

Mich. Jobless Unfurl Demands In State Senate

DETROIT, May 6—"Jobless Row With Senators Over Aid—It's Chaos in Chamber." That was the headline the Detroit Times used yesterday to describe a demonstration of the unemployed at the state legislature in Lansing. It was not quite "chaos" and it was not quite a "row"; but the demonstrators did present the case of Michigan's 300,000 jobless with energy.

About 175 marched in front of the capitol building and posed on the steps, fists clenched, for cameramen. Then they went inside to pack the galleries of the senate chamber. There they tied a 30-foot banner over the heads of the senators:

LI. Gov. John Swainson, senate president, ordered the banner removed. When the sergeant-at-arms told the unemployed delegates that banners and placards were against the rules, a couple of unemployed from the other side of the balcony bellowed out, "Leave it up!"

As the sergeant fumbled with the knots, the shouts swelled into a large chorus, "Leave it up!" Some shouted, "Throw the bum out!"

It's Admitted—Highest Profits Of All Time

When the Wall Street Journal says that profits for the first quarter in 1959 are likely to hit an all-time high, you can take it as official. The stock speculator's favorite bed-time paper generally tries to play down this kind of news.

But it could not resist crowing April 30 about the "good news" for "stockholders who are hoping for larger dividends." Average profit gains, according to reports from 441 companies will reach 53.9%, with a total net in the kitty of a lush \$1,944,857,000.

The highest gains of all seem to have been registered by the railroads. The take is up 428.8%.

Half Way Point Reached In Socialist Fund Drive

By Reba Aubrey, Campaign Director

Most of the readers of this column have, I suspect, attended more than one meeting where a collection was taken up for a worthy cause. I wouldn't even be surprised if most of you, like me, could show quite a stack of receipts for donations to the most worthy cause of all—a socialist world that can finally end poverty, war and hatred among people and bring us that civilized society we're fighting for of abundance, peace and good will.

So you're familiar with that moment when the chairman holds up the \$20 bills which the ushers have been bringing down the aisles and asks, "Now, who's going to be the first one to hold up \$10 to help build socialism?"

Generally there's a pause, a long, significant pause while the chairman smiles. Likely as not, he's reminded of a joke that sets everybody laughing and then those who have been religiously keeping that \$10 in the most sacrosanct spot in capitalist so-

CAMPAIGN FUND GOAL
\$16,000
COLLECTED TO DATE
\$6,842

After the banner was finally removed, the senate recessed to hear the petitioners. They bitterly protested a Republican-sponsored bill that would deny payments to those laid off by strikes and taper off benefits for others. Some said harsh things about the Democratic version which only "tapers off." Most of them, however, favored this bill, since it offers some help to 26,000 who have not yet exhausted their emergency benefits.

Their feelings were summarized by one delegate who said that if the bill were turned down, "many children that night would go to bed without their milk and bread. I wish you gentlemen would remember that when you vote."

Others demanded legislation to shorten the work week and provide jobless compensation for the duration of unemployment.

The demonstration at the legislature followed a conference of some 400 delegates under AFL-CIO auspices. This was a spiritless meeting, dominated by the union brass.

Nevertheless some of the resentment over unemployment was voiced when Edith Van Horn, Chairman of Dodge Local 3's Unemployed Committee, said that the recent Washington conference was "not a mobilization of the workers but an immobilization." She called for mass demonstrations.

The frustration and indignation bottled up at this Civic Center gathering came uncorked later when the angriest among the unemployed later appeared at the senate chamber.

"BLUE CHIP" BIAS
Investigation by an Illinois civil rights commission reveals that at least 1,484 Chicago companies discriminate against job applicants for racial and religious reasons. The companies were not identified, but 700 were said to be "blue chip" corporations.

Strontium Is 60 Times Deadlier Than Admitted

Important new information about atomic fallout again demonstrates that the American people are living with a health menace of uncalculated dimensions. Scientists have found that (1) strontium 90, the cancer-breeding product of nuclear fission, may be 60 times more deadly than the Atomic Energy Commission admits; (2) the amount of radioactive strontium in the bones of American children up to the age of four doubled in the year ending December, 1957; (3) girls subjected to small radiation doses three months before they are born may grow up unable to bear children.

Federal authorities have responded to these chilling new revelations with a proposal to raise the strontium safety limits instead of reducing them still further. In fact they would double their estimate of how much radioactive strontium a person can absorb without significant hazard. The move has drawn an angry protest from the AFL-CIO, the first protest

over the issue the labor body has made. Even the present government "safety" yardstick is fraudulent since it is based on the assumption that strontium 90 is distributed uniformly throughout the bone structure. On the basis of a ten-year study, a team of top Swedish scientists has established that the concentration in bone cells is extremely uneven and that in certain "hot spots" the amount of radioactive strontium may be 60 times above the average. Such a heavy concentration in individual cells might be sufficient to trigger the outbreak of cancer (which is a disease of the cells) even though the total amount of strontium 90 in the skeleton may be well under the "safe" limit.

Evidence Links Sheriff To Mississippi Lynching

Union Fights For Life in N. Carolina

By Beatrice Allen
In Henderson, North Carolina some 1,000 members of the Textile Workers Union are still waging a desperate battle for the survival of their union against strikebreakers, cops, state troopers, government mediators—and the bosses of the Henderson and Harriet Cotton Mills.

Two more developments in this union-smashing attempt in the South took place this week. Democratic Governor Luther Hodges said he would "consider" any written request to send the National Guard into Henderson. A Superior Court selected a 12-man jury to hear appeals on sentences ranging up to two years imprisonment and \$250 fine which were imposed for violation of an injunction against picket-line violence.

The U.S. Senate Rackets Committee scheduled a meeting Tuesday, May 5, to hear a request by Sen. Sam J. Ervin Jr. (D-N.C.) to hold public hearings on the strike situation.

The strike that began in November is now in its 26th week. The two TWUA locals had offered to renew the old contract without any wage increases. John D. Cooper, president of the company, demanded termination of the contract.

With the aid of 150 state troopers, to enforce a series of restraining orders, signed by Judge William Y. Bickett, limiting the number of pickets to eight at a distance of 75 feet from the entrance of the plant, the company started a "back-to-work" movement. This failed. The company then hired professional strikebreakers.

Late in April Gov. Hodges prevailed on the union and the company to end the strike under a compromise in which union officials agreed to let the 400 to 500 scabs keep working while the strikers were to man second and third shifts—whenever these should be started up. The union rank and file reluctantly accepted this but discovered that only 25 of them would get jobs on the second shift, and that more "permanent replacements" had been hired.

They immediately walked out of the mill, and the strike was on again. Bitter violence followed. A number of strikers were wounded as snipers, armed with shot guns, roamed freely. Rocks damaged cars owned by scabs, a fire broke out on mill property, and last week-end a dynamiting was reported. The strike is part of an anti-labor drive that has ominous implications. Violence is flaring in Henderson today, tomorrow it may be in Flint, Detroit, or any other city.

Operation Strikebreak



State police enforces court order that pickets at Henderson, N. C., cotton mill must stay 75 feet away from entrance. The companies' "back-to-work" drive got no response from among 1,000 United Textile Workers' members. So bosses hired scabs. Strike is now in its 26th week. AFL-CIO union is appealing rest of labor for aid.

President Joins Steel Barons In Attack on Union's Demands

By Harry Ring

NEW YORK, May 6—As the United Steelworkers opened preliminary contract negotiations with the country's major steel producers here yesterday, President Eisenhower threw his weight behind the moves of the profit-laden steel moguls to hold the line on wages.

Brushing aside the fact of record steel profits as a "technicality," the President made a veiled threat of federal intervention to block any significant wage increase. His statement echoed the line of the multimillion dollar Madison Avenue advertising campaign of the steel monopolists to pin responsibility for rising prices on the steel workers.

The facts of the case are the exact opposite. With the giant U.S. Steel Corporation calling the tune in an industry-wide price-fixing swindle, steel prices have been boosted year by year. For every dollar paid out in added wages, three have been tacked on to prices. With ten pay increases and 21 price hikes since 1946, profits have been jacked up to the point where every ton of steel turned out in 1957 brought a net return after taxes of \$17.91 as compared with \$6.80 in 1952. In the decade following World War II, the tonnage price skyrocketed 115% while, even according to

the anti-labor New York Herald-Tribune, wage costs per ingot ton went up but 30%.

PROFITS SOAR IN '59

In the first quarter of this year, U.S. Steel netted \$107 million in profits—70% more than in the same period last year. For Bethlehem Steel, the first quarter take was \$50 million, double last year's figure. Republic Steel tripled its first quarter earnings with a profit of \$27 million.

Sitting firmly on their hoard, the steel moguls opened current negotiations with the brazen proposal that in the "public interest" the union accept a one-year wage freeze and give up the cost-of-living escalator clause.

The union countered with a demand for a "substantial" but unspecified wage increase. A statement issued by the Wage Policy Committee May 1 also calls for continuation of the cost-of-living clause and incorporation into the basic wage structure of the 17 cents in escalator increases accrued in the past three years. It also demands time and one-half pay for Saturday work and double time for Sunday. (Present premium pay calls only for time-and-a-quarter for Sunday work.) The demand for a shorter work week with no reduction in

pay is stressed but the extent of reduction is not stated. Several ways for bringing about less work-hours are projected. The one apparently favored by union president David J. McDonald is extended paid vacations for high seniority workers. Two hundred thousand jobs have been lost in the industry since 1956, and layoffs have forced many of those still on the job into lower paying classifications.

Other Wage Policy demands call for improvements in Supplementary Unemployment Benefits, improved grievance procedures and job classifications. Added holidays and increased vacation benefits are also urged.

