

Colonial Revolt Breaks Out in the Congo

Belgian Police Fire On Crowd Seeking National Freedom

JAN. 13—The Belgian government is slated to issue a policy statement today promising some form of eventual "self rule" for the Belgian Congo. Meanwhile it is moving swiftly in an effort to crush the long-smoldering Congolese independence movement that dramatically broke into the open Jan. 5 when colonial police forcibly broke up a native political rally in the capital city of Leopoldville. Mass unemployment and the recent conference at Accra calling for freedom and a United States of Africa gave powerful impetus to the demand for an end to colonial rule.

Over the past week end, 300 Belgian paratroopers were dispatched to the Congo, bringing the total to over 1,000. A decree was issued banning Abako, a Congolese association now functioning as a political party dedicated to national independence. The native mayors of the two principal Negro districts in Leopoldville were jailed for securing the signatures of seven other African mayors to a manifesto demanding that the Belgians release a third mayor, Kasavubu, president of Abako. He is among 100 independence leaders now imprisoned.

IMPOSE CURFEW

The police attack on the Jan. 5 Abako rally, under pretext it was "unauthorized," brought two days of bitter demonstration and battle. Crying "Belgians go home," the Congolese threw up street barricades against the machine guns of the colonial forces. Forty-two Africans were killed and 100 wounded. Some 150 whites were wounded and property damage in the business district was estimated by the Belgians at over \$1 million.

Indep. Socialist Parley, Jan. 24

Supporters of New York's Independent-Socialist Party in the 1958 elections are urged to participate in a conference to discuss plans for legislative and political activity in the future. The conference will be held Saturday, Jan. 24, 10:30 a.m. to 5 p.m., at Adelphi Hall, 74 Fifth Avenue (Near 14th St.), New York City. It is sponsored by the United Independent-Socialist Committee. The committee has mailed a "Statement of Policy and Purpose" to ISP supporters as part of the preparations for the conference discussions.

Business Circles Hear Mikoyan With Interest

By Daniel Roberts

JAN. 14—Top U.S. policy makers are noting the favorable reception Soviet Premier Deputy Mikoyan is receiving on his cross-country tour. Mikoyan is talking to people in all walks of American life. But the State Department is watching closest his sounding out of leading capitalists in the main industrial and financial centers. The Soviet official has spoken primarily at gatherings of businessmen in Cleveland, Detroit, Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles and New York.

Though billed as the USSR's top trade expert, his talks have dealt with trade questions only as part of overall Soviet-American relations. His main theme has been the necessity to end the cold war. His tour has been described by Harrison Salisbury in the Jan. 14 New York Times as a "campaign . . . in behalf of better Soviet-American relations [that] is unusual in American annals." Mikoyan himself humorously told Mayor Pousen of Los Angeles that he almost felt as though he was running in the Jan. 14 New York Times as a "campaign . . . in behalf of better Soviet-American relations [that] is unusual in American annals." Mikoyan himself humorously told Mayor Pousen of Los Angeles that he almost felt as though he was running in the Jan. 14 New York Times as a "campaign . . . in behalf of better Soviet-American relations [that] is unusual in American annals."

All in all, says Salisbury, Mikoyan has made a "deep and tangible imprint upon the groups he has met. These comprise a selection of the industrial and business elite of the communities he has visited." In turn, "it is believed, [that there is] a strengthening of conviction on the part of Mr. Mikoyan that American businessmen, the chiefs of great industrial enterprises, are by no means the warmongers that they are pictured in the standard clichés of the Communist world."

To facilitate the tour—which obviously was carefully organized

A dusk to dawn curfew is now in force and guards and barbed wire separate the Negro sections of the city from the ultra-modern European quarters. All meetings of more than five people have been banned, but according to reports, meetings of the independence movement are continuing.

The desire of the Congolese people for immediate independence is obviously deep-rooted. According to a Jan. 6 Reuters dispatch, the cops moved in on the Abako rally when the crowd began shouting, "We want independence now," after a speaker had referred to it as a future perspective.

Belgian authorities have assumed a posture of great surprise at what they described as a completely unexpected revolt against their much vaunted "enlightened" rule. But on Jan. 10, an African correspondent for the Christian Science Monitor reported the following:

"Although they have earnestly hoped it would not occur, the Belgians have long faced the prospect of some outbreak such as that which has just taken place in Leopoldville.

"It is not generally known, for example, that a team of Belgian investigators paid a quiet visit to the British East African colony of Kenya some years ago to study British methods of dealing with the Mau Mau rebellion."

The big immediate factor sparking the independence movement is that 50,000 of the 300,000 Congolese in Leopoldville are jobless as a result of the international recession. The attitude of the Belgian imperialists to their plight was expressed Jan. 6 by a colonial secretary who said that many of them just didn't want to work and lived off the generosity of friends. The fact that the jobless have nothing else to live on than such generosity was blurted out in the Belgian parliament by a Socialist deputy who revealed that the government is giving no assistance to the unemployed.

Supplier of 60 per cent of the world's cobalt, rich in uranium, diamonds and other resources, the Congo is a fabulous source of profit for Belgian imperialism. The day after the Leopoldville outbreak, Belgian colonial stocks dropped five per cent. It's a safe bet they will drop a lot more as the independence struggle develops.

THE MILITANT

PUBLISHED WEEKLY IN THE INTERESTS OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

Vol. XXIII—No. 3

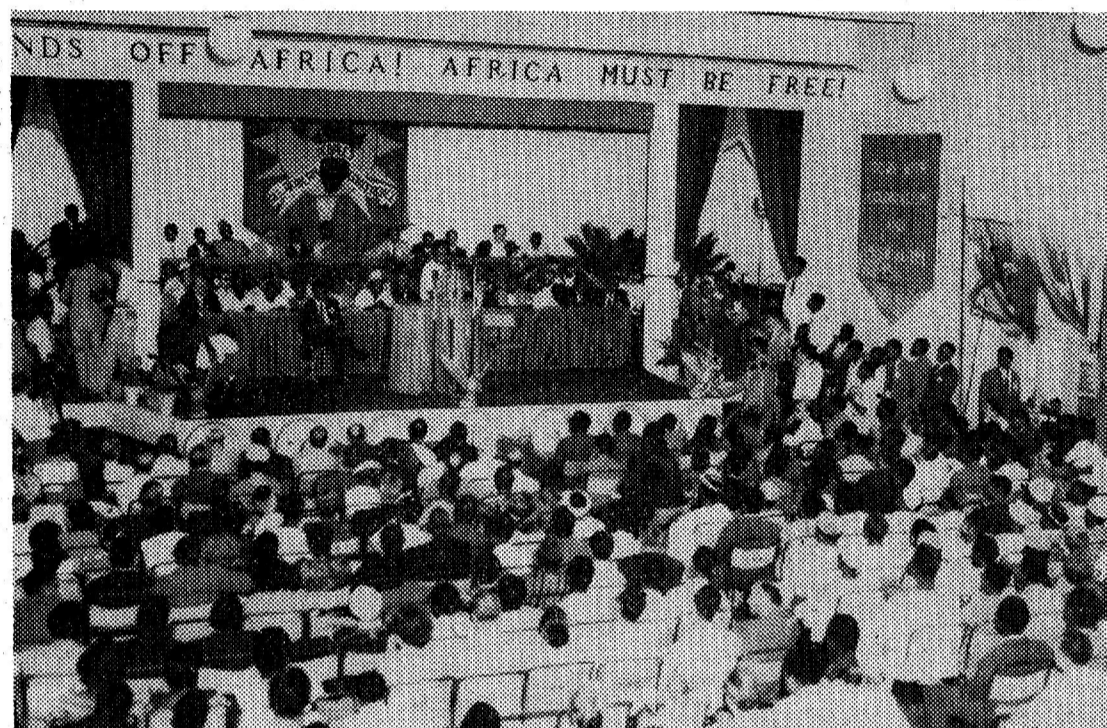
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NEW YORK, N. Y., MONDAY, JANUARY 19, 1959

Price 10c

Carolina Governor Moves To Keep Boys Locked Up

Freedom's New Battlefield



First All-African People's Conference held in Accra, capital of Ghana, last month. The parley heard representatives of Congo national movement (formed Oct. 5, 1958) denounce Belgian imperialism. Struggle in Congo broke out few weeks later.

Batista's Henchmen Executed For Torture of Cuban People

By Lillian Kiezal

Murderers, torturers, and informers of the overthrown Batista regime are now pleading for mercy. Trials of these criminals are being held throughout Cuba and many have already been executed. Typical among the prisoners is Maj. Jacinto Garcia Menocal, from Pinar del Rio district, accused as a "killer" by the families of many slain youths. He was shot while trying to escape. Another, Gen. Castilla Lumpuy, from Santa Clara, accused of torturing not only rebel youth but whole families, was executed after a court-martial.

Senator Morse, chairman of a Foreign Relations sub-committee called for cessation of the executions. He declared that this is not the way the new regime will "win the support of free men and women around the world." Morse, who claims to have been "critical" of Batista, was joined in his appeal by the Foreign Secretary of the Dominican Republic, official spokesman for dictator Trujillo.

In an interview over CBS-TV Castro declared that all the criminals are receiving fair trials. "During the war we captured thousands of prisoners, and we never killed anyone, never tortured anyone."

In the same interview, Castro said that the 1940 Constitution would be reinstated without any change or any attempt to bring in any new economic system.

WILL PROTECT DOLLARS

Moreover, Dr. Rufo Lopez Fresquet, Castro's Finance Minister, in an interview over ABC-TV declared that United States investments were safe and there will be no limitations on taking profits out of the country.

American big business is fairly well convinced that Castro will protect its economic interests. U.S. recognition of the Urrutia government is evidence of this faith. However, the financiers are concerned over rebel groups opposing Castro who want far-reaching social and economic changes. These groups are active in a new United Labor Front which has a membership of 1,200,000. Castro has control of only one section of the "Front." The Sugar Workers' Federation with a membership of 500,000, is headed by Conrado Becquier, a Castro supporter.

