

NEWS & LETTERS

'The Root of Mankind Is Man'

10¢

Vol. 12—No. 4

Printed in 100 Percent
Union Shop

APRIL, 1967

10¢ A Copy
6d in Great Britain

ON THE INSIDE

A. J. Muste—Forgotten Page
by Raya Dunayevskaya—p. 5

Maryland Freedom Union Victory—p. 2

Anti-War, Civil Rights Merger
see Editorial—p. 4

WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

Elections, Reuther and the Workers

Many of the older workers in our shop were laughing about how often the Chief Stewards and Shop Committeemen are being seen in all departments now, especially among the production workers. Some of the younger workers who have less than a year's seniority were puzzled, and wanted to know how come we have seen the Stewards and Committeemen so much in the past week. The older workers explained that the union is heading into an election. It is only during these few weeks that you can get them to come around. In fact, you don't even have to call them. They will even raise hell with a foreman for you during these pre-election weeks, but the company knows they have to do it in order to get their votes. As soon as the election is over, they will raise hell with us, if we complain about the company or ask them to defend us.

THE CONTRACT WAVERS

They will come waving the contract, telling us about some section and some paragraph in it. They will read you this or that sentence that shows you how their hands are tied and they can't do a thing for you. "Oh, the company is wrong," they will say, "but what can we do?" They will tell us that what the workers have to do is be at the next contract ratification to vote to change these things. They will make it sound like a simple matter.

But every worker knows that when the ratification meeting comes around, the union bureaucrats will help to keep any worker who opposes the contract from getting the floor to express his opposition. The shop committeemen and stewards will be the first ones to raise their hands to accept it.

The younger workers were amazed when they heard this. Even in their limited experience they knew it was true, but what puzzled them was how these stewards and committeemen have the gall to come around pleading for votes, when the workers know they will not come around again for another two years. The older workers told them they'd learn soon enough that union politicians don't care what you call them or say about them, so long as you vote for them.

WHAT HAPPENED TO THE UNION?

The younger workers began to ask what had happened to the union and the strikes workers used to use against the company. They were told, "Reuther took that weapon away from us with these contracts, and now uses it against the production workers."

Everyone had read about the Mansfield, Ohio, strike last month, at the General Motors Stamping Plant. It was the second unauthorized strike in less than three weeks in that plant. All the production workers know that the company forced those workers to go out by firing some of them in the beginning.

Reuther and his International Board took over the local union and forced the workers back to work. It was reported that at the meeting the union called to vote on whether they should return or not, the International Rep said there would be no voting that day, there was only one vote in that meeting and it was his.

When the men returned, the company fired 17 more workers, including a shop committeeman, who was an active leader of the production workers. He stated that the union threatened him if he did not quit — and many workers believe it.

One of the GM officials is reported to have said that the workers weren't striking against the company, but against Walter Reuther. The strike was against the company, all right, but to win a victory the workers had to fight Reuther and his staff as well.

PRODUCTION WORKERS ANGRY

There is dissention all over the UAW on the part of production workers against Reuther. There is dissention between skilled workers and production workers—and Reuther is in the corner of the skilled workers, just as he is in the corner with the company, against the production workers. Some workers feel that Reuther will have more trouble than ever with the production workers when the next contract comes up for ratification, because of his attitude toward the skilled workers. He accepts them as an "elite" group, and acts as though the production workers didn't even exist, much less that they were the ones who played the vital role in building the union.

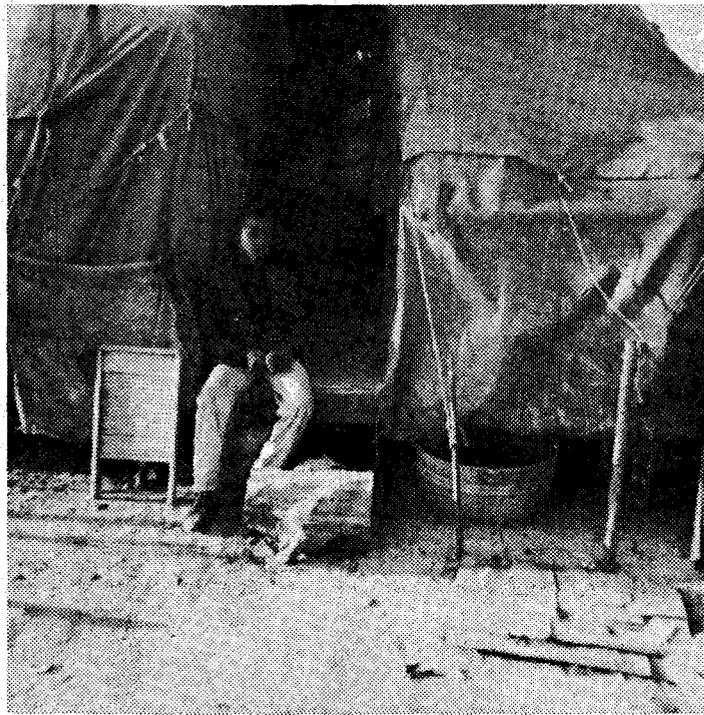
All we are good for today, in the eyes of the so-called leaders, is to pay dues and keep pace with the machines—not to complain about working conditions. Yet the union was organized around working conditions as the basic issue.

Reuther has tried to transform the workers' thinking from concern with working conditions and shop problems to nothing but the economic issues. He thinks that all a production worker needs is a few more pennies an hour and a few more fringe benefits (which the union and the company will control) and that will keep him quiet. That is supposed to make him forget his shop problems. Many of the workers feel that Reuther and Company will be in for an awakening before the next contract is settled and accepted by the production workers.

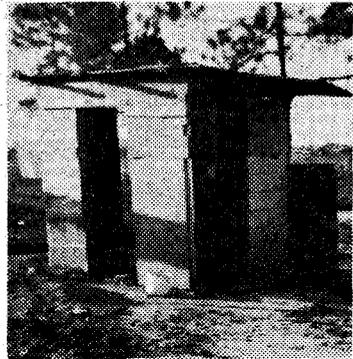
Trip Down South Reveals Negro Revolution Keeps Moving Forward

BY CHARLES DENBY

I took a trip down Lowndes County, Ala., last month and came home convinced that the Negro Revolution in the South has not stopped. The enthusiasm in the meetings is not quite like it was before the defeat of the Black Panther party in the November elections, but the people in rural areas are not quitting because they know they have made a revolutionary change in their lives, and they don't want to lose what they have gained through their hard struggles.



DESPITE unbelievable conditions forced on southern Negroes fighting for their rights, such as these tent city families in Lowndes Co., Ala., they continue to fight. At right is a primitive out-house tent families must use.



—News & Letters Photos

They don't want to stay where they are, either, at the "stand-still" where all the civil rights organizations seem to be at the moment.

The best way to describe the situation is "in action"—at one of the mass meetings they held while I was there. Their firm and bold determination to speak out on the problems that affect their lives would make anyone wonder whether they were the same Negroes he knew four or five years ago. They are proof of how people transform themselves when they are caught up in a revolution and become part of it.

As one said, "The Negro Revolution meant that we destroyed the old, and replaced it with something new. This is our aim in this county, and when it is completed, everything will be new, including our lives."

MEETING AT HAYNEVILLE

They held their meeting on the outskirts of Hayneville, one of the hot-beds of the KKK in the state. There is much more to be known about Hayneville than all the publicity given it in recent years. The flogging and murdering of Negroes has a history as long as the town's.

That Negroes would hold a civil rights meeting in that county at night was something so new that it alone made you appreciate what the Negro Revolution has done.

At the meeting many questions were discussed, questions like: What is the road from here to complete freedom? What can we try now that "black power" seems to have failed? They said they thought the "black power" slogan would lead them to victory, but it didn't, and they felt now they must try something different.

There were many factors that helped defeat the Black Panther candidates. Some Negroes were forced to vote as their landowners suggested in order to remain on their farms. Racist whites intimidated many voters. Other Negroes failed to even register.

There was much confusion also because some "outsiders" came waving a banner of support, but turned out to have come not so much to support the movement or work with the Negroes, as to lead and capture the movement for their own purposes.

TENT CITY

Five families still live in the Tent City that was born when Negro families were forced out of their homes by the white landowners two years ago because they registered to vote.

I have read about Tent Cities ever since the first one was formed early in the 1960's in Tennessee by Negro farmers who had been evicted en masse. I have seen pictures of the Tent City in Mississippi, that was called "Strike City" because those Negroes were evicted for their

Wildcatting Teamsters Blast Global Foods Pact as Sell-out

New York, N.Y.—"Any time men start thinking for themselves, there's no place for them in Local #805," one of the Teamster local's 44 locked-out workers told News & Letters. He was talking about the situation at Global Frozen Foods where an exploiting company and the local collaborated to sign a three-year sell-out contract and to lock out the men who wouldn't buy it.

It all began on Jan. 17 when, for the first time in any worker's memory, Local No. 805 held a membership meeting of the workers at Global Foods. The meeting was set up to quiet discontent

over the way negotiations for the new contract were being carried on.

The negotiating committee, composed of 17 workers from the shop, had demanded increases of \$20, \$10, and \$10 a week per year over the next three years, but the union bureaucrats kept giving in to the company until the demands were down to \$6, \$5, and \$5.

The business agent asked the membership to accept this, and they voted it down 87 to 11. Then one worker took the floor and moved for a strike vote, but the pie-card said he was out of order and adjourned the meeting.

WORKERS "WILDCAT"

The next morning, the workers started their own picket line.

These workers have been out on strike for over two months. Some of them have had to take other jobs to keep their families going. But they will not give up. They need help. N. Y. readers are urged not to buy frozen foods at Waldbaum's, King Kullen or Hill-Korvette's supermarkets. Ask the retail workers in these stores not to handle scab goods. If you want to help financially or, in New York, personally, contact this paper.

(Continued on Page 2)

(Continued on Page 8)

Wildcatting Teamsters Blast Sell-out Pact

(Continued from Page 1) Both the company and the union called it a "wildcat" strike and tried to bring in scabs. After several days of picketing, the men agreed to go back to work provided that negotiations would be reopened and that there would be no mass firings.

One worker said: "This was where we made our first mistake. We never should have gone back without a contract."

