

NEWS & LETTERS

'The Root of Mankind Is Man'

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WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

MEN IN SHOP TAKE A LOOK AT UAW CONVENTION

Some workers were discussing what the recent 18th UAW Convention meant to them. On the question of double time pay for work over eight hours one worker said: "Everything possible is done by these union leaders to avoid the real issue. We do not want overtime, we do not need it if we can work eight hours a day and 40 hours a week steady. This is just a trick of Reuther's to avoid even trying to help the unemployed. As long as he can say to those that are still working 'see I got you double time pay for overtime work' as though our very existence was just to get more money, is that all we should be interested in? For years we have been yelling for a 30 hour workweek with 40 hours pay and now he comes up with double time pay."

GAVE COMPANY GREEN LIGHT

Another worker said "Those leaders are such fakers they should all be outstanding quarterbacks on some football team. I attended a meeting at the Dodge local union hall a week prior to the convention where Emil Mazey spoke on the Unemployed. Mazey blasted Kennedy and the Administration for not doing something for the unemployed workers. He said that one out of every four unemployed workers, is Negro and something must be done."

"When they negotiated the contract with the auto companies they did nothing about overtime work. They gave the companies the green-light to work those employed all they wanted to."

The day after the Convention a sign went up on the clock that we were going on a nine hour schedule starting the next week!

INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY?

The other point to come out of Atlantic City that was very much discussed was the one and a half million dollar interest from the strike fund that is to be sent to the labor movements in Europe, Asia and Africa. I am for international solidarity and for helping workers throughout the world but I am sure this is not what Reuther has in mind. One worker said that he felt sure Reuther was only doing this to get a foothold over the working people in those countries at the expense of the workers in the UAW.

Many workers feel that the thousands and thousands of unemployed workers here that do not have a dime to their name and are former UAW members that helped build that strike fund would not get the price of meal ticket from Reuther. Another worker said that because the workers in Africa are Negro they will probably get the crumbs if any are left.

As it was reported in the Special article from Africa that appeared in the last issue of News & Letters an African trade unionists said: "We do not believe in any bloc East or West, and don't want to become a pawn of any. We want only African Unions. The others intrude in our affairs . . ."

REUTHER WANTS CONTROL

The UAW leadership is carrying out the State Department line. Wherever billions of dollars have been poured into a country supposedly to buy "friendship" the State Department deals with the officials of the government and make them fall into line. Now Reuther is going after the working classes of these countries not so much to help them but to take over and control them.

How does he possibly think that we believe he wants to help the workers in those countries when he does not give American workers in his own UAW any help.

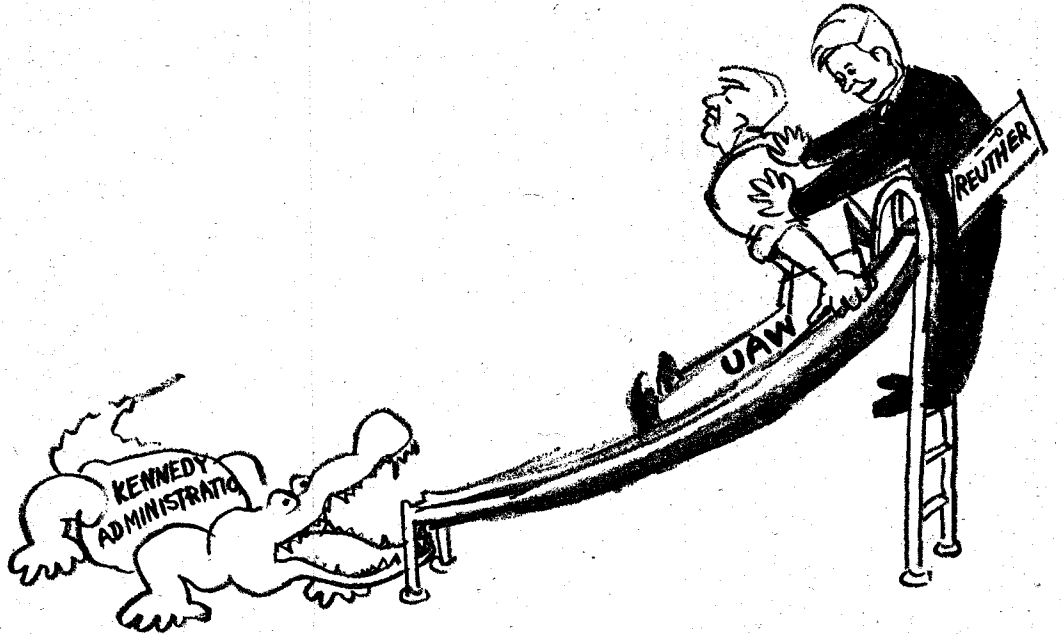
Blough of U.S. Steel said at the time he raised the price of steel that his first obligation is to the stock holders of the company. I have yet to hear Reuther or any other American trade-union leader say with the same conviction that their first obligation is to the American workers.

CORRECTION

We regret a serious error which appeared in the Special Report from Nigeria on the first page of our April issue. Because an entire line of type was dropped from the copy, the first paragraph read that "a mass rally was held to protest the austerity budget called for by the Nigerian Government's Youth Congress, the Nigerian Trades Union Congress and the Lagos Tenants Association."

As was no doubt obvious from the report that followed, the Youth Congress is not a government institution, and the paragraph should have read: "a mass rally was held to protest the austerity budget called for by the Nigerian Government's Economic Programme 1962-1968. The meeting was called by the Nigerian Youth Congress, the Nigerian Trades Union Congress and the Lagos Tenants Association." We wish also to clarify that Michael Imoudou, one of the speakers, is President of the Nigerian Trades Union Congress, not the National Trades Union Congress.

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Reuther Ties UAW Convention To Kennedy's 'New Frontier'

An auto worker delegate from Kalamazoo, Michigan weary and frustrated after attending his first UAW Convention remarked: "Reuther controlled the whole thing from beginning to end. The way it was rigged Reuther could have just sent out notices telling us this is what is going to happen and this is how you're going to vote. What a waste of money. With so many out of work, the money could have fed a lot of families."

This autoworker gave expression to what a great many of the auto workers in Atlantic City and back home in the shop felt at the conclusion of the 18th Constitutional Convention of the United Automobile Workers. Once more Walter P.

Reuther proved himself a master of substitution.

HIS PAST RECORD

In the recession of 1953-54 he greeted auto workers' protests against repeated speed-up and lay-offs with the vision of a Guaranteed Annual Wage which

he quickly converted to an all but meaningless, Supplementary Unemployment Benefit. In the recession of 1957-58 Reuther gave tacit support to auto workers demands for a shorter workweek at the 16th Constitutional Convention in April of 1957 only to call a "special" convention nine months later, where he buried the shorter workweek saying that what was needed was more production for the country and substituted the idea of a "share the profits" plan which was scuttled as soon as contract negotiations began.

Again at the 17th Constitutional Convention in 1960 after Reuther had successfully smothered a growing rank and file movement of the unemployed by taking it in under his wing, he subverted the auto workers battle against Automation, speed-up, and for the right to control their own efforts at the point of production. At another "special" convention in April of 1961, in the depths of still another recession, Reuther again manipulated a rank and file supported slogan "30 hours work for 40 hours pay" and came out weakly for a "flexible workweek" which was thrown away when contract negotiations began.

HIS DUSTY BAG OF TRICKS

Again early this month, at Convention Hall in Atlantic City, New Jersey, the labor bureaucracy's fair-haired boy reached into his dusty bag of tricks to give still a new twist to the shorter workweek, a "flexible workweek" which allegedly would shorten the workweek in periods of high unemployment to absorb into the work force, laid-off workers. Reuther further suggests that a Federal fund be built up to subsidize the poorer employers to aid them in meeting the ex-

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From The Gambia—Special to News & Letters

The West Doesn't Understand

By NYASWACO

Bathurst, Gambia—African countries, wrenching off the shackles of colonialism, emerge in an ideologically divided world. They want to safeguard their hard-won freedom and independence; they want to see themselves as recognized, respectable states, and more than anything else, they want to gain economic independence.

WE HAVE BEEN exploited by the Western bloc, not the Eastern bloc, and on the achievement of political independence, we want exploitation by the white master to stop. We find it difficult to get rid of foreign exploitation. It remains as the scar of colonialism.

In our endeavour to find a way round it, we seek aid. The Communist bloc's response in this case is quicker and more favourable than the West whose governments and their capitalist firms have exploited and used our continent's resources and manpower without much benefit to us, but with much benefit to investors in their stock market.

The Communists do not haggle much over the question of aid. On the contrary, they encourage us to take aid from them—aid which is mostly interest-free.

What does the West do? All sorts of questions are raised, and before the balance can be dipped on our side, all our efforts are needed. They say we must present, and they must investigate, the grounds for investment so that they are to be satisfied.

ARE WE NOT, on independence, free to declare our neutrality, our unwillingness to be drawn into a cold war which will result in the total annihilation of our people?

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INSIDE

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Inadequate Medical Aid Bill Too Liberal for A.M.A. & Co.

The campaign to prevent the passage of the King-Anderson Bill in Congress that would provide for some degree of medical care through Social Security is being stepped up. At the center of the drive is the American Medical Association. Close by is the drug industry. The American Hospital Association appears to be a somewhat reluctant member of the team. In the background giving solid support are the chambers of commerce, merchant and manufacturing organizations, insurance companies and big business in general.

In advance of this line are a number of newly formed groupings of doctors and lay people, chiefly on paper and called "independent grass root." They claim to have no direct connection with the A.M.A., and solicit financial support from doctors and promote letter writing to congressmen.

It is noteworthy that many

'Lewis Kicks Pail Over'

Scotts Run, W. Va.—We just happened to bump into each other by accident. About four years had gone by since we worked together in the mine, and we decided to talk about old—and present—times over a cold bottle of beer.

The Automation of the mines—the continuous miner—had taken our jobs from us. He was now old enough to have retired, and I was lucky enough to have gotten another job.

We talked about strikes, how we used to all be out on the picket lines fighting for higher wages at first, then for better conditions—winning the welfare fund, fighting for seniority (this time against both Lewis and the coal operators), fighting against the company's attempts to speed-up the men and trying to make them work in unsafe conditions to get the coal.

PROGRESS—BACKWARD

As he talked, some things went through my mind, too. "You know," I said, "it sure does seem strange now. All those years we were fighting to better ourselves, but it just seemed that with every year things got worse. Little by little, benefits were cut off from the Welfare Fund—first the medical coverage was cut, then the widows' benefits cut off altogether, then the miners' pensions cut from \$100 to \$75, and then the ruling that if you're off for more than a year, you're not covered by the fund at all.