The rest of the labor movement is under leadership of various persuasions. Among them are: Revolutionary Direc-

torate (student revolutionary organization) and the Authentico organization, led by former President Carlos Prío Socarras. The Revolutionary Directorate precipitated the first crisis of the new government when it demanded a representative in Urrutia's cabinet. When severely attacked by Castro, the Directorate backed down in the name of unity and promised to turn in its arms as he had demanded. Other groups did the same.

EITHER OR . . .

The new government stands for the re-establishment of democracy. However, this is not enough, as Herbert L. Matthews of the N. Y. Times points out. "After all, one cannot expect the people to eat democracy or clothe themselves with freedom. If a great majority of them are hungry, ill-clothed, ill-housed, diseased and illiterate—as is the case—it is clear enough that democracy must either improve their lot or face revolutionary upheavals."

American Big Business in Cuba makes no principle over whether the labor movement is controlled by a democracy or a dictatorship. Protection of its profits is the only objective.

Finger-shaking Also "Assault" In No. Carolina

In Mississippi, Emmett Till was lynched for allegedly whistling at a white woman. In Monroe, N.C., two small Negro boys were incarcerated for "assaulting a white female" because one of them was kissed by a white playmate. And in Weldon, N.C., a young Negro attorney is fighting a conviction of assault on a white woman because he allegedly shook his finger at her.

James R. Walker Jr. is the only Negro lawyer in the six-county area around Weldon. He is counsel to Mrs. Louise Lassiter, a Negro housewife, who has been fighting for the right to vote since 1956. Her case has been through the red tape of state and federal courts. Election officials allege she failed a literacy test because, in their opinion, she mispronounced three words while reading from the State Constitution.

After Walker took Mrs. Lassiter's case last year, he was called to the election registrar's office on behalf of other Negroes denied the right to register. The registrar, a Mrs. Taylor, was testing them by having them write down sections of the State Constitution as she read aloud.

"She was reading so fast that the registrants couldn't possibly write it down," says Walker. "I insisted to her that these people had diplomas from institutions attesting to their literacy."

It was then that Walker was arrested for allegedly shaking his finger at Mrs. Taylor. He was first convicted of disorderly conduct and trespass and sentenced to a \$100 fine or 90 days in jail. He was released after several days and then convicted on the charge of assaulting a female and fined \$500. He was jailed again because he couldn't pay the fine. He was released when friends paid \$200 of the fine and promised to pay the rest later. He was also fined \$50 for "disturbing" the registrar, but this conviction was reversed on appeal. The appeal is still pending on the assault charge.

Leading citizens in the six-county area have established a Defense Fund to help Walker. The committee has the cooperation of the Southern Educational Conference. Information on the case may be obtained by writing to: Walker-Lassiter Defense Fund, P.O. Box 47, Weldon, N.C.

Chairman



Robert F. Williams heads newly formed Committee to Combat Racial Injustice. The group seeks to free two North Carolina Negro children from reformatory.

How Monroe Negroes Defend Their Rights

The brutal treatment of James Hanover Thompson and David "Fuzzy" Simpson by North Carolina authorities is part of a campaign of reprisal against the Negro community of Monroe for daring to stand up for its civil rights. The national spotlight was first put on the fight being waged by Monroe Negroes in the Oct. 31, 1957 issue of Jet magazine.

"When darkness begins to fall over Monroe, N.C., each evening," Jet reported, "a dozen or so men make their way to the home of Dr. Albert E. Perry, congregate in the basement and kitchen, or lounge around watching television. . . . They josh the doctor's wife, play a few hands of cards, talk about the weather, work, kids. But here, the innocence ends. Stacks of rifles and shotguns (16 in all) scattered throughout the house testify to the more frightful business at hand. The guns are there because the doctor has been threatened with death. The men will stay until daylight. A swimming pool is the cause of it all."

JOINED WILLIAMS

Dr. Perry had joined local NAACP president Robert F. Williams in a fight to desegregate the local municipal pool. Jet describes how this led to Dr. Perry's arrest on the charge

Defense Hits Racists in Court Battle

By Harry Ring

JAN. 13—Battle lines on the civil-rights front were drawn yesterday in one of the most scandalous cases in American history when Luther H. Hodges, governor of the state of North Carolina, utilized the powers of his high office to keep two Negro children behind bars.

Against this sensational move of the racists, Conrad Lynn, attorney for the boys, argued in court for their release on a writ of habeas corpus. And Robert F. Williams, leader of the Negro community in the small Southern town of Monroe, N.C., took the stand to testify in behalf of the two children and their mothers in a sharp battle against Malcolm Seawell, Attorney General of the state of North Carolina, who had been sent by Gov. Hodges to intervene in the case.

The two boys, eight-year-old David Simpson and ten-year-old James Hanover Thompson, lost this round; but hopes are high that sufficient forces will rally to their support to win their freedom before long.

The dramatic fight occurred in the Superior Court before Judge Walter E. Johnston at Wadesboro. He dismissed the writ and remanded the two boys to the reformatory where they are serving an indefinite sentence on charges of "assault on a white female." One of the boys had been kissed last October by a seven-year-old white playmate.

Judge Johnston's decision will be appealed to the North Carolina Supreme Court, Conrad Lynn announced, and then to the federal courts if necessary. The appeal will challenge North Carolina racist statutes which provide that white children accused of infractions of the law are to be treated as juvenile delinquents until the age of 20 while Negro children are so treated only until the age of 16.

The writ of habeas corpus, which compelled state authorities to produce the boys in court, was issued last Friday by Senior Resident Judge Francis O. Clarkson. Motion for the writ was filed by New York attorney Conrad Lynn, general counsel of the Committee to Combat Racial Injustice, who is handling the defense of the two children in collaboration

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"A Comfortable Old-Age Home"

By Carl Goodman

Democrats in the 86th Congress hold their biggest majority since New Deal days. Working people who voted Democratic last fall hoped that one concrete result of this big majority would be the end of the filibuster in the Senate—an instrument which Dixiecrats have successfully used, or threatened to use, to kill effective civil-rights legislation. But the filibuster, which rode out the New Deal unscathed, is safe in the hands of the 86th Congress, too.

On Jan. 12, the Senate defeated, 67-28, a motion to permit closing debate by a simple majority of the Senate—that is, by 50 votes. Then the Senate beat a motion to permit "cloture" (closing of debate) by three-fifths of the Senate, or 60 votes. The vote on this motion was 58-36. Finally, by a vote of 72-22, the Senate adopted Majority Floor Leader Johnson's proposal to "permit" cloture by

two-thirds of all senators present. A coalition around Johnson blocked the earlier, more democratic proposals. The Dixiecrats held out for no limit on debate. The present rule, under which a filibuster is virtually unbeatable, calls for a vote of two-thirds of the Senate, or 66.

By adopting Johnson's scheme, the Senate returned to the rules in force from 1917 to 1949. As the experience of that period demonstrates, there is practically no difference between requiring two-thirds of the Senate for cloture and requiring two-thirds of all senators present. On any crucial issue—such as civil rights—almost every senator will be on hand to vote.

The Johnson measure, Dixiecrat fulminations for the record notwithstanding, thus protects the filibuster. As Sen. Javits (R-N.Y.) stated in the debate, it is "an absolute roadblock to any effort to put the . . . power of the Federal Government be-

hind rights guaranteed by the Constitution."

Though the proportion of liberal Democrats from the North and West is much bigger in this Senate (they outnumber Southerners by a ratio of about seven to four), the move to kill the filibuster this year actually fared worse than it did two years ago. At that time, a motion by Sen. Anderson (D-N.M.) for the Senate to adopt new rules of procedure—a prelude to an attack on Rule 22 which protects the filibuster—lost 55-38. This year a similar motion by Anderson lost 60-36, and the anti-filibuster cause went from bad to worse from that vote on. Anderson himself deserted to Johnson's side on Douglas' motion to permit cloture by simple majority.

It would thus seem that, despite the intentions of the voters, the bigger the Democratic majority the worse the outlook is for civil rights. Prospects in the 86th Congress, says William

V. Shannon, columnist in the New York Post, is now for the "passage of only two token pieces of legislation—an extension of the life of the Civil Rights Commission for an additional year and an appropriation to assist Southern communities wishing to desegregate. The prospect for the revival of Title Three which was knocked out of the 1957 civil rights act and which would have given the federal government power to intervene in civil rights cases other than right-to-vote cases is now poor."

"OLD-AGE HOME"

Editorially the Post, a staunch supporter of the Democratic Party liberals, wails that "If the Johnson formula prevails, Georgia's Russell and Mississippi's Eastland may find the Democratic Party a comfortable old-age home. But how long can men who believe in equality dwell placidly in the same place?"

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Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn (right) and Senate Majority Leader Lyndon Johnson gloating over election victory. They gloated again last week after beating back proposed Senate rules changes favorable to labor and the Negro people. They thereby protected the Dixiecrats without losing support of the liberals. Wouldn't you gloat too?

... Carolina Case

(Continued from Page 1) with the Association for the Advancement of Colored People. Lynn acted in behalf of Robert F. Williams, chairman of the committee and president of the Monroe NAACP.

In an unusual move Gov. Hodges assigned Malcolm Seawell and an assistant to the hearing. Lynn handled the case against the state. He was assisted by Frank Reeves, a national assistant general counsel of the NAACP and several state attorneys of the same organization.

The only witnesses at the hearing were Williams and Acting Juvenile Judge J. Hampton Price, who committed the two children to the reformatory. When Lynn requested that Price take the witness stand, Judge Johnston informed him that in North Carolina an applicant for a writ of habeas corpus must testify first. He ordered Williams to the stand.

