

WORKERS WORLD

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TEN CENTS

Steel Workers Poised for Strike As McDonald Begs Ike for Crumbs

Students Fight Adult Prejudice

Dr. Alvin D. Loving, Negro educator, got a standing ovation from the all-white graduating class of Dyre High School in Michigan.

A group of white adults had previously forced the Board of Education to cancel Dr. Loving's appearance simply because he was a Negro. But students and teachers persuaded the board to reverse its decision.

The tears and enthusiasm of the white students were wholly honest. And their standing tribute to the at-first rejected educator was a tribute to their sincerity and idealism.

Life will teach them that they must stand up again, and again — and under considerably more difficult circumstances, to win the fight against prejudice.

Bankers Get Raise; USW Gets Snow Job.

The government says that a raise for the steelworkers would cause inflation. But Congress is now quietly raising the interest rate on government bonds. An increase of 1 per cent on these bonds is an increase of about 2.9 billion dollars yearly paid to the bankers who hold these bonds.

This sum (2.9 billion) is alone greater than the total yearly wages paid to all workers in basic steel. And it will be paid to the bankers for no work at all. It will be paid over and above the lush interest they are already getting.

A 1 per cent increase of interest for the bankers' bonds is 115 times as much as a 1 per cent raise for the steelworkers.

Who is causing inflation? The bankers know the answer very well.

Fed up with McDonald's 'Mutual trusteeship' They Show Their Willingness for Greater Actions By Wildcat Strikes against Arrogant Companies

J. Wilson

Nearly 40,000 striking members of the Steelworkers Union from Cleveland, Niles, Pittsburgh, Aliquippa, and Morristown led the mass revolt against the retreat of the union leadership who postponed the steel strike set for July 1st.

Seamen on ships, hauling ore, steel, limestone, and materials to and from the mills, for four days refused to obey the orders of the Steelworkers Union President, David J. McDonald. They refused to go back to work under the extended contract.

For three days after July 1st, the rebellious workers at the Republic Steel Corporation plants in Cleveland fought provisional discharges of five "ring-leaders" and fought McDonald's demands to return to their jobs. In Aliquippa, 13,000 steelworkers stayed away from the mills, demonstrating their utter dissatisfaction with the leadership's policy of retreat. In the new U.S. Steel's Fairless Works, over 9,000 angry steelworkers hit the bricks at midnight June 30.

These 40,000 workers were the front line fighters. They were supported by the huge majority (at least 90%) of the rest of the steelworkers. From one end of the country to the other, steelworkers were grumbling and cursing McDonald for retreating and permitting the steel corporations another two weeks to prepare for the battle.

Everywhere the workers were saying, "If they couldn't agree on anything in six weeks of negotiations, they certainly won't agree on anything for the steelworkers in two more weeks." Everywhere the steelworkers resented the postponement.

When they heard Cooper, Patton, and other steel corporation heads reiterate that the companies will not give one red cent, they were even more convinced that McDonald was betraying them. And thousands of steelworkers who didn't go on any strikes, were saying, "We, too, should have struck."

Nearly all steelworkers considered the actions of McDonald as a retreat and many branded them as an outright sell-out. One picketing steelworker in Cleveland, exclaimed over a TV network: "This is all for McDonald; we have to get rid of him!"

The largest U.S. Steel local in the Youngstown District, at a special meeting on June 30, demanded an end to McDonald's policy of retreat. It demanded that the union take to the offensive and place the 30 for 40 demand at the top of the negotiating agenda. It further requested that the union stay clear of entanglements with government boards, agents, etc.

Nearly all workers agreed that the union should not have acquiesced to the

BULLETIN

McDonald has refused to grant another extension of the Contract. He stated to Vice President Nixon that only a "substantial" wage offer could delay the strike now.

Meantime Eisenhower is trying to shift the responsibility for strike onto the shoulders of the union. He is not going to pressure his banker and boss friends to give the steelworkers a raise, as McDonald had expected.

Steel industry heads say they are perfectly willing to have another extension, while they are cleverly laying the blame for the inevitable strike on the union, rather than themselves.

The Wage Policy Committee will meet on Monday, the 13th, to issue the official order for strike.

Segregation Prevents Adoption

Mr. and Mrs. John Curtis, a childless couple of Los Angeles, failed to get court approval to adopt two-year old Aminda, who has never known any other parents.

The Los Angeles County Adoption Bureau refused to sanction the adoption.

Later Superior Court Judge James McRoberts did likewise. Mr. Curtis, 52 years old, broke down and wept at the decision.

The Curtis are white. Aminda is colored.

ONE RAT PER PERSON

D. Rusticano

A two month old baby — Richard Fox, WAS KILLED BY A RAT. The infant was attacked in a baby carriage last month in a Coney Island "bungalow." The mother was awakened by the child's screams at 5:30 A.M. She found him covered with blood on face and body. She rushed him to the hospital — but less than an hour after admission, the child was dead.

It has now been revealed by Commissioner Baumgartner of the New York Health Department, that THERE ARE 9 MILLION RATS PROWLING THE GREAT METROPOLIS OF NEW YORK CITY — MORE THAN ONE FOR EVERY PERSON; and for those people who must live in slums, there are no doubt 5 or 10 rats per person.