"And on top of all this, there's the Automation that's chopped us to pieces so far as working is concerned, to say nothing of the horrible conditions the guys that are still working have to put up with. It sure makes you think that you have made real steady progress—and all of it backward."

GOOD MILK, BUT—

He laughed at a thought that just struck him:

"Now I've been around farms a long part of my life," he said, "and Lewis reminds me of a cow I had once. The cow gave good milk all right. Real good milk. But it always kicked the pail over after it gave it. Lewis has been kicking our pail over real regular like, but he sure has treated those coal operators good for a long time now."

of the activists in these groups have membership in other reactionary organizations such as Freedom Clubs, America First, and the Birch Society.

BOYCOTT FEELER

The recent announcement of a number of New Jersey doctors that they would not give medical care to patients under the social security plan is a new tactic in the campaign—apparently a feeler to measure public reaction.

Such a threat of boycott does not represent the feelings of the great number of doctors who are not happy about the fact that, though most people think very highly of their physicians, many do not think highly of the organization of physicians—the A.M.A.

There are nearly 17 million people in the U.S. who are over 65. Of these people the A.M.A., in opposition to the King-Anderson Bill, has this to say:

1. The majority are relatively well off and can afford private medical care or private medical insurance. 2. Most of them are in good health. 3. Medical care is not a "right" of anyone; therefore a means test to determine financial status is desirable. 4. Government insurance means government control. This will limit the ability of physicians to provide good medical care since the social security approach would freeze a level of benefits which could not respond to the art and science of medicine.

I believe that only the last point is worthy of attention.

It is true that a physician who becomes primarily an agent of the state may not be able to do his best for the sick individual because of limitations on the scope and extent of the services that may be provided. However the situation is no different now for one who is ill and has little income or property, or is covered by private medical insurance that today is widely sold and often completely inadequate.

BRITISH PRACTICE SCORED

A British doctor, John R. Seale, who is now touring and lecturing in the U.S. under the auspices of the A.M.A., states that the British government, since nationalization of the medical service, is concerned chiefly with keeping down costs and hence British medicine has gradually deteriorated in quality since 1948.

He states that the government has failed to build required hospitals; that the energies of nurses and doctors are wasted as they work in inefficient surroundings; that the income of general practitioners has dropped considerably and many are leaving the country.

COST SHOULD NOT RULE

This may be all true and worthy of criticism. There is apparently more concern with cost than with quality of medical care. It is also not abnormal for a doctor to be concerned about his livelihood or the pressures from outside sources which influence his ability to do good work.

The physician is the best judge of what makes for good medical care. Yet the physician often seems to be more involved with his own security than the well-being of the patient. Certainly the A.M.A. has no answer to the evils of state bureaucracy with its potential of factory-like medical care, other than county, state or federal charity, or more efficient salesmanship by insurance companies of policies that satisfy neither patient nor doctor.

The heart of the problem

Glasgow Report Notes Decline of Industry, Lack of Labor Leadership

By Harry McShane

Glasgow, Scotland—Today is an appropriate occasion for drawing attention to the every serious position facing the Scottish workers on the one hand, and the unsatisfactory political situation on the other. The number of workers unemployed is steadily going up. At the time of writing the number is 85,000.

The basic industries are in a state of decline. Nationalisation has led to the closing of coal mines in various parts of Scotland. On the railways, many train services have been cancelled and stations closed. The shipbuilding industry is in a bad way, and this has had serious effects on the steel industry.

LEADING FIGURES in the trade unions have been adding to their reputations by demanding that industry be directed to Scotland. They have got to the stage of asking that privately-owned industry be subsidised. While fighting against the effects of nationalisation, they call for more nationalisation, and at the same time, they demand that the Government assist private enterprise. They do everything except encourage the workers to take action on their own behalf.

The Scottish Area of the National Union of Mineworkers is under Communist Party control, but the Communist leaders have intervened to prevent the miners from doing anything about it. They take up a cynical attitude when it is suggested that the problem be viewed from a Socialist angle. Nothing is said to the miners about a fight for a shorter working week.

To add to the troubles of the workers, rents of houses owned by local authorities have been increased in many parts of the country. In Glasgow, where 120,000 houses are owned by the local authority, rents are due to rise by 50 per cent at the end of May. This follows on a previous rent increase imposed three years ago.

THE RENT INCREASES have been forced on the local authorities by the Government. A new Act of Parliament has been passed to give the Secretary of State for Scotland great

and the reason the A.M.A. arguments have no validity, however, is that most doctors, nurtured in a capitalist culture and with a capitalist mentality, do not look beyond the deformity that is today stigmatized as "socialized medicine."

They fail to see that this is merely an extension of a facet of capitalism to its ultimate or state form. They are blind to the need of a different quality of human association that can and must come into existence; one where human labor and wants are not the market values of commodity production.

NEED HUMAN MEASURE

To understand this requires a belief in human values which means nothing else than a feeling for the potential of self development which is in each one of us.

In our present civilization, based on a relationship between things, monstrosities and deformities in human relations are inevitable—they are in fact its life blood. To see this concretely one need only look at how our congressmen and industrialists enthusiastically approve billions of dollars for improving the caliber of the military and how bitterly they oppose a few millions for improving the health of the elderly.

—M. D.

er powers in this regard. It is well to note the fact that wages are lower in Scotland than in most parts of England.

COMMUNIST INFLUENCE

Most of the Scottish local authorities have Labour majorities. Approximately half of the parliamentary representatives from Scotland are in the Labour Party. On the whole, the parliamentary representatives are poor specimens. All the younger members are concerned about their careers, and, consequently, they are, without exception, loyal supporters of Mr. Gaitskell.

Communist influence is growing in the trade unions. They have control of most of the trades councils. They can carry anything they like in Glasgow Trades Council where they are well entrenched in the Executive Committee. In their efforts to win support in the Labour Party they remain silent on many important issues. They seem only concerned about winning support for Russian foreign policy.

THEIR INFLUENCE on the Scottish Trades Union Congress is also strong. At the Congress, held in April, they were there in full force. The Scottish Secretary of the Communist Party, together with the Industrial Organiser, travelled from Glasgow to Aberdeen and were able to be in attendance at every function organized in connection with the Congress.

They held a social function which was attended by a number of delegates, including some members of the Labour Party. At this function, 40 pounds were collected for the Communist Party.

They have been quite shameless regarding their support for the nuclear tests carried out by Russia. Their interest in the campaign against nuclear warfare began to lag until the American tests were mooted. They gave full support to the recent Aldermaston march. Yet, prior to the last demonstration against the Polaris ship at Holy Loch, they refused to handle a leaflet connected with the campaign because it made reference to the Russian tests.

Some time ago, Glasgow Trades Council passed a resolution opposing nuclear tests. It was made clear that it meant all tests. It was based on a letter from a trade union branch. Two days later, the Daily Worker, in a two and a half-line report, said that the Trades Council protested against the America tests. With them the truth does not matter.

Pioneers like John Maclean, James Connolly and Keir Hardie were born in Scotland. It cannot be denied, however, that Scotland also produced many careerists and opportunists, and they were not all confined to the Labour Party.

The Working Day

By Angela Terrano

I am turning my column over this issue to a union man who tells of his experiences.—A.T.

(Continued from last issue)

I was working my way through college at the time I joined the union. I happened to be on the debating team and the teacher asked if there was anybody that carried a union card. I said, "yes" and that put me up to debate "the closed shop." The debate took place at a church.

It was the first time that I have entered into a debate, especially in a church, where there was so much cat-calls, curses, nasty words and in general feelings running high on both sides. If you happened to satisfy the closed-shoppers, well of course they were rooting for you and the others were hooting against you and vice versa.

Anyway, some officers of the National Federation of Post Office Clerks were there and afterwards came over and congratulated me and asked why I didn't turn up at the union meetings. I explained that my school studies kept me away. They said, "we're campaigning to make it 100 per cent closed shop" and a fellow that can talk like you and thinks like you can help in the organizing of this union. I decided to help.

I went first to the substitute clerks. Being that they hadn't received appointments yet to go on full time they were the most likely to join. They had plenty of grievances and there was no trouble signing them up.

I bumped into a little different situation with the laborers. The laborers when they weren't doing heavy work

of some kind, lifting and loading, were doing the same work as the clerks, but with a \$500 difference in yearly pay. They were quite bitter. They said they had been sold out by the local officials of the union before and they wouldn't pay a cent to the union no matter what. I told them I would take up their cause and proved it to them and they said all right. We became 100 per cent union.

We had a victory celebration. Everybody came, even the supervisors. All heard my speech on the vicissitudes of substituting. I called the superintendents the "watch dogs of efficiency" and everything else. They came to hear what we had to say and I told them.

The head of the National Guard at the time of a Wobbly strike in 1928, was also a regular employee at the Post Office. A good many of the employees were National Guardsmen and during that strike they pulled them out to help break the strike. They were union men themselves and when they came back to work they got the Bronx cheer.

I began to have trouble with the authorities. One way to try and get a good union man out was to try and show him up as an inefficient worker. The foreman, who was used as a footstool for this had not asked me to prepare for an examination but I had been tipped off by another worker who knew what the trick was all about. The trick didn't work.

The Sacco and Vanzetti case came up. The night that they were executed there wasn't anyone working in the post office.

Auto Contract Robs Many Workers of Vacation Pay

Detroit—Since the full introduction of Automation, many auto companies—and especially Chrysler Corp.—have pulled the same trick on many production workers: year after year they are beating the workers out of their vacation pay because the contract with the union permits it.

According to the Chrysler contract, a worker not only has to be on the payroll for eight months between June 1 and May 1, he must also be on the payroll on May 1 in order to be eligible for vacation pay.

Now, thousands and thousands of production workers lose their vacation pay every year, some with as much as 20 years seniority. Some workers have worked seven months and 29 days, and by not having that

one day are not eligible for their vacation pay. Thus the company robs them of more than \$300 each year, since practically all of the production workers are entitled to three weeks vacation with pay.

RIGHT TO ROB US'

The company is paying out on vacations, and started to call in workers on May 2 who will not get their vacation pay. Some of these workers have some stories to tell, like one who said he had not gotten his vacation pay for as many as six years—has been beaten out of some \$1800. And the union tells us that the company can do this, because management has the right to set, control and adjust production. To which one worker added: "And the right to rob us, to the tune of \$300 a year!"