As Williams went forward, one courtroom observer said, Attorney General Seawell winked broadly to the judge, who returned an equally broad wink. Seawell, who has a liberal reputation among some North-

Carolina attorneys, was anything but liberal in this case. He sought to divert attention from the illegal actions of the state against the two children by trying to smear the Committee to Combat Racial Injustice which is defending them. "Anyone at that hearing," said Conrad Lynn on his return to New York today, "would have thought the committee was on trial in that courtroom, not the state of North Carolina."

WILLIAMS TESTIFIES

On the witness stand, Williams quickly established that the boys had been held incommunicado, they had been denied counsel; the white complainants were heard at a separate hearing so that no confrontation of witnesses was possible; and the boys were under the age prescribed by the state for incarceration in the reformatory.

Asked by Seawell about his recent trip to New York where he sought support for his committee's defense of the children, Williams replied that he made the trip to solicit funds "to bring justice to this social jungle called Dixie."

Seawell then inquired if Williams was aware that a member of the defense committee, Carl Braden of Louisville, Ky., had been convicted of bombing a home and of "sedition." I know that he tried to rent his home to a Negro, replied Williams.

[The bombing charge against Braden was thrown out of court and the "sedition" conviction was reversed on appeal.] Turning his smear attack to Dr. A. E. Perry, vice president of the NAACP in Monroe and a founder of the Committee to Combat Racial Injustice, Seawell asked Williams if he knew that the doctor was a "convicted abortionist."

Williams responded that he knew that Dr. Perry had been framed up on such a charge. Pissed as to how he knew this, he replied that the original conviction of Dr. Perry had been reversed by a higher court and that the second trial was on the same charge as the first. He then firmly repeated that it was a frame-up and that he believed Seawell knew it too.

Asked what organizations he believed were behind the attack, Williams listed the Red Cross and the National Rifle Association. His mention of the rifle association visibly startled Judge Johnston, who repeated the question to make sure he had heard right.

When Williams affirmed this a second time, the judge asked him the question again, you mean "r-i-f-l-e"? Yes, Williams said, I mean "r-i-f-l-e."

"He was a magnificent example of courage and defiance on that stand," Conrad Lynn said today. "He was a real inspiration for the Negroes in that courtroom."

There were about 800 people in the courtroom, including quite a few whites, Lynn said. An impressive feature of the hearing, he added, was the visible absence of hostility on the part of the whites in the audience. "It was obvious," he said, "that they were gripped by the drama of two mothers seeking the return of their children and, even though Southerners, they were so absorbed in what the outcome would be that they were able to forget that the mothers and children happened to be Negroes."

But Acting Juvenile Judge Price, on the witness stand, defended his imprisonment of the children without any such concern. Repeatedly using the word "nigger," he sought to smear Mrs. Simpson and Mrs. Thompson as unfit parents. He also

They Need Your Help



David "Fuzzy" Simpson (left), age 8, and James Hanover Thompson, age 10, shown at North Carolina reformatory where they have been locked up for indefinite term. With NAACP aid, the Committee to Combat Racial Injustice is fighting to free them. The Committee's address is Suite 1117, 141 Broadway, New York 6, N. Y.

claimed that the boys were put into the reformatory on the basis of a previous "criminal" record, including stealing food.

DAMAGING ADMISSION

But under cross-examination by Lynn, Judge Price was forced to admit that the official juvenile record on the boys does not contain a single reference to any alleged previous misdemeanors. The record cites only the charge of "assault on a white female." The same is true of the felony warrants that he issued for the children.

The theft charges did appear in the judgment that he drew up after the hearing. When Lynn demanded to know what record these charges were based on, Price blandly replied that there was none. He simply had it in his head, he explained.

"We have a strong basis for appeal," says attorney Lynn. "Besides the illegal procedure, the two juvenile delinquency statutes which treat whites as

delinquents until they are 20, and Negroes until they're 16, are unconstitutional on the face of it."

"Just two weeks ago," he added, "A 16-year-old Negro boy in Monroe was sentenced to 110 years in prison on a manslaughter charge after a white boy was killed in a fight. The people down there say he didn't even do it. I don't know. But if that boy was white he would have gone to a reformatory. But being a Negro, they could send him up under this statute for the rest of his life."

Meanwhile, it was reported today that Mrs. Thompson and Mrs. Simpson, with the rest of their families, have been moved to new homes in Charlotte, N. C. They said they were relieved to get away from the hostility in Monroe, but their main concern remains the return of their two children.

Governor Hodges has admitted receiving several hundred letters and wires of protest from here and abroad. The number should continue to grow as the facts become more widely known. The plight of the imprisoned boys was given important new publicity this week with a prominently featured article on the case in the Jan. 17 issue of the Nation.

Financial contributions to help build the protest movement can be made to the Committee to Combat Racial Injustice, 141 Broadway, Suite 1117, New York 6, N. Y.

... Self-Defense In Monroe, N.C.

(Continued from Page 1) of performing an abortion on a white woman. (He was twice "convicted.") The State Supreme Court reversed the first conviction. He is now appealing the second.)

At the time of his arrest, Jet reported, "A phone call to his wife set the grapevine in motion, and within minutes, an estimated 45-100 Negroes had rushed to the town square, crowded white policemen out of the headquarters building, and confronted Police Chief Al Mauney.

"Where's the doctor?" they asked. "What's he being held for?" "We want to see him." And when the chief seemed slow about arranging bail, and bringing the doctor up from the basement, where he was being held alone, the crowd got fidgety, surged against the doors, fingered their guns and knives until Perry was produced."

Before the swimming pool issue, there was the successful fight for integration of the local library. "In May, the colored center and its books were destroyed by fire," the article continues. "Williams called city officials and asked what they intended to do. 'Nothing,' was the answer. 'How about integration,' Williams wondered? 'Colored people don't read anyhow,' the city fathers responded. 'Would you like to go to court, or do what's right?' Williams asked. The library integrated."

"... some few things begin to stand out about Monroe, and especially its Negroes," Jet observed. "The Negroes are through being docile, finished with fear of the white man."

The Taylor Case - New Setback for Witch-Hunt

By Henry Gitano

Rather than submit its "subversive" blacklist to a Supreme Court test, the government is once again squirming, dodging and retreating.

Over eleven years ago, the attorney general's list of organizations was made public as Truman launched the postwar witch-hunt. Since then, thousands of workers, accused of membership in these organizations, have been deprived of their livelihood through faceless informers in violation of the basic right of the accused to face his accuser.

In what amounts to a confession of guilt, the witch-hunters on Jan. 2 reversed their previous decision in the case of James Allen Taylor after the Supreme Court agreed to review his case.

Taylor was a toolmaker at Buffalo's Bell Aircraft from 1941 until he was screened in 1956. Two separate "hearings" found him a "security" risk.

As recently as three months ago, the Defense Department, basing itself on the ratting of six secret informers, reiterated that Taylor paid Communist Party dues and held a membership card. Taylor denied the charges, and demanded unsuccessfully the right to face and cross-examine his accusers. On the constitutional right of confrontation in loyalty-screening proceedings, Taylor's case reached the Supreme Court.

The Jan. 3, N.Y. Times reports: "One factor in the Government's decision to clear Mr. Taylor plainly was a desire to avoid a Supreme Court decision on the case. . . . The Defense Department did not indicate how it had reconciled Mr. Taylor's clearance with the previous decisions based on the statements of confidential informants."

Taylor's attorney, Joseph L. Rauh Jr. — who won a smashing victory against the government's witch-hunt in the Katcher case, where Katcher openly admitted membership in the Socialist Workers Party and regained his job — said that he would urge the Supreme Court to retain jurisdiction as a test case against faceless informers in security hearings.

MARITIME CASES

A similar strategic retreat by the government occurred when a group of merchant seamen who were screened under the "port security program" which covers about 500,000 seamen and longshoremen, took their case to court. They charged that secret files, secretly compiled from secret sources, deprived them of their constitutional rights.

In a sweeping decision handed down in October 1955, the Circuit Court of Appeals in California said: "Is this system of secret informers, whisperers and talebearers of such importance to the public welfare that it must be preserved at the cost of denying to the citizen even a modicum of the pro-

tection traditionally associated with due process?"

The court decision emphatically asserts the right of the accused to face his accuser in the Coast Guard screening program. "The government," according to the July 14, 1956 N. Y. Times, "after long consideration, decided not to appeal to the Supreme Court. One reason was a fear that the government might rule against the significance of the ruling for the 'confrontation issue' as it applies throughout all government security programs," which cover ten million Americans.

The government knew that its phony charges of "subversion" could not stand examination; and so the squealers must remain hidden. Since this runs counter to constitutional guarantees, a court test had to be avoided. If the stoolpigeons were forced to come up out of the bilges into the light of day, the "industrial security program" covering three million workers in private industry would be exposed.

BUREAUCRATS JOIN HUNT

The Coast Guard conformed to the ruling by means of a flanking operation. Seamen's papers were issued to screened men, but they carried a special stamp: "Validated. To be given same effect as all similar documents issued without [court] order." At that point, the union bureaucrats took over the blacklisting of union militants. Synchronized with a policy of object capitulation to the ship owners, union officials refused to register seamen with the Coast Guard brand.

To get the National Maritime Union pincers off the legal hook, an amendment was added to the NMU agreement in April 1957, whereby "loyalty to the U.S." was made a condition for the right to work. Thus after the courts had ruled that these seamen were wrongfully deprived of their jobs, labor fakers, who are unable to defend their stewardship of the union in open debate, victimize and blacklist union militants who fought for a better life aboard ship.

Currently 14 seamen have a suit pending before the Federal Court charging that the union "picked up where the Coast Guard left off." Organized in the Seamen's Defense Committee they are suing the NMU and six major shipping lines. Another court case filed in the N. Y. Supreme Court was reported in the Nov. 23, N. Y. Herald Tribune. Attorney Simon Haberman charged the NMU, 25 American shipping companies and the American Merchant Marine Institute with concluding a company-union agreement which conspires to deny employment to former "security risks."

