

NEWS & LETTERS

'The Root of Mankind Is Man'

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

Automation Count — Down

For several years I have heard from workers how difficult it is to meet the hardship of unemployment and at the same time heard employed workers tell of what they saw in Automation. They knew that in the next two or three years they would be added to that unemployment line. Yet at the same time they hoped that something might happen before Automation's count-down would hit them. They hoped they would see their unemployed fellow workers return to work.

27 Years—Not Good Enough

As the months and years passed we only saw more workers put out in the streets and not many returning. In Dec. 1960, workers in many Chrysler plants in Detroit witnessed the near zero count-down by Automation. Some for the first time in 27 years, were added to the vast number that have been pushed onto the streets by these monster machines that began to be put in, in 1955.

A Negro worker said that when he hears about the high crime rate in this city of Detroit he can draw only one conclusion, and that is there aren't any jobs for working people. Automation has reduced people to such a point. He said when he thinks of that passage in the Bible that says that man cannot live by bread alone he wonders what are those workers doing that were put into the streets by Automation two and three years ago. With all their unemployment and other benefits used up, what are they living on? "I don't believe they're even getting bread."

"Hardship, Misery and Humiliation"

You cannot get the full feeling of what the unemployed army that Automation created really means until you are part of it.

The hardship, misery and humiliation that these workers have to go through to get their unemployment checks is unbelievable. One day, one work was a half hour late and they refused to give him his check. He explained that his car broke down on the way. They told him that wasn't their fault and that he would have to wait until the next appointment day.

An old woman had been standing in line and it seemed like she was in one place, for two hours. She said her back was giving her trouble and she had to go sit down and rest before she got to the desk. When she told them her reason for leaving the line they told her she was not able to work and they refused to give her her check.

The next worker told that clerk off. He said, "What is this business? Are we just steps for all to tramp up and down on? You give us an appointment and you're always late but you don't apologize for that. Sometimes we wait on hour, two hours, sometimes three hours. If one of us is a few minutes late we're penalized."

"My back is hurting too from just standing here and it's hurting most likely as bad or maybe worse than that old lady's but I had to wait until I got this check in my hand before I could say anything. You people make liars of every one. You insist that we give two places we went to for work when you know no one is hiring." The woman replied that is the law and the man said, "Yes, they're always passing laws to make life as miserable as they can for the working people."

Will It Hit Zero?

Workers in some departments at Chryslers will be called back soon. Some have already received their notice. In everyone's mind he knows that this Automation count-down will continue. They figure if they can work for six months they will be fortunate. After several weeks back in the plant if they don't see the workers with 25 years or more seniority called back, they know that the count-down is nearing zero for them.

As for the union leaders—you would think such things did not exist. They see nothing, hear nothing and know nothing.

BELGIAN WORKERS SHOW THE WAY

Tens of thousands of Belgian workers have been on general strike ever since December 20th. The militancy of the strike and demonstrations of these unarmed masses facing the armed police on horseback, wielding sabers, and on foot, using tear-gas and guns, has not been seen in Belgium since the Nazi-collaborationist King Leopold was forced to abdicate. Provoked by the so-called Single Law, which the Belgian workers call "The Law of Misery," the strikers aim to overthrow the government of Prime Minister Gaston Eyskens.

General Strike 100% Effective In Industrial South

Eyskens has shown as little understanding of the needs and aspirations of the Belgian workers as, six months previously, he had proved to have of the Congolese masses who had won their freedom from Belgian imperialist rule. Then he connived with his puppet, Tshombe, to withdraw the rich province of Katanga where lay 80% of the wealth of the Congo from the newly-born Congo Republic. This time he aims to saddle the Belgian workers with the whole burden of the imperialist loss of the Congo by a 20% tax. With this workers' sweat and blood, Eyskens aims "to modernize" Belgian industry by isolating the mines, steel plants and cement shops of the industrialized South, which is Socialist, and building new plants in the Catholic North.

While the strike among the miners, steel and cement workers in Liege, Mons, Ghent is 100% effective both economically and politically, leadership of the Catholic trade unions of the North has voted not to support the strike because "it is not an economic but a political strike." Thereby they have intensified the old division between the French-speaking Belgian workers in the industrial South and the Dutch-speaking Flemish population in the North. By now this has international ramifications.

Enter Africa

No one was hated more by the Congolese masses than the Flemish-speaking Belgian oppressors. Belgian imperialism dates from, and is akin to, the white supremacist South African. The old, blatant imperialist excesses of the century that had not been disciplined in any way by the mass revolts of the 20th Century has now turned inward against "its own" proletariat. This narrow, bigoted, reactionary, exploitative rule is as ruthless against the advanced proletariat as it has always been against the allegedly "backward masses of Africa."

Whether the moderate Socialist leadership, which has led the strike whereby the unarmed workers have brought the economy to a near standstill despite the bloody intervention of the armed police, will now back down, or move forward and appeal to the international proletariat remains to be seen.

One thing is sure of all of Western Europe: Just as the future of France depends upon the solution of the Algerian war, so the future of Belgium is inseparable from the freedom fighters in the Congo. Africa has moved over to the center of the European stage and is daily proving that the



EDITORIAL

Police Brutality in Detroit

Since the end of December, police brutality in Detroit has reached a vicious level of intensity unmatched since the days of the sit-down strikes and the race-riot of '43. Aimed at the systematic humiliation and intimidation of the Negroes, who number 25 per cent of the population in this fifth largest city in the United States, the timing of this flagrant police action coincides with the greatest peak in unemployment since the depression.

From December 27th—when Police Commissioner Herbert W. Hart ordered the department on an emergency footing—until January 11th—when public protest forced the police to end the emergency—hundreds and thousands of Negroes were stopped on the streets and near their homes, insulted, manhandled, and forced to submit to search by the police.

In the first week alone, over a thousand persons were arrested. The fact that 96 per cent of these had to be released speaks for itself. Yet this in no way deterred either the police or Hart or the City Fathers from justifying their gestapo-like behaviour with pious double-talk about the protection of life and property.

U.S. Civil Rights Commission Hearings

In actuality, this blatant police drive started after two former policemen testified before a U.S. Civil Rights Commission hearing in Detroit that police brutality against Negroes is a standard operating procedure. The hearing took place Dec. 16-17.

The Commission found that bias is rampant in Detroit, and that it expresses itself in (1) police brutality and disregard of minority civil rights; (2) discrimination in housing; (3) unfair employment practices; and (4) public school inequalities. "Detroit, like most Northern cities," warned the Commission, "must face up to its racial problems quickly."

To the testimony offered the Commission, and to the Commission's findings, Hart had nothing to answer except to hide behind the vile allegation that 65 per cent of the crimes were committed by Negroes. Backed by the Mayor, Hart launched the crack-down, which was aimed not so much at the apprehension of criminals, but at creating a public image of the Negro as a criminal and thereby evading the issues raised on Civil Rights.

(Continued on Page 4)

BE SURE TO READ:

Teen-Ager's Letter on "White Mob Opposes Integration"—Page 6
IN NEXT ISSUE:

Look For
The Civil War In The United States
by V. L. J. Granger

(Continued on Page 8)

IN THE COAL FIELDS

Automation Cuts Miners to 185,000

West Virginia—The huge toll that Automation has taken of coal miners was admitted by Thomas Kennedy, president of the United Mine Workers, as one of the major factors that has turned coal mining areas into permanently depressed sections of America.

In a report submitted to Congress at the end of 1960, Kennedy also listed competition from domestic fuels and unrestricted imports of residual oil as the other two major factors which have raised havoc with the coal industry.

In calling for a National Fuels Policy to meet the problems of coal, however, it is significant that his report deals extensively with the proposals aimed against domestic fuel competition and residual oil imports—but not one word is said against Automation. Nor does he once mention the horrible conditions the men are forced to endure who must operate these man-killing continuous miners.

FIGURES MISLEAD

According to Kennedy's own figures, in 1937, there were 445,531,449 tons of coal mined by 491,964 coal miners. In 1957, there were 492,703,916 tons mined by 228,635 miners.

From these figures it appears that it took a span of 23 years to cut the number of miners by more than one half, while production was even increased with this drastically reduced working force.

These figures are misleading. For while there may have been 491,864 coal miners in 1937, this total had been reduced only to 450,000 miners by 1950. The greatest reduction has been in the past ten years—since the introduction of the continuous miner.

In the last ten years, the total continuous miner has cut the total from 450,000, to 185,000 miners today. The effects of the continuous miner did not stop in 1957, when the reported 228,635 were still working. It has continuously been introduced, and wherever it is put in use the effects are the same: Laying off two-thirds of the work force and inhumanly speeding up those that are kept working.

Kennedy reported that productivity of the miner has more

True-Blue Co. Man

LOS ANGELES — I once worked with a real company man. He'd go running around picking up real heavy things and finally twisted his back. He hasn't done anything since, and the company is trying to fire him. One guy who worked in the pits and wasn't a company man, they fired outright. This guy though was a true-blue company man. The day after he hurt his back he came wobbling in almost on all fours and they put him on the line. They stuck him with another guy with a back injury who could hardly raise up his arms.

He finally realized that the company was a little inhuman. It took him a while to find it out. He finally had to sue them. Even after change-over when he came back to work they put him on the line again. He's back where he was last year with his back.

On his last day of work, after he had already sued the company and got \$3,000 out of them, they settled with the stipulation that he'd quit when it was final. And on his last day of work that guy was still jumping up on that line. We just watched and wondered if he was for real.

than doubled in the past ten years—from about five tons per man per day to over ten tons per man per day. This represents the national average, including all mines—with and without automation. This figure is much greater in mines with the continuous miner. Here it is more like 50 tons per man per day.

MINE AREAS—DEPRESSED AREAS

This much greater production with the continuous miner, of course, means that these mines can produce contracted coal tonnage in a very short time, resulting in short work weeks. Smaller companies close down because they can't compete with the larger companies that can afford the continuous miners. The larger companies on the other hand have completely closed some of their mines down because they could produce all they needed by operating only a few mines.

Caught in the middle of these many pronged forces, the miners and their families have been the ones who have suffered. The national recessions that have appeared in cycles nationally do not apply to the coal miners. They have been chronically depressed since 1950.