Another worker said, "I sure believe someone in the union leadership gets a handout for the way the company treats us every year. Now we have missed our vacation pay again, and we will be driven by Automation to produce enough by our sweat and blood in seven months to carry the company's stock pile up, while we are laid off for the four or five months so the company again will get out of paying thousands of workers their vacation pay next May."

"Before they started us in on these Automation machines," another worker added, "we got our vacation pay every year, every worker did. The union put out a leaflet before our last contract saying they would do something about it. But there is no change at Chrysler's, though I heard that some minor adjustments were made on vacation pay at GM and Ford's."

THOUSANDS READY

When one listens to these workers' stories and sees how they are hurt by this robbing, then listening to what went on at the recent UAW Convention, it makes you feel sick, sick to think you can't do much about either—but also knowing that something must be done.

And the workers, mainly production and unemployed workers, must start it, for thousands and thousands are ready to join in to change these conditions.

The International union washes away hundreds of thousands of dollars on whatever they deem fit: a \$30,000 banquet during the convention for Eleanor Roosevelt and some other people, flowing whiskey and money to buy off delegates, over \$1-million a year to "help" unionize and raise living standards of workers overseas. But there is nothing they can do to help a production worker. What they are doing is help plan away the life of the production worker to the company—and then plan some way to rob him of his hard-earned dollars.

Workers Battle Automation 25c

By Charles Denby
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IN STEEL

Contract Signed -1000 Laid Off

Homestead, Penna.—The day after the steel contract was signed, they laid off one thousand men in my mill. Young and old alike are very uncertain of jobs now. Most of the men laid off had just been called back to work before the contract was signed.

A lot of the shops that had old machinery are putting in new machines that will take the place of a lot of men because they do the whole job.

PRESSURE IS ON

One of the men in our department was 65 and ready to retire, but his boss asked him to keep on working. They gave him an examination and he was O.K. He worked for six months. Then, three days after the contract was signed, they told him he was through. They pensioned him off.

We had a metal foreman who was pensioned off when he was 58 years old. He lost his new home because he was not able to keep up the payments. He had to move into a housing project with his family.

The pressure is so hard on the men in the furnace department at the mill that one of the men who has worked there for 34 years was given three pink slips because the company said he didn't know his job. He has been making steel for 30 years.

A cap and key man was sent home three times for infractions of the rules. The last time he said he would fight it by protesting to the union. He won his case through arbitration and was paid for the days he was laid off. Nobody bothers him now.

HIT GOVERNMENT, McDONALD

One of the laborers said the men are already beginning to blame the government for the cutbacks in our mills in the valley and in Pittsburgh.

What the workers have known for a long time the union leaders are now saying: that (United Steelworker's president) McDonald sold the membership down the river. Where the most men would be affected, they go nothing. And the ones with over 25 years seniority only got two-and-a-half more days on their vacations. Now they will get the time off.

Only there is another kind of "time off," too, and those thousand men laid off the day after the contract was signed can say plenty about that. And with the new machinery coming in, there are others that will be joining them.

Reuther's Control Fails to Stifle Workers' Voice at UAW Confab

Atlantic City, N.J. — On the fourth day of the UAW Convention held in Atlantic City this month, a delegate said from the floor: "This is a dead convention. Most of the times you go to a convention and you can get fired up about something to sink your teeth into when you get back to your local. There's nothing like that that's come out of this one. Everybody's talking about it."

And it was the truth. There was an air of something unreal about the proceedings, like all of it was window dressing. Somehow it reminded me of a lot of people who were making beautiful sounding speeches—over a dead corpse.

WORKER'S VOICE LOST

It wasn't that the subject matter of some of the resolutions wasn't important, or dealt with things the workers weren't concerned with. Many were vital matters, such as speed-up, Automation, organizing the unorganized, shorter work week, unemployment, civil rights, social security, the international labor movement, women workers, the youth—and a host of others.

The reason it all seemed without real meaning was that the role of the workers—the rank-and-file—just was not to be found. The several delegates who tried to express the sentiments of the rank-and-file on these matters, and revealed their attempts at trying to overcome these problems in their own way, these voices were lost in the jungle of bureaucracy and control. (See lead article, P. 1.)

Two examples will show this clearly, although it could be shown by many, many more.

SPEED-UP

The first deals with the discussion on speed-up. This resolution was taken up about a half hour before the convention was to adjourn on Saturday evening. Hands were up all over the convention floor, with delegates anxious to speak out on this most important issue facing the workers—and especially the production workers.

Every delegate who spoke told of the abuses of the company on this matter, linking speed-up with Automation, unemployment, civil rights, the kind of labor man should perform, the degrading influence it had. Most of them spoke of more power to strike individual shops, machines or lines when they were speeded-up.

REUTHER 'WITH' MEN

Soon it was near 6 p.m., adjournment time for the day. Reuther took the microphone and, in a sympathetic voice, said he understood that this was a serious problem, but it was time to adjourn. And, after all, the UAW had a strike clause in the contract which permitted strikes over speed-up—and this policy was being reaffirmed by the resolution. Delegates had expressed their opinions, and he just wanted them to know that he was with them as was the whole International Executive Board in the battle against speed-up. But "There are many resolutions that we still have to cover, and it is just a matter of practical considerations in running the convention—"

At this point, a delegate re-

quested a point of order; questioned that there was a quorum of delegates to vote on the resolution. And by this time, many delegates had left, leaving it doubtful that there was a quorum.

DISCUSSION CONTINUED

The delegate pointed out that this was a serious matter for the men, that the delegates who were not present surely would have remained had they known that the resolution would be taken up.

Reuther snidely remarked that he "knew" it was an important matter for the delegates to speak on such a vital matter "to let the boys back home know that they were on the job." But he was going to be big-hearted about it, and even though he really believed that there was a quorum present, he would grant that the discussion would be continued as the first order of business on the next day.

As it turned out, of course, the delegates spoke their pieces, and when it was all over, the resolution as drawn up was passed. As all of them were.

CIVIL RIGHTS

The other example deals with civil rights. Now every auto worker knows that there is plenty of discrimination in the auto shops. They see it every day—both Negro and white, but mostly Negro. But the way the resolution read you would think that if there was an ounce of discrimination practiced by anybody in the UAW that the guilty party would be drummed out of the union.

Thus it was that all delegates who spoke on the matter, and almost all speakers were Negroes, said that the resolution was good, but it did not go far enough. Only even these speakers did not bring out into the open what they were feeling, what they knew from their own experiences. You could feel that they were aching to really pour out what they had eating them up inside. And you could also feel that they really didn't dare to.

REAL FEELINGS COME OUT

But what they didn't dare to say on the floor, they dared to say among themselves. And indeed, the real feelings of the delegates—even hand-picked Reutherites as many of them were—came out when they talked among themselves during the evenings.

'HEARD IT FOR YEARS'

Another delegate's reaction to the whole convention was summed up in this way:

"Reuther is plenty smart, all right. He knows that he's got control, and what he says goes at these conventions. He makes sure it's that way by making sure that his delegates are elected to attend. But all of these things that sound so great here we've all heard before—we've been hearing it for years. Only at the same time, our conditions get worse, there are more unemployed, and we catch more and more hell on that line every day. And Automation is killing us.

"Reuther's got big plans that leave the workers out of everything but paying dues to support his big plans. Where it comes to what they want to do, their hands are tied. It's either the government or Reuther that can do things, never the workers. And the sad part is that the only ones who could really do something about this mess are the rank-and-file—and they're not at the convention."

From The Protectorate, Brikama, The Gambia

African Women Demand 'Freedom Now!'

Yesterday I had my first experience in the Protectorate, where meetings are called without a moment's notice, to be attended by hundreds, complete with political speeches, singing, dancing, and drums.

The most exciting one of all, took place at Brikama where 800 people gathered to hear the speaker of the People's Progressive Party. The PPP is the opposition party here which is modeling itself on Pan-Americanism and bases itself on the most intelligent, the most reverent of the tribes, the Mandinkas.

THE WOMEN were the most dramatic and inspiring of all the participants. Most are illiterate and yet they are the most intelligent, the most revolutionary and with the greatest integrity (not to mention the fact that they are very beautiful in features, in their carriage, with their long golden earrings and with some golden jewelry on their foreheads.)

The extension of fraternal greetings to Americans, especially Negro Americans, "and women like ourselves," was spontaneous, and spoken simply and movingly.

The Chairman of the Women's section said: "I am very happy that you came here all the way from America to visit this village and see what we are trying to do for our country. The women are eager to improve their lot. They will get more out of independence than the men. Women are more sensible than men and no

one can corrupt them. They know what is good for them and do not listen to bribery because they have integrity." The speaker was a young Mandinka.

Following her was a speaker for the elder women, who received a tremendous ovation from the open air meeting with her slogan, "Freedom Now!"

After welcoming me and saying she was speaking for the women elders, she said, "The struggle is to remove ourselves now from the condition of slavery toward freedom. For this struggle we must display integrity. Otherwise before we get ourselves out of slavery we would again be brought into another."

She then turned to me personally and said, "I speak to you as one woman to another. You have made something out of yourself in the world, writing books and coming to see us here. We women too are struggling for something; we see a future in this party, the PPP, which we have promised to support because it is fighting for freedom which we should have had long ago. We want freedom NOW!"

Since "Freedom Now" is also the slogan of the Freedom Riders and since I was also able to add what an impact the role of the African women in the African freedom struggles have made on the American workers, some of whom have even named their children in honor of these, I did not at all feel like a stranger but a Gambia Mandinka on the freedom road.

—Raya Dunayevskaya

Editorial

THE NEGRO STRUGGLE AND THE STATE OF CIVIL RIGHTS

It surprised nobody when the notorious clique of Northern Republicans and Southern Democrats killed the Administration's literacy-test bill in the Senate the other week. Even had it passed, the Kennedy bill would automatically have excluded 10 per cent of adult Negro males from the vote. In cynical disregard of the fact that at least one out of every ten Negro men has been deprived of more than a fourth grade education, Kennedy called for a sixth grade education as the requirement for voting.

A BUCKET OF WHITEWASH

Not only did the reactionary ruling minority in Washington reaffirm its century-old contempt for human rights, it gave Kennedy a bucket of whitewash with which to cover his equally deceitful policy of "gradualism" and token civil rights for Negroes.

But he has no whitewash to cover the shame of what he did and said when he went down to New Orleans to dedicate a new wharf on the Mississippi River on May 4. Here, in this stronghold of race hate and southern tyranny, he talked freely of the need of "free trade" for the "free world" but he pointedly and deliberately said not one single word about free human beings, about Negro freedom.

