

THE KENYAN'S FIGHT FOR FREEDOM

(See Page 3)

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XVII - No. 21

NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, MAY 25, 1953

PRICE: 10 CENTS

Is U.S. Labor McCarthy Target After Attlee?

Senator McCarthy's poisonous attack on Clement Attlee, British Labor Party leader and former Prime Minister, is a warning to the American labor movement of the treatment it can expect from McCarthy if it fails to fight him aggressively and to come to the defense of his victims.

Attlee is the leader of the right wing of the Labor Party, the spokesman for the conservative

Congressmen Plan To Hike Own Pay \$10,000 a Year

The members of Congress plan to put the arm on the American people for \$10,000 annual salary increases. Such a raise has been approved by the Senate Judiciary Committee. A propaganda campaign is underway to quiet popular opposition in advance. In 1946, Congress voted its members a 50% increase over the then salary of \$10,000 — \$2,500 more salary and \$2,500 listed as "expenses."

HOW THEY ARGUE

Capitalist newspapers are egging the Senators and Representatives on to vote themselves the huge salary hike. The N. Y. Times editorially expresses the "hope" that the Congressmen won't get "cold feet" and will holdily dip their collective fingers into the public till.

The Times raises the argument of increased living expenses and taxes — the very argument the capitalist press dismisses when it is advanced by underpaid workers to get a few dollars more a week for their useful labor.

Another argument is that \$25,000 a year for Congressmen "is not too much, compared with salaries of business executives..." That's the right comparison. These Republican and Democratic Congressmen are agents of Big Business and as such are worth a lot more than \$25,000 a year to the profiteers. But that's why they're not worth a red cent to the working people.

labor bureaucrats who have done their utmost to restrain the British workers from conducting a militant fight to the finish against capitalism. As Prime Minister, he defended colonialism, collaborated closely with Washington in waging the cold war against the Soviet Union and gave his blessing to U.S. intervention in Korea. Politically, he is a reformist ("Fabian Socialist"), but in his social outlook he is not much different from American labor leaders like Walter Reuther of the CIO or David Dubinsky of the AFL.

ATLEE'S "CRIME"

Attlee points out that he was fighting communism before McCarthy was ever heard of. But that didn't stop McCarthy from letting go with both barrels in a full-scale red-baiting blast against Attlee. After this, anybody who claims that McCarthy's real target is "communism" will have to be classified as a hopeless ignoramus or an incorrigible liar.

Attlee, speaking in the House of Commons, mildly stated the opinion that the U.S. negotiators in Korea were holding up a cease-fire by making unreasonable demands after the Chinese had done a long way to meet the conditions set down by the UN. He suggested that the delay might be due to the fact that there are Americans who "swear all-out war with China and against communism in general" and said he sometimes wondered who was more powerful, Eisenhower or McCarthy.

McCarthy's answer was to brand him as "Comrade Attlee." His "proof" of Attlee's "subversiveness" was to wave a photograph of Attlee saluting Republican troops in the Spanish Civil War in 1937, and a quotation in which Attlee referred to his fellow-Labor Party members as "comrades" (the traditional designation among European laborers).

(Continued on page 4)

Congress War-Mongers Try To Spread Far East Conflict

AFL, CIO Urge Bolivia Boycott End

Both the CIO and AFL asked the State Department last week to resume purchases of tin from Bolivia. The action was taken in response to an appeal from the General Confederation of Factory Workers of Bolivia.

Speaking for the CIO International Committee, Jacob S. Potofsky said that he had been informed in a communication from the Bolivian workers that "suspension of tin purchases... had resulted in an economic crisis which threatens actual starvation for workers."

He wrote John M. Cabot, Assistant Sec'y. of State for Inter-American Affairs urging an end to the U.S. boycott on Bolivian tin.

The AFL letter, also addressed to Mr. Cabot, was signed by AFL President George Meany. He said that 80% of the national budget of Bolivia depends on tin purchases and 56% of the food consumed there depends on revenues from sale of tin. He requested that purchase of tin be resumed so that the Bolivian government "can meet its normal expenditures and promote a program of welfare activities for its people."

The State Department has boycotted Bolivian tin as a means of pressuring the Paz Estenssoro government into compensating the tin barons for their expropriated holdings. The Bolivian workers feel that the boycott is part of a Wall Street effort to crush their revolution.

They maintain that the tin barons have bled Bolivia for generations, reducing the country to such poverty that it is unable to meet their demand for further booty.



No Place for Tourists

HOSTILE DEMONSTRATIONS GREET DULLES IN TOUR OF MIDDLE EAST

Secretary of State John Foster Dulles' airplane tour through the Middle East, in which he is visiting 12 countries from Egypt to India and back to Lybia in 20 days, is being widely touted as a "listen and learn" journey. It is pretended that upon Dulles' return a new Middle East policy will be worked out based upon the information he will have gathered in this lightning junket.

The people in the Middle East met Dulles at many of his stops with "powerful demonstrations aimed at making this diplomatic representative of Wall Street 'stop, look and listen' if not 'learn'."

They view Dulles' trip and the aims he represents with hostility. They understand that his trip is part of an effort to pressure and cajole the Middle East into a "defense" organization tied to Wall Street's war machine. In Beirut, the Lebanese parliament told Dulles that the Arab states cannot accept a Middle East defense system prepared by states having no direct relation to the Arab East. They declared that it is their own right and duty to defend the area with their own mutual security pact.

In India, the U.S. Secretary of State was greeted at the airport by a mass of demonstrators carrying black flags signifying condemnation and placards which declared, "Keep Out Of Asia!" and "Warmonger Dulles Go Back!" Heavy police cordons attempted to block the approaches to the airport and nine busloads of demonstrators were arrested.

Placards denouncing Dulles as the major exponent of "Asians Fighting Asians" were up in all the main streets of New Delhi. Iran, which is the most turbulent spot in a Middle East rising in revolt against foreign domination, is being completely bypassed in Dulles, "fact-finding mission." There the fifth foreign correspondent and the third from the U.S. since the nationalization of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Co. in 1951 is being expelled from the country, charged with writing "false and provocative news against the interests of Iran."

On May 18 an American Army sergeant suffered a head wound during a mass demonstration shouting "Yankee Go Home!" In Jordan, Dulles was told by the Premier and the Secretary of State of that country that there can be no talk of a Middle East defense pact until the full sovereignty of the Arab States is achieved and the British get out of the Suez.

In Egypt, where the movement to end the 70-year-old domination of Great Britain is fast approaching the explosive point, Premier General Naguib has been impelled to issue a virtual declaration of war against England. The influential Egyptian newspaper Al Misri greeted Dulles' arrival with the statement that "he has not come here to hear our ideas but to oblige us to accept a solution that he describes as the one agreed upon by the American and British governments."

Much more important than the statements of the Middle East governments and press, however, are the actions of the masses. In the Suez area itself thousands of Egyptian workers left their jobs at the oil refineries and shipyards on May 15. They marched through the Red Sea port shouting, "We are the Mau Mau of the Canal!" and "Out with the British!" Yes, Mr. Dulles, "listen and learn."

Chinese CP Changes May Day Slogans

Reports now filtering through from diplomatic missions in Peking say that on May Day the Chinese Communists did not carry a single slogan directed against the imperialist powers of the West.

Recognition of China Is First Requirement For Peace in Asia

By Art Preis

If the Korean war is still draining the blood of American youth; if the U.S. military negotiators at Panmunjom haggle over every tiny point and raise new demands with each concession offered by the other side; if incitations and threats are hurled every day from the floors of Congress to whip up sentiment for an all-out war against China, it is because Wall Street is determined to restore capitalist domination over China's 450-million people.

America's financial and business rulers do not want to recognize the existing government of China, although it is a million times more representative of the Chinese people than the vile dictatorship of Chiang Kai-shek whom the Chinese threw off their backs and drove over the sea to his island hide-out of Formosa. Diplomatic expediency and world-wide pressure may incline Eisenhower to some peace gestures and maneuvers and even to consider a possible temporary deal with the Kremlin. But up to now he and his administration have shown only hostility to the proposal for recognition of the New China government — the issue on which the question of peace in the Far East is most immediately hinged.

Eisenhower has treated with studied silence the fulminations and unbridled threats hurled by the Pacific Firebrands and China Lobbyists in Congress as soon as the question of recognition of the Chinese nation is raised in any form. FRENZIED OUTBURSTS In recent days, their war incitations have reached new peaks of frenzy. Their outbursts, played (Continued on page 3)



SIR WINSTON CHURCHILL, British Prime Minister announced May 21 that he will meet Eisenhower and French Premier at Bermuda in several weeks in talks preliminary to possible meeting with Moscow representative. French, who have been suspicious about being left out of big power parleys were particularly pleased at announcement.

Negro Militancy Wins Public Offices in South

By George Breitman

Five Negroes in North Carolina cities were elected to local office this month, and three others in Atlanta, Ga., won nominations that assured them of election. Some of these Negro candidates were elected over white opponents. In a couple of these contests it was the first time a Negro had won an election since Reconstruction days over 70 years ago.

One result of these victories will be to encourage Negroes all over the South, and stimulate them to run for additional offices from which they have been barred in recent decades.

That's the good side of it. But there is also a bad side. Some people will use these elections as "proof" of the "great progress" being made in Southern race relations, and as an argument that Negroes can take it easy now because the South is on the verge of treating them differently.