In Auto Shops

DETROIT—The worker who has to put the frames on my line has a job that is a man-killer. He has to put 300 frames on a machine, weld them and put them on the line in order for 3 others on the jigs to be able to get 92 jobs an hour. His job was what they called a "bottle-neck."

On this machine, the worker had to push two electric buttons, the machine would weld the frame, and he would take it and drop in on the line. When we were off for model change-over they moved the buttons. They claimed that he was losing time by moving his hand off the button and down to get the rail. They put the button on the floor so he could step on it, the machine would weld and his hands would be already in position to put it on the line. It was inhuman, but it added a few more jobs.

But what was the most inhuman of all was when they figured out that sometimes the guy might be a little slow in picking the frame off after it got welded. So they put on another gadget. The frame is welded in the same manner, but in one-half a second if this worker doesn't have the frame in his hand and onto the line, the frame drops down between the fixtures that holds it. It causes him to practically break his back to get it out. Rather than strain every muscle to pull it out, the worker is forced to try to get it out in that half second.

Workers Battle Automation 25c
By Charles Denby
Orders: News & Letters
8751 Grand River
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Cuban Labor In A Strait-Jacket

Reprinted from Views and Comments, Jan.-Feb. 1961 issue.

Castro has declared his support of every freedom, while proceeding to smother each and every one of them under one pretext or another. Hence, at present, slightly more than a year and half after taking power, all of the press, radio, television, movie-news programs of the country are under the absolute control of the State, which dictates in all these mass-communication media.

Within the labor movement, on the pretext of eliminating from the leadership the Batista elements therein, a governmental decree was issued (Law No. 22 of Jan. 20, 1959) imposing a new top committee for the Cuban Confederation of Labor (CTC). This new committee, basing itself on the same law, then designated leading committees for each of the Federations of Industry. These federations in turn called elections in the unions during April and May under their auspices and with their rules.

The communists had been able to seize control of the committees of these Federations of Industry in almost every case. With the support of the Government and its forces, they had used every form of coercion on the workers in favor of their own candidates, having already eliminated from the unions whatever elements they thought might dispute the leadership with them. In all of the unions, slates were presented in the name of the 26th of July Movement, said slates being composed of members of the 26th of July and communists. Many of the members of the 26th of July were at the same time communist militants. These rigged elections were carried out, and following them other, similar elections in the Federations of Industry and in the Confederation itself through special National Congresses.

In spite of everything that was done by the Government, and in spite of the physical presence of Fidel Castro at the Congress of the Cuban Confederation of Labor recommending a joint slate with the communists, this Congress elected a CTC executive committee consisting entirely of members of (Continued on Page 7)

The Working Day

By Angela Terrano

Farm Workers Strike In California

A strike by farm workers against the rich lettuce farmers of California's Imperial Valley began Monday, Jan. 16. At the time of this writing the only available news was from Californian dailies prior to the strike. It seems such events are not newsworthy enough for nation-wide coverage. What seem to be articles giving the facts about the strike actually set the stage for the public in favor of the growers, for they are "unfortunate" ones who stand to lose profits running into millions of dollars.

Union organizing drives in Imperial Valley have been attempted for the past 30 years. Since WW II, with the legalizing of importation of foreign workers, Mexican workers have been entering every year to work the fields. Last year approximately 550,000 workers came into the United States to work. The "Bracero system" built up by the growers is integral to the question of organizing the farm workers. Any organizing drive that does not include the Mexican worker is doomed to failure. The dailies play up the Mexican worker, the "bracero" as the target of the union and domestic worker.

According to Dan Swinton, labor editor for the Los Angeles Mirror, "Pound for pound, a bracero is considered by many the finest agricultural worker in the world.

"He is built low to the ground, for easy stooping. His health is robust. His stomach is cast iron. His blood carries the kind of ice that defies 120-degrees field heat in the blistering summers of California lowlands." Along with this article is a picture of a Mexican worker. Mr. Swinton gives his age as 38. I would say, unless it is just a very poor picture, the man doesn't look a day over 68. That Mr. Swinton is what happens when a man has to defy "120-degrees field heat in the blistering summers of California lowlands" to eke out a \$30 a week existence for himself and his family. And how does "built low to the ground" mean bred "for easy stooping?" It could possibly mean lack of growth from malnutrition.

Although Mr. Swinton's writing does not give a true picture of what the Mexican worker is like or what he thinks, since he does not even bother to

quote directly from a Mexican worker, it does give a clear picture of Mr. Swinton's and the growers' mentality. Any person who can speak of another human being in terms of "pound for pound" or being "built low to the ground, for easy stooping" is not one to warm the cockles of your heart. Is Mr. Swinton built "high" so he can reach the top of his desk? Are the growers "built" with long fingers so they can pull in all the profits off the backs of workers? Is there something mystical about the way a person is "built" that that is what determines one's "station" in life

This Mexican worker is so fortunate as to earn \$30 a week and pay "only \$1.70" a day for food. If he works just a five day week his food bill comes to \$8.75, providing he doesn't eat the other two days. That now leaves him \$21.25 and how much do the landlords of Mexicali, or the growers, take for shelter and other bare necessities of life?

The growers prefer the Mexican worker to the American because he pays them less. "Claude Funnell, Imperial Valley agriculture commissioner, says he knows what the bracero program means to the valley. "Without the bracero, the valley would fall flat on its face." What is really meant is that without cheap labor, that is if the Mexican and American workers organize, it would cut into the lettuce growers 20 million dollars a year business. They and their pen pushing pal are friends to no one but their own pockets.

Headlines such as "Bracero Pawn in Labor Fight" and "Braceros Goal in Labor Drive to Organize" and the write-ups themselves, leave much doubt as to what is happening and what is the aim of the organizing drive. One thing is sure, the capitalist press is never on the side of the union or strikes and are friends of no workers.

If the United Packinghouse Workers Union and the Agricultural Workers Union are fighting to end the "bracero system" as a degrading slave system and to organize both the Mexican and American worker into an international union, that is one thing but if it is as the papers play it up to be a fight to keep the "braceros" out of the country, then the union is playing into the hands of the growers and on a battlefield that neither the American nor the Mexican worker created but was created purposefully by the growers themselves.

MINER'S PENSION CUT

West Virginia—Another cut in the Welfare Fund benefits for miners will go into effect in February. Soft coal miners' pensions will be cut from \$100 to \$75 a month. What many coal miners had feared back in July of 1960 when miners were cut off from the fund who had been unemployed for a year is happening.

This cut, was reported necessary because of reduced revenues. Money for the fund comes from a 40c royalty paid by coal operators for each ton of coal produced.

In 1957 there were some 497 million tons of coal produced. In 1960, over 400 million tons were produced.

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BRITISH LABOUR NEWS

WRITTEN AND EDITED BY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH COMMITTEES

EDITORIAL

Rank and File Conference

(The following letter on the Rank and File Conference of 29 January, was written last month and submitted to THE SOCIALIST LEADER for publication. Since it was not published there, we reprint it below for the light it shed, in advance, on the problems confronting the Conference. The Conference itself will be reported in our next issue.—Ed.)

* * *

At the time of writing, a little over a month remains before the Industrial Rank & File Conference at the end of January. Unless there is a spontaneous move towards attendance on the part of workers at some dozen or more of the larger enterprises in London, as far as a genuine, representative, rank and file Conference goes, the meeting will be an anti-climax.

It will be an anti-climax to the weekly sessions called by the Provisional Liaison Committee (P.L.C.) which has produced a flood of duplicated "internal" material, and some numerically large meetings as far as such central London meetings go. Undoubtedly, some have put in a lot of time and energy to draw together leaders from several sections of the left wing movement.

It is also true that the moving spirits have not put in a great deal of fundamental thought. As a result of this weakness, the Conference bids to be a pale repetition of the recent Trotskyist "show" conferences.

The so-called Workers Party, created a few months ago, bears most blame. Having broken with Healy (but apparently little else of the recent past of its originators) it has failed to rise to the differentiation of true Marxist orientation which should have been the basis for its original inception. Now it is drifting. A recent issue of WORKERS' VOICE (No. 23) hints strongly that the Behan Group (W.P.) may soon merge with the syndicalists.

* * *

An absence of politics seems to keynote the recent material of the P.L.C. If the desire is not to break the fictitious and superficial "unity" that exists among the heterogeneous collection of individuals which turns up at most meetings, this has no effect other than to reduce the "Marxists" to a common denominator, including the so-called anarchists and syndicalists who had to wait until the "Marxists" got things moving, and who now exert a powerful pull on the drifting orientation.

This will not carry a Rank & File movement beyond a "show" conference. Ask Healy where are the "militants" he assembled last year! In fact, Behan, whose political career always seems 6 months behind events, despite personal dedication, should know from first-hand experience.

* * *

No genuine workers' movement can be built without politics which are more profound than simple opposition to the present bourgeois-reformist parties and policies. A hollow advocacy of industrial militancy (a la S.W.F.) begs the questions that workers are asking today. They need no lessons from any self-appointed "leadership." Syndicalist economism has nothing to offer the working class. Marxist Humanist answers are urgently needed for the major problems of man's freedom. Can the British Marxists not present to the workers the true vision of Marx so that the worker recognises it as the inner quality of his own thoughts? If capitalism is to be overcome in Britain, something more than a hand-to-mouth empirical method is required. The heyday of British imperialism drew material strength and intellectual complacency from a vast colonial empire. It still is the stronghold of empiricism. The oppressive grip of this slothful outlook has not served the British workers too well. Even in Karl Marx's days it was impossible to find a British publisher for CAPITAL. Official British Labour still pretends it owes more to Methodism than Marxism.

In the total crisis of the '60's, only Marxist Humanism is capable of overcoming the bourgeois outlook prevailing, and cutting the Gordian knot its sick society has produced. Our task is not to give up the ideological struggle and revert to syndicalist phrase-mongering, but to reinterpret Marxism for our age and thereby seek to meet the movement of the workers towards theory.

