

WORKERS WORLD

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TEN CENTS

In its own interest —

All American Labor Should Help Steelworkers Defy Taft-Hartley!

Randolph: "Jim Crow Must Go!"
Meany: "Who The Hell Says So!"

(A disgraceful episode at the AFL-CIO Convention)

George Meany, titular leader of all American labor, is quite a tough guy when he is red-baiting Khrushchev. He's a hard-boiled "realist" when he is attacking the liberals like Mrs. Roosevelt and her friends. He's a brave warrior when he's attacking the "neutralism" of Nehru.

But he is the exponent of sweet reasonableness and gentlemanly moderation when dealing with the corporation-loving white supremacists in his own union. He is patience itself when asked to crack down on the two reactionary railroad unions who still retain the infamous "white only" clauses in their constitutions.

There are names for people like this. One of the more polite names is—reactionary. (This particular reactionary, like the parasitic louse, lives and grows on a greater body—organized labor.)

He publicly sneered at and denounced A. Phillip Randolph, a vice president of the AFL-CIO and leader of the Sleeping Car Porters Union. This was because Randolph, a Negro, dared to propose that both Jim Crow and lily-white unions be abolished.

"Who the hell appointed you the guardian of all Negro members of American unions?" he asked Randolph from the platform of the AFL-CIO Convention. It is hard to measure the rudeness of such a statement, coming as it did from such a reactionary white bureaucrat, and directed as it was against a Negro leader.

Meany vigorously pushed the campaign for "Captive Nations Week." But he joins the main enemies of his own union in suppressing the captive Negro nation in his own country — and in his own organization.

He even disinterred Anna Kethly, the anti-Soviet Social Democrat from Hungary. He invited her to speak at the convention to show how much he supported a phony democracy in Hungary (in 1956). But when Randolph dared to fight for some *real* democracy in America, and in his own organization at that, he shouted Randolph down, and led a virtual witch hunt against him.

Meany isn't just a reactionary. He's a traitor to the working class.

A New Zombie Making the Grade?

Bilbo Tries to Rise From His Grave!

The governor-elect of Mississippi, Ross Barnett, campaigned as the living incarnation of Theodore BILBO.

Negro citizens of Mississippi might ask how Bilboism could be anything worse than what they've got now. And that's a good question.

Mississippi is already the most backward, ignorant, and poverty-stricken state in the United States. And the poor whites only get one less kick from big Mr. Charlie than the poor Negroes.

But there have been whispers of progress in Mississippi. Negroes are lifting their heads to get a whiff of the winds of freedom in other quarters. And when the world protested at the Mack Parker lynching, there were white people whose consciences burned in Mis-

issippi. There are many in both races who want to go forward.

Ross Barnett, with the voting support of just one-tenth of the population, wants to take Mississippi *backward*.

He made a special campaign stop-over in Poplarville, scene of the Parker lynching, and home of the late, leather-lunged, Negro-hating Bilbo.

He protested the fact that J. P. Coleman, the present governor, even allowed the F.B.I. to pretend to hunt the lynchers of Mack Parker. This, to him, was an invasion of white-supremacist Mississippi's "state's rights"!

He posted the following election placards for his rally in Poplarville:

REMEMBER HUNGARY!

REMEMBER LITTLE ROCK!

One-Day General Strike Will Break Injunction And Bring Big Steel Bosses to Their Knees!

The union leaders said at the beginning of this strike that the companies were out to break the steel union. They always say this in a big strike. And to a certain degree they are always right. But in this case, they were far more right than they knew themselves.

The hypocritical, supposedly "impartial" Eisenhower is almost certain to invoke the vicious Taft-Hartley injunction against the embattled steelworkers.

If he does—and gets away with it—both the steelworkers and all the rest of American labor will sustain a very serious DEFEAT.

There are two steps necessary to avoid this defeat and turn it into a victory: First, for the steelworkers to defy the injunction. Second, for all organized labor to back up the steelworkers. First, for the steelworkers to ignore the injunction; fight it; break it. Second, for the rest of American labor to call a one-day general strike in support of this act.

Our fathers and grandfathers fought the anti-labor, strike-breaking injunction, and finally beat it down. Now it is being revived again. And five hundred thousand American workers are threatened with defeat by this company-made law.

And not only five hundred thousand. The steel companies set their strategy in a conspiracy with the auto, rubber, mining and electrical industries, too. These other companies fully intend to use the Taft-Hartley precedent (if Eisenhower gets away with it). They intend to try to house-break the whole of American labor.

The steel corporations are thus spearheading the most powerful anti-union drive in twenty-five years.