According to the very conservative estimate of the reactionary N. Y. World-Telegram, there are about a million human beings living in slum dwellings, in New York City. There is no telling how many rat bites and deaths from them go unreported in this shining metropolis.

The United States is building a huge exposition in Moscow. Huge sums of money are being poured in to cover the cost of a spectacular modern exposition building. It is no doubt rat-proof.

Although millions of people in the United States live in wretched hovels, part of the exhibition will be devoted to so-called typical living conditions in the "free world." This will show Soviet citizens the wonderful, clean, modern living conditions that all Americans are supposed to have.

To spend the required sum at home to clean out the rats, and erect decent

housing for all, does not even occur to Wall Street's government.

But at this exposition, millions of dollars will be spent to parade beautiful, glamorous models, in luxurious, fashionable clothes through "typical" modern, clean homes, with all the latest automatic devices, and luxurious flooring and furniture. Yes — this hypocritical glittering array will be depicted as "typical."

But the ugly truth of slum living will be carefully hidden from the Russians. Will the American exposition managers tell about the "home" of Mr. and Mrs. Pedro Hernandez, who live in a rat-infested building at 1746 Lexington Ave.? Mrs. Hernandez and almost every one of her nine children have been bitten by rats. The other day the youngest, Rebecca — only 6 weeks old — was rushed to the hospital with rat bites — deep gashes in her soft baby hand.

Will the exposition show the very unglittery real-life "home" of Benjamin Fredericks who lives at 129 West 142nd Street? — Or that of Charles Reyes of 301 East 3rd Street? Both these men were bitten by rats in their sleep.

The human horror of living with rats can not be measured. And the extent to which these rats spread disease among the ill-fed slum dwellers, will never be determined either.

The U. S. capitalist government would like the Soviet workers to believe that the streets of New York are paved with gold — but the millions of slum-dwelling workers forced to live with rats, know that only the streets the rich live on are "paved with gold." The poor live not on streets of gold, but streets with rats.

Law & Order — Du Pont Version

There is talk of a new law making the whipping post mandatory for robbery in the State of Delaware.

The du Ponts who own practically everything of value in Delaware, have good reason to want to make the workers deathly frightened of robbing the ill-gotten gains of the rich.

Here is a description of a small part of the wealth which may tempt the unemployed workers of Delaware:

"Near the environs of Wilmington, there are precisely two dozen du Pont country estates, four of which are of the first magnitude. There is, for example, Winterthen the ducal 150 room residence of Henry F. du Pont, boasting

40 bedrooms, each replete with costly antiques; the cost of the buildings alone was \$2,000,000, and including the grounds, trappings, furniture and fixtures, the cost of the whole establishment easily touches \$10,000,000. (And at pre-World War II prices!—ed.)

"Then there is Longwood, residence of Pierre du Pont, surrounded by 1,000 carefully tended acres of glassed-over tropical gardens. . . . The house has nearly two hundred rooms, and more than one hundred servants, including the gardeners. . . ."

from America's Sixty Families
by Ferdinand Lundberg



TROTSKY

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LENIN

Postponing the Battle

"They do not think one problem through to the end, believe in the power of conjuration and cravenly avoid every difficulty, hoping for a miracle!" —Their Morals and Ours.

David J. McDonald is an almost perfect example of the American trade union leader who is so sharply described in the above words of Trotsky. What McDonald fears above all else in his steak and bourbon lined world is the task of leading the steelworkers in a fight for far-reaching social gains.

He knows that if he leads a fight against the corporations, his theory of "mutual trusteeship" will be exposed. On the other hand, if he does not lead something of a fight, he fears that the members will remove him from leadership. So he walks the tightrope.

He hopes to get by quietly with the smallest gain the ranks will settle for. He hopes the postponement will confuse the members and help him to put across a bad settlement. He is duplicating the confusionist tactics of Walter Reuther, who junked and buried the demand for the shorter work week in the auto in-

dustry last winter. This not only failed to solve the terrible problem of unemployment for the auto workers, but made the task of the steelworkers much more difficult.

Trotsky saw the crisis of the working class as the crisis of its leadership. The labor leaders of his day had no solution to the problems of the great depression. They surrendered to fascism in Europe and to the capitalist war drive in America.

David J. McDonald is a link in that same chain of labor leaders. And the only way the steelworkers can gain under his leadership is by constantly being on the alert to take the struggle against the corporations out of his hands.

However, the rank and file wildcats against the strike delay show that the steelworkers are more alert than their enemies and their tired-out radical friends imagine.

Zero Hour in Ceylon

A revolutionary crisis of momentous proportions has been shaping up in Ceylon for many months, and gives every indication of approaching an early climax.

The Bandaranaike government which was swept into power on a tidal wave of mass protest, and threw out the reactionary Kotelawala regime, has all but lost the popular support it had in the country. Bandaranaike himself is a type like Nehru or Nasser. But he has already lost the popular support which these representatives of their native ruling classes still enjoy.

What distinguishes the situation in Ceylon from the other colonial and semi-colonial countries is not only the depth and gravity of the social and political crisis in the country, but more importantly, the existence of the LSSP (Lanka Samasamajist Party). The LSSP is the party of the working class in Ceylon, and is the second largest party in Parliament.

