

# PROLETARIAN NEWS

WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!  
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT  
YOUR CHAINS! YOU HAVE A WORLD  
TO GAIN! — Karl Marx

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## HARD FACTS OF ECONOMIC REALITY

The most difficult thing in the world is to recognize reality and face up to it. True, it isn't easy for the aged to accept the fact of death, leaving all the loved ones behind them. This unwillingness to depart forms the basis for delusion of life in another world. On the other hand, such delusive reasoning begets the tendency of influencing the thinking in relation to living problems generally. This is where the greatest damage is done. Too many escapes are invented which obscure actual things and their relations.

Over the span of human evolution, hundreds of thousands of years, man, mystified by nature's forces, as well as by his own nature, origin and destiny, resorted to guesswork and exaggeration. Child of nature that he was, his imagination and fears carried him off into all sorts of childish notions and speculations. He endowed nature with consciousness and purpose similar to his own. He worshipped the unknown, divided into good and evil spirits. The basis for it, as we understand it today, was his lack of definite knowledge of nature's workings, its cause and effect interrelationships.

His inability to explain his own being, origin and purpose, life and death phenomena, led to the eventual concept of a supreme spirit or creator, all powerful, all knowing. This was merely a mental filler-in or substitute for his own relative weakness and limited mentality. It all stemmed from the relation between the known and the unknown. There was so much that he didn't know, that he mystified and deified the unknown.

Ample remnants of this mystification and deification process still obtain today. Although science has battered down many superstitions of the past, plenty and new ones are still in vogue. Dominantly this is due to social reasons.

The philosophy of materialism, which is objective and realistic, is in the "dog-house" as far as official capitalist society is concerned. It is frowned upon as irreligious and communistic.

Capitalist thinking is essentially subjective, idealistic. Faith plays a substantial role. That appears necessary for the bolstering of its own morale, as well as to keep in line the great mass of the under-

privileged. It serves the function of a social escape for the millions of wage-workers whose life has no other point except the generation of increased wealth for the few.

The small businessman who is forced to liquidate, or become bankrupt, and the working man who loses his job, both find an escape in self-blame, hope, or some other mental notion. They refuse to see the hard facts of economic reality, the odds of competing against big business with its almost inexhaustible finances; the effect that machines and automation have in job displacement.

Business as a whole blames things upon communism, which it

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## INDONESIA'S TROUBLES

Every nation on this earth has its troubles, but the young Republic of Indonesia has more than its share of them. The recent civil strife precipitated by the reactionary property elements, mainly in the island of Sumatra, against the central government headed by its President Sukarno in Java's capital city of Jakarta, is but the culmination of the many troubles that beset Indonesia ever since it won "independence" from the Dutch imperialists some nine years ago (i.e. in 1949).

However, it was not complete independence. The Indonesians held the political form (control of government) but the imperial Dutch capitalists held on to the

substance, that is, retained their grip on the country's economy. Such a contradictory condition could not long prevail. Therefore, the Indonesians completed their struggle against the Dutch imperialists last year (1957) in December by taking over Dutch-owned properties estimated to be worth \$1 billion or more.

These take-overs of the Dutch properties, which the Indonesian government termed "nationalism," followed a United Nations Assembly rejection of an Indonesian resolution asking the Dutch to resume talks with Jakarta regarding West New Guinea. This angered the Indonesian government who thereupon immediately seized many Dutch rubber, fiber, tobacco, tea, sugar and other estates and factories. Some of these industries together with banks, ships, and trading firms ceased operating, and those carrying on under Indonesian management did so on a reduced scale. The effect of all this has aggravated Indonesia's economic difficulties.

On top of all these difficulties came the drop in the world market prices of such Indonesian "export" products as rubber, oil, tin, copra, etc. Many of these products were purchased heretofore by American buyers, but there is much less demand for them now in view of the present business recession in the U.S.

The standard of living of the Indonesian working people has always been very low, as is the case with most Asiatic workers, even when they are steadily employed. But now with the economy operating only on a curtailed, or part-time basis, the living standard has sunk that much lower, especially for the unemployed.