Although a representative of the Mayor's Committee on Exploitation of Workers, which had mediated the affair, assured the workers that "only one or two heads would roll," when the men returned to work they found that 21 workers had been fired. Of these, seven were members of the original negotiating committee!

When the workers saw this, they walked right out again and started picketing the plant. Some workers went home and got their wives and kids to picket with them. Twenty-three workers who were not fired are still out with the original 21.

BRING IN SCABS

The company and the union then collaborated to bring in scabs from No. 805's sister union, Teamster No. 810, and the union showed its "brotherhood" further by joining the company to get an injunction against any workers picketing Global or any of

the supermarkets selling its frozen foods, like Hill-Korvette's, Waldbaum's and King Kullen.

When the strikers tried to get a hearing to get the temporary injunction against picketing lifted, the Judge said, "This is the most complicated labor case I have ever seen. I'll have to think about it for a while." Then he went on vacation. As of this writing, no decision is in sight.

PICKET STORES

The rank-and-file workers then came to News & Letters and to student groups like SDS for help in continuing the boycott against Global products in spite of the injunction. Ten workers and 30 sympathizers brought the fight to Waldbaum's and Hill-Korvette's supermarkets in Queens. At Waldbaum's the strikers and students picketed outside and distributed leaflets informing customers that scab goods were on sale there. The leaflet began: "FORTY-FOUR WAREHOUSEMEN FROZEN OUT."

Several groups of would-be shoppers from the picket-line arrived at the checkout counters with baskets full of frozen foods, shouted "We don't want to buy scab food," and walked out leaving the counters piled high. The pickets then went to another Waldbaum's where they did the same thing.

A representative of Global arrived on the scene and handed

them copies of what he called an "injunction." The workers left the line, then discovered that it was actually only the company's petition for a show-cause order, and returned to the line.

Want Better Conditions, 7-Hour Day

Brooklyn, N.Y. — "WE WANT A 7-HOUR DAY!" That's the slogan written in pen, pencil, crayon and magic-marker all over the walls, lavatories, coffee-room and crates at Associated Transport here.

It looks to most of the workers as though Frank Fitzsimmons and the rest of his negotiating buddies were talking a different language during the nation-wide trucking industry negotiations this month. The word "hours" wasn't even in their vocabulary. They never heard of working conditions either.

ONE MEETING HELD

There was only one meeting of the local here to talk about the contract, and that way back on Jan. 24. But from what the workers have read in the papers (the only way we find out what our leaders are doing) they are talking in terms of pennies-an-hour increases.

Trucking Employers Inc., the management association, has offered a three-year contract of 15c, 10c, and 12c an hour per year. The union was fighting for 26c, 15c and 15c. One worker said: "If we got everything they were asking for us, look at all the bubble-gum we could buy!"

Union bureaucrats did decide to increase their own salaries, by raising the price of a union book from \$93 to \$103.

They're interested in job-security too. The other night three workers got fired. Someone ran to tell the shop steward. He said: "Boy, they sure are rough tonight," and then went right back to work.

LOUSY CONDITIONS

From what we can tell, the contract won't do anything about the working conditions in the shop. They'll stay just the way they always are: lousy.

One hour, the foremen are right behind you, breathing down your neck, as you race to load tons of freight onto the trucks. Then they work some sections so fast that there's nothing for other platform men to load. You'd think the foremen would just leave you alone then. But that's when they're the biggest pain in the neck.

They run around making sure you're busy loading some non-existent freight into a truck that won't be leaving for five hours. Or else you get canned. Sometimes they jam the freight onto the floor, making such a crowded mess that people get run over by fork-lifts or hit by drag-lines. But mostly the place just breaks down into total chaos.

What we want to know is this: when are the bureaucrats who take our dues going to do something about the things that bug us?

Maryland Freedom Union Is Big Winner at Roth's Market

Baltimore, Md. — More than two years of Civil Rights activity at Roth's supermarket in the East Baltimore, Md., ghetto have resulted this month in a recognition agreement and contract for the store's Maryland Freedom Union members.

Two years ago, workers at Roth's made 50c to 75c an hour; worked up to sixty hours a week, and got no sick leave or vacation benefits. The new contract provides for \$1.50 an hour wage for full-time workers, a week's paid vacation, and sick leave and holiday benefits.

UNION SHOP WON

Also, for the first time in its history, the Maryland Freedom Union won a contract including a union-shop provision.

When the campaign began, the workers at Roth's joined with the local CORE chapter to conduct a consumer boycott at Roth's in order to get higher wages. Leaflets were printed, pickets were readied, and the Roth workers demanded a \$1.00 an hour minimum wage. Roth gave in immediately; no boycott was needed.

But by April, 1966, \$1 an hour looked almost as much like starvation wages as 50c had in the past, and the workers contacted the Maryland Freedom Union (MFU) which was then only two months old.

HOW MFU AROSE

The MFU grew out of discussions among CORE members and field-workers who knew of the terrible exploitation of Black workers in the ghetto and realized that the Civil Rights movement would never get anywhere until it began to speak to their problems.

But when workers in Baltimore heard of these plans, discussion turned to action: groups of workers in nursing homes walked out

and then contacted CORE. The MFU was born.

Since then it has organized workers in department stores, five and dimes, nursing homes and supermarkets and assisted in a laundry workers' wild-cat strike.

RAISE WITHOUT UNION

MFU organizers quickly signed up a majority of Roth's 21 workers, and met to help them make up their negotiating demands. When Roth's management heard that MFU would demand recognition, they gave everybody an increase to \$1.25, and the organizing effort fell apart.

By this year, \$1.25 an hour seemed as bad as \$1 a year ago, and the workers decided they really did need a union. They organized to set up a consumer boycott in front of the store if they didn't get recognition. Realizing he would eventually have to sign anyway if he wasn't going to lose business in this all-black area, Roth's owner gave in.

During contract negotiations, Roth's came in with the same high-priced anti-union lawyer who had represented all the other employers the MFU had fought. As usual in the MFU, rank-and-file members from the shop lead their own contract negotiations.

ALL SHOPS REPRESENTED

This January the MFU held new elections and reorganized its structure so that all the officers now are actual rank-and-file workers. Mrs. Rosetta Green, a worker at Silverman's Department Store, was elected president, and the executive committee includes workers from all shops presently under contract and even from shops where there are MFU members but contracts have not yet been won.

The MFU plans to open a new office in the near future, but until then it can be reached c/o Target City CORE, 832 North Gay St., Baltimore, Md.

All News & Letters publications are also available at Kazoo (LA Free Press Book Store), 424 1/2 N. Fairfax, Los Angeles, Calif. 90036.

NEWS & LETTERS PUBLICATIONS

- 1—Nationalism, Communism, Marxist-Humanism and the Afro-Asian Revolutions—
By Raya Dunayevskaya. African Revolutions and Western Ideologies 25c Per Copy
- 2—Workers Battle Automation—
By Charles Denby, Editor of NEWS & LETTERS. Workers in auto, steel, coal and other industries tell their stories directly from the line 25c Per Copy
- 3—Freedom Riders Speak for Themselves—
By Mary Hamilton, Louise Inghram, and others. An account by participants in the Freedom Rides to Mississippi 25c Per Copy
- 4—Indignant Heart—
By Matthew Ward. The autobiography of a Negro worker in the South and in the North 25c Per Copy
- 5—The Young Marxist-Humanist—
A search by today's youth to find a philosophy equal to the challenges facing America and the world. 25c Per Copy
- 6—American Civilization on Trial—
Statement of the National Editorial Board that traces the roots of Marxist-Humanism from the Civil War to the modern day Abolitionists 50c Per Copy
- 7—News & Letters
Unique combination of worker and intellectual, edited by Charles Denby, Negro production worker, and published 10 times a year. National Editorial Board Chairman, \$1 Per Copy
Raya Dunayevskaya, is author of Marxism and Freedom 1 Sub
- 8—The Free Speech Movement and the Negro Revolution —
By Mario Savio, Eugene Walker and Raya Dunayevskaya 50c Per Copy
- 9—Also available from News & Letters: Marxism and Freedom
By Raya Dunayevskaya. New paperback edition contains added chapter 17, "The Challenge of Mao Tse-tung." \$1.98 Per Copy

MAIL ORDERS TO:

News & Letters,
8751 Grand River,
Detroit, Michigan 48204

Please enter my subscription to NEWS & LETTERS, 12 issues for \$1

Enclosed please find \$ for the following:

- 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9

(Please circle number corresponding to literature desired as listed above)

NAME

ADDRESS

CITY STATE ZIP

Support the
Anti-War
Demos
April 8-15

Way of the World Struggle Is For All Mankind

By Ethel Dunbar

President Johnson has made it to the White House and says that he is one President who wants to go down in history as one of the greatest presidents of the United States. He says that when he was a boy he felt if he ever got to be President, he would change the U.S. to make it better for every race of people.

But it looks to me as if he has forgotten about that. His time is running out and people are still looking in vain for him to stop the war and bring the boys home. Nobody sees how anyone can win a war like the one in Vietnam.

You can believe me when I say this old world is still in a lot of trouble, with each big country trying to rule the whole world. None of the big powers are willing to give every race their freedom and have peace even within their own nations.

Whites are fighting against each other, and Negroes are fighting against each other, too. Even the two old parties in this country, which have always fought against each other, are now fighting within themselves.

There is talk about starting a new third party by the Negroes. That would include the deep South and the North, as well. It would affect George Wallace who carries on his same crazy old ideas against the Negro, and it would affect the Chicago politicians who are trying so hard

to hold on to the old voting patterns where the white man's vote counts for more than the Negro's.

These white politicians are trying to make sure that the white man will continue to rule the world. But they are making a big mistake trying to keep the Negro down in this day and age when every Negro knows the white man is no better than he is.

REAL WAR IS HERE

Many Negroes who disagree violently with the Black Muslims had to agree with the heavy-weight champion, Muhammad Ali, when he spoke at a meeting in Louisville, Kentucky last month and showed how the white man has made everything important "white"—even the angels pictured in the Bible. He said that people from other countries, of many races, can go places a Negro American cannot go in this, his own country. Even black Africans are welcomed where black Americans are not.

When a reporter asked him why he didn't want to go into the army, he said that this war is not a war to help the Negro get his freedom. There were many Negroes listening to that program who must have been applauding, because they know the black man still has no place to lay his head in this country. The fight to free the Negro is in this country, not in Vietnam. The Negro struggle is part of the war to free ALL of mankind.

