

NEWS & LETTERS

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

No Auto Safety With Line Speed

Many workers continue to discuss the auto safety program that has been raised by the government, especially in relation to how cars are being built by the auto companies. The company officials are naturally trying to say that the death rate in auto accidents is the fault of the drivers.

This may be true in some instances, but practically every production worker in any auto shop anywhere feels that the fundamental cause of many accidents is the lack of quality in car production. The auto companies have substituted quantity for quality.

SPEED MAKES QUALITY WORK IMPOSSIBLE

When the safety officials talk about more padding and better safety features inside the car, most workers say that those men don't know the first thing about how cars are being produced today. They do not go into the shops and talk to the workers. If they did, they would know that it is impossible for a human being to produce quality in his work at the rate of speed the production lines and machines are geared to run.

Every split second of a worker's day is geared to those automated lines. Workers see many things that go by that aren't safe—but they don't have time to correct them. And the foremen are so afraid that their production quotas will not be met for the day that they just let insufficient work pass by.

In one plant the main production line runs over a mile and a half in length, covering all six floors of the plant. At the very end of the line the company has installed nearly a dozen automated clocks. Each clock has a sign showing which floor it is timing. Other clocks are for other spots along the line. When the line stops, the clocks record every second that is missed, and at which point on the line the stoppage occurred.

PRODUCTION COUNTS, NOT SAFETY

The company can hold each foreman responsible for the lost time his section is charged with. The question doesn't even arise of why the line was stopped, or whether it could have been helped. The only question is that the line was shut down on his floor, and the lost time is his responsibility. "Safety" to the company is an abstract word they sometimes use. Production and more production is the only concrete thing they know, or care about.

After the investigations of safety began, and the pressure was on the auto companies, they began to claim it was interfering with their sales. One worker said that a few weeks after the investigations got going, the welders in his shop found they were all burning holes in the material they were welding.

At first nobody could understand what was wrong. Then they discovered that the grade of steel they were using was thinner than what they been using before. Every worker knew that if the steel was easier to burn holes into, it would certainly be less substantial under impact. They all knew that it must be a cheaper grade of steel—but they felt sure that the cars being made of it were not going to be any cheaper to the buyer. They figured that if the company felt they had lost money because of the attack on car-safety, it would not hesitate to regain the loss by buying cheaper steel and selling the car at the same price as before.

If the Federal government was really serious about safety in cars, it would demand that the companies cut back on their high production rate and give workers a chance to do their jobs correctly. This would add 85% to the safety of the cars that are being built now, with no other engineering changes at all.

SAFE CARS REQUIRE CHANGED WORK CONDITIONS

The government is just beginning to investigate what the workers have known ever since Automation was first introduced into the shops on a large scale. We could see the effect of Automation on the cars we were making—especially when the union agreed with management that the machines would have a place over the workers. We had no more to say about production rates. The rate of production was determined by the speed of those machines and the speed of the lines—not the speed of the human being. This is putting dead labor over living labor. The worker's only role in production is to keep pace with the machine. The worker can't have any interest in the quality with which his work is done—the only interest he is allowed to have is to try to keep up with that machine. If he fails, he will be out of a job.

One of the investigators said that it is not the nut behind the wheel he was most concerned with, but the nuts in the car itself. A worker in our shop said that he should have said—the missing nuts, and bolts, and welds. All the fuss about safety will come to nothing so long as workers are tied to electronic devices in production.

Some workers have talked about wrecks they have seen in which the older cars are barely bent, while the newer models are complete losses. And some remember when the old ones were built—with better materials and with more time to do the jobs right. In this age of space flights and fantastic speed, it has become impossible to perform our jobs right. There is no way possible to have an improvement in car safety so long as workers who build them must work as they do now.

British Seaman Strike Rips Open Government's Anti-Labor Position

By Harry McShane, Glasgow, Scotland

June 20 — Like any ordinary capitalist, our "Labour" Prime Minister today struck out anew against the 36-day-old maritime strike, this time attributing the solidarity of the seamen to alleged pressure by Communists, who were bent on "endangering the economic welfare of the nation." Mr. Wilson thus ingratiated himself not only with the shipowners but also with the international bankers who have agreed to prop up the value of the pound on the condition that the Government exercise "fiscal restraint" (read: keep wages down). As against the shipowners, the Government and the international banking cartel, the seamen have appealed for world labor support.

For the first time in years, the strike has raised the issue of international solidarity. A message of support for the strike came from Hans Imbof, General Secretary of the International Transport Workers' Federation, who wrote: "The National Maritime Union of America, the International Longshoremen's Association, the Norwegian Transport Workers' Federation, the Norwegian Seamen's Union, the Belgian Transport Workers' Union, the Danish Radio Officers' Union, the Seamen of India, the Maritime Union of India, the Swedish Seamen's Union, the Swedish Ship Officers' Association are only a few of the unions who have sprung to the side of the N.U.S. This is concrete evidence of what international solidarity means when an affiliate has chosen to use the ultimate weapon in the hands of labour."

At the urging of their rank and file, the N.U.S. called for the help of other trade unions, and for help in other parts of the world. According to reports, a readiness to help was indicated by unions in Norway, Sweden, and France. The aim was to "black" British ships in other ports.

PRODUCTIVITY HIGH

The seamen are fighting for a 40 hour week. At present they work a 56 hour week. For this the able-bodied seamen get the princely consolidated wage rate of £12 11s. 5d. a week. This rises to £13 17s. 1d. when he has been on the job five years. This includes compensation for having to be at sea on Saturday and doing 16 hours' work at weekend when a ship is at sea. Even when in port, a seaman can be "captive" on his ship, with no extra pay.

In other words, the pay is less than 14 pounds for 56 hours' work at sea. In American currency that is less than \$40. And every seaman is not an A.B. Many get even less than this.

As the National Union of Seamen (N.U.S.) has pointed out, in the last 15 years, the number of seamen employed on British ships has been reduced by one third—from 96,000 to 68,000—because of technological changes. At the same time, ships have grown bigger, though fewer in number, the trips have been made faster, and a seventh more cargoes are now carried. In other words, in these 15 years, the "productivity" of N.U.S. members has jumped by over a half — while their real wages have gone up, at most, about a quarter.

The seamen work under 72-year-old shipping laws. Under the 1894 Merchant Shipping Act, a man can forfeit all wages due to him for quitting a ship without leave; he can be imprisoned for four weeks and lose two days' pay for "disobeying a lawful command." Repeal of this antiquated Act is not one of the claims against the shipowners, however, since that is a job for Parliament. "STATE OF EMERGENCY"

The Government is with the
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PICKETS at UAW Convention protested plant job discrimination. Sign carried by picket reads: "Local 887 UAW Aiding North American (AVN) in Discrimination Against Negroes, Women and Mexican-Americans."

Picket U.A.W. Convention to Protest Plant Discrimination

Los Angeles, Calif. — At the UAW convention held in Long Beach, Calif., about six of us from Local 887 of North American Aviation (UAW) picketed because of the discrimination of our local union against Negroes, women and Mexican-Americans.

Local 887 has 18 units. Each unit represents one or more plants with several thousand members. Most of the units are in L.A., and a few are in the outlying areas, like ours, in Orange County. All these units have their own committeemen.

Local 887 refused to bring all of their delegates or their committeemen to the Convention, especially the ones who wanted to get up and speak. But we went on our own, even though we had to take picket signs and picket from the outside. There were six of us. Our picket signs were stolen by two of the other committeemen who were excused to be at the Convention, but the issues we raised got to the delegates inside anyhow.

WHERE IS MONEY GOING?

Some of the signs we carried stated that we wanted to know what was happening to the money we had put into the building fund. The union can't give us an answer. Since 1957 we have been paying 50 cents a month extra union dues for building funds. Approximately \$7,000 a month is taken in. Yet the President had to borrow \$130,000 in 1964 to build the union hall in Orange County, even though we had put all this money into the fund, and are still paying into it. We can't find out where our money is going.

One of the other issues concerned grievances. If a member is not properly represented and

his grievance is withdrawn, he has the right to go to the NLRB (National Labor Relations Board) and file charges. If the employee happens to be a representative, the union intimidates him, harasses him, and may even threaten to kick him out of his own union, because he has filed charges with the NLRB.

Many things like that have been going on, and many times we have wished we had people to look into them. People are being had, and they don't know who to turn, or where to go.

DISCRIMINATION AN ISSUE

The company has not been taking Negroes into the apprenticeship program — unless pressure has been put on them by the Federal Government. When the government investigated the Inglewood plant in connection with a recent government contract, that was when the apprentice program started to take Negroes.

At North American Aviation the women are being discriminated against regularly. Their pay is being cut. No one seems able to tell us why the contract is not being honored. Many have demanded answers from the Grievance Committee, but the committee will not answer.

The president was called to Orange County Union Hall by the committeemen but when he was asked about the women, the cut back and the Negroes, the president answered that this was not

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African View

Alhadji, Redeemer & Beyond

In the United States not much attention is paid to anything African unless it is either "a threat to democracy," or lurid. This is not only wrong, but irrational.

That Nkrumah was overthrown on his way to Peking is enough justification here to sensationalize his overthrow and to speculate unknowingly on matters of Africa. One submits that this preoccupation misunderstands what the falls of Balewa in Nigeria, Nkrumah in Ghana, and others are all about.

WANT OWN WAY

It is fair to argue that most Africans are primarily interested in improving their economic lives. They want to do this IN THEIR OWN way and not in terms of East and West.

They are interested in dignity of the people because the most important experience in Africa's collective history has been the rape of their country, culture and a denial of their selves, particularly by the West, and others in degree.

In this context we can understand recent African history. Balewa was overthrown because of his tendencies to ignore political matters of real African interest, and support of a feudal, selfish and corrupt political order which did not give the African image the honor and dignity it deserves in the world.

NKRUMAH'S FAILURE

Nkrumah was overthrown because in his zeal, he forgot that the political kingdom starts at home with a meaningful economic base. The people of Ghana needed and deserved a solid economic base before they could spearhead the unification of Africa.

