

# WORKERS WORLD

Vol. 1, No. 17

222

December 5, 1959

TEN CENTS

## Ike Talks About Freedom in Asia But He Lynches it in Mississippi!

### VIVA PANAMA!

After fifty-six years, the workers of Panama finally erected their own flag in the Panama Canal Zone!

They held it there only for a moment before armed U.S. Marines, the unconscious agents of Wall Street's exploitation of Latin America, wrested it from them.

Some of the Panamanians broke the windows of the Chase Manhattan Bank (Rockefeller) and of the United Fruit Company (Morgan).

Patriotism generally plays into the hands of the capitalists and is "the last refuge of the scoundrel." But the patriotism of the Panamanians in planting their flag, is the *patriotism of the oppressed*—a very different thing than the patriotism of the wealthy oppressor!

Viva Panama!

### How Can a Judge Publicly Whitewash Lynchers (and get away with it!)

#### If Ike is Not in a Conspiracy to Help Him?

Eisenhower has left the country to try to impose American "freedom" on the masses of Europe and Asia.

But even as the trip was being prepared and the speeches about "freedom" were being written up, freedom was being lynched again in Mississippi. And Eisenhower is just as responsible for this as the lynchers themselves!

#### Protector of Freedom — Mississippi Style!



Judge Sebe Dale

#### Black-Robed Klansman

• After denouncing the in reality ineffectual Supreme Court ruling on school desegregation, Judge Sebe Dale charged the Pearl River (Mississippi) grand jury:

"Go into the jury room like men, do your duty, come out like men, and keep your mouths shut."

He said this to the all-white jury which had the list of 10 FBI-accused lynchers of Mack Charles Parker. (The lynching occurred in Poplarville, Miss. last April.)

The jury came out of the jury room without mentioning the Mack Parker case!

Thus Southern white supremacy was maintained — not only by the ignorant white puppet-mob, but by the black robes of Constitutional "justice"!

Eisenhower's weakness in enforcing the school desegregation rules of the Supreme Court has given the cowardly racists new courage!

Eisenhower's failure to call for a Federal anti-lynch law and push it through Congress (like he does with the big business legislation) has declared open season on every Southern Negro!

In Clarksdale Mississippi, Booker T. Mixon was found on a roadside, bloody, battered, completely nude and nearly dead.

In Philadelphia, Mississippi (that name means "brotherly love!"), Luther Jackson was shot repeatedly in the stomach by a local traffic cop. The cop had asked Jackson for his driver's license....

Jackson, a resident of Flint, Michigan, visiting Mississippi, had gotten out of the car to ask the policeman "What have I done wrong?" These were the last words he uttered.

Rumors of even worse atrocities are reaching the North. There is a bloody, reactionary Terror going on in Mississippi.

And Eisenhower has the power to declare a State of Emergency in Mississippi. He has the power to arrest Judge Sebe Dale, Governor Coleman and all of the other obstructors of the United States Constitution.

But he will not do it.

That is why the working people must defend on their own strength and build interracial Civil Rights Defense Guards.

A President can lynch the freedom of a people and turn his own capitalist Constitution into a scrap of paper. But he cannot rob them of the will to win that freedom by defending themselves against their oppressors!

### Love and Pacifism Will Not Work!

While Martin Luther King fiddles, Governor John Patterson is burning Alabama.

"If integration is forced on any school, there will be violence," Patterson said last month, and he indicated he would call out the racist Alabama National Guard without waiting for anyone else to supply the violence.

During the same week, he approved two measures to limit the already restricted Negro participation in elections.

The non-violent Martin Luther King of Montgomery, Alabama, may take no action against this violent representative of the white capitalists. But there are other and more militant leaders. And there are hundreds of thousands of hard working Negroes throughout Alabama who daily feel the lash which King tells them to bear and to forgive.

These are the people who will take the lash from Patterson's hands and break it over his back.

### U.S. Gov't Doublecross at Monroe, N. C.?

Is the office of the U.S. Housing Administrator being used to advance the interests of the foulest group of thieving, racist-minded landlords that ever evicted a poor tenant?

According to the evidence so far available, it is!

Here is the story:

All over the country, real estate interests are fattening themselves from "urban renewal" plans, which eliminate slums — partly at Federal expense. They build new "middle income" apartments, and sit back and coin money while their former tenants have to find even slummier housing.

In Monroe, North Carolina, the landlords, with the connivance of the mayor, decided to clear away every single Negro-owned home in the town, including many "middle income" homes! (See last issue of *Workers World*.)