At North American Aviation

Workers Walk Off Jobs to Defend Committee Woman

Los Angeles, Cal.—More than 50 workers walked off their jobs at the Autonetics division of North American Aviation to accompany their committee-woman to the union hall. She had been summoned by Local 887 (UAW) President Hank Lacayo after she had filed charges of conspiracy against the Autonetic division president and the union president.

When it was learned that she would go before a union committee investigating her charges, workers by the dozen from various departments applied for passes to leave the plant and join her at the union hall. Some 50, including Mexican-Americans and Negroes, were able to obtain passes and go to the hall. Many others wanted to go but could not obtain passes to leave work.

DEFENDED COMMITTEEMAN

The meeting which was supposed to investigate the conspiracy charges, centered instead on other matters which were bothering union officials. One of these was the autonetic committee-woman's defense of another committeeman whom the union leadership was trying to get rid of.

This committeeman had fought hard for his workers and fought hard to end discrimination practices based on sex and color on the part of company and the union.

Many workers felt that his ouster in a recent election was all but fixed by the union. Instead of allowing the workers of one building (400 workers out of 25,000) to freely choose

their own representative, President Lacayo, along with Grievance Committee head Wayne Downing, sought to intimidate and coerce workers into repudiating their committeeman.

ALL THE TRICKS

They issued a leaflet stating that workers should be free to choose whomever they wished as their representative, and in the same breath stated or dictated whom not to vote for!

The slanderous leaflet accused the committeeman of being a person of "negative character" and printed such lies as that he failed to file grievances for workers. Forty-two "visits" into the plant by labor representatives to campaign against the committeeman were undertaken.

The voting hours were from 6 a.m. to 12 noon. Thus the workers who wished to vote had to give up a lunch hour to do so. The usual practice is to have the voting hours so that workers can vote after work. Even with all this pressure, the committeeman, though losing, made a good showing.

INVESTIGATION SIDE-TRACKS

For some reason, the committee which was investigating the committeewoman's charges never got around to these charges, or rather, their real business of trying to oust the committeewoman. The workers had seen what happened to one of their representatives and they did not want the same thing to happen to another.

As one woman worker put it: "I have been here 10 years. Those two are the only two decent representatives we have had."

Questions Put to Minorities About Union

Los Angeles, Cal.—There was a column in a local paper about federal investigating agents polling workers on the effectiveness of unions with regard to rank and file minorities (Negroes particularly).

Two days previous to this, the union newspaper where I work, North American Aviation, had an article in which the president of the union local, Hank Lacayo, ran a front page story about some mysterious pollsters accosting his union members. President Lacayo rushed to his own defense in this article by pointing out: "Our members have never had any difficulty in letting us know their opinions."

LACAYO'S "DEFENSE"

This is meaningless, as he does absolutely nothing when serious problems, especially those dealing with racial discrimination, are brought to his attention.

Lacayo goes on about how workers are being harassed in their own homes by the pollsters. I believe the production workers are still in full command of their homes; it is in the plants where control is lost, discrimination is rampant and where the union president should direct his judicial concern. But this never happens because the president is afraid to cause waves, lest his little machine be upset.

Those workers on layoff and a growing number of Negroes who have little else to lose — since the union has sold their basic human dignity — have become fearless enough to talk and the union cannot withstand the inevitable blame placed on its door as well as the company's.

PATERNAL WARNING

Lacayo paternally warns union members to "make certain the interviewing person identifies himself." How confident he is about rank and file members' lack of common sense.

"After all," he concludes, "any public opinion type information will be requested through the Propeller" (the union news paper). No worker's true opinion of this union ever reaches the public via the Propeller.

CONCERN JUSTIFIED

In a brief examination of one of the questions posed by the pollsters, one readily understands Lacayo's self protecting attitude in telling his members to beware of the pollsters. Do you like your president? Only about one percent of the more than 25,000 union workers had the opportunity to answer this query through the ballot in an election where he was the sole candidate.

The problems that Lacayo has with pollsters are not the real problems. His problems stem from the fact that he has done little for the union members and has often been with the company in putting down the workers. Those on the production line see this and are beginning to react against it.

Detroit Readers:
Charles Denby and John Allison will discuss:
"New Developments in the Negro and Labor Movements"
Thursday, April 27, 7:30 p.m., News & Letters, 8751 Grand River.

On the Line

Woman Doctor at Chrysler Plant Harasses Ill Workers

By John Allison

This article is a protest against the way company doctors cause workers problems when they are not able to work. Chrysler Highland Park plant workers—especially female employees — are experiencing a strange case where there is a woman doctor employed by the company.

We have more female workers in our shop than in most shops in the city of Detroit. And it is reasonable to think that where women have health problems, a woman doctor would be more understanding than a man doctor. However, this is not the case at Highland Park.

COMPLAINTS MOUNT

The plant shop committeeman has received a bushel of complaints from employees complaining that this woman doctor has made some female workers return to work too soon, or where some workers were told to report at once to the Medical Department or else they would not have a job with the corporation.

What makes it more puzzling is that this doctor is of Asian extraction. One would think that these people would not serve the cause of capitalism, coming from lands where the people are suffering so miserably because Capital is king. Instead, workers in the plant are being punished by a doctor who should know better.

The workers are sick and tired of having this doctor play both sides of the street. For example, when the Insurance Department calls a worker who is home sick in bed to come in for an examination, the doctor will OK the worker in question to return to work at once. Yet an employee who wishes to return to work after an accident in the plant will be examined and given a code and told to stay at home until the company can find work that the employee can do.

At that point, all employment benefits are cut off, but the union must at all times keep a close check to make sure the corporation doesn't try to deny any of the unemployment benefits the worker should have under the contract.

CODE IS THREAT

This medical coding is very important in another way at

times of layoff, because heavily coded workers are the first to go. So the kind of person a company doctor is can mean the difference in getting unemployment insurance as well as keeping a job.

When this woman doctor started her shenanigans, workers checked to find out where she had come from. They learned she had been at the Dodge Main plant, but had been transferred to the Highland Park plant because she was doing the same things at Dodge. Only the Dodge women workers didn't put up with her dealings and raised so much Cain they forced her to be moved out.

What is so tough about being sick is that you're at the mercy of the doctor as well as the company. You can be laid out so sick that you can't get out of bed, but if a nurse comes to your door and you don't answer her ring, you're called up and accused of faking, and are ordered to get to the plant for a medical check. Then of course, the doctor bit comes into the picture, and you're ordered to go to work.

INSURANCE A JOKE

And to get unemployment insurance any more is about as tough as proving total disability. If you have a broken arm or leg, you don't have too much of a problem. You're no good to the company and you're left alone until coding time comes along. If you have a natural sickness and have to get to a doctor's office in a wheelchair, you're not totally disabled and you're available for work.

This writer had the chance to be present when workers have been interviewed by a doctor or an insurance man. You would think you were in court, listening to the prosecuting attorney trying to get a conviction. This is the life of a worker in capitalistic society.

Kentucky Miners Face Prison; Plan Supreme Court Appeal

Cincinnati, Ohio—The U.S. Court of Appeals upheld the sentencing of four destitute coal miners accused of trying to blow up a railroad bridge near Hazard, Kentucky, in June, 1963. An appeal to the U.S. Supreme Court is planned.

Bige Hensley, Herbert Stacy, Clayton Turner, and Charles Engle were arrested and convicted during the "roving picket" movement which swept the mountain region in the early 1960's.

Several others, including Berman Gibson, a spokesman for the movement, were freed of the trial which took place in Lexington, Ky., in 1964.

JUDGES UNEASY

The appeals judges seemed uneasy about upholding the punishment of Hensley and the others. They said in a remarkable 20-page opinion:

"From the beginning this court has been aware that this was no ordinary criminal trial and that these men are no ordinary criminals . . . they were pictured as driven to desperation by the harsh facts of the declining coal industry and by abandonment of their own union.

GUERRILLA INCIDENT?

"These four defendants (and four others not convicted) were charged specifically with conspiring to place and placing a massive charge of nitroglycerin on the tracks above the center pier of a railroad bridge.

"This bridge is located in a remote area called Glomawr Hollow where the Louisville & Nashville tracks cross Leatherwood Creek en route to a mine known as Leatherwood Mine No. 2. At the time the mine was non-union."

The judges declared that the record in the case "reads a good deal more like the story of an incident in a guerrilla war than the normal appellate record before the court."

ALLEGED CONFESSIONS

The appeal turned on the question of confessions allegedly given to F.B.I. agents after the men were arrested. Their attorneys charge that the confessions were obtained by "improper inducement and psychological coercion." The miners had no attorneys present at the time.

Hensley charged that he was tricked into signing a confession by being told that it was a release to permit the F.B.I. to search the car in which Hensley was arrested. The car belonged to Gibson.

The Kentucky case began about the same time as the famous Miranda case in Arizona, in which the U.S. Supreme Court held that confessions obtained in the absence of attorneys were inherently coercive. However, the Supreme Court later ruled that the Miranda doctrine did not apply to other cases in which the trial began before June 13, 1966.

The miners are thus barred from application of the Miranda ruling unless the Supreme Court decides that they are entitled to benefit under it.

NEED HELP

The petition to the Supreme Court will be filed within the next month. Meantime, the miners are jobless and destitute—unable to pay the many other costs involved in carrying a case of this kind to the Supreme Court. Funds to help may be sent to the Committee for Miners, 60 W. 12 St., New York, N.Y. 10011.

ORDER YOUR COPY NOW
On the occasion of the 100th anniversary of the appearance of Marx's CAPITAL, we offer:
China, Russia, the U.S.A. STATE-CAPITALISM AND MARX'S HUMANISM
or
Philosophy and Revolution
By Raya Dunayevskaya, Author of *Marxism and Freedom*
Includes as Appendix —
A Critique of Rosa Luxemburg's Accumulation of Capital
ONLY 50c
(Bundles of 5: \$2.00)
Order From
News & Letters
8751 Grand River
Detroit, Mich. 48204
Enclosed find _____ for _____ copies of "State-Capitalism and Marx's Humanism."
Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Editorial

Anti-War Movement Approaches New Stage As Labor, Rights Groups Merge

As preparations gain momentum for the mass protest demonstrations in New York and San Francisco on April 15, it becomes increasingly clear that the anti-war movement is on the threshold of a new stage. The Negro Revolution, which itself is at a crossroad, is more and more linking its demands for freedom here and now, with open opposition to the war against Vietnam, and thus promises to help transform the anti-war movement from a small radical and pacifist movement to a truly broad, mass movement.

