eisenhower Action Against Arab People Risks World War III

By Myra Tanner Weiss

JULY 17 — In obvious panic over the advance of the Arab national independence revolution, the trigger-happy Eisenhower Administration, equipped U.S. marines into the tiny country of Lebanon. The move came on the heels of the revolutionary overthrow in Iraq of King Faisal and his replacement by a regime of young Army officers committed to the Arab national-liberation cause. Faisal's monarchy was the firmest prop in the Arab world of the oil monopolists and of U.S. foreign policy.

The invasion of Lebanon took place under cover of powerful air and sea support. So far the marines have met no resistance as they quickly moved to take over key centers in Beirut, the Lebanese capital.

The next day, July 15, Eisenhower got around to reporting his action to Congress. He admitted there were "risks involved" and that "serious consequences" might ensue. He justified his shocking gamble on the ground that Lebanon's unpopular president, Camille Chamoun, requested the invasion.

The risk Eisenhower took is the danger of World War III. And in any case, there still remains the danger of another Korean slaughter such as began eight years ago under Truman.

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A Protest Letter To Eisenhower

To the President of the United States:
Sir,

Your personal decision to send U.S. armed forces into Lebanon has plunged America into another foreign civil war like the one in Korea. The invasion of Lebanon by American troops threatens to set off another world war.

Chamoun's personal appeal for intervention is not in the interest of the Lebanese people but in the interest of the oil monopolists. The Lebanese Chamber of Deputies has branded your action as "an infringement of the independence and sovereignty of Lebanon." The people of Lebanon and the entire Mideast are determined to end the imperialist domination that the U.S. occupying force represents.

The American people have no stake in imperialist exploitation. They will condemn your reprehensible act just as they did the Korean "police action" of your predecessor.

U.S. troops must be withdrawn from Lebanon and from the entire Mideast at once. The interests of the American people, the Arab people and the peace of the world demand it.

Thomas Kerr
Acting National Secretary,
Socialist Workers Party

The 5.5 Million 'Forgotten Men'

By Frances James

The rose-tinted glasses through which President Eisenhower's top advisors view the economic situation were focused this week on "upsurts" and on optimism. Raymond J. Saulnier, chairman of the President's Council of Economic Advisors, gave the Senate Banking Committee what was termed "a generally encouraging picture of the nation's economy."

The Democrats, through Senator Clark (Pa.), are pushing for an interim economic report by the president before Aug. 1. The real purpose of the bill seems to be to debunk the rose-tinted picture painted by the Republicans. Although the Democrats are not presenting any anti-depression measures of their own, they hope to use the depression as campaign ammunition in the fall elections.

While the capitalist politicians maneuver for votes, the working people face continued unemployment, short work weeks and rising prices.

PROGRESS
The July 8 official report on unemployment shows a rise to 5,437,000 — highest unemployment since 1941. But even these gloomy figures have been presented in an "optimistic" light. Economists had predicted six million unemployed where as there are "only" 5 1/2 million!

All other "optimistic" estimates are of this nature. Even the rosiest forecasts predict

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United Socialists Name Top Candidates in N.Y.

Reactionary Bills Gain In Congress

By Herman Chauka

JULY 17 — Under cover of the war danger they themselves created, the bi-partisan rulers in Washington are now pushing for the adoption of new laws that would help gut the Bill of Rights. The House of Representatives is expected to pass a bill that would reinstate state "sedition" laws. The Senate is holding hearings on various passport measures that would badly cripple the Constitutional right of freedom to travel abroad.

The "state's right" bill, under which state "sedition" measures would be legal — has swiftly gained ground since troops were dispatched to Lebanon two days ago. The measure is designed to invalidate the Supreme Court ruling which set aside the conviction of Communist Party leader Steve Nelson under a Pennsylvania "sedition" law. The high court had ruled the state law was not operative because a federal statute — the Smith Act — covered the same subject. The "state's right" bill would permit witch-hunters again to use state measures — along with the Smith Act — to curb free speech.

The bill being voted on in the House provides that federal law would no longer supersede state laws on the same subject unless there is an "irreconcilable" conflict between them, or unless Congress gives specific priority to each new law it passes. The new measure has not yet come up before the Senate, but if the war hysteria now being whipped up reaches a sufficient peak the danger is not excluded that it could be jammed through.

BLOW TO LABOR
If enacted, such a law would deal a body blow to labor, the Negro people and to civil liberties generally. It would mean that Southern laws enforcing

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The Next Task



A Great Step Forward

An Editorial

Announcement by the United Independent Socialist Campaign Committee that it will place a full slate of candidates in the 1958 New York state elections is a rallying call for all socialists in the state. Ready to carry the banner for peace and socialism against the Democratic and Republican parties are such prominent radicals as Corliss Lamont, John T. McManus and Dr. Annette Rubinstein.

The entry of the united socialist ticket into the field comes on the very day that both capitalist parties have acted jointly against the Arab national independence movement with military forces in a move that intensifies the risk of a world holocaust.

The united socialist ticket will provide a necessary vehicle for rousing popular sentiment against this reactionary adventure. We fully subscribe to the initial statement of the united ticket committee which vigorously denounces the dispatching of U.S. Marines to Lebanon as a "Korean-type police action . . . to defend the interests of such oil billionaires as the Rockefellers."

