

NEWS & LETTERS

'The Root of Mankind Is Man'

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

WORKERS WANT A SAY ON CONDITIONS

Returning to Chrysler after a 3-week lay-off for change-over makes one feel like you are in another world. This huge building where there used to be 35 thousand workers employed, with its six floors a half mile long is now practically empty. They have been transferring the Mack plant to the Plymouth plant. Seeing it so empty makes you think of the workers you have known, faces of people that you have seen practically every day for years that you will not see again. Some are transferred with the job but the majority are laid-off and will never return.

AUTOMATION

Those that are left are working under a terrific speed-up and strain on practically every job. No matter what pace you are working and no matter what production you make the superintendents drive you to double it. On many of the jobs it is not humanly possible. A worker said, "The union has given the company the green light and they have gone crazy. What is worse they have us working 10 hours a day, seven days a week. I know some workers that have gotten in over 75 hours in a week while thousands and thousands of working people are out on the streets. The company says it has no work for them. The union must say that too because there is not one word of objection coming from them."

STOOL PIGEONS ON THE JOB

All the jobs are new to the workers, new machines, new work. All the old jobs are transferred to the other plant. The company has stool pigeons and informers all over the place. They say that if we do the amount of work they ask for and do it good we will get some of the old jobs back. One can bet that they are saying the same to those workers at the other plant.

If it were possible to put out the amount of production the company wants it would mean that half of the skeleton crew that is working would be out.

As a worker said, "Nothing will stop this mad rush of the company but a total reorganizing of ourselves as we did in 1936."

THE "PLANNER"

I was watching some arc welders today and one of the company engineers came up and said every welder was doing his job wrong. He wanted a tiny weld and wanted it done faster. One welder got angry, yanked his hood off told him to do it so they can see. The engineer said he wasn't a welder. The worker said how in the heck are you going to tell us what is good or bad and you can't even weld, and who told you how much speed it takes to weld 36 inches in a circle. On this job the steel is down in a die. They weld fast and the job came out with so many holes in it that they had to scrap every piece.

The engineer said that if they could keep the welds down even with the metal the company could eliminate half of the grinders. They would save money. On another job they wanted to eliminate some gas welders. They told some helioarc welders to weld up a spot about 10 inches long. There was no die under the metal. The welders knew what would happen if they did what they were told, so the back fender of the Imperial was scrapped.

WORKERS WANT CONTROL OF PRODUCTION

Another worker said, "They are going all out for quantity and they are yelling for quality control." Many old timers are praying that the day for their retirement will soon come. Younger workers are saying to heck with their seniority, if they could only get another job where they could make ends meet and work as human beings, not as a prisoner condemned to hard labor for the balance of his natural life.

How inhuman can one man be to another. The company and the union yell about how much wages we are getting as though that is all that is involved in a workers life. Workers want to roll back working conditions to what they were when we first organized the union and when we had something to say about the day's work.

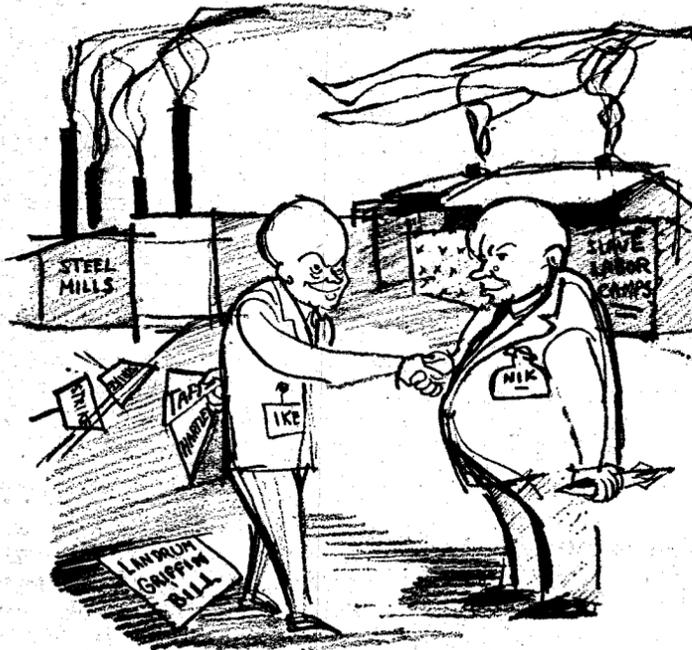
Workers Prepare for Steel Crackdown As Ike-Nik Talks Herald New Crisis

A striking steelworker of Great Lakes Steel Corp. in Ecorse, Mich., told NEWS & LETTERS, "This talk of settling the steel strike is directly connected with the visit that Khrushchev is going to be making to this country in September. Everybody is suddenly more concerned about making a good impression on Khrushchev. But I can say one thing: if this strike is settled and there is nothing worked out on the major issues, we may go back to work for a short while, but we'll be back out before too long."

KOZLOV'S VISIT

The sentiment of this steelworker echoed that of another in Homestead, Pa., when the original strike deadline of June 30 was extended to July 14, who said, "That strike deadline was changed because Kozlov was going to be making a tour of the steel mills in Pittsburgh. McDonald and Eisenhower were more concerned about making a good impression on him than they are about the men or the issues involved in the strike. There wasn't one steelworker who believed that anything would be settled in that period."

See Stories on Page 3



"I'm Taking Care of My Workers Too"

LABOR DAY PARADE DRAWS HUGE THROG

NEW YORK, Sept. 7 — For the first time in 20 years, a united labor movement marched in the streets of New York City on Labor Day, in a mighty demonstration of protest against anti-labor legislation.

The labor bureaucrats who called for it, and the politicians who reviewed it, each had their own interpretation of the result. But the one-quarter million workers who marched and the half million workers who watched from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. did so in a demonstration of solidarity against the union-busting Landrum-Griffin-Kennedy bill.

It was a heartening sight to see men and women of all races marching together

in a huge demonstration of their strength.

As an onlooker, I was particularly impressed with the fact that the marchers who got the biggest response from the bystanders were the striking steel workers. The applause was deafening.

One worker on the sidewalk next to me remarked, "This will tell Mayor Wagner and Governor Rockefeller where power really lies." He was an old man who kept pointing to those banners which cited that it was labor that first put its weight behind everything from public education to the abolition of slavery and from the Homestead Act to the labor legislation of the 1930's.

WHAT HAPPENED TO SHORTER WORK WEEK?

The grandiose pronouncements of McDonald before the strike about a shorter work-week, better work conditions and an increase in pay have all been silenced but the last—and a raise is the least vital question to the men.

While men working in the steel mills justly feel they should get a raise, there is a unanimous and overwhelming conviction that the most important issue is the miserable conditions under which they are forced to labor.

SLAVE LABOR

Negotiators for the steel industry, on the other hand, are demanding even more complete control over the lives of the steelworkers, both in terms of the scheduling of work and the direction of the working force.

The response of steelworkers to company demands was, "If we give in to the companies, we'll be nothing more than slave laborers."

It is because the men

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BE SURE TO READ . . .

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NATIONALISM, COMMUNISM, MARXIST-HUMANISM

and the

AFRO-ASIAN REVOLUTIONS

by Raya Dunayevskaya

(INCLUDES A NEW INTRODUCTION)

A News and Letters Pamphlet 25c

COAL AND ITS PEOPLE

SPEED-UP IN THE MINES

MINERS TEACH NEW BOSS A LESSON

Scotts Run, W. Va. — We had just gotten a new boss on our section, and as usual in such cases, he called us all into the dinner hole after we got on our section to have a friendly chat and to set everyone straight on just what he expected of us and what we could expect of him.

FIRST THE UNION, NOW THE COMPANY

After he introduced himself, he started by saying, "Now I am boss. I represent the company. There was a time when I was in the union just like you guys. I was an officer of my local union, and when I was working and when I wasn't, I represented the union.

"That's all changed now. I'm on the other side of the fence. But that doesn't mean that I don't know what you guys do, and how you do it, because I've done the same things myself.

"A FAIR DAY'S WORK?"

"I don't expect any man to kill himself, but I do expect a fair day's work. I don't expect any man to work under unsafe condi-

OLD BOSS LEARNS TOO—

Morgantown, W. Va.—We have a boss who was always working us late. We were the last crew to get out of the mine, and by the time we got out most of the men had already showered and gone home.

We were all mad about it, and once or twice we raised so much hell that we were paid 15 minutes overtime, but this didn't come near the time we were late.

