

NEWS & LETTERS

'The Root of Mankind Is Man'

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

One Third Less Men

The day after Reuther was finished with his special U.A.W. Convention in Detroit, he was in a Conference in Washington with those leading industrialists and labor leaders appointed by the President. The papers reported that; Reuther and Ford may not see eye to eye across the bargaining table but they agree that something should be done about the depression in Detroit. The paper also reported that all at the Conference were for Automation and technological advancement as progress but the government had to find a way to create jobs for those that the machines have replaced.

The only ones in this country who can talk like that are those who are in the position of the people at that Conference. They can talk about the finding or making of jobs from now to the end of time, and little will result for those who have lost their jobs to these machines.

"PROGRESS"

In the department where I work we thought last year that with all those new Automation machines it would be impossible for the company to get more. But they are installing new ones for the 1962 model, and you would have to see the changes in them to believe it. The superintendent said that they will run the same amount of production and more, with one-third the number of workers they have now. These are serious problems and fill the thoughts of every worker in and out of the plant. Yet all these leaders still yell that this is progress.

One worker said, "The government and the states can't keep paying for food, bills and rent for an unemployed army for many years without getting into a serious financial crisis." Another worker said that one auto company here bought 23 million dollars worth of Automation machines last year.

Many years ago when I first came to this city, working people would say that the automobile factories and auto workers were what kept the city on the go; as the factories and the workers go, so goes the city. Today the most inhuman crime is what these machines have done to those that are left.

WORKERS BATTLE AUTOMATION

Practically every week some worker dies or some worker has a heart attack, or some worker finds out about an illness that has been the result of years of working in the shop. One worker was telling me that a doctor finally told him what was wrong, he was having trouble with his intestines. After the examination the first question the doctor asked was if he worked in a factory, how much rest period did he get, and was he able to use the restroom facilities whenever he wanted to? The worker told him he got a 10 minute rest period in the morning and a 10 minute rest period in the afternoon and that is when a few hundred men in the department were supposed to use the limited number of toilets. Working on the automated machinery made it impossible to leave the floor at any other time.

This worker said the doctor got so angry because it was the same story that he had heard from so many of his patients. He said it seems a dog is more important than men these days. "If you treated a dog in that manner you would be hauled off to court and charged with cruelty to animals."

When you work under such conditions something is bound to happen. The speed-up from these machines is humanly impossible to do without the strain to the body taking its toll.

Yet I heard that every time a delegate at the Special Convention would bring this sort of thing up on the floor, Reuther could only answer that we will have to take care of this through legislative means and pass it off.

I wish that every worker would get a copy of "Workers Battle Automation," read it, and draw his own conclusion as to whether Automation is progress. On page 12 a worker says of the machine, "We don't use it, it uses us." Some will say that it is true but what can we do about it? I can only say that long years of watching these labor leaders have convinced me that they won't do anything about it. As long as they can be a part of management, a part of the government, and against us, they will try their utmost to stop anything we know as progress because it will be in opposition to what they call progress.

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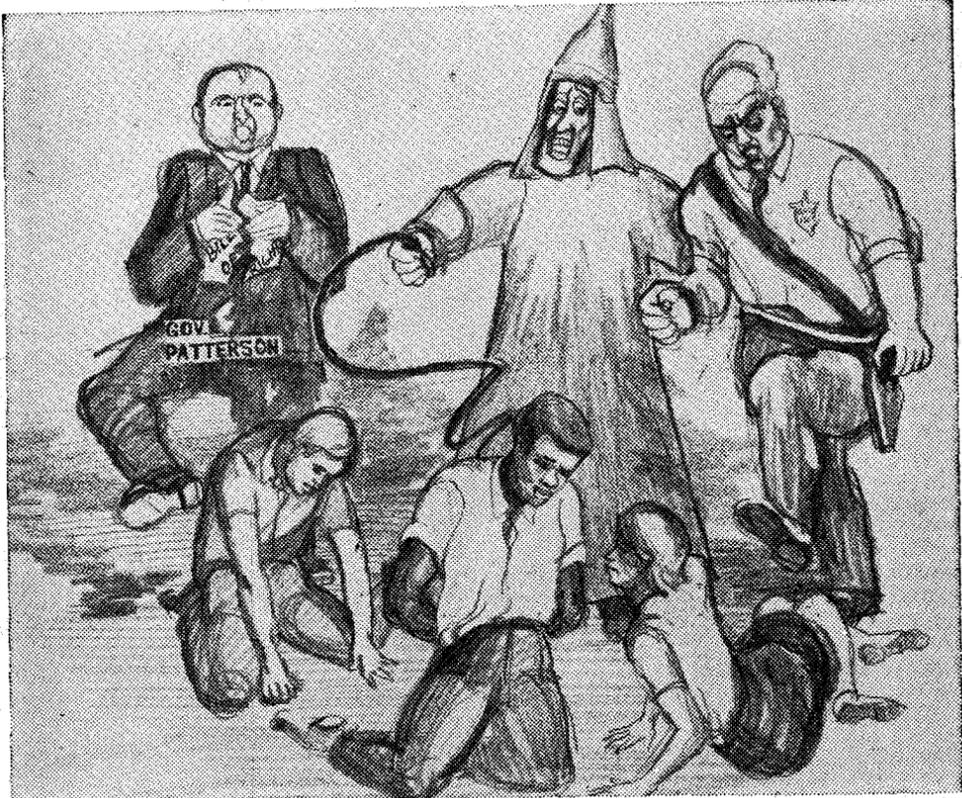
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TWO OPPOSING VOICES HEARD AT UAW SPECIAL CONVENTION

A delegate from the largest union local in the country, Ford 600, told the United Automobile Workers Special Convention, meeting at Cobo Hall in Detroit on April 27-29: "I believe we've got the top leaders in the union movement, but some of the workers in my shop feel that some of the leadership should come back to work a few weeks in the shop, to get a first-hand look, to know what the rank-and-file have to stand. I don't mean you personally Brother Reuther, I know you have plenty important work to do where you are."

EDITORIAL

The Kennedy Administration and Castro's Cuba

John Fitzgerald Kennedy has been in office only 100 days and already he has threatened war three times—over the Congo, over Laos, and by actual approval of the invasion of Cuba by anti-Castro Cubans.

The 10 days that followed the Cuban invasion—April 18 to April 28—were filled with further threats: (1) against Khrushchev for his threatening letter; (2) against Latin America for its "policy of non-action." In imperial tones the man from Harvard in the White House announced "our restraint is not inexhaustible," and (3) straightway began taking away basic American freedoms, starting with the press; and, finally, (4) he issued dire warnings about there being "no middle ground."

"We dare not fail to see the insidious nature of this new and deeper struggle. We dare not fail to grasp the new concept, the new tools, the new sense of urgency we will need to combat it, whether in Cuba or South Vietnam. And we dare not fail to realize that this struggle is taking place everyday without fanfare in thousands of villages and markets day and night and in the classrooms all over the globe." Having concluded with a fourth war threat, this time over South Vietnam, he assumed "sole responsibility" for the Cuban fiasco, assuring the world that if the United States had "to go it alone," the invasion would be no such "chancy" thing as the landing of 1,000 Cuban refugees.

We Oppose

Marxist Humanists opposed, and will continue to oppose any American imperialist invasion of Cuba. Whether President Kennedy wants to take sole responsibility or wants to share it with Republicans, in and out of office, including Hoover and MacArthur, the attack on Cuba is for purposes of re-establishing American domination over it. It is no secret to any Latin American that, while the Monroe Doctrine may defend his country from European invasion, it could not protect it from American aggression for which it was designed.

The opposition to imperialism and its wars does not, however, mean giving a carte blanche to Castro's Cuba. It is no longer just a question of Fidel Castro's aligning Cuba with the Russian-Chinese totalitarian orbit. It is a question of the strangulation of the Cuban Revolution itself.

Fidel Castro's declaration that Cuba is now "a socialist land" no more makes it so than his terroristic shouting, "Do you need elections?" with its plebiscitary answer of "No, no," can possibly substitute for Workers and Peasants Councils running production and the state.

Castro's endless harangues are not the equivalent of the self-activity of the masses holding destiny in their own hands—not even if Trotskyists, Johnsonites and other old radicals, as well as petty-bourgeois snobs of the so-called independent

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Considering the convention was packed by union bureaucrats, what is surprising about the statement is not the semi-apologetic exclusion of Reuther from this rank-and-file demand that the labor leadership get back on the production line, but that this delegate did get the courage to speak up.

There was not a single problem from conditions of production to the problem of the unemployed, from speed-up to the role of the committeeman, from local autonomy to the question of war and peace that one didn't hear two very distinct, very opposed voices—that of the rank-and-file and that of the labor leaders.

This is not to say that the two voices had equal time, but that the voice of the rank-and-file was so powerful and so opposed to the top leadership that it came through above the rigging of the convention and the loudmouthed, ever-interrupting voice of Walter Reuther.

SPEED-UP

The dominating question both at the convention and in the shop was, and is, conditions of labor, particularly the inhuman speed-up that characterizes automated production. This was obvious not only from what the rank-and-file said but even from the committeemen. Thus, one Detroit GM Fisher Body committeeman told this story:

"Work standards is the twin of speed-up and lay-off. A worker comes to me and tells me the line is moving too fast and asks what to do about it. All I can tell him is to give the company what he thinks is a fair day's work. He does this, and the company takes disciplinary action, they give him a day off, and if he is still unable or re-

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Workers Left Out Completely

Auto Meet Ignores Problems

In order to understand the auto workers' feeling of being completely left out of everything, of feeling that there is nothing to grab hold of and worth fighting for in terms of what came out of the UAW special convention, you have to see how the workers looked at it and felt about it years ago when we came to the point of conventions and program demands.

Some 15 and more years ago, when contract negotiations came around, the expectations of workers revolved around wage raises. We had a good deal of control of working conditions and didn't have to worry about that. The raises we'd get were 6c, 9c—the most we ever got was 10c per hour.

This was until 1946, before Reuther came to power. At that convention — when Reuther enters—the demand was for a 22½c raise.

CHANGE THINKING

Along with this raise, there was agitation for the company to open its books. We can skip over the details of that long GM strike, but the union, men and Reuther emerged with an 18½c raise. This was a tremendous victory, not only in terms of money at that time, but also in the thinking of workers.