The older generation who

spearheaded the independence movements at times feel that they have a claim to the leadership of governments. They are right in a way.

But the younger people who put the primacy on development for economic and social welfare at times feel impatient when leaders drag their feet on matters of general welfare.

To the young, the future is the challenge and there is no time to look back with nostalgia upon achievements against colonialism. The young want to strengthen dignity and honour in Africa — in the achievements of our governments now and in the future.

The young stress this because if they fail to better the conditions of the African people, the denial of Africa will tend to be confirmed. Many outside Africa will argue that Africa cannot govern itself.

That Africa can govern itself and improve the people's livelihood, the young will prove . . .

CONSERVATIVE WEST

Like a contented conservative, the Western countries sit back in fear of losing what has been gained or try to add to the security of democracy as at present constituted by transplanting it wholesale or unmodified all over the world.

But Africa can afford to experiment; and in Tanzania, Nyerere is a leader whose insights have already set him apart. He gained independence for his country with virtually a one party government. To preserve freedom in the country, he set up a Presidential Commission on the Establishment of a Democratic One Party State.

Tanzania has removed this power from the national party to the individual in his constituency. He knows best and he can offer a better plan for communal good than the nationally oriented party.

(Excerpted from "The Ku African"—a monthly publication about Africa and African Students. For information, write to the KU African, c/o 1036 Mississippi, Lawrence, Kansas 66044.)

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

Freedom Will Overcome

The big talk today is human freedom for all. But part of the white South does not seem to know what it means to let everybody be free to do and say what he thinks is right, and obey the law. Today so many people, white and black, have so much hate towards each other that nothing seems to go right.

Just look at what is still happening in Alabama and Mississippi. The old race-haters still think that by shooting down a leader of the black race, the other Negroes will run in fear. But times aren't like that any more.

THE NEW WAY

The struggle for freedom will go on, even though so many whites from the South (and plenty up North) think Negroes are fools. The older Negroes may have let them get away with murder in the past, never doing a thing about whites who killed Negroes, but there is a big difference between the old way of life and the new way.

There used to be a time when everything went the white man's way. But no longer. The black folks have found out that white

folks aren't any better than the black folks.

CAN'T BE STOPPED

Things are moving too fast and changing too fast. The race-haters can't keep up with the times. They can't seem to understand that when they get through shooting down some Negro, in the place of that one, hundreds of others will take up the march. When people all over the world are fighting for the same thing, freedom, the march cannot be stopped.

GOVERNMENT INACTION

There are still white men who think their guns can kill Negroes and nothing will be done about it. A lot of people consider these whites insane, but the truth is that the government has never done too much about whites who have killed Negroes — and that is why times do not seem to be getting any better.

If the black race ever decides to turn around and do to these whites what the whites have been doing to Negroes, the government will go all out trying to straighten them out. But if it ever comes to that, it will be too late.

Negro OK in Air Force, Not in US Steel

Pittsburgh, Pa. — A Negro worker in our shop applied for a bid in the electrical department as sub-station attendant. They said that he would have to take a test. So he did. You guessed it — it came out like all the rest of the test grades Negroes get. He didn't pass.

It so happened that a new boss had been put in charge of this department. He forgot to tell the worker that he missed passing by one point. That point was so important that they had to make a special effort to contact him to give him this great let-down news, and tell him to try again.

I spoke with this worker right after the test, and he felt that he had passed it without any doubt. But who can doubt the company?

Another Negro was hired in the mill and placed in our shop as custodian. He had just been discharged from the Air Force as a filing clerk and this was on all his records. He was talking about trying to get into the Accounting Department.

REJECT APPLICATION

I saw bids for the department in the office, and passed the word on to him. He applied, but never received any answer to his bid. He also went downtown to the main office and applied for a clerk's job, but never got any further than an interview.

In the meantime, back at the plant, they hired several white

clerks without telling the Negro worker anything about it. This man had served his country, and now the time had come for his country to do something for him, and he was being denied.

These incidents clearly show how the U.S. Steel Corporation is just as guilty as the South in job discrimination against Negroes.

Steelworkers March Against Discrimination

Pittsburgh, Pa. — About 20 pickets marched in front of the United States Steel Corporation's downtown headquarters here, simultaneously with other demonstrations in Los Angeles, Cal., and Birmingham, Ala., to protest discrimination by the company against Negroes.

The picket line was sponsored by the NAACP, which has been conducting a campaign here for up-grading of Negroes and expansion of job opportunities in general. At a recent rally Roy Wilkins stated, "If we can make an impression on U.S. Steel it will raise the rate of acceptance and promotions for Negroes in smaller companies as well."

In Birmingham, Ala., the march began at Miles College, a Negro school, and proceeded to the U.S. Steel headquarters in the Klu Klux Klan stronghold of Fairfield. The leaders of the march said it was aimed at dramatizing the problems of the rank-and-file Negroes in industry. U.S. Steel was chosen, they said, because of numerous complaints filed by Negro employees against segregated facilities, and lack of promotion opportunity.

The demonstrations are being called a protest of "Bread and Butter" issues.

Use Tax to Force Workers In Plants

Glasgow, Scotland — The Budget aims at using the financial weapon to drive workers into the production industries. Employers in the "service" industries have to pay a heavy tax on every worker they employ. The aim is to force employers to dismiss workers who, in order to get a living, will turn to the production concerns. If it materializes on a large scale it will reduce the bargaining power of the industrial workers.

All the unions have agreements with the employers, but the general wage level is considerably higher than that set in the agreements. This is due to unofficial action. If a large influx of new workers could be maneuvered, it would help the employers in more ways than one.

WILSON URGES PRODUCTION

The "early warning" system is designed to hold up wage rises. It is accepted by the A.E.U. and a number of other unions. Wilson is attending many trade union conferences to put his case. He is trying to outdo Stalin by his speeches on production.

There is the indication of anti-strike legislation. Then there is the Royal Commission on the trade unions. Everything points to a big battle ahead.

I am concerned about the effects of the Budget. The trade union leaders had no indication of its character. Even the Tories talk about using people as pawns. Unfortunately, the Socialists are Plan-mad. Perhaps now they will begin to see what the plan means.

NO WORKING CLASS?

Ian MacLeod, one of the Tory leaders, referred to the Budget as "cap and muffler" socialism. Marx based himself on working class desires and aspirations, and if that is what is meant by "cap and muffler" socialism, Marx, if alive today, would see in present trends complete vindication of all he said about the effects of capitalist production on man. It will be the wage workers who will be made the pawns, which makes nonsense of the claim that there is no longer a working class.

The Lyndon-Tree

Across America there grows A giant Lyndon-Tree. It reaches all the way to you From Washington, D.C.

It gunned a million men to hell Who asked a simple question; It left a million worms, who ate Its trunk, with indigestion.

To strangle you, to strangle me, Beyond relief and saving; To turn the whole world upside down, What else could be its craving?

We'd plant a garland on its head If it would only soon drop dead. —Egon Lass

Slain Socialist Is Anti-War Victim

(The following excerpts are from the statement issued May 17 by the Political Committee of the Socialist Workers Party.)

New York, N.Y. — A young socialist antiwar fighter, Leo Bernard, was slain yesterday in the Detroit headquarters of the Socialist Workers Party by an ultrareactionary gunman. Two other Wayne State University students, Jan Garrett and Walter Graham, are in the hospital, critically wounded.

This shocking, tragic and ominous deed is not an isolated act. It follows the bombing of the W.E.B. DuBois Club offices in San Francisco and the bombing of the headquarters of the Berkeley Vietnam Day Committee . . .

. . . It was a product of the witch-hunt atmosphere that has been stirred up and intensified by the "dirty" war in Vietnam. From the White House on down to the John Birchers and the Ku Klux Klan, the country is being incessantly incited against the "communist menace."

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NAME ADDRESS CITY STATE

Maryland Freedom Union Contract Makes Big Gains

Baltimore, Md. — The Maryland Freedom Union won its first contract on June 2 with Silverman's Department Stores. After months of stalling, the workers of Silverman's decided that we had to force the owners of the stores to come to the bargaining table.

The union got in touch with our lawyer, Solomon Baylor, and informed him to give the following message to the lawyers of Silverman: If negotiations were not started on Wednesday, June

1, there would be a picket line out in front of his store the following morning. We added that we were willing to negotiate 24 hours a day, but insisted on beginning as soon as possible.

The next morning, June 2, a line was out in front of the store on Pennsylvania Avenue and Gay Street. The line had been there for an hour and a half when we received a call from our lawyer stating that Silverman's was ready to start negotiations at 3 p.m. The picket line was then called off at the order of the workers.

Miss Vivian Jones, the president of the union, and Mrs. Rosattie Green, shop steward, carried on the negotiations. Two other volunteer organizers and the lawyer were also there.

Before the contract was signed the workers at Silverman's were making 70c an hour and working 48 to 50 hours per week. In less than five hours we had won our first contract. The following demands were included:

1. \$1.50/hr. for full-time workers.
2. \$1.25/hr. for part-time workers.
3. 40-hour work week.
4. Time and a half for overtime.
5. One week paid vacation.
6. Five days paid sick leave.
7. Six paid legal holidays.
8. Bargaining rights for all four stores.

On Sunday, June 5, a meeting of the workers was called at 3 p.m. Mrs. Rosattie Green and Miss Yvonne Courtney conducted the meeting to ratify the contract. Questions were asked and clarified by Mrs. Green. The contract was voted on and approved unanimously.

Miss Ola Johnson
Secretary,
Maryland Freedom Union

**We Urgently
Request Your
Much Needed
Assistance!
See Back
Page Appeal.**

Schenley Signs, Di Giorgio Next

Delano, Cal. — Although Schenley Industries has already signed a contract with the Farm Workers Association, giving workers \$2 an hour, the strike and boycott against Di Giorgio Corporation continues.

Di Giorgio has only recently made a new series of arrests of strikers, and is now demanding that the Tulare County Courts outlaw all picketing on the Di Giorgio ranch and that all strikers be arrested if more than six of them are caught "near" the 4700 acres of vineyards or 206 entrances to the Sierra Vista Ranch. The workers are fighting the injunction and will soon find out whether Tulare County's judges are owned by Di Giorgio or whether they will uphold justice.