With the contract expiring June 30, actual working negotiations begin May 16 between four industry chieftains and four union spokesmen. Reports from principal steel centers agree that if the union is compelled to strike for a new contract, the membership is ready to give solid support.

Meanwhile the entire labor movement is following the negotiations intently. In five great post-war strikes, the million-member steel union has advanced mill wages to an estimated average of \$3.03 an hour and broken ground for gains by other major unions.

Negro Editor Uncovers Facts; Eisenhower Bars Anti-Lynching Measure

By John Thayer

MAY 5—The receding waters of the Pearl River, 22 miles west of Poplarville, Mississippi, have yielded up the body of Mack C. Parker, the 23-year-old Negro lynched on April 25. A coroner's jury has, as a matter of course, issued warrants for the "parties unknown" who committed the brutal crime. But there are no indications that the FBI or state police have any leads to the guilty parties. There is certainly, however, that if somehow they were brought to trial, they would be quickly set free by an all-white Mississippi jury.

Indeed, the great show of FBI and state police activity in the case is calculated not to bring the lynchers to justice but to mollify indignation abroad and head off new civil rights legislation at home. Thus Eisenhower stated at his April 5 news conference that no federal anti-lynching law was needed because the FBI and Mississippi police were doing such a good job.

Independent sources, however, have made important discoveries which reinforce the charge made in last week's Militant that the lynching has the earmarks of a put-up job involving Mississippi officials.

JAILHOUSE KEYS

The most important new piece of evidence was disclosed by James Hicks, reporter sent to the scene by the New York Negro weekly, Amsterdam News. Questioning numerous Negro residents of Poplarville who have in the past been arrested for one misdemeanor or another, Hicks learned that the jailhouse keys were always taken home by the sheriff after he locked up for the night. This fact is well established because those arrested at night had to be held outside the jail until the sheriff arrived with the keys.

On the night of the lynching, however, the sheriff left the keys in his office. The lynchers knew this. Moreover, they knew precisely where they had been put and took them out of the metal locker without disturbing anything else in the office.

Hicks also learned from a Negro prisoner in the jail that when Sheriff W. O. Moody and a group of white men arrived at the jail some 20 minutes after the lynch gang had dragged off Parker, one of the sheriff's companions was heard to ask, "Did they get the right man?" Since the sheriff has claimed that the lynching was a great "surprise" to him and since he

Student Strike Spurs Court Action In Tallahassee

A spirited strike demonstration of several hundred Florida A & M University students speeded up Florida court action this week in the case of four white men accused of raping a 19-year-old Negro co-ed in Tallahassee on May 2.

The students returned to their classrooms May 5 after a grand jury was ordered back in session May 4, thus preventing delay in the case.

Clifford Taylor, president of the student body said: "We think we have achieved a victory. The officials now are saying the guilty will be punished." The demonstration is far from over. Nightly student assemblies will be held until "justice is done."

Mass Upsurge In Iraq Alarms U.S. Officials

By George Lavan

A tremendous political upsurge of the poverty-stricken workers and peasants of Iraq poses the possibility of a socialist revolution in that country. This fact is causing deep dismay in Washington. Allen Dulles, Director of the U.S. global-spy service, the Central Intelligence Agency, told the Senate Foreign Relations Committee on April 28 that the situation in Iraq was "the most dangerous in the world today." "I agree with him," Senator J. W. Fulbright, the Democratic chairman of that committee, told reporters.

The threat that alarms Dulles and Fulbright is not that Iraq is going to endanger "world peace" by attacking another country but that the impoverished people of Iraq may for the first time in their history take over political power and change the economic system.

Hitherto U.S. and the other

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suppress or distort vital facts about fallout.

Again, the April 25 Nation published facts about the doubling of strontium 90 concentration in American children. This grim new data was compiled by "Project Sunshine," a scientific commission which collects fallout information for the government. According to the Nation, the AEC had this report for at least three months and simply sat on it.

A Step Toward H-Test Ban?

Be grateful for small things. The AEC has taken the first step toward a possible halt to nuclear tests. It ordered three watch companies to stop distributing luminous dials containing strontium 90. Some of the watches have already been distributed but others are in the companies' possession. The companies produce Elgin, Bulova and Westclock watches. The AEC

information was about to become public, government propagandists moved quickly enough. On April 22, the same day that the Nation hit New York's newsstands, the National Committee on Radiation Protection announced it was doubling its estimate of the amount of strontium 90 that could accumulate in the human body without "unacceptable" hazard. It also increased by 25 per cent the maximum permissible concentration of the poison in water,

also moved against the American Phosphors Corp. which it said had imported quantities of strontium 90 without license for use in luminous compounds. It said the strontium watch dials were not more dangerous than the ones with radium unless the wearer habitually slept with his hand over his face and the watch near his eyes.

food and milk.

While this committee does not have official government status, it does work closely with the AEC and the Public Health Service and its recommendations are generally accepted.

Newspaper publicity with a strong Madison Avenue touch has depicted the head of this committee, Dr. Lauriston Taylor, as a dedicated scientist waging a fearless campaign to protect public health. But I. F. Stone demonstrates that Dr. Taylor "has the nuclear industry point of view when it comes to safety problems."

The AFL-CIO protest to the Joint Congressional Committee on Atomic Energy against Taylor's latest move, says: "We are constrained to suspect that issuance of these revisions at this time, following wide public concern over the extent and speed of radioactive fallout, is not mere coincidence."

In an April 28 letter to the New York Times, Nobel scientist Linus Pauling vigorously protested the new reduction of

safety standards. Citing evidence compiled on the incidence of leukemia among survivors of the Hiroshima and Nagasaki bombings, Dr. Pauling warned that if bomb tests continue and a generation of American children are subjected to the new "permissible" strontium dosage, "about 100,000 of them would die of leukemia caused by this radioactive poison."

Yet the government remains adamant in its insistence on continuing the lethal bomb tests. It does so despite the fact that it already has, according to Dr. Pauling's estimate, a stockpile of 75,000 nuclear weapons, enough to "overkill" the world's population 20 times.

A major portion of the fallout from tests around the world hits the United States. Furthermore, the U.S. Weather Bureau revealed on April 27 that roughly 70% of the radioactive fallout comes from U.S. atomic tests and about 30% comes from Soviet tests.

"Strontium Irradiated Milk—Made in the USA."

How the FBI Entered The Labor-Spy Racket

By Henry Gitano

Under guise of guarding "industrial security," the FBI is currently conducting pervasive spying on the unions. J. Edgar Hoover, FBI director, has become the nation's number one labor spy. Nor does the Bureau's participation in the labor-spy racket date from the launching of the bi-partisan "internal security" program in 1947—although as a result of this hunt the FBI has virtually taken over control of the labor espionage field. The FBI began its anti-union activities in earnest in the years immediately following World War I.

The 1919-20 "Red Raids"—in which 10,000 persons were jailed on suspicion of harboring revolutionary ideas—were directed by Hoover who fused them with strike-breaking activities. As Max Lowenthal notes in his book, "The FBI, activities stigmatized as having an 'un-American character' were 'chiefly the IWW-supported strikes.'"

Break Steel Strike

The 1919 Steel Strike authorized by the AFL was called a "bolshhevik plot," and the FBI's General Intelligence Division under Hoover, boasted that "through the action of the Department of Justice . . . this strike was terminated" (that is, broken.) Lowenthal observes that, "There was evidence of collaboration between undercover operatives of the steel companies and the Bureau of Investigation."

Hoover played a similar role in the coal strikes of that time, and in the 1920 Butte copper strike which the GID labeled "the beginning of the revolution."

A blissful marriage was consummated between the FBI and private labor-spy outfits (whose function for several decades had been to provide snoopers and strike-breakers to the employers) when William J. Burns, of the Burns Detective Agency, became director of the FBI, in 1921. He used official FBI stationery and signed his name as director to arrange for Burns Agency detectives to spy on miners on behalf of seven Arizona copper companies.

In 1922, the AFL Railroad shopmen, faced with a second wage cut of 12 1/2%, called for a nation-wide strike. The FBI failed in its attempt to prove that the strikers were financed by Moscow but did succeed in bringing about the arrest and prosecution of 1,200 railroad workers. FBI men, says Lowenthal, "were sent all over the country . . . to infiltrate into the strikers' ranks, to put undercover men into their meetings and to collect evidence on which to put strikers in jail." The strike was broken—Hoover's men had won.

The FBI's crude strike-breaking coupled with the invasion of constitutional rights during the "Red Raids" when doors were smashed and heads were cracked, evoked considerable criticism, and the GID, organized under Hoover in 1919, was for the time being eliminated. Hoover, however, was promoted to FBI director.

After 15 years of watchful waiting, an expanded FBI, championed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt, reactivated the GID in September-1939. The FBI spokesman testified, that the division was compiling "extensive indices of individuals, groups and organiza-

tions engaged . . . in any activities that are possibly detrimental to the internal security of the U.S."

Conditions had changed. Unlike 1919, workers were organized in industrial unions. And inasmuch as Hoover's previous open battle against labor had met a hostile response, the FBI's detectives had in the meantime been transformed into a smoother-functioning crew. A college degree became a requisite for gaining an FBI job.

The FBI's booklet on "Selection of Personnel," notes that "diversified qualifications are very important, particularly when the records of the Bureau reflect instances wherein an expert violinist was able to soften the heart of a mountaineer with his music and cause him to disclose the whereabouts of his son."

Hoover had learned what the National Manufacturers Syndicate, which trained labor spies during the 1930's was teaching: "It is very plain in order for us to be successful we must conduct our work in an invisible manner. The ordinary worker, in his ignorance, is apt to misunderstand our motives if he knows of our presence and identity in the plant . . . The minds of those who are dissatisfied and disgruntled must be changed. As our representative, you must find out first of all who are the dissatisfied ones."

