

WORKERS WORLD

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January 1, 1960

TEN CENTS

STEELWORKERS: DEMAND THAT McDONALD SEND AN

SOS TO ALL U.S. LABOR: "Save Our Strike"!

Here's How Auto Workers Can Help!



Detroit, Michigan — These workers are enthusiastically joining the great "sitdown" movement that swept the country in 1937.

Letter From Pittsburgh

Dear Fellow-Workers:

As we near the deadline for the vote on the last company offer, this is how the picture looks from here:

The men went back under the T-H mad as hell. Most guys felt we had the company licked if Ike (some even say the government, itself) hadn't bailed it out.

Supervision was as sweet as can be for the first few days, but the whip of production soon came down. In an amazingly short time, the company was operating at full capacity.

Supervision never really became arrogant. Their tone was soft. And why shouldn't it be? They had been worried about slowdowns during the 80 days. But now their bargaining position was strengthened because the union tops were afraid to defy the T-H in any way, or encourage the ranks to do it.

Many units in the rolling mills were on just two turns. Many men were given three and four day weeks. And I believe that not all the men in production were called back. I know that over 150 guys in our mill were transferred out. The younger men are working in the labor gang, and they are not making the wages to get them out of the hole.

The men on production units that are operating at top capacity are making a buck, but they are rolling the steel so fast they can't get the slabs fast enough — so the men that are making a buck, some of them are told at the end of the week to stay home. There is not enough steel for the day.

In some sections of the plant, of course, they are working five days, six days and doubles.

The company is even changing the incentive system during this period

(but only in our mill, I think). Many of the guys are suspicious that this will hurt them. And in many cases they are really taking home less money. —And production is breaking all records!

All in all, there is plenty of unrest. But the question is: what is to be done? This is on the lips of many guys.

Obviously, the company is banking on another extension from Congressional action. And another period of production at this level after the 80 days would be disastrous to the union.

When we talk about McDonald's 15-day extension (July 1 to 15), plus the 80 days of top production, and then another extension on top of that — the men see the danger clearly.

The union leadership is banking on a lop-sided vote to force the company into line. I don't believe this will do it. The question is whether we walk out on January 26 or not—

And McDonald and Co. are sitting on their hands on this key question. (Naturally!)

Well that's how it stands. The men are stronger than ever as they get ready for a big vote. The company is stronger than it was at the end of the strike because of top production. And McDonald and the other union bureaucrats are looking to the courts, the conciliators, the fact-finders, and the federal mediators.

How do you add all this up?

Something new is needed. Something big. Whatever it is, the guys would go for it—no matter how difficult it was—if it looked practical or possible.

You name it, and we'll try it!

—The Boys From the Bar Mill

With a General Walkout By ALL Unions Jan. 26

(One-at-a-Time Tactic Won't Work!)

The steel strike was won on the picket line in one of the bitterest battles in American labor history. But victory was snatched from the workers' hands. It was handed over to the steel bosses by their Wall street stooges in the government who obtained a strike-breaking Taft-Hartley injunction against the steelworkers.

WHAT TO DO:

1. End Company Stalling; No More Extensions!

If there is no contract on January 26 — then no work. All the stalling and extensions have helped the steel companies. You know that. The frantic speed-up by the companies to get the steel out before the deadline proves it, just as it did before the July 15 deadline. A big vote against the company's "last offer" is important, but that alone can't win.

2. Get the AFL-CIO to Proclaim

A NATIONAL LABOR EMERGENCY!

Why? Because such an emergency already *exists!* All labor is imperilled by the steel baron's attack. It is already living in a state of emergency, but so far, only the phony "emergency" rigged up by the steel trusts through the government has any recognition.

It is time for labor to realize and recognize officially the *real* emergency — the real crisis in which all American labor finds itself.

They'll Have to Listen When All Labor Talks!

American labor faces an unparalleled crisis. And only the self-action of the American workers can overcome this crisis.

A sinister conspiracy against all labor came to a head in the company-provoked steel strike. Recklessly emboldened by Wall Street's aggressiveness, a supposedly pro-labor Congress went wild with anti-labor hysteria, and passed one of the most vicious pro-company laws in history.

What is labor's answer going to be? The way to beat the anti-labor drive is to call a one-day general strike of all American labor on January 26.