SUMMER PROJECT

This summer the cause will be strengthened by the participation of a large number of full-time volunteers who will join in common cause with the farm workers. After a week of intensive training they will work on the boycott against Di Giorgio products (including all S&W products), and meet with Mexican-American farm workers to tell the story of the strike. Teams of organized farm workers and students will go out from the strike zone to carry the story to all parts of California, the Southwest and Mexico; keep the scabs out; and sign workers up for the union.

Students or volunteers who are interested in the project are asked to write at once to: National Farm Worker's Association, P.O. Box 130, Delano, California, 93215, or call 725-0751.

Picket U.A.W. Convention in Bias Protest

Continued from Page 1
a Negro union! He refused to answer the question.

The president says that he disagrees with the discrimination. But in the plant the company says that it will not have women or Negroes as supervisors on the floor, and by his lack of action, the President is agreeing with the company.

WOMEN WANT TO PICKET

Many of the women wanted to join our picket line at the Convention, but we asked them not to. They would have lost their day's pay, and most of them just cannot afford it. Many are the sole support of their families. Besides losing their pay, they would have been in trouble with the company for missing work. The company is very strict with the women about any time off from work.

As a result of our picketing, some of this did get to the floor of the Convention. And from what we understand, many were curious and interested in what is happening. Many from Detroit, Canada, Wisconsin and different parts of Michigan came out and spoke to us. They were surprised because this was the first time they had ever had a UAW Convention in California, and the first time they had heard of a picket line by union members at their own Convention. So we made history with them.

It was for a good purpose. Things couldn't get straightened out, and we felt that the only way we could do it was to get to Walter Reuther. We had written many letters to Reuther before. We sent them return receipt, and we have a pocketful of receipts, but no answers.

The president of the Local was pretty shook up about the picketing. He made a special trip to Orange County to see us about it. This seemed very funny to us. He could make a special trip because of our picketing, but he had never been able to make a special trip to Orange County to take care of all the people he is supposed to represent in our unit and do something worthwhile for us! That's hard to understand.

North American Raise Is A Cut

LOS ANGELES, Calif. — The impression I was left with after our new contract was signed a few months ago was that the company had bargained in good faith and the employees had much to look forward to.

In reviewing the situation a few months later, I find myself wondering if North American Aviation actually bargained in good faith. We were promised, in the new contract, a pay increase of 24c an hour over a three year period. This looks good on paper, but I wonder what percent of the employees at Autonetics are taking home the first year's increase?

As soon as the first increase was granted the "big shuffle" began. Many people were laid off and those who remain have had their wages severely cut and live in constant fear that they will be next to be among the jobless.

Labor grade eights are now labor grade fours, which means a cut of 30c an hour. Labor grade sevens are now labor grade fours, which means a cut of 20c an hour. Labor grade fours are now out the door or down-graded.

What good is a promise of a pay increase when one's wages immediately after the increase are cut by 30c an hour? Is this advancement?

Woman Assembly Line Worker
Los Angeles, Calif.

On the Line

Profit War Makes Workers Refugees When Plant Moves

By John Allison

Workers at the Chrysler Highland Park plant know the horrors of wars and recessions. They have been in both, in the front lines of the fighting troops and in the rolls of the unemployed. But with the situation we face now of the plant moving from Detroit to Perrysburg, Ohio, it brings to mind that wars for profits also keep going on, and workers are the victims.

We were there during the Tex Colbert and Newberg years, when Chrysler Corp. added more workers to the army of unemployed than any other corporation in Wayne County. Those workers who had no roots here left Detroit by the thousands, trying to escape the hard life of the big city.

LEAN YEARS

We remember the begging of people to buy Chrysler cars so we could return to work. We lost, and lost heavy, during the recession years of 1958 to 1961. Yet we stayed with Chrysler, and saw Townsend come to power.

The workers said we now have a new man, a new regime in power, and we would now be on our way to better things. For a couple of years we worked steady; very often we were forced to work too much, and always too fast. But we were working, which was more than we could say about the recession years.

And then the word came down that Chrysler Highland Park was leaving town. Many old timers who remembered that the corporation started right here said, "No, it can't be so!" But it was. Townsend said yes. The company was making plenty of profit from us, but it was expanding to make more profit; and in the scheme for more profits in the future, there was no longer any room for workers at the Highland Park plant.

Now the war was on, not in Vietnam, right here at home. The contract does not cover the refugees who cannot arrange a transfer to another Detroit plant and do not choose to go to a new city. They feel they have given Chrysler Corporation more than enough through these many years.

SENIORITY NOW NOTHING

Seniority was a cherished goal in the past. Now it means nothing for the workers who refuse to make hoboes of themselves and their families every time the corporation decides to build a new plant.

You read about the power of the dictator in Vietnam, General Ky. But we have dictators here too. As a matter of fact, the plant is very much like a dictatorship. We won't get shot if we don't obey the orders of Townsend and his army of superintendents and bosses, but we will be out of a job.

Many workers have worked in this plant for 20-30 years. They and their families have homes here, friends and neighbors of long years' standing. And they are also getting older, are reaching the age where they can't go someplace else and be hired. Without a job, they are finished.

SEEK TRANSFERS

So all that is left is trying to maneuver, to try to be transferred to another plant in the Detroit area, or to another department before the department you are working in is scheduled to be closed. This is what is happening in the glass department, with workers scrambling to be transferred before it closes in October. They are trying to hang on here, but this will all end all too soon, and everybody knows it.

We say we are fighting the war in Vietnam for the people there to have the right to decide what kind of life they want for themselves, without interference from anyone. This is the way it should be. But why is it that we can't have any right to decide the kind of lives we want to live here?

As for the union, in the middle of this move, when every rank-and-file worker has many questions that the union officers should be more than willing to answer whenever they can, the word came from the president of the union that all of the union business meetings for June, July and August have been cancelled. It's hard to believe, but it is true.

Only this isn't over yet. The rank-and-file workers got plenty mad when they heard about the meetings being cancelled. They want their regular meetings to be held, and any special meetings when they may be needed. The rank-and-file will be heard from about this matter.

30,000 Bad Brakes - Co. Yells Help

Detroit, Mich.—The dual brake is to be an added feature for the '67 Chrysler. It is supposed to be an added safety factor, since they claim that if one brake goes out, the other will still function okay.

The company brought in a whole mass of expensive automated equipment to make it, had it set up, and had already shipped out 30,000 finished pieces for power brake units. They were all shipped back the other day. It looked pretty good to the company going out. It looked pretty bad coming back.

WANT WORKERS' IDEAS

Right after it came back, the whole department of workers who had been on that job vanished one morning. Everyone was mad in the shop because we figured they were being blamed by the company. Then we found out they had been called to a meeting where the company gave them coffee and a fountain pen — and

a two hour lecture on the problem. The company wanted to know if any of the workers had an idea how to solve it.

It seems that they found a small pinhole on each side of the cylinder where the drilling process had left a burr which cut through the rubber gasket and caused the brake fluid to leak out. It is really an engineering problem, and they haven't found the solution yet.

REPAIRED BY HAND

One of the main problems is that the equipment is horrible. Workers have had to tear every one of the 30,000 pieces down and get the burr out by hand. The new equipment just wasn't geared for the drills the company has been using.

Meanwhile the engineers and plant supervisors are so thick in that department, they literally bump their heads together every time they try to bend over trying to figure out what to do.

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EDITORIAL

Freedom March Continues on
U.S. Murder Highway 51

James Meredith's "March Against Fear," begun on Sunday, June 5, was interrupted the following day by an assassin's shotgun bullets which injured the courageous man who had, unflinchingly, desegregated the University of Mississippi in 1962 and, once again, returned a loner in 1966. That same Monday night, as Meredith lay in the hospital, a rally in Memphis, Tenn., voted to continue the march the very next morning, Tuesday.

What had been a personal pilgrimage became, first, a march of 20, then grew to 150. In Coldwater, Miss., just six miles north of the spot at which Meredith was gunned down, 500 (out of a population of only 1500) joined the marchers. The march against fear had become a Freedom March with its own Manifesto: "This march will be a massive public indictment and protest of the failure of American society, the Government of the United States, and the State of Mississippi 'to fulfill these rights.'"

CHINA OR JACKSON, MISS.

The ignorance of the Mississippi state troopers is on a par with their brutality. No sooner had the march resumed than the very troopers who had been around when Meredith was shot began shouting the new marchers about, shouting, "I don't care if you march to China as long as you march on the side of the road." Dr. King replied, "We're marching to Jackson."

There are still some 200 miles to go, and no one can now say where the next provocation will come from or how the march will end. No one, least of all the freedom marchers, can forget that two died and nearly 400 were injured in that state when the University was desegregated; nor that it is the bestial state where Medgar Evers was murdered, also from ambush; nor that this is the state made infamous by the sadistic, brutal murders of Schwerner, Goodman and Chaney. No amount of "public relations image building," initiated by Governor Paul Johnson, can possibly change these truths, these fears, and the irrepressible urge for freedom, on the part of the Negroes.

POLITICAL TENDENCIES

Meanwhile, the Northern bourgeois press has discovered that there are different political tendencies within the civil rights movement. As if this were some sort of sin, the different papers are all writing at length about the fact that only Reverend King of SCLC, Floyd McKissick of CORE, and Stokely Carmichael of SNCC signed the Manifesto, while Roy Wilkins of NAACP and Whitney Young of the Urban League refused to sign so sharp an attack on the Johnson Administration. Rather than divisions "plaguing" the movement, this march may help to clarify more than any other activity since the Negro Revolution began in 1960 with the sit-downs. Every serious question from a "freedom budget of billions" for a true war on poverty to opposition to the Vietnam war is now being discussed by the Movement itself.