He wasn't the worst boss in the world to work for, and we got along pretty good with him. But this habit of keeping us in late was making us all sore.

We tried talking to him; we made sarcastic cracks about it and we got mad and yelled at him about it. It just did no good.

THAT "LAST CAR"

Every night it was the same thing. Most of the men on the crew would be in the man trip, waiting to leave. But he'd keep the loading crew on the section to get that "last car." If it hadn't been for the men on the crew with him on the section, we'd have left him and gone out without him.

MINERS MAKE A DECISION

But something had to be done, so we all got together and talked it over. The loading crew said they were more than willing to go along with the idea.

The next day quitting time came and the boss was still at the face with the loading crew getting that "last car." What the boss didn't know at the time was that when he was getting that "last car," the rest of us in the man trip were half way outside.

They had to wait until the

next shift came on the sections, and I don't want anybody taking any chances on getting hurt. I've never asked anyone to do something that I wouldn't do myself, and I don't intend to change that now.

"COAL, COAL, COAL!"

"But the most important thing is to get coal. That's why I'm here, and that's why you're here. That's what the company looks at — the tonnage I get. I know from your past record that you can get it. If you don't, the company gets on my back, and then I get on yours. I can be easy to get along with, or I can be hard. It all depends on you."

IS HE FOR REAL?

After the first week of working under him, we understood exactly what he should have said, which was: "I'm going to be on your backs all the time, and I don't care if you have to kill yourselves, you've got to get that coal. Nothing else is important, just coal."

In that week's time, he had tried to fire a man who had gotten his machine hung up on loose coal by following the boss' orders; had put power on all the machines at the face the first thing he got on the section, and the men fortunately checked their places before turning their machines on — and found gas (It was just luck the section wasn't blown up); worked us all past quitting time to get that "last car" of coal, making us late getting out and refusing to pay us overtime; and tried to force the loading machine operator to go into a place that was about ready to fall in, but the operator refused and a couple of minutes later it did fall in.

WHO GETS THE TRANSFER?

He was right about one thing though. It did depend on us. So we all got together, went into the super's office and asked to be transferred to another section. We knew as well as the super that if anyone would be transferred, it would be the boss.

He was sent to another mine, and we haven't heard of him. We got another boss, of course, and he knows exactly what happened and why. We don't figure him for too much trouble — not right away anyhow.

out, which meant the four men on the loading crew got paid time and a half for this time — and the boss was that late getting home, without getting paid for the extra time he was inside.

HITS HOME

The boss was mad and jumped the motorman for leaving, but he said we had waited so long that he thought the boss and loading crew were supposed to work overtime and we were to go on out. The rest of us backed him up, and we've been getting out on time since then.

Knox Coal Co. Mine Disaster

Pennsylvania — Since that river bed broke through and flooded the Knox Coal Co. mine earlier this year, taking the lives of 12 men, hearings on the disaster have revealed that both the owner of the mine property and the company the coal was leased to didn't know enough about mining to provide the necessary protection according to mining laws which would have prevented the disaster.

One of the outcomes has been a proposal by lawmakers to impose stiffer fines on those "wilfully and knowingly" violating the mining act. The penalty suggested is \$5,000 in fines and three years in prison.

What more can be said to show the outrageous disregard lawmakers have of human values?

If an individual "wilfully and knowingly" kills a person above ground, he is executed. But if a coal company "wilfully and knowingly" kills a dozen, two dozen or more men underground, they are fined \$5,000 and given three year jail sentences. This is real justice!

A.M.A. OPPOSES MEDICAL AID BILL

For some months there has been a bill in Congress, the Forand Bill, which would have the government buy hospital, medical and surgical insurance for everyone 65 or over. It would be in connection with Social Security. From all possible points of view, moral, economic, and humane, this should be a bill that everyone would be for. Yet aside from an occasional pitch from a radio program boosting the CIO-AFL, all the public pressure has been toward defeating the measure.

The American Medical Association attacks it. I am told that the articles on the bill in medical journals throughout the nation would fill a good sized library. Alongside the AMA are the various Chambers of Commerce, hospital administrators, and other groups affiliated with big business.

The AMA calls the bill socialist. It seems that to them that word is the same as death and murder. They predict the deterioration of character of both the patient and doctor, under circum-

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

A FRIEND TO MAN

The truth about America is that everybody is trying to live a rich life through this mad rush where white people are against white and Negroes against Negroes and white against Negro and Negro against white. The reason I think that this is true is because the great educators and scientist and the great men who supposedly think the way out for the poor working people have all the more destroyed this country with automation machines. To me all that these great white Americans want to do is to destroy this nation of people by not giving them jobs and by not giving them anything to live on.

Even on the farm where a man could plant his own food to support his own family, you can't. If you plant one grain over the amount that the officials told you to plant then you must go to jail or pay a fine that will be more money than you will make for the whole year. That is just some more money you pay for these great men to destroy you and me with.

I can't see why they won't let us live in our house by the side of the road and be a friend to man. People from other lands write and ask why don't they treat the poor white and the Negro as an American human being. Why don't they give the Negro people their free rights. Why can't the Negro

people do something on their own. It is nothing but being a friend to man. They say quit telling us how to live and treat our people. It is a sure thing you Americans can't clean up our house over here before you clean yours. All men are equal.

If you don't believe what I am talking about then you just read the pamphlet "Nationalism, Communism, Marxist-Humanism and the Afro-Asian Revolutions." Read it and see for yourself how these great American men are trying to destroy the poor people of America by adding automation to do everything that man can do by hand.

So why can't workers see that they are trying to keep all the money they can in the hands of the rick and do away with the poor. One worker told me, "They're doing away with workers just as Walter Reuther who has just about sold his union out and still controls all the money and says to heck with the workers." Reuther doesn't do or say anything to help the worker out in this mad rush. They're rushing the poor worker to death on these jobs because they don't have any one to speak for them on the job. So they will kill you and add another machine.

So the poor white had better wake up and help fight their way through this mad struggle, with the Negro, while they are fighting for their freedom.

BOYCOTT OF SOUTH AFRICAN GOODS

ON SOUTH AFRICA FREEDOM DAY, JUNE 26TH, THE NON-WHITE PEOPLES OF SOUTH AFRICA LAUNCHED A BOYCOTT OF ALL GOODS PRODUCED BY INDUSTRIES THAT SUPPORT THE APARTHEID REGIME.

The Committee of African Organizations has sent us the following information:

BRITAIN buys one third of South Africa's total exports, spending 110 million pounds (approximately \$300 million) per year on South African goods, mainly foodstuffs and wine.

Much publicity has already been given by the press to the recruitment of slave-labor for the farms that produce these goods; and it is in protest against slave

conditions on the farms that the Africans are now denying themselves a staple food—potatoes.

THE NATIONALIST Government of South Africa have, for many years, carried out intolerable racist policies against the African people there. Although in the past protests have been made throughout the world, no effective measures have been taken to force them to abandon their shameful policies.

Recently a call was made to us by the African National Congress and their allied organizations in South Africa, asking us to organize in Great Britain a blanket boycott of South African goods.

AS YOU may have seen from press reports, we began our campaign on the 26th June by holding a large public meeting in London, as well as organizing picketing in many of London's marketing areas asking the British public not to buy South African goods as a part of an international campaign of protest against slave-labor and oppression in South Africa . . .

We appeal to you to leave no stone unturned to help make this boycott as effective as possible. If you have any suggestions to make, or need our assistance, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Committee of African Organisations
200 Gower Street
London, NW 1

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EMPLOYED WORKER ASKS,

HOW FAR ARE WE FROM SLAVE LABOR?

DETROIT — I keep wondering what is happening to all the thousands of workers that are still unemployed. No one says anything about them any more. It is as if they don't exist. But they do. I can't help feeling as if we are headed towards slave labor here as they have in Russia and China. Where are they going to send the millions of unemployed we have here?

A few weeks ago the paper reported that the auto workers are due for a 2½ cent raise. That is the only thing Reuther and those boys play up. What hit me is what about the 4 million they had down as unemployed? They mentioned food prices are going up and the raise but how will these people get the raise? You know they'll get the higher food prices.

I have never seen so many men and youngsters, especially Negro men, pushing ice cream wagons and selling magazines as I did this summer. I know the reason they're doing it. They are out of work, unemployed and don't have anything to live on.

ULTIMATUMS IN THE SHOP

In the auto shop itself production is the most important thing. The demand of how much you must do is impossible. Their idea is "Whatever you did yesterday is doubled today." And everything they give you is with an ultimatum.