THE SCUTTLED "WAR AGAINST POVERTY"

At the Chicago anti-war demonstration held the Saturday before Easter—the largest that city has ever seen—thousands overflowed the 5000-seat Coliseum, and gave Martin Luther King a standing ovation for a speech in which he emphasized that "The hopes of the Great Society have been shot down on the battlefields of Vietnam . . . The poor, white and black, bear the burden of the war."

The connection between the Administration's callous scuttling of an already pitifully inadequate "anti-poverty program," and a war in which \$500 a second is being spent just to outfit the troops in Vietnam, has become all too clear. So has the racism that results in twice as many Negroes fighting, and twice as many dying, in Vietnam, in proportion to their numbers in the population, as whites.

It is easy to see why the participation of the civil rights movement in the demonstrations this year has moved from the "anti-war manifestos" which the leaders of the movement have always signed, as individuals, to wide discontent and discussion among the Negro workers in the shops and the Negro communities, as a whole.

The same type of mass response is not yet true of the white workers, but it was significant that Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer of the UAW, also appeared at the Chicago meeting, and thus became the first well-known "labor leader" to address such an anti-war rally.

A variety of union locals contributed funds — representing workers from the Amalgamated Clothing Workers, the Building Services Employees, Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, Retail Clerks, Shoe Workers, United Packinghouse Workers, and the Butcher Workers, as well as the United Auto Workers. It is a sign of the frustrations that are growing among the workers who are now constantly facing new lay-offs despite the fact that the war is being escalated daily.

NEW PROTESTS IN SOUTH VIETNAM

In South Vietnam, too, there are signs of new life in the anti-Ky movement. While that sawdust Caesar continues his war-hawking (to a degree that embarrasses even the American war-hawks), the Viet Cong continues the civil war in South Vietnam, unabated despite ever-more-escalated casualties; and those not involved in that civil war, like the Buddhists, have begun to take to the streets in new demonstrations that the Ky forces have been watching uneasily.

Pro-Ky and anti-Ky forces alike remember all too well the violent demonstrations last Spring that almost toppled the Hitler-loving American puppet. The demonstrations will no doubt grow once more if Ky prepares to "run for president" and erase the last pretense of any "democracy" in that tortured land.

Throughout all of Europe, the traditional Easter anti-nuclear demonstrations were concentrated this year on one war concretely: the American war on Vietnam. In Holland, Britain and West Germany marchers and demonstrators celebrated Easter by throwing their eggs at the American Embassy. And the protest demonstrations that followed Vice-President Humphrey everywhere during his trip through Europe emphasize the world-wide hostility to LBJ's "dirty war" in Vietnam.

UNDERLYING PHILOSOPHY ALL-IMPORTANT

The new stage that the movement is entering in this country will gain momentum if it does not forget that it is the fight for freedom here—though intimately related to the fight against the war—that is all-important.

It is significant of the mood of the Negro people that Martin Luther King felt it important to emphasize that the increase in activity against the war must not mean leaving the civil rights struggle behind—but actually increasing it. He promised, for example, newer and greater demonstrations for decent housing in Chicago this summer, and said that one of the greatest crimes of the war was the diversion of energy away from the civil rights struggle that the war had created.

Similarly, among the good signs of the new stage is the fact that the youth, who still make up the greatest part of the anti-war movement, are discussing activity against the war not only as "activity," but as underlying philosophy, which does not limit itself to being against the war and the atrocities committed in its name (see Readers' Views)—but seeks to clarify what it is for. This is the only way that the anti-war movement will be able to offer a vision of a completely new society that is separate from either East or West, and to become a true mass movement.

News & Letters

VOL. 12, NO. 4

April, 1967

News & Letters is published every month except during the summer months when issues appear June-July, August-September, by News & Letters, 8751 Grand River, Detroit 4, Michigan. Telephone: TYler 8-7053. Subscription: \$1 for 12 issues; single copy—10c; for bulk order of ten or more—6c each.

Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairman
National Editorial Board

Charles Denby Editor
O. Domanski Managing Editor

Second Class Postage Paid
at Detroit, Michigan.

Readers'

STUDENTS ON WAR AND PEACE

THE UNAM (Universidad Nacional Autonoma de Mexico) and Politecnico staged a demonstration on March 16 here. The turnout was variously estimated at 7, 10, or 12 thousand. The marchers called for "solidarity with Vietnam workers."

According to identifying signs it was sponsored by the Mexican Communist Party, the Communist Spartacus League, Workers' Revolutionary Group and the National Center of Students for Democracy. Spanish translations of "The Thoughts of Mao Tse-tung" were handed out in leaflets, as well as a leaflet attacking Mao as a revisionist . . .

Many of my fellow American students here seem to be the "get away from the draft" or pacifist types who believe that love will blow the war away. For myself, I am becoming more and more convinced that only the self-activity of both the industrial and agrarian working class can bring about any changes.

In light of my studies of the Mexican revolution and the rest of Latin America, I am highly suspicious of those super-leftists who organize on a military basis to take power, as well as government parties like the Democrats or the PRI, and even student groups who, in their romanticist identity problems try to organize the unorganized. I think they are apt to learn more from the unorganized than they are able to teach.

Student
Mexico

* * *

I became interested in humanism as such while attending college several years ago. Religion and philosophy grew to be more and more of concern to me. Politics, economics, Marxism, socialism, communism—these had little appeal. I couldn't be bothered with such "nonsense" and the word "radical" had very unsavory connotations to me.

I withdrew from college after two years, because I felt "alienated", to use a currently popular expression, from the campus machinery. I needed time to think. I decided to enlist in the military—for four years.

It is so true that you learn only through experience. It took a little while for me in the military to understand the nature of the beast—and my disgusted reactions to it. But there was one consolation. I did have time to think.

I read a lot in off-duty hours, but my rude awakening to the big bad world of politics followed in the wake of one awesome world: VIETNAM. I can put it very simply. I was deeply disillusioned.

As one of the organizers of the teach-in at the university once wrote me: "The peace movement has produced a lot of bitterly disillusioned people who started out thinking the war could and had to be stopped, and ended up facing the incomprehensible task of changing American society at its base."

That is precisely my situation. I followed the Johnson Administration's justification for their Vietnam policy from the superficial "honoring American commitments" to the basic "saving the free

world from Communism—and I remain unsatisfied. Where else can I turn except to the capitalistic root of the Establishment?

In the past few months I have begun the strenuous task of examining the political and economic "isms" I have so long neglected. My general motivating theme is that Vietnam is merely one grotesque symptom of a disease that runs deep within the world organism today.

I cannot yet call myself a Marxist or a socialist — but that may be but a matter for my maturing political conscience which time will guide, since I am definitely evolving in your direction.

If I read the times correctly, our lives are starting to merge.

G.I. Humanist
Somewhere Overseas

* * *

Thanks for introducing me to *The Activist*. I especially appreciated one article in their last issue: "Atrocity as Pornography" by John Quirk, which showed how "the anti-war activists have retreated from foreign policy issues, leaving a burning concern with napalm bombings, and immolations."

I am as morally indignant as anybody else with the atrocities committed in Vietnam, and I get just as sick to my stomach at the pictures of the homeless peasants, mutilated children, and tortured prisoners.

But the movement will never get a broad following, as it must, if it continues to feed itself on the torture and terror, mistaking, as Quirk puts it "the symbols of American arrogance and the signs of brutalization for the deeper syndrome of dehumanization, the union of technos and thanatos that pervades the present era."

We must get beyond the "burning moral issues" to a new politics, or the barbarism will never cease.

Anti-war Activist
Detroit

Editor's Note: See ad, page 6.

DOUBLE-STANDARDS

Some comments on the letters in your March issue . . .

Wharlest Jackson wasn't important enough to bother with because he was just another Negro, but Powell has supporters behind him like any politician, and therefore has some power. There seems to be a "double-standard" within the ranks themselves—the big men get the attention and the ordinary man gets nothing.

That the demonstrators at Oberlin actively entered the recruiting offices and discussed the war makes a lot of sense and was an impressive way to show the disgust over the war. But another student would deny rights to the Air Force because they represent the opposite view. Again a "double-standard."

I have a very harsh attitude toward the obvious "double-standard" employed by some who claim they are shocked by inequality. It is not so much truth and liberty they pursue as getting their share of the corruption.

There are quite a few members of the New Left who aren't any more deserving of praise than the Establishment.

They are giving honest dialogue a rotten image while they further their own desires. The "men at the top" further the racist attitudes and hawk positions by being no more desirable than those they assail.

New Reader
Pennsylvania

TWO APPEALS

Many people believe that because of a successful contract at one ranch the Delano strike is over, when actually we have just begun to fight, both here and in Texas. Publicity will aid our cause greatly and we look hopefully to you to help us.

Bill Esher, Director
Farm Worker Press
Delano, California

Editor's Note: See story, page 6.

* * *

We would appreciate it if you could help us inaugurate some action on the boycott of Levi products. Although money is needed, we consider articles in union and labor papers equally important. Statements of support from union locals in Detroit, for example, could help us gain other union support. We hope your worker-readers will help us.

Vice Chairman, Com. for the
Blue Ridge Strikers,
New York

Editor's Note: See article on page 7.

* * *

STATE-CAPITALISM And MARX'S HUMANISM

Mexican history since the revolution of 1910 illustrates beautifully how freedom has been superceded by the question of nationalization (or as it is called here "Mexicanization") vs. private property. The government here uses Mexicanization as a tool to beat the foreign capitalists whenever labor discontent arises. And the government is silent about the exploitation caused by the Mexican government and Mexican business. They also use criticism of U.S. foreign policy the same way.

History Teacher
Latin America

* * *

I very much appreciated your issue on state-capitalism. But I feel you use the worker-intellectual idea as a propaganda device. It is very much overplayed. I don't really give a damn if it is a worker-intellectual union.