All auto workers, rubber workers, garment workers, truck drivers, railroaders — all organized workers everywhere can drop their tools at the same moment, walk off the job for 24 hours on January 26, and tie up all the factories in the whole country.

This will show the tiny minority of millionaires and billionaires where the real power in this country lies. It will show their arrogant stooges in Congress — the Griffins and the Landrums — as well as the false "friends" of labor, like Kennedy, that they make anti-labor laws at their peril. It will show the Wall Street steel barons that they cannot break the steel union or any other union!

For these mighty men of the almighty dollar have an Achilles' Heel! The Bloughs, the Humphreys, the Homers and the Coopers, who run this nation's steel industry are of course powerful labor-haters from the crowns of their

massaged heads to the soles of their hundred dollar shoes. But their very power is also their weakness!

These same men and their cronies also run the rest of U.S. industry from their plush towers on Wall Street. They order the lives of millions of workers, and decide their fate with lay-offs and low wages. But for that very reason, these millions of workers can bring these labor-haters to their senses, and wake them up to a new reality.

The tactic of the one-day general strike will take these gentlemen by the scruffs of their stiff necks and give them the scare of their lives. All their business will stop. All their sales will stop. Not a product will move; not an engine will work; and not a wheel will turn without labor's permission.

If the steelworkers are forced to work without fighting back; if there should be no general nation-wide fight against Taft-Hartley, there would be a demoralizing defeat for the steelworkers and for all the rest of American labor.

But if all American labor goes on a one-day general strike in solidarity with the steelworkers, then labor's enemies will be demoralized — and the historic victory will erase a thousand defeats.

January 26 is the time to strike back against the robber-baron steel billionaires. That is the time for all American labor to stand together. That is the time for all working men and women to unite and strike the victorious blow.

It can be done!

WORKERS WORLD

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TROTSKY

LENIN

Company Men in Congress

The steel corporations are campaigning against the workers on two fronts.

On the contractual front, they are trying to convince the "public" that the workers are "featherbedders" — that the workers cause waste and inefficiency. But who produces all the steel? These same featherbedders! And when these featherbedders go on strike, not one ounce of this steel comes out of the mills. Some featherbedders, they are! And when they work full time, these same featherbedders produce over 140 million tons of steel in a year!

On the legislative front, all the politicians are against the workers. The only difference among them is over how vocal they may be. Some don't say a word, while others are more outspoken in their views.

Stevenson, still a candidate for President, is now openly for strangling the workers' struggle. Senator Morse, another Presidential contender, is for legislation that will prevent other "critical" strikes like the steel strike.

(And Morse is supposed to be one of the best, since he was one of the two who voted against the Kennedy-Landrum-Griffin bill.)

Kennedy, another Presidential aspirant, is the real architect of the Kennedy-Landrum-Griffin bill whose anti-labor poison has yet to take effect. Nixon, who seems to have the Republican nomination in the bag, is well known for his anti-labor position, as is the democrat Lyndon Johnson, dark horse Democratic Presidential hopeful.

In addition to these, Eisenhower and his cabinet members are all whooping it up for more restrictive legislation.

And who has spoken out openly in defense of workers on picket lines?

Not a single capitalist politician has done so.

We, the working class must depend on our own strength; we must get leaders who will mobilize all the workers in these giant struggles against Wall Street. In that way, we can and will win greater gains.

Steelworkers and Their Wives

Steelworkers Local 1104, the large local at National Tube Company in Lorain, Ohio, conducted a poll of its members and their wives. The members voted 3227 for the union and 77 for the companies' last offer. The wives voted 1500 for the union and 128 for the companies' last offer.

These votes not only prove how strong the workers are for the union. They also show that the workers would have been willing to broaden the fight if they had been given the leadership.

The women's vote answers the gripes of some backward scissorbills in the union, and disproves the bosses' propaganda that the women are not in support of the steelworkers' struggle.

Why Rockefeller Quit

There are several reasons why Rockefeller quit the presidential race.

It's not because he ran out of money, that's for sure. The Rockefeller dynasty is a multibillion dollar empire that literally circles the globe. But mighty as it is, it is not the most powerful financial group in the country yet.