STRIKING STEELWORKER FINDS JOB SCARCITY IN DETROIT AREA

RIVER ROUGE, Michigan — About a week after the steel strike started, I took my old jalopy that is real good on gas mileage and filled it up.

I took my son with me and for two days I went all around this area — Detroit, Ecorse, Wyandotte, Melvindale, Lincoln Park, Allen Park, Dearborn—and stopped at anyplace that looked like there might be a possibility of getting a job. I told them I would do anything, wash windows, any kind of janitorial work, mechanic work, restaurant work—anything I had done or thought I could do.

MORE LAY-OFFS FOR WORKERS

I stopped at a place where I had worked as a truck driver before I went to work in the mill. The owner of the business had told me several times that if I was looking for work that I should get in touch with him.

Well, I saw him all right, but he didn't have anything for me. As a matter of fact, he said that he was finishing up a job he was working on at the end of the week and would have to lay off five of his regular truck drivers.

So for two days I combed every place I could think of. I knew things were bad

I am a welder and we do 5 to 6 welds an hour, so the company says they want 14 per hour. One day the inspector was busy and the foreman wasn't around us very much. Several of us tried as much as we could to see just what we could do. One guy ran 7, I ran 6½ and another ran 6. We did this on our own to see if it was possible to think in terms of 14. It wasn't. But the company says they are going to get 14 one way or the other.

SLAVE LABOR

The whole place is mad, crazy. All the foremen and superintendents are afraid of each other and they are both afraid of the time study man.

The insane way of working in the shop, and the insane way that the unemployed are ignored is what make me think they are going to try to get away with slave labor here too, but they have another guess coming.

—Auto Worker

Automation Speed-Up Kills Workers

DETROIT, Mich. — When you hear about automation being a man killer, that's not just a figure of speech.

I was working in the upholstery department at Chrysler before they moved that department out. When they did, they transferred most of us to the trim department.

In the first year we were there, 16 men died, all of them were men who had been transferred from the upholstery department.

There are some guys, and particularly the company, who said they maybe would have died anyhow. But you can't make me believe that it was anything but the speeded-up work they had to do.

I was a young man compared to some of those men, and I know how rough the change-over was for me. The only thing that killed those men was the work they had to do. They just couldn't take it.

—Production Worker

ONE OF THE GRIEVANCES:

BOSSES IGNORE STEEL MILL SAFETY REGULATIONS

HOMESTEAD, Pa. — The company just doesn't care anything about safety at all. You can go into the mill any day and find dozens of violations.

For example, there is supposed to be a standing safety order that you are never to be working on a job if there is no protection for you from men who may be working overhead.

PRODUCTION FIRST INSTEAD OF SAFETY

Me and my gang were working on a job on top of a ladle. We had bricks stacked all around the top of that ladle, and those bricks can topple over any time. And there was a crew of men working below changing the ladle scale.

around here, but I really didn't know they were that bad. I was sure I would be able to find some kind of work doing something.

ALWAYS THE SAME ANSWER

After I had gone through the routines of being turned down so many times, my son asked, "Daddy, how come every place you go you get the same answer—No?" I had to kind of laugh at that, but I couldn't give him a good answer, just that things must be awfully bad.

A FEW DOLLARS . . . A VERY FEW

A friend of mine told me that he was making a few dollars by working on an ice cream truck. I thought I'd give that a try. I worked from Tuesday through Saturday, and made \$22.30. That's hardly enough to keep a family of seven, and the work I'm doing around the house is worth more than that.

Our boss was with us, and the crew on the bottom, 30 feet below, had their boss directing them — and there wasn't an ounce of protective covering for those men.

If a brick would have fallen and hit one of those men, that would have been all she wrote. He'd have had it.

The bosses both knew a hazardous situation existed with both crews working like that. But they were in a hurry, had the jobs to be done and didn't care about the ordinary safety considerations.

DEAD—UNDER PROTEST

The men working on the bottom could have worked under protest. But what good would that have done? If a boss tells you to do something, you can't refuse to do it, or you are fired. Like I say, you can work under protest, but what good is working under protest if you may be killed while working?

And if you're not killed working, you file a grievance. Only you're lucky if it is taken up in a year, if at all. It's thinks like this we want to see corrected in the contract negotiations, but are afraid they won't be.

In the cold mill here, they have a new machine that is going to knock 32 men out of jobs when we go back to work. Before now, the steel was rolled, then moved to where men trimmed and stamped it. Now this will all be done by the machine. So no matter how the strike comes out—for these men there is no further job.

Great Lakes Steelworker River Rouge, Mich.

The Working Day

By Angela Terrano

THE YEAR OF STRONTIUM 90

Every time you read of someone dying of leukemia you wonder just how far are these power hungry and war mad people going to go. Every time Strontium 90 reaches the safe level or rather unsafe level, they just move the indicator up a little further and that solves the problem for them. Their theory is that what the people don't know won't hurt them, so why tell them there is already too much of that stuff in everybody's bone marrow where our life blood is produced.

Every week there is some report or another of which food is now carrying the most Strontium 90. Now it is whole wheat bread that has more than white bread. Next week it will be something else that they will let leak out.

HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

An interesting article appeared in a California paper, Mirror News. Their words speak for themselves: "A move is under way to erase the widespread feeling that it is futile to attempt escape from the perils of nuclear warfare.

"Gov. Brown is naming a civil defense public information advisory committee which will meet with him soon to propose means of generating a will to live . . .

"It also was developed that banks are now prepared to make home improvement loans, under FHA financing, for up to \$3,500 for five years to build shelters."

It is very heart warming to learn that we can be safe from the horrors of H-bomb warfare by building a \$3,500 shelter. It is rather petty to think in financial terms but where in the world do they expect workers' families, those employed, to get \$3,500. And it is quite obvious that the unemployed will have to fare by digging holes in the ground. This whole business would be rather funny if it weren't so tragic.

They play with peoples' lives as though they were pawns in a chess game, with the whole world as the chess board.

IN THIS BARBARIC WORLD

The will to live cannot be planned and certainly those that think a bomb shelter is the way must fear the results their madness more than anyone else.

The will to live is in the steel workers on strike now against their conditions of work. The will to live is in the auto workers facing the speed-up of the Automation machines. The will to live is in the people struggling against totalitarianism in every form, Russian, Chinese, Franco Spain, or South American dictatorships.

It is these people and only they that not only have a will to live but will forge out a new life where "FHA financing, bomb shelters, Strontium 90, H-bomb warfare" will be something out of the dark, barbaric pages of history.

STEEL STRIKER BLASTS DUES HIKE AID

PITTSBURGH, Penna. — The executive committee of the steelworkers union met in New York to go over the strategy of the strike.

One of the things they gave out was that the dues of the men still working would be doubled — from \$5 to \$10 a month — to provide financial assistance for those of us who are out on strike.

3 YEARS TO PAY

This just doesn't make any sense. We knew three years ago the contract was going to expire this year. Everyone knew the strike was coming. There was plenty of time to make arrangements for the strike.

But what do they do? They wait until we're out for 50 days and then start to do something.

We have money in the treasury. I'm sure it's not

broke. But they're sure not going to tap that.

FOR THE past three years we've been giving our \$5, the money was going in regularly and everything was o.k. But now that we're on strike, that steady flow of money has been stopped. They're just looking to build up the treasury from some other poor suckers who are still working.

So what'll happen? It'll take a month to have that money checked off, and by that time the strike will be over, either by trying to use the Taft-Hartley Act or by trying some other way.

The only time I think it would be worthwhile for the men to give anything extra is when there is a wildcat strike for a good point to help the men who are out. That way you'd also be helping yourself. But with this deal they're putting down, it sure won't help the men out on strike.

DETROIT NEWS & LETTERS COMMITTEE CONSIDERS

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September 20 — Editing Meeting

September 27 — The Ike-Nik Visits

BE SURE TO ATTEND — BRING YOUR FRIENDS

EDITORIAL

THE NEW ANTI-LABOR LAW

In the midst of the massive steel strike—which the Administration had hypocritically stated it would keep its hands off—President Eisenhower went on TV to ram the vicious, union-busting Landrum-Griffin bill through the House of Representatives.

ANTI-LABOR BILL

● The new "labor-reform bill" that has now been put on the books will not only make strikes, picketing and any spontaneous expression of workers "illegal" but will make nearly impossible the organizing of the unorganized.