The idea of a proletarian revolution led by radical intellectuals is absurd for this country. The revolution will be all the nations in the world pushing the U.S. and Europe into a peaceful "socialistic" position. The radical intellectual can help educate the American people.

And OK, Stalin was a b.....d. But if he didn't collectivize in 1929, using force, the Soviet Union would have fallen. The Soviet Union is getting better, and in 25 years may be good.

Intellectual
California

* * *

In your new pamphlet on state-capitalism you make it clear that our age demands that we look not just at "economics" but center all our thinking around "philosophy." Even the analysis of Russia

Views

is different in emphasis from what it was in the 1940's.

At that time you analyzed the exploitative relations between State Planners and workers, in contrast to the bureaucratic collectivists who did not use Marxian categories at all.

But today the case must be put differently — not because the analysis of the 1940's was wrong, but because it had to be put negatively at that time — workers being exploited. Today we can present it positively — workers in Hungary, and East Germany revolted against state-capitalism. This is a move from "economics" to "workers' revolts", or making philosophy real.

Student
California

Editor's Note: See ad, p. 3.

THE NEGRO STRUGGLE

The civil rights movement that ran into a blind alley with Carmichael seems to now be finding a new avenue by linking its struggles with those of the anti-war movement. The joint demonstrations on April 15 may prove to be a new starting point for both movements.

Engineer
Boston

When Mazey attacked the U.S. for supporting a little Hitler like Ky, at his speech in Chicago, it certainly surprised a lot of guys in our shop, including me. We didn't expect to be impressed by anything Emil would say—but we were sure wrong this time. All the phoney talk about the "free elections" and "democracy" Ky and the U.S. are bringing to South Vietnam makes the Negro workers in our shop mad as hell.

Negro Worker
Detroit

In your bulletin "Where We Stand on the Negro Struggle" your analysis emphasizes that the Negro is the vanguard historically. But if that is so, I feel you must give a more profound analysis of the black-power movement and how it relates to the overall picture.

I am critical of their idea that whites should organize whites and Negroes organize Negroes, with a meeting of the two scheduled for some time in the future. That meeting would never take place.

I feel the black power people need to develop where they are going, for they don't have a philosophy. You do, and you must make your position absolutely clear.

Reader
California

Editor's Note: We welcome comments on the draft chapters for our new pamphlet, "Who We Are and What We Stand For," see ad, page 7.

"Black American" who wrote a letter on "black power" in the February issue said very well what is the matter. May I suggest you offer him or her a regular column? Those who are not black cannot know what it is to be black. We can't know many things. Moreover, many don't want to know.

I once started to tell some-

one about my late mother's childhood slavery on an Illinois farm. The visitor's face became a mask and I could see the mind closing.

I think one of the best explanations of "black power" was given by the parents of the martyred Schwerner: "It is as necessary for a Julian Bond or a Fannie Lou Hamer to represent a Negro majority in a particular community as it is for an Irishman or an Italian to wield political power in Irish or Italian dominated areas. Negroes must speak out for their needs through their own representatives. For us this is what black power means. And for us, it is the bare bone of civil rights."

Supporter
Illinois

Raya Dunayevskaya's mentioning that the Civil Rights Movement of the 1960's began in the spirit of Martin Buber's "Dialogue" as much as it did in the Abolitionist tradition is an important insight that calls for revival and rededication to.

R. T.
Israel

IS MARX PASSE?

With all respects to Miss Dunayevskaya, who is an able woman and whom I admire very much, I feel her obsession with Marx is passe. Marx would be the first to decry his canonization. He was limited by his time and its circumscribed information, as are we all.

Reader
Illinois

I admire very much your unswerving point of view. I am most interested in Marx as a humanist and in the role of Marxism in the America of today. I'm not sure that Marxism is as right for the U.S. as it is clearly for Asia. To that part of the world it is our greatest export.

Enclosed is \$2 — \$1 as a thank-you for your good works and \$1 to send me the paper for another year.

Reader
Missouri

Until the 1950's I was active in a so-called Marxian movement, which thousands like me left after the great debate over the Hungarian revolution, and the disillusionment that followed.

All the socialist and Marxian parties seemed to be tied up in dogmas, and while theory was important, in the U. S. especially we were incapable of finding the way in our time. I am very interested now in knowing more about your group.

As a shop worker, I find like my contemporaries, that we are bombarded from all sides. Even the capitalist in some instances now speaks of a more progressive political and eco-

nomie world for all mankind.

Promises and hopes are fed to us through the press from Washington, like the poverty program, higher social security, and the like. But while more is given with one hand, it is being taken away with the other.

Social security is developing further and further away from security. The only security in it is that the bowl of soup is getting more watery.

Worker
New Jersey

Raya Dunayevskaya's article in *Socialist Humanism* is the most explicit statement of Marxist-Humanism I've read. I haven't read Lenin's *Philosophic Notebooks*, and would like to do so. If what she says is true (and I do not doubt it) it parallels my own evolution in consciousness towards socialism.

For the longest while I thought that the essential element, freedom, was the goal of the American Socialist Party. But they are still debating whether or not Marx had a few good ideas which are nevertheless obsolete today.

I feel the problems of theory and practice in my own field of teaching history. Generally history texts are not even good social criticism, and I don't want to be just a social critic. . . . As I see it, the responsibility of a Marxist-Humanist teacher is to call a spade a spade and not try to pawn unfreedom off as freedom. Accepting or rejecting the truth of freedom, however, can only come from the student.

Teacher
Philadelphia

HIGH-SCHOOL YOUTH

There have been various underground newspapers springing up in the high schools here. It seems to me that the protest of the youth is moving from the wearing of long hair and certain kinds of clothes, to concern with what is going on inside their heads and what the school was putting there.

Reader
Los Angeles

I wish more people knew about *News & Letters*, but so many deliberately wish to remain blind. It's good to know that different groups of people are seeking a tolerance and understanding of each other, even though they aren't on the same economic or educational level.

I have used your publication many times as a term paper reference, because I know I am getting down-to-earth facts in your articles. The "Readers Views" column is especially enlightening.

What nerve people have to claim they are better than others!

High School Junior
New York

NEWS & LETTERS is not only a unique combination of worker and intellectual in which each "speaks for himself." It is also a paper that belongs to its readers. We welcome letters and articles from new readers and new activists everywhere, because only in this EXCHANGE of ideas can the freedom movement develop, and the idea of freedom become real, at last. Send us YOUR questions, YOUR comments, YOUR story.

TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya,
Author of *Marxism and Freedom*

A. J. Muste: Labor and Marxist Page

The death of Rev. A. J. Muste on Feb. 11 has been the occasion of many eulogies about his principled and courageous pacifism, dating back to World War I and continuing to the day of his death. Unfortunately, and not accidentally, his labor record was either neglected outright or mentioned only in order to be neglected. And yet it is this neglected labor page, and not his non-violent anti-war activities, that helped change the course of history. His labor record, especially during the 1930's when he had become a Marxist, helped transform the industrial face of the nation and re-establish the American roots of Marxism.

It is true that his anti-war activities have been the most consistent and that there has been no diminution of these activities, although at the time of his death this fighter was 82 years old. It is not true, however, that either the underlying philosophy of these activities, or their relationship to the objective world in general and the labor movement in particular, had always been the same. Just as it was the objective world situation at a time when great masses of men were in motion against the status quo in the early 1930's which led Muste to the study of Marxist theory and a striving to unite theory with practice, so it was the war clouds and the feeling of doom in the late 1930's which led to his return to the church and pacifism.

Today's New Left has much to learn from this because the life of this one man, and not any abstract theory, illuminates the difference between individual and small group action, on the one hand, and those of a mass force, on the other. The same man, with the same moral integrity and strength of character, the same devotion and the same pragmatic attitude toward ideas, is helpless in trying to influence the course of events in one case, but, in the other, becomes both an integral part, and a vanguard, of a mass movement actually transforming reality. It becomes necessary to turn to that neglected but history-making labor page.

THE UNEMPLOYED AND UNSKILLED

The Depression shook capitalism to its foundations not merely "economically" but because the masses, beginning with those thrown into unemployment, were in open revolt by the hundreds of thousands in all big cities. These mass demonstrations culminated in two national hunger marches which converged in the capital only to be shot at and "dispersed" by General MacArthur. At the same time a new employed force—the unskilled—who had been kept out of the craft unions were beginning to fight for a new type of union.

The heartbreaking 1930's which revealed the spontaneous actions of the employed and unemployed attracted many intellectuals to labor. None had more roots in labor than the Conference for Progressive Labor Action, organized by A. J. Muste, who had first been thrust into the labor movement back in 1919 during the bitter strike of textile workers in Lawrence, Mass., and had moved from union organizing to the establishment of the Brookwood Labor College in 1921, and by 1929 had decided upon more active, indeed total, participation in the labor movement through the organization of the CPLA. Under its leadership, Unemployed Leagues began to spring up in the midWest. These were both the most militant and had far more native roots than either the Workers Alliance organized by the Socialist Party or the Unemployed Councils organized by the Communist Party.

The Unemployed Leagues, moreover, related their work directly to those who were employed and were fighting for industrial unionization. From this unity of the employed and unemployed arose, first, the great strikes of 1934; then the new method of fighting: THE SIT-DOWN in 1936; and finally the CIO, which truly transformed the industrial face of the nation.

The preparatory ground was forged in 1934 when no less than 1,353,608 strikes broke out throughout the United States and embraced all basic industries—from coal and steel to auto and textiles, from rubber and shipbuilding to the needle trades. Workers in the copper industry, the longshoremens, and even toy workers, were all in motion against the status quo. (1)

The three most famous (because precedent shattering in the creation of new methods of battle) were the Toledo Auto-Lite strike led by Musteites, the teamsters strike in Minneapolis led by the Trotskyists, and the longshoremens' strike in San Francisco where "Bloody Thursday" led to a general strike. It was the Toledo strike which opened this new page of labor history in the United States by daring to fight the court injunction which limited picketing to 25. Some 1,000 workers appeared at the plant gates the first day. The numbers grew to 4,000 the second day, and to 6,000 on the third day. The National Guard was called out, but by then no force could stop the workers or keep them from their victory.