The House of Morgan is still first, although it has lost a lot of ground. Then there are the Duponts, the Fords, the Mellons, the Kuhn-Loebs and the Gianninis, etc.

If Rockefeller were elected, he certainly would try to help all the financial oligarchies as against the workers.

That's taken for granted. But the rival financial cliques mentioned above feared that Rockefeller would strengthen his particular group at their expense. That's why they ditched him.

The fact that he didn't have the Taft wing of the Republican party with him is not the real reason why he quit. The Taftites always put up a strong front against "Eastern bankers" — until they get the signal from Wall Street. Then

they gracefully cave in, and often become the loudest cheerleaders for Wall Street's choice.

Nixon is not a direct representative of any of the ruling financial dynasties — and promises to support all of them "fairly" and at the expense of the workers.

The banking magnates felt it was OK to run Rockefeller for New York governor as against Harriman, who was also a big banker. The Democrats couldn't use Rockefeller's fabulous wealth against him because it would be too much like the pot calling the kettle black.

But if Rockefeller ran against Stevenson, for instance, the Democrats would certainly use it demagogically during the election campaign. But if Stevenson were elected, he would serve the bankers just as faithfully and more "impartially."

But this would also be at the expense of the workers, as his handcuffs-for-labor compulsory arbitration proposal clearly shows.

One at a Time Won't Work

The one-at-a-time strategy proposed by McDonald is self-defeating. It will not effectively divide the steel corporations but will divide the workers instead.

It will sow disunity and confusion among the workers, who prefer the slogan: All for one, and one for all.

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NAME

STREET

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

It's a lie!

Supervision Loves the Workers

Youngstown—So far, during the period of the 80 days of the T-H Slave Labor Act, the "little" bosses in the mill, department heads and so on, have been putting on a show of great friendship to the workers.

First they offered to loan the workers money. (This would take the workers off relief.) Then they put on an air of general good will. Of course, when the huge majority of steelworkers wanted off on Christmas Day, this didn't stop the companies from saying that steel production must go on.

(Meanwhile steel production is at an

all-time high for the number of workers on the payroll.)

The big bosses will stop at nothing to make money and profits. After government contract graft and bribery, picket line murders, what's a little smiling hypocrisy between friends?

While this sham friendliness is being enacted at the bottom, the real bosses, the Wall Street gang at the top, are driving for a defeat of the union. This gang, which doesn't know a steel mill from an auto plant, is nevertheless shrewdly planning to destroy the union.

Weapon of the Bosses

During the 116 day steelworkers' strike, food was used as a weapon of the bosses.

Although there are over 8 billion dollars worth of surplus food in warehouses owned by the government, in three months a piddling 10,000 dollars worth of this food was distributed in the Youngstown district. WHY?

Local merchants don't want this food going to workers' homes. It might hurt the grocery business. And more important, the steel corporations wanted the strikers to suffer as much as possible.

Now why didn't and why doesn't, the union do something to get this surplus food in greater quantities? The leaders of the union don't want to antagonize the local merchants, the local A & P and other food chains. They don't want to break with the local politicians who are in with the merchants and in reality are supporting the steel bosses.

And the rank and file have not as yet found a way to force some action to storm City Hall to get results. But they will. And when they do, food will be used for the strikers rather than against them.

Believe it or not!

A recent investigation turned up a son of Senator Leverett Saltonstall, Republican of Massachusetts, working for his father at a neat cost of \$8,800 a year to the taxpayers.

Senator Saltonstall's office said it had hired the boy without the Senator's knowledge.

Any questions?

Theodore Kovalsky

Diary of a Steelworker

The black flue dust lies limp on the snow where three months ago not an iron pig nor a steel ingot was produced.

The blast furnaces roar and light up the night skies, orange-colored bars stream through the mills and the narrow-gauge engine tugs the glowing ingots from the open hearths.

In the black December mornings, the grey afternoons and the stinging midnights, the shifts go in and out of the gate of the steel plant, packing the dirty snow under their feet. The routine of work rolls automatically onward.

But day by day, and sometimes minute by minute, there are little things that remind us of the struggle that we have passed through and not yet won.