Hoover's massive snooping on unionists became widely advertised during the United Auto Workers strike at the Downey, Calif., Vultee Aircraft plant. The New York Times (Nov. 18, 1940) reported that "the strike of 3,000 production workers is for a minimum wage of 75 cents an hour instead of 50 cents." Lou Michener, a UAW official, stated that "Vultee will make \$12 million profit in the next three years. We feel justified in asking for a living wage."

Congressman Martin Dies attacked the FBI's "inaction" in the strike, whereupon Attorney General Jackson assured the nation that "The FBI agents . . . had identified the Vultee strike leaders either as members . . . or affiliated with the Communists." It had given the information to the War and Navy Departments for suitable action.

Senate Group Hits FBI

"The fact that much of the work of the FBI is necessarily carried on quietly and without publicity does not diminish its effectiveness . . ." Jackson said. (N.Y. Times, Nov. 24, 1940.)

Even before the Vultee strike, a Senate committee, in March 1940, under the chairmanship of Sen. Burton K. Wheeler, charged the FBI with irregular practices similar to those of 1919-24, including "the recent resurgence of a spy system" over "persons who have committed no crime, but whose economic and political views and activities may be obnoxious to the present incumbents of law-enforcement officers." (Quoted in Lowenthal, The FBI.)

The Wheeler Committee spoke specifically of the FBI as oppressing "factory employees who are under investigation, not for any criminal action, but only by reason of their views and activities in regard to labor unions and other economic movements."

... Mass Upsurge in Iraq

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Western imperialisms have only had to deal with nationalism in the Arab countries — movements led by the upper and middle classes seeking to make their governments independent of foreign control but devoted to promoting capitalism within their own countries.

Now in Iraq the masses, having overthrown the imperialists' stooges a year ago and attempted counter-revolution last March, are pressing for an overthrow of the social system which keeps them in dire poverty in one of the most oil-rich countries of the world.

POPULAR MILITIAS

In the big cities, the people have begun to replace the army and police with their own militias — the Popular Resistance Forces. The revolutionary units which played the key role in defeating the counter-revolution two months ago, have in some instances been issued arms.

A crucial struggle is now going on between popular pressure and government reluctance to arm all these units. Since there is open gossip in the Mideast about plans for another counter-revolution in Iraq this summer, and since the United Arab Republic has been making veiled

threats of invasion, the arming of these militia units is the guarantee not only of the continued forward march of the Iraqi revolution but of preserving the gains made since the overthrow of the king a year ago.

Reports from Iraq indicate that everywhere the masses are pouring into the unions, peasant organizations, militias and the Communist Party. Left-wing newspaper circulation is soaring. Long-oppressed national minorities, like the Kurdish people, accorded some rights since the king's overthrow, are rallied to the left in the hope of achieving their full rights as minorities.

Throwing off the subservience demanded of them for generations by the "superior" imperialists, the common people of Iraq are now showing the Western "master race" their true feelings and whose country Iraq really is. This is termed insolence and insult by the imperialist press.

WORKERS WANT BONUS

For example a British newspaper account, reprinted in the May 2 N.Y. World Telegram, describes with horror how workers in the great oil port of Basra are demonstrating "to

terrify and blackmail Western contractors with outrageous demands for thousands of pounds in 'bonus money'; how in Baghdad 'great crowds roar through the streets' in demonstrations against imperialism and internal counter-revolutionaries; how 'at night Westerners are frisked for guns and quizzed by armed civilians as many as five times in 100 yards.'

Marguerite Higgins of the N.Y. Herald Tribune reports, May 1, that "the mystery of how a country, like Iraq, where known Communists were a minute minority, could suddenly mushroom into so many agitators" has been solved. They were converted and trained in the prisons, where until a year ago all political opponents of the "free world" regime in Iraq were sent. "The situation in pre-revolutionary Iraq is being compared in Washington," she writes, "with the situation in pre-Bolshevik Russia."

CP HOLDS KEY

Whether the outcome in Iraq will be similar to that in Russia or whether it will be smashed by the possessing classes with imperialist aid may well depend on the policies of the Communist Party. The Iraqi masses are flocking into this party and putting their hopes for the future in it.

Will the CP leaders subordinate the movement and aims of the working masses to the policies of the pro-capitalist nationalist leaders, as did the Communist (Tudeh) Party of Iran, adhering to the Kremlin's foreign policy? Or will those CP leaders who learned their Marxism in Nuri-as-Said's prisons lead the Iraqi people onto the revolutionary road taken in Russia in 1917 and, much more tortuously, in Yugoslavia and China after World War II?

The mobilization of the masses and the arming of the workers' and peasants' militias point to the road of Russia, Yugoslavia and China. Rumors that the Iraqi CP is offering Premier Kassim and the pro-capitalist National Democratic Party a political deal in return for a few cabinet posts point to the road of Mossadegh's Iran.

A Report on Morocco's Militant Unionists

By Shane and Judith Mage

CASABLANCA, April 29 — Four years ago, in an apartment in Casablanca, a small group of militant working class leaders met together in strictest secrecy. This meeting was the founding convention of the Union Marocain du Travail (UMT), the first Moroccan labor federation.

At that moment the Moroccan independence struggle was building toward a furious climax. Each day the streets of Casablanca witnessed assassinations, bombings, violent repressions. Jails and prison camps were filled. Moroccan workers, denied the right to organize their own unions, had gradually infiltrated and seized control of the legally-tolerated French unions, principally the CGT. The establishment of the UMT in complete illegality was a decisive step in the revolutionary struggle against French colonial rule.

Last Friday, April 24, the UMT's Second National Congress, with 1,300 elected delegates representing 600,000 organized workers, opened its sessions at the Municipal Theatre of Casablanca. Attending the initial session were Prime Minister Abdallah Ibrahim and the principal members of his government — a government formed last December as a direct result of the pressure of Moroccan labor.

But the delegates, government leaders, and representatives of labor organizations from all over the world were not allowed to forget that the Moroccan labor movement is engaged once again in a bitter and violent struggle for its life and for the future of the country.

REPEL INVASION

Just thirty minutes before the opening of the Congress the back of the hall was thrown into turmoil as delegates seized chairs and rushed to repel an invasion. A group of some forty men, armed with stones, tried to force their way into the hall. Eighteen of the attackers penetrated into the lobby, where they were immediately trapped between the outer and inner doors, subdued after a brief combat, then taken away by the police. A window had been broken, and several delegates wear bandages plastered on their heads for the duration of the Congress.

The police had not been much in evidence Friday morning. But for the other sessions of the Congress the space of several blocks around the hall was cordoned off by steel helmeted police and credentials were necessary to pass through, while truckloads of armed police and auxiliary troops stood in reserve, ready for trouble. The UMT was annoyed by this unrequested solicitude; it had taken its own precautions. A line of workers' defense guards, arms folded, took up posts in front of the hall, and everyone who entered was quickly frisked for arms.

One of the attackers, to his everlasting sorrow, succeeded in gaining the inside of the Theatre, where he was soon discovered, dragged about and beaten. "I'm poor," he cried to the furious workers, "they paid me, they paid me." Accurate unemployment figures are not available, but in Casablanca's population of about a million

... Socialist Fund Drive

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meeting sponsored by the Socialist Workers Party and the Young Socialist. This was reflected in contributions this week, he said. He didn't have a hard job convincing me; first, because I was there, and second, because he let me count the reflection and it amounted, just like he said, to \$252.

The Chicago contingent came through with \$100. Ray F. mentioned it only casually in a "P. S." in a letter on another subject. But we think that contribution rates tops in importance. Money talks in any language, as Marx noted in Das Kapital. And I will add that it can shout even from a P. S.

Boston sent in \$20. Unemployment has hit them hard but they're "doing their best." From what I know of Bostonian understatement that can mean a lot of sacrifice.

L. Morris enclosed \$48 for Philadelphia. As with other areas they have their problems, including unemployment. But they're working on plans that should help put them over the top.

From the city of freeways, smog and sunshine came \$190. Cur Los Angeles supporters are lining up their sights on the target and we can expect it shortly to look like a sieve. That's the way they handle targets out there.

Look at "General" shoot up. John A. wasn't fooling when he



Mahjoub ben Seddik, General Secretary of Union Marocain du Travail, addressing the second National Congress of the organization. He declared that the ultimate aim of the Moroccan trade-union movement is "To end the exploitation of man by man." Mahjoub was imprisoned and tortured during the struggle for independence from French imperialism.

the number without work runs in the hundreds of thousands. For a few francs the enemies of the UMT could find plenty of willing tools.

Who are these enemies? The "Orientation Resolution" adopted by the Congress speaks euphemistically of "the local reaction." But in the leaders' and delegates' speeches two words recur: "the capitalists," "the bourgeoisie."

Even during the national liberation struggle, when nationalists from all classes adhered to the Istiqlal ("Independence") party, covert antagonism smoldered between the representatives of labor and of Moroccan capital. Independence in March 1956 carried the Istiqlal leaders to power, but the labor movement found that its fight had just begun. The successive governments since independence tended to favor capitalist accumulation of wealth and privilege.

SPLIT IN ISTIQLAL

The Istiqlal party found itself torn between its old upper-class leadership and a left-wing based on the labor movement. The old-guard leaders refused to convene a convention of the party, in order to retain control through the rigidly centralized structure preserved from the underground days.

Last fall, the labor movement forced the resignation of the government headed by Hadj Ahmed Balafrej, Istiqlal secretary-general. After a month-long cabinet crisis, the UMT won a political victory when King Mohammed V chose left-wing leader Abdallah Ibrahim to head the new government.