DANGEROUS CLAIM

In fact, that was the impression given by Dr. Rufus E. Clement, president of Atlanta University, who won a city-wide primary for a seat on the Atlanta Board of Education by a vote of 22,000 to 14,000 for his white opponent, Dr. Clement claimed his election showed that:

"The white population (of the South) is ready to try to work constructively with the Negro population."

Undoubtedly this is true about one portion of the Southern whites. But Dr. Clement exaggerates when he applies his statement to Southern whites as a whole. And he misses the target altogether when he attributes Negro political progress in the South mainly to changed attitudes among the whites.

The chief thing that has

changed in the South is the Negro. He has become more militant and better organized, especially in the political field. He knows that politics is a vital weapon in the fight against Jim Crow, and he is determined to make use of this weapon which the Southern ruling class has gone to great lengths to deny him.

In the North the politicians beg the Negro people to go to the polls. In the South it is the opposite: The white supremacist politicians have worked out a dozen different fraudulent tricks to keep Negroes away from the ballot box, and when these fail, they resort to intimidation and outright force and violence.

It takes real courage for a Negro to enter a polling booth in many parts of the South. Scores of Southern Negroes have been murdered in cold blood since the end of World War II because they dared to insist on their right to register. Voting is a democratic right, but like many democratic rights today it can often be exercised only at great personal risk. In a certain sense it can be said that Southern Negroes have had to act like revolutionaries before they could enjoy this particular democratic right.

GROWING DEFIANCE

And that is what Southern Negroes have been doing in increasing numbers. In the face of threats and violence, they have been defying Jim Crow, registering and voting. A few statistics illustrate this dramatic story: In 1940 there were 150,000 Negroes registered to vote in eleven Southern states. In 1950 the number had risen to 828,000.

In 1948, according to the CIO Political Action Committee, approximately 750,000 Southern Negroes voted. In 1952, according to the recent annual joint report made by the American Jewish Congress and the NAACP, there were between 1,100,000 and 1,350,000 Negro voters in the South — an increase of over 50% in just four years.

(Continued on page 2)

The North Carolina and Atlanta victories were made possible by Negro political action above all. Of course this action in turn had an effect on some Southern whites too. Some were impressed favorably and were glad to see Negroes voting; some were unhappy about the new development, but were demoralized by the feeling that there was nothing they could do to stop it. (And naturally there are still many, with vested interests in saving the Jim Crow system, who are trying to prevent it from going any further.)

CHANGE ONLY BEGUN

But the main initiative for the changing Southern political situation has come from the Negro people themselves. It is necessary to stress this factor very heavily because the situation has only begun to change, and Negroes are still a long way off from political equality in the South.

Wrong notions about the white population as a whole, along the line of Dr. Clement's remarks, can be very damaging at this point if they lead to any relaxation in Negro political activity and militancy. There is still a lot of fighting to be done, and anything that leads to relaxation on the part of the Negroes can be disastrous. The experience of the past has proved that the way for Negroes to get white allies is by showing their determination to fight for their just objectives — alone, if necessary. That is how

Union Leaders Find It Hard To "Live With" GOP Regime Hopes of some conservative union leaders, particularly of the American Federation of Labor, that they would be able to "live with" the new Republican administration appear to be going up the flue. Expressions of disgruntlement with the White House and Congress under GOP rule are being heard from key AFL figures who after Eisenhower's election had sought a "modus vivendi" with him. AFL President George Meany, addressing the AFL International Ladies Garment Workers Union convention on May 19 in Chicago, voiced doubt that "we are getting or will get real leadership from the new administration in Washington." He pointed to the series of reactionary measures taken since the new administration took over, and said: "The business men now in power are on trial. They are being watched every day, not only by the representatives of organized labor but by the people as well." He added that the AFL will "mobilize our full political strength for the elections next year," although he did not explain for whom they will be mobilized. Meanwhile, Secretary of Labor Durkin, former head of the AFL Plumbers Union, is reported to be very unhappy in his role of labor window-dressing for Eisenhower's

Union Leaders Find It Hard To "Live With" GOP Regime

Millionaires Cabinet. Robert G. Spivak, N. Y. Post correspondent, wrote on May 15 that Durkin "may soon call it quits." Among other things, he was not permitted to testify before recent hearings on the Taft-Hartley law. "When I walk into a room," Durkin is reported to have complained recently, "everybody stops talking."

This gives some idea of what a "bargain" the labor movement got when Eisenhower condescended to place a union man in the most inconsequential post in his cabinet. Labor leaders like Meany whine and complain about how labor is getting it in the neck from the Big Business rulers in Washington, but they offer no proposal for effective political action to end Big Business control.

Instead of just bemoaning the way the reactionary capitalist politicians are treating them, these union leaders would do a thousand times more for labor if they set in motion the movement for an independent Labor Party that could mobilize the American people to drive the whole gang of Republican and Democratic free-booters out of power.

BALTIMORE WITCH HUNT HITS UNITED WORLD FEDERALISTS

By David Stevens

Last week in Baltimore, Md., "security" police of the State attorney general, trained by intelligence agents of the U.S. Army, joined plainclothes detectives of the city police department in extending the relentless and unbridled hunt for "subversives" to the United World Federalists, an organization that is no more "communist" than the Democratic or Republican parties.

Commandeering the services of a news photographer and aided by a finger man who also serves on the city pick-pocket squad, a special agent "covered" a meeting of the United World Federalists of Maryland at the Lyric Theater. Sleuthing about the outside of the theater and sitting unobtrusively at the side of the hall in the rear, the agents took down the license numbers of the guests' cars, the names of people in the audience and statements by the speakers. The photographer took flash pictures of the speakers on the stage.

What is new and alarming about this case can be seen when you examine the nature of the United World Federalists and the type of speakers that addressed its meeting. Both Democrats and Republicans belong to the United World Federalists. It seeks world peace through establishment of a kind of super United Nations. It is sponsored and led by such nationally prominent figures as the governor of Michigan, G. Mennen Williams, the world-famous scientist Albert Einstein, Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, CIO President Walter Reuther, former U.S. Minister to Norway Mrs. J. Borden Harriman, Catholic editor Rev. Edward A. Conway, the dean of the Law School of Yale University Dr. Wesley Sturges, and J. D. Zellerbach, President of the Crown Zellerbach Paper Company.

It would seem that the only possible taint to this organization is its interest in peace. But the word "peace" has become equivalent to the word "Red" in the ears of the McCarthy prowlers and snoopers. No one who in any way espouses its cause can feel free from investigation and persecution as a "subversive."

The speakers at the Lyric Theater meeting whose pictures were snapped on orders of the agent acting under the provisions of the notorious police-state Ober law were the following four clergymen: The Rev. Dr. Don Frank Penn, rector of the Church of St. Michael and All Angels; Rabbi Edward E. Klein of the Stephen Wise Free Synagogue of New York; Thomas H. Mahoney, Boston lawyer and president of the Catholic Association for International Peace and the Rev. Donald Harrington, pastor of the Community Church of New York. The special agent ordered that the photographic prints of these men be delivered to the anti-subversive office at police headquarters.

The expose in the Baltimore Sun of the witch-hunting activities of the secret police against such orthodox meep, such a conservative organization and the people who attended its public meeting caused widespread shock and alarm. Governor McKeldin of Maryland must have realized that his attorney general's department had gone too far too fast. In a statement published in The Sun, the (Continued on page 4)

# WITCH-HUNT LAWS CREATE ATMOSPHERE FOR McCARTHYISM

Senator Joseph McCarthy's intimidation and smear tactics thrive in the general witch-hunt atmosphere created by the "anti-Communist" drive of both Republican and Democrats, including the so-called "liberals."

The growing number of legal restrictions on "Communists" and "subversive" organizations testifies to the source of the atmosphere which is so favorable to the growth of McCarthyism. These legal restraints are supplemented by government executive orders, plus policies adopted by private concerns and agencies, designed to victimize and silence those whose views deviate in the slightest from those of the Big Business reactionaries.

Recently the Subversives Activities Control Board, set up under the McCarran Internal Security Act of 1950, ruled that the law requires the Communist Party to list all its officers and members every year, make a full public accounting of the sources and recipients of its funds, name its contributors and label as "Communist" all mail and bundles it sends out.

If the courts uphold this ruling, it will mean that the way will be open to force any organization the attorney general arbitrarily labels as "subversive" or "Communist-controlled" to expose its membership and make them subject to witch-hunt reprisals.

Under the guise of barring "Communists" and "subversives," most states have laws making it very difficult and even impossible for minority parties to get on the ballot.

Laws to deny "Communists" or "subversives" the right to run for office are on the books in 26 states. Most of the other states have similar restrictive election laws which make it difficult for so-called "subversives" to get on the ballot. The first victim of the Trucks police-state law in Michigan was not the Communist Party, but the Socialist Workers Party, whose candidates were removed from the ballot last year and restored only after legal action was taken.

"Communists" or "subversives" are denied the right to federal jobs. Millions of federal employees are being interrogated, investigated and otherwise harassed in the vast government "loyalty" purge, first instituted by Truman, and recently intensified by Eisenhower.

In 28 states, anyone called a "Communist" or "subversive" is denied the right to any state or municipal job — even in such a "sensitive" work as street-cleaning.