When we take our clothes from the hooks of our lockers in the flat furnace department, still wet and rank with toil, we see a bent, wrinkled old man sweeping up the dust and torn papers from the locker room floor. Sometimes he stops, leaning on his broom, to chatter with some old buddy of the last forty years, babbling happily in his native tongue.

He is old John, the sweeper of the "welfare building" (as the company charitably calls it). He is the little old man who has worked so many years out of his life on the furnaces and on the slag dump in the bitterest weather. (They say he "froze his brains" out on the dump.) Now he's only good for swabbing out the toilets and sweeping the brown dust and papers from the locker room floor.

As a man, I suppose you'd have to admit that John's not worth much any more. The unceasing press of toil has bent and warped his body, crushed from it the vital juices of energy. He moves

slowly, almost uncertainly. And the heavy, grinding mill of factory life has smashed down and pulverized his brain.

But fourteen years ago, I muse as I watch old John pause in his sweeping and laugh foolishly for a moment with one of his cronies, fourteen years ago, an old man even then, he stood with men and gave all that was his to give in the common fight. That was the great 1946 strike when he was getting just 78 cents an hour and most of us weren't getting much more.

After we had been out on strike a week, the old union hall was filled with dirt. Crumpled fragments of old bulletins, bits of food, and layers of dust were strewn about. When somebody had a chance or happened to think of it, he'd take the broom and brush the worst spots. But that was all. And the hall became filthy.

And then old John came to our aid. One of the picket captains found him shivering on the picket line and sent him into the office to get warm.

"I too old for picket," he admitted ruefully. "Maybe I work here?"

From that day on, until the end of the strike, John came every morning and cleaned the hall. And from time to time through the day, he would walk among us, clucking his tongue in disapproval, gathering up the papers and crumbs that we had thoughtlessly dropped.

He must be seventy-five years old now. But do you know what he said when he heard the fellows talking about the company's latest phony "offer"?

"Too bad we got to strike in winter-time again. But maybe the union let me work inside the hall instead of picket?"

Steel Companies Want "Loyal" Workers; They Mean Tame and Submissive Stooges!

Mose Peterson

A fair day's work (plus your soul!) for a fair day's pay. That's what the bosses want in Youngstown.

Here in Youngstown, there is a single newspaper: the *Vindicator*. The use of the Taft-Hartley injunction against the steelworkers has emboldened the journalistic thugs who write this paper to lash out against the steel union nearly every day in their editorial ravings.

In its daily mixture of threats and promises, the *Vindicator* reveals what the boss thinks he ought to get out of

the wages paid to the steelworkers.

"Surely," the *Vindicator* observes, "management has a RIGHT TO EXPECT some LOYALTY from the steelworkers."

The steel bosses always maintained in contract negotiations that they were interested only in a "fair day's work for a fair day's pay." But now they are revising this old-fashioned concept, and expressing in their demand for LOYALTY, the real picture of what they want the steelworker to be.

It is almost laughable for these pre-

dators to be demanding loyalty from their victims. The record of the past five years in Ohio has been a record of their continuous and intensifying assaults against the workers' organizations.

After being forced on strike in 1956 by the growing crisis of overproduction, the steelworkers came back to work and soon realized that the union had won two highly significant concessions in the 1956 contract — the escalator clause and Supplemental Unemployment Benefits. The capitalist class realized this, too, and set out immediately to deny or nullify these benefits.

The Ohio chamber of commerce managed to withhold the payment of "S.U.B." funds all through the '57-'58 depression until even the *Vindicator* admitted that children had lost their lives because of the dire need in the homes of unemployed steelworkers.

This economic attack was coupled to the propaganda campaign that tried to pass a "Right to Work" law in Ohio. The working class was completely 'disloyal' to the appeals of their class enemies and decisively beat the "Right to Work" fraud and helped to speed up the payment of their "S.U.B." money in the process.

While the union leadership was explaining to the members the great victory achieved in the '58 election, labor's "friends" who got elected, were caucusing up with the steel bosses. They were adopting the bosses' suggestions on the Landrum-Griffin-Kennedy bill and help-

They're Cheats!

Lackawanna, N.Y. — Workers in this steel city are reporting that they are being laid off without receiving the Supplemental Unemployment Benefits (SUB) guaranteed under the last contract.

Other companies seem to be renegeing too.