They knew the company wouldn't open its books because they would have shown that they could pay more than was demanded. Knowing this, the workers' thinking on what the company could pay was changed completely—they would not be satisfied with a few pennies again.

But Reuther was able to get into the position to play with the question of raises —with each raise in wages, he bargained away the control that workers had over their conditions.

MOVE TO CONDITIONS

With contracts that followed, the thinking of the men again changed. With the loss of any real representation, the man-killing speed-up and a contract that had grown into a monster that even lawyers couldn't understand, the workers knew they were taking a beating and their thoughts turned more and more to conditions of work.

But Reuther stayed in the old wage-raise groove, and by doing so, set the stage perfectly for the company for 1956. This was when Automation hit auto, and the company had a free hand. And it still does.

As for the 30 hours work for 40 hours pay, this has a history, too. It goes back to 1955, when it was first introduced as a slogan by Stellato at Ford's. The workers were all for it then. They saw where this could really put men to work who had been laid off.

Reuther's reaction to this was: "What would the workers do with all that leisure time?" And nothing came of it.

But this was before Automation. Now the workers know that 30 for 40 can't put the men laid off back to work. They know it is no solution at all to their real problems, but still they would support it. At least it would mean a few jobs and that the workers would get a day extra of much-needed rest from the inhuman conditions on the line. But Reuther hasn't even said that he favored this, except in a out-of-the-corner-of-the-mouth way that you know doesn't mean a thing.

NO BASIC DEMANDS

There never used to be a question of special conventions.

The regular convention drew up the demands and worked-out proposals for the next contract. After the convention it was mainly discussion and to rally around the program and demands.

Today workers don't even think of talking seriously about even the regular convention, let alone the special convention. They don't see any basic demands coming out of it for them.

SECURITY A JOKE

When I asked a worker in the shop what he thought about the special convention, he said:

"What do you mean what do I think? It's all a joke! Take this business of job security, they had a big banner at the convention calling for this. Take a look at that row of new machines, and you tell me what they're going to tell about job security."

"The company wants 240

The Negro and Local 212 Elections

At the Local 212 elections this Thursday for union posts, the Rank & File slate won the majority of the votes in the Mack Avenue shop but they did not win the top union offices like that of president, vice-president and secretary. Thereby hangs a tale.

TWO OLD TRICKS reappeared this year. One was the old radicals caucusing for Reuther; and the second was failure to elect a single Negro for any post on any slate.

The surprise to the workers was that Ernie Mazey, who was the leading socialist opposition for 15 years, was electioneering for Reuther this time. He was covered with green slate stickers from head to toe, running around, yelling to workers to vote for the Reuther slate.

If you had ever heard the venom Mazey spit out against Reuther a few years ago when Reuther was not anywhere as right-wing as now, you would not believe that this turnabout was possible. Perhaps it had something to do with working in a little shop with only about 200 or 300 workers and working as a skilled man. Perhaps it's just his latest politics, whatever that might now be. In any case, the night of counting the ballots, one worker who had always backed Ernie Mazey because of his opposition to Reuther, got so mad at him this time that he wanted to take a swing at him.

WORST OF ALL, practically every Negro that ran for election lost, both those who ran on the Reuther slate and those who ran on the Rank and File slate. Monroe Jones who has carried top votes on the Green slate for the past years, who many a time has saved the Reuther slate for him, this time lost. No doubt the Reutherites, with or without Ernie Mazey's help, looked and saw there weren't enough Negroes left working in the shop to worry about, so they let him be thrown off. Politics make strange bedfellows, and this time the Reutherites, the old radicals, and the most prejudiced white workers banded together.

As for the Rank & File slate, evidently the fact that the majority of Negro workers have

pieces from those machines. That's not humanly possible. How many men will those machines kill? At the end of the line they will do welding. Those welding guns are so close, the workers will be touching each other. You know those guns will get hung up and someone will get killed."

This is why Reuther's slogans today mean nothing to the men in the shop. They are concerned with speed-up, working conditions, mass unemployment. They know and see this every day.

Union Solidarity In Garment Strike

I am enclosing for you our union paper, "Justice."

As you can see we are striking, or as the I.L.G.W.U. chooses to call it, having a lock-out. No matter what you call it we are out of work.

Pennsylvania workers, who have joined with us, are really in a bad way since women in that region are almost the sole support of their families. The men haven't worked there in some cases for almost two years, and there is no other shop there for women to find work, so it is really tough for them. But they are quite a militant bunch there, so let's hope we win. We have been out now six weeks. We hope the out-of-town people can just hold out a little longer.

Woman Garment Worker
New York

In Steel, Like a Regiment

Pittsburgh, Penna. — It hasn't been too long ago that to have a job as first helper on a furnace in the steel mill meant that you were pretty much the boss on the furnace. Now he can't as much as cut the fuel on a furnace unless he consults one of the bosses.

The boss tells him when to turn the furnace on, when to turn the gas off—everything that's to be done. He simply does all the work around the furnace; as far as operating the furnace, he no longer does.

YOU FOLLOW COMMANDS

This, too, is part of a long pattern the company has pushed to speed the men up and to team "their place". As it used to be, a man could operate the furnace to give himself a spell.

Now, no matter how much he knows how to operate it, he has to keep scurrying to get official okays as well as do the work needed. The bosses used to let you use your own judgment. If you needed some lime or ore to go into the furnace, you ordered it—but no more.

It's like a big regiment now.

You follow commands all the way down the line.

Even clean up. When you finish your work, you've got to get a broom and start sweeping. You're doing something all the time. You have to be sort of a utility man—highly versatile—go from one job to the other. And still maintain safety and production.

THEN AND NOW

They preach safety, but the real emphasis is on production. If they don't get their quota, they want to know why. They've got all kinds of charts, and people checking other people. They even have the bosses checking on each other.

When you get ready for a heat, you've got about three bosses checking on one heat. Before, the metal foreman and the first helper did the whole job. The first helper knew when the heat was ready and would send it on out, as soon as they got the proper analysis from the lab. No more.

The work force everywhere is kept down to even less than a minimum. The maintenance crew is so inadequate that if you have a break down, everybody is supposed to break his neck to get it fixed as soon as possible.

Maintenance is now on five days. They were on four—even when the mill was working five—but the break-downs were so numerous that they had to be put back on five to keep the equipment going around here.

Everyday they're bringing in something new to try to eliminate labor. And create more maintenance problems for everybody. Yet they won't put anybody else on to help out.

THEY KNOW BETTER

Even the bosses know they won't have a big enough crew to do their job. But somebody from "city office" tells them that's what they have to use. And that's what they attempt to do—until somebody gets hurt, or they have a major breakdown somewhere and the mill is almost completely shut down. Then they think about bringing in some more help to help them out.

Only way you get a chance for a break is to go hide somewhere—behind a column, in the rest room. That's taking a big chance of getting in trouble though—if they come looking for you to help out somewhere and you're not around.

We'd Wind Up Mowing Lawns

What they were talking about at the UAW convention wasn't what the workers in my shop are concerned about. Take the big fuss about getting workers on salary. We talked about that at lunch time, and there wasn't anybody that wanted to go on salary. The men figured that once they did that, the company could call us in to do any sort of work they pleased. We'd probably wind up even mowing their lawns.

The 30 for 40 (30 hours work for 40 hours pay) isn't any good for us, either, the way we see it. One of the women said what all of us were thinking:

"If they give us 30 hours work for 40 hours pay, they'll get their 40 hours of work anyway. They'll just work us that much harder during the 30 hours and get the same production as they do now in 40 hours."

It's hard to see how they could work us any harder than they do now, but we're sure that they will find a way.

A lot of the committeemen are good guys. They would be with us workers if there was anything they could do. But they just figure, what's the use of coming through the plant if they can't do anything about what they see going on?

The Working Day

By Angela Terrano

Many of the women at work have been working in factories for many, many years. Some since they were 16 and 17 years old. The ages range from 30 to the late 40's. Besides the 9½ to 10 hours that is taken up daily for going to and from work and working the job itself, most go home to take care of families and to take care of homes.

SOME ARGUE that "hard work" is what produces longevity of life, however I am rather doubtful of this when I look at the faces of my co-workers as we stand on line at the end of each day to punch out, knowing that most likely there is another 3 to 5 hours of work at home. I wonder exactly what effect all this hard work has on the human body.

This shop builds automation machines and although we do not work as hard as they do in the auto shop and there is no production line here, you work steadily with the tension of someone watching to make sure that you work. You work with chemicals, with all kinds of noises, very often doing physically hard jobs, and you work with engineers. Any one who works in a shop knows this is enough to drive anyone crazy.

only war-time seniority and thus were hardest hit by cut-backs meant there just weren't enough of them to put over a Negro candidate. In that respect Monroe Jones bears a good deal of responsibility since he so often let himself be used to whitewash the Reuther bureaucracy that no rank and filer really wanted to vote for him.

UAW Militant

In this particular shop, they do not pay well so they get the young guys out of school etc. and the amount of engineering changes is phenomenal. The tension and nervous strain from working like this falls on the one who has to build the job.

AS SCARCE as jobs are these days a few weeks ago one girl quit because she couldn't take it any longer. She had rebuilt one job over completely 5 times and when they came back with more engineering changes that was it. She was a young woman, a widow with 3 children, and she decided that she was going to learn to live on the \$200 or so that she got every month from insurances and the like, rather than work like this.

You say to yourself, well if this is what the company wants me to do on their time its okay by me, just as long as I get paid. You say that maybe two or three times but then it begins to get you, especially since the job gets progressively harder with each rebuilding. There is a kind of satisfaction that comes from a job well done but when you work in shops it is an emotion that you rarely feel. The company either speeds you up so that it is humanly impossible to do a good job or they work as in this shop so that by the end of an exasperating day you say "I don't give a damn."

It is working in exactly the opposite way from what your mental and physical capacities want to work and it takes its toll on your life, not on the company. The company doesn't particularly care one way or the other as long as the job works when it leaves the shop and very often it doesn't even care about that.

The World We Live In DISCUSSIONS ON CURRENT EVENTS

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BRITISH LABOUR NEWS

WRITTEN AND EDITED BY MEMBERS AND FRIENDS OF THE BRITISH COMMITTEES

Ford Workers' Struggles Against Inhuman Conditions

ESSEX — I was speaking to one of the older workers here at Fords about conditions generally, and the callousness of the Ford management.

