

NEWS & LETTERS

'The Root of Mankind Is Man'

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

Race and Class

A copy of Africa Nyaato (Forward), a newsletter from the Gambia, West Africa, has come to my desk and has made me remember many things I have forgotten about the close kinship the Negro feels to the African people.

REMEMBRANCE OF CHILDHOOD

In the early years of my life it was a common thing among Negroes to discuss their relation to those in Africa. Many of the older ones would remember to which tribe in Africa they belonged while the younger ones would not understand their dialect. But it was practically impossible for any Negro not to have a feeling of close kinship as he sat and listened to the stories of slave ships that the old ones told. I can remember my grandmother telling me about how people were put on the block for sale. She told me how she was sold in Virginia while her mother stood screaming. She never saw her mother again.

MUSSOLINI'S ATTACK ON ETHIOPIA

In my adult life the two most outstanding events bringing Africans and Negro Americans closer together were Mussolini's attack on Ethiopia, and the present revolution in Africa which gained so many countries their independence.

In the Depression I was traveling all over the country looking for work. So was everybody else I knew. Yet, next to the question of a job, what Negroes would talk about was Mussolini's attack on Ethiopia and how Africa is always getting the short end of the stick.

THE MIDDLE CLASS NEGRO

Somewhere between that period and up until the great independence movements of the Africans in the 1950's, the middle class Negro began to preach that the Negroes were not really African. They didn't seem to be satisfied just to point to the obvious—that the Negro was American in language and culture and experience. No, they showed they were afraid of the African heritage by talking of Africans as backward, if not outright head-hunters still.

As soon, however, as the Africans began to win their independence, the tune changed. I suspect they found how great the African people were with the help of the State Department because soon thereafter, in 1960, during the Congo crisis, the line between the middle-class Negro and the working-class Negro became very sharp.

THE NEGRO WORKER AND AFRICA

Where the middle-class Negro was quiet as a tomb, the working-class Negro first began to speak his mind during the assassination of Lumumba, lining up solidly behind Lumumba and his nationalist movement. The workers in my shop eagerly followed all developments both in the Congo and in the UN, warmly supporting the demonstrations before that body, holding it responsible for the murder.

One discussion had its comic aspects since it showed that the workers in Detroit knew more about Lumumba than they did about their own trade union leaders. They were discussing conditions in the shop and how the leadership is always selling the worker down the river. A white worker said it was all Meany's fault. A Negro worker asked: "Who's Meany?" But the very worker who did not even know Meany, the president of the AFL-CIO, knew every detail of Lumumba's life from the time he organized the national movement for independence to his murder.

The thing that irritated this Negro worker most was that the American trade union leaders go about telling the Africans how high the standard of living is in America, and how he therefore feels no kinship to the African.

What the bureaucrat fails to tell the Africans is that the car or home the Negro American has, has put him into debt up to his nose for the rest of his life, and that in no case does it mean he does not feel a close relationship to the freedom movement of the Africans.

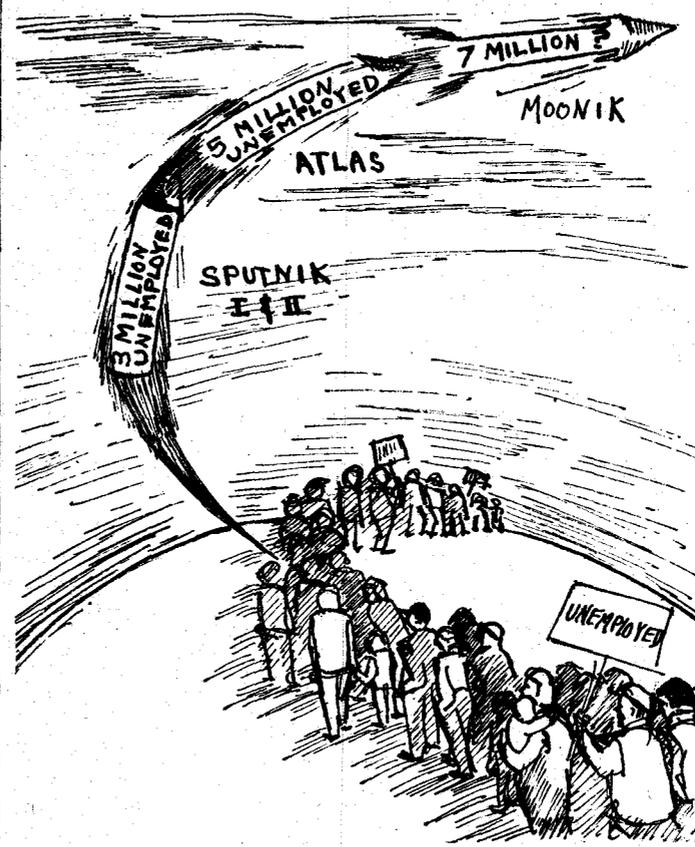
I am not saying that the Negro American would exchange his life in America for one in Africa, though in America too many live on welfare aid. I am saying he has a feeling of unity with the African brothers.

He would like to have a much closer relationship. Unfortunately, some of the African students here, even as some of the African leaders who come to this country on the invitation of the State Department, never get to see the rank-and-file workers. They associate either with the big shots in the government or in the trades unions or in the universities, but not with the Negro people who are the true friends of the African freedom fighters.

It is all the more important therefore to establish people-to-people relationships. I was glad to see in the AFRICA-NYAATO newsletter that it is mainly to be concerned with workers' interests. I hope it will be possible for us to write for each other's papers and thus bring the truth of American workers to Africa, and keep the African developments fresh before the American worker in general and the Negro worker in particular.

The Stock Market Crash And the Drive to War

Not since the crash of 1929 has the stock market plunged to the depth it reached on June 27th, after a steady decline downward since the middle of March. It came as no surprise to the nation's six million unemployed workers that the economy was far from "basically sound." But the skidding stock market prices dramatized the instability of world capitalism, for the Great Depression of 1929 is etched in the consciousness of all even those too young to have lived it.



The nose dive the market took is but a reflection of what workers have known to be true at their place of employment and unemployment, increased Automation and relentless speed-up.

The tax cut proposed by the Kennedy Administration which daily finds it harder to distinguish itself from the Eisenhower Administration, promises to be only a band-aid on a hemorrhaging economy. Already some of the President's economic advisors are predicting a recession in 1963 when the recovery from the recession of 1961 in the words of Walter Lippmann "is already being arrested."

Though the men of the "New Frontier" have corralled labor bureaucrats like Reuther, Meany and McDonald, it hasn't been as easy to round up the rank and file workers. Time lost in strikes during the first five months of this year is up over 50 per cent of time lost during the same period last year.

WORKERS FIGHT FOR A SHORTER WORKDAY

Craft unions are slowly whittling away at the length of the work week. Three major strikes threaten, railroads, airlines, and the aerospace industry. On the railroads and airlines the government has already intervened. The contracts of some 300,000 air and space craft workers expire on July 23rd and if a settlement between the union and companies isn't forthcoming Labor Secretary Goldberg promises immediate action.

At the United Automobile Workers Convention in May, Goldberg warned workers that a strike in the aerospace industry would not be tolerated and reiterated on July 15th that if settlements are not negotiated, he would welcome legislation prohibiting both airline strikes and strikes in the aerospace industry.

Kennedy forces have shown themselves as ready, willing and able to use the Taft-Hartley as any of their predecessors. Not only that. They are behaving as if the trades unions are a part of the state machinery and should "follow the line" at all times, even as the trades unions behind the Iron Curtain are compelled to do.

The current unemployment and economy stagnation is by no means restricted to the United States. The Western European economic rate of growth is also slowing and reveals Adenauer and de Gaulle attempting to solve by political means what they could not achieve economically. They too are faced with the same harsh economic laws of capitalism that confront this country.

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Deny Negroes Skilled Jobs At Chrysler Highland Park

DETROIT—There has never been a Negro or a Negro apprentice, assigned to the skilled division in the Chrysler Highland Park Plant. This is a very, very unfair situation that people should know about because it affects many groups.

This problem has existed for years but no group has been able to do anything about it yet, because it's become a matter of passing the buck. When we ask the Union (Local 490) to do something about it, the local passes it to the International, International passes it to the national government, and nothing is ever accomplished. We end up each time in the same place, back at the beginning point.

Discrimination in the skilled division is a problem that is tied in with so many different things. We always find that there is an escape valve to excuse why nothing is done. We have to break this situation down because it isn't only a Negro problem; there are many workers that are qualified but they can't get in.

MUST ACT NOW

They use the seniority rule for promotions in the plant, but they waive this rule and even hire people from the outside for the skilled division while our workers who are on the seniority list are laid off.

We made some progress in up-grading during the war when

they needed skilled labor, but now with Automation that's all stopped. We've never reached full employment since the war ended.

It's not only the problem of getting a Negro into the skilled division, but to humanize the program of the skilled trades so anyone can get in and to stabilize full employment. The first thing we have to do to break this down is eliminate discrimination by getting Negro workers into the skilled division and getting Negro apprentices assigned. The union leaders don't admit that this is a fact but everyone knows it is.

Correction

We wish to correct the error which appeared in the second paragraph of the article from the Gambia, page 3, of our last issue. The second sentence of this paragraph should have read: "The PPP is the opposition party here which is modeling itself on Pan-Africanism and bases itself on the most exploited and most numerous of the tribes, the Mandinkas."

On the Inside

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In Britain

News Media, Management Try to Brainwash Workers

London, England — It is said of some workers that they stage a token strike because they are too scared to have a real bark. The recent action of many Ford workers in voting against even a token strike would make many outsiders wonder if the Ford workers have all changed.

One of the reasons for such a deviation of their usual behavior lies in the huge campaign of brainwashing by the press, radio and TV during the last 10 years or so. Distortion of facts by the daily press has been notorious.

NEWS DISTORTED

For example, a wage claim would be reported: "Engineers Demand £1,000,000", whilst a dividend to shareholders states: "This dividend amounts to less than 1/16 of a penny on each packet of sugar" (this is how one sugar refiner's dividend was explained).

Similarly, one Ford worker's wage claim was reported as: "Ford Workers Want Another £500,000—Danger of Inflation", whilst the Ford shareholder's dividend: "Fabulous Ford does it again, dividend increased by 2%." Of course, omitting that the shareholder's increase meant a jump of 45% in their incomes. In announcing the shareholder's good news, the figure of £1,800,000 was mentioned by one newspaper, whilst another commented: "This reflects the nation's financial stability . . ."

TV plays, films, etc., show

Beauty Is As Beauty Does

Last June I started a beautician's course in a school in Hamtramick, Michigan, which is known for being very prejudiced against Negroes.