THEORY AND THE INTELLECTUALS

What victories the workers won were won, not at any "bargaining table," but in the plants and in the streets in battles with management, with the police, with the National Guards. Precisely because the spontaneity of the mass actions had brought the workers face to face with this brute force of government, ever larger groups began to feel the need not only for intensification of their struggles for industrial unionism, but also for extension of these struggles from the point of production both to the political field and to that of theory. These impulses, rather than any preconceived ideas about the need for theory, led Muste, first to organize the American Workers Party which absorbed the CPLA, and then to the study of Marx and Lenin.

This native American radical party was internationalist from the start, standing, as its program put it, "for a workers' republic to be united in bonds of comradeship with workers republics throughout the world." Naturally, all existing old radical groups—the Socialist Party, the Communist Party and the Trotskyist Communist League—immediately pounced on this new party on the horizon, the first

(Continued on Page 6)

(1) One of the best descriptions of this period is in *Left, Right and Center* by Sidney Lens, even though he too tries to reduce the reasons for Muste's leaving the movement to disillusionment with Trotskyism.

YOUTH

NEW BEGINNINGS

by Eugene Walker

Student Dissent Grows in L.A. Schools

(My column this month is given to a high school teacher who makes some important observations concerning the conflicts between young students and school administrators in an outmoded education system—E.W.)

From the pleas of middle-class Pacific Palisades youth for freedom of dress, to the chorus of disenchanting secondary students in major urban high schools, the challenge to the policies of the Board of Education and local school administrations in Los Angeles is at last being launched and listened to.

It is both historic and dramatic that the actual non-arm-chair movement for real change in the city's schools has originated with high school students. Their initiative in the form of unauthorized student journals has caused considerable concern among administrators and teachers.

STUDENT PAPERS

The independent but cooperative student papers bolstered by the Underground Press Syndicate have been organized by students at several Los Angeles City High Schools.

Young leaders of free inquiry and dissent who have revealed their identities have frequently suffered suspension, transfers to other schools, or so-called "social adjustment" relocations. However, the respect, interest and publicity that their efforts are creating has in most cases protected students from outrageous administrative disregard of students' rights.

GOALS OF MOVEMENT

The goals of the current high school student movement as expressed in its various new vehicles can be summed up in the following:

(1) Freedom of advocacy: to develop authentic vehicles of student expression based on the right of free inquiry and open dissent including freedom of press, speech, as well as student political organizations and distribution of literature on high school campuses.

(2) Involvement in policy-making: to have the right as students to constructively analyze and criticize the policies and workings of individual schools without suffering suspension or transfer and to participate in determining local school policies.

(3) Teacher-student relations: to recommend new ways to improve student-teacher communication; to work for the establishment of a real student government that is truly representative of student ideas, attitudes and aspiration; to evaluate the state of intra-student relationships and to create the means for honest human relations on campus.

(4) Freedom of person: to liberate teachers from police-type supervisory roles by involving students in developing an inner discipline based on self-esteem and love; to determine student dress codes; to abolish corporal

and unjust punishment; to give student workers on campus a legal minimum wage.

"AGITATORS" BLAMED

Contrary to the alarmist views of "managers of plants" (alias high school principals) these students are neither dupes of "outside agitators" nor followers of well-organized subversive fronts. Sad to say, the students are disorganized, though optimistic. They are struggling for survival amid a variety of obstacles from teacher fear and administrative harassment to student unawareness.

Many students (especially in the highly-controlled ethnic minority schools) are unaware of the recent happenings. It is vir-

Deny Mail Rights to Strike Journal

Delano, Calif.—A book acclaimed across the nation has virtually been banned from the mails by the Delano postmaster, charges Farm Worker Press Inc.

William Esher, FWP president, said BASTA! THE TALE OF OUR STRUGGLE has been denied the book rate by Postmaster Robert Senini, who also is a city councilman here. The picture book describes the Delano grape strike by the United Farm Workers Organizing Committee, AFL-CIO.

Senini said the book is advertising matter because it contains a short history of the union and a photograph on the back cover showing a picket carrying a sign saying, "Don't mourn—organize."

"This is a clear case of harassment by the growers and their friends and we intend to appeal this decision to the postmaster general and the Supreme Court if necessary," Esher said. If the appeals are not successful, he added, the additional cost of mailing BASTA! (Enough!) would be in some cases eight times as much as the book rate, thus effectively banning it from the mails.

Those who wish to purchase this dramatic expression of a people's movement reflected in an effective work of photo journalism can order a copy for the sales price of \$2.50 plus mailing costs from Farm Workers Press, Box 1060, Delano, Calif.

tually impossible to organize openly on these closed campuses or to distribute unapproved literature.

Most teachers are unwilling to commit themselves publicly to any student efforts that are not safe and sanctioned. Most principals are deplorably ignorant of the resentment and dissatisfaction among "their" students with top-level rules enforced by custodians called teachers. And generally when principals are alerted they react instead of act.

EYE RIOT CONTROL

In a recent meeting of the California Association of Secondary Administrators in Los Angeles, the main emphasis of the major speakers (as reported in the L.A. Times 3/21/67) in response to current student unrest was on the development of a school riot control program.

They urged principals to develop good contact NOT with students but with the police. Principals and most authority figures in California seem plagued with the Watts Aftermath Reaction Disease which injects them with the need to contain student (people) revolts by labeling them, dismissing their challenge and militarily planning for a "bigger siege."

FACTORS CITED

Even a questionnaire on unrest returned by 329 schools discovered important reasons for student unrest other than the phony outside agitator theory. Compilers of the survey cited these factors (L.A. Times 3/21/67): "increasing permissiveness, parental pressures, lack of preparation of schools to meet student needs, stress of teachers on subject matter rather than human relations and the failure of the news media to act in the best interests of schools and the community."

However, the first measure suggested by the survey was to tighten up rules and regulations and then inaugurate other programs such as special counseling, revising curriculum and developing student-faculty committees to discuss rumors and misunderstandings.

The report also lamented that not enough schools have a "written school riot program." This indeed is the dead-end legacy of "in time of peace, prepare for war."

NO "SURVEYS" NEEDED

The point is that students themselves have some answers and do not have to undertake impressive surveys to discover what's wrong.

The rigid routine of texts, tests and terrified teachers has deadened the curiosity of many students. Rare is the counselor, teacher or administrator who commands student respect or trust.

Rather than be shocked by alleged student disrespect for authority, school officials should be asking why it exists AND they should be asking the students. All the students are really demanding is that the school become a community of mutual exchange rather than a prison.

What they as youth are seeking is not daring or radical. It is simple; it is honest; it is democratic. It is finally self-affirmation and communication.

—L.A. City High School Teacher

Two Worlds

A. J. Juste: Labor and Marxist Page

(Continued from page 5)

since Debs' day with any genuine native roots both in its ranks and in its leadership. The Trotskyists won and the two organizations merged as the Workers Party of the United States.

At each period in the development of A. J. Muste—from minister and pacifist to labor organizer and dean of a labor college, to revolutionary Marxism—a different type of intellectual was attracted to the movement he led. In the first period he attracted such intellectuals as the economist David Saposs and the Jewish socialist and labor journalist, J. B. S. Hardman; in the second period young philosophers like Sidney Hook and James Burnham, all of whom have long since left any "Movement," the latter two going to near Right and far Right.

DISILLUSIONED REBEL

A. J. Muste, himself, however, remained a rebel. Both his followers (2) and his detractors (3) are trying to say that this proves his integrity as against the "dirty politics" in radical parties such as the Trotskyists. There is no doubt that he was, and not without good cause, greatly disillusioned with the Trotskyists. It is entirely erroneous, however, to attribute his leaving the labor movement and returning to the church and pacifism to that factor.

The truth is that his trip to Europe in mid-1936, where both Nazism's strength and the feeling of coming war were much more in the air than in the U.S. had put Muste into such a mood of despair (4) that Muste isolated himself from the labor movement and not just from Trotskyism. In place of a laborist view he assumed that of a churchman concerned with "human behavior."

From this followed his attributing to the church (5) the role he formerly had reserved for labor, i.e., the motive force for removing militarism and transforming capitalism into "a new society."

FAITH IN WORKERS LOST

In a word, it wasn't the Trotskyists, either as alleged theory-spouters or as organizational maneuverers, that brought about the return to the church. It was the loss of confidence in the proletariat. And precisely for this reason Muste took no one with him. For the first time since 1919 Muste had no organized movement, either of labor, or of intellectuals. When action and theory were united, he had a following among both strata. But this was neither a choice of action vs. theory nor vice versa. Without class roots, theory becomes little more than individual caprice, no matter how idealistically motivated.

All through the 1940's, A. J. Muste worked with religious groups. It was only in the 1950's that his pacifism not only extended from religious groups to other peace groups, but also to revolutionary anti-war groups. Having removed, however, the class roots of theory, Muste also looked down upon the Negro movement, preferring to work with intellectuals, including the radicals. As he expressed it in Liberation, it wasn't only organized labor he opposed: "Most Negroes, we may observe in passing, want to become a part of the American affluent society, not to revolutionize it." (6)

Contrast this misreading of history with the attitude during the period when he did consider himself a revolutionary Marxist and therefore did not divide theory from practice. He was then full of confidence in the mass movement which alone could transform society. He won the intellectuals to his side because they could see, in practice, that the workers, in both their spontaneous and organized actions, accepted direction from a Muste in trade union work, in politics, in theory.

The saddest feature of intellectuals in general, rebels like Muste included, is that the minute they leave the labor movement, they fail to understand what theory is. It is only when isolated from the mass movement that the charge of dogmatism becomes popular. Far from being a "dogmatism," genuine theory does not ossify because it is always in motion along with the historic development of the very source and subject of theory: the proletariat.

At this very moment when the Negro Revolution is actively relating itself to the anti-war movement and labor too is beginning to awaken to its anti-war tasks, the best way to honor A. J. Muste as rebel is to remember the labor and Marxist page and in that way develop the anti-war movement into a truly revolutionary force for the creation of a new society.

(2) Liberation and WIN magazines. Also see the biography by Nat Hentoff as well as The Essays of A. J. Muste, edited by the same author.

(3) Daniel Bell's "The Background and Development of Marxian Socialism in the United States" in Socialism and American Life, Volume 1, tries to hide its scurrilous nature behind a lot of "scholarly" sounding footnotes.

(4) Trotsky told me that when Muste visited him to inform him of his intended break from Trotskyism he was so overwhelmed by the feeling of doom that he enthusiastically reported the existence of a group of English churchmen who considered removing themselves to an island, away from the war holocaust that was sure to come.