On Jan. 25, the left followed up on this victory. In every important city of Morocco the party's rank-and-file members were convened in special meetings aimed at taking control away from the old leadership. And everywhere the basic cadres of the "25th-of-January movement" were provided by the UMT.

The old leadership of the Istiqlal rallied around the Zaim

The organizers of the campaign counted on the effect of their financial resources which, for instance, permit them to publish two Arab-language daily papers, while the UMT had none at all until three weeks ago. The propaganda of the right-wing, like that of the French before independence, sought to play on the most backward ideas of the workers: the UMT was accused of "atheism" and "republicanism," of being strike-happy and of engaging in politics. "Exploitation is once again being justified by the bugbear of religious and social heresy," said Mahjoub ben Seddik in his Orientation Report to the Congress:

PAPER 'UNIONS'

The right-wing press has compiled an impressive list of "autonomous unions" — but none of them has yet proved, for instance by waging a strike, that it exists other than on paper. And despite the claim of these "unions" to "the crushing majority of the working class," the UMT ranks have remained solid.

The Congress was proof enough that the drive to split the UMT had failed completely. This was no bureaucratic con-fab. The delegates were virtually all men (and a few women) who are currently working in factory or mine, farm, school, or private agency, and they spoke out confidently from the rostrum of the Congress. Despite the applause and cheers through which the delegates expressed their support to Mahjoub and to the general program of the UMT leadership, criticisms and disagreements were freely voiced.

But the greatest achievement of the Congress was probably the educational effect it had on the delegates. A young unionist from Ksar-es-Souk (a town not far from the Sahara) told us that many delegates came to Casablanca with doubts and uncertainties inspired by the propaganda against the UMT, but that the "Orientation Report" won their whole-hearted acceptance.

This report and the "Activities Report" define the guiding concepts of Moroccan labor and outline a program for the social and economic transformation of Morocco.

The UMT affirms its belief in "authentic and revolutionary unionism, organically independent of all political parties, but

supporting all political action in conformity with the interests of the toiling masses." It rejects the policy of "no politics" which capitalist politicians — angered by the labor movement's refusal to support them — want the unions to adopt. Instead, the UMT proudly accepts "the role of vanguard of the Moroccan people in its march toward liberation from any form of servitude and the establishment of a political, economic, and social democracy."

ECONOMIC PROGRAM

The UMT's economic program is closely geared to the grave problems of Morocco. It is not based on any specific doctrine — which makes it all the more significant for Marxists. It calls for nationalization of the central banking system, transportation and power supply; development of basic industry under state ownership; nationalization of a considerable part of foreign trade and tight government control over the rest; "a coherent plan of economic development"; and, most important of all in an agricultural country 60% of whose peasants are landless, a sweeping land reform aiming at "a total transformation of agrarian structures" based on co-operative production.

Although this program nowhere uses the word "socialist," Morocco's labor leaders and rank-and-file militants are not afraid to declare themselves socialists. For they have a goal that transcends all others — as Mahjoub proclaimed to the Congress: "To end the exploitation of man by man."

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Detroit	600	385	64
Newark	265	142	54
Twin Cities	1,700	888	52
New York	4,200	1,953	46
St. Louis	80	35	44
Los Angeles	4,400	1,905	43
San Diego	245	100	41
Chicago	1,000	400	40
Denver	25	10	40
Seattle	50	155	31
Milwaukee	250	73	29
Cleveland	750	200	27
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General	15	86	—
Total through May 4	\$16,100	\$6,842	42

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Socialism and Humanism

Among Soviet thinkers a tendency has appeared that puts the welfare of human beings above material success. The writings of these thinkers offer a challenge to Marxists in their struggle for a socialist Humanism.

What is the relation between Marxism and the philosophy of Humanism, especially its Soviet version? For a thought-provoking consideration of this problem, read "Socialism and Humanism" by William F. Warde. In the spring issue of the International Socialist Review. Send 35 cents for a copy.

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How Much More Blood?

Does America really believe in "equality before the law?"

Its statesmen proclaim so. It is one of their boasts in the propaganda about the "free world."

And it is written in the Constitution. Here is what it says: "No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States, nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the law." (Article XIV, Section 1.)

But the reality is different. This fact was written once again in blood when the Mississippi lynch mob dragged 23-year-old Mack C. Parker from a jail cell in Poplarville and murdered him.

Parker was innocent of the charge of raping a white woman. He insisted on his innocence. And, as the Constitution declares, under American law an accused person is innocent until proven otherwise.

But the lynchers decided they were the law. As in other racist-minded areas, they thirsted for their periodic blood orgy. These sadists, reports indicate, were convinced that Parker could not possibly be convicted in a fair trial, for there was no evidence against him. Even the white woman who singled him out of a group of prospective Negro candidates for Southern "justice" admitted that she could not be sure; and that, in fact, his voice was quite different from that of the real criminal.

Most damning of all are the indications of collusion between the authorities whose duty it was to protect the prisoner in their charge and the animals in human form who dragged him down the stairs.

Judge Sebe Dale decided that no special precautions were necessary to protect the Negro youth. He ordered him transferred to the very jail most easily accessible to the bloodthirsty racists. The sheriff, as was his custom, left the jail unguarded at night, retiring conveniently to his home nine miles away. The lynchers coolly unlocked the courthouse door, went directly to the filing cabinet where the sheriff put the cell keys that night—contrary to custom, proceeded from there to the cell and singled out Parker with as much ease as if they were on the courthouse payroll.

Is stronger evidence needed that "equality before the law" is not practiced in Mississippi?

Is stronger evidence needed to impel Congress to pass federal legislation against lynching so as to take such cases out of the hands of state authorities?

The leaders of the Democratic and Republican parties take an oath, on assuming office, to uphold the Constitution. How much more innocent blood must drip into the White House and the halls of Congress before they decide that this oath is something more than a mere ritual and the Constitution something more than a worthless scrap of paper?

A "Crash" Program for Cancer

With former Secretary of State Dulles and entertainer Arthur Godfrey stricken with cancer, there has been an intensification of public interest in the problem of conquering this disease. A sound approach to the problem was indicated by Senator Richard Neuberger in a speech in New York April 30. He urged a federal "crash" program for cancer research and assailed the Eisenhower administration for planning to cut rather than expand the expenditure for such research.

Neuberger, who recently recovered from cancer and obviously has a serious interest in the problem, pointed to the cases of Dulles, Godfrey and the late Senator Taft as examples of the toll being taken by the disease. On the same day, Dr. Edmund Gowdry, a leading American cancer expert, warned that one fourth of the world's population will die of the disease in the next 65 years unless the rate of incidence is checked.

Yet federal expenditures for cancer research are being held to rock bottom in

the name of a "balanced" budget. This "balancing" is grimly ironic. Anti-cancer funds are pared down to help offset the huge cost of a federal program that helps spread the disease. We mean the explosion of nuclear weapons, whose fallout is cancer-producing.

The 1958 budget provided \$2½ billion for the Atomic Energy Commission, and a similar amount will be allocated for the AEC in the coming fiscal year. Under the bi-partisan cold-war policy, most of this sum will go to develop methods of nuclear warfare. Meanwhile it is proposed to spend a meager \$75 million for cancer research — \$34 million less than the amount requested by the responsible agencies. The reduced figure will mean the loss of ten to 12 research centers and the curtailment of various experimental projects.

We believe the federal budget is way out of balance now. One means of righting it, we think, is to reallocate the sums devoted to nuclear weapons for a cancer "crash program."

The Geneva 'Big 4' Conference

The conference of the Big Four foreign ministers scheduled to open in Geneva, May 11, will register a continued "thaw" in the cold war. It is not expected to arrive at solutions—lest of all a lasting solution to the problem of divided Germany or even divided Berlin. However, at sessions in Paris and Warsaw, the U.S.-led bloc and the Warsaw-Pact powers drew up their proposals in such a way as to allow protracted negotiations over the Berlin question.

The May 3 New York Times says, "... the consensus is that Geneva will be only a way station to the summit." And at his press conference May 5 Eisenhower declared that a foreign ministers conference had only to hold out a ray of hope for the heads of governments to meet. The May 6 Christian Science Monitor reports that Eisenhower is now so much inclined to a summit gathering that he is warming up to the possibility that it should be held in the U.S.

The British government apparently views even a summit conference as only a phase in a long process of negotiations. "The British foresee another summit session—after this summer—convening perhaps in December . . . then another next June, with foreign ministers' sessions and special commissions meeting in the interstices from time to time." (May 2 Christian Science Monitor.)

Further moves in the attempt on both sides of the cold war to maintain the "thaw" in international relations include Nixon's forthcoming visit to Moscow in July to open the U.S. exposition there and a prospective visit by Khrushchev to the U.S. to open the Soviet exposition in New York. These are follow-ups to the tour of

the United States conducted last winter by Mikoyan.