On the West Coast, Superior Judge Gerald S. Levin ordered the Marine Fireman's Union to reinstate Alexander S. Milanovich who had been expelled from his union after the Coast Guard declared him a "security

risk." Following the court's verdict holding the Coast Guard screening procedure unconstitutional, the union bureaucracy performed the dirty work against which even the court had lashed out.

A revealing translation of the term "security risk" and how to fight it, was spotlighted by James Schuetz, who told his story to the Senate Subcommittee on Constitutional Rights in November 1955. Schuetz was a union steward who had worked at Bell Aircraft in Niagara Falls since 1940. In 1949, Local 501 of the United Auto Workers went on a five-months' strike. Schuetz was one of the strike leaders. A year and a half later, he was fired as a "security risk." At the hearing board, he discovered that security clearance had been withdrawn because of "picket line offenses" during the Bell strike. The Board said he had shown "poor discretion" and "lack of responsibility."

Then the union went into action and, with the Workers Defense League, fought the firing. Within five months he regained his job and later on his back pay.

PYRRHIC VICTORY?

Charles Allen Taylor has been officially cleared. Will it be another Pyrrhic victory comparable to the seamen's fight in 1956? The seamen remain as effectively barred from employment through the cooperation of the union and shipowners as previously by governmental decree.

The California court in the seamen's case said: "In considering the public interest in the preservation of a system under which unidentified informers are encouraged to make unchallengeable statements about their neighbors, it is not amiss to bear in mind whether or not we must look forward to a day when substantially everyone will have to contemplate the possibility that his neighbors are being encouraged to make reports to the FBI about what he says, what he reads, and what meetings he attends."

... 'Comfortable Old-Age Home'

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To make the position of those who urged working people to vote Democratic more untenable, the "hero" of the filibuster fight (it really was more like a waltz than a fight) turned out to be Vice-President Nixon — the same Nixon whom liberals exhorted the working people to stop last November "at all costs." In the encounter over the filibuster, the Northern Democratic and Republican senators who sought to change Rule 22 needed the help of "Tricky Dick" Nixon to get their propositions on the floor against Johnson.

Commenting on the Jan. 9 vote on Anderson's motion to adopt rules, Max Lerner, another columnist in the N.Y. Post, writes, "Let's face the facts, and admit straight off that the Senate liberals have suffered a bad defeat."

That is not quite true. The American working people suffered a defeat — yes. And they should hold all those who advised them to vote Democratic, instead of building their own party, responsible. But even if

being on the losing side of the vote is considered defeat, labor-endorsed Democrats were not all defeated — half of them voted on the winning side. They joined Johnson's coalition, that also included Dixiecrats and the majority of Republicans.

NEW ONES, TOO

Among those backing Johnson throughout were Kefauver and Gore (Tenn.), Murray and Mansfield (Mont.), Chavez (N.M.), and Green (R.I.). Eight of the 15 new Democratic senators voted for Johnson. They included such shining lights of liberalism as Ernest Gruening of Alaska, once editor of the Nation. One of Johnson's allies — Kefauver — was the labor leadership's favored candidate for presidential nomination in 1952 and 1956.

(It might be argued that liberals swung to Johnson under pressure. The Jan. 13 N. Y. Times reports that "Privately, there was some grumbling among the Democrats about the manner in which Mr. Johnson had scored his victory. Some of the members, for example, indicated that their votes had been cast against the realization that their committee assignments might depend upon how they voted.") But this only underscores the validity of what socialists have repeatedly contended — namely, that shining-light Democrats are not free agents but subject to party-machine control.

Crusading ardor did not distinguish those liberals who had pushed for a more meaningful curb on the filibuster. And that, too, helped Johnson gain his victory. This is indicated by the fact that in the midst of the contention over Rule 22, Johnson (a Texan) was unanimously reelected majority floor leader. It would be safe to say that the liberals on the losing side of the filibuster vote did not feel defeat too keenly. Had they been as strong for passing pro-labor and pro-civil rights legislation as they claim, they might have conducted a filibuster themselves to dramatize the importance of changing Rule 22 and to rally labor and Negro support.

EYES ON 1960 Their forces were made up, however, of politicians concerned more with vote-getting in

1960 than with principle. That explains why Kennedy (Mass.) and Symington (Mo.) — both favored by Southern Democrats but both prominent presidential contenders — voted against Johnson. It also explains the vote of Humphrey (Minn.) who, according to the Jan. 11 New York Times Magazine, has graduated to the inner core of the Senate Democrats — that is, made his peace with the dominant Southern group. Humphrey also has presidential ambitions. Nixon's role in the proceedings, too, can be ascribed to presidential aspirations.

Other Democratic senators, such as Douglas, coming from major Northern and Western industrial areas, have gone through the same motions in the past. They mounted a "fight" against filibuster, then allowed themselves to be outmaneuvered by the foes of civil rights.

Finally, a group of Republicans expressed the concern of leading Eastern big business circles for certain concessions to the Negro people. A similar concern was voiced by the New York Times, which often speaks for the guiding sections of big business. The Times printed three editorials reproving Johnson and urging a liberalized cloture rule. It reminded the Democrats that their sweep last November was a mandate for reform legislation.

The top circles of big business in this country are very much aware of the difficulties the Southern Jim Crow system causes them abroad — especially among the Asian, African and Latin American masses. They are also fearful of the potentially revolutionary character of the Negro struggle in the United States. They wish consequently for some tactical adjustment — a few curbs on the worst Dixiecrat outrages. They are annoyed and impatient that the Southern ruling class should display such rigidity on the question.

These big business policy makers, however, do not seek a showdown over civil rights. The Dixiecrats play too important a role as anchor on the right for big business rule. Their most useful function is as counterweight in the Democratic Party — the more popularly based of the two big business parties — to the labor element of the coalition. The Dixiecrats are also convenient scapegoats for the failure of liberals to fulfill their election promises to the labor and Negro movements.

The crime of the top labor officials is their connivance in this shell game. They have kept the labor movement tied to the Democratic Party and hold out the illusion that it can be reformed through electing a sufficient number of Northern and Western liberals. The 86th Congress wasted no time in disproving that contention for the umpteenth time. Only through building labor's independent political party can civil rights and all other demands of the working people be won.

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Second class postage paid at New York, N. Y.

Editor: DANIEL ROBERTS

Business Manager: BEATRICE ALLEN

Published weekly by the Militant Publishing Assn., 116 University Pl., N.Y. 3, N.Y. Phone: CH 3-2140. Signed articles by contributors do not necessarily represent the Militant's policies. These are expressed in editorials.

Vol. XXIII—No. 3

Monday, January 19, 1959

The End?

The ruling capitalist circles in the U.S. have been compelled to recognize that their rule over Cuba through the Batista puppet government has ended. But they hope and pray that this does not mean the end of their rule in Cuba. Above all they yearn for an end to the Cuban revolution.

This mood permeates an editorial in the N.Y. Times, Jan. 11, that sounds like incantation in its eagerness to put a finish to the revolutionary drama in Cuba. The editorial, "End of an Epic," feels that with Castro's arrival in Havana, "the audience could say that the curtain descended, the play was over." And since "All dramas must have a beginning and an end" the Times editors generously announce that Castro's arrival marks "the thrilling end."

The testimony of recent history hardly supports the wishful thinking of the Times. Now that Batista's rule by terror has been overthrown, what will happen to the imperialist holdings that were protected by the dictator? And what can prevent the Cuban people from proceeding to modernize the agriculture and industry of their country as so many of the colonial and semi-colonial countries have begun to do?

Socialist Youth Conference

One of the heartening features about the regroupment of revolutionary socialist forces that has been proceeding the past several years has been the number of youth involved. A significant milestone in their efforts to rebuild the socialist youth movement was the conference of young workers and students held in Detroit Dec. 27-28. The conference was initiated by the editorial board of the Young Socialist, a monthly paper published in New York.

According to a report in its January issue, 57 delegates, representing groups of supporters of the paper in 14 cities, participated in the conference. Their average age was 22 and a number of teen-agers were present. Students and young workers were almost evenly divided in representation.

The conference voted by an overwhelming majority to begin the job of building a revolutionary socialist youth movement in the United States and to strive to win the backing of socialist youth throughout the country in this effort. The excellent prospects for winning such support was indicated by the fact that the political background of the delegates represented virtually every shading of radical thought.

A statement of editorial policy for the

Like Ford and General Motors

One of Soviet Deputy Prime Minister Mikoyan's themes in his tour of the United States, has been the crucial need to end the cold war. This certainly echoes widespread sentiment in America and it undoubtedly expresses universal Soviet opinion. Planned economy, unlike capitalism has no interest in waging war.

But how is enduring peace to be won? During his visit to Detroit, Mikoyan pointed to what he thought was a good example of how to do it. At a semi-private luncheon in the dining room atop the Ford Motor Company's central office building, when Henry Ford II introduced Mikoyan to Frederic O. Donner, a top official of Ford's principal rival, General Motors, the Kremlin's representative exclaimed:

"Ah, you have coexistence in Detroit. Maybe it is because neither of you have an H-bomb."

Later the same day, addressing a group of Detroit business men, the Soviet emissary continued on this theme, arguing that the auto companies compete but don't go to war. From this he drew the moral that the Soviet Union and the United States should be able to compete in the same fashion.

Mikoyan was apparently well briefed on the present status of the class struggle in Detroit. Appearances to the contrary, a form of "peaceful coexistence" has existed for some time now between Ford, General Motors and the Chrysler Corporation. The Big Three seem to have a perfect understanding even on what prices should be fixed on competitive models.

This happy state of "peaceful coexistence" among the three auto trusts was not reached in an exactly peaceful way. The three giants stand in a graveyard filled with the tombstones of smaller auto companies that were crushed or absorbed in ruthless economic war.