The future is already forming before our eyes. It already, as always, exerts a powerful pull on the present. Syndicalist economists, and "activists" disdaining theory may say, "If we work well in the factory, the workers will soon develop a revolutionary class conscious outlook." The point is, you cannot "work well" without finding, concretely, the need heightened for such a total philosophy as Marxist Humanism gives.

It is no accident that Humanism was the name given to the reaffirmation of Marxism before, during and after the Hungarian Revolution. Syndicalism was nowhere in sight.

Is January 29th going to be another effort wasted? Another opportunity to raise a revolutionary banner lost? If so, the blame will be not on the syndicalists, but the "Marxists" of the Workers Party, and to some extent, the I.L.P.

—F.W.

Polaris Here 18th February

The American depot ship carrying Polaris missiles is due on the Clyde on Saturday, 18th February. Coinciding with it, the newly formed Committee of 100, headed by Rev. Michael Scott and Earl Russell, have planned a 4-hour sitdown protest outside London's Ministry of Defence. All participants are asked to assemble in Trafalgar Square at 1:30 p.m. Leaflets may be had from Michael Randle, at 13 Goodwin St., Finsbury Park, London, N. 4 (ARC 1239).

Young Workers Think Ahead

(The following items are from "Progress," No. 4, the rank-and-file apprentices' journal.)

I sincerely believe a gathering of apprentices to talk over our future, our conditions, and, I think, our systems of apprenticeship will broaden our outlook... During the "strike" I personally learned a tremendous lot about fellow-apprentices in other yards and indeed other parts of the country. The very fact that these people shared the same thoughts and ideas as myself made me feel a part of something I had never before experienced.

Louis Haynes, Clydebank

* * *

Due to a recent letter from Louis Haynes of Glasgow (who, during the recent strike of apprentices did more for the movement than any of us here) ideas have begun to ferment and the growing possibility of a National Conference of Apprentices.

Brian Bamford, Rochdale

* * *

All West German apprentices are indentured... Many factories have apprentice councils which are chosen by the apprentices at a ballot. While some delegates elected are not apprentices... it is the duty of the council to deal with all their complaints. In some factories, as in the case of one of the writers, the representative of the apprentices is appointed by the management and naturally serves their interest rather than the interests of the apprentices. We look forward to some form of international co-operation.

Lutz Heinemann, and

Wolfgang Genshow, Wuppertal

Railwaymen Aid Strikers

London—As the strike of the Belgian Socialist trades unions entered its fourth and most bitter week, apart from the offer by the British T.U.C. of a £50,000 loan, the only section of the trades union movement to take positive action to help their Belgian brothers is the National Union of Railwaymen.

At the telephone request of the Secretary of the International Transport Workers Federation, the N.U.R. instructed their members in the Dover area to "black" Belgian boats manned by scab labour.

Action Planned On Apartheid

A representative conference of delegates from factories, offices, streets, and trades union branches, all over East London and S.W. Essex, to discuss practical steps to help Africans in the Union of S. Africa, has been called for early spring by the Action Committee set up by the Walthamstow Trades Council.

All readers in this area are asked to write the London News & Letters Committee for literature and latest details. Make collections and publicity among your friends an urgent priority.

Apprentices Blast Bureaucrats; Seek New Organization Forms

A lasting result of the nationwide apprentices' strike last year is the appearance of a rank-and-file paper edited and produced by a group of apprentices themselves. Their spirit outshines that of many of their older union brothers.

In a letter to the London Committee of News & Letters they ask to be put in touch with groups, and individuals, of young workers, not only in Britain. Write: Brian Bamford, 39 Alder Road, Castleton, Rochdale, Lancs, England, for a copy of PROGRESS—to our knowledge, the only apprentice journal.

The leading article in No. 4 sets the general tone. We extract the following from the editor's discussion with Bro. Ken Abbot, A.E.U. Rochdale District Sec.

* * *

Q: What is your general opinion of PROGRESS?

A: Well, it's bloody stupid! It's anti-union, anti-boss, anti-everything.

Q: What are your views as to the formation of an apprentice committee at workshop level?

A: There is no provision for one.

* * *

(QUESTIONER'S COMMENT:

Bro. Abbott did, however, tell me of the possibility of a consolation prize for those AEU apprentices who enjoy the setting of their AEU branch so much that they may want to set up a committee of their own away from the problems of the workshop. My personal view is that the only results of such a committee will be an adequate darts team.

(With some degree of contempt he tried to impress on me that I was a member of the ETU and should not become involved in AEU affairs. How one can reconcile this mentality with slogans such as "Divided We Fall; United We Stand," which are often bleated by union chiefs...)

Readers' Views

Leaders vs. Ranks

I was talking with a left wing Labour Party Colleague who seemed still to put his confidence in the party machinery. He more or less admitted that from that aspect things were looking increasingly hopeless, and did not seem to have thought of industrial action to achieve political ends.

Committee Member
S. W. Essex

* * *

'This Affluent Society'

Here we are living in so-called affluence because two-thirds of the world is hungry, and getting hungrier—and this is in direct confirmation of Marx, who always stressed that the workers generally would be subjected to increasing misery. But the two-thirds are not prepared to subsidise our affluence indefinitely, and in most parts of the world they are living much nearer to revolution than we are. Unless we find a way to cooperate with this undernourished two-thirds, there is no doubt that continuing capitalism can offer us nothing except a decreasing standard of life.

T. U. Veteran
East London

Marxist Humanism

I am impressed above all with Raya Dunayevskaya's masterly article in "Two Worlds," on Castro's Cuba (Dec. 1960). In my view it ranks with the Afro-Asian pamphlet. Compare it with the several other "analyses" of the Cuban regime currently appearing on the left, and the concrete importance of the Marxist-Humanist viewpoint is so obvious, it stands head and shoulders above your contemporaries who are still fumbling along in the old groove.

F. W.
London

* * *

It appears that a new invasion had already started, on a 12,000 mile front, linking up Detroit, London, and Calcutta. It was an intellectual invasion to conquer the whole territory of Stalinism, and to some extent even Leninism, and to detach them completely from Marxism. Three writers without knowing each other had been developing an approximately same interpretation to show that Marxism is a humanism and it has no relation to the brutalities of Stalinism; MARXISM AND FREEDOM, by Raya Dunayevskaya; "Is Marxism a Humanism?" by Charles Taylor; and "The Humanistic Content of Revolutionary Socialism," by B. Bhattachaya, of Calcutta.

M. John Panikkar
Author of "New Ideas on the March"

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Workers Battle Automation

ONE SHILLING

Editorial

Police Brutality in Detroit

(Continued from Page 1)

Many instances are known whereby whites are not prosecuted for violations, whereas police will seek every avenue to press charges if a Negro citizen is involved. (See Readers' Views, This Page.)

* * *

Police brutality is nothing new in Detroit. Hundreds of cases have been reported of Negroes who were beaten just because they were Negroes.

What is new in the current situation is the manner in which a police crackdown has been used in an effort to identify Civil Rights with criminality.

* * *

Among the witnesses before the Civil Rights Commission hearings was Arthur Johnson, President of the Detroit Chapter of the NAACP. In retaliation, he is one of those who was forced to submit to police search during the current period of so-called emergency.

Superintendent Berg justified this on the grounds that Mr. Johnson was behaving in a "suspicious manner," that is, he was sitting in his automobile with the motor running, but the lights off. Allegedly also, Mr. Johnson gave a different address from the one appearing on his license. Therefore, said Berg, it was good police practice to search Johnson for hidden weapons.

So flagrant has been this sudden concern with "law and order," whose main target has been the humiliation and abuse to the Negro, that public outcry has forced the police to call off the emergency within two weeks after it started.

Hart Plays McCarthyite Politics

That arrogant millionaire-turned-policeman, Commissioner Hart, gives the lie to his own proclaimed emergency: the same edition of the newspaper which reported Superintendent Berg's defense of the police stopping and searching Mr. Johnson, also reported that Hart was disporting himself in a fancy vest on vacation in segregated Florida. If it were such a terrible emergency as he has been claiming, how does it happen he takes a vacation at that very time.

It is quite clear that the emergency is not an emergency of crime, but an emergency of Hart going into politics in a McCarthyite manner.

The true Gestapo nature of Hart and the entire Detroit Police Department was clearly demonstrated by its sponsorship of the vicious film of the House Un-American Activities Committee relating to San Francisco police brutality against students protesting that very same committee.

This film, which has been denounced for its distortions, and slanders, and has therefore been correctly called "Murder By Film," was lauded by Hart who said, "This proves what we are confronting and shows what a problem Communism is."

Only a prejudiced mind that is overly ambitious to play the white knight-errant can possibly find time to lay the foundation right in the midst of "the emergency" to go after "Communists," that is to say, all minorities, starting with the Negroes, dreaming of proceeding against students and unemployed workers.

The Terrible Shame of America

At the same time as the world's headlines proclaim the great struggle for human rights being waged by Negro Americans against the vicious white bigots in that stronghold of reaction, South U.S.A., the present police crackdown "against crime," now going on in Detroit, once again underscores that the terrible shame of America, discrimination, is not just a Southern cancer.

Just as the Detroit workers, white and Negro, cannot be silenced, and organizations like the NAACP and the ACLU cannot be driven underground by the spurious police crackdown against crime, so it cannot be hidden than an emergency does indeed exist. But it is not the so-called police emergency of Mr. Hart; it is the emergency of over 8 per cent unemployed which demands solution and from which Hart is trying to divert attention by police methods.

The protest against these police methods was immediate and vigorous from such organizations as the NAACP, Civil Liberties Union, ADL, and various ministerial associations, which have added their protests to the unmistakable protest from the Negro people themselves.

The 3,000 people who jammed the NAACP meeting, at Ford Auditorium on Jan. 16, was only a small indication of the mass disgust with the police action. As William R. Ming Jr. pointed out, the people on the stage were limited to the leadership. He asked why weren't some of the people who had been arrested there.

If those arrested had been there, Ford Auditorium could not have held the out-pouring Negro communities. The people of Detroit have not yet had the last word.

POLICE STATE

The "policeman's side" of the current police "crash program" here (which the daily papers have been so glad to publicize) sounds more like an argument for a "police state" than an attempt to solve any crimes.