According to Federal law, citizens who face eviction and home seizure in this way, have the right to express themselves at local hearings conducted by the Housing Administration.

However, the *Charlotte Observer* of November 26 carried the story that the Washington *Renewal Administration* had approved the program for "urban renewal" etc., which was submitted by the Monroe city officials — and there was no such hearing.

Washington housing officials had assured Conrad Lynn, New York defense attorney for the embattled Monroe Negro population, that there had not even been an application for such renewal through the regular channels. But the slick program was approved nevertheless and the rich capitalists of Monroe are looking to get richer.

The well-known Rob Williams, advocate and builder of defense guards, is the local leader of the protesting tenants and small owners. With Lynn, who is a noted civil rights attorney, he is determined to fight this unscrupulous campaign all the way, and expose the chicanery of all concerned including the Government officials, if they are guilty.

### Capitalists Give Murder a Modern Twist In the Ancient Tribes of Africa!

Thirty-two children were murdered by the meat profiteers last month.

No Children's Aid Society has complained as far as we know. No cry of indignation has gone up from the capitalist press. Nor has any legal action been started against the murderers.

This slaughter of the innocents occurred in the Quabe Tribal Reserve in South Africa. Scores of other children as well as many adults, were in critical condition as a result of the food poisoning that killed the thirty-two.

The children had eaten "meat" which was a "concoction of bone, gristle, hairs, kidney and liver, bits of arteries and veins." It was put up in cans for better preservation.

By mistake, some of the "meat" had been exported to Britain. When the horrible stuff was exposed there, the South African meat packers explained that it had been meant for the "native" market.

The struggles and "disorders" that have marked the South African freedom campaign have hardly touched the country areas (such as Quabe) with their teeming, still inarticulate humanity. But it is now clear that the South African capitalists are bringing even the most "backward" tribes into the fight against the capitalist system. They have brought the "advanced" blessings of their mass-produced canned meat even to the tribal children.

It matters not that this foul crime goes unreported in the big business newspapers here. It will enter deeply into the consciousness of the South African masses. It will give them ideas,

for example, on who should run the meat industry.

The white imperialists could once say they were bringing the Africans modern methods, modern machinery, modern culture. They have brought modern super-exploitation and modern up-to-the-minute mass murder. And they have herded the new proletariat into jungle-ghettos called "tribal reserves."

But the clock is already striking twelve for these modern murderers. True, the opposition movement of South Africa is not yet ready to overthrow them. To do this, the black trade unionists of the South African cities will have to weld the molten fury of all the black millions into one movement.

They will do so. And when they do, their "modern" exploiters will find that the ancient tribal sticks and spears will perform a service infinitely more modern than canning poisoned meat, — that is, the service of eliminating the poisoners.



TROTSKY

## WORKERS WORLD

Editorial office:

46 W. 21st Street, New York, N.Y.

Telephone: AL 5-0352

Editor: Vincent Copeland

Manager: Dorothy Ballan

Vol. 1, No. 17 — December 5, 1959

Published Twice Monthly



LENIN

## "Rocky" Dooms Willie Reid

While Nelson Rockefeller was being photographed playing cowboy on his ranch in Venezuela (for his Thanksgiving vacation), the news was given out that he had thrown Willie Reid to the race-hating wolves in Florida.

Willie Reid escaped from a Florida chain gang in 1952 where he was serving a 15 year sentence for an alleged assault in a gambling casino owned by a friend of the sheriff.

The sheriff in question is a famous killer (shooting unarmed Negroes trying to escape the chain gang). And Reid

testified against this sheriff *while on the chain gang himself.*

Rockefeller was well aware of the reprisals and possible shooting that Reid would face back in the chain gang. He even said he was "concerned" about it. And he announced that Governor Collins of Florida "shares the same concern."

Stripped of the double-talk, this action shows that the "liberal" Northern *billionaires* (of whom Rockefeller is supposed to be an outstanding example), are hand-in-glove with the reactionary Southern *millionaires*.

## For a Congress of LABOR!

AFL-CIO President, jimcrow George Meany, has called for a top labor and capitalist conference in Washington to "consider and develop guiding lines for just and harmonious labor-management relations."

Eisenhower, the man who drove the steelworkers back into the plants with the Taft-Hartley slave labor law, warmly welcomed Meany's conciliatory call. He replied that he was instructing the Secretary of Labor to "explore" the proposal.

Eisenhower is too glad to accept this kowtowing, fanny-kissing proposition of Meany's. And that should surprise nobody.