Even after the war had ended, he said, the men would do perhaps two or three hours work, then clock "off" as there was no work. They had to "stand by" on the clock as they weren't allowed out of the factory to go home. After three or four hours or so of waiting, they would be told to clock "on" again, as "orders had arrived." Thus they would work the two or three hours before normal finishing time.

THIS MEANT sometimes only five hours work a day. The men felt lucky if they got more than four hours work a day.

The men coming out of the services and starting at Fords were not going to tolerate this treatment. At that time, not even Winston Churchill's fame could dampen the socialist outlook of the people.

The men had long bitter strikes for Union recognition,

and more struggles for improved conditions: tea breaks, the right to have the lines stopped in order to take a rest if tired; to have a smoke, whistle, sing, and talk occasionally.

In 1945-6, the men dared not talk for fear of dismissal. Men were often suspended three days for the heinous crime of smoking in the toilet. On the line it was worse. "Conchies" and company men, all in chargehands' jobs, treated the men back from the war like pigs, and spoke to them as if they were dirt.

IT IS IRONIC that now the Unions, established in Fords by the men for the workers' benefit, are all too ready to return to this system of penal servitude for the sake of a few pennies rise.

They try to brainwash us into accepting Automation machines into the plant on the principle of: "As the Board of Directors direct, then the workers—serfs and peasants—must yield and obey!"

—Production Worker, Fords

'Free Kenyatta' Plea Is Made In London

LONDON—A European member of the Kenya Legislative Council recently came to plead for the immediate release of Kenya's Jomo Kenyatta. He is 56-year-old Mr. Derek Erskine, a former Guards officer who has been in business in Kenya over 30 years.

In London he said: "I was a friend of Jomo's nine years ago, before he was imprisoned, and nothing has since happened to change my opinion of him."

The political deadlock in Kenya could only be broken by freeing Kenyatta. The Governor, who believed the atrocity slanders about Mau Mau in the Corfield Report, was the stumbling block.

In fact, Mr. Erskine added, all the atrocities the Report talked about were alleged to have occurred after Kenyatta's arrest. "An increasing number of Europeans in Kenya share my view," he said, "and I have come to London to put it forward."

Mr. Erskine, a Tory, has asked to see Colonial Secretary Iain McLeod.

Haxell's Election Invalid, E.T.U. Communists Concede

LONDON—Communist members of the Electrical Trades Union who condemned this page, last year, when we denounced the E.T.U. ballot for General Secretary as having been rigged in favour of Haxell, have now to admit they were wrong.

The High Court case which recently examined the charges of rigging, invalidated last year's election, and a new election for General Secretary is now pending.

The Communist leaders of the union were defendants in the case. They included Pres. Foulkes; Sec. Haxell; Asst. Sec. McLennan; Executive Council members Crosbie, Davies, Feathers, Frazer, Hendy, and Sell; National Officer Scott; and officials, Rengert, Shipman, and Batchelor.

While the defendants denied that they were involved in faking members' votes, as charged, in order to secure the top job for their nominee, they did admit that Haxell's election was invalid.

Plaintiffs were E.T.U. Glasgow District Secretary Byrne, and North London Executive Councilman Frank Chapple. Byrne, whose name has been

linked with Catholic Action, unsuccessfully contested Haxell in last year's election. It is predicted that he will "romp home again," this time. Chapple quit the C.P. after the bloody suppression of the Hungarian Revolution in 1956.

It seems clear from the testimony in the case that the Communist bureaucrats, far from revitalising the E.T.U. as is their boast, encouraged members' apathy in order to keep the top union jobs.

Of the 241,000 members in the union's 703 branches, only 37,000 thought it worth voting. Of these, the votes of 109 branches were disqualified by the bureaucracy, mostly for "late arrival."

As an aftermath of the invalidating of Haxell's election, workers are asking when members of other big "one-party" trade unions will force a similar open enquiry into bureaucratic manipulation and domination of union affairs.

(See READERS' VIEWS below—Ed.)

Discussion Article:

Aldermaston as Idea

By Peter Cadogan

I was a dispatch rider for the four days, riding up and down the long Wethersfield and Aldermaston lines carrying messages, doing odd jobs and asking questions of myself. What is the deeper political meaning of it all? What does it signify that is new?

Something of the utmost importance suddenly dawned upon me. I was busy asking myself the good old social question—what is the march's class nature? Is this a middle class or a working class march or what are the proportions of the mixture?

There was no answer. The march itself made the question redundant. It was classless. At first I fought against this extraordinary conclusion, but there was no getting away from it. It was manifestly true.

This was a breakthrough into the unknown. The marchers, some nine-tenths of them under the age of twenty-one, had left class behind them. They were solid against the Bomb, and who their parents were, which schools they had been to (very much a class question in Britain) and how they earned their living—all these were the lesser subsumed in the greater.

Human values in the ascendant.

I had a feeling that the only thing like it in the world that I could think of was the sit-in movement in America, an impression confirmed when listening to Bayard Rustin at the Youth CND Conference a few days later.

What I was looking at in the miserable Easter rain was the classless society of the future struggling to be born in the present and not waiting for leaders nor even for the revolution.

It had to be now.

That wasn't all. There was something else in those long lines stretched miles along the road. They were full of people with jobs to do—route marshals every few yards, the Chief Marshal, the Deputy Chief Marshals, Music Marshal, publicity squad, doctors on duty, teams of cars standing by, sanitary squad, litter squad, baggage teams, dispatch riders, refreshment teams and Christ knows what else . . .

Then every local contingent had its own internal organisation from back home and every political group in Britain left of centre was there selling its literature and plugging its line. And the best of luck to them.

It was a debate on the march. There were no Top People, no bosses. The thing was self-organized, self-sustaining, self-correcting. It was not 'led.'

This was as important as the fact of classlessness and the obverse of it. All the hostile newspapers paid tribute to our impeccable efficiency. None of them paused to reflect that Britain as a whole might be run on the same lines.

One day . . .

Decentralisation works, that is the lesson, and it works better than overall planning by the few. What is required at the centre is the dynamic of the great idea. If that is here people will act of themselves and not need to be told what to do.

We have heads on our shoulders.

Coming Soon

A new British edition of
Nationalism, Communism, Marxist Humanism
and the
AFRO-ASIAN REVOLUTIONS
by Raya Dunayevskaya
Foreword by Peter Cadogan

TURN TO PAGE 7
FOR NEWS OF AFRICAN
FREEDOM FIGHT IN
NORTHERN RHODESIA

Castro Sparks ILP Controversy

The half-cocked CIA "invasion" of Cuba precipitated sharp discussion, within the Independent Labour Party, on the role of Castro and Communism in Cuba's revolution.

The Castro dictatorship was roundly condemned in the I.L.P. weekly SOCIALIST LEADER by the editor. So was the U.S.-sponsored attempt to supplant it with a regime pliant to American imperialist interests. But the exposure of Castro drew heated protests from the I.L.P. Young Socialist League Secretary, who countered it with the slogan, "Support for Castro!"

The I.L.P. Political Secretary added: "Socialists should face the truth of the Cuban situation, including the tendencies towards C.P. domination to which the editorial referred."

The editor has replied to these criticisms, and the debate continues. News & Letters readers can get the SOCIALIST LEADER weekly via any news-agent, price 4d. Our position is expressed in the editorial, page 1.

—F. W.

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Readers Views

Haxell's Election

The hearing which threw out Haxell's election in the E.T.U., also brought other things into the open. It has become common knowledge that union policy was discussed and guided, NOT by the Union Conference, but by the Industrial Committees of the C.P. meeting regularly in London, and dominated by non-union members of the Communist leadership.

Whether it's Communist, Catholic Action, M.R.A., Trotskyist, or other such would-be "leaders of the masses" who take their line from either pole of world capital—U.S.S.R. or U.S.A.—they all form a 5th column inside the labour movement because they take their line from outside. They can, and will be swept aside by the ranks on whose induced "apathy" they prey.

Committee Member
S. W. Essex

'Prometeo'

Many thanks for PROMETEIO. It would take me a long time to be sure I understood all the Italian . . . But anyway there seems to be a distinct contradiction between the French Bulletin of "Organe du Centre . . ." and R.D. in the "Theoretical Void" draft. The former wants to "accept the tactic of revolutionary defeatism." In contrast, R.D. (p. 3 of the draft) takes contemporary Trotskyism to task . . .

New Reader
Hampshire

Man in Space

There was a wonderful ninepin in TRIBUNE recently. Under headline: "Public Ownership Wins Again!" they praise the man-in-space feat as a triumph of socialism.

B. D.

BULLETINS

ELECTIONS to the London County Council almost halved Labour's majority, while Tories won Essex, Middlesex and Lancashire, all won by Labour in 1958.

EIGHT MEMBERS of the racist British National Party were fined for an anti-Semitic demonstration at the Warsaw Uprising memorial meeting in London last month.

BUSMEN VOLUNTEERS supplied a 100-man crew to tow a London bus to Hyde Park as part of the 1961 May Day parade.

THE TENTATIVE 4s. a head per week "payroll tax" approved in the Budget may be passed on to the workers. One businessman said: "We can always come to an agreement with employees. Some would gladly pay 4s. a week out of their own pocket . . . rather than face dismissal."

TRADES UNION DUES, currently averaging a shilling a week, will rise steeply soon. Railmen now pay 5d. a week more; an increase of 9d. a week for Grade 1 AEU members began last year. The Labour Party is meeting resistance in its appeal for higher affiliation fees from the unions.

S. E. ESSEX WORKERS' COMMITTEE to rally the rank-and-file industrial workers elected Bro. J. Greenhalgh as Secretary (see this page for April '61).

AEU OFFICIALS suspended six members, delegates to the District Committee, who refused to advise the 1200 strikers at Pressed Steel, Swindon, to return to work.

ONE THIRD of Britain's total labour force are women, according to Miss McCullough, TUC chairman of last month's annual conference of women workers. Of these, she added, more than half are married.

Editorial

(Continued from Page 1)

variety, band together with Communists and Castroites to hail "the socialist revolution in the Western hemisphere."

This whitewashing of Castro's Cuba comes at a time when there is no longer a free press or assembly, the independent organizations of workers have been taken over by the Communists and a stranglehold over the Cuban workers built into the State Plan.