It is this condition of insecurity and poverty of the vast majority, of the exploited and the oppressed masses, that gives rise to such political "swings to the left" as the Communist movement. That is what has happened in Indonesia. This mass Communist movement comprised of millions of workers and their representatives could not be ignored, and it was too strong and numerous to be suppressed by the native ruling and property-owning class of Indonesia, who in

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## POLITICS AND BUSINESS

The recent FCC investigation brings into focus once again the link existing between government and business. This was the case of Richard A. Mack, a member of the Federal Communications Commission who was charged with bribery and investigated by the House subcommittee, and finally was forced to resign his position as FCC commissioner on March 3rd. This made the pages of most of the newspapers, to wit:

"Mack ended his 2½-year career as a federal official less than three weeks after Bernard Schwartz, the subcommittee counsel ousted by the House unit in a bitter fight over conduct and scope of the investigation, charged the FCC commissioner received payments of \$2,650 from Whiteside to 'pledge' his vote to National Airlines in a fight for television Channel 10 at Miami.

"Mack was named (appointed) to the FCC by President Eisenhower July 7, 1955." (Chicago Sun-Times March 4, 1958)

The public seemed to take such news without getting too excited over it, least of all alarmed. Not that influence and bribery are anything new. They are so common that they are practically taken for granted by many as normal procedure. Indeed they are as old as capitalism itself. For that matter, corruption of the State pervaded previous propertied systems as well.

It is characteristic of property

that it corrupts and debases all those who come into contact with it, subjecting them to the influences of material gain, however ill-gotten.

Nevertheless, despite the repetitive and limited character of investigations they do have their use. Some lessons can be drawn. For one thing they help to drum into the heads of some people that neither business or government are conducted on as high a moral plane as it is theoretically conceived.

Secondly, only at such moments of exposure does the public become alerted to the reality of the close integration between business and government; particularly how big business is aided by contacts in government.

Thirdly, one can also observe the class nature of investigation; to contrast this one, for instance, with some recent labor investigations. In the latter, the investigating committee members have gone out for "blood," leaving no stone unturned. The extreme detail and proficiency is explained by their zeal to bring discredit and shame upon the labor movement.

On the other hand, the committee investigating business deals and favors is moving cautiously. The FCC investigation was faced with the dilemma of having gone too far. The very counsel (Bernard Schwartz) it hired to lead the investigation had been fired because

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## HARD FACTS OF ECONOMIC REALITY

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presents not as an economic struggle between two different and opposing social systems, but as being fundamentally an ideological and political conflict. It should be obvious that they are putting the cart before the horse.

However, it is beginning to dawn upon some capitalists that communism cannot be blamed for everything. There is, for example, the present economic crisis, which is the direct product of capitalism itself.

In their current concern about the state of the economy, it took the capitalists a long time to recognize and admit a decline in business. For some months there was talk of levelling off. Some even contended that it was good for the economy, which was geared "too high, with inflation, high wages," etc. Then followed the admission that there was a recession, but that it was temporary.

Concurrently the economic facts persisted, with increasing shut-downs and unemployment. Now the situation is becoming really worrisome. Emergency measures are concretely under consideration. Some of the critics are charging the Eisenhower administration with being too slow moving, with an underestimation of the seriousness of the situation.

Meanwhile, true to their subjective reasoning, the President and others in high office, keep exhorting the public with the need for more faith and confidence in "our" economy, that fundamentally everything is in a healthy state.

But can such exhortation be taken seriously as a corrector of an objective condition? The answer is: hardly. That argument about a "state of mind" was employed by President Hoover in the 1930's, and unsuccessfully so, as was later discovered by the capitalists themselves. If past experience is any

precedent, it is almost certain that, given a continuous business decline, there will be less confidence, if any.

The facts of reality are that there is a condition of overproduction throughout the whole of industry, particularly in automobiles, appliances, textiles, steel, etc. These, and other basic producers, are now operating way under their production capacities. Inventories have accumulated and are not moving for lack of buyers. The home market is glutted with commodities, and the world market, as far as capitalism is concerned, has shrunk.