Since the steel union has to go to the courts to win even the 4 cents due from the cost-of-living escalator clause, it appears more and more certain that the companies are determined to break the contract and the union as well.

ing, in their speeches against "inflation" to prepare the steel corporation with a favorable balance of forces in the drive to bust the steel union. After six months of frantic stockpiling, the historic 1959 steel strike began and has been growing in intensity to this day.

From the bosses' point of view, the steelworkers are more "disloyal" today than ever before, and conversely, more loyal to the union. By letter, by radio, and T-V, the honeyed words of the mill bosses seek to convince the steelworkers. And the steelworkers are answering in that classic phrase: "WHAT YOU ARE SPEAKS SO LOUD THAT I CANNOT HEAR WHAT YOU SAY!"

For the first time in the big steel union, the individual members are being forced to think about their situation in the mill and in society. The result has been a big increase in union consciousness. And now the steelworkers face the next phase of the struggle with a little better understanding of the class nature of the contending forces.

"Disloyalty," we are pleased to report to the *Vindicator*, is rampant.

Lackawanna Says "NO"!

Lackawanna, N. Y. — The four locals of the giant Lackawanna plant at Bethlehem steel have each VOTED UNANIMOUSLY TO WALK OUT at the end of the 80 day period.

Fighting Big Business in America, 1937



Bethlehem, Pa. — Steelworkers during the 1937 Little Steel Strike, overturning car, in militant struggle.

THE ROAD TO SOCIALISM

V. Grey

"Do you mean to say that workers in places as different as Africa and the United States are going to overthrow capitalism just as they did in the Soviet Union?"

Yes, that's just what I do mean to say. If the problem — capitalist exploitation — is the same, then the solution — socialist revolution — is the same.

Even if you don't tell people what the solution is, they'll find it somehow. Take Louie, the Stump Jumper, for example.

Many years ago, he used to be one of the only two welders in the shop. There wasn't so much welding done here in those days. And what the rest of us didn't know (which was plenty) we learned from Louie — which wasn't much. Louie was one of these tight-lipped customers — the kind of a guy who would huddle his whole body over a blue print for fear you might find out what he was going to do before he doped it out for himself.

There were a couple of old coffee grinders that the company passed off for electric welding machines. Louie used both of them on the day shift and Harry Johnson used both of them at night. This was because one or the other machine was always going on the bum.

Well, at this particular time, we were making metal frames out of sheet metal so thin you could hardly weld it with acetylene, much less, electric arc. They were holy hell to weld — especially with those crazy machines. The metal was so thin, the welding arc would go right through it if you used any heat at all. And by the time you cut the heat down to where you figured it ought to be, it was too cold to work at any speed with, and it made a lousy weld anyway.

But old Louie seemed to get the idea somehow — and he started turning those frames out like nobody's business.

With Harry, though, it was a different story. He'd struggle along all night with-

out getting anywhere at all. Poor Harry Johnson and the Stump Jumper had been carrying on some kind of a feud for years, and Louie, even when he was expansive, was never what you'd call the most helpful guy in the world. Louie did three frames to Harry's one, every day.

We all found out later on, just what Louie's secret had been. For that kind of job with the old machines, you didn't just cut everything down. You turned the voltage very low, but kept the amperage fairly high for such light work, and you could go right to town.

Well, that's how Louie did it. And he would finish a little early every day, and deliberately reset the machine so Harry, the night man, would find it set wrong and never know where his trouble was.

But one morning, Louie came to work and saw welded frames piled up all over the place. And he counted them while he was pretending to look at a blueprint. There was half again as many as he had ever done!

Harry had got on to the trick himself. Louie must have thought he had some kind of a personal patent on it. But he didn't.

Things happen that way when people have the same problems. They finally come up with the same solution.

Of course, if everybody were like Louie the Stump Jumper, it would be a pretty long drawn-out business. It's much quicker when new methods of doing things are taught by one to another — or brought from one place to another.

That's the way it's going to be with socialism. Workers everywhere are going to be looking for it. Some will find it for themselves like Harry Johnson. Others will have to be shown what wheels and switches to work.

And who knows? The African workers may yet teach some American Stump Jumpers how to make a revolution!