We are sure this stand will be warmly endorsed by every voter in the state who is concerned with the fight for peace and with the right of all nations to self-determination.

In addition to presenting a program of socialist opposition to the imminent new war danger, the socialist slate will serve as an important weapon in the fight for the preservation of the civil liberties of the American people. It will expose and combat such moves as the current bi-partisan effort to jam through Congress with the campaign.

a law to nullify the Supreme Court's recent decision upholding the Constitutional right of freedom of travel.

We are confident that the united ticket will also speak out boldly against the current drive to turn back the clock on the high court's school desegregation decision as typified by the disgraceful Jim Crow court ruling in Little Rock. As a socialist foe of racism in all its forms, the united ticket will be an important spokesman for the Negro people in their just demand for full equality without any further delay.

Corliss Lamont, John T. McManus and Dr. Annette Rubinstein are to be congratulated for undertaking the campaign for peace and socialism. Their long and courageous record of opposition to the cold war and witch hunt gives assurance that they will wage a militant campaign that will strengthen the socialist cause.

For our part, we pledge our unstinting support to a campaign that marks a big step forward in the revitalization of the socialist movement. We are confident the campaign will help to unite a long-divided socialist camp

The campaign will bring presently inactive socialists back to active duty and it will win many new adherents to socialism. Its salutary effect will not be limited to New York. It will help rebuild the socialist movement across the country.

By raising the banner of independent political action in the election, the united socialist ticket will also make an important contribution toward convincing the ranks of labor of the need for a break with capitalist politics and for the creation of labor's own party. Let's get on with the campaign.

Petition Workers' Rally

The United Independent-Socialist Ticket must secure a minimum of 12,000

signatures of registered voters to qualify candidates for the New York State ballot this November. Join other independents and socialists to get this job done.

Attend a Petition Rally

Thursday, July 24 — 8 P.M.

Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Ave. (Near 14th St.), N.Y.

Lamont, McManus, Rubinstein to Run; Lebanon Invasion Hit

By Harry Ring

NEW YORK, July 18 — At a press conference today, Dr. Corliss Lamont announced his willingness to run as a candidate of the United Independent-Socialist Campaign Committee. A week ago Lamont had declined nomination because of previous commitments which would have interfered with a vigorous campaign. The landing of American and British troops in the Middle East, gravely increasing the threat of World War III, caused him to put aside all other considerations. The distinguished educator and civil libertarian said in order to speak out for peace

Two days before this important development, the Committee had announced its nomination of John T. McManus for Governor of New York and Dr. Annette T. Rubinstein for U.S. Senator.

As the Militant went to press the Committee had not yet settled on how Dr. Lamont's candidacy would affect the nomination.

iations for the various offices. Committee members indicated that most likely he would be nominated for Senator or for Governor.

Candidates for the other posts had likewise not yet been decided upon today, but the campaign to put the independent-socialist ticket on the ballot was already in full swing. Headquarters were rented at 799 Broadway, and supporters of the socialist campaign are now mapping out plans for the collection of signatures.

In its July 16 announcement of the nomination of John T. McManus and Dr. Annette T. Rubinstein, the Campaign Committee declared its vigorous opposition to the landing of U.S. Marines in Lebanon.

The committee charged that Washington's action violated the right of self-determination of the Lebanese people and laid the basis for similar intervention in Iraq. It said, "This Korean-type police action is intended solely to defend the interests of such oil billionaires as the Rockefellers in the Middle East. It is a reckless move that could bring a new world war and explosion of the entire planet. The American people must demand a halt to this insane gamble with the fate of humanity."

INITIAL SPONSORS

The United Independent-Socialist Campaign Committee was established by a conference held here, June 13-15. The committee includes leaders and members of various socialist groupings, unaffiliated socialists and independent radicals. The initial sponsors of the conference included: Dr. Corliss Lamont, philosopher and lecturer; Dr. W. E. B. DuBois, world-famed historian; Muriel McAvoy, an early organizer for the Progressive Party; Dr. Howard Selsam, former director of the Jefferson School; Russ Nixon, national legislative representative of the United Electrical Workers (Ind.); Joyce Cowley, 1957 mayoralty candidate of the Socialist Workers Party; Richard DeHaan, chairman of the Young Socialist Alliance; George Stryker, a Long Island socialist; former ALP leaders John Goldin and Henry Abrams; Dr. Rubinstein and John T. McManus.

Seven hundred persons throughout the state registered their support of the conference and 500 participated in its deliberations. They voted to challenge the capitalist parties with candidates for the five major state offices and unanimously adopted a draft socialist platform which expressed a wide area of agreement on a minimum program.

It empowered a continuing committee — the present United Independent-Socialist Campaign Committee — to select candidates. The group said today that nominations would be made later this week for the offices of Lieutenant Governor, Comptroller and Attorney General.

To win a place on the state (Continued on Page 2)

that the economy will "bump along the bottom" for many months. More sober forecasts anticipate seven million unemployed next year.

Young workers under 25 years, many of them married and supporting families, have been hardest hit, according to figures compiled by Business Week magazine. They lack seniority when layoffs come. Women and Negro factory workers are next hardest hit by unemployment.

Among white workers, 6.4% are classified as unemployed, while 12.7% non-white workers are so listed. When jobs are open again these workers are the last to be hired. Many of them are among the 260,000 who exhausted their claims to unemployment insurance in June and are now forced, in desperate circumstances, to turn to relief agencies for food.