● Under the smoke screen of protecting the workers from crooks and racketeers, the new law will give legal protection to a wave of worse "sweetheart contracts" than the labor movement has yet seen.

● Any group of scabs, any group of brainwashed company men and stool pigeons, would be able to tie up union funds including strike funds, on the pretext of questioning the expenditures.

● And still another section will give cases the Federal government "won't handle" over to state authority. Another victory for the labor-hating Southern states.

* * *

ABUSE OF MASS MEDIA

By using the demagogic trick of forcing his way into millions of homes via TV—Eisenhower pretended he had the support of "the people" in his offensive against the American workers whose opposition to Automation has grown stronger with every new layoff and speed-up.

Ike's TV appearance gave all the congressman their "excuse" to rally behind the President and do their duty towards their "constituents."

But may we remind these august legislators that part of their constituents are workers and they have yet to hear from them on the new anti-labor weapon.

In actuality, Eisenhower's use of TV served to inform every reactionary that they could count on him in their efforts to bludgeon the working people. He has made it clear that in the struggle between capital and labor there can be no compromise.

* * *

When the working class struck industry after industry following World War II, in the struggle to gain a measure of control over their conditions of life and labor, and against the war-time sell outs of the labor bureaucrats, the Democratic Administration passed the Taft-Hartley Law against the workers.

OPPOSE SLAVE LABOR

Only the strength of the rank-and-file has kept the administration from using Taft-Hartley to destroy the labor movement.

Today, with the workers' opposition to the intense speed-up produced by Automation pinpointed in the steel strike by the rank-and-file's opposition to slave conditions of labor (see page 1), the Republican Administration rams the Landrum-Griffin bill down their throats.

* * *

The sudden howl from the AFL-CIO bureaucrats, when the Landrum-Griffin bill was passed, might have done some good if they themselves had not paved the way for it. They reaped the whirlwind of the sellouts which they sowed with their support of the supposedly "good" Kennedy-Irving bill.

LESSONS OF THE TAFT-HARTLEY

Whatever the name that is given to the law that Congress has now written into the books, its sole object is to break the strength of the rank-and-file.

No worker can afford to forget the lessons of Taft-Hartley. Only the rank-and-file's strength has kept that law from destroying the labor organizations they have built. Only by their own strength will the rank and file be able to prevent the new law from forcing them into slave conditions of labor.

* * *

Eisenhower brags that the American workingclass is a free workingclass as if he had "given" them this freedom. The American workers have fought every inch of the way and have their freedom despite the last two Administrations' intensive efforts to shackle them with the Taft-Hartley and now with the Landrum-Griffin-Kennedy bill.

Readers'

THE AFRO-ASIAN REVOLUTIONS—

The Special Supplement on the Afro-Asian Revolutions was the first place I have seen these ideas in such a unified, total manner and in a form that can be understood by someone who may not have been introduced to them before. They are basically very simple and yet the concept of freedom has been so distorted over generations, that what should be simple has been overlaid with a lot of nonsense. The conception of freedom as dealing with property relations is something totally apart from setting humanity free which this Supplement was talking about.

Faithful Reader
San Diego, Calif.

* * *

You can see how far wrong leaders can take their own people. It works so much like the NAACP. How they can twist things like the American white people want them to. During the Montgomery bus boycott the people were ready to break up ALL discrimination—and when the people in Montgomery were running things, they got what they went after. But when the leaders got in there, they twisted it up so bad that none of the other cities got any place. In Montgomery it was the ordinary people who started it, in Birmingham it was the NAACP.

Ethel Dunbar
Detroit

* * *

What was new to me was that freedom is such a necessity today and the world is so mature, that the struggle for freedom can no longer wait to be introduced by the working class, as the radicals have been saying it must, but that it can and might be initiated by the colonial people. Such a struggle, once started and joined by the working class, would make its own road to final freedom.

Young Woman
Los Angeles

* * *

How awful is the plight of the unfortunate people of Africa. What a plague the white man has been in a country where the people, living a primitive existence, still knew no horror equal to the shanty towns built by the "progressive" white man . . . Capitalism is even more unsuited to a black man than a white one . . . Where capitalism penetrates it will give rise to ideas in men's minds as to what it is, but the way of getting rid of it is a different matter . . . It has been collapsing since before I was born, but it is still going strong enough

for the workers to vote for it. Personally, I don't think it will collapse until the workers understand a few fundamentals such as the class conflict, how value is determined and the commodity of labour power. They are easy to understand—much easier than horse racing.

Veteran Socialist
London, England

* * *

One of the most important things to me was the quotation about "every citizen to a man" having to participate in the government of the country, and the warning that it is "a tremendously difficult task, but socialism cannot be introduced by a minority, a party." I think every worker would understand it, if he read it.

Chrysler Worker
Detroit

* * *

It packs a powerful punch, losing nothing in clarity by its conciseness. It is a wonderful weapon with which to rally Marxism in its modern, humanist application, and I hope you can afford to have many extra printed. I am right now trying to get in touch with London Afro-Asian organizations. I have visited the Committee for African Organizations preliminarily and we will try to cooperate together on the South African Congress "boycott."

Enthusiastic Supporter
London, England

* * *

I liked the article because it made it so clear how the capitalists are working to take things over all over the world. The article shows that they're having a hard time, but they're still trying to hang on and have to get even more countries to be capitalist.

Negro Housewife
Detroit

* * *

When I first heard that the Supplement was going to be printed as a pamphlet I was opposed to it, because I didn't see what use it could serve that hadn't been served already. Now that I've seen it, I've changed my mind completely. It's not only an impressive way of presenting our ideas, but provides us here with a fine way to start discussions with new people.

Committee Member
Massachusetts

* * *

(See Ad on Page 1)

Instead of the pessimism and depression you get from the headlines of the daily press, this supplement shows that there is hope for humanity. That means a lot to a young person like me.

Ex-College Student
Los Angeles

STEEL STRIKE

With every contract, we have lost more than we have gained. Before the last contract, we knew what our jobs were and did them.

Now they have you all over the place doing anything they tell you to do, so you don't know from one day to the next where you are going to be. And if you don't do as they say, they send you home and you've got a grievance on your hands.

Great Lakes Steelworker
Ecorse, Michigan

* * *

First you get the union figures, then you get the company figures and finally you get Mitchell's figures. They say figures don't lie. What would you call it when Mitchell says the average wage of the workers and salaried employees is \$3.10 an hour? I know the difference between my wage and the salary of my boss and superintendent — there's no comparison. But that's how he worked that high figure into his report. He threw them all together.

Steel Striker
Homestead, Pa.

* * *

When the union gets a good man in office who will fight for the men, the company always buys him off by giving him a bosses job. That way they have the guy where they want him and can get information from him about what the men are thinking about and what they might have worked out to do something about grievances they have.

Great Lakes Steelworker
River Rouge, Michigan

* * *

McDonald shouldn't have agreed to keep the factories open for those extra 2 weeks in the beginning. Ike was only trying to keep all industry open in order to show off for Koslov. McDonald was a fool to agree.

Disgusted
Pittsburgh

* * *

There have been several men killed by being run over by a railroad engine coming out of the mill. Everytime this happens, all the company does is say it is the man's fault, that he shouldn't have been there.

Great Lakes Steelworker
River Rouge, Michigan

* * *

If they would publish just the accidents that have happened in that mill, there would be no room for anything else in the paper.

Great Lakes Steelworker
River Rouge, Michigan

News & Letters

Vol. 4, No. 7

August-September, 1959

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Charles Denby Editor
I. Rogers Managing Editor

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Views

Ike's statement that he thought it would be a good thing if Mr. K. saw the steel strike in progress when he visited the U.S. so that he could see that workers here have the freedom to strike, sent a chill down my spine. Does that mean that steel will take its cue from him and prolong even longer so that Mr. K. can see the workers in a democracy walking the picket lines?

**Curious
Los Angeles**

(Ed. Note: Not if Ike can help it! See front page lead.)

* * *

LEADERS AND RANKS

The men I work with say they'd rather trade Reuther for Hoffa any day. Even though Hoffa is a crook, he at least gets some better working conditions and raises for the men, instead of selling his favors to political parties.

**Chrysler Worker
Los Angeles**

* * *

Everyone is yelling about how crooked Hoffa is and how they need this anti-labor law to get him, but day in and day out the crookedness of Big Business is being revealed and being accepted as "normal." Drew Pearson has been carrying reports in his column of ex-military officers who retire from the service and join private corporations, which soon after get millions and millions of dollars of war contracts from the government. Hoffa is just peanuts compared to that.