Meanwhile, automation, which for the past few years has been introduced on a large scale into big industry, is now taking its toll. The production capacity of capitalism has been increased far beyond its capacity to sell at a profit all the commodities produced.

The period of prosperity has petered out. Whether we are already in a state of a big depression, and how deep it will get, remains to be seen.

The point is that certain economic facts and relations have to be faced. They can't be thought down thru a false sense of optimism. They have to be thought out in connection with the system that gives rise to them. If capitalism can't provide a satisfactory solution, there is only one alternative as far as the masses are concerned, that is, socialism.

By taking the power out of the hands of capital, and placing it into the hands of the vast majority, the working people, what now constitutes and creates a major social problem (the economic crisis) will cease to exist.

Production for profit is the chief obstacle to the circulation of things produced. When that is changed into production for social use, all else is altered.

R. Daniels

## THUMBNAILS

**YOU NAME IT; WE'LL SELL IT:** Senator William Knowland has engaged a Los Angeles advertising agency (Hixson & Jorgensen) to help guide him in his bid for Governor of California. We aren't sure if the Senator is now in advertising or if the agency is in politics—it's usually both. At any rate there seems to be no reason why we should distinguish between soap, soup, sardines or Senators. Just another brand name on the market.

**WORTH NOTING:** A few words of advice we felt would act as a shot in the arm were found in a recently published book called, "The Open Marxism of Antonio Gramsci," translated and annotated by Carl Marzani and published by Cameron Associates of New York. Gramsci was a very keen observer of life and has many interesting and important comments, mainly directed to people in the

left movement. However, we were taken with this note added to the text by editor Marzani, which says:

"After a decade of reaction many progressives are disheartened. The power of propaganda of the ruling class seems so enormous (newspapers, comic books, radio, TV, movies, large sectors and elements of schools and colleges) that its sheer weight is sometimes paralyzing. But its power is deceptive. Years and years of falsification are swept aside at one stroke when a single experience teaches a person the truth, particularly (though not necessarily) if someone is at hand to focus the meaning of that experience for the person concerned.

"The truth has to break through but once; the lies of the ruling

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## INDONESIA'S TROUBLES

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the main favor a "strong" capitalist government.

There is an old saying: "if you can't fight them, then join them." It is not exactly what Sukarno, the President of Indonesia, had done when he advocated cooperation with the Communists. However, he did include a few of the Communists together with non-Communist members in a "National Advisory Council" whose function was to help propose the main lines of Government policy, this in line with his "guided democracy" conception. He maintained that the Communists were a major political force, must be recognized as such and included as part of the regime, for the sake of "national unity."

### Revolution and Counter-Revolution

It was the conservative, property-owning section of the Indonesian population, a minority who finds political expression in the Masjumi (Moslem Association) particularly those living in the island of Sumatra, who "rebelled" against President Sukarno's policy of "guided democracy" and collaboration with the Communists. What they want is a government without Communist participation, and so did Vice-President Hatta who had previously resigned in protest over "Sukarno's politics." Hence this "rebellious movement" is counter-revolutionary and anti-Communist. Its active leader is the "rebel Premier," Sjafruddin Prawiranegara who, according to press reports, established a "new regime" in Sumatra and demanded that Sukarno get rid of the Communists.

Other outlying islands such as North Celebes are also in opposition to the Sukarno government at Jakarta. However, the counter-revolutionists, at this writing, are confined in the islands which do not have the bulk of the population, but only a minority. Even though Sumatra is the largest island, it has only a population of approximately 13 million, while Celebes has 6 million people.

The most populated island is Java, with 52 million people, and that is where the central government (of Sukarno's) is located, in the city of Jakarta. It is in Java also that the Communist movement is the strongest.

The total population of Indonesia numbers 85 million, and the nation comprises more than 3,000 islands strewn over the ocean between the Asian mainland and Australia.

Prior to World War Two this vast region had been ruled for well over three centuries by the Dutch imperialists. During the war the Japanese occupied the islands. After Japan's defeat the Dutch tried to come back. But the Indonesian natives fought against them during the post-war years, and

finally achieved their independence, and established their present government which is pledged to merge Indonesia's dozen ethnic groups and 114 different languages into a new "unity in diversity."