(5) "The Way of the Cross" by A. J. Muste, Christian Century, Dec. 14, 1938.

(6) Quoted by Nat Hentoff, Peace Agitator, p. 230.

The student journal of political affairs

THE ACTIVIST

A provocative journal of controversy, scholarship, inquiry and dissent—for those who are still attracted to the creative and cantankerous, the imaginative and radical.

One year's subscription—\$2

5 issues, occasional pamphlets

Send orders to The Activist, 27½ W. College,
Oberlin, Ohio 44074

FOR MEETINGS OF
L.A. NEWS & LETTERS
COMMITTEE WRITE:
P.O. BOX 27022
LOS ANGELES, CAL.
90027

Paperback Edition Only \$1.75

(Also available in hardcover: \$5.95)

An International Symposium on SOCIALIST HUMANISM

36 essays, edited by Erich Fromm

Includes Leopold S. Senghor of Senegal, Raya Dunayevskaya and Herbert Marcuse of the U. S., Adam Schaff of Poland, Lucien Goldmann of France, Iring Fetscher of Germany, Karel Kosik of Czechoslovakia.

Published by Doubleday & Co., Inc.
Copies available from News & Letters

Czechoslovak Report

Worker Speed-Up Tops List of State-Capitalist Planners

Prague, Czechoslovakia — Those 1,607 delegates assembled in Prague Congress Hall from Jan. 31 to Feb. 5 this year for the 6th Congress of trade unions represented 5,250,663 members of the Revolutionary Trade Union Movement (official name of the Czechoslovak trade unions). This number was proudly announced from the platform on which—beside the TUC presidium—the official delegation of the Communist Party and the Government, as well as 45 foreign delegations, sat together.

The official trade union paper announced, on the eve of the congress, the main themes the delegates would have to deliberate in that order: perspectives of the trade union movement, its role in developing workers' initiative and organizing their participation in the management of socialist economy; problems of political education; tasks of the trade unions in securing the workers' material interests and improvement of working and life conditions; international activities of the trade union movement.

KEYNOTE: INCREASE PRODUCTIVITY

The key note, however, was given by the address of the Communist Party's First Secretary and President of the Republic, Novotny, who emphasized — reminding his listeners he said the same at the previous congress four years ago: "Every effort in the educational and organizational work of the trade union movement should be aimed first of all at increasing labor productivity, mainly by applying science and technology in all production processes.

"Connected with it — by means of material interests — the organization of both production and work will be steadily improved, the qualification of the workers will be increased and demands on the quality of production, on responsibility of all working in plants and factories will continue to be raised for their results and economies securing the society's needs.

"I repeat again," said the president, "that workers are not only consumers, but that they are—first of all—also producers."

This drive for greater productivity, echoed as it was by many delegates, was, however, incessantly accompanied by complaints that only illuminate the real situation of the trade unions and the workers in general.

It was clear to everyone willing to listen that behind the facade of long solemn speeches there were other anxieties that worried the rank and file, for the managers of Czechoslovak "socialist" economy seem not to care anymore for their workers' conditions than do their capitalist counterparts.

Let us quote a few typical examples: More than half a billion crowns are paid annually in allowances for working in noxious conditions. These allowances have tended to rise. Not a few of brand-new factories are built without regard to health regulations. Two cases were cited in which the county trade unions councils concerned had to have two such factories temporarily closed.

A proof of how the trade unions—charged by the State to control how these regulations are being kept—are powerless, was the announcement to the congress that their demand dating from 1965 (!) for the establishment of a State Commission for Work Security was granted and that this commission would soon begin to work.

"ECONOMY DRIVE"

The chairman of the plant committee of one of the great steelworks told the assembly: "Now under the 'new system of management of economy,' when the plant can use for investment only such means as it earns or borrows, it is beginning to 'save': Old cloakrooms should be urgently reconstructed, but there is no money.

"There is not even money enough for the reconstruction of a boiler needed to heat up these rooms. The workers have not enough hot water to wash. A few days ago a women's delegation came to complain: After having worked heavily the whole shift in a workshop where there is much dirt they could use a cold water bath only."

Two delegates spoke on working conditions at the State's railways. "It was considered natural," the first narrated, "especially with engine and train squads, to work for 12, 15 or more hours without a rest."

DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN

The second explained to his fellow delegates: "We are using women to fill up all positions, but first of all those that men refuse because of wage conditions, or where they cannot go because they are family supporters."

Concerning "equal rights" for women, the assembly was also told by a representative of an appliance factory: "Our suppliers are not shipping their materials according to contracts. At the beginning of the month, women in our plant have nothing to do for days. At the end of it they have to stretch their shifts up to 16 hours."

Some delegates dealt with wages. The call for a "denivelisation" is now general. It means moving away from the negligible differences kept up to now between skilled and unskilled workers, between skilled workers and technicians, etc.

SKILLED VS. UNSKILLED

The representative of a big machine works described this movement in his factory as something typical for many other plants: Average monthly

wages rose during 1963-1965 for technicians by 143 crowns, for clerks by 69 crowns, for workers by 8 (!) crowns. The plan envisages for the period from now to 1970 an annual growth of two percent for the workers, and 8.2 percent for the technicians and clerks.

What is the role or the position of trade unions under these conditions? Notwithstanding the fact that both the Communist Party First Secretary and the Chairman of the TUC Council — the highest authority of the trade union movement he presides over — showered much praise on the delegates, the situation can be summed up in the words of two delegates both on the eve of the congress and the day after:

"The trade union organization must assert itself," proclaimed the first, "first of all by better defending the interests of the toiling masses. It must stop compromising with management and its obligations towards the workers. What is the right of the trade union if one promise after the other — though confirmed in the collective agreement — is being postponed?"

And the other seconded: "It follows from the report of the Trade Union Council chairman how great is the competence and the power of the trade unions. Yet compared with the day-to-day practice down in the plants, I see considerable shortages. Economic management is far from taking the union organization seriously."

And he added naively: "They (the management) should study the reports of Comrade Novotny (President) and Com. Pastyrik (TUC chairman) in order to understand what the unions are and how important is the role they have in the new system of management."

BUREACRACY VS RANKS

One last word on how the organization of the trade unions is managed. Out of the member fees — which amount to one percent of the net wage of every member, excepting now the lowest categories — 50 percent is left with the base organizations. Yet almost a fifth (19.3 percent) was spent during the period under review for what is called "political education activities and organizational activities of higher trade union authorities"—out of which the Trade Union Council itself took 3.5 percent.

As to the composition of the newly elected presidium of this council, there is not a single worker among its 24 members and with only two exceptions it is formed by trade union officials (i.e. employees of this organization) or chairmen of the big industry unions (in other words professional trade union officials).

No further comment is needed—this is a picture of the trade union movement in a state-capitalist society.

Levi Strikers Out 7 Months; Ask Boycott

New York, N.Y. — Seven months ago, 450 workers walked out of the Levi Strauss blue jeans factory in Blue Ridge, Georgia. They were members of the first union ever organized in the county, and they were refusing to put up any longer with unbearable living conditions.

Since then, without a penny of aid from their union — the International Ladies Garment Workers Union — over 400 of these workers have remained on strike, causing losses which the company estimates at \$15,000 a day.

Levi Strauss first came to Blue Ridge seven years ago. Jobs were so short that the company sifted through 3,800 applicants to choose the 560 highly skilled workers who were on the job when the strike began August 10.

VOTE TO UNIONIZE

By 1965, the workers — of whom over 500 are women — decided they needed a union. Many are married to members of the Chemical Workers Union who work in Copperhill, Tenn., just across the state line. The Chemical Workers did the organizing and the Blue Ridge workers voted two-to-one to become a local of the ILGWU.

The women knew that they represented only one plant of the 14 Levi plants throughout the South. With the advice of the ILGWU, they signed a contract drawn up by the company.

Their contract included in almost every clause the phrase

"In the opinion of management . . ." It gave the company the right to change almost every provision whenever the COMPANY felt like it. Only minutes after he signed, the area manager told the union committee that he would break the union before the contract expired. . . .

SPEED-UP STANDARDS

First the company used its "opinion" to set production levels by the fastest worker and only pay the contract wage to workers who met production all five days of the week. Everyone else got \$1.25 per hour.

The shop steward, Mrs. Darlene Davis, had worked at

CALL FOR A BOYCOTT

You can support the Blue Ridge Strikers by: 1—not buying levis; 2—forming local boycott committees; 3—contributions to sustain the strikers. Make checks payable to the Committee for the Blue Ridge Strikers, 610 West 116th St., No. 53, New York, N.Y. 10027.

her job six years. But her income for eight months of work last year was only \$1,531 — less than the minimum wage, since she worked 54 hours most weeks.

Workers were forbidden to be absent without a doctor's excuse — even if they couldn't get a babysitter for the compulsory overtime on Saturday. They were forbidden to talk to each other during working hours, or to use the bathroom without a doctor's note saying they had kidney trouble.

The breaking point came when management violated the seniority clause by bringing in an inexperienced worker to operate a new machine. 300 union members and 150 other workers walked out.

Mrs. Davis says, "They were bound and determined to break the union, and that's the only reason they pulled the caper they did and we came out on strike."

Mrs. Irene Wittenbarger, the Financial Secretary of the local says, "Our demands are our seniority rights. If they will put the girl with the most seniority on the new machine and take every one of us back, we will go back."

STRIKE BITTER

The strike has been long and bitter. Ten union members were arrested for throwing eggs and tomatoes at scabs.

As Mrs. Whittenbarger said, "The judge was part owner of the Canton Cotton Mills which supplies Levi with thread and material. He had his mind made up and the sentences written out in advance . . . The grand jury indicted one of our strikers for allegedly throwing a pebble against a scab's car and failed to indict a scab for running over this same striker and putting her in the hospital."

A Committee for the Blue Ridge Strikers has been organized to try and get nation-wide support for this strike. The workers feel that only a national boycott of Levi Strauss could break down the company and win their demands.

READ "THE CHALLENGE OF MAO TSE-TUNG"

in

MARXISM AND FREEDOM

BY RAYA DUNAYEVSKAYA

Special paperback edition, only \$1.98. (Hard cover, \$5.) Available also in Italian and Japanese translations. Order from: NEWS & LETTERS, 8751 Grand River, Detroit, Mich., 48204

Name

Address

City State Zip

Do You Have These

Three Important Bulletins?

