

WORKERS WORLD

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TEN CENTS

Imperialism Tightens Grip on Congo As UN Talkathon Ends In Deadlock

Good News From USSR —Help on Way to Cuba

By Ana Kezman

The Soviet Union is going to help Cuba to build an iron and steel mill, an oil refinery, electric power stations and other complete industrial enterprises!

The U.S. capitalists dominated and practically owned Cuba for 60 years. And never once in all those years did they so much as consider building a steel mill there.

Why not? Because they had to keep Cuba as their economic footstool, their colony, their source of raw material—and not allow it to have its own industry, build its own economy.

Without a steel plant of its own, every Cuban plow, every Cuban spade, every hoe and every garbage can had to bear the Yankee label.

The Soviet Union, in helping Cuba build a steel plant, will help Cuba to become more independent. Cuba will not have to pay high interest rates for the capital to build this steel mill. It will not have to enrich the already wealthy multi-millionaires.

Fools and scoundrels will say that the Soviet Union is only replacing the capitalist United States as the new super-exploiter of Cuba.

On the contrary—Cuba has fought a

revolution to get its freedom from imperialism, and now the Soviet Union is guaranteeing that that freedom shall prevail!

Algerian Youth Take up the Battle



Moslem masses demonstrating in Algiers during de Gaulle's visit. They were beaten back, but only for a time. (See editorial.)

But Stanleyville Regime Raises Banner of Resistance As Congo Masses Rally to Its Support

The General Assembly of the United Nations has just wound up three months of discussion on the Congo and stopped its talking for the Christmas holidays. But meantime, its troops are still enforcing colonial oppression and imperialist rule in the Congo.

On September 16, at the opening of the present session of the U.N., we wrote:

"In a desperate effort to crush the Congolese liberation movement and its

legitimate Lumumba government, the imperialist powers, with the U.S. as their leader, are using the U.N. in what amounts to the re-establishment of the Congo as a colony under U.N. auspices.

"The aim of the imperialists (in the U.N.) is to permit a verbal attack from all the anti-imperialist countries and at the same time—by force, violence and conspiracy—to liquidate the Congo Republic."

Any fair and honest observer who has followed the U.N. proceedings in the ensuing months, must conclude that this statement was correct.

Resolution after resolution on the Congo has been introduced and discussed in the U.N. But the net result after three months is—

That Belgian imperialist holdings are untouched;

That Belgian stooges (Mobutu, Tshombe, Kasavubu, Kalonji) are being kept in the saddle;

That Lumumba and the Congo independence forces are kept in prison or isolated;

And that the Congo is split up into warring provinces.

The United Nations is thus once more exposed as the instrument of "the imperialist powers with the U.S. as their leader." But it has not yet succeeded in its aim to "liquidate the Congo Republic."

In spite of the general disintegration encouraged and helped along by the U.N.,

(Continued on page 3)

United Liberation Groups Picket For Puerto Rican Independence

By Pedro Sanchez

United Nations, December 10—Well over a hundred demonstrated here today demanding freedom and independence for the United States colony of Puerto Rico.

Braving 30-mile-an-hour winds and icy cold temperatures, the Latin-American demonstrators and their North American allies marched for two hours, shouting revolutionary slogans and singing revolutionary songs.

The two principal independence groups, the Movimiento Pro Independencia (MP) and the Movimiento 21 de Marzo (21st of March) were present. The latter with its friends were the largest contingent and the backbone of the line. Individuals from other independence groups were also present.

A few days ago, the Cuban Ambassador to the U.N., Dr. Raul Roa, called for the independence of Puerto Rico just as Fidel Castro himself had done here last September. This was the occasion and inspiration for this particular picket line.

Several representatives from the Cuban "26th of July Movement" were pres-

ent and sang the Cuban revolutionary hymn. Everybody joined in with them in shouting for Cuba as well for Puerto Rico. One of the spontaneous rhymed chants went as follows:

"Fidel, Fidel—Puerto Rico esta con el!" It means simply that the Puerto Ricans are with Fidel. But the idea is that they want to make a revolution like Cuba's. The chant was strong and full of revolutionary passion.

Sometimes one person would shout, "Viva Albizu Campos!" and then everyone on the line would yell back "Viva!" Or the name might be Raul Roa or even Lumumba. (Latin American solidarity is now spanning the oceans to Africa, too!)