This party advocates the proletarian revolution. It adheres to the tenets of Trotskyism and is affiliated to the Fourth International. It is the only mass party of this character in the world, with the possible exception of the Trotskyist Revolutionary Workers Party of Bolivia, which is also a considerable force in the working class movement.

Early in October 1958, the LSSP, at its annual conference, restated its fundamental objective of the destruction of the bourgeois state and the establishment of an LSSP government.

(This paper has raised the question as to whether the LSSP is really carrying out its program in deeds. We hope

however, that the LSSP will indeed destroy the oppressive bourgeois state of Ceylon and establish a workers state. The test is sure to come, and soon.)

In spite of serious errors, both of a domestic and international character, it is absolutely clear that the party is capable of seizing power, and establishing a Workers State in Ceylon.

If it was possible to seize power in China under the handicap of Stalinist dogma and practice, then all the more should it be possible to achieve a victorious revolution in Ceylon under the banner of revolutionary Marxism, as recently affirmed in the Resolution of the LSSP.

Such a feat would not only set in motion new revolutionary conflagrations in the Middle and Far East but would be a vindication of the historic validity of Trotskyism. It would also operate to discredit the false theory that Stalinists and Stalinists alone are the banner-bearers of Revolution.

In fact, it would scarcely be an exaggeration to say that it would open up a new epoch in the working class movement and set the stage for the long-delayed struggle between Stalinism and Trotskyism for the ideological hegemony of the world working class.

Every class conscious worker, every real Communist, Socialist and Trotskyist, cannot but hope that, in the trying days ahead, the LSSP will take advantage of the insoluble contradictions in which the Bandaranaike government finds itself and lead the masses in an insurrectionary struggle for the seizure of power and the establishment of the second proletarian dictatorship under the banner of Lenin and Trotsky.

The \$1800 Insult

Last month twelve fashionable French mannequins modeled Dior gowns (price, \$300-\$1800) in Moscow.

The women who bought these gowns were not the famed women tractor drivers, not the garment workers, nor the women farmers. They were the top ballerinas, the wives and daughters of the wealthy bureaucrats, upper-crust engineers, highly paid writers and factory managers.

The average Soviet woman could hardly buy the most expensive of these dresses with a whole year's pay — And yet the regime dares to supply such public proof of the decadence of its darlings.

(Of course the millionaire and billionaire women of the United States whom these parasites are imitating, spend five or ten times as much for a dress when it pleases them. But in the United States no one claims there is any equality, and we expect the millionaires to be swine.)

The revolutionaries of 1917 fought for the equality of all men and women. Khrushchev and his friends now insult them with this \$1800 insult. They put a year's labor of a Soviet worker on the back of a bureaucrat's wife.

No wonder the capitalist press reported this news with such a self-satisfied smile!

"Democrats" Advocate Force and Violence

Legally Elected CP Gov't Totters

Dorothy Ballan

For many years, the big business newspapers have proclaimed that nowhere in the world could the Communist Party win a free election, and that they must always resort to force and violence.

However, in 1957, in Kerala, one of 13 provinces in India, the C.P. not only received the biggest popular vote, but won the largest number of parliamentary seats, and as a result, took over the administration of the government.

And now — only 2 years later — the losers in that election — the Indian bourgeoisie, represented by Nehru and his Congress Party, in cahoots with the Roman Catholic hierarchy and the Hindu Nairs, have launched a violent attack to illegally oust the C.P. from the government by force.

And lo and behold — who do we find most sympathetic to the use of this illegal force and violence against the legal Kerala government? None other than the New York Times, semi-official spokesman for Wall St., and supposedly the great defender of democratic elections. Chiming in with them, of course, is the entire capitalist press.

In Kerala, the population numbers 15 million, of whom as many as two million are unemployed. The people are starving and land-hungry. But Nehru and his capitalist masters are unable to resolve the many critical problems. Fifty percent of the land is in holdings of less than one acre.

To help alleviate the situation somewhat, the new government in Kerala passed a land-reform law. It also attempted to give the workers legal guarantees to agitate for higher wages and better conditions.

In addition, a new education law was passed, which not only raised the salaries of school teachers, but attempted to break through the church's iron control over most of the schools. A law was enacted which required the managers of privately established schools (which to-

tal 7,000 out of 11,000) to hire teachers from an approved Civil Service Commission list.

This moderate reform enraged the Catholic hierarchy (which is linked to foreign imperialism), and the big Indian industrialists. In defiance of the law, they refused to open their schools. They posted pickets around government schools to prevent anyone from entering. Utilizing their religious influence for political purposes, they rallied the most backward and reactionary elements to violent demonstrations against the C.P. government.

Already, the C.P. has largely surrendered in strong Catholic centers, but to no avail. The violent struggle against them continues, and is led by those very organizations that for hundreds of years have advocated "non-violent" methods (when it came to fighting British imperialism!).

While the bourgeoisie in Kerala is breaking out in violence, the C.P. is all too peaceful. Actually when they took over the government, they became nothing more than the custodians for the bankers and industrialists of that state. Their program of so-called peaceful development to socialism, consists of only the mildest of reforms. But even this, the capitalist class will not tolerate "peacefully."