Worried
Detroit

* * *

I have read that multi-million dollar schools—some even with swimming pools—are on the way here. The colored people are heavy taxpayers and are entitled to nice schools like that along with the whites. But they will never see them. There isn't a decent school in this city for the colored children. It isn't only among the police department that prejudice and injustice to Negroes exists. It is everywhere.

Negro Reader
Detroit

* * *

When a Negro is accused of a crime it appears in headlines, a dragnet is put out, and the white population is made almost hysterical by the publicity and descriptions the papers scream at them. When a white commits a crime it appears in small print on an inside page, if at all.

Then there are the cases like the white woman who said she saw a Negro murder her husband and later confessed she did it herself. She has been treated with the utmost courtesy, but I wouldn't even begin to compare the way a Negro criminal and a white criminal are treated. Just compare for yourself how the innocent Negro and the white criminal are treated!

Alarmed
Detroit

* * *

My son was hauled off his job by the police who said they were arresting him for not paying a traffic fine. They took him outside to a call box, and then down town, even though he told them that he had paid his fine and had the receipt for it at home. They held him for two hours and then said they found the record and let him go. On top of everything else he lost the whole day of work.

Disgusted
Detroit

* * *

My buddy was going out to his car and two cops stopped him and asked him where he was going. He's a great one to kid around and without thinking said, "To Grandma's house." They arrested him right on the spot and took him down to the jail. I think he might still be there, but it

was so crowded with all the other poor guys they've been picking up just because they didn't like their looks, that when they asked down at the station what he was held for and the cops told them, they said to let him go this time.

Negro Worker
Detroit

* * *

I was really fed-up at how the mass meeting called by the NAACP to protest police brutality turned out. The entire Negro population (and a good portion of the white as well) have been horrified at the current police brutality and flagrant violations of Civil Rights. Yet, the srting protest of the Negro people was played down and the meeting spent its time trying to sell something they called "the American Way." What IS "the American Way?"

Auto Worker
Detroit

* * *

McCarthy might be dead, but McCarthyism sure isn't. In the midst of all the police brutality going on here in Detroit, the Detroit News TV station had the gall to run the doctored-up film of the student protest demonstrations in San Francisco last May against the House Un-American Activities Committee, where the San Francisco cops had a chance to show their brutality and to try to call these students "communists" and the cops the "victims"! I was so sick after I saw it I wanted to start writing letters to the papers and calling the TV stations and start a protest movement of my own.

Technician
Detroit

(See Editorial: Front Page)

* * *

WORKERS BATTLE AUTOMATION

Your "Workers Battle Automation" shows a new type of man and woman emerging. I don't think it can now be stopped but I will still be in there pitching to make sure that it can't be. Enclosed please find 25 cents for a copy of your latest issue. And also some literature showing the kind of thinking that is going on here.

Best wishes!

Edgar Leslie,
Santa Rosa,
California

* * *

I've tried to sell the pamphlet on Automation to my neighbors but Automation has put so many on our street out of work that many of them say they can't even spare me a quarter. I really feel that in many of the houses if there was anybody in the house working

they would buy. It's just that bad. Across the street there's but one house in the whole block that doesn't have one or two laid off. In one house there are five laid off—my friend, her husband, and all her sons. Her husband had 22 years seniority at Ford's but he doesn't even look to be called back.

I don't go in my own neighborhood anymore. I try to go somewhere where not so many are out of work, or I try to talk to the people coming out of the plant near our house on their lunch-hour.

E. D.
Detroit

* * *

Enclosed is \$5.50 for the 22 pamphlets sold here this month. Quite a few were sold in the mill.

Steelworker's Wife
Pittsburgh

* * *

NEW READERS AND OLD

Yours is the best newspaper I've received from any source in practice and theory. Enclosed is \$10.00 for all back issues. Also enclosed is money to cover a subscription, as well as for the pamphlets you publish and a copy of Marxism and Freedom. Total \$16.50.

New Reader
St. Paul, Minn.

* * *

Please send me a subscription for one year. Enclosed is my dollar.

Interested New Reader
British Columbia

* * *

Am cutting out the sub blank, please start my sub with next issue. Money order is enclosed.

New Friend
Allen Park, Mich.

* * *

Enclosed is a dollar for a year's sub . . .

New Reader
New Haven, Conn.

* * *

I saw your listing in the new pamphlets column of the New York Times of Dec. 3 and would like to have a copy of "Workers Battle Automation" . . .

Interested
Wheeling, W. Va.

* * *

Picked up a copy of your paper on the newsstand here. It sounds good. Please put me down for a year's sub. Dollar is enclosed.

Worker
Brooklyn, N. Y.

* * *

Your fascinating Dec. issue is the first I've seen. Enclosed is \$1 for postage for sample copies of any issue which may be spared for enclosed labels.

I. R.
Nebraska

* * *

Did you know that the January, 1961 issue of Africa Report, lists your pamphlet on the Afro-Asian revolutions with the following description: "Emphasizes the new elemental force of Marxist Humanism."

Reader,
Washington, D.C.

* * *

I am enclosing a check for \$5.75 for the following: Marxism and Freedom, African Socialism and Afro-Asian Revolutions.

Your paper interests me. It has a libertarian Marxist

News & Letters

Vol. 6, No. 1

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Charles Denby Editor
Angela Terrano Associate Editor
I. Rogers Managing Editor

Second class mail privileges authorized at Detroit, Michigan.

Views

ideology that I have been looking for, for some time. I find myself in fairly close agreement with its general lines.

I disagree with you on certain tactical issues; Cuba for example. I'm not against your analysis of the Castro regime, but I don't think it has gone as far and as irremediably down the path of bureaucracy as you've implied . . .

I have one or two friends who are interested in News & Letters. We talked about contacting you for a while, so I took the initiative.

New Reader,
New York,

* * *

The December issue was superb. The review by Cado-gan was extremely perceptive, especially the paragraph beginning "Dynamic qualities . . ." I must say that he presents the idea more vividly than I've ever seen it expressed before, in that single paragraph. He must have been reading Hegel and Marx with great understanding before he read *Marxism and Freedom*. Otherwise he could hardly have recognized so clearly its great value. His review has raised the level of understanding . . .

Another extra-high point was "Two Worlds," which I read after receiving a burst of enthusiasm for Castro from a friend ("Listen Yankee"). It's so easy to justify his rule in terms of revolutionary necessity, recognizing the theoretical illiteracy that leads him into embracing Khrushchev that I needed your keen analysis to see the counter-revolutionary tendencies in his rule.

Teacher
New England

* * *

The cartoon last issue on New Orleans was the best I have ever seen anywhere. That viciousness and complete sickness and madness of the whites contrasted with the utter rightness of the Negro child and woman, their obvious sanity and calm courage was absolutely terrific. Please pass my congratulations to the creator.

White Mother
Massachusetts

* * *

Despite the fact that last year ushered in a tremendous increase in activity by youth in the fight for civil rights, it was a very uneventful year for the NAACP Youth Council here in Des Moines . . .

After the sit-ins began in N. C. a boycott of the Woolworth stores was called for by the National Office. On seeing students in many other areas outside of the South beginning to picket the stores, we too thought it would be a more effective boycott if picketing were carried on also. The group was highly enthusiastic about picketing. We were about 25 strong at the time. We told the adult branch here we were going to picket. They emphatically told us we were not.

I felt if we did the adult branch would have viewed it as a slap at them and such action would probably have completely destroyed our group. It's not like we are not doing anything. The

group is good if only for the reason it can point out to the young people how scared the adults have become; how much they are afraid to jeopardize their "social position", how it is impossible for them to identify themselves with a movement for racial equality when individual acceptance is uppermost in their minds.

NAACP Youth
Des Moines

* * *

We picketed Woolworth's the week before Christmas and we must have kept a few people out. We were really harassed by the management this time. Usually they don't say anything, but this week they got worse every day. As I was passing out leaflets at one door a white clerk told me to go to hell. I asked (non-violently) "When will go be home?" Then a flunky heaved all the leaflets out that people had dropped in the store. He asked us how much we got for picketing, never believing that anyone does anything in this capitalist graveyard for nothing . . .

Picket
Los Angeles

* * *

Hurrah! Someone agrees with me about the Rev. Martin Luther King! In the Dec. 17 issue of the *Courier*, under the heading "Non-Violence Hit," one Dr. Lonnie Cross of the faculty of Atlanta University had this to say:

"What is of immediate significance in the development movements of black America in the South is that the call to MASS ACTION issued from the MASSES THEMSELVES . . . The non-violent and love movement is a fraud, it is a conscious attempt supported financially by the liberal bourgeois and being carried out by the black bourgeois leadership to hold down the wrath and dull the developing national consciousness of our people . . . We must organize systematically defense guards as a deterrent to these attacks . . . We want the end of our oppression, not moral effluvia, but equality and liberation and we want it NOW!"

I tell you, this guy almost brought tears to my eyes. This is what I have been waiting to hear. More of this . . . more of this.

Negro Reader,
California

* * *

THE WORLD WE LIVE IN

The austerity program which Belgium government is trying to force upon the people because of the loss of the Congo means austerity for the workers and not the ruling class. To me this general strike parallels the struggles of the workers for the eight-hour-day after the Civil War in America. This is so because it is an example of the workers taking the initiative and stating their demands through mass activity as happened in both cases.

It is also quite revealing to note that on the news programs and in the daily press the strikers are shown destroying property as though

they were a wild mob. But when the police shoot at this "mob" it is completely ignored by the press, radio and TV as if it were unimportant.

Sign Painter
Los Angeles

* * *

Over 100 Israeli experts are engaged in development projects in Nigeria, building roads and constructing new plant facilities to help the new African nation. Israel has also set up a broadcasting station speaking the Swahili language for Africans. There is no such program sponsored by the U.S.A.

Reader
Chicago

* * *

I was surprised to find out that in Portuguese Africa the Africans sneak across the border and go into the South African mines because the conditions, as bad as they are here, are actually better than in their own country!

Ex-miner
Los Angeles

* * *

THE WORKING DAY

A friend of ours works in a plant that makes flexible pipes for airplanes. He was telling about this new chemical, Teflon, which is used in making a new pipe, and which was written up recently in "Our Life and Times". It makes most men who work with it sick, though our friend said it had not yet affected him. The state investigated it but "could find nothing". One guy they had just hired there quit after losing 10 pounds in six days.