As I got to know the girls in my class, and my attitude toward the Freedom Riders was made known to them, I became branded as a "n - - - lover!" Reactionary talk goes on about me all the time, some that I am not supposed to hear and some that I am meant to hear.

Some of the girls have begun to respect my wish that this kind of foul talk should not be used in front of me, but that does not stop them from taking an active part in discussions behind my back.

Of all the talk and a few demonstrations against me the one that got me maddest of all was when a Negro girl came into the school to have her hair washed and waved. (Just as barber colleges invite men in off the street to have their hair cut, so too do the beauty schools invite women in.) She was left sitting while other women who came in after she did were taken care of. Because I am in a beginners class, I am not supposed to be waiting on customers, but because no one else would take the girl, I did. I washed her hair and then directed her to a chair where one of the girls was obliged to finish the job. She gave me a dirty look and further showed her hostility by wearing a thin pair of rubber gloves which are used mainly for dyeing hair.

Beautician Student
Michigan

strike leaders as ex-criminals; in the pay of Moscow; determined to wreck the nation's economy. All of these, together, are aimed at reducing fine men to willing wage slaves.

TV INTERVIEWS FIXED

One trick of TV interviewers "covering" a strike is to say: "Now we'll ask one of the men his views."

The man interviewed will declare: "I'm against this here strike. It's all the fault of the Communists we are out. I'm losing money. We are all losing money. I say let's go back to work."—or words to that effect.

Any effort to trace these people afterward is rather abortive. However, one man was traced once. It turned out he wasn't a Ford worker at all. He was a bus driver, reading from a prepared script. He put on a real good act.

Another ploy is the "housewife" stunt. She urges the men at a public meeting to go back to work, and then disappears forever. It will always fool new men; tricks like these are always green to them.

DIVIDE WORKER GROUPS

Ford management is also active. The old system of "divide and rule" is well practiced. Constant breaking up of groups and dividing the men into different departments is the usual tactic. The loss of production entailed is accepted as well-worth the weakening of organized groups. The herding of militants, like cattle, to the foundry to do the worst kind of manual labour going is normal.

Many men have suggested that the Shop Stewards are bought or favoured, but these same grouse rarely attend shop meetings. However, the Shop Stewards are partly to blame for this slackness of organization. Propaganda is sparse—and often ineffective.

"SCHEDULE" AIDED STRIKERS

In the old days, the Ford Worker was published and distributed regularly. Every department had its "schedule". This schedule was a list of farms in surrounding areas with dates assigned. Thus, if a strike was called during such and such a month—"pea picking", another month—"potato picking." August and September were hop-picking months. This "schedule" permitted men on strike to line up alternative casual jobs while out of work.

Another usual practice of the men was called "Strike Insurance." This entailed saving up one hour's pay each week. So when a strike started, the men had the first week or so clear of money worries. In this atmosphere, the annual strike was like another holiday—an event to look forward to.

Now, thanks to the union officials' fawning attitude to the management's "get tough" tactics and connivance with them, such strong organisation is virtually non-existent.

NEED ORGANISATION

Still, the Shop Stewards could do a lot to rebuild organisation. At present one could work at Fords for several weeks before seeing a Shop Steward's pamphlet.

As for the Shop Steward's bulletin, the Ford Worker, rumour has it that it has been "taken over" by the management. Some men have seriously considered sending along a packet of All-Bran—to ensure regularity.

Miner Works Off Benefits

West Virginia — I was talking with a miner who has been laid off for two years. He is married and has three children.

I hadn't seen him for quite a while, but heard he was working for the county on the roads. I thought he had a job.

He set me straight when I asked him if he would go back to the mine if he was recalled. "I'll have to," he said, "unless you have a job you can give me. The work I'm doing on the road is what I get from the Aid to Dependent Children program. I get \$124 a month for the family—and I work this \$124 off on the road. That's the 'job' you thought I had."

I asked him if he had seen the Dave Brinkley TV program last month which dealt with the W. Va. job retraining program, and asked him what he thought about the idea of retraining. He said, "It's o.k. for a young guy who has a high school education and a chance to move someplace where there might be work. But where's there any work? If a guy can retrain, he ought to have some place to go. But I'm too old to go into that, don't have much education, and I just couldn't pack up and go anyplace. I don't have enough money to know for sure that there's going to be food on the table for my family, let alone have any money to move anyplace."

COAL IN WHITE HOUSE?

I mentioned that Brinkley pointed out that since Jackie Kennedy mentioned she had bought glasses at a Morgantown glass factory, that the factory was working three shifts to keep up with orders.

"That may be good for those glass workers in that plant," he replied, "but it sure doesn't help us miners here. What are we supposed to do who have been laid off for years? Maybe Kennedy ought to come out with something saying he uses coal in the White House. Only I kind of doubt that anything would come out of that," he laughingly added.

He said he had gotten a job at a glass factory (not the one that Jackie mentioned), but it didn't last long. "I worked for two weeks," he recalled, "and I unloaded one boxcar of sand a day. But when the two weeks were up, and I was due for a raise, the boss fired me."

HIRE 3, FIRE 105

I asked him what the situation was now in the mines. "If it's changed at all, it's for the worse," he said. "In one mine they hired about three men. In another one, they laid off 105. It just looks like there's not going to be anything doing so far as the mines are concerned. Even the mines working are on short weeks. At my mine, those still working have been getting three-and four-day weeks for a long time. Last week was the first time they got five days for months."

JAIL USA PACIFISTS

U.S.A. PACIFISTS JAILED

A federal judge in California has sentenced three pacifists who tried to sail into the atom bomb test site in the Pacific to 6 months in jail. The men sailed only 25 miles out of San Francisco, before the coast guard picked them up and jailed them. They belong to an organization called the "Committee for Non-Violent Action."

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

Uncle Toms Don't Know Negroes

I have seen and heard of many things that have been put into action since the Negro people asked the United States to give them their rights. But they don't seem to think that the Negro people need their rights. They are always running up to these Uncle Tom Negro leaders, and each tells them that he doesn't see where "his" people are ready for their freedom.

The white man seems to think that these Negro leaders are right because they use those crazy words about Negroes not being ready for their rights. These so-called Negro leaders never even talk with any of the people to see what they have to say on the Negro problem. These leaders are afraid to discuss this with the Negroes because they might show what a mistake the leaders make against their own people just to hold a job with the white man.

PROBLEMS GET WORSE

The white man thinks what these leaders say is true, but he also doesn't know what a mistake he is making by not trying to settle these things with the Negro people and the working people.

Today you can hear more people, white and black, talking about how there will be a revolution one of these days because things aren't getting any better. The Negro people's

problems are getting nowhere and working conditions are getting nowhere. We can lie down and think and dream of what we can do to help make this a better place and a better world to live in, in peace.

All you can hear across the back yard fence is that we got to fight to get things back to where we started from.

'HERE IN AMERICA'

It seems the President doesn't have time to think about the Negro question and working people's problems yet, for he is too busy trying to go 'take over some other countries to starve them just as they are doing to some of the people here in America. Still they go on saying this is the best place to live—here in America.

How can it be true when all these years have come to pass, and Negro citizens are without their freedom, and workers are without their jobs. And the Union is without any real Negro leaders. Almost all white staffed, no blacks are allowed.

Everything must come through the white man's hands before you can live in peace—and then some people say that these white leaders are not going out of the world backwards. There is nothing left to do but to fight for what we want and that is for Negro rights, better working conditions, and peace for all.

Few Turn Out for Randolph Talk

LOS ANGELES—A Philip Randolph, President of the Sleeping Car Porter's Union and an AFL-CIO national vice-president, is on a national tour to install some life into the Negro American Labor Council (NALC). He addressed a meeting in Los Angeles on Saturday, June 23, following meetings in Spokane, Seattle and San Francisco.

He said the union movement, though it has some well-meaning people and even liberals, is also full of comfortable job holders. Some functionaries are Negroes, but they are given special key positions and good salaries in order to speak low on racial discrimination. Very few Negroes are seen at union conventions as elected delegates not functionaries, and able therefore to speak out.

He called for organized activity among the 1.5 million Negroes in the AFL-CIO, stating that with automation and the new mechanizations, thousands of jobs in the basic industries are lost each year. Further, for every job available, a white man has twice the possibility of getting it as a Negro, because both racial discrimination and lack of opportunity to acquire needed skills deny jobs to Negroes.

Randolph's conclusion was that the NALC was desperately needed to pressure organized labor into giving the Negro status in labor, and give him the economic base he needs to attain freedom. Only the Negro himself now in organized labor can achieve this, he ended.

The NALC was originally organized from the 'top' with control by men on labor payrolls and with labor titles and offices. Its activity was at first somewhat secretive in nature and in select hands. That sort

of background offered poor nourishment for the individual self-activity of people which Randolph now seeks.

There were less than 50 people present in the Amalgamated Needle Trades Hall to hear him, although chairs were set up for several hundred.

Plant Speed-Up—Russian Style

Los Angeles—When women work in smaller factories with men, the company tries to divide them from the men and uses one against the other.

I've worked in big factories where the company tried to do the same thing with Negroes, but they never succeeded when they all worked in the same classification. The only way they could make this work was when they divided us into skilled and unskilled.

U.S. STAKHANOVITES

Now that I work with men and women in a smaller shop, I am surprised to see the Stakhanovite system, which is used in Russia, used equally by American industry. In Russia, the Stakhanovites are the ones who get the best equipment, work a job under "perfect" conditions for a short time, and set the quota for the rest of the workers. The only catch is, they don't have to keep up the tremendous pace they set. They are "rewarded" by being given a much easier job to do.

Well, where I work now, that's exactly the role a few of the women play. They set the quota for some other worker, then they are given an easier job to do. There is naturally a lot of bitterness over this.

As I say, I think this is a practice done mostly in smaller places. When I worked in aircraft this didn't happen.

Speed-up Kills Two Workers At Chrysler Highland Park

Two workers on the glass job (Vent Wing Dept.) were killed by Automation and speed-up within one week this month at the Chrysler Highland Park plant. The official report will simply say they died of heart attacks, but the workers know better.

On the glass job, a worker moulds the chemically treated rubber around the glass to keep water and air out of the car. Workers said the combination of the tremendous speed-up and the chemicals breathed by the workers on the job weakened them so much that they just keeled over.

FOUGHT SPEED-UP

The glass job has a history at the plant. About four years ago, the company, which had this job dispersed among several plants, centralized the operation at the Highland Park plant.

From the beginning, the workers fought the company's attempts to impose inhuman work quotas on production. Company time-study men, threats and intimidation could not break the determination of the workers to resist the speed-up.