On the eighth anniversary of the Supreme Court's decision against school segregation, Kennedy did not even hint at the fact that only 12 Negro first-graders have been "integrated" in New Orleans schools. When we remember how the President brought the whole pressure of government against the steel companies until they retreated on the question of prices, we can feel sure he is not for full civil rights for the Negro people or he would bring the great weight of his position to the question of civil rights.

The administration can appoint as many Negroes to official jobs as they please. They can yell as loudly and as often as they want to to the dark nations saying we have two, three, or 500 Negroes in leading government positions, something that never happened before this Administration. The millions of Negro people in the United States will continue to show the world that nothing short of complete and total freedom will satisfy them.

Despite the President's silence, despite the near blackout of news in the daily press, the forward movement of the Negro people continues without pause. In Albany, Georgia, there are now 744 Negroes under indictment for a mass march in protest of the conviction of young sit-in demonstrators.

A REIGN OF TERROR

In Birmingham, Alabama, Commissioner "Bull" Connor has declared a virtual reign of terror against Negroes. Birmingham police are accused not only of night-riding floggings of Negro men, but also midnight rapes of Negro women. But so powerful and unflagging is the force of the Negro struggle, that the city administration has closed all public playgrounds and all golf links—even to filling up the holes in the courts in and around Birmingham; all public swimming pools are dry and locked. They would deprive the whites of these facilities just as they would close schools rather than integrate them.

Finally in a dehumanized attempt to break a successful boycott of Birmingham stores sparked by student youth from Miles College, the city even cancelled the relief program of surplus food distribution for the needy because most of the recipients are Negroes. Such is the state of affairs in the South and in the country.

A new reign of terror has hit the City of Los Angeles with the police slaying of Muslim Ronald T. Stokes, and shooting of six other Muslims.

Los Angeles Mayor Yorty's attempt to whitewash the police and to carry on instead a campaign of terror against the Muslims with such vicious statements as, "I hope the 'Muslims' will be looked upon with horror and disdain" only focuses sharply on the inhuman state of civil rights not just in the South but throughout the length and breadth of the United States.

The indignant Negro community has turned out in mass protest against this latest blatant act of police brutality that has rightly been called a "gestapo-type atrocity" by Muslim leader, Malcolm X. (See article page 6.)

THE STRUGGLE IS FOR TOTAL FREEDOM

The force of the brutal repression is only the negative measure of the strength of the mass movement for civil rights. Hardly a day passes without a new sit-in, a new boycott, a new demonstration taking place. Today it may be Durham, N.C., tomorrow it may be Ft. Smith, Ark., the next day it may be Jackson, Miss., or Dallas, Texas, or Nashville, Tenn.—and, indeed, it has happened and is happening in all these cities.

Neither the White Citizens Councils, nor the KKK by terror, nor the gradualist by "tokenism" can halt this. It is the massive Negro struggle with the youth in the forefront that gave meaning to last summer's Freedom Rides. It is this daily struggle throughout the South that will give meaning to another ride scheduled for this summer to be known as "Freedom Highways."

The aim will be to open restaurants to Negroes along all major highways in the South, and will be carried out by private motorcades as was done last fall along Route 40 near Baltimore.

The Freedom Riders were not staking their lives for a portion of civil rights. Neither were the student Sit-Inners. The Negro people cannot and will not accept the line for token civil rights. Their struggle is for total freedom, and its strength is in the continuing mass movement.

News & Letters

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Raya Dunayevskaya, Chairman
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THE UAW CONVENTION

Speed-up and Automation are killing jobs and throwing thousands of workers on the scrap heap. Unless we can stop this—and the strike is the only real weapon we have to fight it—at our next convention you're going to find a lot less workers in this union.

Delegate
UAW Convention

We have a nice sounding resolution on civil rights here, but the only way it can have any meaning for the union or for any of us is if we put it to practice when we get back to the shops. There are Freedom Rides and sit-ins and wade-ins and stand-ins all over the country. We ought to be participating as a union in all of these things, not just talk about them.

Delegate
UAW Convention

When I heard that Reuther had appointed a Negro named Edwards to a special post on his exec. board, I figured he had taken the example from his leader, Kennedy, who made such a splash about creating a special post for Weaver. It made me think of a Dick Gregory joke I heard about the Weaver deal. Gregory said it was "nice" of Kennedy, but that he noticed Kennedy had had to make up a Special job for Weaver—"after he had given all the good jobs to the white boys." I got a good laugh out of that one. And now Reuther's show is turning out to be a big joke, too.

Auto Worker
Detroit

The guys in my shop don't feel that Edwards will have any say in policy-making, even if he is supposed to be on the exec. board now. Calling him a "Director-at-large" is a funny way to pose it. In fact, I think it's a dead give-away.

The guys I work with don't especially care whether Edwards gets the same salary as the other guys on the board or not. To the people in the shop the important thing about having a Negro on the exec. board was having his voice there in making policy.

Most of the Negroes figure Reuther is just trying to have an answer for the many workers who have been criticizing him for not having any Negro on the top board all these years. But they don't feel that having a Negro as "Director-at-large" without any weight will make it any different now.

Negro Worker
Detroit

Reuther's 36 page speech to the UAW Convention made Castro look like a piker.

Auto Worker
Los Angeles

I guess you could call what they got in the UAW with this new appointments of Edwards a kind of "token integration" of the union, couldn't you?

Auto Worker
Ohio

Readers'

In my shop I very often hear some whites say, "How much more are you going to demand" when a Negro asks for his rights. We don't want any more than the whites have, and when we ask or demand something, it isn't that we're seeking special privileges, we're just seeking equality of treatment. It's no more than that, but it's sure no less than that that we'll ever be satisfied with.

Delegate
UAW Convention

FOR DETROIT WORKERS

Here is something Detroit workers should get a good laugh out of. In an article for AFRICA NYAATO I couldn't believe my eyes about the constant reference to "Michigan Machines." But it was indeed a "Michigan Machine"—some road building equipment sent from Detroit that is constantly breaking down: "Everyday the plant fitters are trying to bring the Michigan Machines up to date, but the present mechanical superintendent is not ready to hold even the smallest-spanner to do a job. Therefore he is not fit to work on Gambian soil..."

The correspondent (from works team on the Banskung road) then says that the workers told the superintendent: "You are quite aware of the fact that the Michigan Machines have broken down three weeks ago and that plant-fitters have tried their best to repair them, but could not. Wouldn't you go and give help?" The answer the superintendent gave was: "I'm looking at the Michigan book to see what is demanded." If the book was to direct him to do the job, would it not direct him in the first week from the day the Michigans were breaking down? Or did he want to explain to us that he could not read and understand quickly."

The Wolof who wrote this, headed his article, "So Gisay Dega Wanko" which translated means "If it is true it must be said."

R.D.
Gambia

Editor's Note: AFRICA NYAATO is a newsletter, printed and issued free by Africans in Bathurst, Gambia. It is devoted mainly to workers interests and to Pan-Africanism, and depends entirely on donations from readers at home and abroad. All postal orders or checks from those who would be interested in receiving copies or donating towards its publication should be made out to: People's Press, PO Box 334, Bathurst, Gambia, West Africa.

PEACE MARCHERS

I enclose a report of the Easter demonstrations in Britain. I just received your pamphlets yesterday and have not been able to read them yet. The one about the Freedom Riders has had a very good press in the leftish journals.

For the next issue, I have a report of the demonstrations against Hugh Gaitskell which took place on May Day in Glasgow. The man was invited to speak at a demonstration whose theme was "Out With Polaris."

Gaitskell refused to attack Polaris and an angry demonstration broke out.

J. F.
Scotland

(Editor's Note: See article by our new contributor, on Youth Page 7.)

The Easter Week Peace Walk in Milwaukee was marked by strong publicity for both the neo-Fascists and the Stalinists. The walk was organized by the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy, and attracted over a hundred walkers.

A counter-picket line of neo-Fascist youth marched down the other side of Wisconsin Avenue, about a dozen strong. They carried American flags and the usual red-baiting posters with references to the "Masters of Detroit" and those who would rather be red than dead. Another contingent of rightists brought a large Communist flag made from a bedsheet dyed red, which they spread over the sidewalk from time to time, thus forcing the peace walkers to step on it. This was accompanied by many nasty and provocative remarks on the part of the young Fascists, offers to passersby to have their shoes shined on the red flag, etc.

The Milwaukee Journal gave a big play to the fact that one John Gilman, who has been accused by Congressional investigating committees of being a card-carrying Communist, was among the peace walkers. Gilman seemingly aided their efforts by his antagonistic attitude to the reporters and by refusing to dissociate himself from the rest of the walkers.

Marcher
Wisconsin

MARXISM AND FREEDOM

I'm at one of the universities in Tokyo. A few years ago, I read your "Marxism and Freedom" and was moved enthusiastically.

I had been a Communist since the 1930's and put to prison during World War II but when the Hungarian people revolted in 1956, I left the party. Since then I'm coming to the conviction that the Stalinist party is the enemy of the people. Your book helped me to convert very much.

Recently I wrote a small piece about your book for an organ of anti-Stalinist Marxism here. Now I would like eagerly to translate it and introduce your book for our students and workers.

Teacher
Tokyo, Japan

THE BIG STEAL

Steel's attempt to increase the price of steel by \$6 a ton has a number of factors in it. Even though Kennedy succeeded in stopping them by throwing a 5 million dollar order, which usually goes to US Steel, into some little company's lap.

It still means more speed-up in the plant. They'll get their extra \$6 a ton out of the hides of the workers, don't worry.

I think that it is connected with the European Common

Views

Market, too. There was no increase in steel export price, only in the domestic steel. Wherever there is going to be any competition with foreign labor, which is so much cheaper than here, there will be more speed-up of the American workers to make up the difference.

**Already Unemployed
Los Angeles**

* * *

Kennedy said he was surprised at the rapidity with which the steel companies made the increase, one after another. He said that showed him the need for anti-trust investigation, and that there was collusion. As if he were an innocent young fellow meeting this phenomenon for the first time. Doesn't he yet know there are monopolies, or did he forget the investigation only last year into General Electric?

**Professional
San Francisco**

* * *

I think there is nothing that could have made Kennedy a bigger "darling" of the labor bureaucracy, than what happened with this steel business.

There was some rumbling, even in the press, that Kennedy's administration is putting its two cents in everywhere, and not even letting a strike situation develop. But since this incident, he can show what an "impartial" fellow he is by stepping on industry almost as hard as labor.

It made it possible for him to add offhandedly, at his press conference, that he was using the Taft-Hartley Law against the Longshoreman Strike in San Francisco. Nobody even paid any attention to it. Now he can go at labor hammer and tongs, and "prove" he has been against industry too.