Under the Taft-Hartley law, unions which want to have dealings with the National Labor Relations Board must get rid of any "Communist" leaders. Many union leaders themselves have instituted provisions in union constitutions to bar "Communists" from holding office and even membership.

The rights of school teachers and college professors are under severe attack. There are special "loyalty" oaths required of school teachers in 32 states. Most colleges and universities bar anyone labelled a "Communist" from teaching, a policy recommended not by McCarthy, but by the American Association of University Professors.

"Communists" are denied the right to hold meetings in school buildings in 11 states and hundreds of local school boards enforce similar restrictions.

The attorney general's political black-list of "subversive" organizations became the guide for attacks on the rights of individuals through "guilt by association" before McCarthy's activities had made him so well known. Not only are federal workers, like the legless World War II veteran James Kutcher, fired on the basis of membership in any of the hundreds of organizations on this list. It is used against employees in private firms from motion pictures, TV, radio and stage, to plants engaged on government orders. In two states, Pennsylvania and Ohio, "subversives" are denied unemployment compensation.

Those accused of being "Communist" or "subversive" are denied the right to federal low-rent housing. They are denied commissions in the armed forces and their activities as enlisted men are greatly restricted.

They can't get passports to visit abroad. If non-citizens they face deportation; if foreigners wanting to visit here, they cannot get entrance permits.

There are no federal laws that make the Communist Party or any other "subversive" political group illegal. Three states — Georgia, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts — have such laws, but these have not been tested in the courts. Yet in every state in the union, the constitutional rights of people whom the officials choose to call "Communists" are violated in one way or another.

Even where they formally have a minimum of rights, they can still be framed up under the Smith "Cave" Act for "conspiracy to advocate and teach" the "forceful overthrow of the government."

McCarthy shows how these laws can be made to apply to anyone, simply through pinning a false "communist" or "subversive" label on him.

## Their Frankenstein Monster



# Smell of Tainted Money Rises from McCarthy

By Joseph Keller

The buried report of the Senate Subcommittee on Privileges and Elections on the questionable financial dealings of witch-hunting Senator Joseph McCarthy, about which I wrote last week, further confirms the close affinity we have noted between the professional red-baiters and dirty money. Past experience with McCarthy's thieving forerunners, like ex-Congressmen Andrew J. Mays and J. Parnell Thomas, have taught us about the types who make a racket out of anti-communism.

In its report, the subcommittee turned its attention first to the \$10,000 fee McCarthy solicited and obtained from the Lustron corporation, makers of prefabricated housing, ostensibly for a housing pamphlet. The money was paid at a time the company had reason to feel indebted to McCarthy for political services rendered. The \$10,000 Lustron pay-off is by no means the most substantial amount involved in McCarthy's peculiar financial transactions. But the details in this case are most revealing of the way McCarthy has used his political office for personal gain.

Payment of the \$10,000 Lustron

fee to McCarthy was first referred to in a Senate investigation of the Reconstruction Finance Corporation's (RFC) loans to Lustron. Seven loans, totaling \$37,500,000 were made between June 30, 1947, and August 29, 1949. Most of this period coincided with the time McCarthy was a member of the Banking and Currency Committee, which had jurisdiction over both the RFC and the Housing Agencies, as well as the Committee on Expenditures in the Executive Departments, which was also interested in some of the Lustron operations.

"EXCESSIVE SALARIES" According to the Senate Subcommittee investigating McCarthy, "the venture was a failure; the RFC instituted foreclosure February 14, 1950, and the loss to the government will reportedly exceed \$30 million." The report adds that an inquiry "developed that Lustron had been mismanaged; that frauds had been practiced upon it; and that excessive salaries were paid of officials, such as E. Merl Young, because of alleged influence."

As Vice-Chairman of the Joint Committee on Housing and a member of the Senate Banking

and Currency Committee, McCarthy in 1947 and 1948 pushing an important part in pushing through various amendments and additions to the Housing Act. One of the provisions he helped to put over was Section 102 of Public Law 901 which authorized the RFC to make loans of up to \$50,000,000 to pre-fab housing manufacturers. "This provision gave the RFC additional funds and authority to make its third Lustron loan of \$7 million on February 14, 1949, as well as the subsequent loans," the report states. It is further noted by the subcommittee that Carl Strandlund, Lustron president, prior to passage of this amendment, "did see many Senators and Congressmen to present the merits of his project."

At any rate, McCarthy admittedly contacted Strandlund after helping to shove through the provision laying the basis for big loans to Lustron. Here is how McCarthy operated:

### EXPENSIVE MANUSCRIPT

McCarthy had recommended a salary increase for Administrator Foley of the Housing and Home Finance Administration. This increase was subsequently provided for in the amended Housing Act. A few days after enactment, "Senator McCarthy contacted Administrator Foley to request his assistance for Miss Jean Kerr, of his office, who was working on a housing manuscript," says the Subcommittee. Foley, in a subsequent letter to the Senate Committee on Banking and Currency, "outlined in detail the part played by his agency in the preparation of Senator McCarthy's housing booklet, their review and corrections of three separate drafts."

The Senate Banking Committee hearings of May 1952, "developed that Senator McCarthy approached Strandlund during October of 1948, setting a price of \$10,000 for his housing manuscript, which was 'not in publishable form,' and that Strandlund agreed to it without any prior consultation with his public relations or executive staff, or notification to the RFC, and at a time when Lustron had not completed its machinery and tooling installation, had a huge backlog of orders and had completed only a few sample houses for demonstration purposes. . . . These 'hasty negotiations' to get \$10,000 occurred when 'Senator McCarthy's over-extended debt position at the Appleton (Wis.) State Bank . . . became quite desperate. . . . This bank was threatening to liquidate collateral on loans of \$72,943.96 advanced to McCarthy. McCarthy took the Lustron check, dated November 12, 1948, used it to purchase stocks of the Seaboard Airlines Railroad, also RFC-financed, and pledged these stocks to support his Appleton bank loans. The subcommittee's polite summary query as to whether McCarthy's fee from Lustron was 'proper' and 'ethical' brought from him only a loud bleat of 'communist smear!'

# NEGRO MILITANCY WINS PUBLIC POSTS IN SOUTH

(Continued from page 1) they will get allies in the future too.

The most encouraging feature of these election victories was the news from Durham, N. C., which indicated that Negroes have reached collaboration with the best possible allies — the labor movement.

The Durham Committee on Negro Affairs backed R. N. Harris, a Negro insurance executive, who beat his white opponent in the predominantly Negro Third Ward by 4,200 to 3,700. According to the May 16 Pittsburgh Courier: "Outside the Third Ward, Harris' victory was received with mixed emotions, the most caustic comments coming from incumbents who were upset by the DCNA, who warned that Negroes and labor had wedded to dominate the political life of Durham. . . . For over a decade Durham Negro politics have been courting the support of organized labor here and have received many promises but little support. The Harris victory was so decisive that the 'Negro-labor bloc' has since been damned by white press and pulpit."

The Durham bloc is a preview of the coming national political alliance between labor and the Negro people that will end both the two-party system and Jim Crow oppression.

### REDBAITING TOO

Another preview — of the dirty tactics that can be expected from the white supremacists — was

shown in the Atlanta election. Two days before the voting, Dr. Clement's right to be a candidate "was challenged on the ground that he had shown left-wing sympathies. . . . Charges were made that the House Un-American Activities Committee had listed Dr. Clement as a former member of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare." (N. Y. Times, May 15.)

This organization was a liberal outfit with a program no more "left wing" than that of the NAACP. Dr. Clement was allowed to run when the City Executive Committee (board of aldermen) cleared him by a vote of 5 to 4. But it was a close call — a change of one vote would have barred him from the ballot — and it shows that the technique of the witch hunt will be employed against non-radical Negroes too.

This threat to Negro political action can be stopped only by stopping the witch hunt as a whole, a task that requires united action by all defenders of democratic rights.

The "Is Zat So?" column of Labor, the newspaper of the railroad unions tells a little joke that is true to life.

Workman: "Would you increase my wages? I was married yesterday."

"Sorry," said the foreman, "but we are not responsible for accidents outside of the factory."

# Voices Fear Of Detention Camps in U.S.

"Will Detention Camps Be Filled by McCarthy?" This is the page-one banner headline of the May 15 Labor's Daily, America's only daily labor newspaper, sponsored by the International Typographical Union.

The article expresses fear that concentration camps now being set up for so-called "subversives" under the McCarran-Kilgore Internal Security Act will be used for anyone that Senator Joseph McCarthy puts the finger on.

Labor's Daily states that "Sen. Joseph McCarthy's 1953 inquisition became even more frightening with the government announcement that a network of detention camps for dangerous subversives will be ready for occupancy next year."

"But who are the camps meant to house?" asks the labor newspaper. "The internment camps are designed for use in any emergency and will be used to carry out the purpose of a little known section of the 1950 Internal Security Act which provides that any person 'who probably will' commit espionage or sabotage can be detained. The law provides that when the President declares an 'internal security emergency' those persons adjudged subversive or with subversive tendencies, or who may have subversive tendencies can be locked up."

### THE BIG QUESTION

Who is a "subversive" and who is to decide? Labor's Daily asks "the big question: Will those camps be filled with those persons attacked by Senator McCarthy and other Congressional 'head-hunters'?"