No one doubts James Meredith's courage either in 1962 or today, but when he speaks of a "Divine Responsibility," he is speaking a personal mystique, not the Negroes' mass desire for a freedom achieved by their own activity. When Charles Evers protests that he does not wish this march to become one "where every one goes home with the cameramen and leaves us holding the bag," every one is with him. But when he tries to limit the march only to voter registration to be carried out only by local leaders, there is no reason why others must follow him. Nor is it a question of "going over" to Stokely Carmichael's views of "seizing power" where the Negro is in the majority. There is no doubt that black sheriffs would break up the antagonism of the rabid white power structure. But real power lies, not in the "black counties" or even in the Southern states. It lies in Washington, D.C. Much greater momentum, and many more sections of the population, especially labor, will need to be involved before that power structure is broken.

This march will go down in history, no matter what relations with white labor, with the youth revolt, with the anti-war movement develop as a consequence of this new stage in the Negro revolution.

YANKEES, COME HOME!

For over 25 years the people of Viet Nam have been engaged in one war after another, wars imposed upon them by outside imperialist countries, France, Japan and now the United States. Despite the loud proclamations of the United States, the Vietnamese have yet to have a freely elected government of their own choosing or be permitted to govern themselves and to develop their nation.

The people of Viet Nam are sick to death of this senseless war. The recent suicide deaths of nine Buddhist monks and nuns only emphasizes the state of desperation in which the people find themselves. The fact that the tragic self-immolation by Buddhist monks that toppled even so reactionary a government as Diem has so far not been able to overthrow the military Ky clique is further proof of the fact that it is the military of U.S. imperialism, and not any support by the South Vietnamese, that is keeping that clique in power.

It is the American aggression that the South Vietnamese—not the North Vietnamese, not the Chinese, not the Russian, not even just the Viet Cong, but the South Vietnamese people as a whole—are struggling against. And it is the American army that has to be brought home.

The continued escalation of the war, the bombing of North Viet Nam, the withdrawal of Ky's troops from battle to consolidate his dictatorship, assisted as he was by the use of American military equipment, have alienated even the supporters of Johnson's Viet Nam policy to the extent that the majority of the American people oppose his Viet Nam policy, according to the Gallup Polls.

To continue the escalation of the war in the face of ever mounting opposition at home and abroad can only lead to all-out nuclear war with China and Russia, a war that will destroy the world.

The only atmosphere in which free elections can be held in South Viet Nam is an atmosphere free of the clouds of war. The only possibility of achieving peace in Viet Nam, which all sides want so desperately, is for the American troops to withdraw and let peace come to Viet Nam.

The people of South Viet Nam are determined to free themselves of the oppression of the Ky military dictatorship, but they need the help of the American people. It is up to us here to raise the slogan: Yankees, Come Home!

THE NEGRO REVOLT

When I heard the dreadful news of Meredith's near-assassination I ran to get my copy of *Marxism and Freedom* and reread the Introduction to the second edition. I remembered that it had pointed out that as the first edition went to press in 1957, the Little Rock incidents pushed the headlines about the Sputnik right off the front page. And as the new edition went to press in 1962 James Meredith's courageous entry into "Old Miss" pushed Walter Shirra's six-orbit space flight into the background.

And here it was 1966, and Meredith's shooting was occurring on the very same day that the two latest astronauts were making their spectacular landing — and once more getting pushed right out of the picture!

As Dunayevskaya has pointed out, when things of this earth — like civil rights — can hold in tow such scientific milestones, it is proof that ours is an age when "men's consciousness is preoccupied, not with scientific conquest, but with human freedom."

Intellectual
Chicago

The attitude of the police in the poorer Negro sections is very different than in the better-off ones. In certain sections when they stop your car they always shake you down. It is very embarrassing for kids in a car to be stopped and shaken down. They are tempted to say something, but when they do they get into more trouble with the police.

Even some of the police are unhappy with this policy of shaking people down. I heard that seven police from one station resigned because of the policy.

Reader,
Los Angeles

The Negro people here deserve great credit for running their own volunteer head-start program at their own expense for two months rather than turn their children over to a "poverty corporation" whose head-start program is run by the most faithful Toms in the area.

The eight volunteer head-start centers have really revolutionized Negro life in this country. Some kids are getting decent meals for the first time (so is one parent I know who works in the center). And the local mothers from impoverished families are preparing their kids for the integrated education coming soon in this country, better than the black bourgeoisie ever could.

The "poverty corporation's" head-start, which was promised government money at first is about to fold because so few parents are sending their kids to it. We decided to see if the "War on Poverty" was serious at all, by applying for our own head-start, and by some miracle got funded for a program independent of the local poverty board. Until now we have been in need of the most elementary things for the project.

We would like to ask you for copies of *American Civilization on Trial*, and the *FSM and Negro Revolution*, for our community center library, and we would like to ask your readers for two things:
Armistead Phipps, a local

Readers'

Negro who was a good friend of all of us, died of a heart attack on the Memphis to Jackson march two days after voting for the first time in his life. His family is now in desperate need of financial help. Could you please ask your readers to send contributions to: Mrs. Ora B. Phipps, 810 Sims Street, Marks, Miss.

Also, our community center needs a roof. It's about half-constructed now. Contributions can be sent to: Community Center, c/o William Franklin, 519 Cotton St., Marks, Miss. Many thanks.

Community Center
Marks, Miss.

I was watching the live telecast of the Deadwyler inquest. They had his pregnant widow on the stand most of the day, getting "the facts". The inhumanity of it all was horrifying—the D.A. thought that by dragging out the inquest for one solid week, with a holiday week-end inbetween, and allowing it to be shown live on TV he would prove how "fair" it was, and at the same time get the "passions cooled off."

All the "good leaders" are worried because Watts won't listen to them. And in the midst of this the black-nationalists are having a field day.

The appallingly big vote that the whites gave Yorty in the primaries here is frightening, too. A philosophy of freedom was never more needed than it is at this juncture.

Activist
Los Angeles

I read *Workers Journal* in your May issue on what the woman from Lowndes County said about the Black Panther party, and then I read the statements that Stokely Carmichael issued after SNCC adopted its new line and they are very, very different from each other. The Lowndes County woman seemed to make herself very clear that the people there are not interested in "all black, or all white, but all free."

It is one thing to have an "all black party" because you are forced to, and because you can win in that one little locality only in that way. It is quite another thing to make "all blackness" your principle and your philosophy (if you will pardon my using that word to describe black-nationalism.)

Reader
Los Angeles

VIETNAM

Your lead article in May on Vietnam was worth my year's subscription, alone. Here is my contribution to keep your wonderful paper going.

Between those who claim it is a simple question of being against our own country's imperialism there, and those who claim the situation is so complicated that nobody but a few experts can understand it — it is a real illumination to have the situation presented in so fundamental a manner, that you can see it is not enough to be against just U.S., or even just against U.S. and Russia and China — but you must try to distinguish what are the forces right within Vietnam that are truly for self-determination by the Vietnamese people themselves. It is far from a simple ques-

tion, and that article is well worth studying several times, to digest all its meat.

Instructor
Boston

The lead in the May Issue on the China-U.S. confrontation in Viet Nam was excellent. Especially significant was the analysis of the Buddhists' role. They are correct in being against the U.S. and against the Communists. But the fact that they fear a true social revolution by the Vietnamese people seems to severely limit their potential role. Today it is not enough to be against Western and Eastern Imperialism. One has to be for a new social order based on human freedom in order to effectively combat such giants as Russia, the U.S. and China.

Intellectual
California

REQUEST

I just read that Sukarno has promised to keep quiet in 1,000 languages. I wish we could make LBJ do that. Everytime he opens his big Southern mouth he makes me sick to my stomach.

Reader
Chicago

UAW CONVENTION

The union bureaucrats figure they have a good thing in the retired workers. Every summer they take them out to Belle Isle and give them a hot dog at the retirees picnic—and figure they have it made. They want to keep that big retiree vote in their hip-pockets. That's why all the new fuss over the retirees at the convention last month.

Auto Worker
Detroit

Half of the junk that wound up in that resolution on Vietnam that the UAW Convention passed was written by the State Department, I'd be willing to bet on it.

Auto Worker
Detroit

The interest returns on the strike-fund was supposed to go to helping the unions in Japan, the way I understood it. But instead it's going to go to Wayne State University, to build a Library with Reuther's name on it. That's the only thing Reuther was interested in — having his name perpetuated. These characters are all alike. They all want something built to them. Nkrumah had his statues. And Reuther's going to have his library.

Auto Worker
Ohio

DAY OF INFAMY

I hope your paper will not ignore, as the capitalist press did, the request of the Hiroshima University students that Luci Johnson not hold her wedding on August 6, the day we bombed Hiroshima. Luci refused on the grounds that it was not a "political" affair.

I never saw a more political affair in my life than that wedding — and scheduling it on that day of infamy tells more about the Johnson tribe and their callousness than anything for a long time. So far as I am concerned, that wedding day will also go down in infamy.

Aroused Friend of Japan
New York, N.Y.

Views

FREE EDUCATION?

A millage proposal for the schools was recently defeated here, and everybody was blaming the Negroes, especially, for their "lethargy" in not going to the polls to vote for it.

I happen to have voted FOR the millage, because I know how lousy the schools are, and I don't think the kids are going to get better schools unless the tax-payers do kick in more of their hard-earned money for them. But it really is against my "principles."

Why does the money for the schools have to come from another tax? What is "free" public education anyhow? Why can't the government put the millions at its disposal into schools and hospitals instead of into napalm bombs and machine guns?

It was sad that the millage failed — but I can't really blame the tax-payers for how they acted.

Mother
Detroit

* * *

The Board of Education has reported that many teachers from the Watts area and other minority areas are asking to be transferred. The Board puts the blame on the teachers and says that they are transferring because they are afraid to work in minority areas.

The teachers' union, on the other hand, says that this is not true. The union says that many of the teachers want to work in the minority areas but are transferring because the educational facilities are so inadequate.

They say that the Board of Education has done nothing to improve the poorly equipped schools in the minority areas and that teachers find it impossible to do a decent job under these conditions.

Supporter
Los Angeles

THE DRAFT

The class-ranking in relation to the draft may become an issue here at Harvard. A petition protesting the arbitrary re-introduction of class-ranking to comply with the draft-board got more than 1,000 signatures.