Let the steel union spearhead the defense against this drive in the only effective way possible.

Defy the injunction! Call for the one-day general strike!

Steel Local in Youngstown Urges One-Day General Strike

J. Wilson

Youngstown, Ohio—A large local of the Steelworkers' Union urged the American trade union leadership to call for a one-day general strike throughout the country to aid the striking steelworkers.

A meeting of 400 members of Local 1330 unanimously passed a resolution to this effect on September 17. The proposal was made to the body after the president of the local, Marvin Weinstock, reported on the adamant attitude of the corporations and their refusal to retreat from their strike-breaking position.

In the resolution, the local accused the steel industry of proposing a "union-busting program which will return the worker to the slavery of the open shop."

A one-day general strike in America would be a great demonstration to the striking steelworkers that they are not alone, as one brother explained at the meeting. And it would tell the lackeys of Big Business in Washington that the workers are united and they mean business.

The action of Local 1330 is very necessary at this time. The general strike is the greatest support that the labor movement could possibly give to the striking workers. It would mobilize all the workers. It would pressure Big Business to settle the strike immediately.

During a general strike all work ceases—the power of the working class is clear to everybody. It throws fear into the ranks of the ruling class. In a general strike, not a wheel turns, not a truck moves, not a plant runs. In brief, everything stops and goods are no longer produced. The unorganized would see the power of organization and the strength of the whole movement would increase.

Using this weapon, the workers would be invincible and the bosses would have to retreat.

REMEMBER THE OCCUPATION OF POPLARVILLE BY J. P. COLEMAN AND THE F.B.I.

With these ringing calls to all reactionaries, he urged the white voters to join the White Citizens Councils. And he promised to throttle even the slightest attempts at integration.

He thinks he is going to be another Bilbo. But he misjudges the black masses of Mississippi (who, by the way, may be an actual majority of the state's population!). We are supremely confident that they will prove to Barnett-Bilbo that the dead do not rise again.

Barnett says "Mississippi faces troubled times during the next four years." (His term of office is just four years.)

The troubles are going to be his!

Next Issue:

Real Meaning of Khrushchev Visit



TROTSKY

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LENIN

How to Win the Strike

The main and fundamental question that faces the steelworkers and for that matter, American labor itself, is: what strategy to employ in the struggle to win the strike?

It was crystal clear practically from the first day of the strike that this was not just another routine struggle between a large union and a mighty corporation. On the contrary, it was an onslaught by the capitalist class against the entire labor movement.

The labor movement objectively was then, and after eleven weeks of strike, is now, more on the defensive than it has been in a quarter of a century. The great question is how to reverse the tide; how to get the employers on the defensive; how to get the bosses on the run.

The answer to it is a general mobilization of the working class. Letters of solidarity by other unions and pledges of token monetary aid are all well and good. But this is a life-and-death struggle.

A general offensive by the workers must be commenced in some way. Mere talk against Big Business by the Meanys and Reuthers at the AFL-CIO Convention is just letting off steam. The labor movement cannot talk its way into victory. It has to fight its way. The proposal for a one-day general strike is the need of the hour.

And it is the eleventh hour as we go to press.

Disarmament

When Khrushchev called for full and complete disarmament among all nations, he at least put the capitalist countries on the spot. He compelled them to say what the Wall Street Journal (Sept. 22) best expressed in the following statement:

"The kind of wholesale disarmament that would substantially lower defense spending is all but unimaginable (unless we suddenly take leave of our senses) in the existing international political climate."

The house organ of Big Business refers to the two great realities that prevent capitalism from disarming. These are politics and economics. (A pity the Worker and the Guardian can't see this as clearly as their capitalist enemy!)

The United States capitalist economy is an arms economy. It can only prosper by manufacturing for war. And the "international political climate" is the climate of the Cold War. Wall Street must continue its drive for world domination in the death struggle between capitalism and communism.

That is why the imperialists demand that Khrushchev "give" something during the peace talks. And that is why they don't regard the idea of disarming in itself as any "gift" from Khrushchev if they have to disarm too.

The imperialists do not want "peace" at all. They want the Soviet Union in pieces. They want substantial concessions from the Soviet Union. They want their system to advance and the Soviet system to retreat.

They want the Soviet Union to "give." But they will give nothing themselves. The Eisenhower that will not give fifteen cents to his own steelworking countrymen does not intend to give anything to the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union and China have superior economic systems. If capitalism joins in "peaceful competition" for very many years, the Soviet bloc will not only overtake it but ruin it. *The capitalist class understands this at least as well as Khrushchev.*

That is the real reason why "wholesale disarmament" is "all but unimaginable" to the Wall Street Journal.