The Communist Party

The art of leading working people to slaughter and, in preparation for this, crushing all independent thought belongs to the Communist Parties of the world. The Cuban Communist Party is no exception, and those busy whitewashing Castro's Cuba are not to be spared:

"The true role of Trotskyism throughout the entire world is well known. In their eagerness to fight the Soviet Union, they went into the ranks of Hitler's apparatus of espionage and provocation and into that of the North American imperialists . . .

"Now it (Trotskyism) reappears. Why? Because the Yankee imperialists need agents who work against the revolution from 'Leftist' positions, since the counter-revolutionary campaign from Rightist positions has no effect on the masses . . .

"At this point, for this purpose, the Trotskyite agents come to Cuba. It is for this dirty work that Trotskyite groups come to life again. But it is not only the Trotskyites.

"Today in Cuba we also have libertarian anarcho-syndicalists . . ."

This is the voice of Castro's "Brain Trust," the General Secretary of the Cuban Communist Party, Blas Roca, addressing its 8th National Congress, held August 1960. This is the only legal party in Cuba, the youth section of which has already fused with the youth section of the July 26th Movement.

Shades of the infamous Moscow Trials of 1936-38 had appeared on the world scene long before Blas Roca of Cuba revived them. If anyone chooses to forget the Communist role in undermining the Spanish Revolution, which was followed by the Hitler-Stalin Pact that unleashed World War II; if the lemming suicidal tendencies persist in the radical movement, even after Stalin's Army stood outside the gates of bleeding Warsaw, letting the Nazis exterminate the Warsaw Soviets; if anyone after the bloody suppression of the Hungarian Revolution, chooses to forget Russia's present day counter-revolutionary role and single out American imperialism alone for the aggressor epithet, then, of course, nothing can keep these blind men from believing that the tens of thousands now rotting in Cuban jails are all "criminals, Batista officers and Yankee imperialist stooges."

Castro's Cuba

The truth is that Castro began stifling the very revolution he had led when he failed to win the workers' approval to the statification of the economy and the imposition of Communist leadership over the trade unions. It is true that, of all Latin American revolutions in the post-war period, Cuba's alone aimed not only to overthrow the corrupt Batista dictatorship, but for a fundamental transformation in human relations. Fidel Castro had named his philosophy "humanism" and called the Cuban Revolution "a humanistic revolution because it does not deprive man of his essence, but holds him as its basic aim. Capitalism sacrifices man; the Communist state, by its totalitarian concept, sacrifices the rights of man."

We headlined our solidarity with the Cuban Revolution (News & Letters, February 1959), and later hailed the expropriation of the American imperialists that had sucked Cuba dry (News & Letters, January 1960). At the same time we pointed to the dangers inherent in the fact that the state had now become the owner of these plantations and the industrial corporation. Later we stressed that, while Fidel could not sell us those butchers of the Hungarian Revolution, Khrushchev and Kadar, the greater danger to the Cuban Revolution was internal. We wrote:

"Forget Russia for a moment — it was nowhere around when Fidel Castro marched into Havana at the head of the July 26th guerilla movement . . . The revolutionary petty-bourgeois lawyer who led this movement had been so little concerned with Communist theory that he gained financial help from many a Cuban and even some American liberal bourgeois who had their fill of the corrupt Batista . . .

"There is no doubt that with the overthrow of the bloody Batista dictatorship, the revolution broke decisively with US imperialism which had plundered the Cuban economy. In expropriating the American capitalistic owners it achieved an agricultural revolution and put an end to the feudal relation between the Cuban peasants and the Cuban-American plantation owners. At the same time, however, the power lay not in the peasant committees, but in the state who was the new owner.

"As for Castro's attitude to the industrial workers, from the very start his bossist, administrative mentality stuck out from the very first day of victorious entry into Havana when he demanded that the revolutionary students and workers there put down their arms . . . When it (the proletariat) did, in due course, at the first trade union congress, question some economic policies of the new government, Castro ran out of the convention, calling it a 'madhouse'."

"It is at this point that a kinship was established between the new regime and the native Communists . . . TOGETHER WITH WORLD COMMUNISM, FIDEL CASTRO SHARED THE CONCEPTION OF THE 'BACKWARDNESS OF THE MASSES' WHO HAD TO BE LED. THE STATE WOULD HENCEFORTH GIVE THE ORDERS, THE WORKERS AND PEASANTS WOULD CONTINUE TO WORK HARDER WHILE THE LEADERS CONTINUE TO LEAD." (News & Letters, December 1960).

The latest embrace of Communism—not just in Russia or far-off China, but in Cuba—the introduction of the Five Year Plan and the ordering of workers to obey those targets and get over their "lack of revolutionary conscience and enthusiasm in their work," plus the admonition not to fear America because Russia has now "perfected its atomic weapons"—all these point to the strangulation of the Cuban Revolution internally even as Kennedy girds for the final struggle against it externally.

Back to Kennedy

President Kennedy is altogether too eager to accept "sole responsibility" for the Cuban fiasco. It is true that it does not matter whether the Cuban invasion was initiated by the joint Chiefs of Staff under its old Commander-in-Chief, General Eisenhower, or whether the new hands—Kennedy's "Brain Trust," Professors W. W. Rostow, McGeorge Bundy and Arthur Schlesinger, Jr.—smoothed the way for the mailed fists of the CIA.

AUTOMATION BATTLEFIELD

April 25—Would appreciate list of costs on "Workers Battle Automation" in bundles of 250, 500, 1000 etc. Also if shipping costs are included or not. I am relatively certain of placing an order for 250, but am still trying to get some more workers interested at other plants to distribute them free — in short, have several guys put up the money and get out a mass distribution. It's tough to get 25c out of a worker now, not because he doesn't have it, but because everyone figures you're trying to start a new "money making scheme."

New Friend
Los Angeles

* * *

Editor's Note: Because the sale and distribution of "Workers Battle Automation" is itself a part of the fight against Automated production, we were glad to offer the pamphlet to this worker at cost; that is, 40% off the sale price. The same offer holds for all other readers who wish to order bundles of 100 or more.

* * *

May 1—Yours rec'd—am ordering 250 of the "Workers Battle Automation." Hope to be able to make follow-up on order as soon as possible. (Money order for \$37.50 enclosed.)

It's very apparent that oligopolists, who own and run our government, are in a state of utter confusion—in short, a practical dollar to dollar program for them, on a day to day program. It's obvious, too, that their longest range program runs about 24 hours! That's why the obsolete planes are still being made. The agency that issued the contract is probably holding stock in the company. Enough!

New Friend
Los Angeles

It is true that the Chief Executive is the only one empowered to make the final decision.

His eagerness to assume sole responsibility, however, does not rest on the independence of his decisions, but on his dependence on the CIA, which, like the Gestapo and the GPU, has become a state-within-a-state, the inherent excrescence of the present degenerative state of world capitalism. It is this too which impels him and the press to play up the totality of the failure of the Cuban landing. By so doing the ineffectuality of anti-Castro Cubans and the impregnability of Castro's Cuba, though thousands of revolutionaries rot in its jails, appear so incontrovertible that only United States armed might appears capable of dealing with "the Communist threat." The natural conclusion would then seem to be: the Cubans, in or out of Cuba, are incapable of taking destiny into their own hands. That is why we must say: for the Cuban invasion to have been so total a fiasco, failure had to be planned into it, not excluding the fingering of the underground to Castro.

The daring young man armed with presidential powers has a variety of counter-revolutions that he is readying to spring at us when we least expect it.

Only the Cuban People Can

We must say loudly: Neither United States imperialism nor Russian totalitarianism; neither Fidel Castro nor Miro Cardona. Only a Cuba that is independent of both of America and Russia and is freed from the domination of the single party, the Communists, can save the Cuban Revolution. Armed with its own rank and file committees, workers and peasants organizations can still keep Cuba from sliding into state capitalist channels. When they get ready—and not when the CIA, with or without Kennedy's benediction, orders them "to revolt"—the Cuban people will know how to deal with Fidel Castro, Che Guevara, Blas Roca and their henchmen who are besmirching a glorious page in Latin American history, as well as with U. S. imperialism which is trying to turn back the pages of history. The working people the world over, and especially so in the United States, will join this forward movement for total freedom.

—Raya Dunayevskaya

Readers'

When we heard about one worker ordering 250 copies of "Workers Battle Automation," we felt that there would be a lot of different people going all-out for it—and that is just what happened last night at the Longshoreman's meeting where we sell every other week. One worker (who said, incidentally, that at their recent convention Automation was number one on the agenda) not only bought one himself, but stayed around to ask others to buy a copy, too. Another worker gave me \$1 instead of just a quarter for his copy. In all, we sold 21 pamphlets that night. The \$6.05 we collected is enclosed.

Committee Member
Los Angeles

* * *

UAW—VOICES FROM THE CONVENTION

The number of workers in our shop dropped from 4,000 to 943 in the past five to seven years. That's what Automation and speed-up has done. They subject workers who ask to go to the rest room to all kinds of indignities. They took a worker all the way to the front office just because he asked for relief time. We can't live with these conditions.

Local 325

* * *

I'd like to hear a lot from the UAW Convention on speed-up. We're not getting a fair shake from time-study. When you tell them the speed of the line is too great, they pass the buck. Nobody wants to admit any responsibility for it.

Why, with all this progress, are people working like this? People outside the shop can't believe we have to work the way we do. People in the shop are looking so bad, that now even ministers are discussing speed-up as senseless before their congregations. We have people working 100%. No relief time. It's a shame.

Dodge Local 3
Woman Worker

There has been race discrimination in my local for 13 years. We were just able to desegregate the washrooms in the union hall. We're having elections next Thursday, when I hope we can get rid of the old leadership and elect more liberal-minded officers. We should pass new laws at our next regular convention to correct discrimination.

Negro Worker
International Harvester
Local 988
Memphis, Tennessee

* * *

I heard the foreman in my shop say he'd like to kick all of the women out. I don't like to hear anyone say that. The women work just as hard as the men and in our shop they don't give the women equal pay.

Male Worker
Local 540
Pontiac, Michigan

* * *

In our plant they're using Automation to nickle-plate auto bumpers. They have automatic loaders too, with people working only at the beginning and end of the line. The company builds up huge inventories and just lays the workers off.

We can't strike because we've got a sister plant that turns out the same work and the company would just shift the work. As it is the majority of men only work six to nine months out of the year.

Chevrolet Worker
Local 262
Livonia, Mich.