The Dean of the College John Monro, listened sympathetically, granted a referendum for the fall, but said he could not put off sending out the ranks (to the students, not to the board.) Then Dean Ford said that in actuality the ranking had been in existence all along and the decision was simply (?) to inform the students about them. He also said that he would introduce a motion in the faculty in the fall to abolish ranking, in conjunction with a student referendum. Other general issues (such as the abolition of 2-S) might also be raised.

I think the possibilities of abolishing 2-S look good. No, I take that back. There is the possibility of a broad coalition of educators and radicals asking Congress to abolish it. What comes next is something else. The desirability of such a coalition is also something else.

Student
Massachusetts

FRIENDS IN NEED

The May issue has just come. Thank you. It looks so interesting I want to send it along to a friend. Would you be able to send another copy along to me? Enclosed is my small contribution to help keep your fine paper "in the works."

Reader
Omaha

Editor's Note: We thank the many readers who answered our appeal to help keep *News & Letters* going. If you are not yet among them, won't you clip the coupon on p. 8 and send it in with your contribution now?

SUGGESTION

I urge all your readers, young and old to read the **Invisible Government**. This is the most important book of the day, to me. Published in paperback by Bantam, it sells for 95c. You can't really understand your country and the world of today until you know about our "Invisible Government."

F. B.
California

ATTACK ON SWP

I was shocked to read of the brutal attack on the three Socialists in Detroit. We don't have to agree with the views of the victims, to deplore the treatment given to them by a "super" American patriot. I have an uneasy feeling that this Nazi-type may go free.

Some time ago, the Communist Epton, was sent to prison for one year, because he "incited to riots." Yet the Nazi Lincoln Rockwell continues to go about freely advocating that Negroes be sent to Africa and Jews to gaschambers. This poor imitation of a human being is even being invited to speak at our universities.

It seems to me that our government has a weakness for all kinds of Nazis and dictators like Batista of Cuba and Franco of Spain — and that Hitler-lover, Mr. Ky of Vietnam. How long will the American people tolerate racists who are going about freely poisoning the minds and souls of our youth?

M. E. Ben-Ami
New York, N. Y.

* * *

Editor's Note: The man who entered the Socialist Workers Party headquarters in Detroit, killed Leo Bernard and critically wounded Jan Garrett and Walter Graham, has been ruled insane — which he undoubtedly was. It is an insanity, however, that was spurred on by the witch-hunt atmosphere that the war in Vietnam has revived.

See page 2 for official statement of SWP on this tragedy.

MD. FREEDOM UNION

We would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your excellent coverage of our situation. As with any new organization, we are struggling for our very existence. Emergency situations and crises are an everyday occurrence. As is to be expected we are desperately in need of funds. And while we have activated fund-raising campaigns within the community, these campaigns are slow in materializing, while the need increases a hundred-fold each passing day.

The publicity, while not entirely unfavorable, has been extremely limited, though we have been extremely active.

We appeal to your readers for aid of any type. Since we now occupy a three-story building (offices on the first floor and living quarters on the other two), we have an immediate need for furniture or any other type of household articles, and, of course, there is a constant need for physical support and financial aid.

Equality when?

Vivian Jones, President
Maryland Freedom Union

Editor's Note: We urge readers to send their support to: Maryland Freedom Union — 322 N. Schroeder Ave., Baltimore Md. 21223. For latest news of MFU's work see p. 3.

* * *

I have a high regard for *News & Letters*, but your article by Ray Ford on the activities of the Maryland Freedom Union smacks of promoting anti-semitism, for it only attacks Silverman, the middleman assimilated ghetto merchant-flunky for the WASP establishment, instead of exposing correctly the entire economical class culture system as the enemy of freedom and social justice.

I hope in the future that *News & Letters* will print only articles that analyze the entire picture. Half truths that can turn one minority group against the other are dangerous with scapegoatism that further injures bourgeois ideology and the economical system it proliferates.

Richard Thrift
Baltimore, Maryland

Editor's Note: We agree that the situation in Baltimore is a result of the capitalist class system. That is exactly why the city of Baltimore, and not just an individual merchant, was chosen as the pilot project for organizing the unorganized. See Baltimore story, page one, and "Labor, Negro Movement Make New Links to Change Society," *News & Letters*, March 1966.

TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya,
Author of *Marxism and Freedom*

ALIENATION AND REVOLUTION

A Hong Kong Interview

"There is no word in the Chinese language that is the exact equivalent for the word, alienation. The ideograms spell out: separation and distance." The young refugee from mainland China hesitated as she searched for words to describe what was happening there, and why she had fled to Hong Kong.

Let's call this refugee Jade, and let me admit at once that, in a few instances, Jade is a composite of several people I interviewed. This method of reporting the discussion with refugees serves as protection for them. Moreover, many of the stories do fit one into another since they are typical of those who, though they are now refugees, had not streamed out of China when the Communists first came to power.

WENT BACK TO CHINA

On the contrary, in the early 1950's they went back to what they considered to be their homeland: "We wanted to do something for our country. We wanted to live as free men and women. No one who has to live all his life in a colony can feel free. Even when he has the proper credentials to stay in Europe, or in the United States, he remains, always an outsider, a 'foreign student.'"

"As a Chinese," continued Jade, "I couldn't stand living in this colony where citizenship was denied me."

"Peita (Peking University) was my dream. We all felt ourselves the children of the May 4 (1919) Movement. Its new name was communism, but I do not think that most of us were communists. Humanist tendencies are very strong among the Chinese. I think the intellectuals went with Mao against the nationalists because of his democratic ideas; we all thought of communism as the truest democracy. In any case, I disliked, intensely, the merchant class. Almost everyone in Hong Kong sells something, and I certainly didn't want to be any sort of tradesman."

Jade's enthusiasm for the Maoist regime had not begun to wane until mid-1958. I asked her what impact the Hungarian Revolution had made on China. She replied: "I don't think the Hungarian Revolution was in the consciousness of the masses. There were dissatisfactions with conditions in China. Many, especially the older ones—at least at first it was the older ones—felt that after seven years of strict military rule it was time to relax the control. I had also heard that in Yu-men there was a strike of some oil workers. I had heard it from Lin Hsi-ling, the most famous student critic at Peking University. She was all the rage among us during the 'let one hundred flowers bloom, let one hundred schools of thought contend' debates in the spring of 1957. She was a very powerful orator and kept us spellbound for three and even four hours at a time. She could speak for that long a stretch of time. We would laugh when she derided the superior air of Communist Party members and the system of ranks in the Party."

"It was she who told us that a book critical of the Stalin era had been published, but it was sold only to cadres above the 11th rank. It's true she also mentioned the Hungarian Revolution, but if I remember right, this came only after the Party began accusing its critics of wanting 'to imitate Hungary.' But Lin Hsi-ling herself had drawn a distinction between the Russian Communist Party, which put down the Hungarian Revolt, and the Chinese Communist Party, which initiated the hundred flowers discussion. As I remember it, what she complained of mostly was that the 'contending and blooming' was confined to the upper strata, insisting that only when the masses are free to air their views can the problems that beset us be solved. But all this was said in order to assure our road to genuine socialism."

"Insofar as I was concerned I still thought that was exactly where we were going. Nor did I think it wrong to make some university lecturers clean spittoons. To me it was a sign of breaking down mandarin society that had always plagued Chinese civilization. Thus I participated actively in the anti-Rightist campaign in mid-1957—I was then in Shanghai. In 1958, when the Great Leap Forward was launched, I volunteered for work on one of the big dams. It was only there that my disillusion began."

"ALL LABOR WAS FORCED LABOR"

She stopped talking and seemed suddenly to be far, far away. I looked at this intense young woman who was less than five feet tall, and weighed about 85 pounds. I asked her how could she do the arduous and menial work of building a dam. She replied, "It isn't the menial work that upset me. It was the utter human waste, the bureaucratism, the inefficiency. We were transported by truck, and when we reached the place, we found that nothing was ready for us. Neither a place to live nor even the tools with which to work. It was the most primitive labor imaginable, as if we were to build the whole dam by hand. We lacked even such simple devices as a block and tackle to lift heavy rocks. These had to be pushed into place by sheer brute force."

"Also, although work didn't start until ten in the morning, we had to get up as early as five o'clock because we had no less than 20 miles to walk daily from where we slept to where we worked. All we had when we stopped for lunch was some bread. We did eat better when we finished work at sundown, but we had to reassemble for meetings. We didn't know which was the hardest to bear—the labor, the food or the meetings. We had to describe what we did that day, and we had to speak about our attitude to what we did."

"Although I had volunteered for the job, I now began to feel as if all our labor was forced labor. I kept my tongue, but you couldn't always keep quiet since, if you kept silent, your team leader would see you afterwards and ask what was the matter. I began to feel like I was nothing more than an ant, and that not only because of the unthinking mass labor, but because you so often said, yes, when you meant, no, that you lost all confidence

Continued on Page 6

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YOUTH

NEW BEGINNINGS

by Eugene Walker

Discrimination Results From Social, Not Family, Structure

Los Angeles, Calif. — The cause celebre for the plight of the Negro in America has now turned to the family structure. It is reported that the male is missing from the family and the Negro woman is forced to head the household. This lack of a male in the family is in turn used to explain the high crime rate, the failure of Negro children to finish school, and whatever other problem the ghetto Negro has. Forgotten in this avid search for causes is any fundamental investigation of the American society which has brutalized and exploited its Negro population.

A microcosm of this search into Negroes' living habits as an explanation for racial problems in the United States, is the Deadwyler Coroner's Inquest. Leonard Deadwyler, a Negro, was taking his wife to the hospital in what he believed to be an emergency situation, when he was killed by a white policeman. A Coroner's Jury ruled that the shooting was accidental homicide.

PERSONAL LIFE INQUEST

The inquest seemed to be less concerned with the shooting than with holding up for inspection the life of the Deadwyler family. Thus, not only was the alcoholic content of Mr. Deadwyler's blood brought in as evidence, which may have been relevant, but the fact that he had pinpoint scars on his arm which were at least six months old (Mrs. Deadwyler stated he had had them since childhood) was introduced in the inquest to imply that he had been taking drugs.