**Politico
Los Angeles**

* * *

When Kennedy got so mad at the steel companies he showed us a glimpse of a very ugly "new frontier." He as much as said how he could get such a good contract, and get the workers to give up their wages, while the companies could still make their profits, and bigger profits. It is due to "new methods of production, and lowering labor costs."

This means only three things to me, more Automation, more unemployment, and more speed-up.

**Committee Member
Los Angeles**

* * *

FREEDOM RIDERS SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES

I hope you watched the Huntley-Brinkley News on TV Monday night, May 14. You would have seen a close-up of the Freedom Rider pamphlet being sold at the Rally to protest police brutality, which was triggered off by the killing of a Negro who is a Muslim, a short distance from the Muslim church here.

The Rally was held at the 2nd Baptist Church, which is not only the largest and

best known Negro church, but is sort of NAACP headquarters. All the Negro groups were together in this protest, but when I was reading the Negro press the week before the meeting was held, I was struck by the sad fact that both the "Liberal" paper and the "Conservative" paper here outdid themselves with lack of ideas.

The Friday before, the NAACP youth chapter had sponsored a meeting with a capacity audience at UCLA campus. We sold Freedom Rider pamphlets there, too, and noticed many African students present. While the crowd had many Muslims, there was also a good community turnout, and a younger group than usually comes to NAACP rallies.

I am glad that through the sales of the pamphlet at both rallies we were able to present a total philosophy to so many of these people who were looking for a way to end discrimination and brutality—because only a total answer can answer it.

**Committee Member
Los Angeles**
Editor's Note: See article page 6.

* * *

I was proud to see your pamphlet "Freedom Riders Speak for Themselves" shown so prominently on the May 14 Huntley-Brinkley nationwide newscast during their coverage of the Los Angeles mass meeting to protest the April 27 murder and wounding of Negroes by the police there. I only wish that somebody could have broadcast at the same time that News and Letters alone saw the importance of putting out a pamphlet like that—and that they could have given your address as the place to send orders.

**Staunch Supporter
Detroit**

* * *

I feel as if I should thank you for giving me the chance to buy the Freedom Rider pamphlet. I feel that the whole wide world should know these things. You did a great service to everyone when you published such a booklet.

Freedom will not come easy, and it made me ashamed of how little I have done personally to help get it, when I read the Freedom Riders pamphlet.

Money is certainly far from the whole answer to what is needed, but it does help a little, and I'm grateful to have a chance to contribute a little to the struggle—the price of some pamphlets and a sub to the paper.

**Working Mother
Detroit**

* * *

Having given my copy of "Freedom Riders Speak For Themselves" to a friend I would appreciate receiving another copy.

I found the booklet to be very inspiring inasmuch as these people are doing so much for such a fine cause. It makes me feel quite ashamed as I have done so little.

I was appalled to learn of the humiliation and indignities to which they were subjected and feel that many

others should be apprised of these ugly facts.

Thank you for News and Letters. Keep up the good work! Enclosed is \$1.00. I hope it will cover the costs.

**New Supporter
California**

* * *

NEW READERS AND SUPPORTERS

I have been unemployed since August of 1959. I don't have \$1 for a sub right now, but I bought your Freedom Rider pamphlet last week, and I want to help the movement in what small way I can, so here is another 25 cents and I hope it will help a little.

**Unemployed
Detroit**

* * *

I am subscribing to your paper, but I must be honest with you. It worries me so to read what is happening in the world, that sometimes I deliberately don't read the papers. It would be different if I thought I could do something—anything—to change things. But what can the ordinary people do against a bomb, or Automation? Perhaps by reading your paper I can find out.

**New Subscriber
Detroit**

* * *

Please send me the supplement on Mao Tse-tung. Enclosed is 15 cents.

**New Reader
Detroit**

* * *

THE CRISIS OF SCIENCE

The perversion of science is everywhere. The tobacco industry is spending millions of dollars to mold scientific opinion favoring the innocence of cigarette smoking in the production of lung cancer. Food processors influence scientists toward acceptance of questionable toxic food preservatives and modifiers. The industries concerned with maintaining the transportation by the gasoline-driven engine direct pressure on scientific opinion concerned with smog and health. The doctor of medicine is brainwashed by his entrepreneur-minded colleagues organized in the A.M.A. and by the drug industry to oppose medical care for the aged under social security. The social and cultural scientists in our government and our universities find it easy to see more value in a man with a white collar than with a blue.

Science in the middle of the 20th century has become the battleground for human values.

**Doctor
California**

* * *

Science is activity. And it is the lives of millions of ordinary people who have brought industry into the maturity of automation. Yet out of automation has come not the release of man from drudgery, but the twins—dehumanized labor and unemployment.

**Intellectual
Los Angeles**

TWO WORLDS

By Raya Dunayevskaya, Author of
MARXISM AND FREEDOM

The Evolution of a Social Type

Editor's Note: In an article published in October 1953, Raya Dunayevskaya analyzed the evolution of several types of labor bureaucrats, including Walter Reuther, Jay Lovestone, and Irving Brown, emphasizing that "the point is none of them has changed any basically . . ." Nine years later, not only are all these "leaders" still prominently around, but by now they exhibit in full-bloom the characteristics of the Planners in our age of state-capitalism.

Jay Lovestone is now an international "consultant" for the AFL-CIO, and lectures on what Russia is like. Irving Brown is now not only a representative of the AFL-CIO in Europe, but, ever since his attendance as translator at the 1958 Accra Conference, has tried to meddle in the Algerian Revolution, and now is trying also to meddle in sub-Saharan African affairs. Walter Reuther's most recent exploits at the UAW Convention are detailed on page 1 of this issue. It is clear that the article written in 1953 from which the following extracts are taken has become even more significant in 1962.

* * *

Today everybody knows the Communist Party as the agent of the greatest barbarism on earth—Russian totalitarianism. But in those days, when the Russian Revolution had overthrown the Czar and established workers rule, the Communists were men of high principles who stood for a new social order, a totally new way of life, for tens of million of people who hoped to rule themselves in production and in politics.

The problem in the American Communist Party was that the backbone of it was immigrant stock. Jay Lovestone was a new type in the early days of the Communist Party. He was not a hardy proletarian type. He was a college boy, or, as the phrase then went, "a petty-bourgeois intellectual." But he was American.

"Training Organizers"

He built up a whole theory of American "exceptionalism." That was quite a chauvinistic theory. It meant that America was so exceptional it need not follow any principles of independent workers activity, but could "get there" (to a new social order), through all sorts of fantastic schemes, playing around with liberals etc. Thus, just as his successors in the 1930's fell for the New Deal, he went hook, line, and sinker for La Follette's Farmer-Labor Party. But that was not his worst feature. I am told, that the part which the rank and file of the Communist Party of those days hated most of all about his rule was his conception of "training organizers."

Before Lovestone's leadership in 1925-27, Communist organizers would go into the sweat-shops and learn from the workers their conditions as one of them, and with them, see whether the shop could be unionized. Lovestone's idea was quite different: he trained his organizers to work with the top leadership of the union. And suddenly there grew up the new type of organizer who was not of the workers but "for" them. The needle trades thus swarmed not only with regular labor bureaucrats, but the special "consultants" supplied by the Lovestoneites. That is how a type, a combination "leader", union organizer and general debater arose . . .

Two Types of Bureaucrats

In Europe at this moment there are two types of American labor bureaucrats. Both wear fancy ties and smoke fat cigars and try to sell the "American way of life" as if that were one world, instead of two. One, like Reuther, is the roving kind. He comes to deliver a speech at a hand-picked labor congress, rides in a U.S. Army jeep. He ends up by telling the American workers how much better off they are than the Europeans, after he had just told the West German workers how much better off they are, with their unemployment, than the East German workers who must come for bread to the West. Then, through the Voice of America, he has the audacity to tell the East German workers who dared challenge their rulers at the cost of their lives, that they need "to believe in democracy."

The other, like Irving Brown, is the stationary kind. He is the international representative of the A. F. of L. who lives in Europe, is always there to meet the roving kind of bureaucrat, but at the same time distrusts him. You see, he knew Reuther when he was the fair-haired boy of the Communist Party and knows that he still is the planner, always ready to pull out of his pocket as many Five Year Plans as any totalitarian bureaucrat and therefore resembles too closely for Irving Brown's comfort the Communist fellow-travelers who are always "giving the line." Moreover, as one who has himself been the fair-haired boy of a former leader of the Communist Party, Jay Lovestone, he knows that he must sell Europe something more genuine than that all Americans are millionaires and that the American worker who is always wildcatting just loves his labor bureaucrat. He knows that this is the epoch of total crisis, including the crisis of the mind. He knows he cannot win the mind of the European masses who are struggling for a totally new way of life with such vulgar sales talk. So he welcomes them. He is also looking for some European names to fight the deep anti-Americanism there.

Plan And Planners All Around Us

. . . The point is none of them has changed any basically. That is why I went into their past, which, to all appearances, seemed so different. The leader type in those days anticipated in all essentials the labor bureaucrat of today. It doesn't matter that the C.P. produced them first; the age of state-capitalism produced them all—the plan and the planners. They are all around us now.

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Nationalism, Communism, Marxist-Humanism

and the

AFRO-ASIAN REVOLUTIONS

BY RAYA DUNAYEVSKAYA

News & Letters, 8751 Grand River, Detroit 4, Mich.

YOUTH

New Beginnings

By Eugene Walker

Spanish Miners And Students Show The Way

The news from Spain during the past few days has greatly excited me. The miners' strike in the North made me think of 1936 and the Spanish Civil War. Although I was not born at that time I have read some books on it.

As a youth I was most elated to read of the immediate response of the youth in Madrid who went out on strike in sympathy with the miners. The students immediately saw the situation and showed their solidarity with the workers.

One is reminded of the 1956 Hungarian Revolution during which the youth and workers united to shake Russian totalitarianism to its foundations in their struggle for a new society. From events such as the Hungarian revolution and the miners' strike (the full development of which has not yet been reached) one can see the role of youth—their unity with the workers in the reconstruction of society.

* * *

Here in the United States, youth are dissatisfied and are looking for a different life. The greatest evidence for this can be seen in the peace movements.

In Los Angeles a Peace March was held over Easter in which 700 took part—half of them youth.

During a recent Civil Defense drill at the University of California at Los Angeles some 200 students picketed the administration building instead of going into the basement shelters. Yet despite this activity on the part of the students, there is a great deal of difference between these youth and those of Hungary and Spain. The Spanish youth have shown their solidarity with the workers. But the youth in the U.S. have as yet not done so.