No matter who makes up the list of persons to be detained, the law itself makes it possible that "many innocent persons would be caught in a vicious web of circumstances," Labor's Daily acknowledges. It provides for arbitrary arrest merely on the basis of what somebody might do in the future and not any acts already committed. Those detained may not confront the witnesses against them and the sources of charges may be withheld. "This makes it possible to detain a suspect without giving him his full rights under this law or the U.S. Constitution."

Labor's Daily mistakenly gives the impression that these Nazi-like concentration camps now being built for political dissidents and anyone the Attorney General chooses to call "subversive" were put into the bill by its chief author McCarran. The paper quotes Sen. Herbert H. Lehman of New York, a liberal Democrat, who said at the time the bill was before Congress that it "will, in fact, distract from our internal security."

### LEHMAN'S RESPONSIBILITY

But the original bill presented by McCarran did not contain any concentration-camp provisions. These were introduced and sponsored by Sen. Lehman himself and his Democratic associates, Senators Kilgore (W. Va.), Douglas (Ill.), Humphrey (Minn.), and Kefauver (Tenn.). McCarran merely incorporated their bill for detention of alleged "subversives" without jury trial into his own witch-hunt measure.

At the time, the liberal Democrats argued that their measure would be more effective in suppressing "subversives," but would keep the power of suppression in the hands of agencies under direction of a presumably liberal and "fair deal" administration. This would insure against victimization of "innocent persons" by the McCarthyites, they claimed.

Now, these same liberal Democrats are confronted by the prospect that McCarthy and his breed are going to have a lot to say about who may be put into these so-called "detention" camps whenever they are used. And McCarthy has made clear he puts all liberals and most Democrats in the category of "Communists" and "subversives."

The sponsors of the concentration-camp provisions are in a cold sweat thinking about the gullotine they erected now being poised to plunge down on their own necks.

If the labor and liberal forces want to save themselves, they've got to unite and fight to do away with this detention-camp law altogether. Such camps are just as vicious and repressive and against all democratic rights whether they are filled by a McCarthy or some allegedly more "liberal" exponent of concentration-camps for "Communists" and "subversives."

Battle casualties in Korea last week were 249, including 53 dead, 154 wounded and 42 captured. Casualties since the beginning of the Korean war now number 135,155.

# The American Way of Life

## How to Get a School

They're going to get a new school to replace the dilapidated 60-odd-year old Maxfield public school in St. Paul. This doesn't sound like big exciting news compared to the war headlines, say, but it's mighty important to the parents and kids, Negro and white, who've been demanding that new school building for a long while. Naturally, we're glad to hear the good news, for their sake. But what makes it really important to all of us, is the way they got the school board to agree to the new school building.

What they did was threaten to "strike" — keep all their children out of school until the board approved a new building. But I'm anticipating a bit, so I'll tell more about the strike angle after I give you the background.

The issue of the Maxfield school was especially hot because half the pupils are Negroes. Housing restrictions keep the majority of the Negroes confined to this area and they can't move away to a neighborhood with a better school. The politicians didn't want to spend money on a school with a high percentage of Negro children; and, in a way, this made the white kids at Maxfield victims of Jim Crow too.

Of course, the voters in the area had been given the usual election promise back in 1950 that they would be given a new school. But once the election campaign was over, the new school board members dropped their promise down the well.

Last winter, the Maxfield PTA, St. Paul NAACP, St. Paul Urban League, Dining Car Employees' Local 516, AFL, and St. Paul Ministerial Alliance sent a joint delegation of 100 parents and area residents to the school board meeting. They again got the runaround.

They then collected a petition of 1,642 voters in the area and presented it to the school board. The board members blandly told them that plans were afoot merely to "rehabilitate" the old tottering structure instead of building a new one. That's when the parents really began to burn up.

They voted to "strike" and issued a mimeographed call to action. It concluded:

"That parents be ready upon SHORT NOTICE TO KEEP THEIR CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL if the board votes to PATCH UP THIS OLD BUILDING.

"TO CONTINUE TO KEEP THEIR CHILDREN OUT OF SCHOOL until a settlement is made.

"PLANS ARE MADE TO CARE FOR CHILDREN WHOSE PARENTS ARE UNABLE TO KEEP THEM AT HOME.

"REMEMBER THAT WE HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE — WE HAVE NOTHING!"

Well, at their next meeting, on May 1, the School Board members whined and complained about how wrong it was for parents to threaten a "strike." But, you know what? They voted that same night to build a new building as soon as the voters approve the necessary bond issue.

You might say that this is another good example of how the wheel that squeals gets the grease. But it's more than that. It shows how the white and Negro people can benefit themselves and each other by getting together and fighting shoulder to shoulder for what they want. And it shows how united militant mass action can get results where patient pleas and polite petitions fail to move the powers that be.

— By Lewis Peterson

# Detroit Educator in Denmark Fights for Passport Return

The case of Walter Bergman of Detroit shows how the arbitrary system of passport control tightened by the McCarran Internal Security Act is being enforced by the State Department to deprive even

liberal and Socialist critics of McCarthyism of their rights. Dr. Bergman has twice been president of the Michigan Federation of Teachers and vice-president of the American Federation of Teachers. He has belonged to the Socialist Party since 1931 and been its candidate for Mayor in Detroit. He also served in the Allied Military Government in Germany and in UNRRA.

He and his wife have been studying in Denmark. On April 23 they were called to the American Embassy in Copenhagen and their passports were taken away on the undefined ground that he was a Communist. "Entering the third week of our incarceration in Denmark," he wrote on May 7, "neither we nor our attorney nor any of our friends have been able to get a single specific definite charge of any action, any speech, any letter, any membership which connects me in any way with the Communist Party or any of its affiliates, either in the period under question, 1942-1952, or at any other time."

Since Bergman has never belonged to any party other than the Socialist, the administration is presumably attacking him because of his union activities, political ideas and opposition to the witch hunters. He was investigated by the Dies Committee in 1938 and associated in the past with organizations arbitrarily labelled subversive by the Attorney General. Last year he defended a Detroit teacher, who stood on his constitutional right not to answer grilling by a Congressional Committee.

A partial victory has already been secured by forcing the Embassy to return Mrs. Bergman's passport. No charge had been lodged against her. Dr. Bergman is insisting that either his passport be promptly restored or he be notified of any specific charges against him.

The Detroit Federation of Teachers with other sections of the liberal and labor movement is being mobilized behind his fight against this iniquitous law which assumes people to be guilty and then compels them to prove innocence without knowledge of the charges or evidence against them.

## Opening

# Mountain Spring Camp

MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

2 days (adults) 9 (children) 7

3 days (adults) 13.50 (children) 10.50

WASHINGTON, N. J., R.D. 1 : Tel. 1352

# Your First Issue?

If this is the first time you have ever read The Militant, you now have an idea of the kind of newspaper we publish. It is a weekly that pulls no punches in fighting for socialism.

If you want to have an analysis of the current developments and problems in the American and world labor struggles, you ought to read The Militant regularly. The most convenient way is by subscribing.

Clip the coupon below and mail it in today. Send only \$1.50 for a 6 month subscription or \$3 for a full year to The Militant, 116 University Pl., New York 3, N. Y.

Name .....  
Street .....  
City .....  
State ..... Zone .....

Subscriptions: \$3 per year; \$1.50 for 6 months. Foreign: \$4.50 per year; \$2.25 for 6 months. Canada: \$3.50 per year; \$1.75 for 6 months. Single Copies: 5 or more copies 10¢ each in U.S. To each in foreign countries.

# THE MILITANT

Published Weekly in the Interests of the Working People  
THE MILITANT PUBLISHING ASSOCIATION  
116 University Pl., N. Y. 3, N. Y. Phone: AL 5-7409  
Editor: GEORGE BREITMAN  
Business Manager: JOSEPH HANSEN

Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent The Militant's policies. These are expressed in its editorials.  
Registered as second class matter March 7, 1944 at the Post Office at New York, N. Y., under the act of March 3, 1879.

Vol. XVII - No. 21

Monday, May 25, 1953

## 17,000,000 Strong

Organized labor in the U.S. now stands at the all-time high of nearly 17,000,000 members. One-half million of this giant force were gained in the last three years according to the latest survey by the Labor Department. This brings the number of unionized workers to 28% of the nation's total labor force of 61,518,000.

Where there is growth there is life, and this expansion of membership testifies to the vitality of the union movement. If you consider that the half million increase took place despite the union-busting Taft-Hartley Act and the anti-labor atmosphere of witch hunting then the growth of the unions assumes even greater significance.

The growth did not occur automatically. Last year was the greatest single strike year since the turbulent post-war strike wave of 1946.

Of the 17,000,000 union members, 9,500,000 belong to the AFL, 5,000,000 to the CIO and over 2,000,000 to independent unions and the Railroad Brotherhoods. The three largest contingents of this vast army are the CIO Auto Workers with 1,184,507 members and the CIO Steelworkers and AFL Teamsters each with a membership of over 1,000,000. The ranks of organized labor include today 3,000,000 women.

There is a great and incalculable power in these numbers. The union movement is the largest single organized force in the country. Its members at the point of production are the most strategically situated elements of the population. Without them the wheels of industry, the nerve centers of communication and the lanes of transport would be paralyzed. Whenever they

act together and speak with one voice they score great victories against the employers. They have beaten back every major attack against them. The latest figures show that the American labor movement stands strong and undefeated despite the employer-government offensive and despite the inadequacy of its leadership.