In addition to the officially-reported 5 1/2 million jobless, there are millions partially employed. The July 18 U.S. News reports that coal miners are the hardest hit by the short work week. Official figures show that anthracite miners average only 22.4 hours of work per week and bituminous miners, 30.3. Shoe factory incomes have dropped 10% in the last year due to short hours.

The depression hits hardest those who are unemployed or partially employed. In addition inflation hits the entire working class.

The Democrats and Republicans cannot be counted on for any serious anti-depression steps. The only reliable solution lies in independent working class political action. The American workers need a Labor Party.

A Wayward Bus Rider

By Joyce Cowley

I was half-asleep in the bus when the man's voice roused me. We were pulling into a small town.

"I can't get off here," he protested. "I don't see a hotel. You'll have to take me to the next town."

"Can't do that," the bus driver said. "You've got a ticket for this town and you'll have to get off here."

"I refuse to get off!" The man was well dressed and spoke with the confidence of someone who is accustomed to getting his own way. "I'm a good customer, always take this line. I find bus travel convenient and quick, and I often take several trips in one week in connection with my work. I'm entitled to service. Just what do you intend to do? Will you throw me off the bus?"

The driver shrugged.

"O.K. I'll take you to the next town. Every once in a while, I get bums like you."

The man was evidently not accustomed to being called a bum. He had won his point but he wasn't satisfied and he shifted the line of attack.

"Trouble with the country around here," he said, "is John L. Lewis. It will take years to repair the damage he has done."

"You're wrong again," the driver answered. "John L. Lewis made this country. He fought for decent wages and conditions for workers here. Hospital care. Pensions. Miners around here didn't have anything until they organized."

"Do you know who you're talking to?" Again, the man had decided on a new tactic. "I work for the federal government!" He added hastily, "Not the F.B.I." (Apparently working for the F.B.I. is not the kind of thing to brag about.)

"You know," he continued, "we're very fortunate in the United States because of our two party system. The two party system is the reason we have such good conditions. That's why we're so prosperous and everybody makes a good living. Now, personally, I'm a Republican..."

The driver interrupted. "We don't have two parties in this

country. We have three parties."

The government man was baffled. "Three parties? What kind party?" He paused as if in an incredible thought had passed through his mind. "You can't mean the socialists?"

"Well, socialism is going to come," the driver answered, "whether you like it or not."

"But people in this country won't stand for it! This isn't Russia."

"No matter what you say, it's going to come. And one

more thing I'm sure of, you'll never live to see another Republican president."

"But I'm not very old," the man said weakly.

"Doesn't make any difference. You won't live to see it."

Suddenly an elderly woman sitting across the aisle looked up.

"He's right," she said. "And he's right about socialism, too."

Just then the bus drew up to the next station. Without checking on hotel accommodations, the government man rose hastily and made for the door. He seemed less confident. He looked back at the driver and the old woman with a puzzled expression, as if he was wondering whether to take a train next trip, or change his party allegiance.

I spoke to the driver when I got off the bus and told him I was for socialism, too.

"Things are changing fast," he said with a grin. "Maybe we got a majority right on this bus."

King Campaign In Chicago Is Gaining Ground

CHICAGO, July 6 — The first of a series of open air rallies was held here last night in support of Reverend Joseph P. King, United socialist candidate for Congress from the Second District. The meeting, the first of a series, was held in conjunction with the drive to secure the nominating petitions necessary to place on the ballot.

There was a very friendly response from the people at the meeting. A number of them approached Rev. King after the rally to congratulate him on making the race and gave their names to be informed of further activities in the campaign.

The petition drive itself is going well. The law requires a minimum of 8,300 signatures and the united campaign committee is seeking 12,000 by July 30. Over 7,000 petitions have already been obtained.

Lovell, Sell Hit Major Parties at UAW Locals

DETROIT, July 13 — "With the Democrats and Republicans, and with this capitalist economy, we see-saw between the soul and the Socialist Workers Party candidate for U.S. Senator, as she addressed a meeting of Plymouth Local 31 of the United Auto Workers.

Just look at the record," she continued, "the great depression began under a Republican administration in the 20's. The relief program didn't cure that depression in the 30's. The Democrats' only solution was the terrible war of the 40's. And with the post-war slump they plunged us into the Korean war in the 50's."

The latest reports show we are back at the same jobless level as when we went to war in 1941. And the Republicans now have us on the brink of war in Lebanon," she said.

URGES A LABOR PARTY

In a speech before the General Council of Ford UAW Local 600, Frank Lovell, SWP candidate for Governor, stressed the link between depression and war and the inability of the major parties to offer a progressive solution to these twin evils of capitalism.

Urging the union movement to begin the building of a

FRANK LOVELL is the Socialist Workers Party nominee for Governor of Michigan. EVELYN SELL is the SWP candidate for U.S. Senator.

program at union meetings and public rallies, the candidates have also been lending their support to important struggles going on in the area. On July 4 they joined in a Peace Walk called by those active in the Fellowship of Reconciliation. Forty persons participated in the walk, demanding "Stop H-bomb Tests to Start a Policy of Peace."

The marchers carried posters that said "Danger — Strontium 90 at Work," and "Stop Nuclear Suicide."