At one glance we can see the tremendous problem of ruling such a vast region that is confronting the Sukarno government in Jakarta. It is not the question of communication and transportation that is the main obstacle for that in part has already been solved by the radio and airplane. It is the population itself, its diverse elements. Living in a tropical zone, in some areas, jungle-like and unexplored, some natives are very primitive. However, that is only true of a minority because the vast majority are already in that stage of civilization bordering on capitalism. These energetic people are striving to transform "underdeveloped" Indonesia into a modern nation.

In fact, millions of Indonesian working people inspired by the example of the Chinese masses getting rid of their exploiters, thereby putting their vast country under workers' rule, feel they likewise could do the same, i.e. go beyond capitalism, to a higher form of society, to the first stage of socialism or communism. Even President Sukarno was much impressed by Peoples China on his visit there in 1956, after which, it is reported, he enunciated his concept of a "guided democracy" for Indonesia.

But, as we have seen, the conservative capitalist elements within Indonesia are opposed to such a progressive development, for it would mean the beginning of the end of all exploitation, native no less than foreign. Hence the "rebellion," the counter-revolution against Sukarno's "guided democracy."

### Will There Be Intervention?

What is America's attitude toward Indonesia it might be asked? At the present time the U.S. government is careful not to commit itself on this issue, at least, officially. However, the capitalist viewpoint has already been expressed in the nation's press in favor of the anti-communist, counter-revolutionists, the so-called rebels who oppose Sukarno's government.

At a SEATO meeting presided over by the U.S. Secretary of State Dulles in Manila, P.I., concern was expressed over the Indonesian civil war spreading and "threatening the external safety of neighboring Southeast Asian countries." Reporting on this, the Chicago Daily News of March 13th stated as follows:

"The American Secretary of State said the Indonesian rebels would be accorded belligerent status by the United States when the

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## UNEMPLOYMENT—ITS CAUSE AND CURE

Unemployment has become a big problem. It increased at such a rapid rate that alarm over it spread to the front pages of the nation's press. For example, the Chicago Sun-Times on March 8th featured it as follows:

### "Unemployed At 16-Year Peak; Pentagon To Spur Spending

"The Pentagon moved to spur spending on controversial projects as unemployment nationally rose to 5,173,000 in February—the highest figure in 16 years."

"There were 2,052,000 more persons out of work last month than a year ago. The jobless total was the highest for any month since August, 1941, when it amounted to 5,600,000."

The above report indicated also that unemployment rose at a rate of well-over 600,000 in February, and that over 7 per cent of the nation's civilian labor force was out of work. In fact, workers were being laid off from their jobs at such a rapid pace, that it was estimated 6 million or more would be jobless before the month of March had passed.

The Pentagon is a nickname for the Defense Department (sometimes referred to as the "war department"). The Eisenhower administration has been counting on "defense spending," mainly on an increase in missiles production, as a prime stimulant to the economy. According to reports appearing in the press the total of approximately \$47 billion has been scheduled for "defense spending" for this year, as compared to \$35.6 billion for 1957.

But the critics say this will not be enough, that the "increase" will only cancel out the decline in defense spending during the administration's economy drive of last year. Furthermore, the "push-button" type of modern weapons (missiles and nuclear "devices") do not require as large a force to produce and operate them as the so-called "conventional" weapons. But of the latter, there is a huge surplus, and the Defense Department is already faced with the problem of how to get rid of it. There is talk of junking the surplus, the "obsolete" tanks, guns, planes, battleships; that is, converting them into scrap-iron.

Concern is expressed also over the effect on the economy of the peace talks and the disarmament proposals of the Soviet Union to the U.S. for a "summit meeting." But the question arises: can the United States "afford peace?" Will not disarmament cause a reduction of the armed force, with the consequent lay-offs (discharges) of military men, thus adding to the ranks of the jobless? The answers to these questions are obvious.

We must remember that it was not in war times but in peace times that the nation had the biggest depression in its history, that of the 1930's. On the basis of this, we can only conclude that the capitalist economy of this nation cannot "afford peace" without sooner or later being plunged into a slump.