**Intellectual
San Diego, Calif.**

* * *

INTEGRATION

The end is not in sight in Little Rock. At the very time when the local attitude seems to be against the die-hard segregationists, and for reopening the schools, the tendency in the White House and in Congress is to move away from activating a strong Civil Rights program so that it has some meaning.

**Professional
San Diego, Calif.**

* * *

The statistics of integration in the South show that they lack one state to have a "token" integration in a majority of the original 11 states in the Confederacy (which means only 2 or 3 students per school). All this is 6 years after the Supreme Court decision. If it were an anti-labor law it would have been enforced long ago.

**Angry
Los Angeles**

WAR . . . AND "PEACE"

The editorial last issue on the H-bomb hit home, but it could have said even more. It is not just a question of when they start a nuclear war, but of the effects of the tests going on, by both sides, right now. They speak of it as a "fact" that several thousands of children are expected to die of cancer because of these tests.

**Mother of Two
New England**

* * *

The day that the exchange of visits between Ike and Mr. K. was announced the stocks in war industry dropped. This was declared to be so because the double summit meeting had lessened the prospect of war. But that very day Ike went on the air to attack the American working class by supporting the most anti-labor law in Congress. I think that shows that this meeting means that there is more prospect of war, because to me the first indication of real preparation for war is when new tyrannical measures are taken against the American working class.

**Mother of Two
Los Angeles**

* * *

MARXIST HUMANISM

I was agreeably surprised to read *News & Letters*. It has the right idea. The article on the front page of the July-August edition by the editor is perfectly sound. He is right in stating that those who work must also think.

**New Reader
London**

* * *

I believe we now realize that to go deeper and lower is a very concrete act—door to door in a working class neighborhood, if that is the only way open to us. Our ideas and paper must have an "in person" contact because ideas are incorporated in live people. It is the unity of our theory and the practice that will build our committees, but unity is an activity we have to perform. My undivided energy will go toward this goal in the next period.

**Committee Member
Los Angeles**

* * *

Humanism is such a powerful idea that I feel trying everyone will be trying to go under that banner soon, and we will see DeGaulle Humanists, Republican Humanists, and the like. It makes it all the more important for us to keep stressing Humanism as a method of thought, and not a "slogan" which others will

make of it. As a method of thought it leads to the unity of activity of workers and intellectuals and a new society. That concept cannot be perverted; the use of the word as a slogan can easily be.

**Intellectual
East Coast**

* * *

I see a need for Humanism in the world because I am dissatisfied with much of the world today myself. But I live with intellectuals and our product is spiritual and less subject to alienation, I think. It is easier for an intellectual to withdraw from the workers' problems. We sense them, but as something far away. We deal with them as thought, not as concretizations. When I get out of school I'm not sure whether I can keep from being materialized, but for now I am consciously trying to keep away from it.

I suppose I'm a prototype, for I am sure there are many like me. We've been vulgarized in the "beatniks," but there is a genuine declassing intellectual in this country who finds himself frustrated by his separation from the masses. I think part of it is because of the inarticulateness of the masses. A reconciliation is possible only if it is desired by both sides, but the masses today divide the intellectual from them as much as the intellectual divides himself from the masses.

**College Student
Detroit**

* * *

There are certain facts of life that everyone has to care about, whether he's a worker or an intellectual, because when the H-bombs fall they won't distinguish between one or the other. My neighbor told me if her child got leukemia she would be moved to acts of violence against those she felt responsible. I understood her, but why should anyone wait until it happened to his own child before he was moved to do something about it?

Humanism is not humanitarianism. We are not super-social-workers. We know that our own personal lives are tied up every day with the movement of history. Even if an intellectual says he isn't interested in the workers, his fate is tied directly to them, whether he wants it that way or not.

The crisis is so awful I can't understand why we don't feel a sense of urgency about building a Marxist humanist movement every minute.

**Intellectual
New England**

TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya, Author
of *Marxism and Freedom*

NUCLEAR "PERSONAL" DIPLOMACY

The homey touch of Khrushchev and Eisenhower taking their respective spouses on their exchange visits completes the sudden surface transformation of two hostile worlds playing at brinksmanship into one world of "peace and prosperity." What transpires inside the bald heads of those identical twins are not, however, peace plans but plans for world domination that cannot be reconciled any more than can the two worlds of capitalists and workers in each of those countries. Just as Eisenhower did not allow this aura of peace with Russia, to stop him from declaring war on the American workers, demanding passage of the anti-labor Landrum-Griffin bill, so Khrushchev made his appearances at automation and agricultural conferences to demand higher productivity from the Russian workers.

At the same time there is no doubt that the two powers that hold the world in their nuclear armed grasp do wish a lull in the cold war between them building up to the hell of World War III—if for no other reason than the fact that the intercontinental missiles with 5,000 mile thrusts are not evidently sufficiently "operational" to assure specific instead of general holocaust. Khrushchev, despite all his braggadocio how near to American industrial power Russia is, is anxious to buy American goods from precision tools to cattle. The Administration is under pressure from American Big Business to do business with Khrushchev even as before World War II it was under pressure to do business with Hitler. The question is: who and what will be put on the sacrificial altar of the lull?

THE DOUBLE-CROSS, BIG AND LITTLE

Our crisis-ridden world is so full of explosive points that no one can say at whose expense—Europe, Asia, Latin America, Africa, the Middle East or the Mediterranean countries—the double-cross will be gotten. The most likely place, however, is exactly the countries Eisenhower is visiting to assure the opposite, especially so West Germany. The one governmental leader who isn't being taken for a ride in this enticing talk of nuclear disarmament is the one who has "a crude bomb" ready to explode in the Sahara Desert.

De Gaulle was therefore the man to expose the fact that Eisenhower is not "the official representative of the West." At the same time DeGaulle himself took a stab at a little double-cross by playing a game with Adenauer as the two who are ready to fight Communist Russia. Poor De Gaulle, his desire for flight from the game of double-cross is more than matched by his impotence. Even before Eisenhower set Adenauer straight, a small journalistic pundit like Walter Lippman cut him to size.

"The truth is," wrote Lippman, "that France and Germany are for all practical purposes disarmed in Europe, and separately or jointly they are quite unable to contemplate a war with Russia."

"Only the USSR and USA can wage a nuclear war, and they alone, therefore, can make the ultimate decisions which mean peace or war . . ."

"These are the facts of life in the middle of the twentieth century."

In one thing Lippman is right. The division of the world into two, and only two parts, is certainly a fact of the life of the power politicians. Make no mistake about it. This write-off of Europe dominates the thought of both Eisenhower and Khrushchev.

This has been the dominant fact of life ever since America entered World War II. This was not due to the fact that Eisenhower and/or Roosevelt was "soft on Communism." It was due to the fact that state capitalist Russia reached a point of equality with America, once Nazi Germany was defeated.

Naturally De Gaulle is an expert on the double-cross—he was made to sit at the side tables or stand in the hallways all through the war planning and the peace negotiations. What De Gaulle fails to add is that there was not a word of objection from him when East Europe was written off the map of Europe as a separate entity. Just as East Europe fell to Stalin's Russia with the connivance of the governmental leaders of "the whole West," so now allies and satellites alike stand helplessly by as West Europe is being written off. The great and overwhelming desire of the peoples of the world for peace is being exploited by Russia and America to cover up this fact.

At the same time the talk of "possible" nuclear disarmament is loud and involved while the actual preparations for war are silent but to the point. What is at stake on both sides of the Iron Curtain is the freedom of the peoples who are fighting for a truly human world free of the type of production that entails exploitation and leads inevitably to war. In state capitalist Russia or "free enterprise" America, as in Conservative Britain and DeGaulle France and in West and East Germany, the present leaders are ready for any sell-out so long as exploitation of workers continues in "native" hands. For that one inviolate privilege they are ready to put a question mark over the very survival of civilization.

YOUTH

Thinking It Out

By Robert Ellery

THE "FIGHT" AGAINST "JUVENILE DELINQUENCY"

Melodramatic headlines in the daily press testify to the fact that a delinquent society remains incapable of satisfying the strivings and yearnings of its youth.

"Juvenile delinquency" is still on the increase in the big metropolis and the small town as well with little promise that it is about to decline.

The one area in New York, the Lower East Side, that was picked out for an all out effort by social workers, church and police to combat "juvenile delinquency" came up with the murder and gang war that has again sparked the phoney moral indignation of the newspapers.