UNION DOES COMPANY'S JOB

The company, realizing that it could not get the speed-up by itself, agreed to let Reuther's time-study specialist, Kermit Meade, time the job last year. Meade did a United Nations job; he left everything up in the air. But while his production figure wasn't quite as high as the company's, it was sure far above what the workers had been able to maintain. So actually, the company got the union representative to do a job it couldn't do — speed-up the workers.

There are a number of pressures on the glass job workers. In this department there are tremendous work fluctuations. During model changeover, there is a great demand for this work, and workers work around the clock, putting in fantastic overtime. Just at the point where a worker feels like things are going pretty good, a sudden lay-off can knock out most of the people working in the department. Some might be called back after a few weeks or months off, many others may not be called back until the next model changeover.

That common denominator—fear—is always used by the company. A favorite ruse of foremen is to tell the workers: "I tell you, we've just got to raise production or we're going to lose the job contract. Other plants are putting the work out faster and cheaper than we are. We stand to lose this job. You'll all be laid off—and God knows when you'll ever be called back."

MENTAL ILLNESS RISES

This constant drive for more production, coupled with Automation, that forces workers to

operate like robots, has other pressures that produce other effects.

"I've never seen as many workers break down mentally to the point where they need psychiatric care as I have the past year," said one Chrysler Highland Park worker. "Every worker in the plant knows what's causing it: man just wasn't made to do the kind of work that Automation demands. The hand-writing is on the wall—Automation, the way it's used by the company, will crush us unless we crush it."

"And the union," he continued, "operates in a delayed dilemma, salving its conscience by saying we ought to do this or that—but doing nothing. Among the men the union representatives are tigers; before the company they are paper tigers."

School vs. Life

Detroit — It's strange, and a little frightening, to see the brainwashing power of our school system — and especially in the colleges. Now my son had always lived with me; I worked and my wife worked, so he knew from listening to us talk about our struggles that we didn't have any use for capitalism at all.

But then he graduated from high school when he was 18, and went away to college. After four years in that school, you'd never know him as the same person at all. I don't mean that we didn't expect some changes—that's just bound to happen in the course of events, let alone when you're surrounded by the influences of college life. I mean the change in his philosophy and attitude. He just lauded our capitalist system to the skies, saying how great it was, and how glad he was that he had the opportunity to find out all about the way the system operates and why it is as great as it is.

But then he got a job, something he'd never had before. And his attitude slowly began to change. He'd ask questions about all the seeming opportunities and benefits to be derived from the world for everyone, yet when it came down to it, so many are deprived of even the bare necessities of life.

At first he could see these contradictions where they applied to others, then pressures and forces began to affect him personally.

Recently he said to me, "I just don't understand it. In school, it all seemed so clear, and I was so sure. But almost everything that I have experienced contradicts what I learned. Now my teachers were educated men and were recognized educators. Could they really have been so completely wrong? Isn't there anything good about capitalism?"

I told him: "Yes, they were completely wrong; and no, there is just nothing good about capitalism."

Early Union Try Fails; N. Y. Cabbie Says Need Now Greater Than Ever

New York—If you happen to get into a New York taxicab, and the driver appears to be a little on the grouchy side, there's probably a good reason for it. Not only is he subjected to the most horrible traffic conditions in the world in order to get you to your destination, but he has to contend with the fact of working in an open shop with a "shapeup" system and many police acting as the industrial relations division of the Taxi Owners Association.

A cab driver has no job security at all. He doesn't know from one day to the next whether there will be a cab for him to take out on that shift. He works strictly on a commission basis, and a large part of his earnings are dependent on the gratuities—"tips"—of his passengers, so there is no way of determining what there will be at the end of the day's work.

ORGANIZING FAILS

For a number of years, there have been various attempts and partial attempts to organize the drivers to give them a measure of self-defense against some of the most aggressive employers in the city. Each one of these attempts has failed for one reason or another.

It may well be asserted that the fleet owners, in their association, with the amount of money and political influence they wield, were able to overcome or undermine the efforts of the workers to organize.

There are 35,000 taxi drivers in the City of New York; there are 11,672 taxis, 4,000 of which are independently owned, by owner-drivers. The rest are divided among the fleets, which vary in size from two to 500 cabs.

All of the fleets are banded together in an Association, and they have virtual control over the thoughts and activities of the independent owners and their associations.

TEAMSTERS FALL SHORT

The last attempt to organize the taxi drivers was conducted by the Teamsters' Union, well known during the last few years for their thoroughness in organizing efforts. However, when it came to the Labor Board elections in the industry, they made no effort to conduct a real campaign to win them.

In those few garages where elections were won, they didn't follow up to obtain working agreements with the employers. Thus, where they were successful in spite of their lack of effort, they threw out the bargaining rights of the workers.

Today, with the exception of some "independent unions" whose "independence" is questionable, there is no organization among the thousands of taxi drivers in the City of New York. The conditions of the drivers might very well be compared to those on the waterfront, only the situation among the cab drivers is far worse. Although there may be corruption on the waterfront, at least the waterfront workers have a minimum wage, certain guarantees of employment, and some form of representation. The cabbies have nothing.

POLICE CONTROL

Cabbies are subjected to complete control by the Police Dept. on the street, and if any alleged violation occurs and they are given a ticket by a

policeman or hack inspector, they are tried—not in a court which at least has the appearance of impartiality—but directly by the Police Dept. through the Hack Bureau.

The man who gives you a summons sits as your judge and jury. There is no statute of limitations affecting the cabbie. A driver who is brought in on any offense — "overcharge" or "extra route"—is subjected to review; a violation that he might have committed in 1936 is brought in as evidence of his criminal nature.

Whereas in Traffic Court in N.Y. State, any offence is wiped off the books after 18 months, this does not hold true in the taxi industry—after 18 years or even 28 years.

CABBIES CHECKED

To obtain a Hack License, you must undergo a thorough investigation of all your past activities, so that by and large men employed as drivers can be considered anything but dubious or criminal.

Most drivers are family men with responsibilities who need their jobs in order to live. This does not prevent the fleet owners from encouraging—in spite of regulations to the contrary — a large number of part-time drivers who don't depend on the industry for a livelihood.

The fleet owners use them as a means of bargaining down the position of their regular drivers—on whom they depend, none-the-less, to keep the cabs in the streets and bring in their fabulous profits.

There is no health plan, no pension and no vacation in the industry as a whole. In a few garages, there are some semblances of these welfare benefits, but they are petty and derisory compared with what is normal in other industries in the N.Y. area.

OWNERS WANT RATE RAISE

Although the industry is healthy from the boss' point of view, the fleet owners are attempting to get a ten-cent increase in the rates. They have been unable to do this because they are unable to prove to the satisfaction of the people that any of this will go to the improvement of the condition and welfare of the workers in the industry.

It's true that our rates in N.Y. City are far less than rates anywhere else in the country, and they could stand to be raised. However, under no condition should the owners be given this unless there is an organization—a union—to insure that the workers get the same health and welfare protection that is enjoyed by workers in other industries.

The fleet owners have a black list. All former activists in the organizing attempts are unable to obtain employment. Many of them have to work for individual owners who double-shift their cars.

DRIVERS FED UP

Any attempt to organize is immediately met by leaflets put out by the fleet owners screaming "Racketeers" and "Communists" in order to frighten the workers into submission. However, conditions in the industry have reached such an impasse that anybody with real courage could walk in and organize it overnight.

The workers are fed up, and there's a large element of younger men—new to the industry—who haven't had the

experience of past failures to discourage them.

There is a natural militancy amongst the cabbies who know that when they man the cabs at night they will be confronted with hold-ups and violence on the streets and with the police who have no respect for them as human beings. There is a lot of pent-up emotions among the drivers that would find a real release and ready militancy in an attempt to organize the industry.

READY FOR ORGANIZATION

What all drivers say when they are approached for organization is, "When do we go on strike?" The strike is not the difficult question in this industry. What has to be done is to build a basic organization to keep the workers together and to make the strike a success, to fight the vicious lying propaganda of the owners and their agents in the industry.

This requires strong organization, and as things stand now, without it there is no hope for the workers in the industry.

The garages in which the fleets are housed have the lowest paid, most abysmally exploited mechanics and garage helpers in any part of the city, and they are ready to join at the drop of a hat in any organization that will fight to improve their lot.

CABBIES RESENT SHAKEDOWNS

The time is coming when the drivers must get together and put an end to the shakedowns by dispatchers in the garages and all other forms of racketeering imposed upon them with the knowledge of the fleet-owners.

The cabbie is not only subjected to shakedowns by so-called cashiers and dispatchers in the garage in order to hold on to his job, but he is put in a favorable position if he happens to play a number or to borrow money from a loan-shark that "happens" to hang around the garages or bets a horse with the right bookie who is also "accidentally" around the garage.

Cabbies have their families to support and their jobs to protect, and they will have no protection against organized crime, organized owners, and a well-organized police department unless they themselves have an organization to fight for their welfare, and a voice in matters that concern them. The sooner this job is done, the better.

There is every reason to believe that in spite of the reputation of Hoffa as a real go-getter in organization, there was a real failure in New York. Somebody was reached, whether it was Hoffa or Johnny O'Rourke, his chief lieutenant in New York, nobody knows, although there is much evidence of collusion. But "collusion" is hard to prove in a situation where workers are prevented from getting organized, even where they have a real desire to get organized.

However, we know from our own experience that we were let down and let down horribly, but this is not going to stop us. It's up to us to begin to take matters into our own hands.

—N.Y. Cabbie

WORKERS BATTLE AUTOMATION

By Charles Denby
Editor of News & Letters



The Workers' Answer To The Problems Created By Automation:

- UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE NEGRO
- WAR AND THE H-BOMB
- YOUTH THE WORLD OVER



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Editorial

On Junketeers Reuther and Meany

AN OPEN LETTER TO EUROPEAN AND AFRICAN WORKERS

For the first time, no less than 39 officials of the UAW are being sent to Europe to study the effect of the Common Market on the condition of workers there. Along with this news came word that Walter Reuther, UAW President, is also taking a European junket and will attempt to raise the wages of the European workers. The very same week's news also reported that AFL-CIO President Meany was in West Berlin to attend a meeting of the International Conference of Free Trade Unions (ICFTU), which is concerned also with African Trade Unions.

This special group of news items led to a lively discussion in our shop, which I feel I should, in turn, report to you, our European and African brothers.

THE GIMMICK OF THE BUREAUCRACY

As one worker put it: "Every worker I know is asking how is it possible that Reuther can be concerned with European workers and their conditions when here in America, he has helped the companies to exploit the very life out of the workers in the UAW. When he says he wants to improve their wages, what he really means is that he will work out some gimmick with those European corporations so that by paying the workers a few nickels more per hour, they can double their production standards and their profits without additional help. That's what Reuther means about bringing European workers' wages in line with those of the American workers."