This does not mean that the capitalists prefer to have war. Just as the working people they would rather have peace with prosperity. But the question is: how to get it and still preserve capitalism? In short, they are in a dilemma.

### The Economic Crisis

President Eisenhower has pleaded with

everyone to have "confidence" in the system of "free enterprise" (capitalism), that in time things will "adjust" themselves. That some people have already lost confidence (at least in prosperity ever returning) is evident, particularly the numerous small business men who have become bankrupt, and the 5 to 6 million workers who lost their jobs. A penniless condition is bound to create in a person a tremendous loss of confidence.

Eisenhower indulged in wishful thinking when he said there would be an upturn in business by March. When that did not happen, he changed his mind and date by declaring: "We hope by mid-year." In many respects he sounded like Herbert Hoover in the early 1930's with his "prosperity just around the corner" predictions. (This was before Roosevelt succeeded him with his own special brand of soothing syrup, the "fireside chats.")

The Democratic critics, especially former President Truman, accuse the administration (Republicans) of leading the nation into a depression. However, the Democrats have nothing to boast about either, for in spite of all of Roosevelt's New Deal measures the depression of the 1930's continued all the way up to the year 1940. It was the Second World War that brought back prosperity, and not Roosevelt, for all his "pump-priming."

We say that regardless of whether there is a Republican or Democratic administration, the economic crisis of overproduction was bound to occur because it is an inherent part of the capitalist system itself.

Capitalism is based on private ownership of industry, and private appropriation of everything produced. It is also based on competition between capitalists for control of the market wherein to sell their commodities at a profit, and the exploitation of wage-labor in the factories wherein those commodities are produced.

It was inevitable, that in the course of time, supply would exceed demand and the market would be glutted with commodities. That is the very nature of capitalism, to outproduce and outsell your competitive rival, without regard of how much the market can absorb.

The workers, even though they are the vast majority, cannot buy all that is produced because their wages are only a small fraction, one-fifth or one-sixth of the total product.

Neither can the capitalists, or even the government for all its "huge defense spending," consume or use up the entire surplus products.

The gross national product for the year 1957 amounted to \$434.4 billion; so productive is the labor-power of the American workers!

A large portion of those products were unsold and carried over into the new year (1958). The market had reached the saturation point, limited by the "buying potential" of the public. A large unsold surplus remains, an "inventory" of \$89 billions worth of goods which is not "moving off the shelves."

### Too Much and Too Little

With unsold goods "on the shelves" it wasn't long before the factories started to curtail production. The result: workers were laid off their jobs. Those still on the job found their work-week shortened. This they would not mind—but they found their pay shortened also.

As for the completely unemployed workers, they applied for unemployment compensation. By now many of them have exhausted their "compensation" (and themselves trying to live on it) but only to fall into a worse plight, that of begging for "county relief," the pauper's pittance. There is talk in Washington now of alleviating their condition by extending them some "federal aid."

The "good old U.S.A." presents a two-sided picture. On one side is a picture of plenty or too much: surplus of goods, and surplus of labor, the jobless.

On the other side is a picture of too little or not enough. There are not enough customers for the goods offered for sale, and not enough jobs for the jobless, and far too little in unemployment compensation or "relief" for them. For millions of workers that great American high standard of living has simply vanished. It is only a dream now, beyond realization.

The bitter awakening is occurring. Many would not have to be told what caused their unemployment, they would say without hesitation: "Business went lousy, so the bosses had no further use for us and threw us out on the street."

And business IS "lousy," of that there is no doubt. The automobile industry curtailed production to 60 per cent of its capacity, and the most basic industry of them all, steel, went down to almost half, that is, to 53 per cent of its capacity. The big corporations admitted that they have "over-expanded," that they have produced too much of the means of production, and on a high technological level, automation.

If Marx and Engels were living today, they would point out that the way American capitalism is now staggering it provides a classical example of the "anarchy of capitalist production."