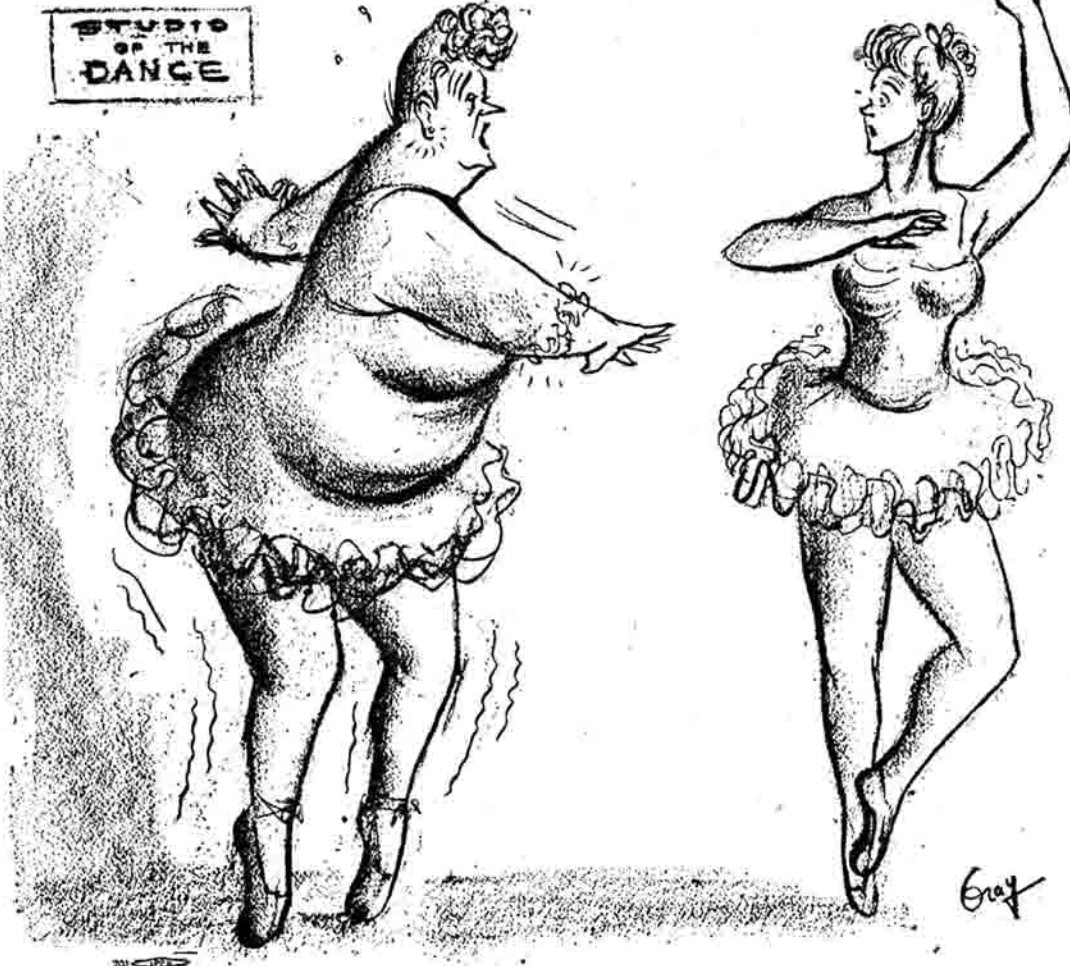
The "thaw" in the cold war stems from continuous reverses that Washington has suffered in its war drive against the Soviet Union. The truth of the matter is that U.S. cold-war moves are unpopular all over the globe.

Thus some observers in the capitalist press have speculated that the current U.S. foreign policy of greater "flexibility" is really designed to help the British Conservative Party to win the next election. Without such a policy, it is held, the strong anti-war sentiment in Britain would inevitably bring the Labor Party to power.

But it isn't only in Britain that popular anti-war sentiment must be reckoned with. Though less pronounced in this country, it played a role in the outcome of the elections last November, and both big business parties must continue to take it into account as they prepare for the 1960 elections.

The "thaw" does not dispel the danger of war, which is lodged in the drive of big business in the United States, Japan and Western Europe to exploit the world. Furthermore, working people must be on guard everywhere against attempts by the Soviet bureaucracy to sacrifice their struggles for socialism in the illusory hope that the "thaw" might thus be prolonged indefinitely.

Working people should welcome the current relaxation of cold-war tensions, above all because it is a mark of their influence in world affairs and because it provides them with greater opportunities to struggle for socialism, which alone can secure lasting peace.



"We've just got to meet the challenge of that Bolshevik Ballet!"

On Marx's 141st Birthday, His Ghost Haunts Capitalist Class

By Murry Weiss
 May 5 marked the 141st anniversary of Karl Marx's birth. He was born in Trier, Germany, in 1818. His theories of scientific socialism are now enjoying an all-time high of popularity throughout the world.

Here in the United States, Marx is not ignored either. Scarcely a day passes that Marxism isn't being misrepresented, vilified and baited by the mass media of capitalist propaganda. That, too, is a form of tribute to Marx — if not exactly a mark of "popularity," for there is no denying that the influence in this country of a socialist movement based on his teachings is temporarily at an ebb.

If Marxism has so few avowed supporters, in the United States, why is propaganda against it so strong? Marx supplied the answer to this question with his theory of the class struggle. But it is the actual class struggle here and abroad — and not the theory of it — that disturbs the capitalists' peace of mind. It is the daily and yearly verification of Marx's theories that is unnerving to the big business rulers of America.



KARL MARX

The class struggle in capitalist society, which Marx said was the main force shaping the history of our times, has led to the overthrow of capitalism in one third of the world's area inhabited by a billion people. They are now building the foundation of a socialist society, which Marx predicted would supplant capitalism. Their example influences an ever growing number of people throughout the world — now especially in the economically underdeveloped areas — in a socialist direction. Thus it is the continuing process of social revolution that produces capitalist fulminations — and occasionally hysterical outbursts — against Marx.

In the United States, too, despite the oceans of printers' ink and mountains of paper that have gone into anti-Marxist propaganda, the class struggle continues to manifest itself.

Let us recall that as recently as 25 years ago American capitalism lived in an open-shop paradise. In steel, rubber, auto, meatpacking, textile, electrical goods, transportation and many other industries, the workers confronted the corporations as helpless wage slaves, at the mercy of the greediest and most ruthless capitalist exploiters in the world. If the slaves rebelled they were beaten and routed by company police (including the official police force) and by hired thugs. They were thrown out of company-owned homes, refused credit at company stores and starved into submission. Union organizers were tarred and feathered or shot. Big business has suffered quite

a come-down from those days of uninhibited, free enterprise. They now confront powerful industrial unions. They must deal with union negotiating committees and grant wage increases, welfare plans, limitations on the working day, protection of the workers' life on the job, pension plans and vacations with pay. Is there any wonder that the diabolical ghost of Karl Marx evokes such keen hatred?

MARX'S FORERUNNERS

As a matter of fact, the capitalist spokesmen vent too much of their anger on Marx. They should save some of it for earlier thinkers belonging to their own class — men like Adam Smith, David Ricardo and Benjamin Franklin — who discovered many of the basic economic laws on which Marx's conclusions were based. In a letter to Joseph Weydemeyer, dated March 5, 1852, Marx wrote:

"As far as I am concerned, the honor does not belong to me for having discovered the existence of either classes in modern society or of the struggle between the classes. Bourgeois historians a long time before me expounded the historical development of this class struggle, and bourgeois economists, the economic anatomy of classes. What was new on my part, was to prove the following: (1) that the existence of classes is connected only with certain historical struggles which arise out of the development of production; (2) that class struggle necessarily leads to the dictatorship of the proletariat; (3) that this dictatorship is itself only a transition to the abolition of all classes and to a classless society."

PERVERT SCIENCE

Profound thinkers of the rising capitalist class paved the way for Marx's theories with their own discoveries of the objective laws governing the capitalist system. But as soon as the class struggle between the employers and the workers burst out in earnest, genuinely scientific investigation in economics was forced to give way to what Marx called vulgar economics — a system of cheap rationalizations and apologies for capitalist exploitation as an eternal law of human nature.

Marx picked up where the earlier, brilliant school of pro-capitalist economists had left off. He unravelled the complex difficulties that beset them and showed why they were unable to transcend these difficulties. He showed how the class struggle was rooted in capitalist relations of production and would inevitably lead the working class to overthrow the capitalist productive relations. He proved through the most painstaking study of history and of the revolutionary events of his time the independent role that the working class must play in the struggle to transform society from capitalism to socialism.

Actually, the more sophisticated thinkers of the capitalist class in America today are not foolish enough to waste their time "denying" the existence of the class struggle. They are too busy trying to win it.

The same holds true for the more sophisticated wing of the American labor bureaucracy. They acknowledge the reality of

the class struggle — at least to themselves — and try to cheat it by cementing "class-collaborationist" alliances with the employing class. Thereby they hope to preserve their special place in capitalist society at the expense of the class interests of the workers. It is possible, that at the very next stage of American history, when the class struggle again erupts with full force on the American scene, a number of shrewd labor officials will even pose as "Marxists" in order better to deceive the working class.

In any case, the world process of decline and crisis of capitalism will not spare the United States. The majority of workers will advance from mere trade-union consciousness to socialist political thinking. An influential Marxist-minded left-wing will develop in the unions and will be the base for the emergence of a sizable revolutionary socialist party. Howlers against Marx will really have something to howl about then.

The American Way of Life

You Can't Coddle Them

When the stress of living in America rises, as it always does when millions are thrown out of work or the cost of living moves ahead, an increase in crime and delinquency occurs. Sociologists and criminologists have long held that the ultimate cause of these maladjustments is to be traced to ills in the economy.

But some of our Democratic and Republican lawmakers think that this view is so much mush. As guardians of capitalist property rights, they have a simpler solution; namely, to stop coddling malefactors. Get tough with them. That, they contend, is the American Way.

That's why Republican and Democratic legislators in the State of New York recently passed, by an overwhelming majority, a bill to give school teachers the privilege of beating children entrusted to their care. Gov. Rockefeller, fortunately, vetoed the measure. Now in the State of Delaware, Gov. Boggs is considering a bill passed by a similarly heavy majority making it mandatory to use the lash in cases of "armed" robbery. "Armed" means any case in which fear is aroused in a victim or a "threat of violence" is involved. The penalty would be 20 to 40 lashes for the first offense and not less than 30 for each subsequent one.