True, Kerala is only one of thirteen states in India, but from it could emanate a program and plan of struggle for working class power. To organize the workers and peasants for the overthrow of capitalism, not only in Kerala, but all of India — this is the only way to attack the land and unemployment crisis of the masses here. But this the C.P. refuses to do.

The workers and peasants of India must organize and arm themselves and prepare for the taking of power. If they do not, the force and violence of the capitalist class will prevail.

Ruble versus Dollar; What Does it Mean?

Eleanor Stephens

There is a persistent rumor that the Soviet Union will soon go on the gold standard. Whether this rumor is true or not, the very threat of such a move sends cold chills down the spines of Western capitalists.

The gold ruble could threaten every other currency in the world. Instead of depending on a cumbersome barter system, internationally, the Soviet Union could even out-trade the big sharks of Wall Street — the sharpest and slickest traders of them all!

William Benton, former Democratic Senator from Connecticut, predicted "a death grapple between the ruble and the dollar." He said, "The international ruble will have gold and a growing flood of commodities as its backing." (N. Y. Times, April 8).

With a Soviet gold reserve of \$9 to \$10 billion and an annual production of gold more than 10 times that of the United States, and above all an annual increase of general commodity production, it is small wonder there is worry in Wall Street!

Converting to the gold standard would be a great step forward for the Soviet Union, not only because it would facilitate trade internationally but because it would bring with it a much more equitable division of wealth internally — for the workers of the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe. It would serve as a necessary equivalent to measure one man's labor and his product against another's, and would make for a much more efficient planned economy.

But, the reader may ask, "what has this to do with Communism? Didn't Lenin say that under Communism gold would be needed only for filling teeth?"

The answer is: the Soviet Union is not yet a Communist society. It is a workers' state. The Russian workers got rid of the capitalist class in 1917 and built the foundation for Communism. And that foundation still stands, even though a greedy bureaucracy sits on the

back of the workers and makes their task of construction much harder.

When the bureaucrats are kicked out, and a world-wide classless society has developed to the point where it can supply all men's needs in super-abundance, a market economy will no longer be necessary. "From each according to his ability, to each according to his need" will be the rule, and mankind can forget that money ever existed.

In the meantime, however, as long as a market economy does exist in the world, sound money will be necessary in the Soviet Union. Adoption of a gold standard is not a retreat back to capitalism, but a vitally necessary step forward toward socialism.

In 1935, Leon Trotsky attacked Stalin's bureaucracy for not recognizing that fact. Trotsky struggled against Stalin's phony concept of a "socialist system of distribution" which, in Stalin's words, "sent the market to the Devil." The system was in reality very unsocialist. Actually, it was a cover-up for the deficiencies of the economy, for bureaucratic errors, and for inequality.

Calling poverty by the name of "socialism" did not help anything. It meant for a brief period substituting the ration card for the ruble. And when that proved disastrous, printing money that was only paper. Under these conditions, the market would not remain with the Devil where Stalin had consigned it, but returned to doubly bedevil Stalin. And the market still exists, both internally and internationally.

The bureaucracy vainly tried to fit the value of the paper ruble to their needs, by decree, much in the way the ugly sisters tried to stretch Cinderella's glass slipper to fit their big feet. Just as the slipper refused to expand in answer to a wish, so did the value of the ruble refuse to expand in answer to a command.

Finally, after 24 years, the bureaucracy (continued on page 4)

Steel Workers Speak their Mind; Lash McDonald for Postponing Strike

Which Side Are You On?

When the workers at Republic Steel hit the bricks protesting the McDonald postponement policy, they were bucking great forces — the national, district, and local union leadership, the steel corporations as a group, all big business, the federal government, and local government and police.

And for three days they held out; they had the support of nearly all rank and file workers. But during these three days, the local courts issued injunctions to weaken the picket lines and the police escorted a truck driver, who crashed through the picket lines injuring two pickets, from the enraged strikers.

(This was really a good example of where the government stands when the chips are down in a class struggle. And doesn't this real life experience show how unrealistic the leadership's strike directives are? The directives say that local unions should make arrangements for "peacefully" working with the police.)

The workers who struck against the strike delay were also protesting the stalling and arrogance of the steel bosses. By their actions they were aiding in the fight for a good contract. BUT WHAT IS THE ATTITUDE OF McDONALD?

To the fighting workers: "Go back to work and respect the contract."

To the bosses who agreed to the extension: "We are trying to get the men back to work."

How come McDonald doesn't lash out at the firings at Republic Steel in Cleveland? How come that McDonald doesn't issue a sharp blast at the corporations as the real cause of the failure to get a contract? WHICH SIDE ARE YOU ON, McDONALD?

A Blooming Mill Man

Who'll Make Steel?

The bureaucracy of the Steelworkers Union is in deathly fear of a strike and the use of the Taft-Hartley law against the Union. So these bureaucrats issue directives to the locals on how to run the picketing. They oppose a tight strike that would stop the bosses from going in and out of the plants—they fear the T-H law. Rather than defy T-H injunctions, (as our forefathers defied injunctions for many decades past) the present-day bureaucrats capitulate to the law. They even raise the ghost of the fine that the Miners Union paid because that fighting union said, "Taft-Hartley cannot mine coal."