REUTHER—MASTER OF SUBSTITUTION

This is the warning that American workers want to give their European brothers: Watch out for this master of substitution. After 25 years of experience with him, the American workers know him well.

In 1960, Reuther came out with a Profit-Sharing Plan. The auto workers didn't want any parts of it. They were willing to agree with Reuther that the companies were making plenty of profit, and that the workers who produced it should also share it. But under the plan they could see what the company would try to do: Pit workers against each other by agitating faster workers to speed-up slower workers in order to make "profits" to share with the company. In the end, Reuther wound up only with a little more SUB and a few more pennies—because by this time the auto corporations had introduced Automation on a full scale and no longer needed workers to force other workers to produce faster. Now the machine itself set the pace. Hundreds of thousands of auto workers were laid-off to swell the already vast ranks of the unemployed, at the same time that production figures rose higher than ever with one worker producing what two or three had produced before.

By 1961 the unemployed and employed alike raised the slogan of "30 for 40"—30 hours work for 40 hours pay—not as a real solution but as a start. Reuther managed to twist this into something he called the "flexible work-week." By today in Detroit, the majority of those still working are being forced to work 10 to 12 hours a day, at the same time that over 100,000 still walk the streets jobless.

After the last contract settlements, which Reuther once more tried to confine to pennies, the auto workers made it clear through massive walk-outs that their local demands for some improvements in the intolerable working conditions were national demands. Reuther substituted for this the "great victory" of retaining the 24 minute relief period! One worker said: "They tell us that the British workers have a much lower standard of living than we do, but I have been told that they still have their tea-break at work. Before the 1960 contract most UAW workers had a 6 minute break every hour. Now that has been cut in half to 3 minutes, and in some shops, it is just plain zero, without time to even use the rest-room. Some workers have been fired for taking time to do so. I wonder what could be a lower standard for living than that?"

THE SEPARATION OF STATE AND UNION

As for Meany and his speeches from the ICFTU beamed toward Africa, it is important to note that he appears as a leader of the free trade unions best when the unions he is talking about are others than his own. Thus, while the principle of the ICFTU which stands for African nationalism, but is firmly opposed to the merger of the unions with the state apparatus, is a principle which the African trade unionists quite correctly applaud, what the American workers have discovered is that there is a big difference between the word and the deed.

The same American labor bureaucracy that now is all for the sharp separation between the free trade unions and the state in Africa, willingly handcuffed the workers in America with a no-strike pledge during World War II. Now, even without a pledge, they act primarily as the obedient, well-trained watchdogs for the Kennedy Administration's Labor Secretary Goldberg—working swiftly to break all spontaneous wild-cats in any industry and "get the workers back on the job."

The principle of separation of free trade unions from the state apparatus is not a principle men like Meany or Reuther could possibly teach any worker anywhere. Nor do American workers need any lessons in international solidarity from anyone. To American workers, international solidarity means workers of the world united, not for the purposes of more exploitation, but for the purpose of ending exploitation once and for all.

—Charles Denby

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Readers'

THE NEGRO STRUGGLE

When one sees the photograph of the brutal and inhuman slaying of the Muslim, Ronald Stokes and after reading how the police wounded 16 other Muslims by shooting down innocent and unarmed human beings the question arises in your mind just what kind of a world do we live in.

Attorney General Robert Kennedy when speaking to some of the darker races during his recent tour of Asia would boast about "our" democratic society and how many Negroes here had been appointed to high Federal positions under this Administration. When he met strong opposition he would ask what is it you do not like about America?

As far as I have been able to find out none of those Negroes holding these high government posts have uttered a word against this O.A.S. and Nazi type brutal killing. What would Robert Kennedy answer if those people he spoke to said "the inhuman treatment of Negroes in Mississippi, Georgia, Alabama, Louisiana and California, that's what I don't like."

Auto Worker
Detroit

Many people I spoke with felt that if the various organizations involved, NAACP, ministers, CORE, and Muslims had stuck to the point of the police brutality, instead of each being afraid of being used by the Muslims, and the Muslims actually using the killing for membership drives, there would have been a good chance of getting rid of Police Chief Parker.

Old Timer
Los Angeles

The police in their defense of their brutality say that the Muslims teach hatred of the whites. I saw where in answer to this the Muslim paper carried pictures of lynchings of Negroes and mob action of whites against Negroes and rightly asked "Who Hates Who?"

Those men were not shot down because they were Muslims as such. It was because they are Negroes. The police knew they could hide behind the Muslim line. It was not because the Muslims teach hatred of whites. No police have shot down KKKers or White Citizen Council members and they not only teach hate but carry out their inhuman treatment against Negroes.

This type of white hatred against the Negro people has been going on for a couple of hundred years in this country. It is no wonder that the Muslims attract so large a membership.

Negro Worker
Detroit

At the NAACP meeting held on the same day and time as the anti-police-brutality rally here, the main point on the agenda was the anniversary of the Supreme Court decision regarding segregated schools, but nothing was said on what could or should be done to stop the police from shooting any Negro they please.

The one interesting moment in the meeting was when arrangements were being made to send a delegation to Atlanta, Georgia, to the NAACP convention by Greyhound bus. The reporter kept calling the bus a Freedom Bus. One man from the audience said not to call it that, as they were not going there to "stir those people down there up and cause trouble." Another man answered, "You can call it whatever you want to, but 'those people down there' will make it a Freedom Rider Bus for you, whether you want it or not!" The audience roared and applauded.

Reader
Los Angeles

At a large Muslim rally held in Detroit recently they not only separated the Muslim women from the men but they also separated the professional people such as doctors, lawyers, etc. from others. Muslim separation seems to be not only of Negro from white but along class lines as well.

It is only when the working class as a whole is united that the Los Angeles Police Force or any other police force will not be able to hide behind any smoke screen hoping to use Negro against Negro and white against Negro who they hope to administer their brutal treatment upon.

Chrysler Worker
Detroit

When Carpenter made his historic flight around the earth, he told reporters it was "easier than a bus ride." Every Freedom Rider in the country agreed with him on that!

Freedom Fighter
Detroit

LEADERS AND RANKS

Labor Secretary Goldberg is supposed to have a great record by now for settling all the strikes he's encountered since Kennedy's regime started.

I'd like to know if anybody has ever heard one word from him about the issues involved in any strike he has supposedly "settled." All I have ever heard him issue are demands to get the men back on the job while the company and union negotiate. Nothing so negotiated has ever come out in favor of the workers so far as I can see. And not one of our so-called labor "leaders" has uttered a word of criticism about him, either. They just jump the minute he whistles.

Disgusted
Detroit

They say that the Ford workers' standards must be brought up to G.M.'s. Then that the Chrysler workers' standards must be brought in line with Ford's. And every week you can hear workers from each of these companies saying that their particular company claims all the others are ahead of it in production standards per man. At the same time, the union contract is worked out whereby the workers in different auto plants get different wage rates.

And the union leadership

that lets this sort of thing go on now wants to help negotiate some "improvements" for the European workers. Heaven help them!

Auto Worker,
Detroit

Your article, "Lewis Kicks the Pail Over" in the last issue, made me recall when I had to go into a small hand-loading mine after I got laid off from Consol's big mine.

I really had to scrape. It was supposed to be a union mine, but that was all a joke. The only thing union about it was that the operator paid into the UMW Welfare Fund. Our wages and conditions didn't even come close to the union standards. And I was lucky to work two or three days a week.

I'm getting a pension now, but you sure can't live on \$75 a month. Our pension was just cut to that, from \$100. I'm just lucky that I'm able to get a disability pension on top of that. Otherwise I just couldn't make out.

Ex-Miner
West Virginia

There is something tied up with the stock market gyrations and Marx's theory of value. Facing the Common Market the capitalists are looking for higher productivity and in capitalism that means faster machines and more Automation. It is because they refuse to look at the basic cause of these "crises"—not in the market, but in the factories themselves—that nobody can explain them. Nobody, that is but a Marxist.

Humanist
Los Angeles

They fought some bloody battles when the union was first organizing the garment industry to get the union in and to get rid of piecework. But now that the union is in, they brought back piecework under a new name—"incentive."

I saw a TV program on a garment factory bargaining for their new contract with the union. They use the Stakhanovite system, too, in determining how much the garment is going to cost and what the worker is going to produce to earn his "incentive."

They get the fastest worker to sew up the piece, on the best machine, under the best conditions, and whatever she produces in an hour is the quota! Imagine what a new worker on an old machine has to sew in order to get "incentive."

And then the owner had the nerve to joke and say that when they contracted for a certain dress it had four button holes, but now it was redesigned to only three, so he said the union "owed him 25,000 button holes because he had not lowered the wages accordingly."

Committee Member
Los Angeles

NEW READERS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

I got my first issue of N&L today—the May issue. The UAW report was very

Views

interesting. I felt the Youth page was a bit juvenile, but the article called "Only Workers Know" was very good . . .

I enclose \$1 to cover my sub.

Student
California

* * *

As you know, it was the pamphlet **Freedom Riders Speak For Themselves** which introduced me to **News & Letters**. I saw a sub blank on the pamphlet and so I subscribed.

After having read only a couple of issues, I think what impresses me most about the paper, is that it tells me of conditions of work, especially in the Detroit factories, of which I know absolutely nothing, and which are completely alien to me. I have no other way of learning about these things except through reading **News & Letters**.

New Supporter
California

* * *

You cannot put me on your subscription list. After reading the sample matter you sent I agree with your claim that "You can't find this information anywhere else."

I am interested in as nearly objective as possible opinions by educated people with personal integrity and not a bunch of belly-achers griping because the sun shines on week-days as well as week-ends, and on the employers as well as the employees.

Your paper reads like a love-lorn column for paranooids.

Reader
Eau Gallie, Florida

* * *

Keep up the wonderful job you are doing. You have many friends in South America who are happy to see your publications because it is a face of North America they never knew existed before.

New Supporter
From the South

* * *

I didn't think an organization like yours existed—one that prints exactly what an ordinary worker tells or writes, and prints it exactly as he says it. The guys in my shop could hardly believe it, either. They are waiting to see if it can be true.

Chrysler Worker
Detroit

* * *

THE POLITICAL LETTER

The New York Committee for a World-Wide General Strike for Peace has issued a second "call" from Nov. 5th to Nov. 11. I see your point about this "brainstorm" as you called it in the Feb. 12 issue of the **Weekly Political Letter**. ". . . the response to it would have meant the creation of a pre-revolutionary situation . . ." Viewing it from that aspect, I would agree with you that it is an abuse of the general strike.