Even more instructive, while American big business has gone far in establishing the "peaceful coexistence" characteristic of the trusts, monopolies and secret combines — agreement to end free com-

If by crafty manipulation and pressure Wall Street manages to find a new group of political agents among the possessing classes in Cuba, this still doesn't end the problem. Under pressure of the demands of the Cuban working class even middle-class revolutionaries like Castro can be forced to enact social measures of far-reaching revolutionary consequence.

And if Castro or his equivalent do not carry out such measures, the revolutionary social process still need not halt; it can deepen and go beyond Castro and his group, find expression in bolder political leaders who represent class forces that are least susceptible to imperialist pressure.

No, we don't see the kind of end the Times wants. It is far more likely that the fall of Batista and the victory of Castro's forces mark both the end of one stage and the beginning of another in the Cuban revolution. What has ended is the dictatorial rule of a Wall Street puppet; what has begun is a social revolution that will move sooner or later towards the expropriation of imperialist property and capital, the nationalization of economy and the emergence of a labor movement with socialist consciousness and aims.

Young Socialist was adopted, outlining the basic viewpoint of its supporters and proposing further discussion and common effort in working out a more elaborate program for American youth.

A brief policy statement was adopted. It favors creation of a labor party; active support to the civil rights fight; militant opposition to the witch-hunt, with special support to academic freedom and opposition to political screening of youth by the armed services; support to the colonial independence movement and establishment of workers governments; support to the struggles of the workers in the Soviet orbit for political democracy and opposition to the anti-Soviet drive of imperialism; opposition to nuclear tests and the buildup of the U.S. war machine. The statement views the struggle for peace as linked to the struggle for international socialism. The conference went on record finally for the regroupment of socialist youth into an independent, broad and militant organization that would advocate policies such as those indicated above.

You can help this promising movement by subscribing to the Young Socialist. The address is Young Socialist, P.O. Box 471, Cooper Station, New York 3, N. Y. You should include \$1 to get this lively paper for a year.

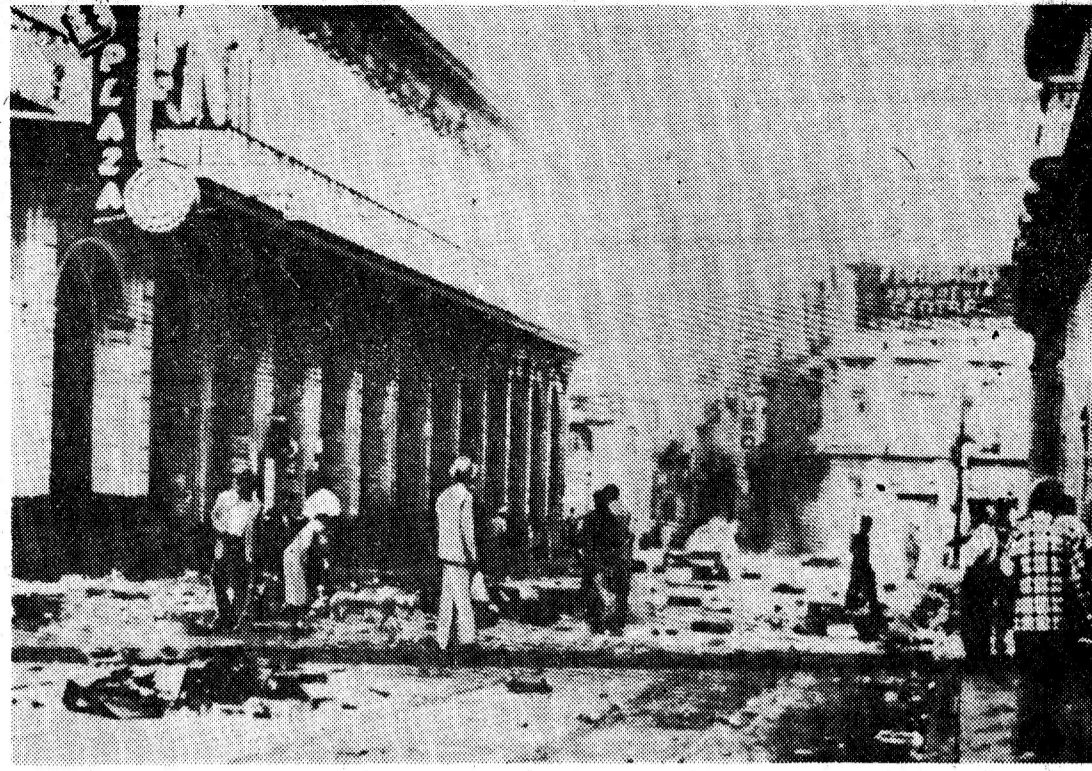
petition and divide up the market — efforts to extend it on an international scale have ended in intensified economic war that finally reaches the shooting stage. This is attested to by two worldwide imperialist conflicts, not to mention innumerable lesser contests.

Finally, we note that the "peaceful coexistence" practiced by the auto barons is based on common class interests. The principal function of such recognition of mutual class needs and aims is a firm united front against the auto workers. Members of the United Auto Workers were given their most recent dose of such "peaceful coexistence" when the auto corporations, ganged up on them on expiration of contracts last year.

Mikoyan is not the only one who is impressed by the "peaceful coexistence" policy of the auto magnates. UAW head Walter Reuther has been trying to buy in on it for some time now. His policy in this respect is more accurately known as class collaboration. Bidding for inclusion in the "peaceful coexistence" practiced by the Big Three, Reuther has sought to persuade the auto workers to forbear, to desist, to put off and give up militant struggle in behalf of their own class interests.

The result has been to weaken the union, to keep wages down, and to facilitate the speed up. It has aided the labor-hating, anti-union policies of management. The auto barons, for their part, are all for "peaceful coexistence" with the workers — until they deem the time propitious for a move against them.

The Detroit example of "peaceful coexistence," so praised by Mikoyan as a model for the world, actually points away from the road to enduring world peace — an international socialist system of interlocking planned economy. For the Soviet Union and the world working class to depend on "peaceful coexistence" of the Detroit variety would be as dangerous as for members of the Auto Workers Union to place their confidence in Reuther's class collaboration with the auto monopolists.



Gambling equipment from Havana's plush casinos shown strewn in street by Cuban insurgents. Batista and his gang made a big part of their fortunes on take from casinos run by American gangsters.

Big Business Sizes Up New Cuban Government

Despite promises of Castro's Provisional Government to stabilize the country and make it safe for foreign investments, American Big Business is still concerned over what is ahead in Cuba.

Ed Cony and Henry Gemmill, staff reporters for the Wall Street Journal, wrote an extensive analysis Jan. 8 of the current Cuban situation. They report that many businesses are being operated as usual. Moa Bay Mining Co. (subsidiary of Freeport Sulphur Co.) is continuing at full speed to construct its \$75 million new nickel and cobalt plant in Oriente province. Chrysler Corp. is setting up a new regional office in Havana to handle manufacturing and sales activities throughout Latin America.

An American in the offices of a big sugar company voiced a common reaction to the revolution: "This revolution so far has been the most pleasant surprise in years." And a top man in the sleek U.S. embassy enthused: "Long term, the outlook for American investment in Cuba is terrific."

However, Cony and Gemmill report: "When all these nice things have been said, certain facts must be noted. To many businessmen these look like amber caution signals; to some the lights look red."

For example, one major existing U.S. investment in Cuba: American & Foreign Power Co. [\$300 million electric power subsidiary] is reported to have been virtually taken over by the Comite Central Revolucionario de Plantas Electricas which is issuing orders and making decisions. "We are running the Company," cheerfully announces Senora Delia Jerez who is a member of the four-man revolutionary committee.

STIFF DEMANDS

The reporters believe this to be something of an overstatement. However, they admit: "It is certainly true that the committee is putting back on the company's payroll employees who were dismissed during the Batista regime. It plans to do a lot of firing, too, and its blacklist includes some company executives. The corporation has been presented with a rather long list of proposed reforms — including a 20% pay hike."

Company officials are reported reluctant to argue against guns and are considering rebel demands. The reporters continue: "If it turns out that the government does not endorse this particular form of take-over, that will not necessarily end the company's worries; it is considered possible that there will be outright nationalization of the public utility—or at the very least more rigid control than under Batista."

While this is the only instance of its kind reported, the company fears that the revolutionary central committee may set a pattern which could be followed elsewhere.

Plenty of other problems and "unpleasant prospects" ahead are sighted by business men, diplomats and members of the new government. These include: devaluation of the Cuban peso, higher taxes, extensive repair of transport, communications and power lines destroyed by the civil war, an untested government "suffering from some confusion as to where power resides" and friction lurking within the revolutionary movement.

Hotel managers report a favorable impression of the rebel guerrillas. Though ragged, they have not stolen so much as an ashtray. American Ambassador, Earl Smith [who has since re-

sisted] says that the rebels are friendly and courteous and have exhibited "not the slightest anti-American sentiment." "They're just nice kids."

MIDDLE-CLASS LEADERS

Cony and Gemmill go on to report that the leadership of the Castro movement is predominantly middle class. While a source of assurance, it remains to be seen whether they are politically skilled enough to fence in the labor movement. As one observer put it: "The middle-class nature of this revolution helps explain why Castro people were not more aware of the dangers in the labor situation."

The Journal reporters acquiesce in the opinion that this new government will be the most "honest" Cuba has seen. The Provisional Government consists of men who were either leaders in the 26th of July movement or who were part of the old Orthodox Party which was seeking elections at the time of Batista's coupe in 1952.

"Americans are accustomed to some dishonesty in their own domestic politics, of course, but it is hard for anyone on the continent to realize what a major disruptive factor corruption has been in the Cuban economy. Estimates of graft during the Batista regime run up to \$600 million, and even in the final hours one senator, Rolando Masferrer, found time to snatch \$17 million which he threw in a boat which took him to Key West. Quite apart from the actual money drain, the necessity of making payoffs has been a factor discouraging American investment in Cuba."