### The Cure for Unemployment

To cope with the unemployment problem, the Eisenhower administration recommends spending for "public works," building of highways, etc., this in addition to "defense spending." This is so reminiscent of the "W.P.A." days of the 1930's. But, everyone knows that such "pump-priming" did not solve the problem—at best it was a palliative.

It so happens that capitalism is suffering from an incurable "social disease," its inherent contradiction: social production and individual appropriation. In a pamphlet entitled "Why Unemployment?" published in 1935, John Keracher, the author, explains this ably and clearly as follows:

"The industries are operated socially. That is the outstanding characteristic of modern industry, social production. No one worker now produces a commodity. The products are produced socially, by the cooperation of thousands of workers. There exists, however, a condition in capitalist society at large which is quite the opposite, social confusion. While the commodities are produced on a social or collective plan, they are appropriated on an anti-social, individualistic plan. The wealth of the modern world is produced socially, but (under capitalism) possessed individually. This is the great contradiction of capitalist society: social production and individual appropriation."

He also points out the solution to the problem. Unemployment can only be abolished by abolishing the system that produces it—capitalism. The capitalists will hold on to their wealth and power and do their utmost to prevent any fundamental social change. If the industries are to be socialized, then it is the workers, the modern proletarians, who must bring about the change. Unemployment will disappear under workers' rule because the working time will be reduced to a few hours a day and every able-bodied person will be usefully employed. There will be plenty of leisure but no starvation.

The first step in that direction is to break completely with the parties of capital, Republican, and Democratic. To succeed in the struggle for political supremacy and gain possession of the means of production, thereby ushering in the new society based on scientific socialism, the workers must build and support a political party of their own. Such an organization is the Proletarian Party of America which we urge every worker to join and support.

Al Wysocki

## HEADACHES OF CAPITALISM

The Tunisian, Algerian, French problem still remains unsolved. The French occupation army of around a half million soldiers has not succeeded in crushing the Algerian rebellion. To make matters worse, the French are in hot water over their bombing and killing of Tunisian villagers. The U.S. is right in the middle of this Tunisian-French dispute and undecided whom to favor, the French and their colonialism, or the Tunisians and their anti-colonialism. For Uncle Sam (or should we say: Wall Street) it's a case of: "I'll be damned if I will, and damned if I don't." What a headache!

The Jobless Army is still growing in the "good old U.S.A." It is created not by recruiting but by discharging workers from their jobs. Millions of workers will never get back their jobs. Improve-

ment in machinery (now called automation) thru the years has played its part in displacing millions of manual by a few machine workers. Long ago, Engels call these unemployed the "industrial reserve army, available at the times when the industry is working at high pressure, to be cast out upon the street when the inevitable crash comes, a constant dead weight upon the limbs of the working class in its struggle for existence with capital, a regulator for the keeping of the wages down to the level that suits the interests of capital." So, if you are a worker still on the job remember this. It is a bigger headache for labor than capital, and the problem of unemployment can only be solved by getting rid of its cause: capitalism. As Engels points out, that's "the historical mission of the modern

proletariat," which, of course, means you, the wage-worker.

The Kohler Company's "Police State" got quite an airing in the Senate Committee's investigation of violence in the 4 years-old Kohler Company strike. It was brought out by a committee investigator that the company bought thousands of rounds of ammunition, eighteen shotguns and twenty pistols after the union (UAW) won bargaining rights in 1952. This was not denied but actually admitted by L. C. Conger, Kohler attorney, who said: "a great deal (of the ammunition) went to the trapshooting club and a great deal went for the training of guards." As has been revealed by the UAW, the Kohler Company guards were not averse to using striking workers as human "clay pigeons" (targets) for their "practice shots." Paid informers, i.e. spies, were also used by the Company. These crude tactics reveal that capitalism does

not hesitate to act dictatorially and resort to violence (fascist methods) whenever it sees fit. It's a headache for labor, but also one for those apologists of capitalism who would like to make the system more palatable to the masses.