The New York City Youth Board has some 73 workers that work directly with gang youth on the streets in an attempt to influence them to become more law abiding.

The September 14th Newsweek reported, "Detroit's methods for handling juvenile delinquency may not be legal, an official admits, but they work."

YOUTH SCORNS TEACHER'S HYPOCRISY

DETROIT — Despite all their teaching, the Board of Education and the teachers of today's schools draw the youth farther away from the truth and reality.

One of our homework assignments was to read and be ready to discuss Edwin Markham's poem, "The Man With the Hoe," the next day. He told us it was written about factory workers and that Markham got the inspiration to write the poem after he saw the painting of "The Man With the Hoe."

The class wasn't satisfied with his explanation of the poem so we started tossing it around among ourselves. Out of this we learned that Markham was a revolutionist who saw what was going on in the sweat shops and he put it down on paper in poem form.

After a little while, the teacher cut in and started telling us how "nice and prosperous" this country is. Some of us just laughed at him. I raised my hand and said that all this prosperity may be so, but you won't find many workers feeling that way.

I mentioned some of the

between cops and Negro teenagers. Two newspaper reporters witnessed the brutal beating of a 15-year-old who had been taken into custody. The police claim the reporters misinterpreted what they saw.

But police "stompings" have not proved anything except that the constituted authority can be as savage as any "juvenile delinquent," and with much less justification.

A NEW CCC

On August 18, the Senate approved a bill that would in effect recreate the Civilian Conservation Corps of the "New Deal" era. The bill has been touted as being a partial solution to "juvenile delinquency."

We are doubly suspicious of this bill that would create barracks discipline for youth since it was sponsored by Wayne Morse and the fact that the only two Republican Senators to support it all come from states with not so much of a "juvenile delinquency" problem as a forestry conservation problem.

things the worker has to put up with — speed-ups, layoffs, health conditions, etc. —I was saying just the opposite of what the teacher was saying, so he ruled me out of order, and made me stand in the corner for the rest of the day. This is in high school!

After class, the teacher called me to his desk and told me that he did what he did because I was getting "too involved" and we didn't have all that time.

If the schools stopped being so hypocritical in their teaching, there wouldn't be so many youth going out into the world not knowing what to expect.

Little Rock, Ark.

—Token Integration

LOS ANGELES — Little Rock, Arkansas has finally "progressed" to token integration. Two Negro students are now attending famous Central High as compared to nine before the public schools were closed there.

SUMMER WORK FOR YOUTH

LOS ANGELES — Recently I worked at a large department store during a sale. I am seventeen years old and this was my first full time job.

The pay at department store is atrocious. I was paid a \$1.10 a hour for very hard work. This low rate of pay was not just for temporary employees.

The men who unloaded the trucks worked for the most part after the store closed, so the executives who had to "work" late would stand by the only open door. They would stand there talking for two or three hours while we worked next to them unloading the trucks 'till ten or eleven o'clock.

When I told one man who I worked with that there should be a union at the department store. He said that union was a dirty word around here.

YOUTH CRITICIZES PARENT'S DISTRUST

DETROIT — The way parents of teenagers, especially teenage girls, act today is pretty pathetic.

I've known a girl for the last two years and her mother still won't let me date her unless she, or some other adult chaperones. Since the girl's parents have known me for so long — my personality, the way I act, etc. —I don't see why she won't let us go on dates by ourselves.

I think that if the mother can't trust me enough by now, she ought to tell me to stop coming to the house. But the funny thing is, is that she likes me coming to the house and she even jokes around with me a lot.

I wish that adults would try to understand the youth of today and not believe all they read and hear about how beat and delinquent we're supposed to be. If they tried, there would be much less juvenile delinquency in the world today.

—Disgusted Teenager

posed to show that if integration is the only way the public schools can be reopened, then if the whites are not for integration, they will at least tolerate token integration.

But this to-do over integration and resistance to it, seems to me to be a way of covering up the fact that it is only "token" integration.

—Young Mother

AS OTHERS SEE US

Excerpts from Reviews of Marxism and Freedom THE RAILWAY REVIEW, May 22, 1959 London, England

Review by JAMES D. YOUNG

"... This book cuts through the thick fog of propaganda on both sides of the iron curtain concerning the role of the working class in the modern world.

"Marxism and Freedom" published by Bookman Associates Inc. \$6) is first of all a study of man's struggle for freedom from the beginning of the first industrial revolution in Britain until the second industrial revolution (i.e. Automation) in America today.

"In this country the few remaining independent Marxists outside of the monolithic and totalitarian Stalinist movement have steered so far away from Marx's dialectical philosophy as to nearly lose the essential humanistic approach of Marx.

"The experience of Stalinism has shown us that each genera-

tion of Socialism must meet the challenge of its own times. Marx's main thesis, that progress depends on the struggle of the working class against the capitalist class, remains true; but the tactics of the struggle have to be thought out continually in the light of new circumstances.

"I think that Karl Marx would have expected this. He once said in an argument with his son-in-law: 'I am not a Marxist.' He did not mean Marxism to be a dogma, but a guide to action.

"Miss Dunayevskaya's book is an important theoretical contribution to that end. It has a three-fold purpose: (1) to re-establish the Humanism of Marxism as it developed in the period of the class struggle during Marx's maturity, 1843-1883; (2) to get to the roots of the philosophic divide in Marxism, Leninism, especially in relation to the so-called vanguard party to the masses in the period of 1903-1923; and (3) to analyse the problems of our own age.

"While this part, of necessity, concentrates on Russia and America—the two poles of state capitalism struggling for world domination—the world of capitalists and workers in each individual industrial country is such that it has application also to Britain.

"I therefore hope that this book will be widely read by railwaymen. After all, the railway workers have often been at the head of the battle for Socialist ideas in our own Labour Movement."

PHYLON, Spring 1959 Atlanta University, Atlanta, Ga.

Review by JOSEPH S. ROUCEK

"... The basic theory seems to be that Marxism and communism should not be identified, and that Marxism is a theory of liberation in deadly opposition to communism which, basically, is the theory and practice of enslavement. The framework of reasoning is provided by describing From Practice to Theory: 1776 to 1848 (the Age of Revolutions, Classical Political Economy, the Revolts of the Workers and the Utopian Socialists and a New Humanism: Marx's Early Economic-Philosophic Writings); Worker and Intellectual at a Turning Point in History: 1848 to 1861; Marxism: The Unity of Theory and Practice; World War I and the Great Divide in Marxism; and the Problem of Our Age: State Capitalism vs. Freedom. The appendices include Marx's unpublished Private Property and Communism and 'Critique of the Hegelian Dialectic,' and Lenin's 'Hegel's Science of Logic.' "In spite of the numerous suggestive and enticing hypotheses,

the reviewer has the impression that the author, fundamentally, is lost in the interpretation of 'meaning of meaning' and that she has been engaged in the old semantic game, in trying to fit contemporary events into the ideological mold. Is not this game stretching the point of reasonableness too far by claiming that 'The todayness of Marx is truly overwhelming. His description of the 'automaton,' 90 years ago, fits more precisely the description of Automation than that of any present-day writers' (p. 272)? Or, in what way can we accept the premise that 'Our modern machine age was born of three 18th century revolutions—the Industrial Revolution, the American Revolution and the French Revolution' (p. 27)? The author writes entertainingly... What impressed this reviewer was, on the one hand, the religious-moralistic tone pervading it, and, on the other, the resolute insistence on handling the multitudinous problems within the scholastic framework."

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WORKERS MUST UNITE TO FIGHT SPEED-UP AND DISCRIMINATION

DETROIT—It is very true that the Negro workers are the hardest hit with the layoffs and Automation speed-up in the shops but it has been very bad for the white workers too. To help ourselves we must stick together.

Two years ago a foreman in one of the departments was trying to organize the K.K.K. One worker told me that he used to take trips once a month to the South to get schooled on how to deal with the Negro workers and the union.

The labor leaders seem to be working so close to management now in regard to what they are doing in the shops about Automation, or rather what they are not doing about it, it makes you feel as though all three, the K.K.K., the company and the labor bureaucrats are on the same side.

Up until recently we always had 6 minutes out of the hour for ourselves, to rest, to clean up, etc. but this last July the officials of Local 212 signed an agreement that 3 minutes would be enough. We didn't find out about this until after the

elections for delegates to the union convention.