However, it is not enough that Urrutia, the man appointed president by Castro, is honest. The Journal dismisses him as a "lightweight," of the political stature of a "provincial" judge. Their hopes lie with others in the new government: Felipe Pazos, pre-Batista head of the National Bank who is again in that key post; Jose Miro Cardona, a former head of the Havana bar who is now Prime Minister; Rulo Lopez Fresquet, "shrewd economist" who is now head of the Treasury Department.

"The best hope for Cuba," declare Cony and Gemmill, "in the opinion of political experts, is that they along with Urrutia, will be setting national policies during the crucial 18 months or more provisional government by decree—while Castro keeps them in power through his prestige and military power."

The first crisis which may confront the Cuban government is devaluation of the peso. "The psychological impact of devaluation could be severe; though many Latin American lands are accustomed to weakening their currency, the Cubans have long counted on being able to exchange one peso for one dollar."

If war damage in the eastern part of the country could be quickly repaired, the crisis could be eased it is believed. Damage to railroads, roads, and powerlines have been severe. To companies whose main commodity is Cuba's sugar, this could mean disaster. "Rail transport is relied upon to move the sugar cane crop to mills and the sugar on to the ports, and since the harvest begins this month time is running short."

POLITICAL PROBLEM

More pressing than these economic problems is the possibility that the revolution will continue, deepening in power and scope. Of the various tendencies that might take up where Castro leaves off, one of the most important is the Directorio Revolucionario, a group

led by university students. Castro held this group responsible for the first major crisis to confront the new provisional government.

The group moved its militia into the Presidential Palace on New Year's day. They hoped to pressure Castro into conceding a post to them in the new cabinet. President Urrutia declared martial law and the Directorio reluctantly backed down.

Cony and Gemmill report: "The Directorio is issuing pronouncements that all revolutionary organizations should participate in the formation of the provisional government and decrying the creation of a 'political army'—an apparent crack at Castro's control of Batista's old military machine plus his own amateur warriors."

Other potential opponents, such as Ex-President Carlos Prio Socorras, have also been ignored thus far. They sum up the political situation in the following way: "Not only must the Castro movement—as the strength behind the provisional government—ward off seekers of power but it must also find a way to keep its own house together. This promises to be anything but simple, since Castro's followers include individuals running through the political spectrum from right to left."

The American Way of Life

Land of Plenty

Every big American city has its skid row—the area where homeless unemployed men hang out after all their resources are exhausted, or after they've been thrown on the scrap heap because they're too old or too unstable to keep up the pace on most jobs. The capitalist system needs these men. It needs them, as Karl Marx explained long ago, to fill in the openings that become available when the periodic expansion of industry occurs in the blind, unplanned way of capitalism.

Necessary as these workers are for the smooth operation of the system, capitalism does not exactly provide them with comforts while they are held in reserve. This can be seen in any city. A particularly vivid instance in recent weeks was reported in America's biggest and wealthiest metropolis.

"No colder wind blows than the one against a man without a home," Peter J. McElroy of the New York Post observed shortly after the new year began. "And so what happens to the men of the Bowery in the bitter cold? They drink harder. Some of them make a point of finding a day's work so they at least have a flop at night. Others die."

McElroy talked with a youth of 18 in a lobby of the Salvation Army, waiting to make sure he got a room for the night. "I couldn't take the chance to look for a job today," he said. "Maybe I wouldn't get a room."

DIAMOND SETTING

"On Christmas morning one Norman Woodruff, died alone in the doorway of a diamond store," McElroy continued. Passers-by probably thought of him as just another drunk. He had frozen to death. Norman was 30 years old.

At the Salvation Army Hotel, McElroy saw 400 men silently waiting in the lobby for "check in time." Rooms are rented nightly at \$1.50. At one of the "hotels" the manager said only half of his rooms are taken each night. They cost 75 cents.

Twice a day the police send a patrol wagon around the Bowery area to pick up homeless men. "These men ask to be arrested," McElroy reported. "At least they are assured of being warm and getting some food."

At the Bowery Mission, emer-

gency measures are taken during cold spells. The assistant superintendent told McElroy: "We have a capacity of 120 men but these past few nights we have had to open our doors and let the men in the chapel where it is warm."

When McElroy went to the Elizabeth station house he found that the record of Bowery casualties wasn't "too high." Up until 2 p.m. of the day before there were two dead, and two sick cases taken to the hospital.

JUST TOO LATE

"These men walk around with God knows what," a policeman said. "Pneumonia, Tuberculosis. A lot of them drink and just collapse. When we get to them it is just too late."

Down the block The Post reporter saw a policeman jerk an older man of 75 slumped in a doorway. "Come on buddy," the cop said. "On your way."

"Kind of rough on the old guy aren't you?" McElroy asked.

"We have to keep them on their feet. When the whisky wears off they just lie there and freeze to death in this kind of weather."

SHORT WORK DAY

McElroy watched a man sell some long underwear he had gotten in the Mission. Why did he sell it? "Me and my buddies got a price for a bottle now."

At another bar McElroy asked a man how he made out in this kind of weather. "Great!" the man said ironically. "When we tap a Joe he feels sorry for us. When it's cold, they give us money right away. It makes the working day shorter."

On the corner of the Bowery and Houston, McElroy stopped to ask a man on crutches why he was crying. "I tried so hard," he said. The tears streaming from his eyes were whipped about his face by the icy blasts. A few minutes before his cap was blown from his head. "I tried to get it—but I couldn't make it. It is so cold."

The old man pulled the ragged collar of his coat over his ears and hobbled on to the Bowery Mission where he at least hoped to find a place to sleep.

Headlines in Other Lands

De Gaulle Slashes Living Standards

The De Gaulle regime, now formally installed, is moving to impose higher taxes, higher prices and a curb on wage increases. In addition, the new government has announced a rent increase of five to 25 percent on all dwellings constructed before 1948. This will cover 13,000,000 of the 14,000,000 housing units in the country. To add to the squeeze, pensions have been ended for all able-bodied war veterans under the age of 65.

The developing protest provoked by these moves apparently was sufficient to cause Socialist Party leader Guy Mollet to resign from De Gaulle's cabinet as of Jan. 8. But at the SP congress, Jan. 11, the Mollet leadership beat down proposals for what is characterized as a concept of "negative" opposition to the new government.

Instead, it asserted, it will follow a course of "constructive" opposition. Although the SP has voted against its members taking posts in the Bonapartist general's cabinet, one of its leaders, Andre Bouloche, has accepted the portfolio of Minister of Education.

Syria Expropriates Big Landlords

The Syrian Minister of Agrarian Reform issued a decree Jan. 6 expropriating about 35,000 acres of land from 39 landlords. This brings the land now confiscated to over a million acres once owned by some 80 landlords. The first distribution of the expropriated land is slated to take place Feb. 21.

Soviet Bloc Opens W. Africa Trade

Soviet bloc countries are now negotiating trade agreements with a number of West African countries which have recently won their independence. A trade and cultural agreement has just been announced be-

tween East Germany and the newly independent Republic of Guinea. East Germany will supply industrial plants, textile, chemical products and consumer goods. In return, under a partial barter arrangement, Guinea is expected to deliver coffee, oleaginous goods, bananas and other agricultural products.

Norway Reforms Prison System

Norway has decided to reform its prison system. Inmates will get single cells to provide privacy. The aim is to treat prisoners as individuals and human beings — not convicts known by numbers. The plan resulted from a seven-year study by a committee of social and penological experts.

New Type Fallout Danger Disclosed

Atomic particles have been detected in Sweden that are larger and more dangerous than any yet reported outside the immediate area of a test explosion, according to a report to the United Nations made by a Swedish physicist.

The scientist announced his findings Dec. 5 but they were not reported in this country until Jan. 12.

The particles were said to be a result of Soviet nuclear tests in the Arctic last fall. The UN also has a report before it that similar particles were discovered in Brazil a year earlier. These were held to have come from British tests in the South Pacific.

A Washington spokesman for the Atomic Energy Commission said the particles in Sweden were apparently like those produced by 1954 American H-tests in the Pacific. Inhabitants of the Marshall Islands suffered burns from these tests, as did crew members of the Japanese fishing vessel, the Lucky Dragon.

Similar burns have scarred cattle near the Nevada testing grounds. A U.S. expert discounted the

danger from the new type particles. He said that if you assumed 100 persons would be killed by the fallout from a "normal" hydrogen bomb test, only 102 would die from the type of fallout observed in Sweden.

Nigeria President Cool to Africa Union

Joining the wide discussion in Africa over the proposal for a United States of Africa, President William V. S. Tubman of Liberia said Jan. 10 that the idea was "premature and utopian" at the present stage of African development. The Pan-African plan was projected at the recent ACCRA conference by Prime Minister Nkrumah of Ghana.

While conceding that the idea is correct in principle, Tubman contended that for the present it would be better to establish collaboration between the independent African states in the form of treaties of peace and friendship, commerce and navigation.

Mass Evictions in So. Africa

The racist government of South Africa intends to evict 6,000 Africans from their homes in Pretoria in the next few months. The evictions are based on the Group Areas Act which bars Africans from "white-only" areas unless they are registered as servants of whites.

India Suffers Food Shortage

Long lines are waiting in New Delhi to buy wheat and flour. The shortage is attributed to bad weather but the press charges that speculators are holding back the grain to jack up profits. Scattered fist fights and rock-throwing have already occurred and bigger demonstrations are anticipated. The government has promised to open "fair-price" shops to sell wheat and flour at subsidized prices and American wheat is being shipped into Bombay.