"WE WON'T PANIC OVER SLUMP: IKE," such were the headlines in the Chicago Daily News, March 18th. The President promised administration measures, including tax reductions if necessary, "that will assist healthy economic recovery," and said he won't be "panicked by alarmists." One of the Republican Senators said: "It's heartening to see how calm the President is in all these matters." It's possible he does not get a headache worrying over the business recession, but on the street could be heard the unrecorded but complaining voice of the unemployed: "Why shouldn't he be calm and not worry, he still has his job."

A.W.

## INDONESIA'S TROUBLES

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civil war there met such international legal criteria."

That of course would mean the first step toward direct intervention on the part of the U.S. with all its international consequences. In fact the American government is on the spot (in a dilemma) for it knows that any support of the counter-revolutionary "rebels" on Sumatra and Celebes would be to invite counter-help by the Soviet Union and the Chinese Communists to Sukarno's government. In that event, as the Chicago Daily News points out: "This could broaden the Indonesian conflict into another Korean-type conflict." And that in turn, we might add, could spread into world-wide conflict with all its dreadful and destructive consequences.

What the U.S. will actually do to get out of this dilemma remains to be seen. It cannot stand by entirely unmoved in view of the

investments of American capital in Indonesia such as the American-owned Caltex Pacific Oil Company worth \$125 million located in central Sumatra where the fighting is taking place.

So far, the Indonesian government (Sukarno's) had spared expropriating the American owned properties when the Dutch properties were taken over. If anything, this should give pause to any moves toward intervention on the part of the U.S.

Given time, and no interference from outside sources, the toiling, struggling, and inspired masses of Indonesia will pull their nation out of its present trouble. One sure thing, they have the satisfaction of knowing that they are not alone, but have such good friends as the Soviet Union and Peoples China, ready to lend them a hand if necessity occasions it.

Al Wysocki

## POLITICS AND BUSINESS

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he took his job too literally and honestly. The learned law professor, Dr. Schwartz, miscalculated in his assumption that all on the committee were in search of the facts. Meeting with strong opposition he challenged, fought and charged attempts at whitewashing.

Naturally, internal politics enters into the picture as well. The Democrats, opponents of the administration, will seek to utilize this investigation for their own political ends, to discredit the Republicans who at present are on the defensive. But, it will be a case of the "pot calling the kettle black" because the Democrats when they were in power had their full measure of corruption also.

Working people who read this exposure should regard it as more than a mere scandal. To single out

particular individuals and punish them for immoral acts is not enough. Nor is it the answer. Such immoral practices—if you want to call them that—spring from a larger issue. It is the social condition that gives rise to it, capitalism, that is to blame. In such a social terrain, where one man can advance himself at the expense of another, where men of wealth are the dominant element in society, governments do their bidding and the officials become their aids and tools.

It is private gain, the profit-system economy, that is the motive power, the compelling force that enables some to employ their influence and others to accept favors (bribes) and become obligated. Self-advancement at the expense of others is the essence of an exploiting order.

L.B.

## THUMBNAILS

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class have to be constantly reiterated. Again and again, a bitterly anti-union man becomes pro-union in a struggle, and generally speaking this change is definitive; once a union man, always a union man.

"The ruling class in their propaganda are like the Red Queen: they must run and run to stay in the same place. Nay, they are constantly losing ground. Since the birth of Marxism, over a hundred years ago, Marxism has steadily spread among the people from generation to generation, in every country and corner of the world including the West. It is a thought to keep in mind in bad times."

WHO GETS WHAT? Pardon our figures but we thought you might be interested in what is happening to over half of the tax money poured into the US Gov't. treasury. Of the \$73.9 billion dollars in the new

federal budget \$45.8 billions goes for national security. This is in turn broken down as follows:

\$39.8 billion for the Dept. of Defense! \$13.8 billion for procurement; \$10.5 billion for personnel; \$9.3 billion for operation and maintenance; \$6.2 billion for building and construction.

We noticed there was no provision for a category of waste so we assume the various departments are planning to share that responsibility equally.

THE TURNOVER'S TERRIFIC: The US Army is pondering reasons why so many of its West Point graduates are leaving the Army as soon as their required service is over. It seems military bungling, politics and the temptation of high pay in industry are the main causes for the fact that 1,462 career officers have quit after graduation since 1949.

L.D.

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