Why U.S. "Guards" Trinidad

Wall Street drafts thousands of American boys every year to guard its far-flung financial empire throughout the world.

One of the lesser-known places it sends these unwilling, and still more unwelcome, guardians for imperialism, is the tropical island of Trinidad.

American Big Business established its military base on this British-dominated island in 1941. At that time, Roosevelt got the right to the base by giving Britain fifty antiquated naval destroyers. As part of the deal, Churchill "leased" to the United States a number of British colonial islands for American military and naval bases.

The base in Trinidad is in a district called Chaguaramas. And it is of course a very sore spot with the nearly million all-Negro population of Trinidad, both rich and poor. They were never consulted in the cynical deal between British and American capitalism. And they do not want this military installation in their beautiful country.

Why should U.S. imperialism still want to occupy Trinidad fourteen years after the Second World War?

Trinidad is just off the "Spanish Main" — that is, the northern coast of

South America. On a clear day, you can see Venezuela from the shores of Trinidad. And the most profitable oil wells in the whole Western Hemisphere are in Venezuela. They are owned by Standard Oil — that is, the Rockefellers.

The U.S. guns in Trinidad are aimed at Venezuela and South America, not at any possible European enemy, — least of all, Soviet Russia.

But the immediate sufferers are the Trinidadians themselves. They receive no rent. They receive no taxes. They are plagued with smuggling (by American officers as well as enlisted men). They are humiliated by the colonial status the Americans impose upon them.

Their policemen (Negro), cannot arrest an American soldier. Their judges (also Negro) cannot sentence an American soldier.

Trinidad, like so many other colonial countries, has to give the United States what is called "extra-territorial rights." It is not only exploited economically; it is deprived of the elementary national right of regulating its own business.

Chaguaramas belongs to Trinidad. Let Wall Street get its insolent brass hats out and give the country to its inhabitants!

Union-Busters Propose Wage-cut for RR Workers

The latest and most open and vicious attack of the boss class on the working class is the proposed wage cut of 15¢ per hour for all railroad workers.

This proposal is combined with a claim that the railroad workers are doing a lot of featherbedding. Bosses similarly claim that the Steelworkers are featherbedding. These claims are a part of the general union-busting drive.

All labor must come to the aid of these workers. It can do this by supporting a nation-wide general strike for one day which will help the Steelworkers now and will also be remembered when the railroaders' contract expires.

The railroad workers should get ready to fight the findings of the Railway Labor Board the same as the Steelworkers should defy the Taft-Hartley injunction if it is granted. In this way, using a fighting policy, the Steelworkers and their working allies will turn the tide and take to the offensive against the bosses. Only in this way will the workers win.

Chinese Mechanization Spurs Rapidly Ahead

Bruce Erikson

The figures below are from the Peking Review.

China, the traditional symbol of the wooden plow and the carrying-pole, now produces such things as generators, cutting machines, heavy precision machines, blooming mills, jig-bores, electronic computers, trucks, electric locomotives and airplanes.

In the electronic field, meters and measuring tools; in precision machining, ball and roller bearings — all these are produced where none were produced before.

There were an amazing 100 technical schools in existence in 1957. But these increased to 446 in 1958!

The Chinese Revolution is the Winged Horse of Asia, leaping up and away from the mire of the old feudal and capitalistic China.

News Note

"Anybody can become President if I did."
—Harry S. Truman, Sept. 19, 1959

Science or Oop Shoop?

Eleanor Stevens

Can the new science which "listens in on the universe" be destroyed by the producers of soap operas and the owners of small town taxi companies?

It can.

Walter Sullivan, in a signed article in the New York Times of Sept. 20 says that the young science of radio astronomy is in danger of sudden death.

The number of usable radio frequencies is limited, and like any scarce commodity, they have been grabbed up by ad-men, hidden persuaders, taxi companies and even big-time wheat and hog farmers.

The Times article states, "American scientists say that taxis and other radio users have so filled the available channels in this country that signals from space have little chance. A taxi circuit in Virginia is said to have seriously interfered with rocket firings in Canada . . . (So) last April an international conference (of astronomers) at Los Angeles recommended that a number of frequencies be set aside for them."

The scientists want only a fraction of 1 per cent of the radio frequencies avail-

able. But this is too much for the profit-hungry to give up. Those air waves are worth "\$100,000,000 a year to the communication companies," the Times explains. And how can star-gazers compete with the owners of \$100,000,000?