An unusual aspect of this line was the harmony between the different Puerto Rican nationalist groups which often disagree on tactics. But the boldness of this action united everyone in an enthusiastic brotherhood of the oppressed.

To the very end, they were all shouting as the Cuban revolution had taught them — "Cuba si, Yankee no!" and "Puerto Rico si, Yankee no!"

Foes of Black Freedom Afraid of Defense Guards

Atlanta University Professor Lonnie Cross' stirring call to an oppressed people to defend itself — which we referred to in our last issue—has since been broadcast throughout the USA and aroused the healthy interest of Afro-American fighters and their white allies everywhere.

Both the oppressor and the oppressed took note of Dr. Cross' bold advice to his persecuted people. Both the Afro-American press and the Ku Klux Klan, each in its own way, made its feelings known.

The Baltimore Afro-American, like scores of other papers, quoted the speech of the "fiery professor," as it styled him—part of which we re-print here:

"In the face of the ever-increasing racist attacks upon our people in the South, we must organize systematically defense guards as a deterrent to these terrorists . . . it is a matter of mass self-preservation by action. . . .

"The masses of our people are sick and tired of the snail-like pace of to-

ken integration and the poisonous narcotic of non-violence and love."

On the other hand, the Ku Klux Klan (prominent in the list of outfits against whom defense guards are so necessary) put on a special performance in Atlanta and claimed that Dr. Cross had "advocated violence!"

The Klan picketed the offices of the Atlanta Constitution and Journal, passing out leaflets which attacked Dr. Cross for advocating defense guards.

The next morning—Sunday, December 10—the news of the Klan's action was broadcast to the whole country via radio.

What began as a debate in a "Town Hall" meeting between students and professors is rapidly becoming a nationwide issue of the first magnitude.

As Dr. Cross correctly said in the above-quoted speech:

"What our doubly oppressed people of the South want, is the end of our oppression. Not moral effluvia, but national and class consciousness; not tokenism, but equality and liberation—and we want it NOW!"



TROTSKY

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LENIN

Kennedy's Brother

Well, is it a crime to appoint your brother to a \$25,000 a year job?

—And His Roommate!

And what's wrong with giving a college chum your old job as Senator?

—Wouldn't be so bad, as a matter of fact, except that every appointee, from J. Edgar Hoover to Adlai Stevenson, is *conservative and basically anti-labor*.

In the new all-white Cold War Cabinet, not one figure can point to any kind of record in behalf of the oppressed!

And Some of the Pie for Ford

When Eisenhower appointed Charles E. Wilson of General Motors as Secretary of Defense, the Senate raised some questions as to Wilson's fitness for the job.

"Mightn't Wilson favor General Motors at the expense of other companies when it came to giving juicy war contracts?" the Senators asked.

Wilson answered that this was hardly important or relevant since — "What's good for General Motors is good for the USA."

The first year after Wilson was in office, General Motors got an increase in

government orders of one billion, seven hundred million dollars.

Now Kennedy has appointed Robert S. McNamara, president of Ford, to the same post.

McNamara, a registered Republican, but apparently very anxious to serve his country even under the Democratic Kennedy, says he will lose three million dollars by taking the job.

Poor McNamara will suffer. But the Ford Motor Company should do okay. What's "good for General Motors" may not be so good for the USA—but it sure is good for Ford!

U. S. Guns in Laos

As we go to press, it looks as though the rightists are once again in control of Vientiane, the capital of Laos.

They forced the leftists out by means of massive American military aid. The U.S. claims the leftists got some military aid from the Soviet Union. If so, it was much too little.

Now, according to news accounts, the Chinese Communists are threatening to

take a hand—and it's time they did! Wall Street has no right to take over little Laos, which is on the very edge of China and related to it both by the origin of its people and the direction of their social needs and sympathies.

The Chinese can save the impoverished people of Laos from the domination of U.S. Big Business. We hope that they do so.

Handwriting on the Casbah Wall

The great social upheaval in Algiers this month was a positive proof that neither the viciousness of the reactionary French generals nor the sly hypocrisy of the ex-general, de Gaulle, can defeat the Algerian revolution.

The rightist French "colons" and

their fascist paratroop supporters want a "French" Algeria. That is, they want the continuation of their grinding oppression and absolute rule over 10 million Algerians.