Can Taft-Hartley make steel?

Bill Stedman, Open Hearth

McDonald's Alibis — Blast Furnace Answers

While pleading to the Wage Policy Committee for support of his postponement policy, McDonald said:

1) *We have a responsibility to the country as well as to our members.*

O.K. But what country are you talking about, McDonald? The country of the sixty million workers, or the country of the sixty billionaire families? Which side are you on? You can't be for both sides at the same time!

2) *A postponement would win over some public support and maybe a few politicians who would (maybe) help to stop the use of Taft-Hartley injunctions.*

This is cowardice. And it's poor strategy too. McDonald will not get aid for the union by his wishy-washy policy of appeasing the bosses. He will only make the enemies of the union all the bolder.

3) *We won the "first round" because we got government machinery into motion.*

Yes, the government machinery went into motion, but against the union and for the steel bosses!

4) *Sentiment for the strike is not good.*

The "wildcat" rebellions should prove that McDonald is "off the beam," that workers want to fight, not beg, and want to fight against the union-busting of the companies.

5) *When the President of the United States asks the union to do something, we should comply.*

But who is paying McDonald \$50,000 per year-plus expenses — the steelworkers, or Ike, the office boy of big business?

6) *We are approaching the worst fight in the history of the steel union. They may use the T-H injunctions on us and start a "back to work" movement!*

For weak knees and soft spine, this takes the cake! McDonald says he is licked before the battle begins. But five hundred thousand steelworkers are not licked. They will even fight hard enough to hold David J's backbone in place, too!

—A Blast Furnace man

Must Have "30 for 40"

If the Steelworkers Union doesn't get a shorter work week at no reduction in pay, the number of steelworkers will drastically drop. Already, since 1957 and the depression in steel, until the first half of 1959, about 15 per cent fewer steelworkers are running the mills at over 90 per cent of capacity.

Just as the number of soft coal miners has been reduced from 450,000 to 190,000 because of automation and technological changes, so too the number will drop in

steel. The coal miners' union did not get a short enough work week.

Are the workers in the steel areas to suffer the same way? Will the steel towns of Gary, Youngstown, Lorain, and Aliquippa follow in the footsteps of Scranton and become ghost cities?

Who's Ahead?

The increase of the gross national product of Czechoslovakia for the year 1958 over 1957 was 11%.

The comparative figures are: 8% for the Soviet Union, and about 3% for the United States.

Homestead Steel Workers Say—

Inspired by the 3 area survey in our last issue, a young sympathizer of the WW in Pittsburgh decided to take a survey on her own.

Not a steelworker herself, she went to the famous plant at Homestead, Pennsylvania, and stood at the mill gate interviewing workers on their way home.

At first glance, the results seem to draw a different picture than our last report. (The 3-area survey showed practically 100 percent for strike.)

The following facts must be remembered, however: First, that the original interviewers asked the specific question, would you strike to keep Section 2B in the contract? Second, that the 2-week postponement has caused much confusion. Third, that the respondents were all total strangers to this interviewer. (The first survey was carried out by steelworkers and their wives.)

1. 40 years old. Did not favor strike because men were "just getting on their feet after recession. Did not expect lay-offs if settlement. McDonald did not sell out. Wanted tight strike if strike was necessary. Strike desirable if job security threatened.

2. 25 years old. Favored strike because of lay-offs after settlement. Wanted settlement of job security. Favored wildcatting. Did not favor extensions. Production high the past month. Union leaders should not go to Ike.

3. Very adamant about no wildcatting. Claimed they are illegal especially if there should be a big strike on the 15th. Favored S.U.B. and 30-40.

4. 50 years old. Did not favor strikes. Wanted settlement with no more extensions. Did not feel MacDonald sold out. Did not want anything "through a strike." Not co-operative giving information.

5. 40 years old. Wanted strike emphatically, but disapproved of wildcatting. Did not favor any more extensions. Wanted S.U.B. demands. Did not feel leaders should go to Ike.

6. Indifferent. (?) Said "Wildcats don't bother me one way or another.

7. 50 years old. Indifferent. (?) But felt a strike a good thing if necessary. Felt that McDonald did not sell out.

Chinese Children

The city of Shanghai, in Workers China, now has five children's hospitals, 15 maternity hospitals, 26,000 nurseries and kindergartens. There are 1,500,000 children in primary schools (four times as many as under Chiang Kai Shek).

In the "good old days," under capitalism, there was nothing like this. There was filth and ignorance. They had midwives instead of doctors; straw mats instead of maternity hospitals; mud puddles instead of nurseries. Children lived and slept in the factories and never went to school at all. Little girls were sold into prostitution almost before they reached puberty.

But now, as the capitalists say, the Communists have "broken up the family."

How is it that they have never had an atomic air-raid drill in Moscow?

High production recently. Wanted tight strike if there should be one.

8. 45 years old. Had been through two strikes and claimed they never solved anything. Said that production was very high, but there would be no lay-offs. That a settlement could solve things. Wanted extensions or cancellation. Ike had a right to confer with McDonald.