The U.S. delegation to the International Telecommunications Union in Geneva no doubt believe that Boop-boop-a-doop and Oop Shoop are more important than the music of the spheres. They turned thumbs down on the astronomers' request, and supported only one frequency for those who want to study the universe.

According to leading astronomers, this stingy allotment will inevitably destroy the science of radio astronomy and all it might ever discover of the vast universe we live in.

Radio scientists say they will fight this decision and might even march to Washington.

But whether they win or lose, we wonder if they wonder what causes U.S. officialdom to consider the needs of radio astronomy secondary to those of the owner of a string of taxis!

Their Morals — And Ours

Pikeville, Tenn. — A twelve-year-old boy has just been sentenced to thirty-five years in prison for the "raping" of a seven year old girl. He will be put in a state "training" school until he is eighteen, then transferred to prison until he is forty-seven.

The boy is James Westmoreland of this town, and he began his sentence on September 22. He is black. The little girl is white.

Macon, Georgia — A twenty-six-year-old man has just been freed in the rape of a fifteen-year-old girl. The jury deliberated less than an hour, and returned with a verdict freeing him. A doctor testified that the girl had been a virgin.

The man is Tommy P. Daniels of this state. Daniels is white. The girl is black. The Macon County jury was all white.

Negroes wept at the verdict.

There are those, even among the friends of the Negro, who believe that the question of rape is a very touchy one and does not usually involve civil rights. They are wrong. And these two incidents prove it.

There are a great many people in this country who regard the common white rape of the Negro as relatively harmless, and the uncommon black rape of the white as the ultimate in degradation (for the white). And there are also a great many people in this country who do not even know what really goes on, or what it is all about.

These two cases should tell pretty clearly what goes on. As to what it's all about, let us merely say this: The ideal way to keep both white and Negro working people in their "place" is to frighten one section with sudden death for intimate association with the other, and frighten the other with eternal contamination. Add to this, the crude bribe to all the Tommy Danielses that they can have their "fun" at the expense of people even more oppressed than themselves.

The white workers must throw off this slavish morality and unite with their black brothers and sisters to change the whole system.

A small beginning can be made by demanding immediate clemency for James Westmoreland from Governor Buford of Tennessee.

1959 Steel Strike — Civil War!

Mose Peterson

The 1959 Steel Strike is different. This has become clear to all steelworkers. The Steel Corporations are carrying on the lockout against the Union under a new slogan. That slogan is CIVIL WAR!

This is not a wild statement. There is good reason for the charge that the 1959 strike is becoming civil war.

What is the nature of civil war? It is war not only against the soldiers involved but even more brutal against women and children, against the aged and the infirm and the helpless. This is the war the steel bosses are waging against us today.

Against children — YES. Children will die or go through life crippled because the corporations forced their parents into a poverty that had no room for a doctor in a starvation budget.

Against children—YES. The opportunity for higher education is being stolen from a whole generation of children by the steel bosses. College becomes a bitter joke to steelworkers' families

after the 1958 depression and the 1959 strike. The mill bosses look at the children with about one tenth the concern they feel for a little iron ore in Venezuela.

Against the aged, the helpless—YES. These are prime targets of the bosses' civil war. The boss can't squeeze any profits on the job any more out of a retired worker. *It is only the union contract that has given the old worker a little more than the mouthful of food needed to live.* And it is the contract that is threatened.

The bankers and industrialists now waging this civil war do not understand the workers' devotion to freedom and justice. The Ohio experience in the massive working class revolt against the Right to Work law means nothing to them. They do not believe the 1959 generation of workers will fight back.

On this score they should be set straight—the union will be defended by every necessary method.

Tom Mboya Demands Freedom for Jomo Kenyatta

Tom Mboya heads the new African political party, *The Kenya Independence Movement*. The new party demands the immediate release of Jomo Kenyatta, reputed leader of the revolutionary Mau Mau movement.

This is a welcome step forward for Mboya. He never even mentioned Kenyatta's imprisonment while he was in the United States. And he did not seem to be concerned about it then. He should

be congratulated for supporting Kenyatta's freedom-fight now.

It must be noted however, that the black masses of Kenya, and in particular the rank-and-file of the Kenya Independence Movement, have an extremely high regard for the now legendary Kenyatta. No leader can expect to lead them without giving some kind of support to Jomo Kenyatta.

Diary of a Steelworker

By Theodore Kovalesky

Working a Double on Old Number Two

(The following column was written some time before the steel strike began. —ed.)

The foreman says, "OK, there's a mess up on Number Two, if you want to work labor."