Reporters and photographers from the major Detroit papers were on hand to interview the marchers and the demonstration received coverage in the press and on the radio. Picture-taking cops were also on hand despite the fact that the Detroit Common Council had issued a permit for the demonstration.

The chairman asked the secretary of the Socialist Workers Party to convey the fraternal greetings of Nottingham workers to the workers of America. Undertaking to do this, Dobbs said he had found a striking give-and-take atmosphere during serious discussion in British political meetings, and he was convinced that both American and British working-class organizations had something to learn from each other.

The chairman concluded: "We have got to find a way of speaking to our fellow workers all over the world. Today we have been privileged to hear an American: we should have had a Russian as well. That is the road to international understanding and to peace."

From the Soviet Ambassador

to the U.S., the Lamonts received prompt reply that their letter had been forwarded to the Soviet government. On March 31 the Soviet Union announced its decision to suspend all nuclear tests, reserving its right to resume these tests if the other nuclear powers failed to follow suit.

The editors of National Review attacked the Lamont Open Letter with the implication that it was "Communist inspired." Most proponents of nuclear tests attack their opponents in this fashion. But the fact remains that the Lamonts mean over backward in pressing both governments impartially to end nuclear tests.

The Lamont pamphlet also includes a description of the world movement for ending bomb tests. It gives the record of the deception of the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission on the question of detection of nuclear tests. And the Lamonts conclude with an appeal for popular support of the test-ban movement. "We ask our fellow citizens to write President Eisenhower, to write their Senators and Congressmen, to write their newspapers; to initiate resolutions and action in church, labor, educational, scientific and peace organizations; to join local or national committees for the abolition of nuclear weapons testing and production."

The letters were made public in half-page advertisements in the regular and international editions of the New York Times. Jan. 23. From the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission on the question of detection of nuclear tests. And the Lamonts conclude with an appeal for popular support of the test-ban movement. "We ask our fellow citizens to write President Eisenhower, to write their

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Union-Busters Assail Hoffa Plan

The Big Business propaganda machine is screaming bloody murder against Teamster Union President James Hoffa's proposal to unify three-and-a-half million transportation workers into one powerful federation.

Big Business wants big profits. Therefore it fears and hates the prospect of labor unified, independent and on the march.

Hoffa's proposal, which is supported by Joseph Curran of the National Maritime Union and William Bradley of the International Longshoremen's Association, opens the prospect of ending the debilitating disunity among transportation unions.

It is reported that Hoffa proposes to invite the militant West Coast Longshoremen's Union, led by Harry Bridges, into the new federation. This would mark the first big step to do away with the split in the labor movement brought about by the cold-war witch-hunt drive against "Communist dominated" unions.

This paper is no friend of Hoffa's. He and his cohorts helped to send Socialist Workers Party leaders and militant leaders of the Minneapolis Teamsters to jail in 1941 under the infamous Smith Act.

But we think it would be blindness for progressive, left-wing unionists not to recognize the great merit of Hoffa's

move — whatever his motives.

Just as Big Business is unleashing all of its agencies — propaganda, legislative, judicial — against this unifying move, so militant unionists must rally to the support of the proposal. Certainly the unification should be promoted by working to arouse the rank-and-file transportation workers to democratic participation in all of the affairs of the new movement.

Certainly militants should point out that a transportation federation of three-and-a-half million could spearhead a drive to organize 45 million unorganized American workers. And most important of all, militants should see in this development the possibility of thrusting labor onto the political arena as a powerful and independent force.

Big Business newspapers warn that the Hoffa proposal raises the specter of a small clique of "labor bosses" gaining a stranglehold on the U.S. and even the world. How easily they dismiss the three-and-a-half million transportation workers, in alliance with tens of millions of other organized workers. The real specter Big Business fears is the specter of American labor, unified and militant, using its vast political power to put an end to poverty and war and breaking the actual political stranglehold of the clique of billionaire monopolists.

This violence was the product of the intense communal hatred fanned by Bandaranaike's MEP party among the Sinhalese — the majority community in the country. For years, the Sinhalese had lived peacefully side by side with the Tamils, many of whom were brought here from India in the late 1800's as indentured labor.

Until about 1952, it was an accepted principle among all Ceylonese political parties that when English is ended as the official language of the country it would be replaced by both the Sinhalese and Tamil languages.

VIOLATE PRINCIPLE

But on the eve of the 1956 elections, the then ruling United Nationalist Party (UNP) tried to win reelection by coming out in favor of making Sinhalese the sole official language.

In the campaign, the UNP was outdone in pro-Sinhalese extremism by the MEP which was set up by Bandaranaike as an election vehicle in his bid against the UNP and was composed largely of communalist and racialist groupings.

It was immediately obvious

that the Tamil minority, which occupied the whole of the northern and eastern territories of the island, would resist the projected language discrimination and communal strife would be inevitable.

Accordingly, the Lanka Samasamaja Party (Trotskyist) took

a stand for parity of status to both Sinhalese and Tamil. It explained to the Sinhalese majority that if they adopted an intolerant attitude to Tamil this would inevitably lead to separation of the northern and eastern sections from the rest of the country, and that the Tamil territories by themselves could not form a viable state but would have to lean on one of the Big Powers.

In that election, the MEP won a big majority. However the MEP's language propaganda did not play a major part in the voting. More decisive were the deep-rooted feelings of the masses against the openly

capitalist UNP, which till then had been the ruling party.