The Drug Companies Aren't the Only Ones

Nina Silay

The daily operation of U.S. hospitals is equal to two months' gross sales of the Woolworth chain. The combined assets and investments are greater than the total assets and investments of Ford, GM and Chrysler. They are even greater than the assets and investments of the six largest railroads combined.

One out of every 44 people in the U.S. is employed in a hospital, where he or she is overworked and underpaid.

In New York city alone, about 30,000 human beings are employed in 81 voluntary hospitals as non-professional

workers. About 85 per cent of these workers are Negro and Latin American.

They have had to live on wages as low as \$32 for a 44 hour week.

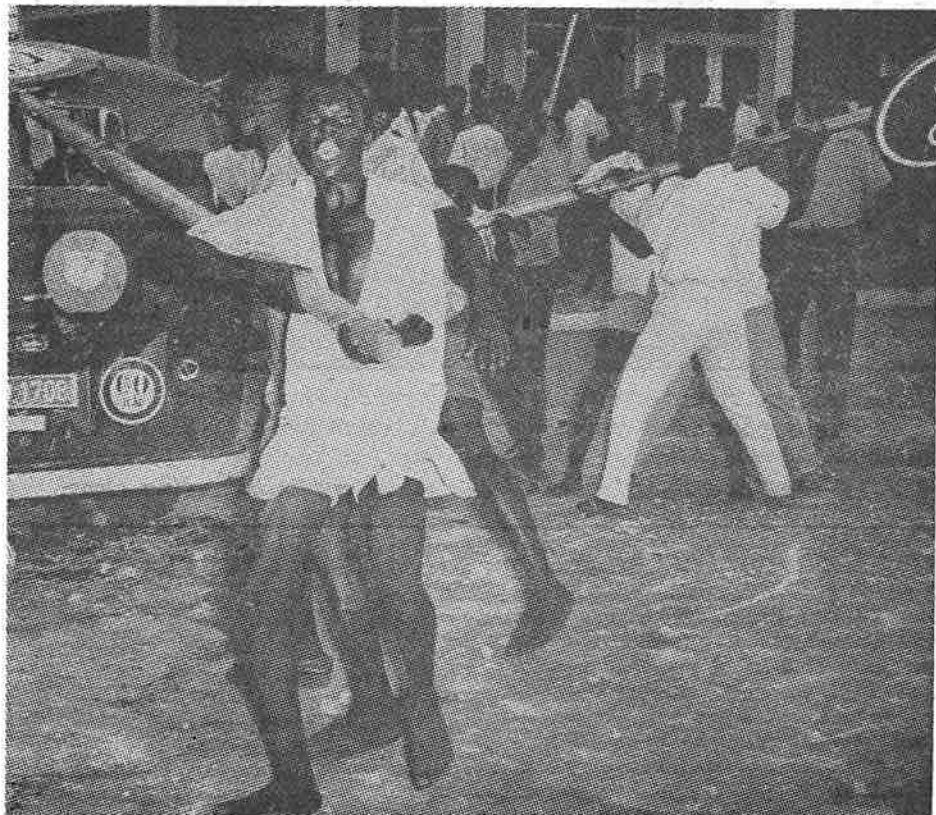
They have been refused social security or other benefits (even hospitalization!).

They are unable to collect unemployment benefits.

Economic exploitation and discrimination have stripped them of their self-respect and dignity.

Is this "Operation Humanity" or just big business?

Fighting Big Business in Africa, 1959



Leopoldville. — These are Belgian Congo workers, fighting for their freedom. They are overturning car like Bethlehem steelworkers above — with the additional use of long poles for levers.

Why Africa Is Strangled

Africa has the largest iron ore reserves of any continent in the world. And just one of its many coal fields—the Wankie in Southern Rhodesia — is thought to be the largest in the world. (Coal and iron ore are the basic ingredients for making steel, the foundation of modern industry.)

Question: Why is Africa not becoming a great modern steel-producing area like China, which has advanced from 26th to 7th in the list of steel-making nations?

Answer: Because Africa still lies under the heel of colonial capitalist exploitation. And even her newly "independent" countries have not yet thrown off their foreign exploitation.

The Tribal Wars of the Africans Are Goaded on by Their Oppressors!