One or two of the fellows walk out, because they don't want to put in sixteen hours at labor pay. The rest of us, who have already worked eight hours on our own jobs and have gone down to try and get another eight hours, say, "OK, we'll take it. Sure." And we get shovels and picks and start down the line to Number Two blast furnace.

As we approach it, we hear the roar of the "wind." The furnace is shut down, so the blast is being shot out into the atmosphere with the steady, ear-crushing racket of a great tornado, the sound of a greatly amplified Niagara Falls.

We climb the stairs and see the mess. There is slag all over the floor where a cooler has burned — tuyere, blowpipe, and all. Part of the furnace gang is at work doing their regular cleanup after cast, but the blower, keeper and stove man are trying to clear the cinder away from the cooler. We dig in with shovels and bars.

Jimmy says, "I knew I should have gone home at quitting time."

I pick up a 12 pound sledge and start hitting a bar the blower is holding (waiting for someone to hit it). I hit it perhaps a dozen times, and he moves it to another spot. I hit it some more. We work quickly. The company loses a great deal of money for every minute a furnace is shut down, so the foremen are running around yelling, and even pitching in themselves.

We bang and dig for perhaps three quarters of an hour before we're ready to put in the new cooler. The whole furnace gang is working with us now, all of us sweating and grunting, but in spite of it all, laughing and joking. — The night is young.

We get the cooler, tuyere, and blowpipe in. The stove tender runs down the stairs to "start up." When the blower gets his signal, he runs to the wheel

and puts the blast back on. The great roar of the "wind" changes in key, slackens, and with one final squeak, dies. And all is quiet but for the hissing of the blowpipes and the muffled pounding of the blow-engines in the engine house across the yard.

Lunch time. We walk slowly over to the company restaurant, shivering as the sweat begins to cool in the night breeze.

Somebody says, "That was a hell of a way to start a double!"

In the restaurant it is bright and we relax a bit over our meal. Bad as the food is, and dirty though the restaurant may be, we are grateful for it. It is good to sit there with our coffee.

When we get back, the foreman is waiting for us. There is a coke mess at Number Four stockhouse. We'll shovel there for the rest of the night.

At intervals we look up at the sky. But the dawn is a long time coming. The sky remains black, edged here and there with a rusty glow where some furnace is flushing its molten cinder. The shovels become heavy. Our hands begin to burn. The usual indigestion, caused by the restaurant's inferior food and by our bodies' revolt at sixteen hours of work, rises up in our throats.

There is less and less joking. Pete scrapes his hand on a steel upright, scratching the flesh a little. He swears, not with slight irritation, but with deep fury. The night wears on.

By morning we are all silent. Silently, we trudge back to the labor shanty with our shovels. Silently, we return to the locker room. The dawn has come, but it only reminds us we have to be back to work again in the afternoon.

And we're thinking to ourselves, each of us: "Here we've made a few extra dollars to tide us over the coming strike. And at the same time, we've helped the company to stockpile a couple more thousand tons to make the strike last that much longer."

Each seeing the bitterness in the eyes of the other, each angry at the company, and each wondering how long the strike will be, we go out the gate and head for home.

Boss Can't Stand Strain

Walter F. Munford, top boss of the U.S. Steel Corporation, has apparently tried to kill himself. A Cape Cod hospital administrator reported the mill boss wounded himself with a knife "while in a state of fatigue and nervous exhaustion."

This statement, which is probably the truth, has been followed by a number of confusing statements. One claiming the stab was accidental, another giving him the more respectable illness of an apopleptic stroke. This confusion has the purpose of trying to shield this arrogant mill boss who shares the responsibility of leading the billionaire monopoly in the current strike.

This campaign of ruthless civil war and starvation that Munford is carrying on against thousands of women and children, the helpless and the aged, can only be carried on by the insane administrators of an insane social system.

Munford's crackup may indicate that he is not quite 100% enthusiastic over carrying out his Wall Street master's war of extermination against the Steelworkers Union.

But the Steelworkers cannot depend on the whole gang to commit hari-kiri, however, and the best thing to do is to press the strike with such vigor that perhaps a few more bosses will follow Munford's example and thus rid the world of some very dirty scoundrels.

Editor's note: Munford died as we went to press.

Berkeley Residents Unite and Fight

San Francisco—In a stirring demonstration of Negro-white solidarity in action, 26 residents of a predominantly white neighborhood sent a petition to the City Council last week, protesting the burning of a cross on the lawn of a Negro high school teacher. The incident occurred in the Berkeley, California area on a hilltop overlooking the University of California.

The petition expressed outrage at "... the act of violence ..." and offered "... solidarity as neighbors in opposing such manifestations of prejudice."