9. 30 years old. Favored wildcatting and no postponements. Wanted full S.U.B. Wanted job security in settlement. Wanted tight strike. Was anti-McDonald. Felt he was being sold out. Was his opinion that the other guys in the mill felt same.

10. Didn't care. If strike didn't want a tight strike because "I don't want the place to fall apart." No opinions. Would follow McDonald without question.

11. Wanted strike. Felt sell-out by McDonald. Wanted full S.U.B. Doubtful on 30-40. Felt too much leisure harmful. (!) Did not favor extensions. Wanted rank and file demand for job security.

12. No strikes. No information given except apathy toward women taking polls!

13. Wanted wildcatting if no other way. Hostile toward McDonald. Wanted tight strike.

14. No wildcats. Turned out to be office worker.

15. 45 years old. Didn't want union to confer with Ike. Wanted strike and wildcat if necessary. Felt McDonald sold out. Did not favor extensions. Wanted strict tight strike.

16. Wanted strike and wildcatting if necessary. Felt sold out. Expressed opinion that others in the mill felt the same way. Did not want "aid" from Ike. Felt that you can't produce at this rate and not have a lay-off if settlement. Union leaders should push for S.U.B. Unsure about 30-40. Tight strike.

17. Favored wildcats if necessary. Would definitely strike the 15th. Did not want extensions. Did not want aid from Ike. Wanted S.U.B. but not 30-40. Production has been high, too high. Wants tight strike.

18. Union leaders should push for S.U.B. McDonald is selling out. Felt maintenance men should not be admitted under any circumstances. (Tight strike.)

Crime Wave Grows with "Prosperity"; 225% Increase in Ten Year Period!

The Federal Bureau of Prisons in its annual report on June 2, announced that the number of Americans serving time in a federal prison has increased by 225 percent during the last ten years. The scant publicity given this astounding news is in sharp contrast with the banner headlines that greeted J. Edgar Hoover's red-baiting opus, *Masters of Deceit*.

The rise is attributed to "better enforcement," on the one hand, and to a sharp rise in the number of serious crimes, on the other. The real reason, however has been the phenomenal increase in homelessness and destitution in the face of unprecedented prosperity.

Also, overcrowded conditions inside the prisons make life unbearable. The lack of privacy resulting from the scarcity of billet space and exercise facilities has been responsible for an ever increasing number of riots during the past few years.

The offenders, many of whom live on

the borders of poverty, "go wrong" during moments of stress. Although no break-down of the class composition of prisoners was published with this report, it is clear on the basis of past official estimates that by far the greatest proportion of those sentenced came from the poorest section of the population. They are driven by circumstances into the merciless competition of the capitalist economy.

At Christmas time, for example, the department stores are lighted brightly. An adolescent — or an adult — with no money, would be sorely tempted to steal the many Christmas treasures before his eyes in beautifully decorated store windows.

Crime will disappear, and prisons will become not only unnecessary, but a relic of the past, when poverty and need are abolished. This can only be done under a Socialist system — where all the wonderful treasures in the stores will be produced for use for everyone, and not for the profit of a few.

Buffalo Labor Forum Holds Mtg To Help Free Morton Sobell

Despite the witch-hunt atmosphere still generated by the Buffalo big business press, a highly successful meeting for Morton Sobell was sponsored here by the Buffalo Labor Forum June 19th. It was not only the most important civil liberties meeting to be held on the Niagara Frontier in many years, but it was the largest since that held in 1954 for James Kutcher, the legless veteran.

In 1953, an attempt by the organizers of the Buffalo Labor Forum to unite with other groups to hold a Save the Rosenbergs meeting was blocked, but a delegation to Washington to demand clemency for the Rosenbergs was sent.

At the June 19th meeting, Dr. Annette T. Rubinstein, a well-known educator

and lecturer, spoke for the National Committee To Secure Justice for Morton Sobell. She spoke to an audience of over fifty people, composed largely of Negro and white workers.

She devoted most of her talk to the particulars of the case, and demonstrated very effectively how Morton Sobell was a victim of the McCarthy witch-hunt. She pointed out that hundreds of prominent clergymen, lawyers, scientists and others are today expressing belief in the innocence of Morton Sobell.

Despite the fact that many present were unemployed, they contributed the sum of \$40.00 to help in the fight to free Morton Sobell.

NAACP Tops Duck Vital Issues As Anti-Negro Violence Grows

New York, N. Y., July 11 — The NAACP Convention which is due to open here Monday, July 13, comes at a time when mob violence against the Negro people has reached truly alarming proportions. Yet it is crystal clear that the entrenched leadership of the organization is anything but ready to face squarely the burning issues confronting the aroused mass of the Negro people.

The Convention comes exactly one month after the disclosure by the National Council of Churches that there have been more than 530 killings, beatings and bombings in a period of only four years. The new wave of violence roughly coincides with the desegregation decision of the United States Supreme Court of May, 1954, and points out the utter futility of relying on the Supreme Court and the federal government to bring freedom to the Negro people.