But the greatest growth and the biggest tasks of the unions lie ahead. They can destroy the Taft-Hartley Act "hoof, horn and hide," as John L. Lewis put it, and remove every obstacle to further growth. They can raise their standard of living enormously and reduce the burden of toil. They can convert America into a land of beautiful homes, its cities studded with recreational, cultural and health centers for the people. They can become the governing power in the land and legislate the laws. They can win world-wide peace. To achieve this an essential step must be taken.

That step is the organization of labor's own party. With 17,000,000 members championing such a cause, the unions would immediately draw to their side the rest of the 60,000,000 workingmen and women, millions of unorganized Negro and Puerto Rican people, and the tens of millions of poor farmers and low-income members of the middle class in the cities. It would be the largest party America has ever seen. It could put its own candidates into Congress and the White House, into the State and City legislatures. It would shortly become the greatest power on earth.

That is the potential meaning of the statistical data released by the Labor Department.

## Cavallaro's Victory

McCarthy's witch hunt movement scored another ominous victory May 19 when Joseph B. Cavallaro became chairman of the Board of Higher Education in New York.

Cavallaro, a Catholic appointed to the board in 1946 by Mayor O'Dwyer, was elected 11 to 9 in an executive session that barred the presidents of four colleges. Several board members called it a "blitz." In his first public statement, this witch hunter praised the sinister activities of McCarthy, Jenner and Velde, saying they "have done a good job" in investigating "subversion" in the schools and that "the school board should finish it."

The elation among the McCarthyite forces was matched by the gloom among the liberals. The Democratic N. Y. Post, the Liberal Party, the AFL Teachers Guild and the Public Education Association are all bemoaning Cavallaro's election.

They have good reason for this, for the witch hunt has extended to their ranks. Last year, for instance, Dr. Harold C. Lenz, Dean of Students at Queens College, was summarily dismissed from his post. He was guilty of two "crimes": (1) He belonged to the Americans for Democratic Action and the American Civil Liberties Union. (2) In 1947 he defended the right of students to get a charter for any organization they wished to form. This brought him under the fire of the American Legion and the Catholic War Veterans.

## Eisenhower "Balances" the Budget

In his 1952 presidential campaign, Eisenhower pledged to balance the budget, stabilize the dollar, halt inflation, cut taxes, etc. A few weeks ago a ballyhoo began in Washington about Eisenhower's alleged drastic cuts of the proposed Truman budget, accompanied by intimations that while there would be a deficit for 1953-54, it would be "slight," not more than a billion or so; and that next year, the budget would be balanced for sure.

Eisenhower still continues to claim that he is leading this country back to financial solvency. He continues to pretend that \$8½ billion have been cut from the original Truman proposals. "This prodigious sum means more than \$50 for every man, woman and child in our country," Eisenhower boasted on May 19. "This is the first step in cutting expenditures." In the same breath, Eisenhower demanded that tax cuts "wait."

Nowhere in his speech did he mention that his projected budget for 1953-54 will top \$74 billion, an amount more than eight times as big as the "prodigious sum" of \$8½ billion he falsely says he has saved for "every man, woman and child in the country." Nowhere did he explain that continued expenditures on this scale involve a deficit of a whopping \$6.6 billion on the basis of existing tax laws.

Eisenhower again blamed previous

deficits for the depreciation of the dollar. Deficit government spending can lead only, he again said, to spiraling inflation ("ever increasing cost of living"). It will lead to the degradation of all those dependent on fixed incomes, annuities, pensions and the like (Eisenhower contented himself with singling out "depreciated savings"); and, finally, to "higher and higher cost" of the arms program. (Eisenhower carefully refrained from mentioning the rising interest rates which add annually to the "carrying costs" of the astronomical national debt.)

Eisenhower juggled with figures to unload all the blame for this on Truman and the Democrats. But why then does Eisenhower continue the same policy, aggravating a situation he himself acknowledges could be "as destructive of a truly free economy (read: U.S. capitalism) as could a chemical attack against an army in the field"?

Because any real cuts in the budget can be made only at the expense of the arms program. And Eisenhower is committed, just as Truman was, to this arms program in the interests of the monopolists they both represent. Eisenhower's high-arms, high-deficit, high-tax budget for 1953-54 is a glaring expression of the ultimate choice facing Wall Street — a plunge into depression or a plunge into war.

# Kenya's Fight for Freedom

By C. Van Gelderen  
(Reprinted from the "Socialist Outlook" of London.)

Imperial powers have always tried to justify the conquest of other lands on moral grounds. Where before there was strife and hunger, there is now peace and prosperity.

Nowhere has this lying propaganda been more thoroughly exposed than in Kenya. After 60 years of British rule, Mr. Oliver Lyttelton, the Tory Colonial Secretary, informs the House of Commons that the situation in that country is "analogous to a state of war."

More than 7,000 troops are now on active service in Kenya and without them British rule would end tomorrow. Such is the "Pax Britannica."

Mau Mau is today on everyone's lips. The capitalist press makes sure that all its readers are fully informed of the "barbaric acts" perpetrated by this organization against Europeans and "loyal Africans." We are regaled with tales of the Mau Mau oath ceremonies, with full details of what happens to the blood of the sacrificial goat. Everything is written to show that the Kikuyu are relapsing back into barbarism. All this is food and drink for the organs of the press lords. They revel in such sensationalisms.

What we are not told, however, is the background to Mau Mau. Why has it taken such a hold among a people who, when the white men first came to Kenya, were the least warlike of the East African tribes — a people who "preferred to flee into the deep and protecting forests" rather than stand and fight?

A pamphlet published by the Congress of Peoples Against Imperialism, Why Mau Mau? by Fenner Brockway, does something toward filling this void in our information about Kenya.

### "PROMISED LAND"

The name "Mau Mau" means "promised land" and land is what matters most in the life of a Kikuyu.

When the British settlers first came to Kenya, they needed labor for their farms and plantations. Of all the tribes in Kenya, the Kikuyu was by far the most advanced and the most peaceful. But while he had sufficient land to eke out a living for himself and his family, the Kikuyu could not be persuaded to work for the white man.

The remedy was simple. The Kikuyu were deprived of the best of their land! The territory allocated to them has 2,000 square miles of cultivatable land. Over large areas there are from 500 to 1,000 people per square mile. Even with the most advanced methods

## British Oppression in Kenya



British oppression in Kenya, Africa, is illustrated by this recent photograph of Africans corralled in barbed-wire cages, like the one above, throughout the Kikuyu native reserve. British authorities are trying to smash independence movement with mass arrests and Nazi-style "collective retributions" against whole villages.

of soil cultivation, it is quite impossible for this limited area to maintain such a population and the Kikuyu is not the most up-to-date of farmers.

By contrast, the nearby "White Highlands," the exclusive reserve for the 12,000 European settlers, comprise about 12,000 acres of the richest farm land; that is, one white person to the square mile. Even adding the African laborers, the population is only between 30 and 40 to the square mile.

The policy of dispossession had its desired effect. Land shortage drove tens of thousands of Kikuyus from their assigned territory to seek work on the white man's farms and in the towns of Nairobi and Mombassa. Some 200,000 of them became "squatters" on the Highland farms.

Fenner Brockway writes that he knows of "no labor condition in the British sphere of Africa closer to slavery."

"The squatters must sign a three-year contract. They are given up to two acres of land on which to grow food for the family; they must not sell any of their produce. They are allowed 15 stock, such as sheep. They are given materials to build their huts. After that they are given from 10 to 18 shillings (\$1.40 to \$2.52) a month."

Perhaps these wretched wages are justified because of the small profits made by the white farm-

## War-Mongers in Congress Strive To Spread Conflict in Far East

(Continued from page 1)

up and heralded by a large section of the U.S. daily press, have been inspired by the recent speech of that old British imperialist war dog, Sir Winston Churchill, and its echo by former prime minister Clement Attlee, the right-wing Laborite.

Senator William F. Knowland of California, chairman of the Senate Republican Policy Committee, responded bitterly to Churchill's mild suggestion of a three power peace conference and a quick truce in Korea. The Senator of the West Coast shipping interests ranted that "our chief allies . . . are prepared to urge and to insist upon the admission of Communist China to the United Nations." This, he claimed, would be "urging a Far Eastern Munich." And he concluded that if the U.S. has to "go it alone" in pressing war against China, then "so be it!"

Even more violent have been the declamations of Senator Joseph McCarthy, who, like Knowland, speaks for shipping, exporting and banking groups whose interests are tied to the Far East and whose chief immediate concern is restoration of China to imperialist exploitation. McCarthy made Attlee the main butt of his attack. He smeared Attlee as a "Communist" because this labor lieutenant of British imperialism followed the lead of Churchill and dared to state: "There are elements in the United States that do not want a truce in Korea and it is just as well to face up to the facts."

### MCCARTHY PROVES IT

McCarthy's denial itself proved the correctness of Attlee's contention and showed, as well, that the Wisconsin Senator is one of the most rabid war-mongers. At the climax of his talk, McCarthy answered the threat of a possible British withdrawal from the Korean war with the howl: "I say, 'Withdraw and be damned.' And then, Mr. President, let us sink every accused ship carrying materials to the enemy and resulting in the death of American boys, regardless of what flag those ships may fly."

to the American Public Power Association's convention at the Sheraton-Plaza Hotel in Boston.