The fact that Mr. Deadwyler did not have a driver's license, even though he was at the wheel of an automobile when he was shot, was brought up at the inquest. (Mrs. Deadwyler testified that her husband had driven only twice since coming to California, and that he drove on this occasion because the owner of the car was too nervous to drive in this emergency situation.)

ALL BUT THE SHOOTING

Much of the questioning of Mrs. Deadwyler, who was on the stand a full day, concerned how much alcohol she had taken on the day her husband died. She was also questioned as to why her husband had taken surface streets to the hospital rather than an expressway.

All this had little to do with the shooting. It seemed rather an attempt to focus in on the lives of the Deadwylers.

The mother of Mr. Deadwyler characterized the inquest as follows:

"It appeared that my son was on trial rather than the man who shot him."

In the days of the witch-hunting inquests of Salem, Mass., or the Spanish inquisition, the rituals were performed in order to do away with or frighten any who questioned the ruling authority. It was a question of intimidation and terror.

OPPRESSION BARRED

The inquest in Los Angeles had its purpose, but it was not to investigate the shooting of Mr. Deadwyler. The shooting openly exposed the oppressive nature of the relationship between the police and the Negro.

To be sure, it had been shown before, though perhaps not as nakedly, but now we had Watts of August 1965 in the background — the Watts which had taken over a section of the city for several days and which had a number of serious incidents since then including demonstrations immediately after the shooting.

The task of the inquest now became one of cooling off the Negro community and somehow showing the white community

and the nation that it was not police oppression of minorities that resulted in the shooting, but rather, however unfortunate the shooting was, it was Mr. Deadwyler who had brought it on. This task was launched by inviting "responsible" Negro leaders, the ministers, as invited guests to the inquest.

Several rows of seats at the inquest were reserved for them. A major disturbance at the inquest was almost created by this act, as hundreds of Negroes were not allowed into the inquest room because of the reserved seats. (The inquest was moved to a larger room and the ministers were asked to leave.)

The cooling off was further enhanced by extending the hearing over many days.

LONGEST INQUEST

It was the longest Coroner's Inquest on record. The task of changing police oppression into an unfortunate accident was done by ignoring the role of police toward Negroes in our society, and concentrating on the lives of a Negro family caught up in the inhuman black-white relationship which is becoming more and more a hallmark of our nation.

Describes Appalling Study Levels, Brutality in School

Los Angeles, Cal.—I went to Reese Junior High School for a year. It is for what they call "unstable characters." They claim it is for those who can't learn, but there are a lot of smart people at Reese. They just don't give them a chance to learn.

You read out of 4th grade books. You are supposed to graduate from there, but I don't think there is a 10th grade book in the whole school. When you are in 7th grade you are doing math out of 5th grade books. You are doing English out of a 2nd grade book and your social studies out of a 7th grade book. About the only thing they really emphasize is shop. They have the best shop classes in Los Angeles. That is supposed to be trades training.

They make you go to Reese. They just send you; there is no alternative. That is why a lot of boys just quit. Nobody wants to go to schools with all boys.

ORGANIZE PETITION

School is supposed to be from 9:30 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. there. One day they said we would start having to be in school until 3:00 p.m. We didn't see why we had to stay in school until 3:00 p.m. when they were making us go there. So we organized everybody to sign a petition against staying the extra 15 minutes, since we were not learning anything, and they were not teaching anything. We had about 200 signatures and sent it off to Jack

L.A. Cops Quiz Negroes With Guns, Not Words

Los Angeles, Calif. — Contrary to the opinion of many white residents of Los Angeles, the inquest held concerning the mysterious death of Leonard Deadwyler — the Los Angeles motorist who was allegedly shot accidentally by a L.A. policeman while en route to the hospital with his pregnant wife — was a very necessary event.

It was necessary for two reasons. First, to let the Negroes in South East Los Angeles know that the "power structure" is interested in what goes on in this area of the city. Second, it illustrated and made concrete the fact that there is police brutality in South East Los Angeles.

WHY DRAWN GUN?

The illustration of police brutality hinges on one important point. Why was it necessary for the policeman to approach the Deadwyler vehicle with his gun drawn?

One can rationally assume that had a similar incident occurred in a white neighborhood, or had the party involved been white, the officer would not have approached the car with gun in hand.

The only step in the right direction so far was the proposal to build a hospital in South L.A. However, the conservatives saw to it that this was stopped. It has been said that this was the conservatives' way of punishing the people of South East L.A. for the riot of last August.

I hope there is no retaliation but I am afraid there will be, if both groups don't attempt to seriously negotiate, and realize that this is too important a matter to be tossed back and forth for each groups' satisfaction.

Cruthers, Superintendent of Los Angeles schools.

I was kicked out. They knew I was a "ring-leader" because I had told them I was going to do it.

We really didn't object to the extra 15 minutes so much, but we had other complaints. One was the beating of the students. At Reese when they swat you, if you don't cry or show any sign of weakness, they hit you with their fists in order to try to break you down. They try to break your spirit.

SWATS AND "LOCK-UP"

One time I knew a boy who got about 25 swats and he didn't break down. He didn't do anything; he just took them. So they beat him in the head. If you report it to anyone all they have to say is that the boy was out of control and they had to hit him to bring him back to his senses. That will be the end of it. That is the kind of thing they thrive on.

They also have a thing they call a "lock-up." They lock you in the bathroom all day. I know a few boys who spent the night there, about two years ago.

I asked to go to Reese. They were going to put me out of Markham School for watching a fight. I was just standing there watching, but they were going to put me out of school for that — that's the system. They asked me whether I wanted to go to Gompers, Edison or Bret Harte. So I asked to go to Reese just to see what it was like. And I found out.

— Watts Youth

TWO WORLDS

ALIENATION AND REVOLUTION

Continued from page 5

in yourself. Everyday it got harder to think any thoughts of your own. There was many a day when I wanted to bury myself in that dam.

"Finally, my health began to break down. I got what they call a nervous stomach. It got so that I couldn't eat the food at all. After a few months I couldn't bear it any longer and asked to be returned to Peking. Surprisingly, my team leader agreed to that on the condition I wouldn't immediately return to the university and that I shouldn't reveal that I quit. She said I really needed some rest before returning to school.

"For the first time since I had been so actively engaged in the anti-Rightist campaign I began to realize what they—I had now begun to put a distance between myself and the regime—feared most was the reaction of the youth. Of all the surprises during the hundred flowers campaign what must have shocked them most was the attitude of the youth, for the very generation that was a product of the new People's Republic had become its severest critics.

"In my opinion," Jade concluded, stressing the word, my, as if the counterposition of an individual's view to that of the state and the Party was the highest possible daring, "in my opinion," she repeated, "the designations of the Right and Left were used only afterwards. At the beginning of the hundred flowers debates it was so obvious that the most brilliant students, those who had been the most dedicated Communists and who had been the most prized by the regime, and who themselves kept stressing that they were Communists and wanted no return to the old, had nevertheless become the most severe critics. As I told you, I volunteered for the building of the dam and I truly thought that it was a way not only of building up my country, but of 'uniting' mental and manual work. But now every one of my bones ached, and my brain, too, was tired, tired, tired."

STUDIED "MAO'S THOUGHT," BUT NOT MARXISM

Jade stopped talking. I felt that the telling of the story of the dam was an actual reliving of that shattering experience, and I didn't wish to break the silence. After a few moments she resumed talking, this time about how she used the period of rest to begin studying Marxism. Paradoxical as it may sound, it seems that Marxism was not taught to one and all; it was reserved for "the cadre"—the Communist Party and Communist youth members: "Well, you know, not everybody did consider himself a Communist. Actually only a very small percentage of the Chinese people are Communist Party members. We all, of course, had to know the latest pronouncements of the Communist Party and be acquainted with 'Mao's Thought' on current subjects, but as for serious study of Marxism, that's a different matter.

"I was peeved. I had not been taught Marxism in Hong Kong or in the United States, and I was determined to study it by myself now. Business men, for example, could attend the Democratic People's After Hours Political Education School, and in four months come out as experts in Marxism, but it was not easy for me to get into a class that studied the original works of Marx.

"I found out what the ten basic books were, and I asked for these from the library: four volumes of Mao's Selected Works; two pamphlets by Lenin—Imperialism, and State and Revolution; two books by Stalin—Foundations of Leninism and History of the Communist Party of the USSR; and two volumes of the Selected Works by Marx and Engels. There are not many Chinese translations available of the original works of Marx. It is, however, possible to buy some books in the bookstores on the famous Wang Fu Ching Avenue in Peking if you can read a foreign language, and if you have the money. It is fun to go into those bookstores.

"I was told I should concentrate on Mao's Thought; that theoretically, the two most important essays are On Practice, and On Contradiction, as well as one of the latest, On the Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People. These, plus Stalin's The History of the Communist Party of the USSR, where the sum

Continued on page 7

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Law Is Loaded to Favor Slum Landlords

New York, N.Y. — "How come we have to pay seven dollars more a month now when the landlord didn't fix anything?"

"I just got a dispossession notice that says my husband hit the landlord, but all we did was write to the Rent and Rehabilitation Administration about our apartment."

"Take the landlord to court? Oh no, we did that two years ago and it didn't work."

These statements are typical of the problems brought to organizers of the West Side Block Associations by tenants on Manhattan's upper West Side. They reflect the complexity, and inadequacy of the hundreds of laws on housing which cover New York City.

GOUGING AND HARASSMENT

In the first case above, for example, the landlord was granted a rent increase by the rent control commission for putting in some copper pipes, regardless of whether or not they were needed, or of the dangerous violations in the building. In the second case, the tenants were not evicted because an organizer helped them to go to court, but it cost them a lawyer's fee and time off from work; their only offense had been to legally complain.

The third statement reflects the sophisticated pessimism which pervades the integrated area where we are working. Many tenants have tried to help themselves in the past, and it is difficult to convince people who have been on rent strike and lost that there is a new law under which they can win.