The whipping post has been used for 150 years in Delaware, but it is not mandatory. Here is how it is administered, according to a Delaware official:

"Before a flogging the prisoner is examined by a doctor. If he is in good condition he is stripped to the waist and bound to the whipping post. . . . The warden uses a cat-o-nine-tails, which consists of nine pieces of heavy rawhide attached to a handle.

"The law says the lashes must be 'well laid on.' But regulations call for the warden to lay them on with his arms held straight — in other words, he is not allowed to bend his elbows the way you would if you were flogging a mule. He brings his 'cat' straight around onto the man's back. When it's all over, the man is taken to the infirmary."

Dr. David Abrahamson, a noted psychologist, said: "It is a step backward 400 years in time."

Paul F. Livingston, the only Negro member of the House and one of the three to vote

against the savage measure, said: "When you whip his back then you got him. He can never lift his head up any more."

These sentiments express the real American Way, which is to leave the Middle Ages behind, and at least strive to approach the problem of crime in a civilized way.

—Paul Abbott

21% of National Income Goes to Richest 5%

Even with full employment, overtime and two or three members of the family working — the lower income groups in the U.S. have only increased their relative economic position to the top brackets by 10% in the prosperity period from the beginning of World War II to the present. Selma F. Goldsmith of the U.S. Department of Commerce reports that in 1929 5% of America's richest families got 30% of the nation's income. By 1947 this figure had been reduced to 20.9%. Only fractional changes have occurred in this percentage since then.

In contrast to this great concentration of income in the hands of 5% at the top, 40% of America's families at the bottom of the ladder received 13% of the national income in 1929, according to figures made public by the Commerce Department. This was less than one-half of what the top 5% received. In 1947 families in the bottom 40% received 16% of the national income.

It is true that the remaining 55% of American families have absorbed a larger proportion of the national income since the beginning of World War II. However, the latest figures (1957) reveal that the national income is still heavily concentrated at the top. Thus the lowest fifth of the nation receives 4.8%; second fifth, 11.3%; third, 16.3%; fourth, 22.3%; top fifth, 45.3%.

BIG AUDIENCE

America sure must like Westerns. Out of 51.4 million homes, roughly 49.5 million now have radios and 44 million have TV receivers.

Headlines in Other Lands

Syngman Rhee Suppresses Another Opposition Paper

Korean dictator Syngman Rhee suppressed Kyunghyang Shinmun, an opposition newspaper, on May 1. The Government Information Office claimed that the paper had printed editorials and articles of a "false" nature. Although in each case where "error" had been committed Kyunghyang Shinmun had printed a clarification—the paper was closed under Ordinance 88 of the former United States Military Government of South Korea.

This Ordinance, proclaimed in 1946 to "curb Communist subversive propaganda," is now being used by Rhee to crush all opposition.

The newspaper, with a circulation of 150,000, is supported by Roman Catholics and has backed Vice-President John M. Chang, leader of the Opposition Democratic Party. It is expected to file an administrative suit against the government.

U.S. Govt. Holds Up Austrian Oil Loan

U.S. officials are holding up some \$45 million in funds—usually lent Austria annually for oil development projects—because of "displeasure" over that country's failure to favor U.S. oil interests. The Socialist and Catholic coalition government will leave it up to the people at the polls May 10. The Catholic People's Party wants to accede to U.S. demands; the Socialists want to keep the oil wells under government control.

Guinea President Defends Purchase Of Czech Arms

"If you insist Guinea is Communist, that settles it," declared President Sekou Toure. Thus he replied to a deliberate U.S. campaign against the Guinean government because it has ac-

cepted shipments of arms from Czechoslovakia.

President Toure says that he had first asked the United States for weapons last October when France pulled out all its forces from Guinea. He never received a reply. The U.S. State Department denies any formal request on the part of Toure although an unofficial request is acknowledged.

Questioned by Elie Abel, N.Y. Times correspondent on April 28, Toure said relations between U.S. and Guinea were good but that undoubtedly there has been created a gap conditioned "on the side of the United States by French-American relations . . . There is a sort of subordination of our interests, which has been particularly marked recently."

U.S. Armed Might Massed Against 89 Rebels in Panama

It was not to protect one million Panamanians that the U.S. rushed all sorts of armaments to Panama last week when a "force" of 89 men "invaded" the country from Cuba. Any "attack" on Panama is considered by the State Department as a direct attack on the United States, for the Panama Canal—operated by the U.S.-owned Panama Canal Co.—cuts this little country in two.

The discontent of the Panamanian people is what the U.S. government really fears. The people of this virtual U.S. colony have been kept in poverty while the Panama Canal Co. is amassing profits. Last year it netted well over \$80 million. The Panamanian government received a mere \$1.9 million for its leasehold on the Canal Zone.

The regime of President de la Guardia has been shaky for some time. Henry Gemmill reports in the Wall Street Journal that this invasion was just the "latest evidence" of the instability of the regime. There have been "sporadic outbreaks in the provinces and rioting in the capital." About 12% of the labor force is jobless and "per capita income runs about \$237 yearly." Twenty percent of the working population receive

their income directly "from U.S. operation of the Canal and defense forces based in the Canal Zone and from one private American firm, Chiriqui Land Co., banana growing subsidiary of United Fruit."

Although the 89 invaders (most of whom are Cuban) are now under arrest, Gemmill fears that the whole incident "could become another example of U.S. 'imperialism and colonialism' for the leftists of Latin America to talk about endlessly."

However, the leftists aren't the only ones to resent U.S. interference. The Panamanian newspaper Pan American answered the attack of Senator Smathers (D-Fla.) that the invasion was "Communist-inspired." The paper replied: "The world is tired of hearing Americans label everything that is non-U.S. as Communistic. It is almost amusing that when most U.S. citizens are asked to comment on a foreign situation in which U.S. interests such as money are imperilled they holler Communist."

State Dept. Deaf To Castro's Call For Economic Aid

Cuban Premier Fidel Castro put the U.S. government on the spot at the economic conference in Buenos Aires of the Inter-American Committee of Twenty-One, on May 2. He urged the United States to provide \$30 billion for Latin American economic development during the next ten years.

The U.S. delegation to the conference has refused to answer the Cuban leader. Thomas C. Mann, Assistant Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, decided, according to the N.Y. Times, "to push ahead with consideration of major resolutions, feeling that these will speak for the cooperative spirit of the United States."

Roy R. Rubottom, Jr., Assistant Secretary for Inter-American Affairs said he didn't feel that Castro spoke for all Latin America: "We don't intend to engage in polemics."

Bumped, Bothered And Bewildered

Editor: Now I've had everything. Girls won't date me because I'm laid off. Can't get work in some places because I'm not married. Can't get work in other lines because I haven't got a college degree.

about her in the papers. One mother like that is worth a hundred speeches.

On Union Democracy

Editor: Enclosed is money for my renewal. About your request for suggestions about the Militant, I think the facts should be brought out about the fantastic salaries of labor leaders like Meany, etc.

Also, I think all union leaders should be elected by referendum vote of the members.

College Student Gets Pro and Con Reactions to Militant

Editor: Several months ago I subscribed to the Militant, and now I would like to subscribe to the International Socialist Review. I have enjoyed reading the paper very much in my spare time between studies.

Since I am graduating from college this June I hope to be able to attend some of the meetings

and lectures concerning today's many complex problems. As a member of the interracial committee at this college which includes students of all races, I have given the Militant to many students to read. They have many opinions pro and con about the paper, too numerous to list here.

I am looking forward now to getting the International Socialist Review.

C. S., Jr. New York

God's Gift To the Gods

Editor: Here it is the first of May but all I heard on the radio this morning was that April was the driest on record for the state of Texas. Rains were only spotted this year.

Soil bank kitty money takes care of the few and lets the rest work their backs off and starve. The local paper helps take care of the situation by explaining that man never dies and that God said the land is his gift. But the Gods of this world say it's a gift to them. So there is no land for our children.

Enclosed is \$2.50 to help print the paper.

J. C. Coleman, Texas

... Sheriff

(Continued from Page 1) had been informed by phone only that there was "trouble" at the jail, this designation of Parker as the "right" man would indicate prior knowledge of the lynch plans.