* * *

AS FINE AN IDEA as the peace movement is, it has not as of this time been joined by workers. Yet workers are certainly anti-war. It behooves the youth to look at this movement and see why the workers are not joining it. Youth, even with all their fine idealism, cannot allow themselves to become part of a so-called classless movement and thus isolate themselves from the workers.

* * *

IN JAPAN, where the greatest peace demonstrations have occurred, the question of classlessness is being seriously discussed. Iktaro Shimizu in an article entitled "The Intellectuals" (NEW POLITICS, Winter 1962) writes, "The fear of nuclear weapons has obscured the understanding that war is rooted in the capitalist system; the simple wish for peace has become the dominating idea, taking the place of class struggle, revolution and socialism. . . . This ideological armistice corresponded perfectly with the 'united front' tactics of the Communists and their allies. It combined the jargon of the left with the tactics of rightwing opportunism. . . . In the course of these events, one striking characteristic of the official left leadership stood out clearly—contempt for the masses."

* * *

I cannot say what will be the joining-ground for the workers and youth. That depends upon what is the next stage in the struggle for a different world. But one can see by the events

in Spain that it is only when the students show solidarity with the workers that the first step can be taken.

'Only Workers Know'

Dear Charles Denby,

When I read your article, "More Deaths By Automation," I found it literally hard to believe. We have already talked of Automation as a "man-killer," but since I am not a factory worker and do not see it with my own eyes, I sometimes think of that phrase as a slogan.

AN EXPERIENCE I had this week really opened my eyes and showed me that if your stories seem exaggerated to non-workers, it is because you are the only one writing the greatest un-reported story of our time, and not because you exaggerate.

* * *

I was on my way to a Ford plant in New Jersey to distribute News and Letters when my car broke down. When the garage men found out where I was going they began to laugh. They assumed that I wanted a job there, and were getting ready to try to talk me out of it. Both of them had worked in that plant.

I told them I was a "reporter" and showed them News and Letters. They took one look the the headline "More Deaths By Automation" and laughed again. "If you want a real story just go up to Sufferern hospital any day in the summer and watch them drag them in. That's one story nobody's writing!"

* * *

ONE OF THEM TOLD me about a worker who had dropped dead in his department last summer. "When he passed out, I saw the foreman running frantically for the 'phone. I assumed he was running to get help. Instead he was calling in to the office to say: 'Punch that man out! He's not working.' That's how much the Company cares about the men."

I asked them if they were going to go back to that plant. "Never," they said. "It's too much. The pay isn't bad, but they could never pay me enough to stay there." Both were under twenty-five and athletic-looking. They were strongly pro-union, but felt that the union was doing nothing for them: "They just pocketed all the money."

* * *

At the time of Marx and Engels and the first Factory Laws in England, there were doctors and factory-inspectors who wrote hair-raising reports about the conditions of men, women and children and their awful exploitation and degradation.

TODAY, these conditions are a secret to everyone but the workers who have to live (or die) with them; even to the "radicals" and "socialists." So thanks for News and Letters and its worker-editor who are "alone to tell the tale."

Student Committee Member
New York

From The Gambia

THE WEST DOESN'T UNDERSTAND

By Nyaswaco

(Continued from Page 1)

tion of the human race if it turns hot and our willingness to form, to join the ranks of a non-military, powerful force for peace—a moral force that resorts to moral pressure rather than physical force or pressure to bring in results, the civilized non-committed bloc.

Every African country has imbibed more of Western culture than Eastern culture. This we do not want. Everything good cannot possibly come from one set of people only. We now realise the folly of this. We glanced about us and see the flaws of Western culture, we reject them. We cannot live in a vacuum; something must replace them. We look to the East and find some good points, take them up, but we still have to glance back on our shoulders to see what lies in our downtrodden culture. Oh, what a relief; we found much more than we expected. There is much we overlooked during colonial days. We strove to live this up; and to live up our governments too.

WE TOOK what is good in the Western manner of government, what is good in the Eastern manner of government, and what is good in our own society. We blend them and in the process mould something never before seen on earth. Something that is clear of all flaws of the three systems and made of their cream.

We produce this. It is in its infancy and therefore a delicate structure.

So don't call us fanatics. Don't call us Communists. Don't call us anything but Africanists. Our doctrine is Africanism. Encourage us. Don't try to say it is wrong. What you think to be wrong may one day be your accepted doctrine. The world's future lies in Africa, look to our doctrine. Study it and give a fair constructive criticism. Don't judge us from the outside, but from the inside.

PICKET HUAC

Los Angeles — On April 24 the House Un-American Activities Committee met here for a four-day session.

The meetings were secret, and held in the Federal Building. At about 10 in the morning, the entire building was surrounded by about 750 to 1,000 pickets; the entire block was surrounded.

There were about a couple of thousand on-lookers, about two dozen of which were right wingers.

AROUND NOON, six of these right wingers joined the students' picket line in a "counter-demonstration", carrying signs which read like the John Birch manual. The students stopped their line immediately and all sat down on the sidewalk and refused to picket.

The monitors escorted the right wingers out of the picket line. Tension was very high and mounting at this point. It felt as though there might be a riot, because some of the right wing onlookers tried to egg on a fight.

Plainclothesmen surrounded the right wingers and took them over to be interviewed by the press and TV. The press

From The Gambia

Young African Workers Extend Fraternal Greetings To Youth Here

Special To News & Letters

The Young Workers Movement of Gambia held a meeting on May 8, on "World Youth Movements" with Raya Dunayevskaya as speaker.

The speech related the varied youth organizations — Zengakuren of Japan, News & Letters Youth Group and the Freedom Riders of CORE, in the United States, the Committee of 100 in England and the Socialist Youth of Scotland—to the philosophies they expounded.

The speaker asked that the Gambian delegates to the Conakry conference of Pan-African Youth held on April 26, report on that before discussion opened on the entire question of the relationship of ideas—Pan-Africanism, Communism, Marxist-Humanism—to organizations.

THE REPORT was then given of the enthusiasm which permeated that youth conference. Twenty-five African countries were represented. One of the delegates reported that they were impressed by the "progress Guinea is making. Both men and women are playing equal parts in the development of the country. You see women in all walks of life, from engineering to police force. From the field to the office and in all other political, social and cultural spheres, just like the men. Apart from that, Guinea is giving African culture back to Africa, all of Africa, including our Gambian Sabia Manpara's dancing on stilts. They believe that the African personality must be felt by the whole world, that the boundaries between Africans put up by colonialists should be broken down."

He then enumerated the Resolutions passed on that question: on the encouragement of free migration and student-exchange in all African countries; establishment of African institutes where African culture will be taught; the study of both French and English in all schools to put an end to the language difficulties which at present divide African from African; the demand for the return of artistic works exported from Africa after World War I;

was everywhere, expecting something to happen. However, they were disappointed, because no riot occurred.

Police Brutality MUSLIM SLAIN BY LA POLICE

LOS ANGELES. — On the night of April 27th, police shot into a crowd of Negro citizens who had been attending a meeting at a Muslim temple, killing one and wounding over a dozen more. This act of terrorism did not take place in Apartheid South Africa or in the deep South, USA. This violence wasn't the work of OAS terrorists in Algeria. This happened in the heart of the City of Los Angeles, California.

The murdered man, Ronald T. Stokes, was attempting to find out the cause of a disturbance when a policeman shot at him. It is reported that in defending himself he grabbed one of the policemen. When the cop got free of Stokes, Stokes raised his hands above his head. This however did not stop another cop from putting a bullet through his chest.

The national press, maintained virtual news blackout of this act of police brutality, and appear to be in cahoots with

and, above all, the fight against neo-colonialism in its many forms, including portfolio embezzlements. Finally, they passed a Resolution on the necessity not to be involved in the Cold War and to achieve true and full Pan-African unity instead of the present division between Casablanca and Monrovia or Dakar.

The most exciting part of the meeting was the discussion. Here was a country, still nearly colonial, with not a single bookshop (except a mission one) in the country and no regular newspaper unless you can call the British Government's Information News Bulletin, appearing three times a week, a newspaper, since the Africans especially the civil servants fear to speak "their minds in it." Yet the questions all profoundly dealt with ideas, especially the difference between Communism and Marxist-Humanism.

THE REJECTION of imperialism and capitalism was complete. Because Gambia is the last of the West African countries to be on the threshold of freedom, it might also be the first to have the most total of all African revolutions, gaining from the experience of Ghana and Guinea, but going further ahead to truly new human relations—that idea was the one that brought the biggest applause.

In the end not only was the speaker thanked in the way of extending fraternal solidarity between black and white, United States and Africa, but special greetings were voted to be sent both to the NEWS & LETTERS Youth Group and to the Freedom Riders. The Young Workers Movement also voted to correspond with all the other groups that had been described.

The speaker then said she felt sure that she could thank them and return the greetings to the Africans not only from the Americans but from the British and Japanese as well, for all youth are trying hard to reshape a world they didn't make into one that all humans would wish to inhabit instead of destroy in a nuclear holocaust.

A new page of freedom is being written today in Gambia in the elections for self-government but no one will rest until it is full freedom.

LA Mayor Yorty and the police department.

The LA papers report that a "responsible" committee of white and Negro "leaders" have recommended, not an investigation of the police department whose members fired into a crowd of American citizens but an investigation of the Muslims!

A UPI dispatch reports that a grand jury indicted nine Muslims. "All those indicted were charged with assault with a deadly weapon by a means likely to produce great bodily injury against a peace officer."

Demonstrations have been held in Los Angeles protesting this incident. The Negro Community as a whole has turned out demanding that something be done about police brutality and calling for the removal of Police Chief William H. Parker. Both the NAACP and CORE have sponsored protest meetings.

140,000 March At Aldermaston

JFK's Decision to Resume Tests Meets With 'Bitter Anger'

Scotland—As we left Glasgow on the Friday night in two busloads we were in jubilant and hopeful spirits, the main cause of this being the victory won at the Scottish Trades Union Conference, where Frank Cousins, General Secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, got passed an almost unanimous resolution condemning tests and supporting unilateral disarmament.

After a grim 360-mile journey, we arrived at 12 noon on Saturday at Slough, where we were to spend the night. We turned back to join the march eight miles out of Slough on the road from the base at Aldermaston, which the march had left the previous day. The march was to follow its customary form—Aldermaston direct to London, a journey of 52 miles.

We set off on the march back into Slough, and had barely started when the rain came down. It poured for the rest of the day and undoubtedly discouraged the more tired marcher from walking the remaining miles of that day's stint.