"How are you going to get the Africans to get along with the Africans under this splendid new democracy they're so hot and heavy on?" sarcastically asks the columnist Robert C. Ruark (December 11). And then he proceeds to answer himself by referring to the growing number of tribal wars.

Ruark is the American who joined the British in their murderous man-hunt against the Mau Mau in 1953. He shot Kikuyu tribesmen like wild animals while he rode on the back of an elephant.

"Africans have been killing each other for centuries," he says. "The blood history of Africa's west coast is beyond belief."

Pen prostitute Ruark was stooping so low from shouldering the capitalist "white man's burden" that he probably didn't read the New York Times for December 11, the same day he wrote this drivel.

On that date another "tribal war" was reported. The Lulua and Baluba tribes in the Belgian Congo clashed, with a total of 17 dead, 60 wounded, and many burned-out huts and streams of refugees into other areas.

After a long and detailed story, the Times disclosed that "the Lulua are in no great hurry to get rid of the Belgians who are a shield against the Baluba."

The Baluba, on the other hand, are

for independence.

Obviously, the imperialists have everything to gain by the continuation of such "tribal wars." And the Africans have everything to lose. Why then, have these wars increased since the drive for independence?

Because the imperialists are provoking them, engineering them, goading them on. Like the rulers of all ages, they are infinitely more class-conscious than the classes they enslave.

They know their own interests. And they know how to set one slave against the other — from the "household slaves" of old Virginia to the Cossacks of old Russia to the "talented tenth" of new America. One African tribe is given privileges that are denied to another. And ancient grudges are thus given a modern twist.

In addition, some of the privileged tribes supply cops, soldiers and spies for the oppressor country.

In the case of the worker-Balubas and the Belgian-protected Lulus, a platoon of Congo soldiers from still another tribe, under the command of a Belgian lieutenant, was just four miles away from the daylight "war."

According to the Times, "the platoon heard Lulua tribesmen communicating on tom toms, but was unable to interpret the drum signals."

Of course they were "unable"! Because it was in the interest of their Belgian imperialist masters to let this kind of fight go on!

The Congo troops are used very quickly, however, in any tribal or mass actions against the Belgians. Just last October they murdered 70 Congo youth and imprisoned Patrice Lumumba, the independence fighter.

There can be no doubt that black Belgian agents among the Lulus and Balubas fanned a small flare-up into a white heat, and that it was planned in detail long in advance.

This is the method by which tribal wars increase just at a time when unity of all tribes against the imperialists is most required.

The "Slum Clearance" Racket: It Creates Big Profits — and Bigger Slums!

All over the country, the real estate sharks are taking a juicy new bite out of their long suffering working class tenants.

From St. Louis, St. Paul, Cincinnati, Atlanta, Gadsden, Buffalo, and Monroe, North Carolina comes the news that people are being dispossessed, moved against their will, in order that their landlords may be enriched.

This is not a matter of tenants delinquent in paying their rent. Nor is it even wholly a matter of tenants. In many cases, such as Monroe, North Carolina, a large number of small owners are involved. Their homes are being condemned, bought for a song by the "re-developers," and they are being sent to shift for themselves, often old and poor, not having enough money to pay rent the rest of their lives, much less to buy another home.

This new Diaspora (the Great Exile of the Jews) is helped along by the federal government and is given the

deodorizing name of "slum clearance."

It is slum clearance indeed, if by slums, we mean to say not only bad housing, but low cost housing! The bright new apartments that take the place of the demolished slums throughout the country are generally two or three times more expensive.

Thus the slum-dwellers, who needless to say, are poor, are compelled to find another slum for themselves!

In addition to the poverty that creates the slums, the power of prejudice is equally important. Negroes, Puerto Ricans etc. who have no other place to go, are compelled to live in rat-infested restricted areas at relatively high rents.

When these minority groups do manage to get something like low income project-type housing, they are usually jim-crowed and sometimes as in Buffalo, N.Y., pushed out of the new apartments in a few years to make way for a scandalous rent-boost "improvement" program.

"Slum Clearance" is a fraud! And the U.S. government is helping to perpetuate that fraud by subsidizing the real estate crooks who make all the profits by the operation. The poor people's taxes are used to create more profits for the real estate men (beside what they gouge out in high rents;). The "improvement" of the looks, health and living conditions of a city

Freedom of Speech

December 18, Monroe, N.C. — The Charlotte Observer reported that Rob Williams was barred from a city hearing on "urban renewal" "because it was felt his presence would be disruptive to the discussion."