Eisenhower, the pliable stooge of American big business, hails the conference of capital and labor as a welcome diversion from possible new outbreaks of the class struggle. (McDonald might be forced to call a nation-wide steel strike again, in spite of himself!)

Meany, McDonald and their friends were frightened at the showdown character of the steel struggle. They wanted to win it, but they drew back from the stern measures *necessary* to win. Now they think they can win by cigars and champagne with the bosses. And perhaps the bosses will let them think so — for a while.

## Muslims and Christians

The State Correction Department of New York State will not allow Muslims to practice their religion in state prisons.

(We support the right of Christian workers to practice their religion. And we support the right of Muslim workers to practice theirs.)

The Department of Correction claims that the aim of the Muslims is "supremacy over whites." It speaks of an "anti-white movement under the banner of the Muslims."

Many religions believe in a white Christ, a white Moses, and a white God. The rich white capitalists send missionaries to Black Africa to give this message to the people there. The Africans

can say, with a good deal more justice than the Department of Correction, that *Christianity* is an "anti-black movement under the banner of Jesus."

We do not think that the Muslim *program* will succeed in bringing about the liberation of the still-enslaved black people. We think that a much broader and more practical struggle is necessary than the one the Muslims now envision.

But to the extent that there is any "anti-white" aspect of the Muslim faith, this is only a reaction against the *anti-black* treatment that Negroes daily encounter. It is the blind answer of the oppressed to the stinging discrimination of the oppressor.

## More Hypocrisy!

Remember when Eisenhower had a couple days' talk with Khrushchev at Camp David? And remember how he asked Khrushchev to come along to church with him?

Some people actually thought he really loved to go to church so much, he just couldn't discuss peace on Sunday. And besides maybe he wanted to save Khrushchev's soul.

But on Thanksgiving Day, with Ike's church doors wide open, and with Khrushchev safely in Moscow, Ike announced that he was *too busy* to go to church.

He might just as well have told us in plain English that when he invited Khrushchev to church, he was just making a hypocritical play to the religious grandstand!

## Joshua Nkomo of Southern Rhodesia Blasts Imperialist Role in Africa

Dorothy Ballan

To hear Joshua Nkomo was to get a full measure of the sweep of the African revolution.

He was the main speaker at a special banquet on November 28, sponsored by the International Committee in Defense of Africa, to help raise funds for the emancipation struggle in Africa.

Ennis Francis, the hard-working chairman of the Committee, introduced the speaker as a brave and militant fighter from Southern Rhodesia, and president of the newly-formed People's Independence Party.

Nkomo blasted the bestial practices of the British imperialists against the Africans in Southern Rhodesia. He vividly described how 52 per cent of the land (which includes *all* the most fertile land!), is appropriated by the imperialists.

Although there are more than ten times as many Africans as white overlords in Southern Rhodesia, the Africans are herded onto only 30 per cent of the land — and the worst, most barren soil at that.

### How it began

Years ago, small British companies ruled the Africans as slaveowners. Today, there is no change. There are just more British landlords. And the political power has merely been transferred from a few companies to a larger number of rich white settlers, who rule Southern Rhodesia like a huge slave plantation. The speaker exposed the terrible fraud the British perpetrate under the words "self-rule."

For example, in 1923, Southern Rhodesia was granted so-called "self-government." But today, there is not a single African in the entire legislature. Not a single African can even *vote*.

The British crassly set up a law making it necessary to own property to vote. And at the same time they have

a law which openly deprives all Africans of the right to own property!

Those Africans who get the wretched work available to them, earn about \$19.00 a month. Working conditions are unbearable. And under the "law," *Africans are not allowed to join labor unions.*

Not only do the imperialists rule by dividing workers — black from white — but they constantly conspire to divide African from African. In the Congo, for example, Belgian overlords strive mightily to promote hostility between tribes, as between the Watusis and the Bahutis, a neighboring tribe. They further conspire to turn Africans against Arabs, by using one against the other.

In a moving indictment against so-called "aid to backward peoples" by the imperialists, Joshua Nkomo pointed out how millions of dollars sent by the U.S. to Rhodesia under cover of "aid to backward peoples" — really goes to *imperialist copper-mine owners*, who then use this money to shoot down Africans. Such is the nature of the "free" and "democratic" West.

But the speaker made very plain to his appreciative audience, that Africans would not tolerate the present situation much longer, and today are on the march, fighting on all sides, for independence.

The final speaker of the evening was Conrad Lynn, legal consultant to the sponsoring Committee. In a short but pungent talk, he pointed out that just as in Southern Rhodesia, the imperialists permitted not a single African in the white legislatures, so in Mississippi, the same situation exists. It is necessary to unite and fight imperialism everywhere, he said — at home and abroad.