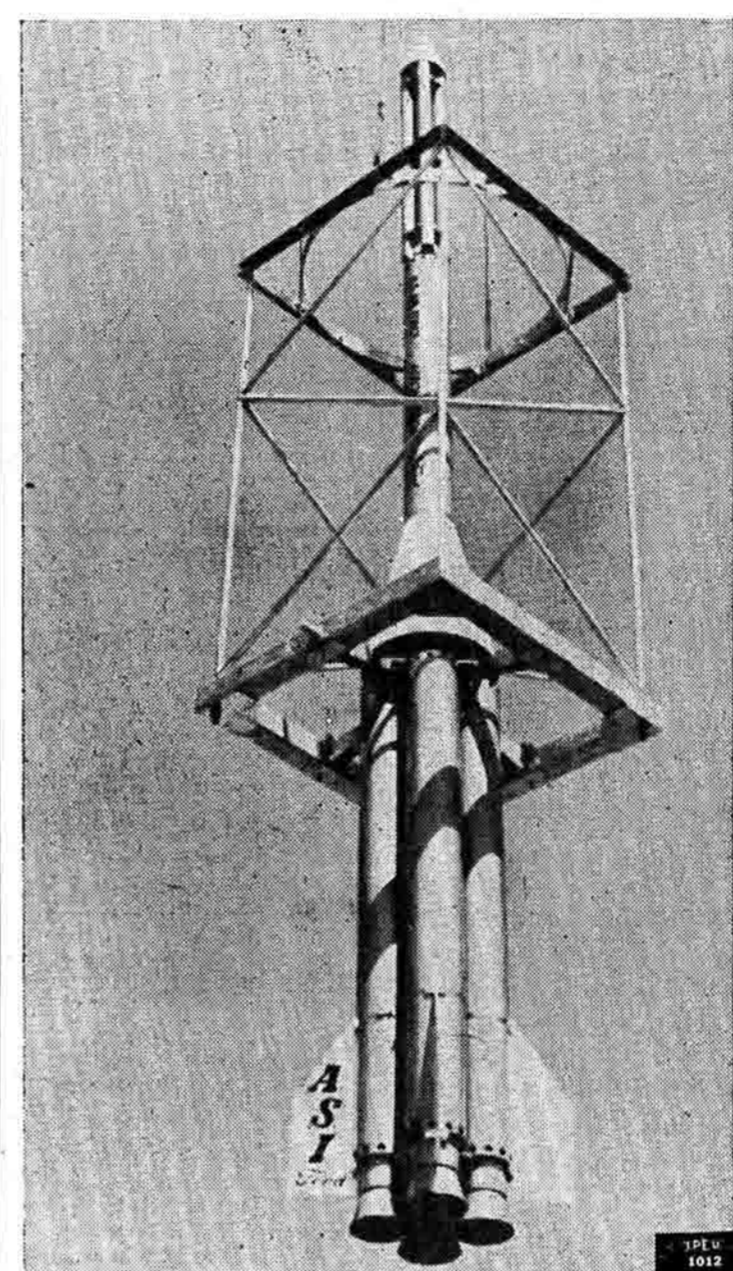
Another Negro paper, the Chicago Daily Defender, broke a story charging that this same sheriff had framed evidence against Parker. Two Daily Defender reporters aided Parker's brother-in-law, Lee C. Underwood, to make a secret getaway from Poplarville. Now Underwood says that he and two other Negroes had been coerced by Sheriff Moody into making false accusations against Parker. Their testimony was vital to the prosecution's case because the rape victim herself was very uncertain in her identification of Parker.

The gist of the corroborative testimony of Underwood and several other friends whom Parker drove home the night of the alleged crime, was that they had noticed a white woman in a stalled car on the highway and that Parker had stated he had designs on her.

Safe in Chicago, Underwood denies that he and the others passed any stalled car that night or that anyone had seen the white woman or that Parker had made any such statement. Underwood declared: "They made us say it. They threatened to beat me and I know they beat one of the boys. They told me if I didn't say it about Parker, they would send me to Jackson to jail and make me an accessory to the crime." Underwood also described how Sheriff Moody had rehearsed him on the story for two hours. "He made me say just what he wanted me to say, and when I got it like he wanted it, he took it down on tape."

'OUTSIDERS DID IT' In Vicksburg, Miss., R. Jess Brown, Parker's attorney said, he believed Underwood's statements to the Chicago Daily Defender because his own investigation of the crime and close and repeated questioning of Parker on this point had convinced him Parker was telling the truth.

Along with the first news of the lynching came statements by local officials that it was a complete surprise because there had been no popular interest, let alone mob feeling, about the case in the county. For this reason, they said, it must have been "outsiders" from another county who made up the lynch gang. Such statements are now revealed as deliberate fabrications. As soon as Parker's lawyers began laying the basis for an appeal to the federal courts of his certain conviction by a local all-white jury, a newspaper campaign was begun against Parker, his lawyers and the NAACP. Also, it was only when Mississippi officials realized Parker's case would be appealed on constitutional grounds that he was transferred from the safe jail in the state capital to the unguarded jail in Poplarville.



Guided missile, such as experimental model produced by Ford above, are being mass-produced by aircraft industry. Switch from planes to missile production is one reason why employment in Los Angeles aircraft plants has been reduced.

Estimates put the monthly new arrivals looking for work in this area at 6,000 to 7,000 a month. Local industry is certainly not expanding rapidly enough to absorb them plus the annual muster of young people graduating from school — especially since automation disemploys, a constantly growing number of workers. Local Pollyannas, who see nothing but unbudded prosperity in the future, are forced to admit that Los Angeles unemployment looks good only in comparison to Buffalo and Detroit. As the writer in the Mirror-News says, "141,700 here jobless would make a fair-sized city in any land."

Forty-three thousand Los Angeles carpenters, whose contract with employers expired April 30 and who are negotiating a new one, have taken a step in the right direction to meet the unemployment problem. They are demanding a 35-hour week at 40 hours pay, besides overall wage increases. All other unions ought to follow the carpenters' example and campaign for a progressive shortening of the work-week with no reduction in take-home pay. Unemployed workers should be entitled to receive compensation equivalent to full wages for the entire period that they are out of work.

Jobless Total In Los Angeles Held 'Low' at 5%

By Milton Alvin LOS ANGELES — "L.A. BRIGHT SPOT IN U.S. JOB PICTURE," is how the Mirror-News headlined its story on unemployment here. The "bright spot" actually has 141,700 jobless, a little over 5% of the total number of workers employed in the Los Angeles area.

A year ago there were 192,500 unemployed, so the present figure shows a decline of 50,800. However, the Department of Employment — which says "The job situation here isn't bad, but it isn't good, either" — bases its figures on those claiming unemployment compensation. Since a good number of workers must have exhausted their benefits during the past year, it stands to reason that the decline from a year ago in the jobless total must be less than claimed.

Some industries, it is true, are booming — particularly construction and electronics. The latter has become the second largest industry in Los Angeles, employing 101,500 workers. But aircraft, the number one industry, is constantly decreasing its factory rolls as it switches to missile production. Auto production for 1959 has passed its peak locally, and large-scale layoffs have taken place.

IT DOESN'T COME EASY It takes an American worker 29.6 minutes on the average to earn the price of a pound of round steak; 20.7 minutes for a pound of butter and 9.9 minutes for a can of peaches.

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Win Commutation For Carolina Negro In 'Rape' Case

The North Carolina Committee of the Southern Conference Educational Fund was formally organized May 2 when SCEF officials and supporters met at Shaw University in Raleigh. The Committee is the first to be formed within the south-wide framework of SCEF.

A delegation from Goldsboro, N.C., expressed appreciation to the North Carolina Committee, the SCEF and the Committee to Combat Racial Injustice for their help in winning commutation of a death sentence imposed upon David Lee Hicks — sentenced to die on May 1 on a charge of joining six other Negroes in raping a white woman. The SCEF Committee voted to carry on a campaign to get all of the men paroled.

Beware of the Whipsaw

By Herman Chauka

During a visit to Las Vegas, a friendly hotel clerk warned me to stay away from the poker tables. It seems that in each game there are two house men who quickly and efficiently "whipsaw" the unwary novice out of his money. From what I read in the papers, the "whipsaw" operation is currently in action on a vast scale in the stock market.

Five million people may be out of work, but there are still quite a few others around with some ready cash and the urge to get rich quick. It's reached the point where "legitimate" stock brokers and the federal Securities Exchange Commission are getting concerned.

"Speculation has attracted the lambs to be fleeced, and it follows that manipulators are active again," says the April 11 Business Week. From uranium mines to Florida "land development," low-priced stocks are getting a record play on the basis of "inside tips" on how to triple your money overnight. Shares in one Florida land outfit shot up from \$30.75 to \$77.50 in a matter of weeks — and back down to \$47.25 in even less time. Some of the bigger brokers are tightening margin requirements — demanding more cash reserves — because of "the fantastically wide fluctuations" in stock prices.

Legend has it that just before the 1929 crash, every office boy on Wall Street was playing the market. Today the fever has invaded broader spheres. One broker tells of a 16-year-old who approached him at a Boy Scout meeting for inside dope on investing some cash he had on hand. The broker advised a stable, major corporation that offers a regular 5% return on investment. A week later, he said, the boy was back demanding to know how much his stock had gone up.

One survey shows that today 25% of the population is talking about the stock market as compared to 9% a year ago. "The same wild

rumor that moved a stock one eighth a year ago seems to move it eight points today," says an SEC spokesman.

The craze is nation-wide. Last month the volume of stock trading was up 328% over the same month a year ago. In the first quarter of this year, trading on the Pacific Coast Stock Exchange more than doubled the volume of the same period a year ago. Chicago's Midwest Stock Exchange reports a 57% increase for first quarter 1959 over first quarter 1958.

G. Keith Funston, president of the New York Stock Exchange warned April 6 against the extensive trend toward speculation "by people who don't know what they're buying."

"Instances are not rare, I'm unhappy to say, in which a buyer of a given stock hasn't the foggiest idea of what line of endeavor he has entered as a part owner."

A spokesman for a large Wall Street house put it more bluntly: "These guys are just numbers players."

The SEC says it is considering "criminal prosecution" of manipulators whose "whipsaw" activities go hand in hand with wide public speculation. These operators gather up shares in a Florida outfit specializing in choice under-water lots, get the rumor spread far and wide that the particular stock is due to shoot up fast and then unload even faster when the suckers start clambering on the bandwagon.

The SEC and the big outfits that are doing well enough "legitimately" are worried that the present activity of the manipulators will lead to a loud public bleat by the fleeced lambs. "Danger, Inside Tip Ahead," warns an advertisement to be published in 220 papers by the august Wall Street house of Merrill, Lynch, Pearce, Fenner and Smith.

Anyone want to buy shares to stake me to poker?

Notes in the News

ITALIAN PAPER CONTINUES SACCO-VANZETTI DRIVE—Il Messaggero, a Rome paper, is conducting a campaign to clear the names of Nicola Sacco and Bartolomeo Vanzetti who were legally murdered 32 years ago by the State of Massachusetts. They were victims of a drive against radicals and foreigners. Il Messaggero published a statement April 30 by a former Italian consulate official reiterating that Sacco was in his Boston office at the time the state claimed he was participating in an armed robbery. On April 1, the Massachusetts House, without debate or a roll-call vote, rejected a bill for posthumous pardon of the two labor martyrs. Their action followed a public hearing where the evidence proving frameup was again presented.