The West Side Block Associations, begun last fall, was designed to help tenants deal with the city effectively. The organizers are mainly students and other young adults who live in the area and are appalled by the exploitation practiced by its slumlords. They talk to people, encourage them to form tenants' councils in their buildings, and then advise them on the various remedies which are, in theory, available. (See News and Letters, Jan. 1966 for a discussion of our approach.)

INADEQUATE EFFORTS

Through both successes and failures in getting buildings fixed up, we have come to realize the total inadequacy of the efforts by the city, state, and federal governments to insure people decent housing. First of all, the good laws that now exist are either not enforced or are so complicated that it takes expert assistance and much time to get results from them.

Something that should be simple, for instance, calling the emergency number at the Department of Buildings to report a dangerous condition, throws the tenant into a maze of bureaucracy which, many days and calls later, may or may not end in anything being done.

Or imagine how silly I felt, going all the way downtown with a perfectly intelligent man twice my age who does not speak English, for the sole purpose of reciting a couple of technical phrases to a court clerk.

FREE ENTERPRISE MYTH

The basic problem, however, lies in the attitude of govern-

ments toward housing. The myth prevails that good, hard-working Americans own their own homes, and that private enterprise can provide them. This is ridiculous in a city as crowded as New York.

Public housing at rents people can afford seems to be the only solution to its terrible slums, yet at present buildings are deteriorating faster than new ones are being built. It is estimated that 400,000 new units are needed just to fill the present need. Private industry does not want to and cannot fill the needs of the low-income people.

As for existing private housing, the underlying problem is that the governments involved do not consider a lease in the same manner they do other contracts. Legal procedures do not afford tenants the same tools which you have if you buy a pair of defective shoes.

LAW FAVORS LANDLORD

In short, if the tenant fails to pay his rent he is almost always evicted right away, but if the landlord fails to provide the services explicit in the lease or im-

PLICIT in it through all the buildings code laws, it is like pulling teeth to force him to do so. Government must be made to change its attitude and to insure adequate housing, just as it controls drugs or provides water, (More tenant cooperatives would, of course, be great, but it takes much capital to begin one.)

What do the tenants we are working with think of these ideas? Most of them are concerned with the particular conditions of their building and are not interested in discussing philosophy. But as they begin to deal with the many frustrating city agencies, when they go to Albany to demonstrate for new housing measures, they begin to talk about the need for real changes.

The West Side Block Association is young and small, but if enough people try to change things for themselves, and if they get together with the many other tenant organizations all over the city, someday we will undo the traditional power of real estate and provide decent housing for everyone. A.M.

Gambian Teachers Strike For African Headmaster

In the small, former British colony of the Gambia, on the west coast of Africa, the contract of Gambia High School's headmaster was coming to an end and the Board of Governors of the school was faced with the problem of appointing a new successor to Mr. Beale, a Britisher imported into the Gambia some five years ago.

Mr. Beale is a graduate of Cambridge University, one of the best schools in Britain. His ability as a principal was undoubted, and he had been very helpful in bringing the school up to modern standards. From time to time he captured the love of his students. All the same, he was an expatriate. Sooner or later, he would go home and his time of departure was now imminent.

BRITISHERS AND AFRICANS

Gambia High School, the largest of the three high schools in the country, has more than 500 students. It is a public school indirectly under the Education Department but directly under the administration of a special Board of Governors. They determine the school budget, the appointment or dismissal of teachers, see that the school is fully equipped with necessary items, etc.

Consisting of about five or six members, the Board of Governors is headed by a Rev. Naylor, another British expatriate. He is the President of the Board and Mr. Beale, the school headmaster, is the Chairman of the Board. The rest of the members are Africans, two of whom are the Director of Education and the Post Master General.

Mr. Beale is one of six Britishers teaching in Gambia High School. The Assistance headmaster is also a Britisher, who came to the Gambia many years ago. The other Britishers are also one and all, above the five African teachers on the staff, who quite naturally feel alienated and dis-

satisfied with the general atmosphere of the school. Most of them have studied abroad and have degrees quite equal to those of the white teachers. (After all, how could their qualifications be inferior when they graduated from British schools in England?)

Added to this general dissatisfaction was the recent decision of the Board of Governors when they met to appoint a successor to Mr. Beale. Contrary to the beliefs and hopes of the African teachers—and public opinion both inside and outside of the school—the Board appointed another British expatriate, still in England, to take Mr. Beale's place.

Four of the African teachers wrote a letter to the Board, protesting the new appointment. Their main point of argument was the fact that there are qualified teachers right in the Gambia fit to take over Mr. Beale's place. If the Board wasn't satisfied with teachers in the country, the African teachers declared in their letter, the Board could certainly have advertised the vacant position in other African countries rather than in England.

The letter threw the Board into a fury. They suspended the teachers, and demanded unqualified apologies from each teacher. The teachers were asked not to enter the school premises until these apologies were sent. One of them was intimidated and sent in the apology, but the other three refused. They were given a deadline to comply or be expelled. But the teachers obtained a lawyer and summoned the Board to court.

TEACHERS STRIKE

In the meantime, the Teachers' Union called for a strike to support the suspended teachers. By this time the students had also begun demonstrations, with banners denouncing the Board's appointment of the Britisher and suspension of the Africans. Disorder reigned inside and outside of the schools.

Although there are always a few Uncle Toms, and the teachers' strike was therefore not 100% successful, the authorities have already realized that Gambian intellectuals are no longer willing to accept injustice passively. Whatever the outcome may be—and I believe the teachers will triumph if they continue in the same high spirit they have begun—any decision-makers in the Gambia will henceforth most certainly take into consideration the probable reaction of public opinion.

TWO WORLDS

ALIENATION AND REVOLUTION

Continued from page 6

total of what constituted to them 'Marxism-Leninism.' The trouble was, the more I read, the more I began to doubt some of Mao's statements, because my own experience which kept intruding into my study didn't jibe either with his practice or theory. But I didn't dare to say so out loud, not even to myself.

SINO-SOVIET CONFLICT ERUPTS

"I had first heard about disagreements late in 1958, when Plan Tzue-nien, an editor of Hsinbau (the official news agency), listed ten points on which Soviet Russia disagreed with the People's Republic. He had begun reeling them off as the Great Leap Forward, the Three Red Banners, the 'non-dialectical' approach to technicians who, the Russians said, should be judged not on how 'Red' they are, but how expert they are, and so forth and so on.

"However, the real shockers did not occur until 1960—and those we heard first, not officially, but through the grape-vine—and those concerned an exchange of gunfire between Chinese and Russian border guards, and the departure of the Russian technicians with their blueprints. All work had to stop. The campaign then began full force against the Russians. We had no specific love for them; there had actually been very little contact between Russians and Chinese, but the regime itself had always played up the Russians as the greatest friends we had, and Stalin's History of the CP had been studied as much as any work by Mao. And now all we heard about them was that they were 'revisionists.' Somehow, instead of hatred against the Russians, a feeling of utter isolation descended upon all of us.

"Then something else took place that set me thinking. African students began coming to our university. We were very interested in them, their countries, their revolutions, but we were not permitted to fraternize with them. They were ghettoized both as to living quarters and any socializing. Meanwhile, living conditions in China had become so difficult that we wanted to ask these new arrivals for things we were short of, like soap. And we were stopped from doing that. So once again, we felt very frustrated. I felt more strongly than ever that things were reeling backwards. At the same time my health hadn't improved much; it seems I was now stuck with a bleeding ulcer. I wanted to flee. I began to plan my escape. It took me two years to achieve it, and yet . . ."

Jade stopped and looked at the mountain at the top of which one could see the radar of mainland China. She resumed talking as if she was talking only to herself: "And yet, I wasn't back in Hong Kong very long—I only came last year, you know—when I began to feel all the old alienations that drove me from this island to the mainland. I'm referring not only to the British colonial administration, but the so-called independent British scholars—and they are not as poor a breed as the Americans who seem to have so exhausted themselves in learning the Chinese language that they do not bother to learn anything about the Chinese people.

"It's funny, their attitude to their 'specialty, China,' seems to be like that to a skill, like oil drilling. People exist for them as so many millions—a figure, a figure they wish they could cut, that's all. They don't exist as people with feelings, thoughts, aspirations. Not a single one of them is a Marxist, for example. OK, I can understand that. What I cannot understand is their cynicism. It seems to be one big joke for them, but Marxism isn't one big joke to the Chinese people. No wonder Mao feels so sure that no outsiders will ever get to first base in China, much less win the leadership over the Chinese."

MAOISM IS RETROGRESSIONISM, NOT REVOLUTIONARY

Heretofore I had intervened only in order to ask questions, but I felt it necessary at this point to make my own position clear. I told her that what she knew about me was that I was an American, what she didn't know was that I was a Marxist-Humanist. And as a Marxist-Humanist I wish to state most categorically that Mao was no sort of Marxist. Quite the contrary. Were it not for the fact that he had state power over a vast land of 700 million human beings, no one would pay any attention to his sophomoric essays—On Practice, On Contradiction—much less consider them original contributions to the Marxism of our age. As for How to Handle Contradictions Among the People, that is not only a revision of Marxism, it is the pronouncement of an exploitative tyrant who is so drunk with power that he thinks that the objective contradictions of capitalist production can be abolished by fiat. Mao decrees so, and so it is.

The shocker, to me, I concluded, was not the power conflict between those two state-capitalist societies, Russia and China, that euphemistically call themselves Communist. The shocker was ingrained in Mao's contention that "for decades" — and "even a century"! — the class struggle would continue "in all socialist countries . . . as an objective law independent of man's will." Far from being a new theory of revolution, that is the most sinister of all theories of retrogression.

At this Jade fairly jumped out of her seat, exclaiming: "Retrogression, that's it. That really is it. Mao is a retrogressionist! That's the word that escaped we when I said everything seemed to be reeling backwards. That word never came into my consciousness because I was afraid to face its consequences, though I had felt for some time that Mao was the real revisionist. Retrogression, that really sums up 'Mao's Thought.'" Jade took my book out of my hands and began glancing at the chapter, "The Challenge of Mao Tse-tung," saying "I must translate this and get it into the mainland." She kept stressing, over and over again, that Mao was the retrogressionist, not the Chinese masses: "Marx's Humanism will raise their spirits once more, and then history can move forward. The youth stands ready to make a new revolution."