SINHALA ONLY ACT

The new government was formed by Bandaranaike. The Lanka Samasamaja Party won the second largest number of seats in parliament and became the chief group of the Opposition. It must be stressed that since the language issue was not decisive in the election outcome, communalism would have been shortlived if Bandaranaike had proceeded to carry out the progressive features of his election such as the nationalization of the plantations.

But instead, the MEP government, which is dominated by capitalist interests, shewed these issues and introduced the Sinhalese Only Act, which became the basis of the present communal strife.

The roots of communalism in Ceylon, whose history has been remarkably free of it, is chiefly economic. The land

shortage in the northern and eastern areas has caused the Tamils to come south to trade and to find jobs. There are today over 100,000 registered unemployed in the country, with unemployed registering for the most part only in Colombo. Actually there are an estimated 1½ million jobless and partly employed in a population of nine million. This is a fertile field in which to sow hatred of the Tamils, particularly those Tamils who secure jobs in the south.

The government was pressured into introducing the Sinhalese Only bill by the educated Sinhalese middle class which is the MEP's primary base. These elements sought to eliminate Tamil competition for the few middle-class jobs available and to create new government jobs for Sinhalese.

Extremist Sinhalese elements also held before landless peasants the false hope that they would be able to get work on the large plantations if the Tamil laborers were expelled from the country.

SECRET AGREEMENT

But after a few months in office, Bandaranaike decided he could not afford the Tamil opposition to the government that his one-language-only policy would bring. So he agreed to what he described as a "reasonable place" for Tamil. His new position approached parity in that it recognized Tamil in government work along with Sinhalese.

However he could not put this forward as an openly-campaigned-for policy since he is a prisoner of the fanatical communal organization of monks and similar groups. Instead, he tried to implement the new policy with a well-advertised "secret agreement" with the Federal Party, the Tamil com-

munalist organization. While this pact with the Federal Party brought Bandaranaike a short breathing spell, the easing of the communal tension made clear that neither MEP nor Federal Party had any strong influence among the masses, and the communists were encouraged to act. There followed wide communal demagogic throughout the countryside, culminating in the orgy of murder, arson, looting and rape that broke out May 26. It is now established that the United Nationalist Party played a major role in organizing the rioting.

The police had orders from Bandaranaike not to fire on the communists, and they looked on during the rioting. (This was in sharp contrast to the firing orders given during the recent strikes.)

LSSP WARNING

At this point, the Lanka Samasamaja Party informed the Prime Minister that if he further neglected his duty to provide the security of citizens against the prevailing hooliganism, it would begin organizing the working class and the masses generally for their own defense.

On May 27, a state of emergency was declared and the Federal Party and an insignificant Sinhalese communist organization were banned. While the armed forces occupied the entire country, the Tamil areas in the north and east were put under especially heavy military control.

When the House of Representatives was summoned for a special secret session the Leader of the Opposition, N. M. Perera of the LSSP, charged that the Prime Minister failed in his duty when he acted 24 hours too late. He further charged that throughout the last year, the Ministers themselves had gone about the country spreading communal hatred. (He cited two speeches by the Minister of Food, Philip Gunawardena and the Minister of Posts and Broadcasting, Marikar.)

Perera also pointed out that with the declaration of the state of emergency, all power was concentrated in the hands of the British-appointed Governor General who pays no deference even to the Prime Minister and this raised the danger of a reactionary coup. He also assailed the arrest of Tamil members of Parliament in violation of their Parliamentary immunity and hit the government's press censorship.

As of this writing, the entire country remains under the control of the military, with power concentrated in the hands of the Governor General. (No real attempt at a coup has been made so far for fear of the organized working class.) There is now widespread dissatisfaction with the government. The alternatives facing the government and the country is either Sinhalese-Tamil parity or a permanent rift between the two communities and an inevitable division of the country.

Indignation Mounts Over Seattle Assault

SEATTLE, July 14—Expressions of indignation over the physical assault on Clara Kaye, Richard Fraser and Jack Wright, local Socialist Workers Party leaders, were heard in all sections of the local radical and progressive movement this week. The three victims were severely beaten at a July 4 picnic of the People's World by a gang organized by Henry Huff and Milford Sutherland, two local Communist Party leaders.

Dr. Jay W. Friedman, Chairman of the American Forum for Socialist Education in Seattle, said: "This attack on the SWP is the American version of the Stalinist executions in Europe. It's about time the Stalinists learned to act like human beings instead of deviants."

The July 12 issue of the Northwest edition of People's World carried an editorial statement deplored "the strong-arm tactics of self-appointed bouncers."

The local leadership of the Communist Party has main-

tained silence over the assault. Instead of apologizing to the victims and bringing those guilty of the attack up on trial in the party for hooliganism, the local CP leaders have sought to gloss over the scandal.

KEY PEOPLE RESIGN

This has led to bitter debate among local Communist Party members. Key individuals have resigned in protest over the tacit condoning of the assault by the leadership.

The full text of the official apology by the editors of the People's World is as follows:

"The People's World regrets that several men were approached days before the picnic and asked to join the strong-arm squad. They refused and did not attend the picnic.

The attackers all wore badges

designating them as officials of the picnic.

Representatives of the People's World, however, said that the badges had no connection with the picnic and had been pilfered from equipment in storage from previous affairs.