The Korean war, said Norman, "in terms of actual profiteering from tax writeoffs" alone, "has produced one new war millionaire, or his equivalent in profits, for every 20 casualties." This "police action," he pointed out, "has cost 130,000 American casualties and \$26-billion in accelerated amortization certificates" through which the war corporations are getting for nothing the plants built at public expense.

And this is only a fraction of the loot taken in the last three years in what Norman condemned as "exploitation of the national defense as an opportunity for unwarranted legal profiteering." He might have added to the \$26 billion of free plants, the \$75 billion of admitted net profits grabbed by the corporations since the Korean war began.

### DISTRUST MOUNTS

In view of these gigantic material stakes of the U.S. capitalists in war, it is understandable why more and more American people, as well as the overwhelming majority of the world, look with scepticism, distrust and even outright hostility at the role of the U.S. ruling class in the Far East.

The American people have no interests in intervention in Korea and China or in bolstering the bloody regimes of Chiang Kai-shek and Syngman Rhee, which could not survive for a minute without American armed forces. Our interest is in stopping the war in Korea at once and establishing peace in Asia.

The preconditions for this are: (1) immediate withdrawal of the American troops from Korea; (2) prompt recognition of the new government of China.

to send his wife and children in the reserve. They have to scratch an existence from the miserable patch of worn-out land around their hut.

Is it any wonder that the Kikuyu, his whole being crying out for land and his belly crying out for food, is driven to desperate methods? Sixty years of passive acceptance of the white man's rule has deprived him of his freedom and reduced him to beggary. Many Africans, who had sought a way out for themselves through education and trying to adopt the white man's way of life have come up against arrogant racial prejudice and the humiliation of the color bar.

### FORCED TO REVOLT

Along the way of docility there was clearly no way out for the Kikuyu. The only alternative was by violence to try and overthrow the rule of the white man. And so Mau Mau was born as the answer to 60 years of enslavement and frustration under the British flag.

It is easy to sit here in Britain, in the comparative security of the "Welfare State," and condemn the activities of Mau Mau; to be horrified at the bloodshed in Kenya is a natural reaction. But if the people are resorting to primitive methods in their efforts to destroy their enemies, it is well to remember that it has been deliberate British policy to keep them primitive. Otherwise they would have been less useful as a cheap source of labor for the farms.

Every peasant revolt in history has been accompanied by acts which seemed barbaric to the more "cultured" people of the towns. But the average townsman has never been subject to the brutalizing effect of the landlord's rule. When the worker in town sells his labor power, he does not at the same time sell his whole family into semi-slavery. The town dweller can have no

idea what loss of his land means to his country cousin. And all the murder and terror has not been on one side.

There have been wholesale round-ups of Kikuyus by the police without any effort to discriminate between the guilty and guiltless; hundreds have been shot in cold blood. There have been mass hangings. African-controlled schools have been closed, cattle seized and shops in the Kikuyu reserve shut down. Leaders of the people have been arrested and held in custody without trial.

Instead of tackling the economic and social causes which gave birth to Mau Mau, the Tory Government has let loose a reign of terror. This official violence, far from cowering the Kikuyu, has only made them more determined to carry on the fight till the oppressors are driven from the land and the people of Kenya have won the right to determine their own future.

The methods of Mau Mau are not those we should use in England — but it is not for us in the Labor movement to preach morality to the Kikuyu.

How can a father remain calm when he sees his children starving around him? How can he abjure violence when the power of his oppressor is only maintained by violence?

We must recognize the justice of the African's demands and insist that the Labor Party, inside and outside Parliament, place itself without hesitation on their side. We must give aid and advice to the African people; help them to organize their fight for national independence and thus draw them into the world-wide struggle for socialism.

And our first demand must be: the withdrawal of all British armed forces from Kenya so that the people of that country can settle their problems without the fear of constant arrest and violence against their persons.

## World Events

By Charles Hanley

THE SOVIET UNION, it was learned May 17, made a tempting offer to West Germany for revival of trade based on sale of German machinery to the USSR. The West German government is seriously considering the offer "despite sharp differences of opinion" and set up an East Committee last December to activate trade with the East European countries. As the Bonn correspondent of the N. Y. Herald Tribune points out, German industrialists and commercial circles exert constant pressure "to increase trade with the great markets in Eastern Europe."

AN OFFICIAL NEWSPAPER of the Stalinist Party of Czechoslovakia attacked "Zionism" and "Trotskyism" in a 12-column article, calling for increased vigilance against "these traitors" and repeating anti-Semitic charges, according to the April 24 N. Y. World-Telegram and Sun.

THREE HIGH-RANKING members of East Germany's Stalinist Party were expelled in a new purge, the Soviet controlled radio in East Berlin said May 14. They are Franz Dahlem, Fritz Buschner and Lena Fischer.

VLADIMIR SEMENOV, Russian political adviser to the East German Republic, was replaced several weeks ago by Ravel Youdine, one of the 125 members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the USSR and the first one in this body to hold a post in occupied Germany, reports Le Peuple of Brussels.

ANDRE MARTY'S FRIENDS in Toulouse, France, published a long leaflet in April, "How the Communist Party of France is being destroyed," explaining in detail how the hero of the famous 1919 Black Sea revolt was framed up and expelled from the CP by the Stalinist bureaucrats with the aid of his own brother-in-law, Taurinya, and a certain Hamelet, who is a member of the CP a reporter for the capitalist paper Le Figaro and perhaps also a stool pigeon for the French police.

COMINFORM propaganda against Tito has not diminished since Stalin's death, but Italian observers believe it possible that the Malenkov government is trying to improve relations between the Eastern bloc and Yugoslavia, Edmund Stevens of the Christian Science Monitor cabled from Rome May 15. A new agreement on Danube navigation was recently concluded after month-long secret negotiations between Yugoslavia and Rumania. Yugoslav officials declare, however, that no general peace feelers were put

out by the Rumanian Stalinists during these talks or by Molotov when he received the Yugoslav charge d'affaires in Moscow April 29.

THE CYPRUS Greek Church Council decided March 27 to order Cypriots to abstain from Queen Elizabeth's coronation festivities because "it is not permissible for people in slavery to take part in the celebrations of their rulers, who do not want to recognize Cypriots' right to live free."

EGYPT'S Ministry of the Interior charged May 13 that seven Egyptians have been killed and 24 wounded by British forces in the Suez Canal Zone since March 1. British Minister of State Selwyn Lloyd claimed that violence in the Canal Zone has been renewed by the Egyptians. He alleged that 50 attacks on British troops have occurred since April 1.

CIVIL WAR in Colombia, South America, in the last five years has been marked by heavy casualties and almost unbelievable "self-defeating" cruelty by government forces fighting opponents of the dictatorship, Sydney Gruson, N. Y. Times correspondent reported from Bogota May 11. Since the Stalinists failed to support a guerrilla attack on an air base last New Year's, most partisan units are believed to have turned away from them, according to Gruson. Thousands of people have been killed in this murderous civil war waged by the government and numerous villages have been totally destroyed.

TWO HUNDRED African port workers at Mombassa, Kenya, who said they were getting a daily soaking during the season of heavy tropical downpours, staged a quick strike May 16. They returned to work after 10 minutes on the assurance that their demand for free raincoats will be considered if they submit their request "constitutionally."

MAU-MAU TACTICS in Kenya have shifted from terrorism to organized guerrilla warfare, according to several European and American reporters. "A possible indication of a change in the Mau-Mau tactics . . . was an attack on the farm of John Sherrard, a settler in the Nanyuki district. Mr. Sherrard, taken prisoner, was not slain, as has been the custom, but was locked in a room and assured that no harm would come to him. Thirty raiders stole his weapons and a few other things in the house and left after removing the carburetor from his car." (N. Y. Times, May 11.)

By Jean Blake

Advocates of Fair Employment Practices laws should study carefully the experience in the Ohio House of Representatives last week to see just how degenerated such legislation can become.

When the reactionary legislature got through amending the Burton bill, a weak, ineffective measure at the outset, it was made clear that the only "reforms" that will be passed today are those which are first transformed into weapons for the anti-labor witch hunters.

As passed by the House, the FEP bill makes it unlawful for employers, labor organizations, employment agencies or others subject to its provisions to publish any notice or advertisement relating to employment or membership which contains any specification or limitation as to race, religious creed, color, age, national origin or ancestry; or to require such information of any applicant for employment or membership.

The age provision, tacked on in an amendment, was opposed in vain by the author of the bill, who pointed out:

"We have no precedent for this. The amendment raises an entirely new problem. Including age means if a person applies for a job, the employer can't ask him how old he is. It raises the whole question of pension programs."

The proponent of the amendment demagogically contended that since the bill aimed to eliminate job discrimination, "it is impossible for us to overlook any group."

But when Mrs. Anna F. O'Neil of Akron attempted to include an amendment barring discrimination against women, that logic didn't apply. The amendment was defeated.

Another amendment that did succeed,

however, was one specifically permitting employers to discriminate for political views. It provides:

"This act in no way shall prohibit any employer, employment agency or labor union from inquiring from any employee or member or any applicant for membership whether he advocated or is a member of a party or organization which advocates the overthrow of our government by force.

"If such inquiry is made and there is no negative reply, such employer, employment agency or labor union shall be permitted to discriminate against such employee or applicant."