No wonder, I thought to myself as the interview drew to a close, that some Chinese refugees consider the American scholar no more than a new form of the CIA. It is, after all, impossible to bridge the gulf between a tired exponent of "the end of ideology" age and the energetic revolutionary who had suffered through more than a decade of "Mao's Thought" and hard labor and still dreams of new revolutions. No doubt Jade exaggerated the proximity between philosophy and revolution. But the Maos fear their youth, and not those who bemoan their fate at the hands of "the gods that failed." For the dreams and energies of youth are the stuff revolutions are made of, totalitarianisms undermined, Maos overthrown.

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British Seaman Strike Bares Government's Anti-Labor Role

Continued from Page 1

shipowners in opposition to the justifiable demands of the seamen. It will cut across the incomes policy of the Government. Harold Wilson described the action of the seamen as "a strike against the State." He then had the Queen declare "a state of emergency," but he will offend many of his own supporters if he makes use of these powers. Already 140 M.P.'s (Members of Parliament) have made contributions to the union funds, and another 40 are giving support. There has been nothing like this in a strike for many years.

Before the strike began, on Monday, May 16, the weaker elements in the British movement were ready to submit to the Government's plan to curb the activities of the trade unions and the militant sections of the rank and file. It looked to them as if there was nothing else to do. It was while this feeling was spreading that the British seamen—for the first time in 55 years—decided to go on strike. The seamen have been surprised at the support they have received from the mass of workers.

For many years the National Union of Seamen was controlled by leaders who were notoriously corrupt. The rank and file fought many battles against the shipowners, but they always came into conflict with their own leaders. The members have managed to put the union on a new basis, and the leaders have this time taken a determined stand.

VENOMOUS OPPOSITION

Although there was a certain amount of talk before the strike began about the need to avoid action that might embarrass the newly elected Labour Government, the man who brought that talk to an end was Harold Wilson. There was cunning in the broadcast speech he gave on the first day of the strike, but he could not conceal his venomous opposition to the demands of the strikers. He did more to bring

support to the seamen than all the propaganda material issued by the union.

Cunning as he may be, Wilson stands out as the leader of those who set out to break the strike. Next to Wilson come the leaders of the Trades Union Congress. One member of the General Council was also a member of the court of inquiry that condemned the strike and said that the shipowners took the national interest into account. This was not very bright coming from a body that wanted the strikers to accept its recommendations.

The court recommended an immediate reduction of hours to 48, and 40 hours in June of next year. It also proposed that leave be stepped up from 36 to 39 days per year. The seamen treated the report with scorn. The court of inquiry had killed any pretense that it was playing an impartial role.

BETRAYAL A LESSON

But the attitude of the General Council seems to have deprived the seamen of the international support which they were looking for, and which would have moved the strike to a high stage.

It is a betrayal — with serious lessons for the working class. The leaders are steadily becoming integrated into the state machine. The strikers were right, and although it continues to be hinted that the seamen are "tools of reaction" because we have a Labour Government, the real reactionaries are at Downing Street and Transport House. The real battle has been brought nearer by the example set by the seamen, who have given inspiration to the workers here in Britain.

It looks as if the strike of the British seamen will be over before long. Something has been won already. Perhaps the most important aspect of the strike is the fact that the workers can now see the kind of scheme that the Government is preparing in order to keep them in chains.

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Our Life and Times

By Peter Mallory

U.S. Oppression and Dominican Election

The election in the Dominican Republic has given the Presidency of the country to Joaquin Balaguer, old friend of deposed dictator Trujillo, over his opponent Juan Bosch, the last President who had been overthrown by the military clique supported by American military might.

Juan Bosch, popular among the workers in Santo Domingo, was supposed to be the favorite, but if the facts can be judged correctly, he broke his own back by his timidity and bending over backwards to please his critics. Bosch stayed out of the country during the revolution to restore him to power and hid in his home all during the election campaign to "avoid assassination". While it is certainly true that the U.S. military occupa-

tion of the country controlled by its own reactionary military made the danger of assassination real enough, the fact that Bosch limited his campaigning to radio speeches did not endear him either to the countryside or make him a hero in the eyes of the city proletariat, although there he did keep his lead.

At the outbreak of the revolt against the military clique in April 1965, the U.S. Ambassador to the Dominican Republic was "Tap" Bennett, whose chief claim to fame up to then was his segregationist background as a graduate of the University of Georgia, with his ideas polished at the University of Freiburg in Nazi Germany under the rule of Hitler. He immediately started screaming "Communist plot," although the facts show that he had more C.I.A.

agents on his staff than they could list as known Communists in the country. When challenged to produce names, they could only come up with 19. To "contain them", Bennett demanded and got over 30,000 U.S. troops, who supplied arms, financial and every kind of aid to the military clique that the Democratic forces were trying to dispose of.

When a truce was finally arranged, the U.S. troops and their friends remained in control, while the rebel leaders were sent abroad and their arms confiscated.

It was in that atmosphere that the elections were held, with results quite satisfactory to the U.S. State Department. Its record in Latin America is now completed: 100% success in suppressing the self-determination of people.

Ban G.I. Paper

The Overseas Weekly, published for the past 16 years and sold to U.S. troops all over the world, has been banned from circulation in Vietnam and the entire Pacific area. The publisher of the paper has been fighting the Pentagon for the past year to obtain circulation there.

Joseph Dear, the publisher, stated, "While American soldiers are fighting to bring freedom to South Vietnam, a Birchite-oriented cabal in the Defense Dept. is depriving our troops of a basic American right."

After stalling for over a year, the publisher received a letter from the assistant secretary of defense for manpower, Thomas Morris, informing him that there is not room for a single additional publication on any post exchange newsstand in South Korea, Japan, Okinawa, Guam, Hawaii, the Philippines and South Vietnam. While these newsstands are crowded with such worthwhile reading as Flip (for teenagers), True Romance, Ladies Circle, True Love, Better Homes and Gardens, the answer must be elsewhere. And it is.

It was the Overseas Weekly that exposed the commander of the U.S. troops in Germany, Major General Edwin A. Walker, as a member of the John Birch Society. It is clear that, while the Birchers were not routed out of the high command in the Pentagon with the departure of Walker, the popular GI paper has been.

Watermelons and Mao's Theory

Literary Gazette, published in Moscow, has not lost its sense of humor. It published without comment an article from the Chinese press entitled "Let's Discuss the Philosophic Question of Selling Watermelons in Big Cities."

It appears that watermelons were rotting before they could be sold. Therefore Chzno Sin-li, a watermelon merchant turned to the masterworks of Mao Tse-tung, "On Concentrating Overwhelming Forces and Smashing the Enemy to Pieces" and treated the mat-

ter like the military matter it was. But first he had to solve the problem of philosophy. Consulting Mao's "On Contradiction," he became convinced that the problem had something to do with supply and demand.

With boldness he attacked the problem. Too many clerks around the store (failing to attack the enemy, the rotting watermelons). Following Mao's leadership, he carried the struggle to the countryside. He fired the clerks, (as any good capitalist would?) and hired more delivery boys (cheaper too, we suspect) who delivered these melons. With a straight face the Chinese author concludes that Chzno Sin-li thus solved the commercial, military and philosophic problems all at once.

German Arms

During his recent visit to West Germany, U.S. War Minister Robert S. McNamara discussed the obligations of the West German government regarding the purchase of U.S. supplies during the next year. The Bonn government has an agreement to purchase \$1.35 billion in U.S. arms during the two years ending June 1967.

West German Defense Minister, Kaiuwe von Hassel maintained that his government has quite enough arms, and offered a plan to make up the difference between their planned purchases of \$675 million in military hardware to maintain their 12 divisions by purchasing industrial equipment for distribution under their foreign aid program.

It is understood that McNamara insisted that the West German government build up, whether necessary or not, the size of its military force in order to get the full \$1.35 billion spent in the U.S. with the U.S. munitions makers who are growing fat in the "war against Communism."

The excuse is: the gold flow out of the United States due to the stationing of U.S. troops in West Germany. How about solving the problem by withdrawing all the troops from Europe and from Vietnam and from Latin America? And why not a word about the fact that this "gold flow out of the United States" is costing American workers \$1.35 billion in taxes?

Whitewash of Coughlin by Press

Suddenly, as if we all had short memories, praise is being heaped on a fascist priest, Father Coughlin, as if he were a knight in shining armor.

The fact is, Father Coughlin praised Mussolini when he invaded Ethiopia, supported General Franco for his fascist destruction of the civil war in Spain, openly supported Hitler, conducted joint meetings with the German-American Bund in Madison Square Garden in New York before the outbreak of war. For ten years this fascist went on raving against "Jews and Communists," collecting funds from poor people and winding up with church properties worth \$11 million.

So provocative were his pro-Nazi activities that they had become a threat to the Catholic Church itself in the United States, once it reached an accord with the Government on the conduct of the war against Nazi Germany. Thus, 26 years ago when his activities interfered with the conduct of World War II, he was finally silenced.

Evidently in the hope that the youth know nothing of this record, the Detroit papers have been hailing this priest, keeping silent on his criminal Nazi war record. And, of course, so does the Church. Cardinal Cushing of Boston, that bosom friend of the Kennedy's, was to have officiated at his departure from his pastorate, but at the last minute decided to send official greetings. Father Coughlin belongs in a prison for war criminals, not on an altar, much less in the memory of today's youth.

Navy Stupidity

Fifty-five years ago there was an epidemic at the U. S. Naval Academy which was traced to unpasteurized milk. The Academy responded by setting up its own dairy herd to supply milk to the students. In the Navy, once a decision has been made, nothing except "an act of God" or Congress can change it.

Today the Navy cows must go. The cows cost \$84,000 more than it would cost to buy the milk. It took the Navy 55 years to find out it was wrong again.