* * *

Management continually changes the speed of the line. We should have a way to lock the devices that control the speed, to keep the foreman from continually regulating the speed.

Ford Local 498

* * *

I'm from a Ford Local, and we don't have the proper protection. We've got our work standards problems. Some of us are only working eight days out of the month. We've got to do something about the stop watch. We've got men with 25 and 30 years seniority drawing compensation.

We've got to do something about conditions. Even if we had the 30 hour week, and I think we should, a man would be too tired to go any place after work, the way things are. Everybody is different, production ought to be based on the normal performance of the individual on the job.

Local 900

* * *

CONVINCED

I'll never again doubt the authenticity of your Readers' Views. I began reading a letter last issue which was so full of praise for Marxism and Freedom that I was saying to myself, "Now, they must have made that one up." When I got to the end I suddenly realized that it was from a letter I had written you myself.

Subscriber
New York

Views

WAR OR PEACE

On April 2, I joined several hundred young people marching across Manhattan under the leadership of the Committee for Non-Violent Action. Eight of them had walked all the way from Kittery, Maine, where they had engaged in a Civil Disobedience demonstration at the Polaris base there. I heard some speeches on "Integration—Not Disintegration"—the best by Bob Gore, who had participated in sit-ins in Tennessee.

The next day, I walked with about 500 people down Park Avenue to another rally. Signs displayed such slogans as "Ban the Bomb," "Refuse to Work in 'Defense' Industry," "Bread Not Bombs for Starving People," "Peace and Freedom through Disarmament," "No More Hiroshimas," and "We Oppose Both Russian and American Bombs." One man had carried a huge and heavy triangular sign for four days; it said, "All Men Are Brothers: Abolish War."

Marcher
Massachusetts

We seem to be getting closer to war every day. You notice how Kennedy is getting together with all his former political enemies. It scares me. It makes me feel they're all ganging up on us.

Irishman
Los Angeles

The workers I know were more interested in Cuba and Laos than in the UAW Convention.

Auto Worker
Detroit

Last night I saw the movie "Mein Kampf." To me the most terrifying thing about the history of the Third Reich is the story of its rise to power. Germany's bourgeoisie, in the name of fighting against Communism, but in reality fighting its own working class, put down the opposition for Hitler and paved the way for the greatest tyranny and terror that the world had yet seen.

The picture clearly showed that the bourgeoisie of all the European countries were willing and anxious to do the same. And today we see the same thing happening on both sides of the Iron Curtain in order to prepare the countries for total war and total annihilation.

While Khrushchev fosters and foments every possible avenue of turning the cold war hot in Laos, Cuba and Congo, Kennedy for his part confers with everyone who opposed him, asks for "voluntary censorship" by newspapers, and says the greatest danger at the moment is "internal subversion" and "fighting Communism." But since the bomb is not a toy, I don't think the world will settle for either

a Russian or American "Fourth Reich."

Young Mother
Los Angeles.

I have been busy organizing and preparing for the Civil Defense Drill Protest which we held in Hartford. This was the first demonstration I have ever participated in, my first public gesture of discontent and rebellion. I hope that it won't be my last. . . . When I was in bed later that night and considered the implications of what I had been doing, it was as if I had considered these implications for the first time. . . . The darkness around the room was a battlefield and explosions of insight and terror lit up the walls. The world may be blown up. Present, past and future may become shadows on the broken pavement of some empty city. . . . The struggle is everywhere, but there are only a few people fighting. . . . Still, for myself I have to do my best.

Student
Connecticut

Angela Terrano wrote in her column in the April issue something that I have been hearing since the Cuban fiasco and the ever-worsening Laos situation. That is the determination in the minds of everyone that the bomb must not be dropped!

Daily I talk to people, all in isolated circumstances, and they all say the same thing, "I will not fight in another war". From janitors to bus drivers to students, they all seem to know the senselessness of war. Strangers sitting next to me at a drug store counter say that they will not fight in any wars.

Committee Member,
Los Angeles

The 4,000 people in the New York march protesting the H-Bomb April 1 expressed an opposition to war more fundamental than that of SANE, which sponsored it. Most of the students know that diplomacy cannot prevent war any better than armaments can. Most of them also know that only great popular protests around the world can forestall war, and they must suspect that war will break out somewhere, sometime, unless radical human changes occur on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

I discovered during the march, that many of the young people were searching

for a philosophy more realistic than pacifism.

Marxism is more realistic because it is more than a moral protest: it explains war in terms of the two poles of world capital, Russia and America, and reveals the possibilities for peace that lie in the struggles of the working people throughout the world. Secondly, it is more humanistic because it explains how mankind can achieve creative fulfillment.

Marxists Humanist
Massachusetts

MORTALS AND THE MOON

I think your readers would be interested in a "letter from a reader" which was printed in *Komsomolskaya pravda* last year and which follows:

"What do these satellites and rockets do for simple mortals like me? I, for instance, owed 300 rubles before the rocket was launched, and I still owe 300 rubles. . . . There are not enough houses, nurseries, goods, or roads. Say to any worker: 'Ivan, if we don't launch this rocket your son Vovik could go to kindergarten, and you would be able to buy an electric iron in the store.' I am sure he would say: 'For God's sake, don't launch any of those rockets.' Rockets, rockets, rockets! Who needs them? To the devil with them and the moon for a while and give me a better dinner instead."

Steady Reader
Chicago

The world has been thrilled to hear of the accomplishments in placing Russia's Yuri Gagarin and the American Alan Shepard into space within a single month. However, these men were but passengers on vehicles designed and built by nameless thousands of workers.

What has been the cost to these workers? In Moscow on May Day it was noted that people were standing in line to try to obtain meat and milk. In Sterling Township, Mich., the home of the Redstone Missile, 200 unemployed Chrysler workers carried signs at the plant gates reading, "The Arsenal of Democracy — Now the Arsenal of Unemployment" and "Success High-Reliability Higher-Unemployment Highest."

There is small consolation in being off into space when the basic problems in both Moscow and Detroit are how to feed your family and how to exist on this planet."

P. M.
Detroit

TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya, Author of
MARXISM AND FREEDOM

The following is the new introduction to a British edition of "Nationalism, Communism, Marxist-Humanism and the Afro-Asian Revolutions," soon to be published.

(Continued from Last Issue)

African Realities And World Politics

IN 1956 KHRUSHCHEV first declared that imperialist war was "not inevitable." His famous de-Stalinization speech at that Russian Communist Party Congress 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.

Peaceful Coexistence

Where Stalin was wary of neutrals unless he could fully control them, Khrushchev now gave them the bear hug and told them they could go their independent way. De-Stalinization was the first step in the change of the Russian line, but what generated the self-confidence and over-confidence in the Khrushchev of the late 1950's was the Sputnik. And now the manifesto explains: "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 anyone 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 Congo to Cuba.

The American Negro

To escape being torn between the two warring poles of state capitalism, America and Russia, the African masses must turn directly to the workers in the technologically advanced countries, whether they are Russian, West European, or American. It is within this context that the American workers' struggles against Automation, with its division between mental and manual labor, are to be seen.

The self-activity of the Negro in America, since the successful Montgomery bus boycott and especially since the sit-ins of the Southern Freedom Fighters, is a reservoir of strength for the African revolutions. It isn't only that the Negro identifies himself with the African revolutions as a question of color; it is that he is revolutionary in his everyday life, in his struggle with existing society, and therefore he has an immediate and profound perception of the African revolutions. Because of the Negro's unique position in American life he is a spur for the American working class as a whole.

The West European Proletariat

In the mass demonstrations in London against the Sharpeville massacre and the "Boycott South Africa Goods" movement, the British workers have shown an affinity with all the African Freedom Fighters. The affinity is not limited to demonstrations of sympathy. It is inherent in their daily struggle against their capitalist oppressors.

Without the aid of the majority of the workers of a technologically advanced country, neither the African nor the Asian revolutions can escape exploitative capitalism and bureaucratic State Planners. In June 1959, when I first analyzed the African revolutions, I asked whether "this great awakening (is) to be confined to a half-way house doomed to stand at the crossroads? Must it choose . . . one of the two poles of state capital—Russia or America?" Because of the urgency of this problem and because inseparable from the struggles for freedom, are the theoretical banners unfurled, we print here "Nationalism, Communism, Marxist Humanism and the Afro-Asian Revolutions." The views expressed are as valid today as when they were written two years ago. We append an analysis of some of the writings of President Leopold Senghor and Sekou Toure that have appeared since the publication of this pamphlet. We also took the liberty of adding a paragraph at the end of the text on events such as the feat of the first world cosmonaut, Major Yuri Gagarin.

*Although it is all too obvious that Roy Welensky's "multi-racialism" is but another name for Verwoerd's fascist policy of apartheid, white liberals, in both Kenya and the Rhodesias, have asked why should a nationalist, rather than a "multi-racial" political party, be used as the instrument for freedom in Africa. To this question by Reverend Colin Morris, Kenneth Kaunda has replied:

"When you look at the nations in Africa which have achieved the independence we desire it will be found that a Nationalist movement in each case brought about the solution. No multi-racial political party has yet managed to obtain for Africans their Independence . . .

"We are not concerned solely with the rights of Africans; we are struggling for human rights—the inalienable rights of all men. We are engaged in a struggle against any form of imperialism and colonialism not because it has as its agents white men, but because it has many more wrong sides than good ones . . .

"I should now add that I believe the only effective answer to our constitutional problems is that the British Government transfer power gracefully from the minority to the majority groups—that is, to the Africans. The happiness that Africans will feel will, I am almost certain, make them forget and let bygones be bygones, and so will be born in North Rhodesia a new state in which Black men rule, not to the detriment of any one race, but to the good of all inhabitants because the majority will have nothing to fear from minority groups." (See Black Government, A Discussion between Kenneth Kaunda and Colin Morris.

APPENDIX

Note: We print only part of the appendix, since the first portion is a review of LEOPOLD SENGHOR'S AFRICAN SOCIALISM, which was published in the May, 1960 issue of NEWS & LETTERS.

(Continued on page 7)

News & Letters

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YOUTH

S. Carolina Student Reports

THE NON-VIOLENT OFFENSIVE

I first became involved in the sit-in movement in February, 1960, while I was a college student at Orangeburg, South Carolina.