Members of the Committee include Ora Mobley—Co-Chairman, Eloise Moore — Secretary, Alma Lake—Treasurer, Philip Cummings and Juanita Edwards.

## MAIL BAG

### It's about time!

... With the pressure on, the bureaucracy is forced to go to the workers for support. Each week now, there are joint meetings of stewards, local officers and International reps. Never before (unless in a period of crisis) have these weekly meetings been open to the stewards.

Since the strike, we have not had a single local meeting — imagine almost *five months* without a local meeting... and the situation being what it is!

Our first local meeting is scheduled for next week. It's taken them almost a month since the injunction was put into effect to see the importance of, and necessity of, a local meeting. This is to say nothing of the fact that during the whole four month period of the strike, not a single local meeting was called!

The guys were given no idea what to expect *nor how to conduct themselves while working under the injunction*. Yet they are very strong and understand that the coming vote is crucial for the union, and the gains that we have fought for over the years are at stake.

The questions asked by the International representatives when speaking to the stewards show that there is a definite gap between the leadership and the workers and they are probably trying to find out just what the workers are thinking(!).

A Steward in Steel

### Likes action

Boston, Mass.  
Your party, while I disagree with it, is the only one that takes any *action* at all. If you help the Negro and Puerto Rican drive in the U.S.A. with picket lines etc., you might grow — if also you tone down the intellectualism a bit.  
H.W.

### You're so right!

Pittsburgh, Pa.  
... The problem of strike relief has aroused quite a lot of resentment among the workers in the steel plants here.

The way the union welfare committees are set up now, they simply act as a buffer between the workers and the county relief officials. The union does the state's police work for it. This draws the ire of the workers when their anger should be organized and directed against the politicians and their lousy role as starvation agents for the corporations.

Towards the end of the strike, the union attempted to let down the bars on its own strike relief funds, and the situation became chaotic. Each worker feared the other was going to beat him to it and the result was a massive rush on the union relief office (in my particular local anyway).

There was a welter of charges that internal union politics were being played, that well-off workers got help while poor workers had to go to the county and so on.

It didn't have to happen that way. If the International leadership had shown any sense or foresight, they could have held this kind of thing to a very small minimum. What we need in this country is a LEFT WING and a new union leadership.

E. H.



## Union Leaders Retreat on Many Fronts—But Steelworkers Remain Defiant

Mose Petersen

Youngstown — The outstanding feature when the steelworkers came back into the mills was their feeling of confidence. They do not show any feeling of defeat or of increased fear of the boss. On the contrary, they seem to be more ready to demand their rights under the grievance procedure than before the strike.

The first workers returning to the Campbell plant of the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company were outraged to find that supervision had done a great deal of their work during the strike. And the first turn set up a picket line in protest.

They only disbanded it under the strenuous efforts of the local union president, who probably was highly embarrassed that the wholesale scabbing by the bosses was written up in the whole Mahoning Valley. This was the poisonous fruit of the love feast between the union leadership and management that continued up to the last day of the strike.

So far as can be seen here, management in all the local plants is not using a get-tough policy toward the steelworkers. It may be the belief of management that by treating the workers with some decency they might be able to convince them to vote in favor of the corporations' last offer when the election is held at the end of sixty days.

But the steelworkers are very firm on the issue of changing the contract language to permit the companies to throw out past practices and seniority rights, and they also want to retain the cost-of-living clause. The big danger lies in the union leadership which has already demonstrated its willingness to sacrifice these gains to escape from the necessity of increasing and sharpening the class struggle.

For example, in the Kaiser contract, the cost-of-living gains are greatly restricted. And just this week, the steel union signed a new contract with Union Carbide and Chemical at Ashtabula, Ohio. According to the news reports, the cost-of-living clause was thrown out entirely.

Such retreats make much more difficult the task of obtaining the vitally necessary shorter working week in steel. For a leadership that refuses to defend positions already won will not be able to conquer new ones.

There is no doubt that the companies' present offer will be voted down by the workers here, and no doubt that they will continue the strike at the end of the eighty days if called upon to do so.

But the strike must be uniform if it is resumed. Youngstown workers do not go for McDonald's hints of a "one at a time policy." The slogan of the steelworkers must still be — "All for one and one for all."

## Little Rock Comes to Buffalo; Racists Menace Suburban Family

Buffalo—At 2 P.M., Nov. 15, racist hoodlums flung a bottle through the picture window of the first Negro family who dared to settle in the near-by lily-white City of Tonawanda.