Among the critical issues which the leadership, headed by Roy F. Wilkins, is seeking to evade, is the issue of armed self-defense. This issue was dramatically brought to a head when Wilkins suspended Robert F. Williams, President of the Monroe, N. C., NAACP branch, for advocating "meeting violence with violence." It is clear which side is taken by the overwhelming majority of the

Negro people in this controversy, yet Williams stands suspended from his office as president of one of the most militant branches in the heartland of Ku Klux Klan terrorism.

The Arrangements Committee of the NAACP is skilfully maneuvering to make sure that the more than two thousand delegates at the Convention will be treated to a barrage of militant oratory, and be forced to by-pass a real program of action designed to meet the White Supremacist threat.

Billionaires and Uncle Toms

Instead of permitting a real discussion of the issues by rank and file delegates, the high command of the NAACP is making the high-light of the Convention, speeches by big-time millionaire and billionaire politicians,—who are naturally the same ones who oppress the Negro people.

Why should billionaire Rockefeller be permitted to give the opening speech at the Convention if not as a gesture of Uncle Tom-ism to this super plantation owner? And are Senator Humphrey and the others an improvement on the Governor of New York? The fact of the matter is that the National Board of the NAACP is nothing but a playground

for both big business parties, each rivaling the other on how best to deceive the Negro people with false promises.

The truth is that the high brass of the NAACP are very wealthy people, many of them millionaires. Their ties are with the capitalist class whom they seek to emulate, and in reality, they have very little connection with their own people, who are, for the most part, workers.

The biggest issue facing the Convention is whether the membership can force a basic turn in policy. Will the organization continue to rely chiefly on nine lily-white stooges of big business, who constitute the Supreme Court,—or will it make a turn in the direction of mass action, in alliance with white workers, as the best means for achieving real equality for the eighteen million colored Americans.

Rank and file caucus upholds Williams on armed self-defense

It is said that a rank and file caucus has been set up among NAACP delegates which is expected to put up a vigorous defense of Williams, and win re-instatement for him at the Convention. The caucus is said to include Conrad Lynn, prominent civil liberties attorney, and defense counsel for Williams.

Fighting Leader To Speak Here

Robert F. Williams, outstanding Negro leader, and organizer of the Monroe, N. C. NAACP branch, is scheduled to speak in New York Sunday, July 12, at 4:00 p. m., in the Central Ballroom at 120 West 125th St. The meeting is sponsored by the International Committee in Defense of Africa.

The meeting is expected to draw a large audience as it comes practically on the eve of the NAACP Convention, which is due to open the next day. Williams is expected to utilize the opportunity to restate his position on the necessity for armed self-defense, for which he was suspended by the leadership of the NAACP.

The rank and file caucus has set up a 12-point program which includes a demand for the lifting of the suspension of Williams and an affirmation of the right of armed self-defense against lawless violence.

The rank and file program also calls for a denunciation of red-baiting of those advocating full-citizenship for all Negroes, and the abolition of Congressional inquisitions which are used against militant members of the NAACP and others.

Mrs. Ora Mobley is the secretary of the Committee. She urged in a letter published in the New York Age that all delegates interested in the defense of Williams contact her at Apt. 20, 237 West 127, New York, N. Y.

U.S. Sugar Millionaires Helping Reaction in Cuba

V. Grey

The Cuban revolution is facing a new crisis. This crisis is a threat of the extreme right wing to overthrow the Castro regime and cancel its reform program, and return Batista or a similar Wall Street stooge to office.

The right wing has great support from Wall Street sugar interests as well as dissatisfied native capitalists who think the revolution has gone "too far."

The Wall Street interests alone own more than two million acres of the best land in Cuba (an area equal to Rhode Island and Delaware combined). And they are threatened with losing this land in the current land reform.

The Land Reform Act provides for a division of 10 million acres among about 150,000 landless Cuban peasants. It provides that the great Yankee-owned plantations (most of them hundreds of thousands of acres in extent) be split up into 66 acre plots.

Of course these blood-sucking parasite owners are to be re-imburfed for "their" land. But they are complaining because the Castro government has set the price at about \$30 an acre. This is the legally assessed value of the land. But Batista, stooge that he was, had set the assessments far below the market value, in order to please the Yankee capitalists.

The big capitalists are also aroused at the plan to pay them off in 20 year, 4½ per cent government bonds, rather than cash. With the strong possibility of new governments taking power in Cuba, Wall Street wisely wants the cash, not the credit.

Big business' most important objection of all, however, is not mentioned aloud in public. That is the idea that the Cuban masses are now in motion; that they have whipped the most willing stooge of Wall Street, Batista; that they have set up a half-way house in his place; and that their taking over the lands of U. S. business will be but a step toward taking also the mills, railroads, docks, and other facilities so long used to exploit the Cuban workers.

Castro is now holding a "national forum" at which he is "explaining" the Land Reform Act. (He does not have to "explain" it to the vast majority of the population. They are in favor of the Act.)

The forum will help him to show Wall Street how the immense pressure of the

masses compels him to go beyond ordinary bourgeois reformism. That is why he has invited the government and capitalist press representatives from the United States to attend the forum.

The very idea of "explaining" the land reform before it has hardly begun, and explaining it to its worst enemies, bodes ill for the success of the measure. And speaks badly of Castro's seriousness.

The Cuban revolution is in danger, both from without and from within.