But the black and white residents went one step further and pledged to "... do our utmost in common to prevent any further outrage of this kind."

The residents of Berkeley have shown courage as well as solidarity. But most of all, they have shown by their quick response, that, however small right now, there is a growing white participation in the Negro struggle itself.

Death of a Klansman

James Peek, a white restaurant owner of Montgomery, Ala., was warned three times by William Horton, a member of the Ku Klux Klan, against hiring Negro waiters.

Three weeks ago Peek killed Horton with a shot gun, saying Horton pulled a gun on him first.

The Enemy Within

Ana Kezman

Certainly the Labor Day parade was a tremendous outpouring of the organized labor movement in New York. What made it so impressive was that it carried a new note of militancy — perhaps a harbinger of a new resurgence of American labor.

Everyone who watched it, who had the slightest degree of class consciousness, was impressed with the magnificent spirit of the workers and their readiness for combat. The demonstration protested the then-pending anti-labor law and showed solidarity with the striking steel workers.

But what is it that made this demonstration so unusual? The militancy of the workers? — yes! The slogans? — yes! But in addition to all this, there was something else that seasoned observers in the radical movement seemed to have overlooked. Or perhaps they just took it for granted, as if to say, that that's the way things are; something like the weather; you can't change it.

It was the reviewing stand and the characters who occupied the prominent roles on it. Dubinsky, Van Arsdale and the other labor skates, of course, "belonged" there. But there were others who virtually made a mockery of the entire parade.

How in the world did Rockefeller and Cardinal Spellman ever get on the platform? How could bona fide labor leaders invite them? The parade was called to protest the pending labor law which Rockefeller and Spellman are for.

The Conspiracy

(The parade was called to demonstrate against the big business onslaught on labor — the organized conspiracy, as it was called, against labor.)

Is not Rockefeller one of the central figures in the conspiracy? Is it not his minions who are conspiring? Isn't Rockefeller a major boss in oil fields, mines, mills, radio, electric — not to mention banks and innumerable intertwining vast interests? Doesn't he represent the very essence of the big business attack on labor? Weren't workers forced to fight bloody battles against him and his interests, to get higher wages and better conditions?

Chief Strikebreaker

And what was Spellman doing there? The last time we heard from him on American labor, was when he broke the New York gravediggers strike and appointed himself scab-herder against the gravediggers union.

But that's merely small potatoes by comparison to his role as an aide-de-camp to the executioner of the Spanish working class, Franco.

Spellman's idea of a union is what exists in clerical police states like Portugal and Spain. He is for such pro-union politicians as Frondizi of Argentina, who sends tanks directly into plants to break sit-down strikes.

To invite as the chief guests of honor, the personification of the conspiracy against labor, was to defeat the very purpose of the demonstration. Yet the leaders proudly led the parade past these worst enemies of labor to receive their commendation. And when the capitalist press gleefully reported Rockefeller's remark that Khrushchev should have seen this parade of "free" labor, there seemed to be no reaction from the labor "leaders" at all.

(It was significant that the Militant and the Worker did not think it important even to breathe a word about who was on the reviewing stand.)

What is the actual meaning of all this? It certainly was not accidental. It's the labor bureaucracy's way of saying that they have unbreakable bonds with the very enemy that labor is demonstrating against.

Labor Leaders are Political Police

One of the last generalizations of Trotsky before he died, was made in his article on the role of the trade unions in the epoch of imperialist decay. There he pointed out how the further course of monopoly capitalist development leads to the integration of the trade unions into the capitalist state and how the trade unions become more and more dependent on the capitalist state as the arbiter in labor relations. He also shows how the objective of the capitalists in this process is carried out through that one and absolutely indispensable social prop of finance capital—the labor bureaucracy.

Trotsky aptly characterized their new role in this further degeneration as the political police of the bourgeoisie within the ranks of the working class.

If anyone doubts this, just recall the parade again. See how hundreds of thousands of workers enthusiastically came out on the streets to fight their enemy, to fight a conspiracy organized against them, to drive their living standards down and destroy their unions. And who do they find on the union-sponsored reviewing stand, but the conspirators themselves!

Medicine in the U.S.

D. Rusticano

Twenty pharmaceutical firms, and three leading New York banks have been served subpoenas in an investigation to determine "whether the financial institutions influence the high prices of drugs." These twenty drug companies, which include such giants as Parke, Davis & Co., Vick Chemical Co. and Eli Lilly & Co. are said to control two-thirds of the drug business in this country.

The investigation is being conducted by a Senate Anti-Trust subcommittee. The chairman of the subcommittee said that they had received many complaints about the high cost of drugs.