Life is said to be a good deal easier for Negroes in the North than it is in the South. "Easier" is, of course, a relative word. Occasionally the press reports incidents in the North which indicate what a nightmare life must be for the Southern

Negro if he dreams about escaping to these "enlightened" centers. Last week Ted Poston reported two such incidents in the Jan. 7 and 9 issues of the New York Post. The following are summaries of these stories:

New York, N. Y.

On Aug. 12, 1957, two detectives called Eddie Massey, a 25-year-old Negro, in Springfield Gardens, Queens. They said they came to his home to question him about a complaint that someone had thrown a rock against his neighbor's house. They told Massey to come with them to the police station. Massey started to leave. One of the cops hit him on the head. Massey thereupon refused to go with them.

He charges that the two detectives beat him unmercifully—first in his home, then in their car after they had dragged him out, and then at the station house. He was beaten so badly that it took him two weeks in the hospital to recover.

After the cops finished working their victim over, they arrested him on charges of committing third-degree assault on them. One of the detectives said that he

had suffered one scratch on his wrist and another on his finger.

Massey was convicted and given a 30-day suspended sentence.

But things are better in New York than in Mississippi. Last week, a year and a half after Massey suffered his beating, the New York Appellate Court reversed his assault conviction.

It ruled that young Massey was "justified in his resistance" to an illegal arrest and in his "counter-assault" on the two cops.

The legal department of the New York NAACP, which is suing the city for \$100,000 in Massey's behalf, announced that as a result of the decision it would amend its suit to include charges of false arrest, malicious prosecution and trespassing.

Newark, N. J.

William Simons, 30, a Negro truck driver, is in a Newark hospital with 37 stitches in his scalp and face, four broken fingers on his right hand, a fractured nose, laceration of the face and a twisted and scarred left wrist.

His wife, Mabelle, told Poston that it happened while they were parking their car in front of their house in Newark's Third Ward, a heavily populated Negro district.

Two white patrolmen came out of a nearby bar. They told Simons he was going the wrong way on a one-way street. He said that he was only backing up to park his car but they told him to get out and show his license. When he said his wife, who was then on the sidewalk, had the license, they called him a liar.

"I got the license out," Mrs. Simons said, "but by then they had started beating Bill with their nightsticks. I rushed up with the license and started begging, 'Please stop beating my husband,' but one of them hit me across the stomach with his nightstick.

"They found a little penknife in his pocket," she continued, "and one of them said, 'Oh, we can book you for carrying a dangerous weapon, too.' And the other one hit him again across the head, and said, 'You're a brave nigger, huh? Well, come on and fight.'"

"Bill was already so groggy that he couldn't say nothing and the other one told him to run so they could shoot him."

"He fell to the ground and I rushed over to try to help him, but with the blow to the stomach and everything else I started throwing up and one of them yelled at me:

"You black bitch! You ought to drop dead on top of him."

"Bill tried to push himself off the ground and one of them stomped his foot down on the back of his hand. You could almost hear the bones crunch."

When Mrs. Simons persisted in trying to show the cops the license, they shoved her around some more and then arrested her on charges of assault and battery on an officer.

The Newark NAACP has taken up the case and the Newark police director has promised an investigation.

Poston reports that Mrs. Simons explained rather apologetically to him why she became violently ill during the incident.

"You see, I was four and a half months pregnant then," she said. "But I don't know if I'm still pregnant or not. I've been hemorrhaging so much since I was struck in the stomach that I just don't know any more."

Notes in the News

NO ONE TO BLAME? — Unable to determine the exact cause of the fire that swept the parochial school in Chicago Dec. 1, the coroner's jury of fire-prevention, insurance and architecture experts released anyone from responsibility for the tragedy that took the lives of 90 pupils and three teachers.

However, Dale K. Auch, a member of the jury, observed: "The expense of installing and maintaining a sprinkler system in Our Lady of the Angels school for fifty years would have cost less per pupil than the price of a pack of cigarettes."

LIKE TO HAUL AGED MILK — Dairy interests have succeeded in getting New York City's Health Department to agree to abolish the dating of milk containers, a practice that has led consumers to refuse to buy anything but fresh milk. However, the "reform" has not gone through. Edward S. Foster, secretary of the New York State Conference Board of Farm Organizations, which is pushing anti-labor legislation at Albany, charged that the Teamsters Union is responsible for the delay. Milk will keep under modern refrigeration until it is eventually sold, Foster claimed. The spokesman of the dairy interests also claimed that the Teamsters are presumably not interested in public health but only in hauling aged milk back to the plants.

BIG YEAR FOR NAACP — For the first time, income of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People passed the million mark in 1958, with a total of \$1,017,471.15. Membership increased 9%, bringing the total to 305,518. Twenty-four new branches were chartered in 45 states.

WOMEN SAY THEY LIKE JOBS — According to the Survey Research Center of the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, more than half America's employed women say their jobs help make them feel useful and important. Seven out of ten women in professional and managerial jobs find their work rewarding, useful and important. About six in ten in clerical and sales occupations felt the same way. But the figures for bench workers and machine operators in factories was only four in ten.

\$30.57 A WEEK — According to James P. Mitchell, Secretary of Labor, some 8,000,000 people collected unemployment compensation last year. This was the highest number since the thirties. A total of \$4 billion in benefits was collected by the jobless, double the amount paid in any previous year, but this represented only one-third the wages they would have received had there been no recession. The average weekly unemployment check was only \$30.57.

BIG REFORM — An investigation by a committee of the New York State Legislature

shows that 48.6% of the jobs in the state have no health or hospital insurance. This contrasts with a ratio of 90.2% for the general population. Many union contracts call for companies to pay for such insurance for employees. The committee learned that most policies are dropped soon after a worker loses his job. To make up for this, the committee urges passage of a law — requiring all insurance carriers to inform unemployed workers that they can convert from group to individual coverage after they have lost their jobs.

PRIZE UNDERSTATEMENT — In a special section on the implications of the International Geophysical Year just concluded, the N. Y. Herald Tribune (Jan. 11) included an article that recalled what had been envisaged originally in the United States in the way of satellite launchings. Headline of the article read: **Satellite Achievement Better Than Expected.**

COMPLETE DESEGREGATION — The American Federation of Teachers has announced that the organization is now completely desegregated. It denied reinstatement to the all-white Chattanooga group because of its violation of policy. In the past two years, the AFT reported, it lost 3,000 members in segregated units, but gained 6,000 new members.

NO TAX ON STRIKE BENEFITS — In a two-to-one decision in Milwaukee, the U.S. Seventh Court of Appeals ruled in favor of a worker on strike for five years against the Kohler Co. of Sheboygan. The court agreed that Allen Kaiser did not need to pay income tax out of strike benefits paid him by the United Auto Workers. "Strike benefits are intended to prevent what are public assistance benefits," said the court.

CP SUSPENDS LOMAN — The Jan. 11 Worker announced that the New York State Board of the Communist Party has "suspended" Charles Loman because he "has taken an extended trip, leaving his positions of responsibility without discharging his official obligations to the State and National Committees . . ." The N. Y. Times said that party leaders refused to confirm or deny that the Brooklyn organization, which Loman headed, had major party funds under its control.

A member of the party's national committee and its Kings County chairman, Loman has long been a Negro leader in the CP. In the recent factional struggle he figured prominently as a supporter of William Z. Foster and Benjamin Davis against John Gates.

According to one report, Loman left for Ghana, Egypt and other places in Africa. Another version is that he took a three-month pleasure trip to England, France, Italy and Austria.

1,000 Jobless Demonstrate in Detroit

Harvester Strike Solid In Chicago

CHICAGO, Jan. 9 — In sub-zero weather the workers of International Harvester continue to man the picket lines. In spite of the protracted negotiations, they show no signs of weakening. A recent strike bulletin reports:

"The small amount of progress that was made in negotiations last week was limited mainly to wage inequities (classifications). A few small concessions were also won in the negotiations for a contract for the [parts] depots. Direct bargaining between the Union and the Company was mostly confined to sub-committees. The negotiations were recessed briefly last Saturday and will resume Monday, January 5, 1959."

"The \$64 question still remains, why has this Company caused strike dragged on like this?"

"It took seven weeks of strike before the Company dropped 74 of its original 76 demands on our old contract."

"If the Company has been completely irresponsible in its 'one wolf' role of trying to be the only major corporation to wipe out hard-won Union gains, the Union has demonstrated time and again that it earnestly seeks an end to the strike. Last week, for example, the Union reduced the large number of back-logged grievances to less than 500 and presented them to the Company. Other Union demands include: the old contract with agreed-upon improvements, wage inequities, improved vacations, protection against piecework price cutting, and special demands for office, skilled and depot workers."

"The company could grant all Union demands and drop all of its own at a cost figure that probably wouldn't amount to more than the total of the holiday pay lost by the strikers. Put this together with the fact that the Company has already raised prices 5% on products and 10% on parts (which goes on an inventory of over \$200 million manufactured under the lower wages of the old contract) and it becomes clear that the Company is keeping the

"—and Take Your Friend with You!"



strike going on the same issue that it began the strike — that is, a vicious and morally irresponsible attitude on the part of the Company that its workers must be made to suffer, that the Union must be taken down a notch, that the price of an improved contract is hardship and suffering."

"If this 'principle' of the Company's is important to the Company, the Union's principles are equally important. Once the Union was forced to strike it determined to secure its objective. That objective is the maintaining of our old contract, plus improvements patterned on gains won from other companies. We will win our objective."

Yesterday arbitrator Cole was slated to enter the picture. Very little will result from what he does. The workers have no confidence in Cole or any other arbitrator. The only goal that can be said for this aspect of the negotiations is that Cole's decisions are not binding.

Among other developments, the union has increased strike benefits. Weekly benefits go up this week by \$3.

Start Berkeley Drive to End Jim Crow Housing

BERKELEY, Calif., Jan. 9 — An initiative petition campaign is being launched in Berkeley today to place an ordinance prohibiting discrimination or segregation in housing on the ballot for the municipal election next April.