Friend
Massachusetts

* * *

Editor's Note: Peter Mal-lory wrote in the November issue (under the heading "Warning to Workers") that Teflon, made by the Du-Pont Corp. "can cause death if not carefully watched. The fumes from the material when burned give off a gas which can be fatal if inhaled."

* * *

"Death in the Mines" last issue just got me. I suppose I had heard those figures, or ones like them, before. But somehow I had never realized what they meant before. 1500 miner killed in five years! I read it again and again not believing it could be true.

Ex-Teacher
Massachusetts

* * *

During last year workers in the United States had wage increases which amounted to .06% BUT the buying power of the U.S. Dollar slipped off by .06% which, if my mathematics is correct leaves him no better off than before. But that is not all of the story. With steel production down to 38% of capacity and 150,000 workers in that industry unemployed and our old friend Walter Reuther offering the workers one week out of each month off (due to no sales) the prospect for 1961 is bleak indeed.

Ann Arbor, Michigan
Observer

TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya, author of
MARXISM AND FREEDOM

The New Russian Communist Manifesto

On December 7, 1960, the eighty-one Communist Parties that had met in Moscow in secret for three weeks, issued a 20,000 word Manifesto. The *New York Times* published the full English translation provided it by the Russian news agency, Tass.

The press has been busy playing detective ever since. The consensus seems to be that Khrushchev and Mao met "half-way", that is to say, the Khrushchev slogans—"peaceful co-existence" and "war is not fatally inevitable"—that permeate the Manifesto have a belligerent Mao-ist sound. Belligerent they always were since Khrushchev never spoke of peaceful co-existence without at the same time rattling rockets, but "Mao-ist" they are not.

THE UNREAL WORLD OF ISAAC DEUTSCHER

The only analysis which goes even further afield in bourgeois obtuseness about the "half-way" meeting between Khrushchev and Mao is that made by a "Russian expert" who passes for an anti-Stalinist, semi-Trotskyist, "independent" thinker, but who has so organic a Communist mentality that he might as well carry a party card instead of a scholastic one. This famous author's name is Isaac Deutscher. Deutscher calls the arrogant heads-of-state meeting in Moscow "very nearly a revival of the old Communist International." To make sure he means the Communist International of Lenin's day, Deutscher assures us that this new conclave was greater than the 1928 Comintern which first proclaimed Stalin leader, since "in the Russo-Chinese dispute—the quarrel, that is, between the two Big Brothers—it was clear that neither was big enough to lay down the law." (See the *Reporter*, January 5, 1961.) Deutscher gets himself so embroiled in his "it seems" and "in effect" that he writes as if indeed he was present at the closed conference and participated brilliantly in its debates! Deutscher is so proud of that article, which is an endless string of cliches whitewashing Communism that the "World Copyright" to it, we are told, has been "reserved by Isaac Deutscher."

THE REAL WORLD OF RUSSIAN COMMUNISM

It is unnecessary to dignify the parallel to the early Comintern. Nothing could be further from the truth. The scholar in Deutscher should know that there is as much in common between the present meeting and the Communist International of Lenin's day as there is between a counter-revolutionary, established state—capitalism, and a workers' state, newly born from the greatest spontaneous revolution in history. The present meeting, it is true, differed also from the 1928 Comintern, but not because, in the one, Stalin's infallibility was acknowledged, and here the "two Big Brothers" were equals who were both forced to display "mutual tolerance" by a majority rule.

No. The difference between 1928 and 1960 is one between a workers' state isolated from the world, and a world power dominating it. Khrushchev is more flexible than Stalin, it is true, but it is Stalin who created "the form" of totalitarian power which enables Khrushchev to be flexible. There is not a whiff of "socialism in one country" in the present document only because that has now extended itself to the establishment of a "world socialist system."

Although eighty-one parties signed the Manifesto, and China gets more credit than the others because it "contributed in great measure to changing the balance of world forces," there is no doubt whatsoever, at any stage of the document, as to who "laid down the law." From the first to last, the document holds up the undisputed leadership of Russia.

Indeed, not only is the Soviet Union "the first country in history to be blazing a trail to communism for all mankind"; not only is it "the most striking example and the most powerful bulwark for the peoples of the world"; not only is it the greatest in the "world socialist system"; it is the first in the whole world and not only of the existing world, but of future civilization. Thus "Soviet science has ushered in what is virtually a new era in the development of world civilization."

"INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DEMOCRACIES"

WHAT IS NEW IS THE THIRD WORLD, THE AFRO-ASIAN-LATIN AMERICAN WORLD, THE WORLD OF NON-COMMUNIST REVOLUTIONS, STRETCHING FROM THE CONGO TO CUBA, WHICH THE MANIFESTO CALLS "INDEPENDENT NATIONAL DEMOCRACIES." THIS THIRD FORCE RUSSIA IS SO EAGER TO EMBRACE THAT THE MANIFESTO LISTS THEM AS SECOND AND EVEN ON A PAR WITH "THE SOCIALIST WORLD."

Now this has not always been so. The "socialist countries," that is to say, the East European satellites and China, used to be called "people's democracies" or "people's republics" while "the national movements" were clearly labeled "bourgeois." Indeed it was easier for Khrushchev to understand and to do business with Nasser's Egypt which had suppressed the Communist Party but continued to fight the "the West" than to understand the strange phenomenon of the ex-colonial, African countries whom he had given niggardly technical aid, and whom he criticized in strident voice as "bourgeois."

Here Mao did give Khrushchev a lesson and the present Manifesto shows this: "By giving a further powerful impetus to the National-Liberation Movement, it (China) exerted tremendous influence on the peoples, especially those of Asia, Africa and Latin America."

Khrushchev was suspicious of this non-Communist world and especially so of Africa, if for no other reason than that Communism had no one there. Nor was there anyone there with whom to create "a popular front." There was neither a substantial proletariat nor a native African bourgeoisie. The petty-bourgeois intellectuals who led the movement were educated, not in Moscow, but in "the West." If they had a dream—and they did—it was, not of Russian Communism, but of Pan-Africanism. For the time being, as could be seen from the first country—Ghana—that gained its independence, the leadership was closer to Great Britain than to Russia.

Khrushchev saw the handwriting on the wall. A new world was emerging without owing anything to Russia and without showing any inclination to follow its path. Russia had to intervene if it was not to lose this new world. The new Russian Communist Manifesto transforms Khrushchev's performance at the UN into the theory for the whole world under its command, China included. (China had objected to giving as much aid to this non-Communist world as to the Communist one, especially China.)

It is this world which Russia aims to dominate, as is evident from its actions in Cuba, in the Congo, and in Laos. Everywhere Russian jets are in evidence; nowhere Chinese. Russia has the power; China only has the population. An ideology to suit both are searching for.

The Manifesto also refers to the 1957 Manifesto which exorcised "revisionism." That is to say the 1956 Hungarian

(Continued on Page 7)

YOUTH

Thinking It Out

By Robert Ellery

I am very happy to give this column over, this issue, to a letter received from a high school girl describing her thoughts as she witnessed the white mob scene in New Orleans.—R.E.

To Whom It May Concern:

I am a sixteen year old high school student from Detroit, Michigan. As I have watched television and read the papers in the last few days I saw scenes actually taking place which truly made me ashamed that I was part of the so-called human race. I saw children, young students like myself, many younger and some older, yelling and screaming, mean, nasty things to four six year old Negro girls — too young to have to witness such inhuman acts as were taking place.

I don't blame these actions entirely on the children but on their so-called parents whom they look up to and copy their actions from. These aren't parents who care for their children's welfare, these are a group of twisted, prejudiced people who have nothing but hate in their hearts to turn against a race that is no better, yet not one bit worse than their own—if they can call themselves people.

I'm not just talking about something I haven't been a part of. I went to a junior high school where at least one half of the students were colored and many of whom were my best friends. I trusted them

with secrets like I would to a best friend. They helped me and I hope I helped them have some faith in our own two races.

AT LEAST ANIMALS AREN'T PREJUDICED

What I saw tonight actually and truly made my stomach turn, to believe that people like those I saw, parents who should be looked up to, acting in this sickening way. I hope they are proud of themselves, those so-called Christian mothers and fathers for all I can say is I wish I could run and hide, for the sight of people like that makes me sick. Is this America, land of the free? Land where all men are created equal?

When I should be proud all I can do is turn my head in disgust and wonder how people who act like that can live with themselves and with the hate they have built up inside of themselves.

I pray to God to help these people, these hateful souls who call themselves better. Better than what? Who do they think they are better than, acting like a bunch of wild animals, except that at least animals aren't prejudiced.

PARIS, DEC. 21, 1960

A Letter on Algeria

by A French Teen-Ager

As you know, for years Algeria has belonged to France and has brought France profits. The Algerians were considered inferior and when the war broke out between Algerian and the French people the only will of the Algerians was to be considered as French. But the French didn't want it. Now the Algerians want to be Algerians and the French want them to be French.

The war has lasted for about seven years. France has men enough not to lose this war. But Algeria doesn't fight openly. It is what we call guerrilla war. So Algeria cannot lose it. The war cannot end by fighting. The only end can be a political one.

In 1958 the French bourgeoisie made an appeal to De Gaulle. De Gaulle is the man who represents the interests of the bourgeoisie in general. His interests are to end the Algerian war which is so costly.

The French bourgeoisie is ready to abandon the political dependence of Algeria provided that it stays nevertheless bound to France economically.

But the French bourgeoisie is not homogeneous. There is amongst them reactionary elements who want to keep Algeria French. (For example the colons). That is why the role of De Gaulle is rather complex. The actual regime of France is a regime which one can call Bonapartist.

It is a strong regime which serves the interests of the bourgeoisie in general and which plays a role of mediator between the extreme right and the extreme left. Sometimes he turns to the right in order to better oppose the left, sometimes he turns to the left against the right. Nevertheless he is always sweeter with the right than with the left. The right also represents a part of the

bourgeoisie and it is possible that this part of the bourgeoisie will be necessary. (This would be Fascism) Also De Gaulle protects it in order not to destroy it completely. An example: At this moment in France each partisan of the F.L.N. who is judged is sentenced to death. But men like Gaillarde of the ultras who should have been sentenced have escaped.