World and what it stands for. To the sincere friends of the paper, whose holiday was marred by the incident, we extend our apology."

The "provocation" referred to by the editors of the People's World was apparently the allegation by some of the "self-appointed bouncers" that copies of the Militant had been distributed at the picnic. None had been, although such distribution would not have constituted provocation in any case.

Since the attack, the Seattle SWP leadership has learned that several men were approached days before the picnic and asked to join the strong-arm squad. They refused and did not attend the picnic.

The attackers all wore badges designating them as officials of the picnic.

Representatives of the People's World, however, said that the badges had no connection with the picnic and had been pilfered from equipment in storage from previous affairs.

Members of the squad were recognized by both victims and witnesses as long-time adherents of the Communist Party. The motive for the assault, according to informed sources, was the hostility felt by the local Communist Party leadership to efforts made by the Socialist Workers Party for united socialist electoral activity.

These efforts have met with warm response from the rank and file of the Communist Party, many of whom participated in the campaign for Jack Wright last spring. Wright ran for City Council on an SWP platform, receiving 5,600 votes.

The three victims, who are recovering from the severe beating they received, had been invited to the picnic by the People's World. Terry Pettus, Northwest Editor of the People's World, tried to stop the strong-arm squad at the picnic by telling them the affair was open to everybody on the left and that they were disrupting both the picnic and the People's World.

As of this writing, the entire country remains under the control of the military, with power concentrated in the hands of the Governor General. (No real attempt at a coup has been made so far for fear of the organized working class.) There is now widespread dissatisfaction with the government. The alternatives facing the government and the country is either Sinhalese-Tamil parity or a permanent rift between the two communities and an inevitable division of the country.

Marxism vs. Stalin's Dogma on the Arts

By William Cumming

(Second of two articles)

The Stalinist dogma that deviation from the Communist Party's strictures on "socialist realism" makes an artist or writer an agent of imperialist reaction is completely opposed to what genuine Marxism teaches on the question. This should be evident in Marx's praise of Balzac, in Engels' polemics against dogmatic tendentiousness, and in Lenin's articles on Tolstoy. Yet Khrushchev invokes the shade of Lenin and Marx to validate his claim that capitalist penetration is the social base for all cultural trends that do not hew to the party line. And he backs this up by invoking the threat of censorship: those who do not conform will not see their works published.

The founders of the Soviet state were completely opposed to the regimentation of the writer. Their views are embodied in Leon Trotsky's Literature and Revolution, written in 1924 and republished in English last year. Trotsky, writing while the fires of civil war were not yet ashes, coupled the demand for a "watchful revolutionary censorship" with that of "broad and flexible policy in the field of art, free from petty partisan maliciousness."

Those who seek to turn the clock back to the days of Stalin, threaten violence not only against the SWP but against all those in the radical movement who differ with them, including fellow members of the Communist Party. As Clara Kaye, Seattle SWP chairman and a victim of the assault, stated in reply to Dr. Phillips at the Pension Union forum: "It is imperative that the whole radical public be made aware of such actions as the attack upon us. Only in this way can the pressure of the whole radical movement be brought to bear to prevent a repetition of the vicious flouting of democratic procedure."

A report from Ceylon on Communal Rioting

In another 1924 formulation of the relation of the state to the various artistic groups and tendencies, Trotsky wrote: "while holding over them all the categorical criterion, for the revolution or against the revolution, to give them complete freedom in the sphere of artistic self-determination." (Emphasis in original.)

It should be noted that, although he examined critically major tendencies in Soviet literature of the early 1920's — some of them openly anti-Marxist — Trotsky does not advise invoking censorship in a single instance. The poetess Anna Akhmatova, whose poems evoked nostalgic sighs for the dead past and well-bred distaste for the realities of the workers' regime, won Trotsky's amused criticism and his praise for her undoubted talent.

Twenty-five years later, Zhdanov, Stalin's policeman of the arts, raged against this same Akhmatova for having dared to write a poem about her cat during the siege of Leningrad. He drove her into exile and drove out of their posts the editors of the magazine in which her poems had appeared.

To the Bolsheviks from 1917-1922, criticism of artistic tendencies in the party press was designed to light the path for writers and artists. State censorship might be invoked only for the realities of the workers' regime, won Trotsky's amused criticism and his praise for her undoubted talent.