But de Gaulle and the capitalists of France will settle for an Algeria with an Algerian government — but where French capital and French interests will be protected, and the Algerian masses, of course, as poor as ever.

For years, the Algerians have fought in the countryside under the FLN for complete independence. But the city masses, closer to the French colons in trade and daily labor have often appeared indifferent to the struggle. Now they, too, have spoken.

It is true that the French slaughter of the demonstrators this month has temporarily given pause to their drive.

But it has at the same time destroyed forever all the colons' claims to sympathy for the Moslems and sealed the determination of the latter to fight again at the first opportunity.

MAIL BAG

Capitalist welfare

The following was sent to the "liberal" St. Louis Post Dispatch for publication, but was refused. We reprint it herewith.

Editor,
St. Louis Post Dispatch
Sir:

Please print the following in your letters from the people column:

Speaking as a white World War II veteran with honorable discharge and good conduct medal, I demand there be a change in the way people are treated at the City Welfare Office at 1704 Washington.

What kind of democracy have we veterans gained when four ladies—three colored and one white—representing the Committee of the People of St. Louis, are openly insulted?

One of the women was seeking to obtain relief for herself, her husband who has a heart ailment, and her seven hungry children.

Director Lyons said, "You three black Africans can't expect us to give money out of our own pockets for these seven children."

What kind of democracy is it where officials pop off in this manner? Could Director Lyons be a member of a White Citizens Council?

I, for one, am willing to fight to the death until the last such attack against American citizens can be wiped out.

Signed, Owen B. Lutz.
St. Louis, Mo.

Labor solidarity

(Below is a copy of letter sent to the striking hardrock miners of Idaho, who are being starved out, by the union-hating lead and zinc corporations.)

Coeur d'Alene
Local 18 Strike Committee
P.O. Box 939
Kellogg, Idaho

Brothers:

Some winter clothes which we collected are on the way to you now. Here is a rough list of what the shipment will contain:

Assorted coats and jackets (men's and women's, and children's)	16
Assorted sweaters	10
Skirts	8
Dresses	4
Trousers	3
Shirts	6
Assorted pairs of socks and other odds and ends.	

We wish to express our complete support of you in your struggle. This small contribution is a token of this support. We wish we could do more, but we are working so hard to help in other struggles which are taking place!

We look forward to the day when all labor is united and in full and active support of those workers like you who are fighting its battles.

Very sincerely yours,

Buffalo Branch
Workers World Party

Carl Skoglund

1884—1960

Friends of Workers World deeply mourn the death of Carl Skoglund, old-time revolutionary socialist leader, veteran trade unionist, a hero of the famous 1934 Minneapolis truck drivers' strike, outstanding Smith Act victim and a wonderful human being. He died on December 11.

Breaking a Steel Thermometer

The steel industry has been in the doldrums so long and steelworkers have suffered so much that they almost laughed at the latest announcement of the would-be saviors of the U.S. steel industry last week.

Weekly steel production figures are usually given out in percentages of capacity, as well as in actual amounts of steel produced. For example, during the week of December 5, there were 1,396,000 tons of steel produced and this was exactly 49 per cent of what could have been produced. So this is reported as "mills operating at 49 per cent of capacity."

Now the steel big shots want to eliminate the percentage method of reporting. They think it sounds too gloomy.

This is like a person with a fever who decides to break his thermometer, thinking it will bring the fever down!

Of course there is some method to the steel moguls' madness. They are afraid the gloomy emphasis on 49 per cent instead of the figure 1,396,000, will lead investors to shy away from putting their money into the steel industry, thinking it to be a sick industry—which it is.

In their desperation to prove to the hoped-for investors that steel is fine and kicking, the "captains" of the industry now contend that at least 25 per cent of all steelmaking facilities are out of date and useless and that they will never be used again "except in case of war."

To the 160,000 steelworkers they have laid off in the last eleven months, this will sound much grimmer than the goofy talk about using one statistical thermometer or another to heal the deep sickness of their industry.

Workers in Youngstown where the steel depression has been especially severe, were also stunned by the news that

the Youngstown Sheet and Tube Company, now operating at a fraction of its capacity, plans to build a new plant in Belgium.