Now De Gaulle proposes to France and to Algeria a referendum. What he wants is to show the ultras that the majority of the population is with him. His referendum is a trap. He does not ask to vote for or against him, but for or against "the people." He is sure that he will obtain a majority. Otherwise he would not risk a referendum.

That is why the position to take is the boycott. In voting, even to say no, even if you know that he will win, is to vote for him. It is to legalize the plebiscite. On the contrary, people must unveil the falsity of his ideas and fight them in the open. That is what the organizations of the left should have done, but they have done nothing.

In Algeria there is the F.L.N. It is a bourgeois party. It wants the independence of Algeria as long as it is at the head. I don't believe that the Algerians will be any happier under the domination of the Algerian bourgeoisie. Nevertheless a party of the left in France must help the F.L.N. first because of the right of nations to their self-determination. Also because the proletarians of a free country have only to struggle against their own bourgeoisie to acquire their freedom.

We can wonder about the fate of Algeria when it wins its freedom. Algeria, as all the countries in Africa, is economi-

A DISCUSSION ARTICLE

Excerpts from:

THESES ON WAR

By PETER CADOGAN

... War has been an inevitable part of the whole history of civilized man to date. Its purpose and scale has varied according to the interests at stake and the techniques available. All civilized states, slave, feudal and capitalist, have been governed — under conditions of overall scarcity — by the law of accumulation in one form or another in terms of both property and power. War has been and remains one of the ways in which this law expresses itself and it will therefore remain endemic for so long as scarcity and accumulation are themselves characteristic of human society. Thus although present affluence is bound up with the causes of war (since it is related to the arms programme) the very possibility of affluence—to be equated with the abolition of scarcity—also indicates a wholly new prospect, the end of war itself.

In our time the growth of empires and the incidence of world war produced by their conflict have changed the character of war. The regular national armed force, the concomitant and creator of the nation state, has given way or is in the process of giving way to the international force represented by NATO and the Warsaw Treaty ... The international force governed by the requirements of global war has evolved techniques of universal destruction ...

Orthodox world capitalism is dominated by the United States. By means of the dollar, by domination of world trade, by investment, by occupation expenditure especially in Germany and through a foreign aid programme—half of which is for military purposes — American capitalism is decisive for the situation of western capitalism in general. Politically and militarily through NATO, SEATO

and does not have the time to become industrialized like the France of 1789.

The French Communist Party has done nothing about Algeria. Still worse it has stopped any movement going in that direction. The 27th of Oct. the UNEF (The National Union of French Students) asked for a strike in favor of peace for Algeria. The Communist Party under a false pretense asked the workers of the C.G.T. not to join this manifestation. As a result there were only 15,000 people and they were beaten by the cops. If you like I can give you the explanation of its politics in the next letter.

Before the inactivity of the parties of the left, the intellectuals of the left like Jean Paul Satre decided to react. They have made the proclamation of the 121, where they called for insubordination. In fact what they propose is an individual solution which is not sufficient. On the other hand the young people who do not want to submit are obliged to go to foreign countries. They are the most active members of the left.

If all the active left people quit, France would have no one left. Therefore I believe it is criminal to call for insubordination.

and CENTO and innumerable other international agencies the American Government and the Pentagon take the essential decisions. They call the tune because they pay the piper ...

The Soviet Union is to the Soviet-bloc countries what the USA is to its own sphere of influence. Throughout the Soviet-bloc countries a privileged beaureaucracy many millions strong holds absolute power. No political opposition is permitted. There is no freedom of political criticism. This new ruling class has risen on foundations of revolution and industrialisation. Backward Countries are telescoping stages of development that have taken centuries in the advanced capitalist countries. They have met with

a great deal of success — at a colossal price ...

Only international action, demanding in the first place the withdrawal of all foreign troops from Europe, can now prevent war. We can see to our part of it. Our most important allies are in the rank and file movements of the continent amongst trade unionists, students and thinking people generally. In face we now need a new political category. Everyone who is prepared to "think twice" is potentially on our side. We have now reached a point in world history when the needs of humanity are such as to subsume class. The threatened destruction of all classes is the precondition of classlessness.

Editors Note: The above is just a few excerpts from Mr. Cadogan's article. Readers wishing the complete article can write to 5 Acton Way, Cambridge, England.

Discussion articles are not necessarily the views of NEWS & LETTERS. We invite all to write pro or con.

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

CHANGES IN THE SOUTH

THE WAY OF THE WORLD

The changes made by the people in Alabama since my visit there during Christmas of 1956 until the Christmas holidays just past is unbelievable. It is not that the towns and the cities are expanding and that the highways are being made into beautiful expressways.

It is the social change that is unbelievable. The social change between the white and colored people. This may sound untrue to some especially after what the public has witnessed on T.V. and read in the newspapers of the bigoted whites in Louisiana.

I am not saying that none of this hostility exists in Alabama. The K.K.K. and the White Citizen Councils are very active there. The Negro citizens have such complete disregard and disrespect for them that their actions get little or no attention from the colored people.

The majority of the whites, many of the youth, and those in business have made almost a complete change in their attitude toward the Negro citizen. I was reared in and around Montgomery. I did not think that I would live to see the day that Negroes would feel that they were human beings in the eyes of the whites.

My friends told me that these whites have learned one thing since 1956. "This economic squeeze hurt them worse than it did us. During the bus boycott here every meeting we held speakers would say how fed up we are with the inhuman treatment and attitude of the whites. They finally believed us. When we stopped doing business with those that insulted us, they knew we meant what we were saying."

Discrimination is still there

and plenty of it but it made my heart jump with joy to look into a bus and see colored sitting wherever they wanted to sit. In the chain stores where the students from Alabama State College demonstrated a year ago the companies have put in an eating place for Negro citizens. It is still not an integrated counter but it is far superior to that of the whites.

In some villages and towns some or the white people have finally realized that we are human. In past years these people would think it a crime to even speak to us. They have finally learned to be human.

The main trouble seems to be with leading state officials. They all have recognized the fact that their way of life is at its end, and they are going to fight.

The Governor made a statement that when school integration comes there, there will be a race riot and bloodshed, and he will lead it. Some say this is just windbag talk, that he is no more anxious to go to jail than any one else is. I wonder would he go to jail?

These are some of the changes I have witnessed in the South but I keep thinking about the North. What is going to happen to the working class of people in these terribly strained times. In the state of Michigan there is nothing to do but sit and wait and see how long we can do without everything. Prices and taxes still go up even though we are still without any pay check. The people in Michigan will have to do something to have some changes made. The Negro people are doing it in the South. The working people, both colored and white have to do it in the North.

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The New Russian Communist Manifesto

(Continued from Page 5)

Revolution and the theoretic banner under which it fought for freedom from Communist imperialism. The period in which Hungarian workers and intellectuals had raised the question of the Humanism of Marxism, which they spelled out as freedom from Communism, had coincided with the period when the Africans had raised the question of a different, a human path to industrialization, and had accounted for the cautious moves in Africa. Times have changed since then. The first Sputnik did a great deal to dull the sickening memory of Russia's bloody counter-revolution.

THE SPUTNIK, THE UN, AND THE THIRD WORLD

The Sputnik generated self-confidence and over-confidence in Khrushchev. Here he was first, not only in the "socialist world," but in the whole world, including America. Russian prestige need no longer be limited to the ideological front. Economic aid must now be emphasized boldly, with the aim of drawing the recipient into this new "world civilization." **The knowledge that America will not allow Russia this unchallenged place in science only made Khrushchev go all the more out for this new third world.**

The violent gyrations between shouting about "peaceful co-existence" and missile-rattling had all the farcical elements of an actor who had not learned his lines well. But none had ever learned them better than Nikita Sergeievich Khrushchev, who had writtend, spoken and directed them. No crowning of king or queen was more carefully planned than the "spontaneous" and contradictory outbursts of Khrushchev at the UN.

Surely no "popular front" in Stalin's day had this audience, this power, this independence, these international ramifications as the Afro-Asian world he addressed at the UN. When Khrushchev first embarked on his dramatic de-Stalinization in 1956, it was in no small measure to give himself a new mantle in the Afro-Asian world. Latin America was nowhere in the cards then, but it would come in mighty handy when Cuba too fell into the Russo-Chinese orbit. De-Stalinization permitted the Stalinist, Khrushchev, to travel under the unsullied banner of Marxism-Leninism and thus appear as an exponent of a liberation theory in countries which had gained their freedom from Western imperialism by their own sweat and blood.

Where Stalin was wary of neutrals unless he could fully control them, Khrushchev gave them the bear hug and told them they could go their independent way. The Manifesto spells out the price for the aid "without strings"; A new historical period has set in in the life of mankind: the peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America that have won their freedom have begun to take an active part in world politics." If any one doubts that "world politics" is Communist politics, let them read the Manifesto.

The lesson in "world politics" Khrushchev is giving the Afro-Asian-Latin American world is this: The war that is "not fatally inevitable" does not mean that the Russia of sputniks and ICBMs subordinates its policy in any way to that of "the West." On the contrary. Russia champions "peaceful co-existence" because the war that is "not fatally inevitable" means that "the West" is walking on glass lest any small war start the nuclear holocaust. Therefore the "independent national democracies" may go far indeed in challenging the United States and Russia will do all it can to help. In a word, "peaceful co-existence" is the careful nurturing of every crisis from the Congo to Cuba.

WHAT IS OLD AND IS "FOREVER"

The Manifesto of the 81 by no means limits itself to what is "new." Neither the new third world, nor the "other" world whose global domination it is challenging can make the Communists forget their own troubles with labor in both industry and agriculture. After all, the Five Year Plan that issued from the De-Stalinization Congress in 1956 had to be scrapped because the Russian people would not continue to sweat itself in accordance with the "norms" that called for a 50% rise in industrial labor productivity and a 100% rise in agricultural labor productivity.