Those who remained were either amused or horrified to see a small group of schoolchildren, led by a schoolteacher, chanting "Keep the Bomb, the Bomb is Sacred"! We were to sleep in schools in Slough that night, and we wearily laid out our sleeping bags in row upon row over the gymnasium floor of the school we were assigned to.

EASTER SUNDAY dawned fine and clear, and after a breakfast of the march's staple fare—hot dogs, bananas, cider or tea—we set off from High Street, Slough. Soon we were out of town and into some lovely countryside. There were about 18,000 marching and as we passed through one small town we were greeted by the mayor and town council, a very inspiring welcome.

The march at this stage was about four and a half miles long. As we marched we sang anti-bomb songs, folk songs and "nonsense songs," sometimes to the accompaniment of a guitar or banjo. As we passed through villages slogans were shouted—the favourite being "Labour to Power; Without the Bomb!"

IF YOU STEPPED aside from the column and looked back along the road, you could see the banners waving away in the distance — C.N.D. groups, Trade Unions, Young Socialists and Labour Parties, Young Communists, Quakers, Christian C.N.D., and banners for several countries — Pakistan, Greece, Denmark, U.S.A., one couldn't possibly remember them all. There were at least three groups of Trotskyists represented, and certainly every left group was there. The Y.C.L. were of course out in strength, but the Y.S. also had a good representation.

Newspapers of every faction enjoyed huge sales, from "Freedom" (Anarchist) to "Counterblast" (right-wing Labour). We overheard, to our joy, the seller of "Counterblast" saying to a friend that "this" (waving his hand over the multitudes) "was of course the lunatic fringe"! One leftist faction provided much amusement by its broadcast entitled "The Workers' Bomb" in which was ridiculed the argument that the Soviet Union ought to keep the bomb, in defence of the working class of that country! As we passed through a fairly large town, a van passed up and down the length of the march, which had signs written saying such things as "Go home, beatniks," "Traitors to your Country," and even

"Soap 6d., Water 2d." This was ignored or treated with good-humoured wisecracks. Fortunately no incidents arose out of this — everyone had the sense not to rise to such a provocation.

We marched on and on, in sweltering heat, and finally arrived in West Kensington in the cool of the evening. Soon every pub was filled with thirsty marchers, and we received a very friendly welcome.

On the Easter Monday we set out from Acton Green, a suburb of London. About 40,000 were marching by this time and when the Scottish contingent arrived at Hyde Park, where the demonstration was to be held, people were still leaving Acton, seven miles away. At about 2 o'clock people were still coming into the park, and there must have been over 100,000 there. Some estimates went as high as 140,000.

At this point news of the decision by Kennedy to resume tests soon began to circulate, meeting with a reaction of bitter anger.

The Glasgow contingent had to leave then, in order to complete the journey home in time for work next morning, and we were disappointed not to be

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able to go to hastily-arranged demonstration outside the U.S. Embassy in Grosvenor Square. (Sequel in Glasgow — thirty members of the Committee of 100 invaded the U.S. Consulate. Two were given 30 days in jail, without the option of a fine, for breach of the peace — a charge which normally receives only a few days' jail or fine.)

WE WERE TOLD on arrival in Glasgow that there had been hundreds of arrests at the Grosvenor Square demonstration in London. Canon Collins, we were also told, had gone to the U.S. Embassy with a petition, which was duly handed in, received formally, and of course paid no attention to.

All this only served to harden our conviction that appeals to the "hearts" of Kennedy, McMillan, and Co. was useless, and that until C.N.D. faced up to the political solution — world socialism — this protest would continue to be ineffective.

The march itself provided an inspiration to us all, by its ever-increasing size and breadth of representation—and we can only hope that we won't have to go on marching for too long, for our aims to be achieved.

—J. F. and M. O.

Crisis in China Continues

The recent National People's Congress of Communist China has revealed the continuing crisis in that country's agricultural production efforts.

According to the *New York Times*, emphasis in the near future will be almost entirely on agriculture rather than industry, and grain and cotton production will have first priority.

Grain and cotton, of course, are the staples of food and clothing in a technologically backward economy. Evidently then Mao's "Great Leap Forward" of the past months has not appreciably closed the gap between the needs of the Chinese people for nourishment and shelter and their productive capacity.

YET THE WORLD CRISIS, both political and economic, drives Mao to all kinds of insane threats. The rift between the Soviet Union and China, in which Mao is not content to play second fiddle in the struggle for the allegiance of the new nations, is an example.

Meanwhile, of course, unrest within China continues, not openly as during the Hundred Flowers Campaign, when intellectuals, students, and young party officials began to publish complaints against the totalitarian regime, but in a more concealed, underground form. This time it seems to be appearing in the army especially, where both soldiers and their families are forced to work long hours in the fields and factories with very little compensation.

Thus part of Mao's war-like posture can be explained as an attempt to divert the people's discontent against a foreign enemy. Meanwhile, waste and downright corruption in the economy and in Mao's party continues.

Splits and rifts among "allies" in this stage of world state-capitalism are not based on ideology at the base. At most, ideology serves as a cover for the real political and economic divisions. Thus Mao and Khrushchev strive to make their quarrel appear as one between the orthodox and the revisionist Marxists.

In truth, neither is a Marxist, both are state-capitalists who fear above all the revolution from within their own land.

Thus Mao is forced in desperation to resort to such schemes as the so-called communes which are actually semi-military forced labor centers. Again, because this form of organization of labor does not correspond to real human powers and wishes, the commune system did not achieve the great burst of productivity Mao needs.

Working conditions on the farms are so miserable that thousands of workers move to the city each year, and the state now must transport them back to the land. Living conditions in the cities are actually not much more attractive, for still there is strict rationing of food and clothing.

A sky-rocketing increase in the population presents still further problems of production and distribution of goods, and forces Mao into ever more stringent politically authoritarian controls.

In view of the abject failure of Communist China to achieve either economic efficiency, subsistence production of necessities, to say nothing of democratic participation of the citizens in government and pro-

A DOCTOR SPEAKS

By M. D.

Food and Health

(Continued from Last Issue)

Patients often ask me about Vitamins — chemical molecules which act as essential "trigger" mechanisms in chemical processes of the body. Digestion is only one of these processes. We have long known of the troubles from too little vitamin supply. Now comes awareness of harm from excess. This should not surprise us. Even such common, harmless items as aspirin or iron or even grapes when taken without thought about accumulation can lead to poisoning. Americans on an average U.S. diet get all the vitamins they need. Sickness and at times aging, or periods of excess stress call for supplementary vitamins for a time. But all things for human consumption have a proper dosage—even water.

I am commonly asked about weight reducing and I am all for it. Even Tuberculosis today is not treated by one stuffing himself with food. I know that excess weight puts an extra load on the heart.

AS A SURGEON I have often been annoyed and chagrined by the additional effort required by both surgeon and patient to survive a major operation on a belly in which all the organs are hidden in a slippery liquefying mass.

Reducing is a matter—when possible—of cutting down food intake. But it is rare to see permanent results from the use of appetite dulling drugs. It would be wiser to find and eliminate the emotional stress which cause many people to continuous food intake as a sort of relief substitute.

One could go on indefinitely writing about food for it is true in a very real sense that we are what we eat. But this statement has many associations and complexities. What about radioactive fall-out from nuclear testing which leads to human consumption of grains and milk products and even fish bearing radioactive poison? And what about preservation and processing used in our giant food industries—chemicals harmful to bacteria and which may also be harmful to us. Chemicals which add appealing color and taste to food may "de-color" our essential interior.

I think I should end by introducing the question of food and aging. Many people are interested in this and scattered research is going on into the study of arteriosclerosis — the artery hardening and obstruction

duction, as well as pathetic cultural and intellectual efforts—all part and parcel of a monolithic one-party state-capitalist society, it is difficult to see what it is there that so attracts the praise of certain American intellectuals, especially so-called socialist radicals.

YET THERE ARE MANY who look to Mao's China as the prototype for development of the underdeveloped countries. Some who have become disillusioned with the most blatant excesses of the Stalin regime, with its eradication of the Old Bolsheviks, and with the obvious counter-revolutionary activities of Russia in Hungary, have now turned to Mao Tse-Tung.

They excuse the extreme centralism, the total control of thought, the harsh work rules, the war-mongering of Mao on the basis that this is the only way to quick industrialization, and "eventually" the achievement of the good life.

—B. G.

which generally accompanies the process of growing older. This thickening, brittleness and irregularity of the arterial conducting channels involves all organs from the brain, to the heart and the organs of the digestive system. The hormone producing glands scattered over the body also slow down with age. This too may be associated with a diminished circulation and hence a lack of food—quantitatively and qualitatively.

There is a great deal of study going on now about the questionable relationship of excess cholesterol — a complex fatty material present throughout the body—and arteriosclerosis. In recent years some investigators have felt that excess intake of animal fats (including that from milk) has a direct bearing on the severity of arteriosclerosis.

Presently much of the picture is obscured and will need time and work to unravel. However there seems to be enough merit in this direction to make me advocate elimination of butter and most eggs from adult diets. I am also in favor of eliminating the hog as a pork producing factory.

'HIDDEN PROTEST'

New York, May 11 — Yesterday there was a peace protest in front of the United Nations sponsored by "Turn Toward Peace" (an amalgamation of most of the peace organizations) and led by Norman Thomas, David McReynolds and others.

I had arranged to meet some friends there, but they never showed up. The reason? They couldn't find the demonstration, and after hanging around for a while they went home.

This was because, instead of taking place in full view of the U.N., the meeting was held behind police barriers in a park several blocks away. Furthermore, although there were only a few hundred people there, the speakers were inaudible because megaphones or loud-speakers were either unavailable or "forbidden." As far as I could tell, this "protest" made no impression on anyone but the actual participants, and its effect on them probably tended to discourage them. The "New York Times" gave it only a few lines on an inside page.

"FRONT PAGE NEWS" This apparent "feebleness" of the peace movement is in direct contrast with the truly massive and spontaneous Times Square demonstration on March 3 when Kennedy announced the resumption of testing. The great Times Square protest was really front-page news and marked a new stage in America against the threat of nuclear destruction.

Yesterday's demonstration was neither spontaneous nor disorderly; nor did it have any effect other than exhausting the movement. However the small size of the protest was less discouraging than its tone.

Lastly, I think that 3:30 on a weekday afternoon is a poor time for any demonstration in a city as dispersed as New York. Asking people to leave their jobs in order to show their solidarity is a possibility only when a movement has a mass base among the workers, and as yet little has been done to create such a base.

—Student marcher

Reuther Ties UAW Convention To Kennedy's 'New Frontier'

(Continued from Page 1)

penses of a shorter workweek. In periods of full employment workers would work 40 hours for the same pay!