(Last summer it was reported that this Youngstown pipe-making company was using South African-made pipe in some of its own inner-plant construction!)

Youngstown Sheet and Tube's Belgium plant can be expected to sell steel to the United States thus cutting still more Youngstown workers out of jobs.

Meantime, Soviet steelworkers are still working full weeks with nobody laid off.

This is because the Soviet Union had a socialist revolution and now can plan the whole country's production without asking some greedy capitalist whether there's going to be a profit. The Soviet Union doesn't have to worry about selling the steel, because the steel is all bought by the government and put into construction and production of goods according to an overall plan.

This kind of planning is not possible in the capitalist United States because of the profit system. No profits—no production.

—And no work for the workers.

Publishing Date

There will be a three-week lapse between this issue of Workers World and the next.

Workers World is a twice-monthly, usually published on alternate Fridays. Every three months it is necessary to skip a week so as to keep to the above schedule.

The next issue will be dated January 13.

Who Pays?

It has now been verified that the United States Government is helping Belgium to pay the wages of the Congo troops of the Belgian stooge "strong man" Mobutu.

Charles P. Howard Sr. of the Baltimore Afro-American says that a spokesman from the U.N. informed him "without hesitation" that the United States and Belgium are paying the Congolese army and Colonel Mobutu.

—There's an old saying: "He who pays the fiddler calls the tune."

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NAME

STREET

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

Buffalo Mothers Expose Phoney Welfare "Investigation"

Buffalo, December 20 — Mrs. Ruth Stone blasted the policy of the Erie County Welfare Department in a sharp clash before the New York State Senate Subcommittee on Public Welfare, which is conducting hearings here.

Mrs. Stone, treasurer of the interracial Mothers Alliance, a group well known for its activities on behalf of the oppressed in this city, lashed out at the relief agency and blasted its whole policy as a vicious attack against all unemployed welfare recipients.

Between frequent harassment by Counselor Denaro and members of the Subcommittee, Mrs. Stone charged that phony "front" groups are spearheading this anti-labor attack on welfare recipients.

She named the Citizens Advisory Committee, in particular, led by George Sipprell, a faithful servant of the big real estate interests and the United Taxpayers League which fronts for every major industry on the Niagara Frontier. She charged that these groups were even now planning more restrictive legislation and harsher welfare laws.

In a 12-page report, Mrs. Stone gave facts and figures to prove that County Municipalities and Big Business are the real "free-loaders and chiselers." She showed how they were using the new slave-like "work-for-relief" law to hurt the living standards of employed workers with the cut-rate labor of the unemployed.

She cited rent-gouging landlords, high administration costs buried in red tape, the high cost of living and the high cost of getting sick in the city's hospitals, as the real reason for high welfare costs. The unemployed recipient of relief is only measuring his family's existence in pennies, she said.

The "bi-partisan" committee members

of this Big Business-sponsored investigation launched an attack against Mrs. Stone following her presentation. But Mrs. Stone hit back by demanding, "What kind of a public hearing is this? I thought this was a public hearing for people on welfare!"

The Subcommittee also heard from Mr. Thomas McBride, president of the Union of Unemployed Workers Opposed to Forced Labor.

McBride charged that the "work-for-relief" program is forcing welfare recipients to work for relief under conditions similar to convict labor and is a danger to the wage standards of all labor.

He scored the miserable, unsafe and in some cases useless labor that is forced upon welfare recipients. And he also advised the labor movement that his members are forced to do skilled labor—such as driving trucks, bulldozers, and graders; they are forced to be carpenters and painters—all at welfare wages!

This will cut into the free labor force, he warned, and cut job opportunities just at a time when unemployment is rising.

Like Mrs. Stone, Mr. McBride was subjected to hostile questioning from the Committee and from Counselor Denaro.

The Subcommittee hearings and the militant defense of the poor, described above, are getting front page publicity in both papers in this city.

Unemployment is growing daily. It's a grim Christmas in Buffalo. And the reactionaries are trying to harden the hearts of the middle class and more fortunate workers by "investigating" why people get so "much" relief.

If the opposition to them and exposure of their methods continues to be this effective, they cannot succeed.

Smokeless, Jobless Town Gets Smoke — But Not Jobs

By J. Wilson

The steel bosses of Youngstown have just had their stooge city council approve a Sheet and Tube Company project to install oxygen jets for the making of steel without prevention of pollution of the air.