Rob Williams' paper, the Crusader, however, states that "almost 50 other Negro property owners were turned away by a doorman guard."

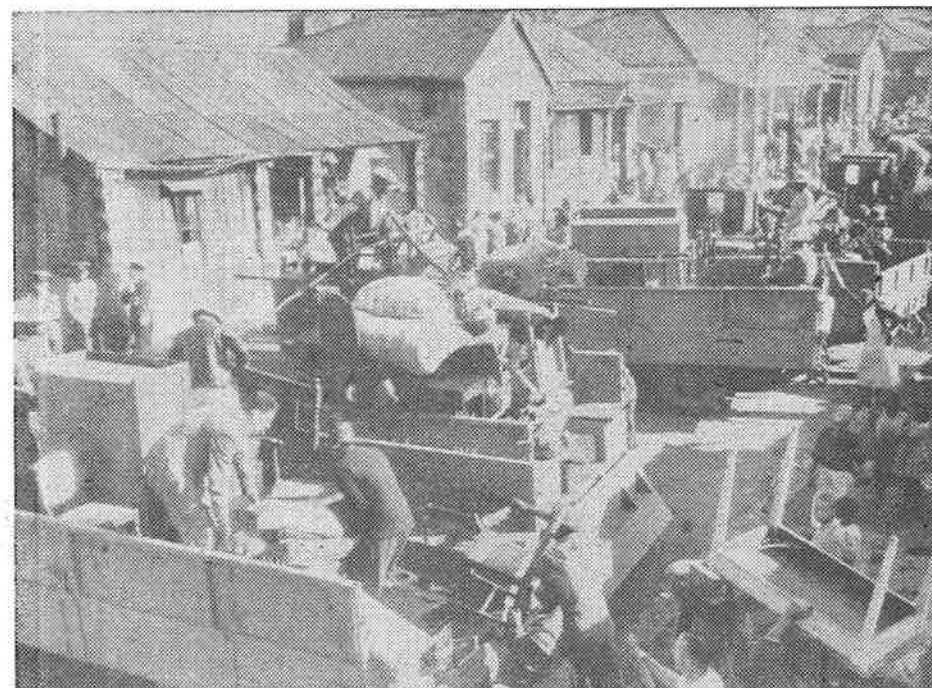
Where do they get off turning anybody away from a public hearing?

There has been no freedom to vote, to work, to go to an integrated church, or an integrated bathroom for a long time. But now you can't talk either!

must begin with the improvement of wages, the improvement of education (real education — against race prejudice for example!), the improvement of the general standard of living.

And the building of new and beautiful projects for the poor people should begin first where there are no homes.

Here's What Happened in Africa



Johannesburg, South Africa, 1955 — Some 2,000 armed police were sent into Sophiatown, which borders Johannesburg, to get all the inhabitants moved fifteen miles away against their will. This was part of the "apartheid" plan of the white capitalist ruling class.

How Come, Mr. Dulles?

According to Allan W. Dulles, head of the Central Intelligence Agency, the Soviet Union's economy is now climbing at the rate of 9 to 10 per cent a year.

The U.S. economy, Dulles adds, is growing by about 3 per cent a year.

Does this explain why over 3.5 million Americans are still out of work, Mr. Dulles?

The average yearly income in Nigeria is between 70 and 80 dollars.

Ban Slave Products!

The British Trade Union Congress, the central organization of 9,000,000 union workers, urges its members to refuse to buy goods from South Africa. This is to protest the jim crow "apartheid" policy of that country.

Very good. But a refusal of all union members to handle the shipments of these slave-produced goods would be still better, and a lot more effective!

(Meany, Curran, Bradley, Hoffa and Randolph, please note.)

They're Not Letting it Happen Here!



Buffalo, December 12 — The sign-holders pictured above are part of a group of tenants of a housing project who stormed the chambers of the Buffalo Common Council in protest against a plan to drive out 616 families and convert the Dante Project into a privately-owned, high-cost housing development. —Picture from Pittsburgh Courier