When we first started the sit-ins the store owners and local authorities responded by closing down the lunch counters, and restricting our rights to picket and demonstrate. Students of several colleges in the area decided to band themselves together. We called ourselves the Orangeburg Student

EDITOR'S NOTE: "Thinking It Out" will reappear next issue.

Movement Association. The duty of this association was to plan demonstrations and go back and inform the students and provide orientation on non-violent techniques.

* * *

After virtually every avenue of peaceful protest of segregation had been blocked we decided we would have a mass demonstration. Our first demonstration came off on March 1 and involved about 800 students. We marched into the downtown area carrying picket signs saying that we requested the right to peacefully protest segregation. Some of the signs read: "There Is No Color Line In Heaven," "All Sit or All Stand," and "Is this the Land of the Free and the Home of the Brave?"

As we proceeded to march through the downtown area we were stopped by the police, and of course, they gave us the typical Southern argument: "We have had good relations among whites and Negroes here for a long time and you people are disrupting the normal peace and quiet of this community." We challenged them to define what "good relations" were. First the relationship was slavery and now the relationship is segregation. By their definition this is something that is

Student Youth Seek Freedom

In recent times we have witnessed an increase in the activity of youth throughout the world. Along with this upsurge of youth have come groups and individuals who have tried to analyze this student movement. Most of these groups and individuals have sought to channelize the activity of these youth and use this activity to their own advantage.

The House Un-American Activities Committee put out "Operation Abolition" to try and show that youth are going Communist. It then uses this as its reason for the continuation of the HUAC. On my campus a secret Americanism group has arisen. Its job is to get students to be informers on any student or professor who has any ideas which are not "American."

The Communists and their sympathizers play a different game. They support and channelize any movement which happens to correspond with what is good for the rulers of the U.S.S.R. Everyone wants to use the youth to enhance their cause.

John F. Kennedy also plays this game. The Peace Corps in itself may be a fine thing. However notice has been given that any breath of fresh air and idealism that might be present

good, but it is certainly not at all good by our definition. We marched around the downtown area. No one was arrested then.

We again started to sit-in at lunch counters. Where we tried, they closed them down. Where they closed one counter they opened up an artificial flower shop in its place.

STATE WIDE GROWTH

By the middle of March we had expanded our local organization to a state wide organization composed of four of five high schools and most of the Negro colleges. We called this organization the South Carolina Student Movement Association.

We planned a demonstration for March 15th. We had sit-ins, picketing and we tested various facilities all over the state. It came off very dramatically in Orangeburg, where 389 students participated in a single demonstration. We planned to have student sit-ins at the local drug stores; others were to sit-in at the local bus terminal, they were to buy tickets and go to other parts of the state using the front seats of the busses.

* * *

Part of the group started to the downtown area. Our plan was to go to the City Hall, formally present our grievances to the mayor and request that he do something about them. As soon as we started to go through the downtown area the firemen pulled out high-powered water hoses to stop the demonstration. The students continued to walk through the water. They then used tear gas to try to stop the students, who still continued to walk. As they proceeded to the downtown area many were arrested. Finally both the county and the city jails were filled up. The officials then decided to use the open air stockade where they normally keep cows and chickens to feed the prisoners. There were about 250 students who had previously been hosed down, who had to stand out in this stockade. They had to stand there in 28 degree weather for four hours. Many suffered from

in the Peace Corps will be stopped by the F.B.I. and the State Department who will screen applicants.

All these various groups believe that the thoughts and actions of these youth can, under the "proper" influence be directed to "useful" purposes. However these youth have shown that they will not have their actions and thoughts channelized.

An example of this can be seen in South Korea, where student action helped to bring down the Rhee government. Only a few months later they were out on the street again, this time demanding that the new Chang government either grant more freedom or go the way of Rhee.

These students were not satisfied with ridding themselves of one corrupt regime only to be saddled with another and are even less likely to accept military dictatorship from the military clique that has seized power as this is being written.

They and their counterparts the world over have not and will not be satisfied with half way measures and channelization of their actions. If there is a real nature to the student movement it is a striving for complete freedom.

—UCLA Student

tear gas inflicted eye injuries and many later developed pneumonia. By simply walking downtown they were arrested for a breach of the peace.

TAKE THE OFFENSIVE

Still the struggles go on all over the South. One of the most important things about a non-violent movement is that you must always attempt to maintain the offensive. When you say that you are not going to sit-in, that you are not going to picket, then you are taking the defensive. You are taking segregation as it is pushed upon you by local law enforcement, and this we will not take.

2 Skate-Ins Break Rink Segregation

Detroit — Two successful Skate-Ins have taken place, in April, at the Arcadia skating rink, in Detroit, to break down discrimination against Negroes in a so-called "private" skating club at the Arcadia.

The only requirement for membership is a white skin, and the only club activities are club nights—restricted skating on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday evenings from 8 to 11 p.m. Because this lack of club functions, the prosecutor's office declared it (although reluctantly) a subterfuge, and therefore illegal.

A few Negroes were admitted into the Arcadia on club night (better known as "all white night") after they filed complaints with the police department against the Arcadia's policy of segregation. These few Negroes belong to the Detroit Brotherhood Youth Council (DBYC), a youth group which grew out of the Woolworth picket line last year. It was the DBYC who proposed the Skate-Ins.

After deciding on Saturday, April 15, as the night for the first demonstration, the DBYC appealed to CORE youth for support. CORE youth have been very active on picket lines around the Detroit Kresge building.

All of us in the DBYC and the CORE youth who were going to participate in the Skate-In, were very excited and we all thought that the day would never come. It finally did though, and about 40 Negro and white youth calmly lined up in front of the Arcadia at 8 o'clock that evening.

Once we were in the rink, however, the regular membership tried to intimidate us by skating into us, and by cutting us off. This increased as the period came to an end. Printed cards with slogans such as, "We'd like to help you out . . . which way did you come in?" were handed to us.

Although we were expecting trouble in the way of a fight at the end, it didn't come. We played it safe though, and walked out of the place in groups no smaller than ten.

The second skate-in followed two weeks later, on April 29, with about 25 youth taking an active part. This time there was no trouble of any kind, except for a few reactionary remarks by the cashier.

—High School Student

African Freedom Day Rally

NEW YORK.—In 1958, in a meeting at Accra Ghana, the leaders of Africa's peoples proclaimed April 15, African Freedom Day, to be celebrated until all Africa is free.

On April 17, in Hunter College Assembly Hall, several thousand New Yorkers met to commemorate this day; to celebrate the nations that had gained their independence in the past year and to support those still fighting for freedom. There were speakers representing the national movements of nearly all the African countries still under colonial rule, as well as many of the ambassadors of Africa's free nations. Also present were some fine jazz musicians: Dizzy Gillespie, Herbie Mann and the lovely singer, Miriam Makeba.

One of the featured speakers was Kenneth Kaunda of the United National Independence Party of Northern Rhodesia. He is quiet and sincere, combining majesty and humor in a rare mixture. He spoke of the oppression suffered by his people and of their struggles against it.

Kaunda discussed two themes that nearly every other speaker took up. (1) A distrust of Washington's fair words by the people of Africa, who remember America's past support of colonial powers and its present activities as a neo-colonialist power in its own right, trying to make of Africa what Latin America has long been, an American satellite.

(2) Kaunda linked the struggles of Africa's masses with the fight of America's Negroes for their rights as men.

These points were taken up by Oliver Tambo of South Africa and Mburumba Kerina of South West Africa, who challenged the U.S. to prove its hostility to colonialism by deeds and who declared Africa's solidarity with American Negroes.

Tom Mboya of the Kenyan African National Union summed up these themes. Mboya will undoubtedly soon be a minister in the government of the free nation of Kenya. He speaks then as more than a

heroic leader of his nation's struggles for independence. He was a spokesman for all the free people of Africa.

In their name, he rejected alignment with either of the power blocs. Africa will not be their pawn. He made it clear that Africa needs and will accept aid from whatever source, but will not accept dictation from the nation that gives that aid. Africa will follow its own road. It has suffered too long under its colonial masters to become the satellite of a new imperialism.

Another of the featured speakers was Senator Hubert Humphrey, who proved to be a complete contrast to men like Kaunda and Mboya. He is possibly the least trustworthy and certainly the most cliché-ridden of our "liberal" politicians. I cannot remember any of the Senator's phrases. They bounce off the mind like ping-pong balls. Simply think of every platitude ever pronounced by an American politician.

When he stated in round tones that the U.S. supported self-determination everywhere, shouts broke out all over the hall; "What about Cuba?" "What about the Congo?" "What about Mississippi?"

Some sort of high-point was reached when after Humphrey proclaimed the Administration's willingness to give aid to those who need it, a voice from the balcony in a rich southern drawl said "How about the folks down in Tennessee?"

No matter what the Senator had to say one thing is clear, all genuine struggles for freedom are linked. The sit-inners in South U.S.A., the freedom fighters of Hungary, the workers who try to save their humanity against the automated production line, can all cry with the people of Africa "Uhuru" "Freedom."

—N. Y. Correspondent

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

The Kennedy Administration

There are so many strange things happening each and every day in these United States that no one knows just what to do or where to go in this messed up world. No one of the leaders has brains enough to think just how to help get the United States out of the mess that it is in today.

Even the Democrats' President Kennedy can't get things straightened out like the Democratic Party wants him to. He runs around buddy-buddy with those old worn out Republicans like Hoover and MacArthur to get some kind of advice. The people know that the Republicans are no good at helping the poor people of America to keep from starving. They only try to keep every penny for themselves.

It doesn't matter who gets into the White House, the poor people are left with nothing. How could President Kennedy think that these Republicans could help him? Roosevelt tried to get this country out of the mess because he was afraid of what the poor people would do. They showed him the road they would walk. They did it before and they can do it again.

The Kennedy Administration isn't getting anywhere except

to lose out with the different countries—Africa, Cuba and Laos. They are going down slowly by trying to take over and rule those countries. But they are finding it much different in these later years than they did before.

They used to talk their way in with old leaders of these countries. But they are finding it much different with the new leaders who are telling them to go to hell because they can live without any help from them.

* * *

The American white man has run around and bossed Negroes and the people of other countries without doing any hard work himself until the Negroes and these other countries found out that they can work and run their own country without having the white man look over them. What is the use of having the white man look over you when you can do it yourself?

I think the American white has run this country clean out. Just how do they think this government can keep up all of these people that are out of work without having one of the worst wars that history has ever seen? They use the Automation machines to do everything but help the poor man.