Finally, after setting up this new legal basis for discrimination, the legislators added one more amendment to make any possible attempt to stop discrimination more difficult. They provided that if any fair-employment-practices matter should reach court proceedings, the final and very rare last step, the defendant in contempt action will be entitled to a jury trial.

Thus the net effect of this caricature of an FEP law would be to strengthen the witch hunt without weakening the ability of discriminatory employers to continue their contemptible practices one iota.

This is exactly the type of "reform" that can be expected within the framework of decadent capitalism. The bosses use their legislatures in their own interest, of course. The time is over-ripe for working people to use their tremendous numerical and economic strength for independent political action, to win political power and industrial democracy.

Only when workers put a sufficient number of their own representatives in office will we get employment practices fair to all workers.

Can You Detrain a Cop?

By Jack Bustelo

I got a pleasant surprise reading the New York papers last Tuesday. The 19,000 cops on the force are going to be sent back to school "to learn to get along better with people, especially members of minority groups."

This seemed to me a commendable step that has long been overdue in the world's largest city. "New York's finest," as the capitalist papers affectionately call these gun-wielding guardians of their special interests, have gained a fearsome reputation among minority groups.

Known cases of innocent people slugged and beaten by the cops in recent years run into the scores. They usually work over the unfortunate victim in their prow cars but do not always forego a few test operations at the scene of arrest to be followed at the station house with a scene that would entrance a medieval torturer.

Some of the cops are known to be trigger-happy. At any real or fancied signs of resistance, the brute in blue uniform whips out his well-oiled gun and lets his victim have it.

On top of this, the force has been rocked by sensational scandal after scandal involving lucrative connections with the underworld, particularly gamblers and bookies for whom they furnish protection. This has given "New York's finest" a somewhat bedraggled look.

In the light of these facts, I was glad to see that the highest authorities finally decided the time had come to do something about counteracting the notorious sadism and taste for tainted money that people now associate with the cops.

It seems like a good idea to send these warped specimens of humanity back to school for detrainment. That was done with the savage killer dogs of the armed forces

at the end of the war so that their former masters would receive the same gentle pets they turned over to the government for service during the fighting.

But on checking the plan for New York's cops I'm not so sure now that actual detrainment is intended. Only 25 cops out of the 19,000 are scheduled to start the course. They are captains. The class meets for only two hours. And only once a week. And for only five weeks. Is 10 hours enough to detrain a trigger-happy, sadistic beast?

Moreover, the course does not consist of psychiatric treatment as might be expected, but of simply listening to talks by "community leaders, police officials and public relations experts." Can you imagine the reaction of these club-swingers when they're told to sign for the Sunday School lectures?

Of course, at the rate of 25 cops every five weeks, or about 250 a year, it'll take around 76 years to work through the entire force, so the chances of getting the assignment before retirement are not so high as to be unduly alarming.

But even this is not all. The program is a "two-way proposition." The police department intends also to try to detrain public feeling. Police officials are going to address civic organizations to publicize what nice guys cops really are. And tons of slick literature will be dumped all over the city in strategic places like the schools to prove that the cop with the loaded gun is really your best friend, especially if you belong to a minority group.

All of which depresses me somewhat and leads me to think that perhaps it's not so easy to get a killer cop detrainment. Could it be my first impression was right — that this is precisely the kind of cop they really want?

Notes from the News

NEGRO FAMILY EVICTED by force after New York City Marshall led a wrecking crew to batter down the door to the apartment of Mr. and Mrs. Sophie Decatur at the huge Bronx housing development of the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. Some 50 neighbors of the Decatur family had barricaded themselves inside the apartment to resist the eviction. The previous day Mrs. Decatur and a group of her neighbors had staged a nine-hour sitdown strike by chaining themselves to the chairs in the office of the Metropolitan Life Insurance housing office. A demonstration of over 400 persons cheered Mrs. Decatur as she was led from the building by the cops. The Decatur family had subleased the apartment from the previous tenants.

BRAIN WASHINGTON by Army Brass of injured American prisoners recently released in Korea failed to deter Cpl. Jimmy Pinkston of Jacksonville, N. C., from telling the truth. In an interview with the press Cpl. Pinkston declared that "most of the stories about Communists mistreating American prisoners are not true." He insisted that his captors did "everything possible to make our life pleasant."

EDITOR OF THE NATIONAL GUARDIAN, weekly newspaper which speaks for the Progressive Party, is being held for deportation on Ellis Island following his appearance before witch hunter McCarthy's Senate Investigating committee. British-born Cedric Belfrage refused to answer questions about his alleged "communist" sympathies. He was threatened with deportation by the McCarthyite committee and later arrested

and interned at Ellis Island. Executive editor of the Guardian, James Aronson, and general manager John T. McManus, issued the following statement: "The arrest of Belfrage is part of a drive not only against the National Guardian but against the opposition press of the nation."

NEGRO LEADER WARNS of the danger of open violence that could follow any movement of Negroes out of the congested New York City ghettos in which they are now confined. Edward S. Lewis, executive director of the Urban League of Greater New York declared: "I would warn our citizens in this great metropolis that any perceptible movement of Negroes out of their present congested areas of Harlem, Bedford-Stuyvesant and Jamaica into Queens, the Bronx or Staten Island, would probably put us in the same class as Chicago, Detroit and Kansas City where bombings have taken place." Mr. Lewis gave no indication of how the Urban League proposed to batter down Jim-Crow prejudice or relieve the growing problem of congestion in the Negro ghettos.

THE GOVERNMENT has asked the United States Court of Appeals to reinstate all perjury counts in the indictment against Owen Lattimore on charges of perjury. Four of the seven counts of perjury were thrown out on May 2 by Federal Judge Luther Youngdahl, including the key charge that Lattimore had lied to Senate investigators when he denied he had ever promoted communism or Communist causes. Lattimore has long been one of the main targets of witch hunter McCarthy who has accused him of being the "foremost Russian agent in America."

THE MILITANT

Barbaria Hits Ballot Ban Move in Calif.

By Sue Bennett

SACRAMENTO, May 13 — Frank Barbaria, spokesman of the Socialist Workers Party, in a State legislature committee hearing today, attacked a move to bar all but approved parties from the California ballot.

The California Supreme Court had declared unconstitutional a previous law barring the Communist Party from the ballot. The new measure, Assembly Bill No. 52, would amend the law in an attempt to meet the constitutional test.

Instead of barring only the CP, the new law would outlaw any party that the Secretary of State might declare "subversive." Barbaria pointed out that the amended bill went even further in curtailing our electoral rights than the law that had been declared unconstitutional. Now the legislators, he declared, were meeting this obstacle by extending the ban to other minority parties. This law, he said, could "bar a Labor Party no matter how many millions of California voters were supporting it."

A member of the committee tried to needle the SWP representative by asking, "Are you in favor of allowing fascist parties on the ballot?"

Barbaria replied, "We are against any abrogating of the constitution to keep anybody off the ballot." He noted that the history of the fascist movements showed they did not depend on the ballot to come to power.

Others who opposed the bill were Mr. Weber of the Friends Committee on Legislation, Miss Lynn Childs of the Independent Progressive Party and George Edison of the Unitarian Church. The bill was passed unanimously by the committee. It now goes to the floor where early passage is expected in the absence of firm and militantly organized opposition to the police-state measure by labor and liberal organizations.

Anti-Labor Bill Gets Set-Back

SACRAMENTO, May 14 — More than 400 representatives of California trade unions packed the largest committee room at the hearing on the Levering "right to work" bill. The proposed measure, Assembly Bill No. 2284, would have virtually outlawed unions in California.

In face of this demonstration, members of the committee found the bill too hot to handle. They voted to table, eight to two.

However, the fight is not yet finished. Many more similar anti-union bills are in the hopper.

What is urgently required is organization of a powerful movement to keep breathing down the necks of these political representatives of the business interests.

And if the building of a Labor Party were undertaken, the threat to legislate the unions out of existence would soon be overcome.

Voting on Shapeup



Members of AFL International Longshoremen's Association Local 865 are shown at New York voting place in port-wide poll on the shapeup hiring system. The only question on the ballot was: "Are you satisfied with the present method of hiring?" Offered no alternative, such as the union hiring hall and rotation system, a majority voted "Yes" on the ballot.

Akron Worker Called "Red," Gets Prison in Vehicle Case

By L. Cooper

AKRON, May 15 — A totally unwarranted interpretation of the Ohio Motor Vehicle Act was used as a pretext in Common Pleas Court last Tuesday to convict Frank Hashmall, reputed to be a local Stalinist leader. He received a sentence of 1-10 years for registering title to a purchased car under a false name and address.

The Certificate of Title section of the Act specifically connects false registration with the purpose thereof. Fraud occurs, section 6290-4 points out, if the purpose of alias title registration is to conceal any irregularities in obtaining the car. Also, an innocent party obtaining a car from a falsely registered title holder is a victim of fraud.

None of these specific conditions of fraud were charged against Hashmall, since he had fully paid for the car and had not sought to sell it. This did not prevent the political persecutors from indicting Hashmall for false registration. For good measure they arbitrarily divided even this indictment into two counts, (1) "registering under a false name," and (2) "registering under a false address." Hashmall received six months to five years on each count!