First the company tried putting it through one department at a time but that didn't work. There almost was a strike over it. So now they are trying to put it throughout the whole plant at the same time.

We had a union meeting on Sunday, September 13, on just this. It was the Negro workers that spoke up the most. But this is something for the white worker too. That's what I mean that we must stick together to win better working conditions and to do that the white worker has got to support the Negro workers in their fight against the K.K.K. elements.

One worker got up and said, "I have never been to Russia but I have read a lot and it seems that Khrushchev is the head man over there and only he can talk. Well, I can't see too much difference at this meeting except there it is one man and here you are 3 or 4. Over there if you talk back they send you to Siberia, but the plant here is a Siberia for us."

—Negro Production Worker

Families Evicted from Chavez Ravine Still Victims of the City

LOS ANGELES—Aurora Arechiga Vargas was found guilty at her recent trial on charges of assault and battery.

She was charged with assaulting the four policemen who carried her out of her mother's house in Chavez Ravine. Two police held her by her arms and two by her legs, and in this position which was photographed for TV, she was accused of kicking and biting the four officers.

In actuality it was she who showed the marks of assault and battery. As a result of the "legal" eviction of her and her parents, her arm was in a cast for several weeks, her teeth loosened by a blow from one of the women deputies, and another woman deputy rolled a car window closed on her foot, the scars of which she still carries.

To add insult to physical injury, it is not the city who

is on trial for assault and battery, and for doing with land allotted for public use whatever it wanted, which in this case meant turning it over to a private corporation. It also meant not paying the assessed value of the home.

What stands out is not the legality or the illegality of the entry of the police. Nor is it even the Arechigas' stand and their determination not to be thrown out of their home. But is the law so sacred that it cannot be changed or protested against by those very people whose rights it is supposed to protect? As long as these people are swindled "legally" out of their home, or just compensation for that home, so that the land which was to become a low rent housing project can be turned over instead to the LA Dodgers for a new ball park, then that law deserves to be questioned.

The Arechiga court battle makes me think the police here can do whatever they want to you and you can take it to court but you can't win.

**Working Woman
Los Angeles**

They wouldn't accept her in any hospital, especially the County Hospital, when they found out she was beaten by the Sheriff's Deputies. And when they showed the actual films of the eviction, they cut them so as not to show her being pulled too much.

**Friend of the Arechigas
Los Angeles**

I was there, and it seemed to me that every time the defense attorney would make a point, the judge would call a recess and the jury would leave, but the trial would continue. All the jury heard was the evidence by the prosecution. You can't blame the jury. I feel if they had heard all the evidence, the verdict would have been different. I don't think she had a fair trial.

They're going to appeal the decision, though.

**Observer
Los Angeles**

NEWS BRIEFS:

PRINTER'S STRIKE IN BRITAIN

LIVERPOOL—At the moment in England, the provincial newspapers are virtually at a standstill, because the men have been on strike now for more than 3 weeks. They have shown much solidarity and really seem determined to win their fight for the 40 hour week and higher wages.

There have been one or two clashes on the picket lines with the police, but things are on the whole fairly peaceful. Whether they will remain so depends entirely on the police, because in the few incidents that have taken place, it has been the police who have provoked the men by protecting the blacklegs who have been trying to get "black" copies out of the printing works.

CROSS CO. WORKERS STRIKE

The U.A.W. is engaged in a serious strike in Fraser, Mich. against the Cross Co., which produces the machines for Automation in the auto industry. Although the N.L.R.B. has recognized the U.A.W. as the bargaining unit for the workers, the company refuses to sit down and bargain in good faith with the Union.

Some of the strikers have been hurt when the scabs, under police protection, drove their cars through the picket lines. Local judges have issued injunctions limiting the number of strikers at the plant and there is a great deal of hard feeling on the picket lines.

When the new Landrum-Griffin—or whatever name they give the anti-labor bill—becomes effective, it will become even more difficult for the union to organize the unorganized shops.

SCIENTIST BLASTS MISSILE PROGRAM

A scientific conference at California Institute of Technology was thrown into an uproar when one of the experts publicly questioned America's entire missile and space research program.

Speaking from the floor, Dr. A.R.J. Grosch, Manager of Space Programs for IBM Corporation, was reported by the New York Times to have said, "Our missile program is the swan song of a dying civilization. We don't need better missiles to destroy each other—the ones we have now will do the job adequately. And there isn't any point in zooming off into outer space. We could spend the money better solving problems here at home—taking care of our overcrowded, underfed millions. If we did that, we wouldn't need to find new worlds to colonize . . . We are in a bad way, I'm afraid, when we try to solve our problem by mass killing — or by

A DOCTOR SPEAKS

By M.D.

MEDICINE IN RUSSIA

Our eyes and ears are today filled with news of Russian accomplishments. The Sputnik first revealed amazing advances in physics, chemistry, and engineering. Visiting American physicians now return with reports of remarkable achievements in the field of medicine. Their enthusiasm however, is far less than that of American big businessmen over Russian industry.

The most significant finding is the increase in the number of physicians: from 35,000 in 1917 to 350,000 today. There is one physician for every 588 inhabitants, as compared to one for every 750 in the U.S. They now graduate 17,000 physicians a year, compared to our 7,000.

RUSSIAN MEDICAL SCHOOLS

There is some question about the capabilities of the average Russian physician. Medicine appears to be taught in an assembly line manner, with physicians produced like trade school graduates. The majority of them are merely grounded in public health measures.

Medicine has become widely open to women. Contrary to the policy in our country, where women and members of minority groups are often penalized, they have been encouraged in this field. Before the Russian revolution, as in the U.S., less than 10% of physicians were women. Today in Russia, medicine has become a women's profession with over 75% of doctors women; much as elementary school teaching in the U.S.

The Russian drive to industrialize and to meet U.S. competition from a position of strength, has led Russia to seek out all possible sources of labor power — from slave labor in concentration camps to child labor in schools. The great loss of men during the revolution and in World War II has meant greater dependence on the labor of women. Opening the field of medicine to women is a progressive act. This in spite of the fact that medicine is a secondary occupation in Russia, and that the average physician receives low pay compared to other professionals or to manual workers. However professors and research workers, and heads of departments are extremely well paid; but these positions are mostly occupied by men.

WORKERS PAY

While medical education in the U.S. is expensive,

padding off to a bigger island in space."

The newspapers reported that his remarks were met with loud bursts of applause from the audience of scientists, that several others jumped to their feet and began talking at the same time and that the meeting ended in noisy disorder.

Soviet medical education is free. Medical care is available to everyone without cost. When however, we look at the low wages paid Russian workers it is clear that medical care is not quite so free. One thing is certain, in Russia there is none of the competitive drive among doctors for patients and the pressure over money, which not infrequently corrupts our own approach to sick human beings, is absent.

Since there are some Americans who would like to imitate the Russian way of life, one must question the meaning of the Russian achievements. They reveal for one thing that total planning and organization may be more efficient than the competition in our own country. But the real question as to the value of the Russian accomplishments, or of our own, lies in looking into the lives of people. Are they full human beings or are they manipulated work units?

HUMAN ACTIVITY

There have been many revolutionary attempts to create a better way of life. The opening of America to the oppressed European masses was one of these. The Russian Revolution of 1917 was a more violent and decisive action. Both accomplished much before reaction set in. Degeneration came from failure to maintain at all times the atmosphere for the free and full expression of the wants of the ordinary man, as well as the inability to recognize the fact that "the individual is the social entity."

A new kind of revolution is now in the making. There is an upheaval not only among the "inferior" and have not millions of the colonial world, but the industrially "civilized" and gadget loaded people of Europe and America. A new quality of renaissance is in the air—the reunion of the activity of human hand and mind—of thinking and doing.

DEVELOPMENT OF MAN

Control and manipulation of human activity by others, whether leaders, organizers or bureaucrats of one sort or another — can never bring about human well being. Only the self activity, the self movement, the self initiative in work which satisfies and develops the whole man, will give him the strength that is true freedom. Merely producing a greater quantity and variety of consumer goods whether through state planning, full automation or even use of atomic energy, cannot in itself lead to the human health that is synonymous with this freedom.

It is clear that neither American or Russian medicine, or Russian and American summit meetings can cure the ills now festering within both Russian and American workers.

WORKERS PREPARE FOR STEEL CRACKDOWN

(Continued from Page 1)

know the most important issues at stake to them that they are expressing their apprehension to reports on the negotiations.