N. Rhodesian Freedom Fighters Undaunted By Minority Threats

The African Freedom Fight in Northern Rhodesia entered a stage of urgency with the collapse of negotiations in London two months ago.

Leaders of the massive United National Independence Party (UNIP) had expected to emerge from the March conference with a legislative majority as a step towards complete independence from the hated Central African Federation. However, the apartheid Federation's prime minister, Sir Roy Welensky, threatened armed insurrection if England granted African demands. The British government thereupon repudiated its promises.

Kenneth D. Kaunda, UNIP President, told a Chicago audience, on April 19, during his second visit to the United States: "The British Prime Minister has recently been telling Africans that a new wind of change is blowing over our land. It is not new to us. We have always known it as the wind of freedom. This is now being blocked by a wind of suppression from the South. We have no intention of permitting a blockade against the wind of freedom."

"For a long time," Mr. Kaunda said, "we have followed a non-violent struggle. This has brought us changes up to a point. We can now go into some hotels, IF we have the money. We can now go into certain shops, IF we have the money. We can now go into certain cafes, IF we have the money. But political and economic power remains deliberately concentrated in minority hands. There is still no effective way for an African to make his voice heard in running public affairs.

"We are still faced with the basic necessity to struggle for social reform. We want nothing less than a complete political overhaul. We have felt the weight of minority domination for too long, and refuse to bear the burden any longer."

A draft resolution was submitted to the recent session of the UN General Assembly by A.N.L. Wina, UNIP representative in the United States. It revealed that some four hundred of Kaunda's followers are serving three-months jail sentences for such offenses as giving Kaunda a night's lodging; shouting "Freedom", "Africa", "Kaunda"; contempt of court, that is, when arrested they asked, "What is the charge against me?"

Three-months sentences are so widely imposed because the government "conveniently" passed a law prohibiting appeal of any sentence of three months or under. For youth under 15, the customary punishment is a public beating—ten blows with a cane. When the political offenders are children under 12, punishment is meted out against the parents.

The resolution said, "It is hard to escape the conclusion that a well-planned genocide operation is being prepared against the African people of Northern Rhodesia by the white settlers of the country with the approval of the British Government."

During his Chicago address, Kaunda was asked what UNIP policy might be if Britain does grant their demands, and Welensky makes good his threat to declare the Federation independent, even at the cost of war.

Kaunda answered, "As I told Sir Roy in London, 'Should you declare yourself independent, we shall not hesitate to declare Northern Rhodesia as the Sovereign State of Zambia' (after the ancient state of Zambesia).

"If Welensky declares war on England," he said, "and sends troops to Northern Rhodesia, we shall come to the aid of England. We shall not send troops, for we don't have them. We shall not send police, for we don't need them. We shall, however, make doubly sure—since we make all the tea for all the Europeans—we shall

make doubly sure that no ovens are running.

"It has been so long since the Europeans have cooked for themselves," Kaunda continued with a smile, "that they have forgotten how. They take seven or eight tea-times a day. They must have their tea. Sir Roy himself takes plenty of tea," he added, "that should make him think twice."

Although UNIP's demands seem farther from realization today than when they were first presented to British Colonial Secretary Macleod more than a year ago, three related factors favor their success:

First and foremost, UNIP now claims the allegiance of virtually the entire African population of Northern Rhodesia. "The United National Independence Party," Kaunda reported, "has forged a unified and truly national movement that cuts across all tribal lines.

Second, the heightened political tensions have brought business to a near stand-still and caused capital to flee the country.

Third, cleavages among the European settlers have brought a number to the support of UNIP; 120 of them have actually joined the party.

"The European press," Kaunda said, "is citing the Congo tragedy as 'proof' that Africans aren't ready for independence. But the Congo tragedy came about, not because of the incapacity of Africans to rule themselves, but because of Belgian colonial policy. The Congo tragedy came about because of the East-West struggle to destroy what the Africans sought to create."

Emphasizing the truly national character of UNIP, Kaunda firmly declared, "Tshombeism will not be allowed in Northern Rhodesia."

In answer to the settlers who insist that the present policy of "racial partnership" is superior to the Africans' proposals, Kaunda said, "In 1954 the first Prime Minister of the Central African Federation explained what is meant by 'racial partnership.' He said it is the same kind of partnership that exists between the rider and the horse.

"I sincerely believe," Kaunda said, "that the moment we have gained our victory, we shall have helped the European to regain his moral balance. Our victory will be a victory for all humanity."

On the eve of his departure from the United States, on April 20, Mr. Kaunda appealed to Americans to aid the African struggle in whatever way possible. Individual contributions may be addressed to: Mr. Kenneth D. Kaunda, President; United National Independence Party; P.O. Box 302, Lusaka, N. Rhodesia.

A DOCTOR SPEAKS

By M.D.

THE AMERICAN MEDICAL ASSOCIATION

The contradictions which exist in the field of medicine in our country, and which are organic to a way of life concerned with commodity production rather than human development, take a special form in the opposition of the American Medical Association to even so elementary a health measure as the Forand Bill.

Before me is a full page ad in a daily newspaper. In it the A.M.A. claims that supplying medical care for the aged through social security would allegedly a) interfere with the doctor's freedom to treat a person in an individual way; b) limit the individual's freedom to have a doctor of his own choice; c) aid those who were perfectly able to pay their own way; d) increase taxes, etc., etc. The implication is that, if we were to pass the Forand Bill, we would certainly fall into the trap of totalitarianism or Russian Communism.

"A PAUPER'S OATH"

The asinine presumption that this is the only way to bring medical care to the people of the most technologically advanced nation on earth speaks volumes about the audience—the legislators, big business, including the top layers of the medical profession—these ads are designed to appeal to. Any average American who has needed medical care and couldn't afford it could easily puncture the assertion that all Americans have good medical care by pointing to the following facts:

- 1) There is no community in this rich land where the city, county, state, and federal institutions do not have greater number of beds filled by people who must take a pauper's oath to occupy them, than there are private beds that are easily accessible to those who have the money to pay and are more often than not not filled.
- 2) This free medical care, moreover, is insufficient to take care of all the people in need of medical care, and every large community must therefore supplement with hundreds of beds that are designed for those on charity and are run by some special religious group. Again, the richest land demands a pauper's oath.
- 3) Since too many Americans who cannot afford to pay in full for private beds and will not appeal to charity must, in some way, be taken care of medically, all sorts of health insurance plans mushroom—generally at a nice profit to the insurance company. All these plans are limited in the medical coverage, and stop altogether the minute the person is unemployed and cannot keep up the premiums. Since we have millions of unemployed it

does not take a genius to figure out how badly off are millions of Americans, especially the aged.

Not unworthy of attention is the gratefulness that Big Business feels to the A.M.A. for its position on "freedom" since this gives Big Business strong support and incidentally permits them the setting up of monopolistic health corporations through certain profit-producing pre-payment plans and hiring doctors on salaries. With their own deformity they are thus stepping into a vacuum which the A.M.A. refuses to fill. We hear nothing from the A.M.A. about this lack of freedom for either patient or doctor.

THE INDIVIDUAL DOCTOR

This is in such total contradiction to the ideals that first inspired an individual to enter the field of medicine that we need to take a second look into the world of practice as contrasted to the world of study. The incomprehensible and bewildering accidents of nature, the blows that wound body and mind, the ceaseless and inevitable movement from youth to age, from strength to weakness, from bloom to decay, from being to non-being often makes a tragedy of the individual's life. As need brings about contact with a doctor, a person sees in his doctor qualities that are among the best that humanity offers—help and hope, strength and inspiration, confession and sympathy.

THE YOUTH

who enters the study of medicine does so with the desire to fulfill such a role. By the time, however, he has finished his studies and confronts the practical world, he himself has become a product of capitalism. The physician finds that he must use his training and skills as values that equate with other profit-producing commodities. As a member of a professional class, he has a privileged position, and this he quickly accepts as a right.

The A.M.A. which represents him in much more vigorous in guarding his privileges and social position than in maintaining professional skills, but it does have the dual role and does "win" its membership by offering much in the field of organization of medical skill, research, and inter-communication. Because of this, unfortunately, most doctors close their eyes both to the A.M.A.'s expenditure of time and money to maintain the status quo and its use of medicine as the powerful arm to fight social change. It is this which the medical profession must find some way of fighting or be rightly considered by the people as hurting rather than helping humanity in its forward movement.

African Realities And World Politics

(Continued from Page 5)

We print below only the sentences which tie in with the quotation from Sekou Toure, and the conclusion.

Sekou Toure's Africa

The very fact that on all the concrete questions relating to Africa's relationship to De Gaulle France, Senghor has had to appear as an apologist for De Gaulle France, discloses the tragedy of the underdeveloped countries fighting for freedom in an automated nuclear age.

On the other hand, Sekou Toure of Guinea, where the people had dared to say "No" to remaining part of the French Community, is much bolder in his concept both of the contribution of the African and of the future world developments:

"In the realm of thought, man can claim to be the brain of the world, but on the concrete level of real life, where any occurrence will affect both the physical and spiritual being, the world is always the brain of man. Because it is in the world that all the thinking forces can be found, the dynamic forces of development and perfection, it is there too that the fusion of energy takes place and where the true quantity of the intellectual capacity of man can be found. So who could claim to exclude any one school of thought, any one kind of thought, or any one human family without by so doing excluding himself to some extent from the total society of man?"

"The science resulting from all human knowledge has no nationality. The ridiculous disputes about the origin of such and such a discovery do not interest us since they add nothing to the value of the discovery. It can therefore be said that African unity offers the world a new humanism essentially founded on the universal solidarity and cooperation between people without any racial and cultural antagonism and without narrow egoism and privilege. This is above and beyond the problem of West Africa and as far removed from the quarrels which divide the highly developed countries as are the conditions and aspirations of the African people." (1)

We cannot know in which direction these African leaders will turn in the critical 1960's. We do know that their serious concern with the theoretical foundations for the building of a new society has no parallel in the intellectual leaders of "the West." Our epoch is a "birth-time of history" (2) and the contribution of the Africans to thought as well as to revolutions is an integral part of the reconstruction of society on new beginnings.

(1) Sekou Toure's speeches are from those excerpted by Abdullaye Diop in his "Africa's Path In History." See AFRICA SOUTH, April-June 1960, Capetown.