On the other hand, every means should be made use of. This self-appointed elite lives in a world of fantasy. They have no conception of the "real" world. For the most part, those involved in the Peace Movement are

drawn into it through social clicks rather than any rational choosing. As I see it, unless there is a spontaneous feeling, this second "call" will end up like the first — a flop.

Student
Illinois

* * *

Thank you for the list of publications I requested and the sample copy of your **Weekly Political Letter**. Please send me one copy of each of the following, for which I enclose one dollar. **People of Kenya Speak For Themselves** and the three **Weekly Political Letters** entitled "African Revolutions at the Crossroads", "Theoreticians at the Crossroads," and "Japan's New Left of Intellectuals and Workers."

New Reader
Wisconsin

* * *

We shall be grateful if you will send us the publication: **News and Letters, Weekly Political Letter No. 32** through present issue. Kindly inform us of the charge.

Library, U. of M.
Michigan

* * *

Editor's Note: While our limited supply lasts, we will be happy to send interested readers copies of our **Political Letters**, by Raya Dunayevskaya, at the cost of 20 cents per copy, plus 5 cents for postage. A list of letters still available, which cover every critical world situation over the past year, will be furnished upon request.

SOME QUESTIONS ON THE NEGRO STRUGGLE—

Alderwoman Vel Phillips has introduced a fair housing ordinance here to the city council. It is based on the principle of open occupancy both in renting and selling, and is vigorously opposed both by Republicans and by Mrs. Phillips' fellow Democrats. This is not so surprising. What is new here is that rank and file Negroes are also opposed to the ordinance.

Much of their opposition is based on their distrust of Negro politicians in general and Mrs. Phillips in particular. Some point to the fact that she did not help in the picketing of Woolworth's, though she declared her support of it. Others feel that she is only using the fair housing proposal as political fodder, knowing and expecting that it will be defeated.

But the Negro people I have spoken to go farther than that and oppose the ordinance itself. They say that it would only apply to middle-class Negroes, professionals, teachers, lawyers, and businessmen who can afford to buy in the white neighborhoods. They accuse these people of wanting to escape from their Negro neighbors and become like whites. They also say that if Negroes move away from the part of town in which they are now concentrated, it will break up their political power. Some Negroes are talking of running new Negro candidates on a frankly color platform, and on an independent ticket.

The rank and file Negroes say that they want to con-

THE SPANISH WORKERS

The TV coverage on NBC of the Spanish strikers in Bilbao was just magnificent. It had the commentator saying that the strike had no leaders, no organization. The people looked happy, and no one was "mad" at anyone. The strikers' faces showed confidence and joy, and a very high spirit.

This one program of Walter Cronkite's makes a whole year of watching TV worthwhile.

Viewer
Los Angeles

* * *

In a country where striking is illegal, and carries who knows what penalty—perhaps even death—the workers had to develop new ways of striking. There were no demonstrations whatsoever, no pickets, no one could name the head of the strike committee.

Committee Member
Los Angeles

* * *

The TV screen showed the reasons for the Spanish strike very well. It contrasted the workers' homes and streets with those of the middle class.

The workers lived in slums, with not a tree visible. But the middle and well-to-do classes walked around in fancy clothes, in well landscaped streets with trees lining the avenues, and into and out of well stocked stores.

Factory Worker
Los Angeles

* * *

concentrate on ending discrimination in employment, and at a recent meeting of the Negro American Labor Council, a discussion was held concerning strategy for fighting such discrimination. Some rank and file Negroes favored asking employers to hire Negroes only in proportion to the number of Negro customers. On the other side, some Negro professionals favored asking for complete equality of opportunity for all, in other words no quotas big or small. The rank and filers said they were not interested in getting Negroes hired in the suburbs or other all-white neighborhoods.

* * *

I have tried to report the situation objectively, but now I want to raise some questions of my own. Are the rank and file Negroes, by taking this position dooming themselves to a kind of self-segregation? Is there an influence here of the Black Muslims with their ideas of racism, segregation and Negro autonomy within a Negro Community, not within an integrated one? Is opposition to a fair housing bill correct in assuming that it would only help middle-class Negroes to escape to the outskirts? Is this form of split unique to Milwaukee or does it exist elsewhere?

I would be very interested and anxious to hear the reactions of others, especially Negro workers, to these questions and situations.

Correspondent
Milwaukee

TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya, Author of
MARXISM AND FREEDOM

Grand Illusion of Our Times: DISARMAMENT

At the so-called General Disarmament and Peace Conference taking place in Moscow, its main instigator, Nikita Khrushchev boasted on July 10th that Russia has "nuclear weapons of 50, 100 and more megatons, inter-continental rockets, the global rocket which is practically impervious to defense and anti-missile rocket." As if that weren't proof sufficient of how unwaveringly the Chairman of the Russian Communist Party follows the path to peace, Premier Khrushchev added "that nobody will live to see the Socialist (???) countries disarm unilaterally."

UNILATERALISM—IN NUCLEAR TESTING

This noted Russian world disarmer is expert at quite a different sort of unilateralism, as he made clear to the world in October 1961 when he unilaterally broke the nuclear test ban and exploded the monstrous 58 megaton bomb. Right now he is aping President Kennedy who, when Russia resumed nuclear testing, announced that so would the United States. This time, after Kennedy shocked the world by exploding the high altitude bomb which lit up the skies for 1,000 miles, Khrushchev announced that Russia feels free to be "the last to test."

The timing of both actions shows this blustery Communist's disdain for public opinion. The first action exploding the 58 megaton bomb, was timed to the opening of the conference of the non-aligned nations meeting in Yugoslavia. The second and present action was timed to coincide with the sessions of the self-styled World Conference on Disarmament and Peace. **Neither the actions nor the timing were accidental. The first was meant to expose the impotence of non-alignment and thus compel de facto alignment. The present action and timing are aimed to divert the nuclear disarmament movement in "the West" (including Japan!) toward anti-American channels, pure and simple.**

Like the Tower of Pisa, neutralism has been found to lean heavily in one direction. Are we now to witness a transformation into its opposite of the people's desire for world peace into nothing but a whitewash of the criminal actions of one of the two world nuclear powers? This may sound fantastic to those who know the origins of the nuclear disarmament movement in Britain which had been independent both of Russia and America. But history knows all sorts of stranger transformations, and we are witness now to one such tragedy.

Contrast the naivete of this movement's acceptance of the invitation to the Moscow conference on the ground that they would have a "platform" from which to expound unilateral views for disarming to the purposive and insulting bomb-rattling by Khrushchev. Consider next the uses to which their presence will be put by the Moscow "hosts". Then ponder the Communist infiltration of the nuclear disarmament movements (both the CND and the Committee of 100) in Great Britain itself.

UNILATERALISM—IN LEAFLET DISTRIBUTION

Last year the Scottish anti-nuclear movement had made sure that its anti-Polaris leaflet, asking for a demonstration at Holy Loch, expressed opposition to nuclear bases and nuclear testing both on the part of America and Russia. **When the Communists read the leaflet, they sat on the 5,000 leaflets they had volunteered to distribute.** The masses, however, turned out in great numbers. For once, moreover, the turnout was not limited to the middle class but included the working class and its trade unions.

This year, on the other hand, the anti-Polaris demonstration at Holy Loch brought out, at most, 400, while the leaflet assured everyone that over 1,000 had already volunteered and called for 2,000 to show up at the demonstration. This year the leaflets were eagerly distributed by the Communists for they read: "When we are free from America, and not a threat to Russia, Britain can play a great part in negotiating disarmament . . ." (My emphasis, R.D.) "Our governments are doing worse than nothing," continued the leaflet, to stop the next war, and to the question, "What about the Russians?", its answer is a complete whitewash: "The only reason they might want to destroy us is because we're a threat to them." (My emphasis, R.D.)

No wonder the Scottish people didn't turn out en masse. I was in Scotland on June 9th when this demonstration took place and talked to many people who had previously participated in the movement but who refused this time to march under such a lying banner.

"SUPPRESSION OF HUMAN REASONING"

The Committee of 100 was a militant outgrowth of the CND, of those militants who felt that the annual Aldermaston March had become routinized and could not possibly, in itself, stop the insane rush by the rulers of the world toward a nuclear holocaust. Direct action and other types of new activities, including searching for links with the working class and its potent strike weapon, were undertaken. Unfortunately, there was no equally deep probe for a philosophy of freedom around which these activities were to be carried on and expanded.

The face of the new movement—Lord Bertrand Russell—may not be armed with state power. But he is armed with as administrative a mentality and as bureaucratic a concept of the one world super-state as any in-power state administrators. Lord Russell aristocratically "dismissed" the Marxian philosophy of liberation in favor of practical activities alongside Communist state capitalists. Instead of probing into the root cause of war—the class structure of society with its inherent veering between economic crises and wars—he dove into the grand illusion of our time: Disarmament. To the Moscow Conference currently meeting he sent the following message:

"I should like all negotiators from the West to state: I am firmly convinced that the nuclear war would be worse than the world-wide victory of communism. I should like every negotiator from the East to declare: I am firmly convinced that a nuclear war would be worse than a world-wide victory of capitalism."

Lord Russell may think that this statement is an improvement of the infamous slogan "better Red than dead." The new variation of the spiritless old theme reminds us, however, of the scornful attitude toward democracy on the part of some of Lenin's Bolshevik co-leaders—Bukharin and Pyatakov—at the outbreak of World War I. **Such a scornful attitude toward democracy, wrote Lenin, "constitutes one of these forms of depression or suppression of human reasoning by the war."**

In our day this type of "depression or suppression of human reasoning" has resulted from the fear of nuclear war. The at-

(Continued on Page 7)

YOUTH

New Beginnings

By Eugene Walker

SOME "EDUCATED" VIEWS ON THE DIVISION OF LABOR

During the summer there is always a mad scramble to find jobs for college students. This summer was not an exception. In fact it was more difficult because of a relatively high rate of unemployment.

I am a science major and was fortunate enough to find a job in my field which is quite interesting. Some of my fellow students were not so fortunate. Many still do not have jobs and others work at low paying menial labor. It is this question of unemployment and menial labor which I want to discuss.

To the college student the problem of unemployment can be a serious one if his only means of support for a year of school comes from what he earns in the summer. However, the problem of menial labor is not as prominent. He is willing to take that type of labor for a summer because it is only temporary and he is studying for a career in which the labor he will be doing interests him.

THE DIVISION OF LABOR

To me this question of labor is the paramount one in our society. I have had a number of discussions with students on this question of the division of labor where the great majority of people are related to jobs which are routine and do not allow for any development while only a select few more "intelligent" people are laboring at something which allows them to develop themselves.