This vicious action climaxed a number of petty harassments undergone by the family of Matthew Daniels after they had moved into a new home at 59 Gath Terrace. At the time of the vandalism Mr. Daniels was at work as a postal clerk at the Central Terminal in Buffalo. His regular daytime job is photostat operator in the County Clerk's office.

Mrs. Daniels, her father, and her five children, awakened by the crash of shattered glass, heard an automobile race away.

Mr. and Mrs. Daniels told the Buffalo Evening News, "We're Negroes, but we're not accustomed to being picked on. We don't like it. We haven't bothered any of our neighbors, and we don't want them to bother us." "We aren't afraid, and we aren't going to move," Mr. Daniels said.

The police made light of the occur-

rence, passing it off as a prank of boys returning home from a football game. "They didn't even try to get any fingerprints off the bottle," said Mr. Daniels. "They just left it on the floor with the broken glass."

Mr. Daniels revealed that about a month after the family had occupied the frame ranch-style house an attorney claiming to represent a group of neighbors offered to buy the house from them for \$5,000 more than they paid for it. He even showed Mr. Daniels promissory notes signed by some of the neighbors.

Tonawanda is actually a suburb of Buffalo—and is one of the many areas outside the city limits (as well as inside) that promote jimcrow.

But the firm stand of the Daniels family, sure to find allies among white workers' families, will surely help to break down this jimcrow.

Theodore Kovalesky

## Diary of a Steelworker

### "Human Body Not Compensable"

"The wearing out of the body is not compensable." I remember reading these words a few years ago in one of the magazines in the front office. The article told about an old shoemaker employed in one of the big New England shoe factories, an old worker who "wore out his body."

One day as he was hammering at a last, a violent pain shot through his arm, causing him to cry out and drop his hammer. He never picked up that hammer — or anything else — again, because years of constant toil had broken down and finally wrecked his arm.

It must have been a shock for the old man to learn that his right hand was gone, that from that time on he would carry a withered, useless claw protruding stiffly from his sleeve, that he

would have to learn all over again how to tie his shoes, how to eat, to light his pipe.

Still, he must have reasoned, he'd get a little compensation. He'd be able to live with his wife in a clean little place and never again have to worry about getting up in the dark of winter mornings when his rheumatism urged him to stay in bed instead of plodding through the snow to the factory.

And then, the hearing: a pontifical voice informing him in precise legal terms that, "the wearing out of the body is not compensable!"

I can imagine the sudden horrible black emptiness, the fear and incredulity: "But what will become of us? How can we live? We are old and poor. All my life I've worked long and faithfully. How can you do this to us?"

And I can imagine the unctuous sympathy: "We're very sorry, but that is the law. If we made an exception in your case, we'd have to do the same in all cases. . . ." And then, with hypocritical incomprehension, "But, you've been working all your life, except for some layoffs now and then . . . how is it that you haven't saved up money for a rainy day? Didn't you ever expect to retire?" — Workers are so improvident!

"The wearing out of the body," disease, even occupational diseases . . . how long did the miners fight to have silicosis recognized as an occupational disease? How many workers died in the long struggle to get workmen's compensation laws passed? How many strikes were there in which safety devices, guards for moving machinery, stood high on the list of demands?

Not very long ago the fellows took up a collection for Jimmy when he was off with pneumonia. Each day he had been sweating in the terrible heat of the job and shivering in the slashing winter wind until finally his body rebelled, and he tossed in his bed in fever and delirium. He had hospitalization insurance. But he never received a penny of compensation. After all, he was just sick, and that was no fault of the company!

What injustice and ingratitude the worker sees under capitalism! All the wealth in the world has been produced by the worker. All the diamonds, Cadillacs and pleasure-palaces, — all the world's goods — owe their existence to the muscle, bone, nerve, brain, sweat and blood of labor.

But "the wearing out of the body is not compensable."

## RED FLAG IN JAPAN!

When 50,000 Japanese workers rushed their parliament buildings last month, they planted the *Red Flag* of the international working class in the Diet (Parliament).

They were protesting the extension of a pact which permits Wall Street's continued military occupation of Japan (in addition to the huge regular base at Okinawa).

A more drastic version of this pact was originally forced upon a defeated people fourteen years ago in order to guarantee the opening-up of Japan's industry to Wall Street's exploitation, and in order to smash the workers of Japan into submission.

Today these troops are a constant threat against the Asiatic Revolution, and against the elementary civil rights of the Japanese workers. These workers are fighting back.