COULD YOU USE \$47,221 ON RETIREMENT?—That's the amount you will shell out in taxes during your working lifetime if you are an average wage earner with an income of \$5,183 a year. You will work for ten years just to pay this tax bill says the magazine "Taxes," published by the Commerce Clearing House. Or, to look at it another way, every fourth working day that you put in is strictly for the benefit of the tax collector.

A GOOD EXAMPLE—Six Brooklyn boys, arrested on a charge of mischief, were given a rather startling closeup of New York's "finest." They were waiting in the police station to be taken to Adolescent Court by the cop who arrested them. Suddenly, to their amazement, three other policemen grabbed the arresting officer, disarmed him when he pulled a gun, and took a watch from his pocket that they said he had just stolen from a desk in the station. The cop was hauled off to jail on charges of felonious assault and petit larceny. Someone else took the boys to court.

ONE ON THE HOUSE—To demonstrate the advantages of public ownership of power, the People's Utility District at Clatskanie, Ore., gave its customers free electricity for the month of April.

SMOG KICKS BACK IN NEW YORK—New York was blanketed with a thick, black and oily soot April 30. It fell so heavily that automobiles left tire tracks. Police reported that many people suffered eye irritation and heavy breathing. Weather experts explained that the countless tons of industrial waste belched in the New York sky usually falls on other areas but, that a combination of atmospheric circumstances kept it at the point of

origin this time. Police went to the top of the Empire State Building to see if the soot was coming from any particular source but the atmosphere was so thick with it that they couldn't see much of anything. The technical means for eliminating such poisonous wastes were perfected a long time ago, but it costs money so the smog continues.

NEW WITCH-HUNT MEASURES SCORED—Pending bills in Congress to make the Smith Act more punitive and to stiffen passport and "security" screenings were vigorously opposed in a May 2 statement by 35 professors at Columbia, Cornell, Harvard, Pennsylvania and Yale Law Schools. In a telegram to Senator Eastland (D-Miss.) chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee they said that the proposed measures "jeopardize many of the values most highly cherished in a free society." Opposition was also voiced before the Senate Internal Security subcommittee April 30 by Clark Foreman, Director of the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee. "Let me urge again that you consider the damage which has already been done by measures of the kind you are now considering. Do not add to the injury of American democracy," Mr. Foreman said.

THE POT AND THE KETTLE—In an April 28 lecture at Columbia University, former President Truman criticized the lack of religious freedom in fascist Spain. In a reply the next day, the Spanish Ambassador reminded Truman that he had "renewed full diplomatic relations, and commenced negotiations for the joint military agreements between the United States and Spain, in defense of the Western world."

NEW YORK ADOPTS UNION REGULATION LAW—Gov. Rockefeller signed a measure into law April 18 that makes New York the first state in the country empowered to regulate union finances. The act requires the filing of an annual financial statement with the state as well as with union members. It bars union officials from having interests in or dealings with any company with whom their union negotiates. It establishes procedures for lending union funds and provides penalties for officials subordinating union interests to their own gain. Maximum penalties are a year in jail and a \$1,000 fine. The measure was opposed by the AFL-CIO, but labor-endorsed Democrats as well as Republicans voted almost unanimously for it. Now the administration is preparing new legislation for regulation of union elections.

By Joyce Cowley

The New York Blue Cross, which was granted a 22% increase in rates last year, is asking for another 34% this year. While some workers get Blue Cross as part of their company benefits, and others get hospital insurance through their unions, millions have to pay for it. The payments, unlike their paychecks, are steadily going up.

Blue Cross, as anyone in their public relations department will promptly assure you if you call up and check, is a non-profit service organization. The reason they have to raise rates is because hospital costs are rising so rapidly. In fact, their request for last year's increase was based on an estimate of what they expect hospital rates will be in 1962. In other words, we started paying for these rates three years before they will go into effect — if they do.

2 + 2 = ?

At last year's public hearings, Blue Cross officials, who can so accurately predict the rise in hospital costs years before they occur, were curiously inept in dealing with more immediate figures. They announced that they had paid out claims amounting to \$123,940,232 in 1956. The State Insurance Department corrected them. There was a small discrepancy and the sum was actually \$103,397,522.

They also said they had "very little left" in available surpluses. This "very little" turned out to be \$20,000,000. "But," said Blue Cross Chairman Garside, "that will be gone by June. We are losing a million a month." Even conceding that the figure on losses is correct, a million a month from December to June would not amount to \$20,000,000. Mathematical accuracy is apparently not an essential feature of the service that Blue Cross offers.

New York Blue Cross "operating expenses" amount to over \$9,000,000 a year. Close to \$3,000,000 of this goes for advertising. Such aggressive determination to be of service may be explained by another figure — salaries for officers and directors amount to \$5,961,566.17 a

year. The president, Charles Garside, makes \$58,769 (up \$24,981 since 1952) plus an expense account of \$2,500 out of which he pays for the upkeep of a company supplied car. Vice-president Van Dyk, in charge of public relations, makes \$39,634 plus \$4,000 for expenses and a company car. When he was asked why, if Blue Cross is so short of money, his salary had gone up almost \$15,000 in five years, he laughed and said: "That much?"

Again, this strange ineptitude with figures. It certainly doesn't trickle down to the clerks who check Blue Cross claims. When claimants who have been paying up for so many years ask for service, they find that they are treated with great suspicion. It is apparently assumed that their medical reports submitted by their doctors are fraudulent. They weren't really sick, or if they were, it was under conditions set forth in one of those

inconspicuous clauses, and not covered by benefits. ALMOST AN ALTRUIST Vice-president Van Dyk, commenting on his \$40,000 a year, says: "I've devoted twenty-five years of my life to Blue Cross. Though I'll admit I'm not wholly altruistic, still — I've given my life."

Another vice-president who pulls down \$37,000 a year says the company is making up for the years he was underpaid (at \$25,000?) and that a person who works for a non-profit organization doesn't have to be "penalized."

Fishing trips in a chartered boat for "important potential clients" are another item of overhead expense. But this is strictly service for the public, as vice-president Van Dyk says he would rather go fishing alone in his nine-foot dinghy. Labor unions, who subscribe to Blue Cross as part of union health plans, are one of the largest Blue Cross clients. They are beginning to realize that this legal and highly respectable organization is getting a bigger cut from union-welfare funds than ordinary racketeers. In 1956 the UAW fought the Michigan Blue Cross request for a 23% increase in rates, and threatened to pull its members out of Blue Cross and Blue Shield. This would have left the plans with only half of their previous membership. As a result, the increase was reduced to 15% and the governor appointed a commission to investigate health plans. Michigan Blue Cross officials may have to struggle along on salaries considerably lower than New York.

Unions have also been demanding representation on Blue Cross Boards, and last year as a concession two labor officials were added to the New York Board. I don't know how adequately they are compensated for this opportunity to be of service, but I suspect it's a move to buy off union opposition rather than to give the unions a voice in Blue Cross management.

PHILADELPHIA Joyce Cowley will speak on "The Recession: What Lies Ahead?" Sat., May 16, 8:30 p.m. at 1303 W. Girard Avenue. Militant Labor Forum. NEW YORK "Crisis in the Middle East." Three views: Don Leon, Hashomer Youth Organizer; a representative of the Arab Students Organization; and Bert Deck, Young Socialist. Fri., May 15, 8:30 p.m. at 116 University Pl. Militant Labor Forum. Contribution 50 cents. SAN FRANCISCO George Lewis and Virginia Kaye will speak on "The Negro Struggle for Education." Sat., May 16, 8 p.m. at 1145 Polk St., Room 4. Donation 50 cents. Auspices Socialist Workers Party.

We End up with Minus in Blue Cross Arithmetic

The unions have also complained about Blue Cross policy, locally and nationally, toward the organization of its own employees. For example, a couple of years ago the Dallas Blue Cross hired Nathan Shefferman, of McClellan Committee fame, to break a union drive. His son was put up at a hotel where he wrote company pamphlets and organized an anti-union group called the "Tru-Blues," another item in Blue Cross overhead expense. A government expert summed it up (he was talking about New York, but it applies to all Blue Cross groups): WINDOW DRESSING "Its Board of Directors is loaded with hospital administrators and Wall Street businessmen who may be hospital directors. The labor guys are there for the window dressing." It's time for the labor movement to take the lead, to withdraw support from Blue Cross and condemn it for what it is — a collection agency for hospital fees which makes these fees even higher by adding in its own overhead. But, while it is necessary to fight against further deceptions by these Wall Street wolves clothed in "public service," it is even more important to remember the underlying purpose of Blue Cross. "It was born," says an article in the New York Post, "out of . . . the fear that if private medicine didn't step in, the government would."

Calendar Of Events

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Local Directory

- BOSTON Boston Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave., Newark 200. CHICAGO 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, Temple 1-6135. LOS ANGELES Forum Hall and Modern Book Shop, 1702 E. 4th St. AN 9-4953 or WE 5-9238. 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. NEW YORK CITY Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place, AL 5-7852. OAKLAND - BERKELEY P.O. Box 341, Berkeley 1, Calif. PHILADELPHIA Militant Labor Forum and Socialist Workers Party, 1303 W. Girard Ave. Lectures and discussions every Saturday, 8 P.M., followed by open house, Call PO 3-5820. SAN FRANCISCO The Militant, 1145 Polk St., Rm. 4. Sat. 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. Phone PR 6-7296; if no answer, VA 4-2321. SEATTLE 1412-18th Avenue, EA 2-5554. Library, bookstore. ST. LOUIS For information phone MO 4-7194.