"Prominent among these complaints are those from older people about the prices they must pay for drugs used in the treatment of arthritis," he said. "There are more than ten million people in the U.S. suffering from rheumatic

diseases, a million of them permanently disabled."

"Many of the older people say their income consists of their Social Security benefits and that after paying for the drugs, they do not have enough to live on."

Also charges have been made before the Federal Trade Commission, of price-fixing by five major antibiotic producers.

In answer to complaints about the exorbitantly high cost of the new antibiotics, hormones, anti-histamines and tranquilizers — the drug companies reply, "Eight dollars or even eighty dollars for antibiotics is preferable to death by pneumonia or even to a costly five week hospital stay which nowadays may be avoided entirely."

Their concern for the human race is really touching.

DOCTORS AND HUCKSTERS

L. Fisher

Over 272,000 men receive degrees every year in U.S. institutions of higher learning. 46,000 of these degrees are in the field of Business and Commerce—(more than in Medicine, Physics, Chemistry and all phases of education combined). And 3,000 women get degrees every year to teach Business and Commerce!

Thus 49,000 people are trained every year just to be experts in the race for profits!

That's 49,000 more people every year who would be freed by a socialist society to learn useful work—49,000 who could be trained to be doctors, scientists, educators, or practitioners of any other profession serving humanity.

But compare this picture to the Soviet Union! The Soviet Union is not yet a socialist society. But the foundation is there. And its achievements in the field of education have astounded and bewildered the pedagogues of the western world.

There are now 25,000 graduate doc-

tors every year in the Soviet Union, compared with 7,000 in the United States. Over 70 per cent, or 17,500 of these Soviet doctors are women.

In the year 1956-57 (latest figures available) only 353 women became M.D.s in the U.S. In the U.S., 353; in the Soviet Union, 17,500!

Undoubtedly there are many more men and women in the U.S. who would like to become doctors. But these people are necessarily governed by the needs of the society they live in more than by their own desires. And capitalist society needs profits above anything else. Therefore capitalist America must make it easier, more possible, more financially rewarding for young people to learn to be professional huckster-type servants of the profit system, and more difficult to learn any useful profession.

This is one big reason why the U.S. can't possibly catch up to the Soviet Union in education for the professions so vitally needed in mankind's march forward.

Medicine in China

The following report appeared recently in the Wall Street Journal.

"Goldmycin, it seems, is flowing into Asian pharmacies from the Chinese Communist city of Shanghai. It is not a new drug; rather, it is a Red-made version of Aureomycin, a potent antibiotic developed and patented by Lederle Laboratories of Pearl River, N. Y., a division of American Cyanamid Co. To add insult to injury, the Communists are selling Goldmycin at about half the price of Lederle's product — possibly due to willingness to sell below cost for political purposes, possibly due to lack of research, development or royalty costs on a pirated product.

Bravo, Cuba!

Cuba has defied the iron-clad caucus rules set up by U.S. imperialism for all the countries of the Western Hemisphere in the United Nations.

Cuba voted to abstain on the admission of Workers China to the U.N. A vote of abstention is not ordinarily a heroic act. But considering that all the Latin American countries have to jump when Wall Street cracks the whip, especially on such issues as the recognition of China, this act of neutralism is a clear declaration of independence.

Cuba is capitalist, not communist. Castro is a nationalist leader who bases himself on the capitalist system. But in order to develop native Cuban capitalism, to say nothing of giving elementary security to the native masses, Castro must to some extent oppose Wall Street.

Puerto Rico:

The Captive Nation

(The previous article told of the ruinous exploitation by Wall Street sugar companies in Puerto Rico, of starvation and the rise of the Nationalists which led to the police massacre of unarmed Nationalists on Palm Sunday 1937.)

Faced with explosive tensions and the threat of world war the U.S. policy in Puerto Rico underwent a shrewd change in the Thirties. Concessions, promises — a Puerto Rican "New Deal." This new deal, like the U.S. home brand, made some concessions to workers, softened the worst conditions, and made promises that were mainly sound and fury signifying nothing.

One big promise was that of enforcing the long dead law that limited holdings to 500 acres, in other words breaking up the sugar monopoly. A tame demagogue named Muñoz Marin fought a great sham battle with the sugar companies over this issue. They both won.

The sugar mill and the land of a French company was bought by the government. This, Wall Street did not particularly mind. But this was enough. Luce & Co. (An associate company of Central Aguirre) took the 500 acre law to court in 1942 and action was blocked. By 1956 it had not yet come to trial. The law was not enforced.