In effect this proposed law would hand the fate of workers over to the Administration. Reuther asks workers not to make demands of the bosses but to write their congressmen and place their faith in the "New Frontier."

PRESIDENTIAL WARNINGS

Both President Kennedy and Secretary of Labor Goldberg were invited to address the Convention. They warned workers against making "inflationary wage demands" and asked for increased productivity. Goldberg said he expected the UAW's upcoming negotiations with air and space companies to be carried on "sensibly and responsibly" and "without strikes."

The "legislative program" of the bureaucracy is but another example of their sustained effort to lead the UAW out of the class struggle, a mission that is doomed to failure. As one Canadian delegate put it, "So long as you have the profit system you are going to have speed-up. So long as the employer owns a worker's labor, he's going to squeeze all he can get out of him."

No matter how long Reuther speechifies about Automation as "Man's growing ability to transfer the burdens of toil to machines," no matter how many conventions he gavels to death, he doesn't change conditions in the shop where workers meet the every day reality of Automation and will not be brainwashed.

VOICES OF REVOLT

A delegate from Budd Corporation in Detroit told the Convention that due to Automation and speed-up the work force has been cut from 8,000 a few years ago to 2,500-3,000 today.

A delegate from Iowa said, "You call it Automation, I call it speed-up and there are thousands and thousands gone out of the plants because of it."

Workers in the shop are ceaselessly trying to wrest from the bureaucracy freedom to act on their own.

One delegate who spoke during the session on speed-up said that in his shop there have been 78 grievances filed against speed-up since the contract was signed, but that his shop was one of several that belonged to one local, and the other shops weren't affected. He felt that individual shops within a local should have the right to strike.

Another delegate supported this idea, pointing out that many times different lines are speeded-up without workers in other parts of the shop knowing about it. He said he wanted something in the contract that would enable workers to stop individual operations when they are confronted with a speed-up.

It is this kind of grievance that the bureaucracy consistently ignores and it is in this area that workers have initiated wild-cat strikes to meet the companies challenge. Where the bureaucracy seeks to capitulate to the company, the workers seek to continue the struggle on their own.

It was this spirit that kept workers out on strike last September and October when they questioned the work standards the auto manufacturers forced upon them. Though both the bosses and union bureaucracy tried to drive them back to

work, they held out for gains they never would have gotten had they docily followed Reuther, Mazey, and cohorts. Yet when Reuther recalled the time of the strikes against GM and Ford to the Convention, he remembered it as the time "we struck GM and Ford for two weeks during contract negotiations over production standards."

"NEGRO AUTO WORKERS DEMAND MUCH MORE"

The Convention was witness to yet another slight of hand. This one staged for Negro UAW members in particular. A Negro, Nelson Jack Edwards was nominated for the National Executive Board by the Reutherites and elected. This was the first time a Negro was ever elected to the position. But even this was a fake; it turns out that Edwards' position director-at-large is "special" and without the same responsibility or authority as regular members of the Board.

Negro auto workers demand much more. For decades they have been looking to break down discrimination in the shop to secure upgrading rights equal to that of their white brother, they have pushed on their own to break down lily-white departments with only occasional token assistance from the bureaucracy.

Now when Negroes are looking at the Negro American Labor Council as an organization that could possibly head up their fight in the trade unions, Reuther takes one of the NALC prominent members under his wing to placate Negroes and to "prove" he is for Negro labor.

Again, Negro workers won't be so easily fooled, by this action, nor grandiloquent resolutions that are against segregation in general but avoid mention of the problem within the union and in the shops.

AN AMERICAN DIET AND AUTOMATION'S TOLL

This UAW Convention took place against a background of over six per cent of the nation's work force unemployed, and with six million Americans trying to live on a diet of lard, flour, dried milk and rice that makes up the government surplus food products offered to the needy.

Another 146,000 Americans in eight selected areas have been reduced to buying government food stamps, and 30-40,000 workers are being displaced every week by Automation.

Still the Kennedy Administration like the administration that preceded it has done nothing to significantly reduce the growing permanent army of unemployed. Yet it is to Kennedy's New Frontier that Reuther is trying to hitch the UAW. He eagerly turns over COPE money for its support and is now willing to spend the interest on the UAW \$40,000,000 strike fund to press the Administration's foreign policy abroad. His fear of the workers has driven him to give support to state planning over which the workers would have no control.

WORKERS WILL MAKE THEIR OWN HISTORY

In the resolution on the Flexible Adjustment of the Workweek the UAW bureaucracy gives its estimate of workers' history. "Until 25 years ago 45 and 48 hour weeks were frequent. Since the passage of the Fair Standards Act the 40 hour week has become the statutory standard." Thus 100 years of workers' struggle to limit the working day is swept aside.

Life itself and the relentless

Our Life and Times

By PETER MALLORY

LAOS

The unhappy country of Laos, whose peasant population desires most to be left alone in peace, is again the subject of the war-like moves of the foreign imperialists, Russia and the United States.

The "Royal Princes", carried over from the rule of French imperialism who once ruled Laos as a part of Indo-China, have divided themselves so as to be on all sides at the same time. 1) The Communist Prince Souphannavong, leads the Pathet Lao, which controls most of the country today. 2) The neutralist Prince, Souvanna Phouma, who spends much time in the night clubs of Paris, is supported by both Moscow and the U.S. as a compromise head of government. Prince Boun Oum, the right wing dictator to whom all American aid flows, who has done nothing except line his pockets with American dollars. All of them have nothing in common with the Laotian people, who are sick of war, see nothing to fight for and who hate all three Princes.

Recognizing that it is a country impossible to fight in, with any chance of success, the United States State Department has agreed to accept the neutral prince if a cease fire can be maintained.

The right wing regime would rather see all of the people killed rather than relinquish their power to collect taxes. But even their own American trained Army refuses to put up a fight. In an attempt to force a solution, the U. S. State Department cut off aid in February and threatened to cut off military aid in May. But despite the millions in aid, the threats, etc., there has been no compromise on the part of the right wing.

Even American bourgeois newspapermen admit that the peasant hates the government which does nothing for him.

In the recent conflict it has been reported that in Houei Sai the civilian government fled along with the military forces a week before any "enemy" troops had been sighted. The Generals and the prince are in Formosa, making a deal with Chiang Kai-shek to hide their loot, the fortunes they made out of American Foreign Aid.

Meanwhile the path is open for the Pathet Lao to seize Luang Prabang, the capital, since all important military forces have fled over the border of Thailand.

AMERICAN FOREIGN AID

The legend that American Foreign Aid is used to help people in the distressed areas of the world to achieve better standards of living and to help them to establish democracy has been proven, by the facts, to be a boldfaced lie. If it were true, how could one explain the aid to Fascist Spain, to Salazar's dictatorship in Portugal, the Latin American dictatorships, the rotten cor-

activity of the workingclass will bring back these words and Reuther's current infatuation with De Gaulle's State Plan to haunt him and his kind on both sides of the Iron Curtain.

rupt regimes in Formosa, Laos, South Viet Nam, South Korea, Pakistan, Congo, etc. while foreign aid is being reduced by 25% to India?

In Spain 75,000 coal miners have been on strike against the miserable conditions of Franco's fascist dictatorship for over a month. There has been no American effort in the last 25 years to end this fascist dictatorship!

Portugal's Salazar has thrown thousands of workers and students into jail as the aftermath of the widespread May Day demonstrations against his regime. The African colonies of Angola and Mozambique under Portuguese domination, are fighting for their freedom while thousands of Africans die. The U.S. offers no aid to these Africans but extends it to their butcher, Salazar.

The military dictatorship in Pakistan gets American Foreign aid while the democratic regime in India gets a 25% cut. This cut is but a threat of further cuts to come if India does not knuckle down to U.S. State Department policy in world affairs.

While starvation exists in Red China, huge surpluses of American food cram the warehouses, costing the taxpayer billions every year just to rent the storage space. Where lies humanitarianism? Is food a club to be used on starving people to swing the tide of politics?

In Latin America the dictatorships in Haiti, (national income less than \$100 per year), Argentina, Ecuador, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama Nicaragua, Paraguay, El Salvador, Chile and Venezuela all exist and flourish only because they are subsidized by American Foreign Aid. As a matter of fact, the chief recommendation to get foreign aid seems to be that no form of democracy will be permitted to flourish in the country. That and a vote now and then in a Latin American conference or in the U.N. in favor of American Foreign policy. It is a cheap price to pay for the suppression of the workers throughout the world.

In Hungary in 1956, when the workers took up arms against Communist totalitarianism and in East Berlin, where the workers stoned the Russian tanks and fought with their bare hands, where then was American Aid. We don't want to provoke an incident the workers were told, Don't revolt now, the time is not ripe they were told. The same words used by the Communists on other occasions when they too were holding back the workers ready to wipe out a corrupt regime.

In the Congo, when Patrice Lumumba, the elected Premier of the Congo, asked for U.N. aid he was murdered by those in the present Congo regime with the assistance of Tshombe. His successor Antoine Gizenga is now under arrest and will probably suffer the same fate. Tshombe, the murderer, is at large and under U.N. protection.

If there is one safe conclusion to be made from the above it is that all of the dictatorships on the "Western Side" of the iron curtain could not exist for a single year without American financial assistance. To even pretend that foreign aid is in the interests of Democracy is but a farce and a sham.

RED CHINA

Thousands of refugees are fleeing Red China every week into Hong Kong which is already overcrowded. The British have recently adopted a policy of giving them a meal and then shipping them back across the border into Red China.

BIG BUSINESS

While 6 million workers are still unemployed and appealing for government aid, there has been an answer from the Kennedy Administration. He has announced through Treasury Secretary Dillon that American capitalism can expect a big relief check this year, 125 billion dollars to be exact. This is the sum that the Kennedy Administration has announced that they will permit big business to "write-off" as tax deductions during the coming year for depreciation on their equipment. (The worker gets no depreciation allowance. The oil companies get 27% of their income.)

It appears that a President has great executive authority when he wants to use it. A 125 billion dollar gift to big business is a routine matter, the right of a Negro to vote in the United States is a matter for great debate. A debate in which both the Democrats and Republicans are in basic agreement—the Negro shall have no vote in the Southern 17 of these so-called United States. With this kind of "democracy" being the "law of the land", is it any wonder that in the world battle for the minds of men that this "democracy" is taking second place?

This week the U.S. Senate killed a bill that would permit American citizens to vote if they could prove a 6th grade education in lieu of a so-called "literacy test" which college educated Negroes have been accused of flunking.

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