To many of these students, who have been raised in a

society where this division of labor in the everyday thing, there is nothing wrong with this. They feel most of the people do not really have the intellect to be able to do more than work in a factory, or they are too lazy to do anything else. Their usual statement is that if any of these people really wanted to improve themselves they could go back to school, work a second job, etc., etc.

WITH DIFFERENT EYES . . .

Many of these students have strong convictions against nuclear testing and the arms race. They are disturbed over racial discrimination against Negroes and other minorities. But there is a tremendous gap between their concern about these problems and their superior feeling over workers because they are not "educated." It is brought to the forefront in these discussions about what type of labor man should perform.

To me it is the most disturbing thing I see on campus. The students are very separated from the realities of today. Unless they are willing to take a look at the society they live in through entirely different eyes, they will merely become entangled in bourgeois society as it is today.

Hospital Strike Points Up N. Y. As Sweat-Shop Town

NEW YORK—The arrest of 25 youth sit-inners supporting the Beth-El hospital workers' strike has dramatized a fight that has been going on for weeks and pointed up working conditions that are fast earning the name of "sweat-shop" for New York City.

The youths, members of CORE, NAACP and other groups, many of them veteran Freedom Riders from Jackson, Miss., or Maryland's Route 40, sat in at the director's office of the Brooklyn hospital. Their protest was against the obvious discrimination and unfair labor practices involved in the strike and to show solidarity with the embattled workers of Local 1199 Drug and Hospital Employees.

WAGES LESS THAN UNEMPLOYMENT

The workers, most of them of Negro or Puerto Rican ancestry, are often paid less than \$40 for a 37½ hour week, which is less than they would be entitled to as recipients of unemployment compensation. However, hospital workers in New York are explicitly excluded from unemployment benefits, as they are from the minimum wage laws and hospitalization. The work is dirty and difficult and the conditions are awful. Workers can be fired at the will of their supervisors.

These workers, victims of poverty and discrimination, are fighting for the simple right of union recognition. The hospital trustees have flatly refused to negotiate, to arbitrate or to bargain in any way. Instead, police violence has been turned on the picket-lines, scabs have been brought in, and the president of the union has been sent to jail. One of the hospital trus-

tees, a millionaire named Shapiro, even resigned in protest against the attitude of his colleagues, which he called "inhuman" and "unfair."

NEW YORK—NOT MISSISSIPPI

Down at the line, a young Puerto Rican worker told News and Letters how he had been hired "under-age" as a "favor" to him and then fired as soon as he asked for a raise. A Negro woman stated that "the longer you worked there, the less you got." Station-wagons full of scabs would force their way through the picket-line without regard for human injury as hundreds of police on foot and on horseback swung their clubs and acted tough. "Is this what we pay your salaries for? To help scabs?" shouted one irate woman. "This is New York—Not Mississippi," yelled a middle-aged Negro woman who had just been pushed around by a cop.

The sit-inners were interviewed on CBS News, with the picketline in the background, and the protest, like the arrest of Davis, the union president, and the resignation of Shapiro, made all the papers. Nonetheless, the millionaire "philanthropists" on the Hospital Board will not give an inch. One wonders with James Wechsler of the N.Y. Post how they can sleep at night.

The answer is simple: the big

Freedom Ride Bob-Lo Style

On July 7, a Saturday, me and my date along with another couple took the moonlight cruise up the Detroit river to Bob-lo Amusement Park in Windsor, Canada. The moonlight cruise does not stop at the park, but goes to Bob-lo and sails back to Detroit for people who prefer the cruise itself to the amusement park.

The trip takes an hour-and-a-half one way and another hour-and-a-half back. The boat is a three-deck ferry with a dance floor taking up most of the second deck. We settled ourselves next to the dance floor.

HORRIFIED STARES

After the boat began and the band started playing, we met a couple of Negro fellows with whom we got to talking. When they asked my date and my buddy's date to dance, the girls got on the dance floor with them midst many horrified stares and equally hostile whispers from others on the boat. We answered these with pleasant smiles.

It wasn't long before the whole second deck was buzzing about the two girls who had the gall to dance with colored guys and the gall of the two white fellows who dared let their girls do such a thing.

Throughout the three-hour cruise the girls danced a number of dances with the Negro fellows, all of us still smiling unconcerningly at the continuing hostility around us.

TROUBLE AVERTED

The cruise was about half over when my buddy, who was sitting this particular dance out, was approached by some white guy who greeted him with "Is that your girl dancing with that n---?" As the boat guards smelled trouble brewing, they came over and told the white guy and his friends to move on. So we didn't get the trouble we were expecting.

When the boat docked, we decided that we had more fun on the cruise than did anyone else on the boat and decided that we were going to follow it up with another Freedom Ride to Bob-lo. This time with a mixed group of friends.

bosses will always prefer to "give" millions to "charity" (where they still control them) than to "give" the workers what they ask for and need. Thus the paradox of N. Y. hospital workers who are explicitly excluded from hospitalization.

N.Y.C. 14TH IN LOW WAGES

The hospital fight and the walkout of the staff of the Waldorf Astoria Hotel have pointed up an important problem: New York the richest city in a supposedly rich country pays the 14th lowest wages according to a recent report.

With city workers concentrated in the service trades, shipping, and the needle trades, wages have been getting lower and lower with Big City prices getting higher and higher. The poor of the South and of Puerto Rico, who flock to New York each year seeking a better life, are more and more being fleeced by the smart operators and forced to live under unbelievable conditions.

With the top-heavy labor bureaucracy organizing nobody and fighting for nothing, while they rake it in off the top, it's high time our people got together to fight.

H. Bear

Injunction, Violence Can't Stop Louisville's Fighters

LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY — The Louisville, Ky., CORE picket line has only two picketers at a distance of 25 feet from the entrance of the West End Theater. Three students are found, almost every day of the week, standing-in at the box office. These demonstrators, the two picketers and three stand-ins, are daily harassed, pushed, shoved, and have fists threatened in their faces by both police and drunken passers-by.

I have been at demonstrations and have seen the students shoved by drunks while the police were looking on. I have seen the police speaking with the drunks, smiling at them, and then a few minutes later, the harassing would begin.

I was present when a man took a policeman's club and shook it in the face of a CORE member who took a picture of the man talking with the policemen. He threatened to "beat the living ——" out of the CORE member if he did not "tear up that ——" picture. This is despite the fact that the theater manager had his own representative photographing all persons, not only those picketing and standing-in, but also those of us who were standing on the side.

POLICE: "I'LL SMASH YOU"

While the students are standing-in, the Louisville policemen, who are supposed to be stationed there to prevent violence, are actively aiding theater-goers to purchase tickets, and at the same time shoving the students with the expressed purpose of throwing them to the ground. I heard one say: "You black —, I'll smash you to the sidewalk".

A white sympathizer, who happened to be walking by the theater, joined the line and was choked and punched by police officers after he tried to help the students enter the theater. The sympathizer told the police they "would make good cops in Mississippi".

Three students were knocked down by the theater manager and his lawyer. This action was observed by CORE adult members, and one of them, a woman, had the two men arrested on charges of assault and battery.

SNAC JOINS PROTEST

CORE began the action at the theater early in May. SNAC, Student Nonviolent Action Committee, joined in the demonstration after the Circuit Court barred CORE from standing-in and limited the number to two picketers at a distance of 25 feet. The order was later extended to SNAC, with the distance lengthened to 100 feet which places the demonstrators in the street.

Actions of the police were severely criticized by a Louisville CORE officer in a protest sent to the mayor in which he said: "I had to look three times to tell whether I was in Kentucky or Mississippi. I have never witnessed such brutality

by police officers. This sort of thing must be stopped or there will be serious trouble, which we all wish to avoid."

INJUNCTION DEFIED AS PROTESTS CONTINUE

Despite the injunction and the restraining order which followed it, the CORE and SNAC members continue to demonstrate. Although the Mayor's Commission on Human Rights has tried to bog their actions down in "conferences" and the demonstrators realize that some forces in the city administration want to enact a public accommodations law, while ignoring the fact that it was the pressure of the demonstrations that even created the possibility of such an act, the students are still showing their determination to have full rights by continuing to picket and stand-in. CORE and SNAC members are planning a series of mass meetings to organize further action to end segregation in Louisville. One of these meetings has already taken place, and a number of people, mostly students, have joined to continue the fight.

Students Blast Discrimination

PONTIAC, MICH. — On June 8, a mass Negro rally was held at Beaudett Park. The purpose was to campaign for Mr. Beauregard Stubblefield in the school board election held recently.

The main issue was discrimination in Pontiac Central High School. Four students from Pontiac High, two graduates, two juniors, spoke on some of the major topics. One of the graduates spoke about the cheerleaders. There are never more than two Negro girls on the cheerleading team. The basketball and football team is just the opposite. This year all of the boys except two were Negroes.

The next speaker was one of the juniors, who spoke about the names that the teachers and officials call the Negro students, and the bodily harm they use against them. The other junior spoke of the need for Negro counselors, because it isn't easy for Negro students to talk to the white counselors.

The last speaker was a senior girl who said that the children had opened the door and are doing all they can. One remark she made was that she had been in school for 13 years and wasn't afraid to lose her diploma for such a worthy cause. But you will hear some people say, "I might lose my job."

BORN WITH THE RIGHT

Next on the agenda was the principal address by a Detroit minister. He spoke mainly of some of the discriminatory actions he had seen, and how they were solving their problems. Finally there were remarks by Mr. Stubblefield.

I have chosen this topic—discrimination in the schools—because I feel that it is very important to us and especially our children. These kids in Pontiac are fighting for equality. It makes me very proud to see them protest for something that they were born with the right to have.

—12 Grader

(Editor's Note: Mr. Stubblefield was defeated in the election, leaving the school board still with only one Negro representative.)

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In Los Angeles

Mass Meetings Protest Police Brutality

Los Angeles—If anyone needs proof that the Negro community wants to do something about ending brutality and ridding themselves of the present Chief of Police who condones it all, Parker, one need only look at the capacity-filled meetings which have taken place every Sunday since the killing of Ronald Stokes in front of the Muslim Temple on April 27th.

It is well known that police brutality against Negroes, as well as other minorities, is not "new" to this city. It has existed for many years.

The present Mayor, Yorty, was in fact elected on the strength of his promise to oust Parker just after the Memorial Day demonstration in Griffith Park last year. On that day, the police began by arresting two Negro youths and trying to let one white one go who had done the very same thing — steal rides on the merry-go-round, — but they ended instead by inspiring a demonstration among the angry bystanders who were mostly Negro and Mexican.