To assume an alias is not a crime under Ohio law, Hashmall's lawyer, Mrs. Thelma Furry, pointed out to the court. In his final defense speech, Hashmall said that he had registered his car under an alias in order to keep his identity hidden from witch hunters and reactionary elements who had been persecuting him and his family for a number of years. His home in Columbus had been destroyed by vandals in 1949 after a Columbus newspaper had called him a Communist leader and printed his address.

The entire atmosphere of the courtroom was one of political persecution with the prosecutor

stressing that the "character" of the defendant should determine the severity of the sentence. "In view of his antagonistic attitude toward society, we believe he should receive the maximum penalty under the law," he said. Leaving through literature that had been illegally snatched from Hashmall's room by detectives, Judge Wanamaker, the trial jurist, declared that the literature was designed to overthrow the government "that protected him."

Mrs. Furry pointed out that the literature was openly sold and not contraband. (It ill behooved the Judge to speak of "protection" in relation to this case in particular. Hashmall had been severely beaten by instigated prisoners in County jail while the authorities looked the other way.)

Concurring with the prosecutor's wishes, the Judge threw the book at Hashmall, giving him the maximum sentence on both counts, revoked the bail bond and sent him straight to jail. Meanwhile the American Civil Liberties Union has taken an interest in the case and is expected to file a brief with the Appeals Court.

A local committee has been constituted to defend Hashmall. They should broaden their base to include all organizations and individuals interested in defending Hashmall's civil rights and obtaining justice in the case.

Six More Join Billion Dollar Club

The Billion Dollar Club took in six new members last year, bringing the total membership to 66. Combined assets of the giant corporations is listed at 174.3 billions, almost three times as much as the budget for the entire U.S. in the fiscal year 1952.

The six new members were Sinclair Oil, Cities Service, Union Carbide & Carbon, Int'l Harvester, Connecticut General Life Insurance and Commercial Credit.

Militant Mass Picketing Marks Hearn's Strike

By Harry Frankel

NEW YORK, May 20 — A militant strike in defense of unionism is going into its second week at Hearn's Department Store. The company has refused to sign a contract or deal with the union in good faith since the previous contract expired on Feb. 28, and has opened a campaign to break the union.

The chief antagonist of the strikers is Albert M. Greenfield, Philadelphia banker, real estate operator and department store magnate, chairman of the board of Bankers Securities Corp. and member of the boards of a list of department-store and real-estate corporations as long as both your arms. Greenfield arrogantly told the union representatives on April 1 that New Yorkers would cross the union picket lines "if we advertise bargains." "We'll break your strike and we'll ruin your union," he insisted.

Greenfield missed his guess. Despite big cordons of cops which keep union picket lines crowded against the curbs and clear big avenues for "customers," the store has been absolutely empty. The vast first floor is gloomy and quiet, with a few cops standing stiffly at their posts looking like dummies displaying uniforms for sale. Out front big window signs advertise "Bargains" but during one entire morning when I watched the premises not more than a half-dozen people entered, most of them women who looked like wives of the executives.

Not a single person came out of the store all that morning carrying a parcel. A woman picket out front chanted a parody of the Gimbels' sales slogan: "Nobody, but nobody, shops at Hearn's today!" She was absolutely right. The strike is being conducted by Local 1250 of District 65 which was readmitted to the CIO at the same time that the strike was starting. District 65, expelled from the CIO in 1949 for "communist domination," has now made peace with the labor federation. Despite this fact, the company continues to make charges of "communism" and "communist tactics," thus showing how employers always try to use the "communist" charge against strikers. Pickets outside reply by shouting: "The company is un-American," and several of them carry big American flags. Other pickets holler that the company is "helping communism" by its anti-union campaign.

HALF LOSE JOBS Two young Negro girl pickets told me about the vicious company policies employed in shifting over to a self-service system. This has cost more than half of the store's 1800 workers their jobs in the past few months. They explained that the company has not followed seniority in the layoffs, and has fired workers with over 20 years' service.

The strike situation came to a head on Monday, May 10 when the company fired Max Klarer, chairman of the Hearn's union local. Groups of workers tried to see the store officials on Tuesday, but were refused a conference. On Wednesday the workers tried to get the company to begin negotiations by waiting on their jobs. The Hearn's management thereupon announced over the store loudspeaker system that all workers employed by the company were fired at once. This started the walkout on Thursday at noon.

Carl Anderson, Vice-President of District 65 in charge of department stores, whom a union picket captain proudly identified for me as "the only man on 14th Street wearing a homburg," said the strike is absolutely solid in all three New York Hearn's units, the Manhattan and Bronx stores as well as the warehouse. Not a single worker has reported since the strike started.

Meanwhile, the company is attempting to get a court injunction enjoining the pickets from "interfering" with customers, despite the fact that there has not been a sign of disorder or a single arrest.

BALTIMORE WITCH HUNT HITS UNITED WORLD FEDERALISTS

(Continued from page 1)

governor found it necessary to uphold the members of the UWF as "patriotic, loyal citizens . . . whose aim like the aim of most of us is the abolition of war."

In a letter to the UWF he declared that he saw no reason "to suspect your organization for disloyalty or to single it out for special investigation."

He claimed that he was "distressed and shocked" by the disclosure and championed "free and open discussion." Finally the Honorable Governor gave his assurance that the attorney general, whose task it is to execute the infamous Ober law, "also disapproves" of the Lyric Theater action.

Who then ordered this action? The governor failed to explain. Although "shocked and distressed," the governor concluded by declaring that he favored passage of the Ober law and that he still supports it to-day. This thought-control measure was one of the first of the current crop of so-called "anti-subversive" laws passed in the state legislatures. Its use against the World

Federalists confirms what The Militant has said from the beginning of the government "loyalty" purge. No organization, no matter how innocuous or respectable can consider itself immune from the witch hunt. At first these laws strike at the alleged "communists," but the meaning of "communist" is gradually expanded until it covers everyone who dares to think differently from the McCarthy's or who refuses to hail their faggot-and-stake campaigns.

The Labor Trade Union of East Africa, which includes almost every trade in Kenya, was banned by the government without explanation.

LOS ANGELES Friday Night Forum

A Series of Four Lectures Stalinism and the USSR Lecture 2: "Sources of Present Crisis in the Soviet Union" Speaker: Milton Alvin Fri., May 29, 8 P.M.

FORUM HALL 1702 E. 4th St. Tel. AN 9-4963 Questions — Discussion Refreshments

WANTED

Soviet youth periodicals, especially those of Leningrad and Moscow, for the years 1928-1929.

Write John G. Wright, care of The Militant.

McCARTHY'S ATTACK ON ATTLEE IS WARNING TO AMERICAN LABOR

(Continued from page 1) borites and socialists. Said McCarthy: "Comrade" is a Communist term meaning fellow Communist."

If a prominent British labor leader can be smeared as a "communist" because he says there are some Americans who want war in China instead of peace in Korea, then what lies in store for American labor leaders who know that Attlee was speaking the plain truth and who may be compelled to say the same thing themselves sooner or later? Isn't that substantially what American labor said about some Republicans during the last election campaign?

If Attlee can get the works because he opposed a Spanish fascist victory 15 years ago, then what is McCarthy going to do to the leaders of the AFL and CIO, who also sympathized with the legally-elected Spanish Republican government at that time and who still denounce Franco today?

If it has become "treasonable" for Attlee to wonder whether McCarthy is more powerful than Eisenhower, then won't McCarthy's witch hunt be turned against the American union leaders who are wondering the very same thing?

FIGHT OR DIE

The Attlee incident is a sign that the American labor movement has got to make up its mind:

Either it is going to fight McCarthyism, or it is going to be destroyed by McCarthyism.

Up to now, the farthest the union leaders have gone is to make some angry remarks or wisecracks about McCarthy in their papers. But that achieves nothing. Name-calling will never stop the fascist forces.

Some union leaders think the menace can be evaded by pretending it is not there. So they are silent about McCarthy, hoping that if they don't bother him, he won't bother them. This is the sure road to suicide.

McCarthy, it is true, has been careful so far not to become too notoriously identified as a strike-breaker (although he always supports legislation like the Taft-Hartley Act). He knows that American labor will not be easy to crush, and he would prefer to delay a direct assault against the unions until conditions are most favorable to him.

ONE STAGE AT A TIME

First, he isolates the "communists." Then he goes after the people who object to his assaults on civil liberties. Next on his list are the so-called "communist thinkers" (that is, non-communists who may think like "communists" on one or another specific issue). Then comes the turn of the liberals and Social Democrats like Attlee.

He goes one stage at a time, and each time he wins out, more

people are intimidated, and his prospects for victory in the next stage become brighter. If the labor movement lets him continue unchecked, then his inevitable attack on labor will have far greater chances of succeeding than it would today.

Delay plays into McCarthy's hands. That is why the members of the American labor movement ought to demand that their leaders make a declaration of war against McCarthyism NOW.

THREE JOBS TO BE DONE

McCarthyism can be beaten decisively when three things are done:

1. Show the American people that the "anti-communist crusade" is a mask for a reactionary assault by Big Business on their living standards, democratic rights and aspirations for peace.

2. Give active and effective help to ALL the victims of the witch hunt, now being picked off one by one.

3. Fight the witch hunt POLITICALLY — by building an independent Labor Party aimed at taking power away from the two capitalist parties which breed McCarthyism in the same way and for the same reasons that they breed war, profiteering and race hate.

The American labor movement can do these three jobs. It had better get busy on all three of them if it wants to survive.