(2) G. W. F. Hegel, PHENOMENOLOGY OF MIND

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Two Voices At UAW Convention

(Continued from Page 1)

fuses to keep up with the speed of the line, he gets two weeks off and finally he may be laid-off altogether. There's nothing I can do. It's demoralizing."

A worker from Ford's Dearborn plant later commented off the floor of the convention. "No one has seen the committeeman for my building since the day before New Year's."

At a caucus meeting held during the first day of the convention to support 30-40-60 a woman worker from the Chrysler Jefferson Plant with 25 years' seniority said: "We can't even get a break. I work right next to a water fountain and I can't even turn around and get a drink."

WOMEN P-Q-X'ED

The sufferings of women workers in automated industry came to the floor of the convention. A woman delegate from Dodge Local 3 reported that though Dodge has employed women workers since 1928, "they're now using all the tricks in the book to kick them out." She reported that in many instances the company has assigned jobs that were high off the ground to the shortest women and have required, despite a state law that prohibits it, that women lift weights well in excess of 25 pounds. "They've taken the lighter jobs and given them to the men, adding them to the work load of the men and wiping out the jobs of the women."

She reported that the company is constantly trying to get women to take voluntary lay-offs, and moving further; "They are trying to P-Q-X them right out of the plant." She said that when a worker has been off ill, he or she must undergo a physical examination to be reinstated. The worker is then given a card which states he or she is Physically Qualified EXcept, and then is listed all the jobs that are forbidden. Often this has meant there is just no job available for the returning worker.

THE UNEMPLOYED

The only concern shown for the unemployed was by the rank-and-file delegates.

The labor bureaucracy got the unemployed diverted from the convention by having a rally for them in Detroit a week before the convention. The rally at the State Fair Grounds was put to political purposes. Reuther said there, "Thank God we have President Kennedy in the White House," although he failed to show that Kennedy had done anything to solve the high unemployment in the nation. Again the picket signs told the story clearest:

"On the job for 27 years — Now without a job — Chrysler 212 and 51," and "Wake up Reuther, the next job you lose may be your own."

THE CONTRACT

"If we had not bothered with these conventions and kept our old contract," said a Chrysler worker, "we would have been better off than with the new-fangled contract which gives all control over production into the hands of management. The best contract was the simple one-page contract that we had when the UAW was first organized. Every worker knew he could better his conditions by striking. Now we are tied down with a contract only lawyers can understand."

WAR AND PEACE

Reuther said not a word in opposition to impending war, but instead pleaded with the Kennedy Administration to understand that the "emergent nations" could not be won to "our way" unless "we first meet the needs of our people at home."

Indeed Reuther fully supports

the expansion of the war machine and is sympathetic to Kennedy's opposition to the shorter work-week. As befits a co-member with Ford in Kennedy's Labor-Management Policy Committee, Reuther explained to the convention that his "support" of the shorter work-week was not an attempt to decrease the nation's production, as Kennedy feared, but only to absorb the unemployed into the labor force. Reuther had the gall to shout: "We are not fighting for more leisure time." Obviously, Kennedy needs only to beckon with war orders, and Reuther will joyfully demand that all work overtime.

In contrast to the UAW president's callousness on war and peace, a young woman worker told a News & Letters reporter: "As soon as I saw on TV that Ford and Chrysler are going to build all those tanks, I thought, they're not going to build them and not use them. When I think of war, I think of my baby. How are they thinking? A reporter on TV said the best thing to do in case of attack is to take enough food for three weeks and go into the basement. I thought to myself, how many people have those provisions, and how many will be alive at all?"

Some Japanese trade unionists were present at the convention, but the only international labor delegation introduced were representatives of the Cuban Trade Union Movement in Exile. A leaflet in their name, signed by Mario Fontella Alfonso, ex-secretary general of the Cuban Agricultural Federation, was distributed to the convention. It read in part:

"We were elected to leadership of the Cuban trade union movement (CTC) by working people in open and democratic conventions in 1959, under the banner of the 'Movement of July 26th,' but when we refused to accept the imposed demand of Castro that we make common cause with the Communists, the Executive Committee of the 25 worker federations, were arbitrarily stripped of their offices, the Minister of Labor designating substitutes for us through decrees of the red dictatorship." 30-40-60

The 30-40-60 (30 hours work for 40 hours pay and retirement at 60) slogan was brought to the convention as a special program by GM Local 45, Amalgamated Local 838, Chrysler Local 122, GM Local 296, GM Local 1045, GM Local 544, Ford Local 1250, Ford Local 600, Local 346 and 350.

It got wide support not because the workers at the convention or in the shops thought that it would solve the problem of the permanent unemployed army that is a feature of Automation, but because it was a start.

In the shops there was in fact opposition to the slogan as one that did not really grapple with the situation. One of the workers summed it up thus:

"I can't see how '30 for 40' will mean putting the unemployed back to work. There are a few companies around Detroit like U.S. Rubber that work that way and they still have lay-offs and shut-downs."

"The company is going mad over production. They'll get 40 hours production out in 30 hours and it won't put a single unemployed person back to work." However, all agreed that you have to begin somewhere and a fight for 30-40-60 is a beginning.

Reuther was well aware of the popularity of the slogan. He said it was a "catchy" slogan, and he knew GM could well afford to pay for 30-40-60. He maneuvered adroitly, saying that he was for the shorter work

Our Life and Times

By PETER MALLORY

10 Million French Workers Squash Military Plot

On Friday, April 21, General Challe seized Algiers in yet one more plot to continue French imperialist rule over Algeria by toppling De Gaulle whom these very conspirators had brought to power in 1958, but whom at this time they opposed. Two days later France heard that these perennial plotters were planning nothing short of an invasion of France itself by the infamous paratroopers.

Despite the fact that De Gaulle asked only for full dictatorial powers and for no demonstrations, thousands of Frenchmen struggled to get uniforms, arms and ammunition to beat off the invaders. The following day no less than 10 million French workers throughout France came out on a general strike of one hour. Workers blocked every French airport and invasion roadway to Paris and demonstrated once and for all where the real power in France lies.

The world's press, especially the American, is now busy giving all credit to De Gaulle and none to the millions of Frenchmen who demonstrated their power. Thereby it will once again lull the world to think the problems have been solved, "the saviour" found. The truth is that the plot took place under the very large nose of De Gaulle.

To pretend that he was not aware of it is self-deception. The generals are his old friends. He has never acted against them or the army in

their numerous plots against France. He has permitted them to spread subversion throughout the army and to organize commands loyal only to themselves.

The First Regiment of the Legion is composed of former members of Rommel's Afrika Korps. These are the patriotic shouters of "Keep Algeria French." The French Foreign Legion in Algiers is 80% German and 45% former Nazi S. S. troopers. If De Gaulle was unaware of this, then the soldiers of the French Air Force were not, for they refused to provide transportation for another "German invasion of France." They flew the empty transport planes to French airfields.

DeGaulle's Sunday speech called for support of his own dictatorial regime. He had no intention of arming the workers or calling for mass activity against the military. It is reported he was furious when he learned that Premier Debre had panicked and had done so. His first act was to assume complete dictatorial powers and to forbid all public demonstrations. The demonstration that saved his regime was thus in express defiance of his commands. He can no longer refuse to recognize this force of millions... nevertheless, he continues his own reactionary ways of "stopping" further revolts of the French Army by some token arrests and continuous "reorganization" of former German troops and its officer corps.

Again the truth is that he is not reorganizing the French Army, of which he himself is the consummate expression. He is not hanging the ex-generals whom he is so contemptuous of in his speeches, but so beholden to in his power.

Despite all arrests he has not even "found" the colons' underground which is at the base of these plots and which continues its work to this day working on the next revolt. Already it has threatened to kill 100 Algerians if De Gaulle dares execute General Challe. Its leaflets speak and its bombs explode every time a new place is mentioned for the meeting with the French Moslem nationalist movement about self-determination. It knows now that De Gaulle is using his latest dictatorial powers against the Left. Thus nothing is really settled and nothing will be until Algeria gets its freedom, and this can only be achieved through the combined actions of the Algerian national revolutionaries and the French proletariat. It is they who saved France from the fascist plot, and only they can resolve the war which has continued ever since the Algerians first asked for self-determination.

The net result of the threatened fascist dictatorship of the generals is the actual semi-fascist dictatorship imposed on France by its alleged "saviour" DeGaulle, who must now reckon with the real power of the French workers.

NOT GUILTY

A Superior Court jury has found Robert Meisenbach, a 23-year-old student at the University of California, "NOT GUILTY" of charges against him growing out of the House Un-American Activities Committee hearings in San Francisco. The verdict puts an end to the claim of the committee that the "riots were planned by communists."

The police claimed that they turned on fire hoses against young girl students and dragged them and kicked them down two flights of marble stairs only after they had been "attacked by the defendants."

The controversial film

"Operation Abolition," sponsored by the committee and the American Legion and other reactionary agencies, is a series of film clips taken by newsmen on various occasions and edited to distort the situation by Fulton Lewis III.

News films taken at the time indicate that the defendant, Mr. Meisenbach, had already been beaten senseless by the police before the police turned on the fire hoses.

Of the 64 students arrested and charged with "inciting a riot," the charges against 63 had to be dropped, and now the one "star" case has been found NOT GUILTY in a court of law, putting the lie

to charges of the Un-American committee.

MAY DAY

The Pope has given his sanction to May Day by designating it "The Feast of St. Joseph the Artisan." This is a new twist to the capitalist habit of finding some other name to celebrate the day which the American workers first designated as the start of the struggle for the 8-hour day.

Both the Communists and the capitalists have done everything in their power ever since to divert the minds of the workers from the real origin of the "holiday"—a general strike of all workers in every country for a shorter working day.

WORKERS BATTLE AUTOMATION

By Charles Denby

Editor of News & Letters



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week, earlier retirement and "a lot more things, too," but rather than spell this out he upped the 30-hour week to the 38-hour week, that would hold "only" during periods of great unemployment. When the "economy got going" the shorter work week would go with it, the 40-hour week would be restored, with overtime scheduled as well. Walter P. Reuther's opposition to what he called a "rigid" program and his "flexibility" of approach is the preparation for a sell-out both to management and the Kennedy Administration. What he forgets is that while he could stifle the voice of the rank-and-file at his convention, that voice of the rank-and-file is the decisive one and will yet have the last say.