The revolutionary workers must oppose the counter-revolution with all effective measures. They must demand immediate division of the land; and go forward to nationalization of the sugar mills, company-owned railways and docks, and operate them under workers control.

As far as Castro himself is concerned: proletarian revolutionists support those actions aimed at dividing the land; oppose those actions which delay or weaken the division and appease the U. S. land-owners.

For a United Front with Castro against the counter-revolution! But independent working-class politics aiming toward a workers and farmers government and the overthrow of capitalism!

Ruble vs. Dollar

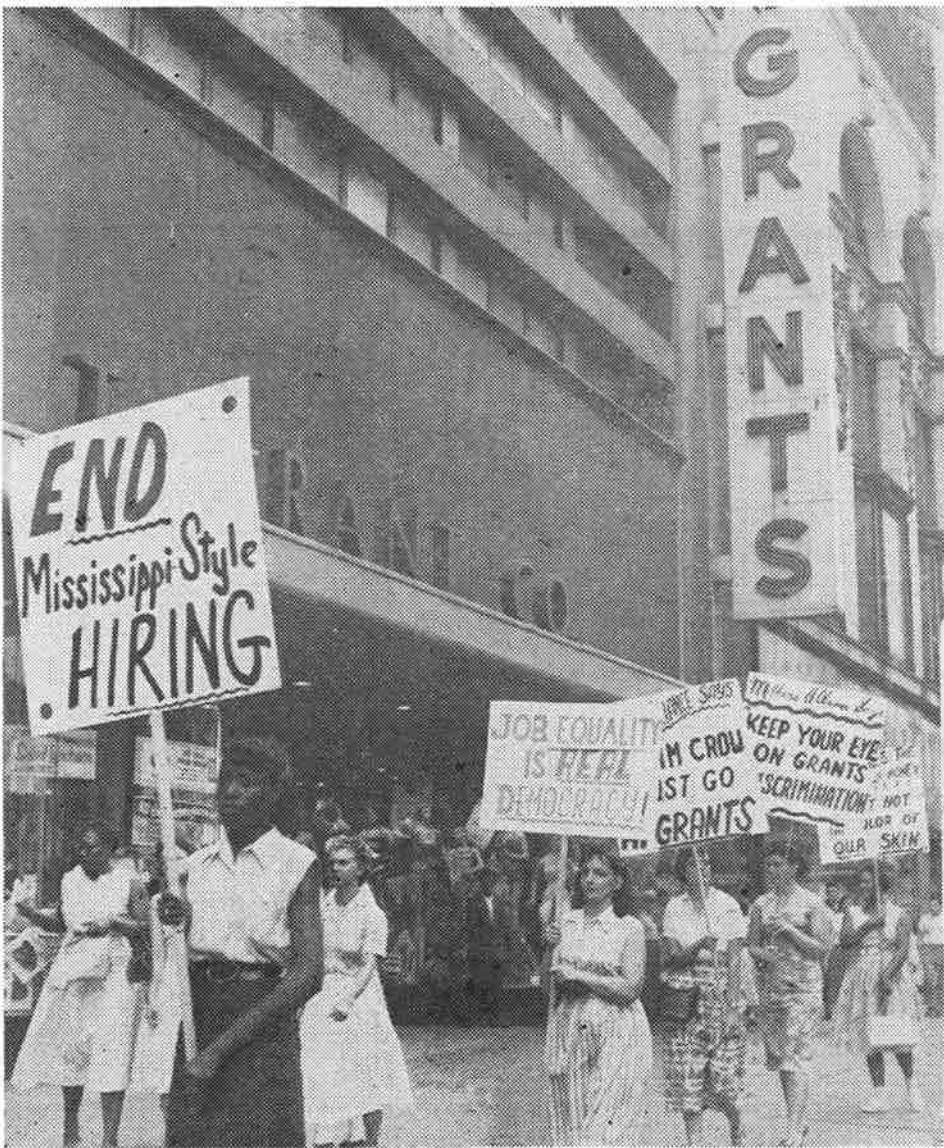
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cy appears to be ready to adopt Trotsky's economics! (Actually, they have not done so. They have only recognized some of the facts of life.) They are compelled to by the pressure from the masses who wish to consume more, and by pressure from the world-wide division of labor which compels them to trade with capitalist countries — and prevents them from "building socialism in one country."

Trotsky argued that when a government fixes the face-value of its currency and the price of each kind of labor and every product by decree, it invites speculation, black markets, and innumerable inequalities in wages and prices. It also gives the price-fixers great power over the workers.

But gold knows no favorites. With unbiased justice, it measures all wages and prices against itself. This is an iron law of capitalism. And as long as the Soviet workers state exists in a capitalist world, it will have to recognize this law. Only world socialism can repeal it.

BLACK AND WHITE TOGETHER!



MOTHERS ALLIANCE of Buffalo, New York picketed Grants department stores last month, demanding equality in hiring. Negro and white women carried signs saying "Grants Likes the Color of our Money, But Not the Color of Our Skin" and "Jim Crow Must Go at Grants."

Later, Grants met with the Mothers and agreed to hire colored workers. — Hurray for the Mothers Alliance!

(Photo appeared in Pittsburgh Courier and other papers.)

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