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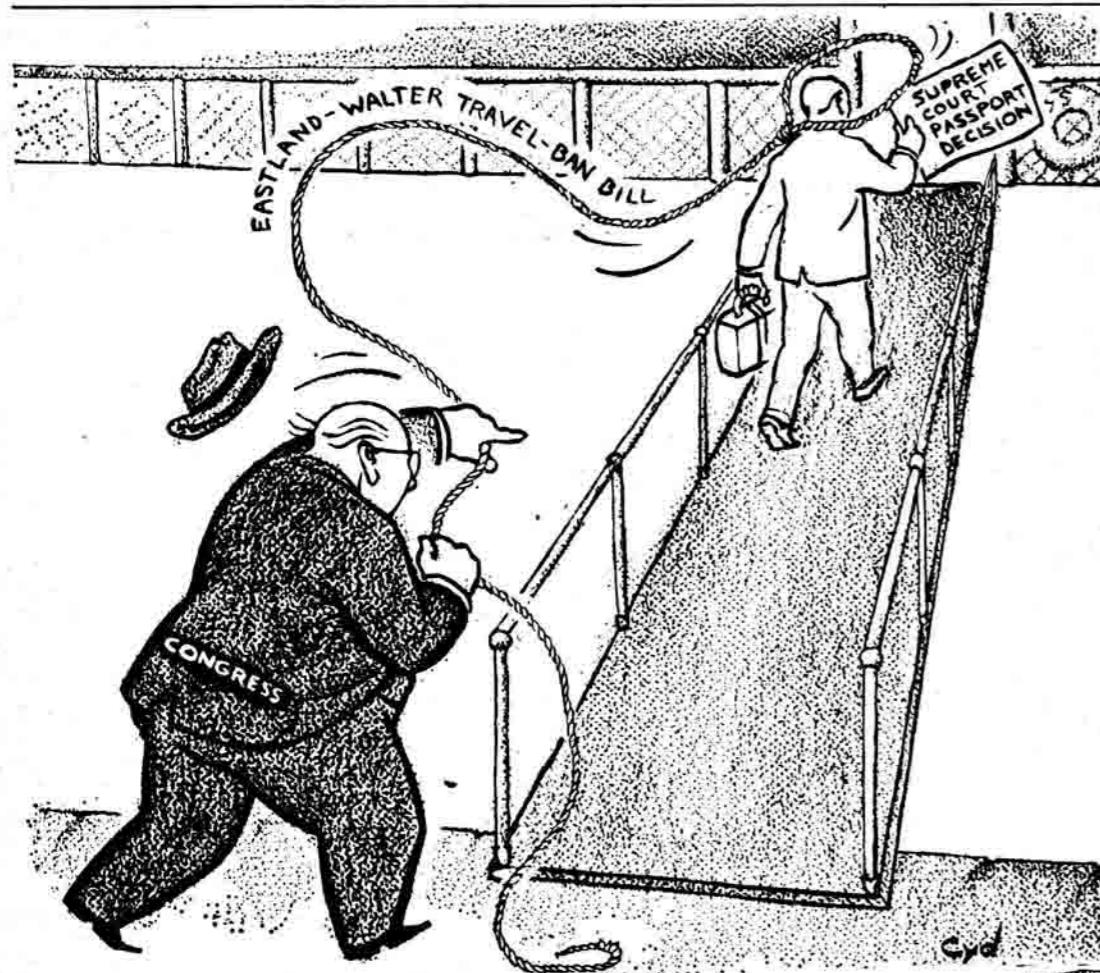
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...Reactionary Bills

(Continued from Page 1) segregation would have priority over Federal law, as would laws on wages, hours and working conditions.

Meanwhile, the Senate Foreign Relations Committee is holding hearings on various bills to restrict or invalidate the recent Supreme Court decision which held that the State Department was without Congressional authority to deny passports on grounds of political beliefs or associations.

Since that decision, racist Senator Eastland (D-Miss.) and red-baiting Representative Walter (D-Pa.) have been pushing for adoption of a bill to reverse the court ruling. They were given major assists when President Eisenhower put strong public pressure on Congress for adoption of such a measure and announced the State Department was submitting a draft bill.

The State Department draft, which was introduced into both houses July 8, would deny passports to any one who has been a "Communist" or engaged in "Communist activity" in the ten-year period prior to his passport application. The measure also provides for travel bans, without regard to political belief, for any area of the globe designated by the State Department as "disturbed," or simply on the sweeping ground that the applicant's travel abroad might interfere with U.S. foreign policy.

The Dulles bill also provides

Eisenhower Denies Canadian Demands

OTTAWA, CANADA, July 9 — U. S. President Eisenhower addressed a session of the Canadian parliament today and warned Canadian politicians to "stop bickering." It interferes with the big job the Washington government has undertaken to win global supremacy for the U.S. The warning was a sharp note in what was otherwise a paternalistic lecture to the Canadian parliament.

Eisenhower advised the Canadians it would take "common sense and a willingness to give and take" if Canada were to be permitted to share, as a junior partner, the advantages of a U.S.-controlled world economy. The visit of the President of the United States was to have mended fences. Instead the gap in U.S.-Canadian relations seems to have widened.

FEAR U.S. CONTROL

Canadians have expressed fear about domination by the U.S. economy. And well they might. U.S. Big Business has more than \$12 billion invested in Canada. Well over 50% of Canada's basic manufacturing industries are U.S.-owned. How can Canadian economy and Canadian policy be independent when its basic industries are handled like branch offices of big U.S. firms?

Canada has many complaints against the "good neighbor" policy that flows in across its southern border. The U.S. has dumped its surplus wheat on the world market, shattering prices that determine the well-being of Canadian farmers. A prohibitive embargo has been placed on the import of Canadian oil. Tariffs are high on base metals. And U.S.-Canadian trade balance gives joy to U.S. imperialists, but is impoverishing the Northern neighbor.

Eisenhower flung back every Canadian complaint into the teeth of the Canadians. The demagogic platitude that the

24-Hour Strike Hits Cleveland General Motors

A 24-hour strike halted production at the General Motors Corporation Ternstedt division plant in Columbus, Ohio, last week. The plant produces automotive hardware and employs about 5,500 workers. The company contract with the United Automobile Workers expired May 29 and work has proceeded without union contract since that time.