"Where We Stand on Labor" and "Where We Stand on the Negro Struggle," two draft chapters for our proposed pamphlet, "Who We Are and What We Stand For." Price: 10c each.

Also

"Perspectives Report" bulletin by Raya Dunayevskaya, includes analysis of "Black Power, Race and Class." Price: 35c each.

Order from:

News & Letters, 8751 Grand River Ave. Detroit, Mich. 48204



—News & Letters Photo

TENT CITY—symbol of Negroes' fight for rights in southern states.

Trip South Reveals Negro Revolution Moves Forward

(Continued from Page 1)

activities with the Mississippi Freedom Union. I have organized drives to send food and clothes and money, to all these places. But to actually see the conditions under which these people live with your own eyes gives you a feeling almost impossible to describe.

When I drove up Jefferson Davis Highway (or Highway 80, whichever you prefer), and cast my eyes upon the side of a hill in a pine grove, with bare earth all around it, and five or six ragged tents propped up against sticks, I felt sick in my stomach.

CRIME OF CRIMES

Here we are, in the richest country of this whole world, with a government that spends millions of dollars in Vietnam in a single day—and there they are, Negro Americans, cast out of society and living like animals in a jungle for committing the crime of crimes, registering to vote!

There is one out-house which they built themselves some 25 yards from the tents. There is one wooden cook stove, for all the families, some ten yards from the tents in an open space. When I asked these people how they cooked when it rained or was very cold they said, "We don't. We send some of the younger ones to the store to get cheese crackers and pop, if we have enough money."

If this does not transform a person's feelings, he doesn't have any feelings as a human being. Yet nobody seems to be helping them, or even to care.

At night they have to stay on guard to keep the KKK from putting the torch to the tents, and guard the open well where they get their drinking water.

CHURCHES BURNED

The counter-revolution in the South—the KKK, the die-hard racists—is not standing still. Several days after I returned, three churches in Lowndes County were completely destroyed by fires set in the late hours of the night.

One was an abandoned, formerly white church in Hayneville that had been turned over to the Negroes and was being remodeled into the main anti-poverty project headquarters. It was the headquarters of the Lowndes County Christian Movement for Human Rights. The second was one of the oldest churches in the state—Good Hope Church, with records dating back 127 years. The third was the Macedonia Baptist Church in Fort Deposit, Ala., 20 miles south of Hayneville. It served as one of the anti-poverty headquarters for retraining the people in that area.

Our society is supposed to accept the church as a "sacred" place where people of all races and creeds may go to worship as they choose. Many years prior to the civil rights movement, southern white racists knew that they were more likely to get a prison sentence for interfering with a Negro church than any other thing they might do to the Negro people.

Yet today it has become the most common place to attack and escape prosecution. When the first church was burned in Georgia, shortly after President Kennedy had been elected, there was a hue and cry about the disgrace it represented. The offenders were caught—but they were soon freed; and from then on it was open-season on bombing and burning Negro churches.

DO-NOTHING ADMINISTRATION

The anti-poverty offices which were housed in two of the churches just burned make it an affair of the federal government. Yet the government seems not to be doing, or even saying, one thing about it. The Alabama FBI came to ask a few questions, jot down a few notes, and left. If there is a protest, the FBI can say they "investigated" it.

When Viola Liuzzo was murdered in Lowndes County, President Johnson talked loudly of what the federal government was going to do to rid the country of the KKK. All who didn't want to go to prison were advised to get out of the organization. But, despite even the fact that a federal agent was an eye witness to the murder, the murderers of Mrs. Liuzzo, and many others, remain free.

Far from being "outlawed" the KKK is now actively recruiting in Michigan for membership. In Detroit and its suburbs, membership cards have been slipped under windshield wipers in parking lots.

The police say they can do nothing about it because no city ordinances have been violated. If any other organization on the Attorney General's so-called "subversive list" were to do what the KKK has been doing, they would be in court and in jail the next day.

NO TURNING BACK

The truth of the matter is that the KKK is moving North because it is actually on the decline in the South. KKK spokesmen have complained openly of their difficulties in getting enough whites to join with them to keep them flourishing in the Deep South. But they have shown that they do not intend to keep on the decline, or go down without a fight.

If the hollow democracy in this country is ever to mean something to all the people, the Negro Revolution will have to be a very great part of that achievement. The Negro people are the only ones who have continued to expose the fakery of our "democracy" at every turn.

The movement in the South—and in the North, as well—cannot stand still. It must either go forward or it will go backward. And it has proved that it does not intend to go backward.

Editor's Note: Readers who wish to help Tent City families can send contributions of food, clothing or money to:

Mrs. Mandy Glover
Rt. 1, Box 197 (Tent City)
Hayneville, Alabama 36040

Our Life and Times

By Peter Mallory

Migrant Michigan Workers March

Over 800 Michigan migrant workers marched between Good Friday and Easter Sunday to Lansing, the state Capitol, to protest their working conditions in the state. They carried a huge wooden cross, Mexican and American flags, and signs reading: "Human dignity for migrant workers" and "Chicken coops are for the birds". They carried petitions to Governor Romney, who was too busy in church, but who sent his Lt. Gov. to receive the petition.

The main demands in the petitions were:

- Defeat of a bill that would delay the effective date of workman's compensation coverage for migrant workers.
- Inclusion of farm workers under the minimum wage bill,

with a suggested wage of \$2 an hour.

- Appropriation of additional state funds to supplement federal aid for education of migrant children.

- Abolishment of the one-year residence requirement to allow migrant workers to come under social welfare benefits.

- Inclusion of migrant workers under the unemployment insurance law.

- Improved standards and stricter licensing regulations for migrant worker camps.

- Funds to support rest camps for migrant workers near the southern Michigan state line.

- Support from the Michigan congressional delegation for federal legislation to extend collective bargaining

rights to migrant workers.

These migrant workers, while mainly Mexican in origin, are Michigan residents who have worked in the fields harvesting the crops—cherries, pickles and beans—for a number of years.

August Scholle, President of the Michigan AFL-CIO, was there with a statement, "Whenever the voice of the exploited workers cry out, we will be there". But the exploited workers see little of Scholle's powerful union complex when it comes to organizing the unorganized farm workers, or giving money from the multi-million dollar treasury that his unions control. His main interest is Democratic Party politics, and he is losing out there fast.

QUININE MONOPOLY

Quinine, which is a drug vital to the survival of millions throughout the world suffering from heart ailments, has increased in price 500 percent over the past few years. Those who cannot afford the price risk death without it.

Quinine is grown only in Indonesia and its marketing throughout the world has been controlled by the Dutch Kina Bureau, since 1892, as a tight-fisted cartel that doles out the supply to members of the cartel in other countries.

After World War II, the U.S. Government acquired a stockpile of 14 million ounces for use in a time of national emergency. In 1962, the General Services Administration, which disposes of surplus property, sold off 9 million ounces at 21 cents per ounce. 8 million ounces went to the Dutch cartel which has raised the price to \$2.00 an ounce, despite the lack of any scarcity of quinine.

The U.S. State Dept., at the time, thought it would be a good idea to keep on the good side of the Dutch, who were allies in NATO. The Dutch Royal family has a financial interest in the quinine cartel, so, to keep them happy and despite warnings from the medical profession and the Justice Dept., the quinine was sold to the Dutch. The existence of the stockpile was the only threat to a world monopoly of the drug. Now the remaining 4 million ounces are needed in Vietnam, where for many, it is impossible to live without it, as is the case in most Africa.

It was not until Rexall, an American drug firm, brought 120 documents to the attention

of a Senate Committee which was investigating drug prices, that the existence of the cartel and its price-raising policy was discovered.

MILK STRIKE

The farmers are attempting to get better prices for their milk by withholding it from the market, dumping, etc. They have proved very militant in their actions but are failing to obtain their objectives through withholding alone.

Nashville, Tenn., was different. When the Teamsters Union respected their picket lines, the city was down to 10% of its normal supply. The farmers need allies in organized labor, and expressions of class solidarity such as those shown by the teamsters in Nashville.

MAO'S CHINA

Mao's cultural revolution appears to be floundering in a sea of its own self-perpetuating disorder. The avowed aim of seizing power from an allegedly revisionist Communist Party and government officials has created such a state of chaos, confusion and shortages of goods and food that even Mao had to call it off and urge everyone back to the land to start the spring planting.

The Red Guards have been out of school for almost a year, the universities closed and the teachers classified as enemies of the state while the historical heritage of China has been systematically degraded. Factories have been ransacked and pitched battles between Red Guards and the workers have taken place all over China.

The Army, which Mao called in to quell the rioting, has now,

in many sections of the country, taken over all political control from the Communist Party while in other vast areas, anti-Maoists are said to be in control.

The struggle is far from over, but the need for food and increased industrial production has postponed the final struggle to a later date.

RHODESIA

The segregationist white regime of Rhodesia, which seized power illegally has found new friends in Washington. Dean Acheson, former secretary of State under Truman, has joined forces with the Washington Post in defending the Smith regime against United Nations' intervention.

In doing so, Dean Acheson has become the hero of the newly-formed right-wing segregationist American-Southern African Council, which recently opened a headquarters in Washington but lacked the courage to list its sponsors.

U.S.S.R. INDUSTRY

While production is slackening in the United States, Soviet industrial production is up 11% for the first two months of 1967 compared with last year.

They claim that steel production is up 6 percent, oil is up 8 percent, plastics and synthetic resins 28 percent. Electric power production is also up. They promised production of 4.8 million T.V. sets, 2.8 million refrigerators and 4.5 million washing machines this year.

The only catch seems to be that it is the workers who are paying for it. Their labor productivity is up 6.9 percent for the period.

Be Sure to Hear

Raya Dunayevskaya

IN CHICAGO: Friday, April 21, 7:30 p.m., Altgeld Hall, Roosevelt University, 430 Michigan Blvd. Auspices: I.W.W.

"Behind the Turmoil in China"

IN NEW YORK: Thursday, April 27, 8 p.m., Hamilton Hall, Columbia University. Auspices: Columbia Univ. News & Letters Committee

"What Next for Labor?"