Hurray for their Red Flag!

## Panama: What the Newspapers Didn't Say!

Frederick Matteger

Recent propaganda has pictured the original U.S. theft of the Panama Canal as kindly, big-brotherly aid — just "helping a small nation to get its freedom."

Up to 1900, Panama was a part of Columbia, South America. Then what happened?

As Teddy Roosevelt, the so called trustbuster, said in one of his franker speeches, "I took Panama."

Teddy, acting as the political executive for J.P. Morgan financial interests, did just about that. He simply took this part of Columbia for the benefit of big business interests in the United States.

\$40 Million for J. P. Morgan.

At the turn of the century, expanding trade and military efficiency of American big business required a short cut through Central America. The choice was between a Nicaraguan or a Panama Canal. Panama was the best route. But the Panama "rights" were owned by a company whose affairs were taken over by J. P. Morgan. The agent for Morgan demanded 40 million dollars from the U.S. government.

Congress was pampered and pushed into line. The dominant Republican Party was helpfully bribed with a \$60,000 campaign gift. In May 1902 Congress passed a bill to pay the \$40 million to the Morgan controlled company. Columbia was asked to hand over the land for \$10 million with \$250 thousand a year for rent. The Columbian govern-

ment, though usually obedient to Wall Street, dragged its feet.

Roosevelt, in a hurry, threatened. But nothing happened.

At a meeting in New York of businessmen and U.S. army officers a new and better scheme was planned. A Panamanian revolution! Roosevelt smiled his approval and 3 U.S. warships were sent to Panama.

A Revolution Wall St. Liked.

The section gang workers of the Panama Railroad and the firemen of Panama City were induced to play the role of revolutionists. The bloodless revolution was then staged on November 3, 1903. U.S. warships were on hand to prevent Columbian interference.

Three days later the United States recognized Panama. One of Morgan's agents in the plot, a Frenchman named Bunau-Varilla, was named Panama's representative to the U.S. This French adventurer, who was already in the U.S., then signed a U.S.-dictated treaty in the name of the people of Panama.

This is how the U.S. helped Panama get its "independence." This was like a cop stealing a man's wallet and then posing as a hero with the claim that he had rescued him from thieves.

Since then, this "independence" has been marked by dictatorial U.S. control of the Canal Zone (while the United Fruit Company exploits the rest of the country). It has been marked by discrimination against native Panamanian

workers who have traditionally been paid according to a separate and lower wage scale.

Under pressure from Panama a 1955 treaty change made some concessions in words but Panamanians still could not get the higher paying jobs. The general attitude of the U.S. ruling class in Panama is that of lords dealing with serfs.

In 1958 the gross income of the Canal Company was over 80 million. This year the income will be higher as canal traffic is breaking all records. But Panama's share is less than two million a year.

Panama's Poverty

If you take a trip through Panama, the terrible poverty of the people hits you in the eye. You see shacks along the railway station at Colon, Panama's largest city — shacks made out of tin, boards, cloth. You see begging children, children playing among the junk and decay. As in the rest of Wall Street-exploited Latin America, poverty is the rule; life itself is misery.

Earlier this year, some time before the flag incident and the recent mass actions, a wage dispute took place. Negotiations were held in Washington and Panama. The U.S.-owned Panama Canal Company claimed the wages the Panamanians were asking for would cost them \$18 million a year, and they couldn't spare that much.

They'd rather shoot workers than pay them decent wages. Bullets cost less.

# Can Negroes Fight Capitalists By Purchasing Their Stock?

V. Grey

"There are five million Negro families in this country. If each Negro family would invest as little as \$25 during 1959, the total invested would be over one hundred million dollars in that one year — more than the total amount of the present estimated holdings of the Negro."

—Norman L. McGhee, Investment Security Broker, writing in the Pittsburgh Courier.

This is Mr. McGhee's prescription for the ills now plaguing the black race. What is wrong with it, and why is it worse than useless?

To begin with, one white capitalist family, (the Rockefellers) directly owns over four billion dollars worth of stock! At Mr. McGhee's "practical" business estimate, it would take 40 years of mass stock-buying for all Negroes in America to collectively own four billion dollars worth.

So after 40 years, Rockefeller would

still be able to buy out the whole Negro race! On the scale of value in Mr. McGhee's financial world, 18 million Negroes would weigh only as much as one white capitalist!

After 40 years, Rockefeller would still dominate the lives of millions of black and white workers. He would still be the owner of vast plantations and mighty factories, hiring, sweating and firing both Negroes and whites who had never seen him nor even knew that they were working for him. And he would still be condemning the Willie Reids of this world to the ancient torture of the chain gang.