As one Pittsburgh steelworker said, "All we have heard so far is that both sides are as far apart now as they were in the beginning. But what are they apart on? What is it McDonald is pushing for? We don't hear anything on the specific points at all. But I do know this much. If the last contract is any indication of what we have to look forward to, it sure isn't going to be anything good."

SELL-OUT IN CONTRACT

The last contract, described by McDonald as the greatest in steel worker history, was the signal for companies to start an all-out offensive through speed-up, disregard for safety conditions and ignoring of grievances.

This onslaught against the men in the mills was often supported by the union bureaucrats, from McDonald on down. Sometimes it was by direct orders to accept the company changes; sometimes by simply turning their backs on conditions they knew were in violation of safety conditions or the contract.

This is the experience that concerns the men. They are fearful that McDonald will come up with an even worse sell-out than the last one. This division between what the men want and what the union leadership accepts was sharply posed by a Homestead worker who said, "If the union officials were the ones who would have to work under the conditions that they ratify in contract negotiations, they would never be ratified."

STEELWORKERS VERY IMPORTANT

Beginning months before the strike deadline, the steelworkers have been subjected to a constant propaganda barrage which is consciously calculated to break their morale. It has been used by everybody, from Ike on down, to try to make the steelworkers feel they are unimportant and thus to impose slave labor conditions on them.

This campaign against the men has taken the form of exaggerated reports of stock piling of steel and pointing to present capitalist market conditions which do not absorb the steel that can be produced. This is calculated to make the workers feel useless in the same manner as threats to move industry out of the unionized North to the supposedly docile South is used to compel workers to accept inhuman conditions of labor "just to have a job." So the present hullabaloo about "too much steel" is aimed at

bringing the workers to the steel industry's unacceptable terms.

STEEL NEEDED FOR WAR

The truth is, that the cold war strategy between the U.S. and the U.S.S.R. dominates the struggle in the contract negotiations between the union and the steel companies. And whether there is a hot or cold war, plenty of steel will be needed.

In these plans, the steelworkers are all important. Indeed, it is because they are so important that this all-out effort is being made to completely regiment them.

This was clearly demonstrated when Ike, fully two months before the strike deadline, threatened to use force "if the public interest is threatened."

IKE AND NIK

What has been revealed since then is that Ike knew full well that he and Nik were going to be exchanging trips in the fall. He also knew that the earlier trips by Mikoyan and Kozlov were designed to lay the groundwork for trade relations from which both world powers would profit.

Included in these plans are a large segment of the big steel corporations who are anxious to expand their foreign exports of steel and even more anxious to retain all the profits from higher labor productivity.

It is these considerations which provide the real background for the steel negotiations, with Eisenhower and the corporations in a firm alliance against the union and workers.

CHALLENGE TO WORKERS

As reported in Newsweek, August 24, as one of Ike's suggested U.S. visits for Nik, "The steel-strike picket lines, so that the Soviet Premier would note that people are free to strike in this country." But no matter what he says, Ike most certainly does not want to show Khrushchev a steel strike in progress when he arrives. What he does want to show him is that his control over the workers is as effective as Khrushchev's. If he can't stop the strike with appeals he'll invoke the Taft-Hartley law.

The steel workers know this but are ready to accept the challenge. They feel that conditions cannot be worse than they now are and that they—not the Administration, not the steel industry, nor the labor bureaucrats who are willing to have another sell-out—must put a stop now to the inhuman labor conditions produced by Automation.

LOS ANGELES EDITING COMMITTEE MEETS EVERY FRIDAY EVENING AT 8 P.M. AT 1904 S. ARLINGTON AVE. (Cor. Washington Blvd.) ROOM 207

Our Life and Times

By PETER MALLORY

SOUTH AFRICA

Hundreds of Africans have demonstrated against the jailing of 28 African women. Maci tribesmen in Southern Natal set fire to the grasslands and set up road blocks as a protest.

50 miles away at Pietermaritzburg, 200 women stormed a beerhall in protest against government orders prohibiting home brewing of liquor.

84 women were jailed at Port Shepstone and 300 demonstrated against their arrest. Throughout South Africa demonstrations are continuing against the white segregationist government.

African women have been in the vanguard of anti-government demonstrations since last October, when they started staging protest marches against a rule which required them to carry identity passes.

The protest movement has found support in England where a "Boycott Slave Drivers Goods" campaign has been organized by the Committee of African Organizations. Various British Trade Unions are participating in the boycott by refusing to buy South African goods.

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TRAVELERS ABROAD

Moscow has become the Mecca of visiting Governors, Senators, Supreme Court Justices, the Vice President and miscellaneous candidates who aspire to these posts, and soon the President himself.

In Europe they fear the exchange as a double-cross of existing agreements. Ike's trip seeks to calm down these fears. Italy, which has accepted atomic missile bases is for all purposes ignored, while DeGaulle France, which has refused them is visited. The question is, why?

France, whose demands undermine the Nato alliance, feels itself to be in a strong bargaining position. They want hands off Algeria, control over their own atom bombs, command of European land forces, etc. Italy, on the other hand, is in the position of being on the American relief roles so to speak. Eisenhower feels he need not visit Italy despite the fact that Italy has sent 500 men to be trained in the U.S.A. in the use of missiles.

Italy is thinking of Khrushchev's trip to Albania, where he openly threatened the small nations with, "they will be wiped off the face of the earth faster than they can pronounce the word sputnik."

RED CHINA

China has finally openly admitted failure of the grand plans to double and multiply industrial and agricultural output this year through the use of forced labor in the communes, backyard steel furnaces and mass shifting of the population from the city to the countryside.

The Communist Central Committee has just announced the results of its December secret meetings with the public announcement that the expected production goals for food, steel and other commodities were to be cut by one third, due to the weather and lack of industrial know how.

In finding fault with the communes and industry, the committee listed the faults as, "over-centralization, equalitarianism in distribution and extravagance." To correct themselves they are "re-activating" the policy of "rewarding each person according to his work" which was abandoned when the communes were started.

Under other means this policy is known in the U.S.A. as the speed-up, group incentive and other hated terms. In Russia it started as Stakanovism but whatever the country or the name it is but a device to get out more production for less pay. Workers everywhere know it and hate it.

* * *

ARGENTINA

250,000 metalworkers are on strike at over 7,000 factories in an effort to have their union contracts renewed. The big issue is a wage increase to make up for the rise in the cost of living, which has increased 50% in the last 6 months.

While so far the government has not acted to break the strike, they recently used force to break up strikes in the railroad and petroleum industries.

The 13 cement plants of the country are also out on a 72 hour demonstration strike against the high cost of living.

The Peronists, active in opposition to the Frondizi government, are supporting the metalworkers in the strike.

* * *

LAOS

Another "little war" is under way in the Kingdom of Laos. Over 3,000 Communist-led rebels are fighting their way out of the jungles of the north toward the capital of Luang Prabang. Charges by both sides accuse the U.S. and Russia of intervention in a situation which could develop into another Korea or Viet Nam.

LABORERS STRIKE BUREAUCRATS

The laborers of Local No. 199 AFL-CIO picketed their own union offices charging that off duty policemen and others were getting assigned to laborers jobs while the regular members were out of work.

This local is led by the "grand old man" of the A.F. of L. Building Trades Council, Sandy McFarland, the man who makes all the big deals with the contractors in Detroit.

The men are plenty sore because since the closed shop in the building trades has been outlawed, the employers are getting their friends on the job instead of using the hiring hall procedure.

Discrimination against Negroes in the Plumbers, Steamfitters Pipe Insulators, Carpenters, Iron Workers and many other building trades unions continues as it always has, with no interference from Walter Reuther or any other AFL-CIO official.

Only in the Laborers locals and the Cement Finishers are Negroes employed, and then only under white bureaucrats—even in locals where Negroes are in the majority.

Recently, before an election in the Cement Finishers, a "robbery" lost the membership lists which would have shown the Negroes to have a majority of the local. The white minority was returned to office for another term.

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MICHIGAN TAX CRISIS

For 7 months an evenly divided State Senate has debated what form heavy new taxes would take. Republicans insisted that no new "business taxes" be imposed, while Democrats weakly insisted that some of the burden must be assumed by the corporations.

Finally a "compromise" was reached where, out of a total of \$128,500,000 in new taxes, the workers will pay 120 million and "business" will pay 8½ million. Or more accurately, pass their share along to the workers as increased prices.

This "compromise," agreed upon by Democrat Williams and his administration, has the unmistakable look of a big Republican-Big Business victory.