Sarah Campbell, president of UAW Local 696, whose members work at the plant, described the strike as a spontaneous demonstration by the workers in protest against "an accumulation of differences" including layoffs at the plant, the lagging pace of local and national new contract talks, and job assignments. Striking workers formed picket lines around plant gates and 4,500 workers remained away from their jobs. The walkout was not authorized by the UAW international leadership.

Socialist Youth Are Acquitted In N.Y. Court

NEW YORK, July 14 — Two young socialists, defended by the Workers Defense League, were acquitted today of disorderly conduct charges lodged when the Young Socialist Alliance tried to hold a street meeting at the Bronx High School of Science last month. Richard DeHaan, chairman of the YSA, and Russell Jones, a YSA member, were found not guilty in Bronx Magistrate's Court in what they termed a "clear-cut victory for freedom of speech."

Both the passport and "sedition" measures provide fresh proof that each time American capitalism prepares a war for "democracy" abroad, freedom at home becomes the first target for destruction.

DeHaan and Jones were arrested June 3, as police broke up the second of three meetings held by the YSA at the school. They were accused of "holding a street meeting without a permit." Two days later when the YSA returned in strength and challenged the police to arrest all of them, the meeting was not disturbed.

Eugene H. Zimmerman, WDL staff counsel, argued in court that a permit was not required to hold a street meeting and that the defendants were clearly within their constitutional rights.

The favorable verdict represents the second victory by the YSA in recent months against harassing activity by the police.

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VOLUME XXII
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NUMBER 29

THE MILITANT

The NAACP Convention

Parley Shows Fighting Spirit and New Vigor

By Jean Simon

CLEVELAND, July 14 — The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, meeting here last week in its 49th annual convention, picked up the gauntlet thrown down by the recent legal set-back in Little Rock, and hurled it back into the face of the white supremacists.

From the keynote address by Dr. Channing Tobias, chairman of the board of directors, through all the workshop and plenary sessions of the convention, the evening mass meetings, the official and unofficial statements to the press, to the closing speech by Roy Wilkins, executive secretary of the organization, there was not a hint of discouragement or retreat in the perspectives of the NAACP.

But it was not youthfulness alone that gave the convention its vitality. There was also a consciousness of the historic role of the Negro struggle. It was expressed in the final mass meeting yesterday by Roy Wilkins:

"There is no comfort in our resolutions for those who complain that the Negro is going 'too fast' and 'pressing too hard.'

"In a jet age we cannot be content with the crawl of a turtle. We have waited too long — we have been too truly the soul of patience to be told now that we must abide by the 'never-never' pace of Mississippi and her sister states.

"It is far too late in the day in a world where men of all races are battling for freedom and equality for any band of little men to turn back the clock.

"If we are wrong, the French Revolution was wrong, the Magna Carta was wrong, our own American Revolution was a mistake, and our Bill of Rights and Constitution are mere scraps of paper.

"If we are wrong the great religious teachings of the world are wrong. But of course we are not wrong. We are in step with these times and with all the times of man's struggle for liberty throughout human history."

CHANGES IN NAACP

The "Little Rock" convention, as the 49th will undoubtedly be remembered, also reflected a number of subtle but deep-going changes taking place in the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Most important of these was:

(1) Recognition of the limitations of depending on legal struggles and court decisions alone and adoption of a new emphasis on "community action" to abolish Jim Crow;

(2) Determination to change the base of the organization from the "talented tenth" to the business and professional people who have traditionally constituted the NAACP, to the Negro masses, who have dem-

onstrated — in Montgomery, Tallahassee and elsewhere — their "readiness" and their strength;

(3) Clear-cut siding with the labor movement in its current struggles against union-busting "right-to-work" campaigns;

(4) Preparation for battle in the political arena by increased independence from both the



Thelma Mothershed, one of nine heroic Negro youths, who defied racist mobs in Little Rock, Ark., last year for the right to unsegregated education. They, along with Mrs. Daisy Bates, received the Spingarn Medal, highest NAACP award at the Association's convention last week.

ontrary — in Montgomery, Democratic and Republican parties and stepped up campaigns to guarantee Negroes the right to vote in the South.

EYES OF WORLD

These and many other aspects of the convention were noted in the very extensive coverage of the meetings, and in numerous interviews of delegates and officials in the local

daily papers, which were quite conscious, as one headline phrased it, that the "World Eyes NAACP 49th Convention Here."

Only brief mention was made, however, of the action taken by the gathering on one of the hottest political issues in the host state. The NAACP took a clear-cut stand of opposition to "right to work" laws, making it clear that they are in no sense fair employment practices acts, and urging members to cooperate with unions to oppose such laws.

The text of the resolution follows:

"The NAACP is unalterably opposed to so-called 'Right to Work' laws as these laws not only endanger the organized labor movement but have a detrimental effect on the rights of colored wage earners and the economic well-being of the entire Negro community. We note that 'Right to Work' legislation has been enacted in states where civil rights and civil liberties are systematically violated. We believe the primary purpose of the so-called 'Right to Work' legislation is to suppress trade union organization. We know that the result of such laws for working people is that wages are kept low, working hours long and conditions of work substandard. The 'Right to Work' laws are not fair employment practice laws and are supported by the opponents of genuine FEP laws."

"We call upon all members, branches and state conferences to cooperate with democratic trade union groups in vigorous efforts to prevent the passage of 'Right to Work' legislation and to secure the repeal of such legislation where it exists."

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