The new Seven Year Plan is meeting opposition. The crisis in agriculture is openly acknowledged. But there is also a silent opposition of worker and youth in the cities. The silent opposition in the most recent period seems to take the form of not going to work at all. It would appear from the Manifesto that the affliction is "not only characteristic of Russia, but is a world problem.

The Manifesto states that "the survival of capitalism in the minds of people persists over a long period, even after the establishment of a socialist system." This is the Communist underhanded way of saying that labor still resists capitalist exploitation even when it calls itself "communist." The Manifesto goes on to say that if the working people, instead of opposing the state, had a "Communist attitude to labor," it would be for "vigorous improvement of the scientific and technical standard; of Automation." Exploitation, speed-up by any other name feels just as tiring and that is precisely why labor opposition to "norms" set by State Plan continues.

One thing is clear: the new world civilization" is built on the same old capitalistic foundation: the sweated labor of the workers. We see that despite the victories in outer space, and even in the ideological battles in the new lands that do not know these rulers as their own workers know them, the problem at home is to make the workers produce more and more.

The working people of this allegedly "world socialist system" know the old and forever exploitation. They want this changed before they go out to conquer "new worlds." ICBMs may not need to be manned but Automation machines in the factory require inhuman speed of men. Thus the silent opposition of worker and peasant is taking the form of not going to work at all.

The most sobering experience I can offer any self-deluded would-be Communist enamored of the Manifesto is to go on a steady diet of reading the Pravda, Izvestia and Trud, which carry on a daily campaign against "idlers who lack labor discipline," "parasites who do not know that he who does not work shall not eat," and then see that what awaits alleged "idlers" is not just propaganda, but prison terms. It is clear that 43 years of Communist rule has not wiped out the continuous labor resistance.

THE AFRO-ASIAN REVOLUTIONS

By RAYA DUNAYEVSKAYA

25c — Write News & Letters, 8751 Grand River Detroit 4, Michigan

Boor Review

African Voices

In this first anthology of native African poetry and fiction, edited by Peggy Rutherford and published by Vanguard Press (N. Y., 1958), voices from the bush contend and blend with metropolitan voices such as Peter Abrahams' and Leopold Senghor's. As we listen to these voices we hear the people of Africa in the drama of world history.

The ancient glories of Ethiopia and Ghana live again, along with traditional heroes from other parts of Africa. Old fables and legends often offer new, revolutionary meaning. Jomo Kenyatta tells a Kikuyu tale about an elephant who takes advantage of a man's benevolence by moving into his hut, and when the man protests, the animal Lords of the Jungle organize themselves into an Imperial Commission of Enquiry, which finds the man guilty of using his property uneconomically, because of his "backward ideas," and justifies Mr. Elephant's "sacred duty of protecting your interests" by using the property more economically. Then the Lords move into the man's huts as fast as he can build them, and their Royal Commissions justify their every act. Finally, they fight among themselves for possession of the largest and best hut. The man burns it down, with them inside it, and says, "Peace is costly, but it's worth the expense."

One of the most beautiful fables is by James Aggrey of Ghana. A man trains an eagle to be a chicken, but a naturalist changes it back into an eagle by making it face the sun from a mountain. "My people of Africa," he concludes, "we were created in the image of God, but men have made us think that we are chickens, and we still think we are; but we are eagles. Stretch forth your wings and fly. Don't be content with the food of chickens!"

In addition to transforming old forms, African writers have mastered realistic techniques for exploring contemporary social conflicts. Some stories, such as "Ritual Murder" and "Mob Passion," focus on the conflicts between "enlightened" and "primitive" Africans; others reveal how these conflicts are intensified by white repression. The most moving of these stories is perhaps the passage from Peter Abrahams' TELL FREEDOM. Several Negro writers show remarkable insight into whites — Camera Laye of Guinea, for example, who turns Africa upside down by telling a nightmarish story about a white man on trial in a Negro kingdom for stealing a jacket which he did not steal.

And how, in fact, are Africans turning their society upside down, not in order to oppress a white minority which has too long oppressed them, but to create a human society? In Richard Rive's "The Bench," Karlie sits down on a bench marked "Europeans Only." In his mind he hears two voices: "The one said, 'I have no right to sit on this bench'; the other said, 'Why have I no right to sit on this bench?' The one voice spoke of the past, of the servile position he had occupied on the farms, of his father and his father's father who were born black, lived like blacks, and died like oxen. The other voice spoke of the future and said, 'Karl, you are a man. You have dared what your father would not have dared. You will die like a man!' A white mob attacks him; a policeman arrests him. But he smiles, having challenged and won."

—M. Gibson

A DOCTOR SPEAKS

By M.D.

Can the Scientist Remain Human?

The American Association for the Advancement of Science is an organization of investigators, theoretical as well as practical, in different fields of knowledge — physics, chemistry, agriculture, astronomy, medicine, geology, mathematics, psychology, anthropology, and many more. There are over 200 affiliated societies. Toward the end of each year the A.A.A.S. usually holds a little-publicized convention in one of our larger cities. This year the papers presented were given more nationwide attention than those of any previous gathering of scientists. The intense and serious coverage by the press was directly related to people's awareness of the important place of science in their life.

"SCIENCE IS HUMAN ACTIVITY"

What was different about the recent session was the taking of a new look at the scientist himself. Highlighting the convention was an address by C. P. Snow, a British writer and physicist, in which he stated that the scientist could no longer be merely a useful, docile supplier of information; that he had a "moral imperative" to explain to all people the potential effect of some of his findings. Snow said that scientists cannot say: "We produce the tools. It is for you . . . the politicians to say how the tools are used."

Cuban Labor In A Strait-Jacket

(Continued from Page 2)

the 26th, although some of these latter were also communists. In the Congresses of the 33 Federations of Industry, 28 declared against the communists and only 3 in their favor.

Following the holding of the National Congress of the Confederation the Governmental-Communist was stepped up, to the point where today almost all of the leaders elected in these National Congresses have been substituted in one way or another by members of the Communist Party. Many of those who were removed have had to leave the country as exiles while others have been imprisoned or otherwise persecuted. As examples we can cite in particular the Federations of Industry of Construction, Public Spectacles, Medicine, the Tobacco Industry, and the Lumber Industry, as well as the case of David Salvador, General Secretary of the CTC.

So much for the labor organizations. Now as to the workers themselves. On the pretext of cooperation with the Revolution (which for the rulers means the State, which is in turn identified with "the people"), the workers have been and are subjected to conditions of work that had been outlawed in Cuba long since, through hard labor struggles. Previously between 3 and 5% of the workers' wages had been withheld for pension purposes, the percentages varying in different industries, with an additional 0.025% for maternity assistance. Today everyone is discounted a flat 5% for pensions, PLUS 4% for "industrialization,"

For very fundamental reasons scientists cannot escape the responsibility for the uses to which their discoveries are put. Physicists who have become "soldiers" of their countries are not truly scientists. This sort of "defense" is on a plane with that of the Nazi, Eichmann, explaining his role in race extermination. There is a moral duty which comes from the human nature of the scientific activity itself. A question confronts the scientist: what is the human meaning of your discovery? For science is human activity, and one cannot separate activity from the human being.

Of all the qualities a scientist should possess, objectivity is commonly equated with a selfishness approaching dehumanization. The modern discoveries in physics, chemistry, and biology have shown how inseparable are subject and object. The unity and relatedness of everything in this world — space, matter and energy, thought and activity, living and non-living — all point to the fact that there can be no neutral, objective, outside observer anywhere. This is the basic meaning of Einstein's Unified Field Theory of our universe. "TRUTH IS CONCRETE"

A "detached" man is only a part man. True objectivity requires a whole outlook, qualitatively as well as quantitatively. It needs a philosophy as well as a practice. A true scientist, as any truly human being, must live and work, must see means and goals through self activity that is a striving for total freedom. To achieve this end "substance must become subject," and the world must be seen through human eyes.

Another example of the lack of human outlook in present day United States was presented in a second paper read before an anthropology session of the A.A.A.S. In the South and elsewhere there is talk about taking time to build new attitudes through education, culture, training, etc. before pushing for racial integration. New attitudes however can only come from new material conditions out of living practice; which means the material, physical, changes in race relations must come first. With this I agree, for truth is not only the whole, it is always concrete.

PLUS 3% for income taxes (which had formerly applied only to incomes in excess of \$200), PLUS 1% for obligatory union dues (which are called voluntary but are checked-off automatically by law). In addition there are special collections, and frequent special levies of a day's wages by decision of the top executives of the Federations without consultation of the membership, for every imaginable sort of thing such as armament and airplanes, Agrarian Reform, Industrialization, etc., etc.

In addition to all the above, since most industries have passed into the hands of the Government on the pretext that they belong to the workers themselves, the workers are often obliged to work extra hours without pay, wages are reduced, and frequently such benefits as a weekly day of rest with pay and paid annual vacations have been dropped.

MARXISM AND FREEDOM \$4.50

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Belgian Workers Show the Way

(Continued from Page 1)
world cannot stand divided, half-free and half-slave.

End of the Eisenhower Administration

Just as the one-world in which we live connects Europe with Africa, so it connects United States to Asia and Latin America. In the last weeks of the Republican Administration, the General, who won power by promising to go to Korea and bring peace, ended his eight-year rule by very nearly precipitating World War III. It was not enough that he was leaving the American economy in deep recession with unemployment as high as in 1940. He also was brandishing the mailed fist with its nuclear power all the way from Laos to Cuba.

In utter disregard of the 1954 Geneva Agreement, which ended the Indo-China War by recognizing two Viet Nams, and establishing a single neutral government in Laos, Eisenhower engineered a military coup there of the worst Rightist elements.

Even John Foster Dulles' own creation—SEATO—could not bring itself to approve this unilateral American adventure. The British and French Allies were so outraged at this senseless brinkmanship that they compelled Eisenhower to back-track somewhat. By now, however, the cold war there is so heated up, it is not yet certain that this situation will not again go out of bounds.

The senility of American imperialism never stood out more sharply than when Eisenhower fell right into Castro's studied invitation for the American Embassy to pack up and leave Cuba. While the orders with which Che Guevara returned from Russia and China may have included the suggestion to close up the American Embassy, the haste with which Eisenhower rushed to obey shows that it was his very own idea as well.