Another law was supposed to do away with company stores. This is how Central Aguirre handled that law. In 1942 the company got rid of its stores. A "new" company (now called Caribe Stores) was formed. 800,000 shares of stock were issued. Of these Central Aguirre got 742,674. Their main trouble appears to have been painting new signs on the store fronts.

Under cover of a so-called investigation of juvenile delinquency and crime, Big Business is now conducting a highly organized, vicious campaign of slander against the entire Puerto Rican population. This is paralleled only by similar attacks on the Negro population.

At Foley Square in New York City, a Senate subcommittee is utilizing such an investigation to provide a forum for the most reactionary and foul-mouthed bigots to spew their hatred against the oppressed Puerto Rican people.

The solutions offered by most of the witnesses before this committee, to the problem of the poverty of the Puerto Rican people, usually involve exploiting them further.

A proposal to limit immigration was made by one witness—a well-known, reactionary judge. A proposal against limiting immigration was made by another witness—a U.S. Congressman. For what reason? "Someone has to do the dirty work," he said.

Other proposals were made to restrict welfare aid (so people can starve) and to raise residence requirements for relief.

Dragnet for Children

But most vicious of all, is the proposal by Republican Gov. Rockefeller, backed up by Democratic Mayor Wagner, to set up concentration camps for the youth—with the fancy name of "youth camps."

Already many hundreds of youth have been rounded up and arrested including large numbers who are completely innocent of any wrongdoing. Also, many thousands of young people, particularly Puerto Rican and Negro youth, have been arrested, harassed and insulted by overbearing, prejudiced, and often corrupted police.

Rockefeller has brazenly announced his plan for so-called "youth camps" to include not only youths found guilty of

The post World War II years of colonial upsurge caused the U.S. to evolve a new camouflage for its colonialism in Puerto Rico. In 1948 Puerto Rico was allowed to elect its own governor. He turned out to be noisy but reliable Muñoz Marin, and the sugar companies continued business as before.

In 1951 Puerto Rico got some more high sounding and hollow "freedom." It was made a "commonwealth."

Wide publicity was given to a campaign called "Operation Bootstrap" which attracted many U.S. factories to the island. The main attractions were the sub-sweat shop wages (called "reasonable" by manufacturers), and the vast numbers of unorganized jobless workers.

According to popularizers this campaign has been "transforming" Puerto Rico, making it a grand place to live. But the continued mass emigration to the U.S. told a different story. During a period of time in 1957 and 1958 Puerto Ricans streamed into New York at the rate of 1,000 a week. Over half a million came to the U.S. in post war years.

A different story was also told by the desperation expressed in the attempted attack on Truman in 1950 and the shooting of congressmen in 1954. Another story is told by the present high unemployment figures, the high cost of living, and the low wage figures.

Shining through from under all the pretty talk about transformation is the hard, cold fact that profits come first, that all the rest is window dressing, and that if the profits are threatened the window dressing can go to hell.

The Captive Children

crimes, but "potential juvenile delinquents" as well!

When it comes to crime, it is not so much the youth but the investigating committees themselves, who should be investigated by the people. Because daily and hourly, the most horrible crimes are being perpetrated by the capitalist class and their government against the entire Puerto Rican population—adults and children.

Entire families—and often several families—are herded into squalid, rat-infested "homes." Why isn't this investigated? Discrimination makes only the dirtiest and most miserable, and lowest paying jobs available to Puerto Rican people. Why isn't this investigated? Children are unable to attend school because their meagre earnings are needed to keep the family alive. Why isn't this investigated?

Puerto Rican and Negro youths are victims of the most organized crime in history—legal crimes perpetrated by the ruling class in this country, who are the real criminals. These criminals try to cover up their crimes by blaming those who suffer most under their rule.

Let's put the blame for crime where it belongs. For every murder that's committed by a bitter, distorted, and disillusioned youth—for every crime that's planned by gangs of young people whose idealism has been crushed—the blame belongs squarely on the shoulders of Big Business and its government, as well as its Big Business, plantation owner-governor.

Down with these concentration camps, for which Rockefeller is all too quick to appropriate money! Money must instead be appropriated to help develop young people, give them free higher education, free apprenticeships, free recreational centers—a chance to learn and develop, a chance to use their talents, and a chance to live in decent homes.

People's Capitalism?

Less than 1 per cent of all business concerns in the United States employ 60 per cent of all paid workers.

But 60 per cent of all businesses had fewer than four employees each. And these accounted for only 6½ per cent of total employment.

These figures are from the U.S. Dept. of Commerce. The report added that there was a trend toward "increasing concentration among very large firms."

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