The petition originated with a group called United Socialist Action. Vincent Hallinan, San Francisco attorney and former presidential candidate of the Progressive Party, is chairman of the group. G. W. White of Berkeley is secretary. The notice of intention to circulate the petition was published in the name of Mrs. Dorothy N. Mullen, also of Berkeley.

The petition campaign will begin at a kick-off meeting tonight where petitions and circulating information will be available. Organizations and individuals in the labor, civil rights and radical movement have been invited to help the drive.

Over 1,400 signatures of registered Berkeley voters are re-

Peter Buch Announces Candidacy

LOS ANGELES, Jan. 7 — Peter Buch, a graduate student at UCLA, today filed his declaration of intention to run for office number three, Board of Education.

"Although this is a non-partisan election," Buch said, "I have been endorsed by the Socialist Workers Party. As a socialist, I will campaign on an anti-war platform. Our schools should teach our youth to extend a fraternal hand of friendship to peoples of other lands, including those with a differing social system."

The socialist candidate announced he would "campaign for the abolition of all loyalty oaths and thought-control laws that hamstring our school system, to reinstate and compensate all penalized teachers to their posts and to restore academic freedom to our schools."

"I will also campaign for allowing students a voice in the administration of their schools," he added.

Candidates endorsed by the Socialist Workers Party ran for Los Angeles Board of Education in 1951 and 1953.

In 1953 Robert Morgan polled 12,588 votes, running fourth in a field of eleven. He conducted a vigorous campaign against American imperialism in the Korean civil war and the McCarthyite hysteria then sweeping the country.

In 1951 Myra Tanner Weiss, who was later vice-presidential candidate of the SWP in 1952 and 1956, polled 18,569 votes.

CLOCKWATCHER
"Jenkins," thundered the employer, "why do you keep looking at the clock?"

"Well, sir," replied the employee, "I keep worrying whether I am behind on the two men's work that I do."

1958 AUTO PRODUCTION
The auto industry turned out 4,247,441 cars in 1958 as against 6,120,029 in 1957. Truck production dropped from 1,096,446 in 1957 to 869,279 in 1958.

Press City to Endorse Bill for 30-Hour Week

DETROIT, Jan. 12 — A thousand unemployed workers demonstrated in and around the City-County Building today as spokesmen of the Common Council to support a program to relieve unemployment distress "that wouldn't cost the city government a single cent."

Speaking for the city-wide UAW Production and Skilled Workers Unemployed Committee were its chairman Joe Shaner; Manitee Smith, an unemployed Negro production worker from Dodge Local 3; and Art Fox, a tool and die worker from Ford Local 600.

Their main proposal was that the Common Council pass a resolution endorsing the 30-hour bill which Senator Patrick McNamara (D-Mich.) recently said he may introduce in Congress.

They also urged the Council to appeal to the auto corporations to discontinue overtime work in plants where workers have not been called back to work; and to support state and federal measures to extend unemployment compensation for the full period of unemployment.

The Council promised to call the committee back when it was ready to make a decision on these proposals.

"McNAMARA BILL"

It was a little ironic that the 30-hour week bill was repeatedly called "the McNamara bill." McNamara hasn't introduced the bill yet and, as last week's Militant reported, said he wouldn't do it unless the UAW leadership asked him to.

McNamara may become more famous for a bill he didn't introduce than for all those he did.

Meanwhile the Tool and Die Unit of Ford Local 600 acted to broaden interest in the proposed legislation. It sent letters to Emil Mazey, John L. Lewis, James Hoffa, Harry Bridges, David McDonald and James Carey, calling their attention to McNamara's offer to introduce the bill if labor will support it, and asking them to, inform him of their support.

The Socialist Workers Party distributed a leaflet to the demonstrators today, under the headline, "We Need a Labor Party to Fight Unemployment."

CALL FOR MILITANCY

The leaflet said the jobless will be able to win their demands, including the 30-hour week, only by fighting militantly for them, and by having no confidence in the promises of Republicans or Democrats, conservative or liberal.

Regarding McNamara's half-promise, the leaflet asked: "Isn't it disgraceful when a man elected to office by union members tries to maneuver himself out of even introducing a bill on their behalf?"

"Doesn't it show that labor ought to build its own party and elect its own people to office where they will not only introduce but fight for legislation favorable to working people?"

"And what about Walter Reuther?"
"It would cost him only 4 cents for postage to get a 30-hour bill introduced in Washington."

"Why doesn't he send the letter McNamara asks for? Because Reuther doesn't want to embarrass the Democratic Party which he knows is opposed to a shorter work week, just like the Republicans."

"And what about Detroit's Common Council — what are its members doing about the measures so desperately needed by the unemployed?"

"Six of them are Democrats; three are Republicans. But are any of them ready to have the Council send a telegram to Congress supporting such a thing as a 30-hour bill?"

"If so, they haven't indicated it yet."
"The truth is that we cannot have confidence in either of the two old parties."

NEED LABOR PARTY

"We have put heavy pressure on both of them. And at the same time we have to begin preparing to build a new party — a labor party that will have no allegiance to the profit system; that will run its own candidates for office against the candidates of both old parties; that will elect them and set up a government with only one goal — to protect and promote the interests of all working people, and to always put those interests ahead of profit.

Humans, Too, 'Worth Their Weight in Gold'

DETROIT, Jan. 12 — Art Fox took off effectively on Eisenhower's state-of-the-union message when he spoke at today's unemployed meeting with the Common Council.

Last year, he noted, four billion dollars in unemployment compensation was paid to eight million jobless. "That looks impressive," he said, "until you hear Eisenhower telling about the seven billion dollars budgeted for missiles. Bombers are said to be 'worth their weight in gold,' but human beings are regarded as of lesser value, and their skills and morale are allowed to decay and fall."

Eisenhower spoke about the depression as if it were a thing of the past. "But that's not how the unemployed in Michigan see it," Fox declared. And he cited the latest statistics — 197,000 jobless in the Detroit area (a drop of 3,000 in one month) while in the state as a whole the figure was 332,000 (an increase of 10,000 for the month).

"In the United States, the richest country in the world, nobody should be forced to suffer want or go idle.

"We have the power to relieve the suffering caused by unemployment, to prevent unemployment altogether, and to live in peace and plenty.

"Let's resolve to use that power for ourselves and our families in such a way that the 1957-1958 depression will be the last one we'll ever have."

Lengthy Strike In Cleveland Gains Strength

CLEVELAND, Jan. 8 — Of the 38 strikes now being fought by the United Auto Workers, one of the most militant, and certainly the lengthiest with the exception of Kohler, is here. Local 363 has been out since Nov. 4 against Pesco Products, Division of Borg-Warner.

The local isn't very large as aircraft plants run; it has only 900 members. But its struggle the past nine weeks has added a bright page to Cleveland history.

A Jan. 7 meeting of 800 members voted overwhelmingly to continue the strike and gave a "vote of confidence to the bargaining committee in its efforts to arrive at a contract the members could live with for a three-year period." This was the second rejection of the company's "final offer."

Last month the union voted two to one by secret ballot to reject a company ultimatum of "take it or leave it."

The vote yesterday bettered the first vote by far. It voiced the determination of Local 363 to win this strike.

The workers are demanding better union representation and also the right to strike over production standards. Most of the auto industry, but not aircraft, has this limited right to strike in their new three-year contracts.

A notable point of departure from other strikes in this area in recent years is the strength displayed on the picket lines. The injunction invoked against picketing has had little effect, since the Teamsters have given genuine cooperation to the strike.

The one scab trucking company here, Cleveland Freight, notorious for breaking picket lines, ran up the white flag after being mauled by demonstrating pickets and promised "never again to cross a picket line."

Local Directory

BOSTON
Boston Labor Forum, 295 Huntington Ave., Room 200.
Every Sunday night, round table discussion, 8 P.M., Room 200.

BUFFALO
Militant Forum, 831 Main St.

CHICAGO
Socialist Workers Party, 777 W. Adams, DE 2-9738.

CLEVELAND
Socialist Workers Party 10609 Superior Ave., Room 301, SW 1-1818. Open Friday nights 7 to 9.

DETROIT
Eugene V. Debs Hall, 3737 Woodward.

LOS ANGELES
Forum Hall and Modern Book Shop, 1702 E. 4th St. AN 9-4953 or AN 3-1533. Book Shop open Mon. 7-9 P.M.; Wed. 8-10 P.M.; Sat. 12-5 P.M.

MILWAUKEE
150 East Juneau Ave.

MINNEAPOLIS
Socialist Workers Party, 322 Hennepin Ave., 2nd floor. Open soon to 6 P.M. daily except Sundays.

NEWARK
Newark Labor Forum, Box 361, Newark, N. J.

NEW YORK CITY
Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place, AL 5-7852.

OAKLAND-BERKELEY
P.O. Box 341, Berkeley 1, Calif.

PHILADELPHIA
Militant Labor Forum and Socialist Workers Party, 1303 W. Girard Ave.

SAN FRANCISCO
The Militant, 1145 Polk St., Rm. 4. Sat. 11 A.M. to 3 P.M. Phone PR 6-7299; if no answer, VA 4-2321.

SEATTLE
655 Main St., MU 2-7139. Library, bookstore. Classes every Friday evening at 8 P.M. Open House following at 10:30 P.M.

ST. LOUIS
For information phone MO 4-7194.

Calendar Of Events

NEW YORK
The Rev. William H. Melish will discuss "Socialism and Civil Liberties" at the Militant Labor Forum, 116 University Place (near Union Square). Jot down the date: Friday, Jan. 23 at 8:30 p.m. Contribution \$1. Refreshments to follow.

TWIN CITIES
Laura Gray cartoon exhibit and a housewarming for Carl and Sally Feingold Saturday, Jan. 24, 9 p.m. at 2419 Fourth Ave. S., Minneapolis. Auspices: Socialist Workers Party. Donation 50 cents.