How was this possible when the city council is made up of all Democrats who are supposed to be "friends of labor" and even includes two steelworker unionists among its seven members?

The company claimed it needed the new oxygen process so as to make more steel and thus create more jobs. But the truth is that this will eliminate jobs. And furthermore, the company is perfectly able to equip the furnaces with precipitators to eliminate the smoke. But this, of course, would cost them money!

The labor movement officially went on record against the air pollution which will result from the use of the oxygen jets. And a spokesman for labor did show up at the council's public hearing on the issue.

But the "big wheels" of the labor

bureaucracy stayed away from the hearing and failed to mobilize any of the workers to demonstrate against this assault on their living standards. This gave notice to the bosses' agents that the union officialdom was not too opposed to having more smoke and thereby helping out the companies with the introduction of more automation.

But the struggle that was put up by the active workers did force some recognition of the position of the workers' movement. The daily press publicized the fact that labor opposed the company and also reiterated that the businessmen all supported the corporation in its struggle against the workers. It was very clear to all the rank and file workers that a class issue was involved. They are experiencing a serious depression in this area and realize that the oxygen process of making steel in open hearths will cause further layoffs. They will revolt against the actions of city council when the effects of the automation become a fact next year.

US Answers Castro on Monopolies; Says U.S. Monopolies Don't Exist!

When Cuban Prime Minister, Dr. Fidel Castro, spoke in the United Nations this fall, he charged the United States imperialist servants of Big Business with many crimes against Cuba.

He asked rhetorically why the United States did not want to develop the semi-

colonial countries like Cuba, and then answered his own question as follows:

"Because the Government of the United States does not want to quarrel with the monopolies, and the monopolies need natural resources. . . . That is the true reason why no true program of economic development is planned: to preserve the land of Latin America, of Africa and of Asia, to keep it the private domain of those who wish to invest their surplus capital."

Castro's speech was so powerful because of this and other allegations, that the U.S. capitalists decided they better make some kind of a reply—if not to the U.S. public, at least to the Latin American and other colonial delegates.

So James J. Wadsworth, U.S. permanent delegate to the U.N., circulated a 27-page "reply" about two weeks after Castro spoke.

"As for 'monopolies,' says the reply, 'United States industries are forbidden by law from engaging in monopolistic practices—by the Sherman Anti-Trust Act of 1890 and the Clayton Anti-Trust Act of 1913, both of which are actively enforced by the United States Government. The Marxist idea of 'monopolies' applied to the United States is a hundred years out of date. . . ."

It is possible that a first year student in a U.S. high school might take this pompous nonsense seriously. But every one of the 99 nations' representatives who read it—even down to the most abject stooge and hand-raiser for Wall Street—must have laughed and joked over his American cocktails at the time.

The monopolies that existed at the time the Sherman Anti-Trust Act was passed could never stay in business today, it is true. But not because the government would seriously prosecute them!

They would be far, far too small and poor to compete with the monopolist giants of today who are often ten to a hundred times as big as the biggest of those days.

— Congo

(Continued from page 1)

the Lumumba forces are making a stand and setting up a government of national independence under Gizenga in Stanleyville.

This government can become the rallying point for the 13 million Congolese to begin the fight back against the Belgians and the other imperialists in the U.N.

The anti-imperialist nations, like the Congo masses, cannot but rally to the support of the Stanleyville government.

Adlai — New Rubber Stamp for Imperialism

By R. Lieder

Upon accepting the position of Ambassador to the United Nations, Adlai Stevenson was quoted in the New York Times on December 13, as saying:

"Due to the admission of so many new countries, the United States and the Western countries no longer control the United Nations. (My emphasis—R.L.) Our position is much more difficult and it will be my task to help maintain our position in these changing circumstances."

Article 2, section 1, of the Charter of the United Nations reads as follows: "The Organization is based on the principle of the sovereign equality of all its Members."

Stevenson's statement is a glaring admission that the United Nations is not based upon the "sovereign equality of all its members."

He admits that the U.S. and its allies controlled the United Nations before the recent influx of new member countries.

His further remark that his task is to help maintain the position of the U.S. and its allies in the "changing circumstances" (the presence of new members) is an open admission that

he intends to defy the United Nations charter by flouting the principle of the "sovereign equality of all its Members."