Of course, the "Talented Tenth" would still be in business. And Rockefeller would still be bribing and soft-soaping it.

He would still be chief guardian angel for the Urban League. And he would still endow Negro colleges like Laura Spelman (named for the original Rockefeller's wife, Laura Spelman Rockefeller). He would still be kidding Mr. McGhee along. But the rich would still be rich; and the poor would still be poor.

No, Mr. McGhee is barking up the wrong tree. He wants to sell stocks, of course, because that is his business. But the poor can't beat the rich at their own game.

The richest white capitalist families have allowed no new contenders into their ranks — black or white — for two generations. The 60 richest families do not include a single individual who made his own fortune. In fact, there are very few of them whose fathers did so. Most of them are third generation (or more) "aristocrats."

The black poor, like the white poor, cannot compete with hereditary money-kings by supporting their stock swindles. There is no road to fortune for the Negro race — except by taking away the fortunes of the Rockefellers and their friends.

To do this, colored and white must unite and fight — for socialism.

# "NOW, NOW, NOW!"

"Total independence NOW, NOW, NOW!" was the cry of Patrice Lumumba and his followers of the Congolese Nationalist Movement, when he was jailed four weeks ago by the Belgian police.

After nearly a century of the most brutal exploitation by Belgian imperialism, the Congolese are now demanding their freedom. They will not be put off with the phony "election" the Belgians are holding this month, nor with the insulting promise of independence in five years.

When Lumumba was arrested and thrown into jail at a meeting in Stanleyville, the protests of his followers were answered with clubs and bullets. Belgian police killed hundreds of Congo



Lumumba

youth and wounded hundreds more.

The cry of the Congo was heard 4500 miles away on November 14, as Workers World held a mass demonstration against this mass murder — at the Belgian Consulate in front of swanky Rockefeller Plaza in New York City.

Thousands of New Yorkers saw black and white, European and Puerto Rican workers marching and chanting for Lumumba's freedom and the Congo's.

American Negro newspapers hailed the action. The Pittsburgh Courier and the Afro-American carried pictures and stories. The Chicago and Los Angeles editions of the Herald-Dispatch gave it an eight-column, double headline on the front page.

The Congo drums are famous for their long-distance transmission of the news. Let them add a bulletin from Rockefeller Plaza and from the Workers World:

"The Congo martyrs have not died in vain. The movement for African freedom is world-wide. And it is unconquerable!"

Peter Fryer

## Right Winger Quits

Peter Fryer has just resigned from the Socialist Labor League in Britain. He was editor of the Socialist "News Letter" and previously foreign correspondent for the London Worker. He was international Exhibit A for the SWP's giddy "Regroupment" policy.

Fryer had resigned from the British Communist Party in 1957 as a result of the Hungarian uprising of October-November, 1956.

In his book, *Hungarian Tragedy*, Fryer supported the pro-capitalist government of Imre Nagy, calling it "more truly representative of the Hungarian people than any government Hungary had known since 1947 (when Hungary was capitalist — ed.). It was a real people's front government . . ." p. 74.

Fryer prefers a "democratic" capitalist "people's" government to a workers government (whether democratic or not).

We explained this to Fryer's new Socialist friends at the time. They wouldn't hear of it.

Now that he has resigned from the Socialist Labor League, accusing its leadership of being "the same as the British or Hungarian Communist party" (Manchester Guardian, Nov. 14), perhaps our point is now more clear.

## 4th International Defends China; Attacks Nehru and Khrushchev

Michel Pablo, Secretary of the Fourth International, has made a strong statement in defense of the Chinese Revolution in the recent India border clash, exposing the hypocritical Prime Minister Nehru as "in reality the author of the present changeover of the foreign policy of India."

"The revolutionary Marxists," he said, "can only favor the Chinese point of view without complications, that is to say, the point of view which conforms most to the strategic interests of the Chinese state and the Chinese Revolution."

Pablo's statement, like the Workers World statement of November 2, attacks the equivocal "neutralist" in reality pro-India) policy of Khrushchev, and the pro-capitalist, patriotic policy of the India Communist Party.

"As for Khrushchev, who generously proclaims an equal 'neutrality' towards China, a workers state in full revolutionary development, and to India, a bourgeois state, fighting desperately against the revolution which is ripening and threatens to explode, he manifestly obeys the demands of his policy of 'peaceful coexistence' and of compromise with imperialism."