Monday, January 2nd, past midnight, Castro delivered his harangue that the American Embassy be cut to eleven within forty-eight hours, adding the further provocative statement that if "all" wish to leave, so much the better. By 2:20 A.M., the order was duly delivered to the American Embassy in Havana. Eisenhower retaliated by cutting diplomatic ties with Cuba the very same night, Tuesday, January 3rd. Since only three weeks were left to Eisenhower to play Commander-in-Chief, what was the great hurry? The answer can be seen best neither in Cuba nor in Laos, but in the Congo.

Africa Once Again

Last summer when Khrushchev took the UN rostrum to declare war on Hammarskjold and put himself up as champion of African freedom, it was clear that every inch of African territory would from then on be contested by this chief protagonist in the cold war. The American Administration came all out for the UN as the true, the only, the impartial, the sacred, international body to which so great a "sovereign nation" as America was willing to subordinate itself "to keep the peace."

During the subsequent weeks, however, the Eisenhower Administration began to double-cross their favorite of Khrushchev's visit—UN's Hammarskjold—by giving independent orders to the American-Belgian created "Strongman," Mobutu.

Nothing—neither parliamentary legality, nor the will of the people on the street; neither the African nations nor

the Asian neutrals, nor even the UN itself—absolutely nothing was to be allowed to bring back to the government the duly-elected Premier Patrice Lumumba.

While the Congolese find it impossible to tell the difference between their centuries-old exploiter, Belgium, and their new "friend," America, the high and mighty Hammarskjold is lost in this tug of war between America and Russia on African soil.

All too obvious, however, is Eisenhower's illiteracy in reading the signs of the times. It is inconceivable to the Five-Star General that military power, (shadowy as in the Congo or real as in the U.S.) is no substitute for the struggle for the minds of men. It is beyond his comprehension that people fight and are ready to die for freedom, but that imperialist stooges do not become strong, just because they are American or Belgian-armed.

All that the conspiracy with Belgium, which put the Runda-Urundi air base at Mobutu's disposal accomplished was to expose that "Strongman Mobutu" is as weak as he is base—a puppet of doddering imperialism.

Eisenhower is too old to learn. He proceeded to disregard the ideological struggle even as he disregarded the fact that Laos has a common border with Communist China. The old battle-axe could not gracefully give up the idea that he and the state were one, and thus risked starting World War III, for the Russia-China Axis ideology is as mightily armed as is the United States.

1960 was Africa's year. Already it is learning what a big gap there is between gaining formal independence and achieving genuine freedom and an economy to back it up. It now must face every problem from industrialization to the cold war.

The fall in the price of raw material has canceled the sum total of aid it received from the "advanced countries." And, as if it were not burdensome enough to have gained freedom at a time when the two nuclear-armed world powers are struggling for word domination, Nasser has now injected the Arab-Israeli conflict as part of "Africa's fight." (See "Our Life and Times," p.8).

British Workers' Display of International Solidarity

What the heads of state are preoccupied with, however, and what the masses are doing shows the unbridgeable gulf between workers and rulers. The first sign of international solidarity has come with the offer of aid from the British workers for the Belgian strikers.

The British Trades Union Congress voted to loan, interest-free, \$140,000 to the Belgian workers. The Executive Committee of the National Union of Railwaymen has asked its members not to service any Belgian vessels at British ports.

The American labor bureaucracy, on the other hand, has remained as deaf to the needs of the Belgian strikers as to American labor. Now that the Belgian workers have shown the way to independent action in the biggest official strike which Europe has seen since the war, and the British work-

Our Life and Times

By PETER MALLORY

American Economy

As the decrepit golf player leaves office, he leaves the American economy in worse shape than it has been since Herbert Hoover. With steel production down to 38% of capacity, more unsold cars on the market than ever in history (over a million), and unemployment at the highest point since the depression of the '30's, the campaign slogan of the Republicans, "you never had it so good" must apply only to themselves. The very credit of the United States is questioned, according to the Chairman of the Federal Reserve Board.

The Congress and administration fight an increase of 25c in the minimum wage law while last year subsidizing big business to the tune of 7.5 billion dollars which went to everybody from peanut growers to shipping lines.

True, some industries like electronics grew, but only because under state capitalism 90% of their business is paid for by the government (tax-payers). Gold flows out due to military occupation of countless bases abroad and "giveaway programs" like 100 million dollars to General Motors Corp. for locomotives for Yugoslavia.

170 billion have been spent by the U.S. industry for new plants since 1956 which were not justified by market conditions, but predicated on the idea that "the government will get it in taxes anyway." Thus they are overbuilt by 30 to 40% over expected capacity. Money is poured into Automation regardless of costs or the unemployment it causes because, tax-wise, it is a "free investment." In the last 5 years U.S. Steel has spent 7 billion dollars to replace 13,000 production workers; 150,000 steelworkers are unemployed today. Yet these people have the nerve to clamor for a "tax out to encourage business!"

Down South

The integration dispute at the University of Georgia showed that even in the Deep South the majority of white students do prefer education to segregation. It is the first time anywhere in the South where no less than 2,400 of the students signed petitions to the school administration favoring the admission of the Negro students. It is the first time in the Deep South that the professors too—at least half of the teaching staff—aligned themselves with integra-

ers have displayed their sense of labor solidarity, isn't it time to compel Reuther to stop playing capitalist politics, and define his international role in world trade union organization?

A New Page

The Belgian general strike symbolizes a new stage not only in West European labor, but also in Africa, even as the youth demonstrations last year opened a new stage in Japan, in South Korea, in Turkey, in South Africa and in South U.S.A. Just as the capitalist crises will heighten in the new year, so the battles for freedom the world over will expand.

A new year has begun. A new page in the labor movement has been opened.

tion. Moreover, the white students formed a welcoming committee for Miss Charlayne Hunter, who is to live with the white students on the campus. The Negro male student, Mr. Hamilton Holmes, however, was not invited to live on campus. Nevertheless all these firsts at the University of Georgia occurred without incident the first day they attended class.

The following day the KKK and Talmadge-type "know-nothings" invaded the campus with their usual violence and obscenities, and immediately the school administration backed down and suspended the Negro students. But when the court ruled for them, even the Governor gave notice that "law and order" would be preserved, and any demonstration against the integration order would be dealt with severely. Sure enough these KKKers showed the real yellow streak in them, and never even dared to make an appearance. That just shows you how easy it would have been to control them if the Faubuses and Jim Davises of Arkansas, Louisiana and "untouchable" Mississippi did not choose to lead the white supremacists.

Laos

The settlement, on an international scale, of the war in Indo-China which created the country of Laos, made it a neutralist government. It remained so until recently when the Eisenhower administration sought to turn the government over to right-wing Prince Boun Oum. Now the American government is crying "invasion by Communists" much in the same way as Castro is claiming an American invasion of Cuba.

Laos has been pretty much of an American puppet state with all of the funds and arms and payroll being supplied by the U.S.A.

Outside of the U.S. State Dept, the present civil war is recognized as being an internal affair, due to the low standards of living provided under the existing and former regimes. The average income per year per person is less than \$25, but the military equipment with which both sides are equipped is the latest, including the most up-to-date bazookas, tanks, rifles and field equipment. The population is on the verge of starvation.

Algeria

General DeGaulle has won what he claims to be a victory on the question of Algeria, which is widely interpreted as meaning that Algeria will get its independence. Nothing could be further from the truth. What DeGaulle wanted was to stop a war that is bleeding both France and Algeria dry. The proposition on the ballot was: (1) Do you approve self-determination for Algeria? (2) Do you approve the re-organization of public powers in Algeria? These propositions are neither a promise of independence nor an offer of self-determination for the Algerians.

The Moslem majority of Algeria, led by the F.L.N. under Ferhat Abbas, boycot-

ted the voting. The Moslems objected to 400,000 French troops in Algeria voting as "Algerians." The instructions of the F.L.N., to boycott the voting, were carried out as follows: In Marseilles, NOT A SINGLE MOSLEM VOTED! The result in Paris was about as devastating. In Algiers where the French troops herded the Moslems into the polls at gun point. The results indicate that 287,345 abstained and 17,782 blank ballots were cast. In Oran 177,920 abstained and 12,770 cast blank ballots. The Moslem Algerians recognize a fraud when they see it.

Actually there was little alternative. The Communists in Paris voted the same way as did Jacques Suostelle, the French Fascist, a "no" vote, so there is no way of distinguishing their vote except to say that DeGaulle outvoted them 5 to one.

"Liberator" Nasser

We note with regret that the newly independent African states of Ghana, Guinea and Mali have chosen to associate the African Freedom Fighters of the sub-Saharan region with the anti-Semitic activities of Egypt's Nasser. The statement issued at the end of the Casa Blanca conference, presided over by King Mohammed V of Morocco and dominated by Nasser of Egypt, which was called "to liberate the African territories still under foreign domination," branded Israel as an "instrument of colonialism, not only in the Middle East, but also in Africa."

The irony of the situation is that all of these African States enjoy good relations with Israel, which has helped them in their hour of greatest need. If they were to look for states who were seeking to infringe on their own liberties and whose record as colonialists and imperialists is unbeaten in the last 20 years, they would have to look no further than Russia and Red China. If they were to look back not too far they would find that Arab rulers in Africa since the 12th century have been the exploiters and slave traders who have destroyed African civilization. A conference whose tone is set by this exploiting group is certainly a backward step for African freedom fighters.

These heads of state, in the true manner of a class ruling over the people as do Russia and the United States and their respective satellite formations in NATO and the Warsaw Pact countries, fashioned their "aid" to African countries in terms of a military alliance, not people to people aid. It will not last long for it is impossible to "unite" the people of Africa who are fighting for freedom with the King of Morocco and Egypt's Nasser at the point when he is trying to bring the Israeli war to Africa.

The unfortunate part of the whole conference is that the people of the Congo do, desperately, need aid to maintain their freedom, stop starvation, and expel the self-appointed dictator Mobutu, his U.N. (U.S.) support and all other imperialist agents who make a mockery of democracy in Africa.