However, election promises being what they are, Mayor Yorty now defends Parker's actions, and even approves the newest Parker edict that police patrols be doubled in Negro areas only.

NEGRO GROUPS REJECT MUSLIMS

The Negro clergymen and the NAACP have both been quite active this past week in trying to set up a commission to investigate the situation. Both groups have dissociated themselves entirely from the Muslims, while the Muslims themselves seem to be trying to use this killing as means to recruit new Muslims, and nothing more.

However, no matter what organizations create one commission or another, which will go down in history along with all the other commissions on anti-Negro police brutality which died "a-borning" in this city, the real difference this time is in the temper of the Negro community.

ONE AIM: END POLICE BRUTALITY

There has never been another time when meeting after meeting has been as well attended, all on the same subject — police brutality.

When Martin Luther King spoke here on the day he proclaimed "Freedom Day", June 17th, he of course drew a very large audience. But he got his best response from the audience, a standing ovation, when he only mentioned ending police

brutality.

As one man put it, "This time, at least at first, when everyone was so mad and stuck together and wouldn't let Yorty split us up I thought we had them. I thought we would finally get rid of Parker."

Although Parker is still with us, the determination of Negroes can be judged by the fact that the meetings still continue. And that there are no police anywhere in sight at these meetings!

In Washington

Administration Deaf to Civil Rights Violations Reported

WASHINGTON, D.C.—Freedom Riders, Sit-Inners, and Negro and white fighters for equal rights told their stories to a special "Committee of Inquiry into the Administration of Justice in the Freedom Struggle" meeting in Washington this month, but too few people listened.

According to Washington correspondent I. F. Stone (one of the few who covered the story) almost no one took notice of the un-official hearings headed by Eleanor Roosevelt and Norman Thomas at which CORE leader Jim Farmer and many Negro and white participants in the struggle for full freedom told the story of their heroic fight and of the barbarism and brutality they met at the hands of Southern justice and official indifference.

The testimony of Frank Nelson, 23-year-old white engineer from New York, typically described the police "reign of Terror" in New Orleans after the Freedom Rides, as did our own pamphlet "Freedom Riders Speak for Themselves." Here is part of his testimony:

"Early in August 1961, George Blevins, John Dolan and myself, all white, were in New Orleans after serving 40 days in the Parchman, Miss., prison as Freedom Riders. In New Orleans we stayed at the home of a Negro minister where we were awaiting dinner when several police entered, said they had complaints about whites and Negroes being together, creating a disturbance . . . They

had no warrant; they told us to come with them. We asked if they had the right to take us out of a private home. They said we had no rights; that when they say come, we'd better come.

"At the police station . . . the police made the three of us stand facing the wall and hit us with blackjacks. About 20 police were watching. We were taken upstairs in the station to be photographed, fingerprinted and questioned. The officer who had hit George Blevins asked about the blood on George's shirt; George said he had a head wound. The officer grabbed George by the hair, said 'where,' felt with unclean hands into the cut and tore it open; later George had four stitches. This officer told me he would kill me if he saw me again in the city." (Quoted from I. F. Stone's Weekly, June 4, 1962.)

The Kennedy Administration's claim to be doing "everything possible" to speed de-segregation was give the lie again when Baton Rouge CORE leader Ronnie Moore (aged 21) told of the role of the F.B.I. As News and Letters pointed out last July in a special "Freedom Riders" issue, the Federal cops would rather investigate the victims of Southern barbarism for alleged "communism" than to open their eyes to the Gestapo brutality of Southern "justice". Here is Ronnie Moore:

"Police arrested me and four other students for illegal use of a sound-truck. We were held in Baton Rouge Parish jail under \$1,500 cash bond each. My attorneys bonded me out in the evening. As the group left the jail's second floor and got to the first they were detained. I was rearrested for conspiracy to commit criminal mischief, and returned to jail. I remained in jail, awaiting bond, for 21 days. Jail atmosphere was hostile; I was denied consultation with ministers, mail and use of telephone. After making three requests one day to see a doctor, I was slapped and choked. Jerome Smith, a fellow CORE prisoner was hit with a judo chop and Dave Dennis, who inquired about these incidents, was pulled from the Negro cell area, thrown with force against iron bars and placed in solitary. An FBI inquiry concluded that there had been no violation of civil rights".

Here Eric Weinburger, 30-year-old white pacifist, tells his story:

"During January 1962 I taught some of the snarecroppers (evicted in Brownsville, Tenn., for trying to register to vote) to

A DOCTOR SPEAKS

By M. D.

THE BIOLOGICAL MEANING OF FREEDOM

The newer knowledge emerging from studies of the individual living cell and the nature of the cell's relations with other cells, tissues and organs of our body, reveals an almost unbelievable complexity of structure and function of amazing sensitivity and adaptability.

This is creativity in the fullest sense and we all possess it. Internally, elements of hydrogen, carbon, and nitrogen along with potassium, sodium, phosphorus and other elemental particles join in a pattern and flow of cyclic chains and strands in which the slightest variation denotes meaningful information. Bathed in a fluid stream of atoms and molecules — messengers, receptors, stimulators and neutralizers — there is a purposeful unity of structure and function—a wholeness in this internal activity of the human body where behavior has shape.

EARLY DIVISION

It was the ancient Greek philosopher Plato who introduced to civilized man the distinction between the brain and the hand. Thinking, he said, was man's highest activity; and perhaps he wanted to justify a slave society. For work in Greece was left largely to slaves; and manual labor was looked upon as servile.

This philosophy and this kind of society extended in one form or another into the middle ages and into our times. Science, machines, and material accumulations did not abolish this division among men but only intensified and sophisticated it.

As a consequence, and unlike the associations of cells, social relations between men less than whole introduced an interference to their development. The bright flame that is man's primeval biological inheritance has sputtered ever since.

SOCIAL FREEDOM ESSENTIAL

News and Letters, and the way of life called Marxist-Humanism that it tries to spell out, is rooted in the quality of freedom — being free — not as something we have, but as something we are. Such freedom is inseparable from every activity of man and is the very basis for his primary evolution from lower forms of animal life, for it serves a sound biological need. It is this truly human function that is prevented by the separation of the hand and the mind.

The revolution to which Marx as well as Lenin dedicated their lives was to return to man's consciousness the awareness of this biological freedom by establishing a primary relationship of men to one another and to their environment. This quality of freedom is as inseparable from our daily living as breathing is to our life.

make tote bags for sale. Police went to the home of Negroes with whom I was staying and questioned them about me. On Friday, March 3, Jeff Gordon and I started to drive to Memphis to get materials for the bags. We had gone about four blocks when Sheriff's men told us to drive to the courthouse . . . They refused to say why . . .

"We refused to move and when police grabbed us went limp. We were dragged out, heads bouncing, stuffed into a police car and taken to jail. After about three hours in a cell, the police came to fingerprint us. They dragged Jeff out by a wrist clamp which is very painful and leaves the wrist torn. Because of the injustice of the proceedings I could not cooperate even to the degree of holding my fingers still for inking. I was beaten by Deputy

To live as whole men is to use freely whatever groups of cells and tissues and organs that are essential to the solution of the problem at hand, and thus create new potential and add greater dimension to our life through the act of labor.

MODERN DIVISION

Marx showed that capitalist society was based on a relationship between things which separated workers from the products of their labor as well as from "thinkers." Lenin, to his last breath, fought to try to create a society of self-activated men.

Neither the democracy of the United States with its freedom to compete for employment, nor the state control of property and production in state-capitalist Russia and China, which, as in the U. S., seek to separate men from their labor, has anything to do with freedom. Yet such is human conditioning today that some call these nations progressive, and will fight to maintain them.

Present day society—private or state capitalist—no matter how technologically advanced it may be, is an extension of slavery in 20th century staidified clothing. Automation in itself, or great achievements in science, cannot bring freedom. The long fight for a shorter work day was just as intense and bloody as that against colonial oppression. Both of these struggles, still going on, are part of a revolution which is "permanent" in the sense that man must regain the biological wholeness that is his necessity for survival. If Africans, who have successfully rid their land of imperialists, merely stand back and permit a new master with a black face to arrange their lives—to make 'sacrifices' of their labor in order to hasten technology and production—their freedom, their opportunity to become whole men, will inevitably shrink as their master's control increases.

TOTALITARIANISM—SOCIAL CANCER

The life process of man is as incompatible with totalitarianism as life is incompatible with cancer. When a cell permits a virus particle to invade and give orders, the new cells it produces under the direction of this enemy, no matter how attractive and youthful they appear, are merely images of one another, with function limited to reproduction and destined for quick death through lack of self-activation.

Anderson and four others, some in blue uniforms, some in plain-clothes. The wrist clamp was screwed down to the screaming point and shaken. My fingers were bent back, my pants torn or slashed off, and a high voltage electric probe applied. During the beating I passed out several times but was revived each time by slaps so the torture could continue."

The use of torture, mass arrests, police gas and dogs, and impossible sentences against the Freedom movement will not stop it. Even if the official press and government turn a deaf ear to the evidence of these crimes against humanity, they are forced to listen to the voices of a growing movement. James Farmer estimates 5,181 arrests since the beginning of the sit-ins.

People will not forget . . .

DISARMAMENT ILLUSION

(Continued from Page 5)

tendance at fake disarmament and peace conferences is one manifestation of the suppression of human reasoning. Thus these same searchers for peace do not quiver at the Wall erected in East Berlin to keep the German workers confined to that narrow strip nor are they horror struck at the gun-fire directed at any who would escape that prison. The indifference remains when Communists boo Willy Brandt in London and the heads are turned the other way at the Scottish Committee of 100's excusing Russia, which supposedly would never have exploded or rattled H-bombs if only Scotland were "not a threat to Russia." (sic!)

If Russell, as an anti-Marxist, will not be moved by Lenin's struggles against both fake pacifism and ultra-revolutionism during World War I, may we not hope that his followers at least will listen to the voice of today's peace fighters who felt compelled to break from the Communist hypocrites. I am referring to the split in the Japanese movement.

JAPANESE SPLIT SHEDS NEEDED LIGHT
"Paradoxically," write Professor Shimizu from long experience with both Communists and Japanese militarists, "both the impact of the war and militarism prior to 1945 and the impact of peace and pacifism since then have had the identical effect: preventing the intellectuals from doing genuine and necessary creative work toward the transformation of society . . . Rather than turning to the masses, the leadership of the Japanese left found comfort in the high level negotiations between Russian and American leaders . . ."