For the benefit of those "Socialists" unduly influenced by the capitalist press, Pablo asserts:

"The revolutionary Marxists have no

particular reason for according more credit to the assertions of the bourgeois government of Nehru than to those of the Peking workers government. The latter declares that all the incidents of the past month were provoked by the incursion of Indian forces into the territories controlled by China since the Liberation and that "although the Chinese government cannot recognize the illegal McMahon Line, Chinese guards have never crossed this line."

Some opportunists in the SWP sympathize with China, but wish to propitiate the reactionaries. They advise the Chinese to sacrifice their national interests in order to convince the readers of capitalist newspapers that they are "good," wellmeaning — and utterly stupid. For the benefit of these propagators of Christian Socialism, the statement explains:

"The entire frontier dispute is concerned with a desert mountain region of the Himalayas, but of very important strategic interest. It is really the hinge between the three countries and commands China's access to India and Pakistan, and vice versa

"There is absolutely no reason why the Chinese workers state should show herself "generous" and give away gratuitously these very important strategic positions to the bourgeoisie states, India and Pakistan, the allies of imperialism."

## China's Backyard Furnaces Not so Bad After All!

Ana Kezman

The imperialist press has been crowing for some time that the so-called "backyard blast furnaces" of China have proved to be a failure.

Although these furnaces produced millions of tons of iron in metal-starved rural China, they took still more millions of man-hours to build and to tend. They took precious time away from the soil. They were built without regard to railroads and similar facilities. The iron could not be taken to the great centers for manufacture into modern steel — etc., etc. . . . So goes the crepe-hangers' argument.

Admittedly, the experiment was possible only at the expense of the "uneconomical" labor of many millions. Admittedly, the great heroism and heart-rending self-sacrifice of China's masses cannot automatically be viewed as efficient by the cold-blooded science of statistics. And admittedly, the immediate short-term "balance" on the country's books may show a "loss."

But here is the irrefutable gain:

The "uneconomical" five- and ten-ton capacity "backyard" blast furnaces provided the metal for hoes, rakes, plows, wagon axles, and a hundred other farm uses. And the surrounding population who had used the wooden plow for generations, looked upon their neighbors'

"backyard" handiwork as practically miraculous.

These "backyard" furnaces have now been replaced by thousands of small modern furnaces, each with a capacity of 25 to 100 tons a day. This development would have been impossible without the mass experience with the indigenous "backyard" type of furnace.

Furthermore, the small modern furnaces, like the tiny indigenous ones, are very practical in local areas on a decentralized basis. They can be built without an accompanying great network of railroads to bring in the hundreds of thousands of tons of ore, limestone, coal or coke, etc. (which the truly gargantuan American, Shanghai, and Wuhan types devour).

In 1949 China was 26th among steel-producing countries.

Today it is 7th.

The modern iron and steel giants are no longer built in the immediate vicinity of enormous mineral deposits (as were the early steel plants of Pennsylvania). But for that very reason, they require the services of great railroads, ocean and lake freighters of ten- to twenty-thousand tons of capacity to

serve them daily.

Making a virtue of necessity, China began developing its great hinterland without waiting until it could have all the modern transport necessary. China could build thousands of small local plants in the vicinity of small deposits of ore and coal, etc.

The "uneconomical" experiment acquainted literally tens of millions of "backward" Chinese with the iron-making process. Even the primitive "backyard" furnaces utilized much of the same iron-making principles that a mammoth 2,000-ton-a-day blast furnace employs.

It is not exaggerating to say that any Chinese who has mastered the "backyard" furnace technique knows more about basic iron-making than the aver-

age American blast furnace worker.

The Chinese now say that the small modern blast furnaces are alone capable of producing 10 million tons of pig iron in a year. And small Bessemer-type converters (also on a local, de-centralized basis) can refine at least 4 million tons of steel a year. All of China's 26 provinces now produce large amounts of economical pig iron. And most areas produce steel.

Meanwhile China's large modern plants are becoming ever larger and more modern. The new blast furnace at Paotow, for example, can produce 2,500 tons of iron per day. This is stupendous, even in America.

Thus, Revolutionary China's friends should not be at all dismayed by the checkered reports and partial set-backs of the Chinese steel industry. And China's enemies will yet go to school to find the secret of her steel-making progress.

### SUBSCRIBE NOW!

A 6 mo. sub to WORKERS WORLD for only \$1.00 — 1 yr. for \$2.00. Fill in coupon and mail to:

Workers World, 46 W. 21st St., N.Y. 10, N.Y.

NAME .....

STREET .....

CITY.....ZONE.....STATE.....