On the basis of this statement alone, Stevenson should be disqualified from his position as Ambassador to the United Nations, since his statement openly defies the Charter of the United Nations.

However, since the United Nations is, in reality, merely a front for the aggressive machinations of the imperialist bloc headed by the U.S., Stevenson's avowed intention to maintain the "position" of the U.S. should not be viewed with surprise.

Furthermore, Stevenson purposely exaggerates when he says "the United States and the Western countries no longer control the United Nations." And he thus leads the masses into thinking that the United Nations has become more of an "impartial" international organization with the admission of the new Asian and African states.

Stevenson is imperialism's ideal choice for U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations.

Why? Because his sophistication and prestige as a "liberal" will enhance the dignity of this organization, help to whitewash it and further camouflage its real function as a front for imperialism.

Hypocritical U.N.

United Nations, December 14—The United Nations has "passed a motion"—by a vote of 89-0 for a "speedy and unconditional end to colonialism."

During the discussion, the Soviet Union made a motion in the U.N. to put a one year deadline on this "speedy" freedom for the oppressed colonies. The motion was defeated.

—One more proof of the hypocrisy and phoniness of that imperialist-dominated, so-called "United Nations"!

Is Recession Receding — Or Depression Declining?

Hollywood Beach, Fla., Nov. 29—The 49th Annual Convention of the Investment Bankers Association of America is here to tell itself what is wrong and what is right about the United States economy.

Among the assembled geniuses of high finance are such important figures as Henry Clay Alexander, chairman of the powerful Morgan Guaranty Trust Co. of New York, and H. Bruce Palmer, president of Mutual Benefit Life Insurance Company.

After considerable discussion, the assembled experts, said the New York

Herald-Tribune, tried "to come up with a diagnosis."

The only possible conclusion at this point seems to be . . . that the economy isn't on a rise at the moment. . . . No one seems quite sure that the country is in a recession, about to enter a recession, or is about to emerge from one."

That's pretty smart financial analysis from the top financial experts of the country.

—Sounds like these "investment bankers" should be a good investment to keep away from.

Democratic U.S.

United Nations, December 14—When the so-called "United Nations" voted 89-0 for a "speedy and unconditional end to colonialism," there were several notable abstentions.

Belgium, France, Portugal, Britain and others did not vote for or against. This was because they have large colonial empires, and their vote for the resolution might be raised by their colonies as an argument for their freedom. And their vote against the resolution would expose them before the world for the brutal oppressors that they are.

One of the other countries that abstained was the United States.

Workers World Interviews Luis Munoz

A Puerto Rican Independence Leader Comments on Imperialist Stooges in P.R.

The following interview is with Luis Munoz, Director of the Movement of the 21st of March, a revolutionary party of Puerto Rican liberation.

What is the aim and function of "The Movement of the 21st of March"?

We aim at the full political and economic liberation of Puerto Rico from the domination of U.S. imperialism. Our function is to organize the struggle and to help carry the liberation movement to a successful conclusion.

What is your view about the recent fight between Munoz Marin, Governor of Puerto Rico, and the Catholic bishops? Is this a repetition of the classic fight between church and state?

We do not consider it as really a church-and-state question at all. The fight only took this form as a cover for something else.

Marin is nothing but a foreman in a big factory. Puerto Rico is the factory and Yankee capital is the owner of the factory.

From Marin's point of view, it is not a question of Catholic or mediaeval ideology as against modernism. It is a question of who keeps the job as foreman.

The bishops are trying to oust him from the job, not so the church can take over the state, but so another reactionary business clique can do so.

It appeared to many liberals on the mainland USA that Marin was defending some progressive principles—in spite of his generally reactionary role. Do you agree?

No. Not at all. Take birth control.

Here was the way the two sides lined up: The church — absolutist, rigid, against any human rights for women regardless of their health or the size of their families. On the other side, the

U.S. "population experts" who also don't give a damn about our Puerto Rican women. They advocate birth control, voluntary sterilization, etc., but for their own reactionary reasons.

Marin, caught in between these two fires, opportunistically permits (not advocates) a very tiny degree of birth control. He has done so for several years. This is not the reason why the bishops suddenly oppose him now.

Why do you think they oppose him, then?