"The fear of nuclear weapons has obscured the understanding that war is rooted in the capitalist system; the simple wish for peace has become the dominant idea, taking the place of class struggle, revolution, socialism . . . This ideological armistice corresponded perfectly with the 'united front' tactics of the Communists and their allies. It combined the jargon of the left with the tactics of rightwing opportunism . . . In the course of these events one striking characteristic of the official left leadership stood out clearly—contempt for the masses."

The British anti-nuclear movement has a great deal to learn from the split in the Japanese movement. Only if it does so in time, then the "depression or suppression of human reasoning" will give way to a new flowering of thought which will not separate itself from action. Only through the unity of thought and action can we hope to stay the hand of both nuclear powers. Otherwise, the Communist bomb will more effectively snuff out life than Communist brainwashing presently suppresses human reasoning.

Stock Crash and War Drive

(Continued from Page 1)

RUSSIA IS NO DIFFERENT

Neither can state capitalism escape these laws nor find a solution, patchwork or planned, to the perpetual crises. Compared to the chaos and low productivity in Russian agriculture, both America and Western Europe appear like the promised land. All the State Plan has accomplished is to give such power in the hands of the ruling bureaucracy that it can sharply increase, without any warning, the cost of all consumer goods as it did recently by the 25%-30% increase in butter, meat and other essentials. Khrushchev now claims that it was due to the fact that workers were mistakenly paid too much!

The greatest sufferers of all from the weird capitalistic economy are, once again, the masses of the underdeveloped countries. The prices of raw materials have dropped sharply, squeezing the countries of Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America. Indeed, the UN yearbook reveals the exact statistical measure of how the rich lands have become richer and the poor lands poorer in the era when the industrialized countries are supposedly doing so much "to aid the underdeveloped."

THE ONLY SOLUTION IS THE HUMAN ONE

Throughout its over-ripe miserable life capitalism has had only one solution to the perpetual economic crises — perpetual wars. Presently both Russia and America are each spending \$40-\$50 billion for military weapons, "conventional" and otherwise. More frightening than the belligerent statements from both sides of the Iron Curtain are the preparations for a nuclear war which the rulers so much take for granted that they are building underground shelters, preparing for the conservation of water, etc.—all based on the fact that "if" only a single bomb would fall and "if" men exist underground for two weeks during the "height" of atomic fallout and "if" men could be brainwashed to accept their madness as sanity, then "some" might remain to continue this decadent civilization, as if that were a way of life instead of the way of either the quick and the dead or the slow and the dead.

WAGES, PROFITS AND THE STATE

Despite President Kennedy's solemn warning to labor that wage raises would be inflationary, the economic trend is toward deflation. Wholesale

prices haven't risen since 1958. The price of raw materials like zinc, lead, aluminum, rubber, and steel scrap has fallen making business men reluctant to invest lest they lose their shirts.

The cold fact is that capitalists are hesitant to invest. In 1955 manufacturing corporations as a whole were making 5.4 cents on the dollar. In 1961 profits slipped to 4.3 cents on the dollar and 1962 promises an even slimmer margin of profit. Lush as these profits always are in mass as General Motors Corporation's record \$776 million for the first half of 1962 testify, the drive of the corporations is to produce more volume at a cheaper cost, hence the introduction of Automation and the laying off of workers by the hundreds of thousands and the attempt to speed-up those remaining on the job.

Company profits, however, arise from the surplus value created by living, breathing humans. The fewer employed the less the margin of profit. So the vicious circle: the fewer workers exploited, the smaller the rate of profit which means the need for the capitalist to invest in still bigger machines which in turn replace more workers who are the only source of surplus value.

The paradoxical situation is reflected in the reverse relationship of labor and capital to the state. While the workers are trying to shake loose of the stranglehold the state plus their own bureaucracy are trying to impose upon them, Business, which is always shooting its mouth off "against" state interference, is insisting that the state guarantee it a certain rising rate of profit before it will risk its capital for investment.

The working people, in their daily struggles, whether at the point of production, on the question of civil rights, or on the fundamental question of war and peace, are pointing to an entirely different way of life which begins and ends with the human being, not with the profit motive, for private or state purposes.

Until there is a humanization of the insane mode of production, there will be no solution to its consequences and the brutalities inflicted by Automation, the rate of profit, the permanent army of unemployed, and equally permanent, and ever swelling military expenditures, lest it be the day of nuclear holocaust and the doom of civilization as we have known it. Only the release of the untapped creative energies of the working people can stop the vicious capitalistic circle of economic crises and perpetual wars.

Our Life and Times

By PETER MALLORY

Doctors Strike at Human Life

The doctors of Saskatchewan have gone on strike against their patients in a battle with the government over a recently enacted Medicare plan. In an attitude of complete indifference to the health and welfare of the community, the doctors took off on extended vacations. On the first day of the strike a child died for lack of medical care.

In an interview a farmer was asked, "What would you do if a doctor refused to treat your child?" "I would kill him," the farmer replied.

Only 34 out of 101 hospitals in the Canadian province are open for "emergencies". The hospitals have closed their doors, dismissed their staffs and sent the patients home to take care of themselves.

This brutal attitude has been condemned by many but has been supported by the Jackson, Michigan, branch of the American Medical Society. Doctors from the United States, other parts of Canada, and England, who have offered help to the people, are being chased out of the Province by the striking doctors. Dr. Gerhart Beck, of Jacksonville, Florida, who volunteered his services, has been threatened with prosecution by the Saskatchewan College of Physicians and Surgeons if he continues to give help at Leader. Druggists

have been warned not to honor his prescriptions and he has been threatened with arrest for practicing illegally. Dr. Ida Fisher, of London, England, has been similarly threatened by the striking doctors, who write their own laws.

Because the doctors have undertaken this unprecedented action out of base political motivations, not a single one of them has cared about violating principles involved in the Hippocratic oath. Obviously, neither idealism nor life itself is sufficient to deter them from their reactionary views against so-called socialized medicine.

In fact, the government has assured medical services not only to the poor who cannot afford private care, but also to the doctors themselves. No one was being asked to work without pay. No one was "ordered" to work with "strangers" rather than with patients of their choice. This law was passed by the duly elected representatives of the people, after the people, for decades, had demanded that their health be considered a matter of public, and not just individual, concern.

I happen to have been in Canada recently and everyone there feels sure that these self-willed doctors are not acting as a local body concerned with the alleged sanctity of their practice, but, on

the contrary, are acting in collusion with the AMA in its reactionary fight against so-called "socialization." It reminds us of the infamous "chicken case" during the New Deal days when Big Business lined up solidly behind that test case to try to destroy the NRA. That was bad enough, but at least no human lives were involved. The AMA cares less about human lives than they do about their already affluent standard of living. It was not only their callous attitude that aroused the ire of the Canadian workers who denied that the doctors have a right to use the word, "strike," for their inhuman action. It was also the arrogance surrounding their lawless action. As one trade unionist put it, "How many times have we had to suffer from these doctors who would not attend to the needs of a victim of the class struggle because these medics would pronounce the word, 'strike,' as if it were a four letter word, automatically assigning one to perdition?"

JFK is annoyed that so much publicity was given to the Saskatchewan case before his pallid Medicare bill was defeated, but he too dares not tangle with the AMA. Are the AMA and its Saskatchewan stooges above all law?

CONGO

Two years after the independence of the Congo was achieved, the political situation is no better. The central government is run by Premier Adoula, who has jailed Antoine Gizenga, the leader of the Eastern Province, but who lets Moise Tshombe, the murderer of Patrice Lumumba, get away with defying all authority, maintaining a private army, paying no taxes and acting as a separate country.

The interior of the country is in chaos, industry outside of the cities has shut down, hundreds of thousands are unemployed and flock to the cities where they live as best they can. Almost the entire diamond production of South Kasi, 17 million carats, went to the black market last year. \$50 million in copper profits each year is controlled by Tshombe, who withholds it from the Leopoldville Government.

Out of the budget of the Central Government, 80% goes to support a 25,000-man army and the rest to support the bureaucracy that starts with a 41 man "cabinet" and is topped off by "Ambassadors" who manage to "lose" \$50,000 in government funds entrusted to their care.

The U.N. stands between the two private armies and manages to solve nothing.

ARGENTINA

The incompetent military government of Argentina has fostered a wave of anti-Semitic incidents in the city of Buenos Aires recently. Young Jewish girls have been attacked on the streets by mobs of young thugs. Jewish shops, factories and offices have been closed, and open Nazi demonstrations take place in the streets.

GERMANY

The Adenauer government has offered to pension off judges who have served continuously through the Nazi regime of Hitler and the present government as well.

Over 70 judges and state prosecutors are eligible for retirement at full pay under a new law passed by the West German government. Many of these men are guilty of passing out stiff sentences under Hitler's racial laws, sending people to concentration camps and their death, yet they still sit in judgment in West German courts today.

BRAZIL

Brazil has operated in a political vacuum ever since the resignation of Janos Quadros, 10 months ago. His successor, President Joao Goulart, has the support of the broad masses of workers, but has been stripped of any power to act by the conservative party of ex-President Kubitschek acting in concert with the Brazilian Army.

Conditions have gone from bad to worse until recently when organized labor, 4 million strong, called a 24-hour general strike in support of President Goulart. During the demonstration a guard shot a child, which so angered the population that for two days rioting and looting took place all over Rio De Janeiro, leaving 42 dead and 1,000 in hospitals.

The workers who smashed in store fronts cried, "We want food" and took it wherever they could find it. The police and the military shot into the crowds and the workers threw rocks back at them.

During the ensuing political crisis President Goulart has appointed several Prime Ministers, only to have them rejected by the conservative

and army-dominated Congress. This Congress has blocked every move that Goulart has made to introduce the reforms necessary to put Brazil back on a solid foundation and to relieve the misery and starvation fostered by the conservatives.

Goulart serves as President in name only, his power to act having been taken away from him by Congress as a pre-condition to his assumption of power as the former Vice-President. Even the conservative newspaper, Jornal do Brazil, is now ready to admit, "The head must now come back to its place. A true power must occupy the vacuum that now exists." * * *

PERU

This column stated before the recent Peruvian elections that, "In Peru the Army has laid down an open threat against Victor Haya de la Torre, who is running for President with a good chance of being elected. Torre is the leader of the non-communist left. The Army stated, 'Haya will never set foot in the Presidential palace.'" (N&L April 1962). Victor Haya de la Torre has been elected President in the elections that took place 3 weeks ago but the Army is preventing him from taking public office.

The Army candidate, Belaunde, who was defeated, has made moves to start a rightist counter-revolution. He called upon the Cardinal to "mediate" the dispute, but the Cardinal declined to intervene. The next move of the Army will be to get the existing Congress to select a new President and ignore the election. This is the way that "democracy" functions in South America under the leadership of conservative, capitalist, army-dominated governments.

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