As I said, it was a fight between two reactionary cliques. I should add that these cliques have their biggest forces on the U.S. mainland rather than in Puerto Rico.

It is significant that the great majority of the present clergy on the island is not Puerto Rican but North American. Up to 1937, the great majority were Spanish and Puerto Rican. But they were generally favorable to independence. That is why they were removed by the Catholic hierarchy which supports the U.S. domination of Puerto Rico.

You mentioned the "population experts." Why is the question of "population" so important in Puerto Rico?

They tell us that our population is too big and that is why Puerto Rico is poor. We have 675 people per square mile and the U.S. has 58. But the U.S. has very great areas of no population at all. And its prosperity is not due to its sparse population.

Britain (including Ireland) has 535 to the square mile. And New Jersey has 737. If we had independence, there is no reason why we couldn't be as prosperous as New Jersey or Britain.

The fight with the bishops got so hot that Felisa Rincon, Mayor of San Juan,

openly defied a pastoral edict threatening excommunication if she voted for Marin. Why did she defy the bishops so openly?

She had to show that she was especially strong for Marin because she has strong opposition for her job within her own party. She probably knew in advance that the bishops were bluffing or that they would be called to order by the bigger churchmen in the U.S.

Do you advocate an independent Puerto Rico taking over the foreign-owned (that is, U.S.-owned) factories and means of production generally?

Of course. As in Cuba, these factories have been paid for many times over by the Puerto Rican people.

For example, the newer U.S.-owned factories pay practically no taxes at all. And the longer-established ones have gouged many millions of super-profits in the last 60 years from the extremely low wages and terrible conditions of the Puerto Rican workers.

The Independence Party in the island got only three per cent of the vote in the last election. Does this mean that the independence struggle has little prospect for success in the immediate future?

More important than the vote was what happened after the voting. In Lares and in Caguas, great demonstrations clamored for independence and called for an end to the over-parliamentary approach of the so-called "Independence" Party. More than half the eligible Puerto Ricans did not vote in the last election.

What about this Independence Party? Doesn't it really struggle for independence?

Well, take a look at its record. In 1950 it got a tremendous vote—after there was an actual uprising.

Instead of recognizing this vote as a mandate to struggle, instead of recognizing it as a symptom of revolutionary drive towards liberation from colonial oppression, they relied on it as a parliamentary stepping stone toward independence on the basis of purely parliamentary tactics.

But no colonial country ever got its freedom through parliamentary tactics. So the giant U.S. corporations were able to take strong measures in the last ten years. And the Independence Party leadership failed to take any mass action against them.

Can you give any examples of U.S. pressures besides the economic exploitation, which are driving the Puerto Rican masses onto the road of independence?

Yes. The question of imperialist war comes to my mind first. There were 43,000 of us Puerto Ricans drafted by the U.S. into the Korean War. Puerto Rico suffered one casualty for every 660 inhabitants. The United States, one for every 1,125.

We are treated as a colony in the worst sense of the word. We are not asked to ratify the war plans of the mainland. But we are expected to fight its wars for the enslavement of other colonial peoples. We are forced to sacrifice twice as heavily as the population of the oppressor country.

English has been made the official language of Puerto Rico, while the masses all speak Spanish. Of course, our U.S. oppressors are too lazy or too arrogant to learn our language. We have to learn theirs. At Santa Maria University, even the cultured foreign professors all teach in English!

The Yankees have even brought into our country the hateful practice of racial discrimination, which I assure you never existed there before they came.

What are the chances for a genuine Puerto Rican liberation movement succeeding?

The chances are excellent. And every day proves it. No amount of lies by the imperialist press can hide this.

Our slogan is "Revolucion — Unica Solucion" — that is, — Revolution, the Only Solution.

Thank you.

Growing Opposition To Police Brutality in Phila.

Philadelphia—The Captive Black Nation comprises more than 40 per cent of the population of the Northern "democratic" City of Philadelphia.

Yet so arrogant are the racist rulers of this city that they imprison and beat up Afroamerican people with impunity. The police carry on their illicit actions in the Black ghettos, assault and persecute their victims to the secret — and sometimes not-so-secret — applause of the white capitalists.

Only last month, Miss Margaret Orr of 1218 So. 19 Street got a broken collarbone as she was thrown into a police patrol wagon. And at almost the same moment, Colbert Thompson Jr., a lad of 17, was arrested, severely

beaten up in the police station and made to sign a confession to snatching a woman's handbag.

It was later proved he did not commit the crime.

There have been a long series of such police brutalities here. And it almost seems that with the increase of "voting strength" there is even less regard for the people's rights.

Lately, however, there have been more protests. Even the conservative Philadelphia Independent (an Afroamerican newspaper) has taken up the cudgels against the Mayor and his cops.

But more, much more, is needed. There is a growing consciousness among the Black masses here and a greater readiness to struggle. It is necessary to channelize this feeling and direct it militantly.

The time of open struggle, picket lines, street demonstrations is almost ready to begin. Signs of it have already appeared. "Sleepy" Philadelphia is about to awake!

Billy the Christian

Atlanta, November 28—When asked about his views on Afro-American sit-in demonstrations, evangelist Billy Graham said:

"I do believe we have to obey the law. Otherwise, you have anarchy. And no matter what that law may be—it may be an unjust law—I believe we have a Christian responsibility to obey it."

—Meaning that the students should not demonstrate and should wait another hundred years for equality and first class citizenship.

Isn't it interesting that Graham feels no "Christian responsibility" to obey the 14th and 15th Amendments of the U.S. Constitution, which guarantee full freedom and equality to all?

WHAT GOES UP — —

Milan, Italy, December 12 — The stock exchange had such a bad day here that police were called to keep order in this Italian version of Wall Street.

Disappointed investors threw stones, ashtrays, pencils and even oranges at the stock brokers.

It seems the brokers never mentioned that the stocks go down as well as up!

This Xmas, Give Her ... Somebody's Life!

By Eleanor Stephens

"This Year, Give a Diamond to the Lady of Your Heart. We offer one — \$168,000."

—So says the ad of the most expensive jewelers in the world, speaking to the wealthiest men in the world—those who might spend \$168,000 to buy love this Christmas.

Undoubtedly, the one woman who receives this unique and precious stone will have the Christmas gift many women desire. But why should she want a diamond more than anything else in the world for Christmas?

Is it because there is nothing anywhere nearly so beautiful? Is there no other stone that can so well rival the sparkle of her eye?

Hardly. Many imitation diamonds gleam just as bright, and only a trained expert can tell the difference. These excellent imitations can be bought for a few dollars, too.

In fact, the lovely lady who receives this fabulous Christmas gift will most probably wear a copy of the original, made at a tiny fraction of its cost.

Dial \$\$\$ for A, T & T

The assets of the American Telephone and Telegraph Company are now over 20 billion dollars. This is so much money that it's hard to even conceive of.

An associated company, the Cuban American Telephone Company, was recently nationalized in Cuba, and A. T. & T. hardly felt the loss.

As a matter of fact, the total wealth of all the 6 million people of Cuba is nowhere near the wealth of this one corporation.

If a million workers saved five dollars a week all their working lives, the grand total would only be about half the wealth of the telephone company.

She will hide its beauty in a dark vault away from the eyes of the world.

A strange kind of ornament—that only adorns a safe deposit box!

But it has something no other ornament has. There is \$168,000 contained in that one cold, glittering little stone. And that's more money than the vast majority of men and women on the entire earth can earn in a lifetime!

How can you put a lifetime of food, clothes, shelter, doctor bills, vacations, nights at the movies, funeral bills and taxes on one side of a scale, and that little stone on the other—and make them balance?

And yet you can! On the scale of the capitalist market-place, they balance very well indeed.

Suppose this diamond was mined in South Africa, in the world-famous Kimberly mines. There it would buy—not the labor of one man's lifetime, but of ten!

There, each of ten men would have to throw on the scale over 45 years of back-breaking toil to equal the value-weight of that diamond.

They would sleep most of their lives in concrete bunks in mine-owned barracks, separated from white people and separated from their own families.

Their children would suffer from malnutrition from the day of their birth, and more than half of these children would have a life-expectancy of less than five years!

And on the day that any of these miners might find a diamond worth \$168,000, his day's wages would still be about 50 cents.

The rich man who buys that diamond this Christmas may disdain to think of all these details. But both he and the lady of his heart know well that in choosing the diamond, they are choosing—not beauty, not joy—but the labor and the lives of men!