

# Big Business Rigs the Race

An Editorial

The big-business rulers of this country have every reason to be pleased with the results of the Republican and Democratic conventions.

The smooth-rolling political machine men in both parties carefully stage-managed the proceedings from the first hammering of the chairman's gavel through the "spontaneous demonstrations" to the acceptance speeches of the nominees.

The bosses named candidates who were acceptable to the most conservative forces in their parties—tested products of their political machines, millionaires or proteges of millionaires, devoted body and soul to the profit system.

Their hand-picked committees framed platforms which, on all decisive issues, were designed not so much to guide actions of the candidates as to serve as a come-on for gullible voters.

But if the upper crust of wealth could feel happy and complacent about the outcome of the conventions, the men and women who make up the majority of this nation have no ground for satisfaction.

Take three outstanding issues: foreign policy, labor legislation and civil rights to gauge how little the needs and interests of the American people were taken into account.

In foreign affairs Democrats and Republicans re-dedicated themselves to prolong the cold war and all the militarism and reactionary alliances that go with it. Instead of peace and even a relaxation of tensions, they put forward the prospect of an intensified arms race.

The labor movement cannot expect to get rid of the Kennedy-Landrum-Griffin Bill and other equally harsh antiunion legislation. The Democrats even dropped the promise to repeal the Taft-Hartley Law contained in its last three platforms.

## Fraud on Civil Rights

To lure the Northern Negro vote into its camp, both parties had to insert "forward-looking" provisions on civil rights in its platform. But it is more significant that the Republicans are still promising instead of performing in the field of Negro equality one hundred years after Lincoln's election. And the Democratic leaders have designated Johnson as vice-president to guard the gates against moves considered too menacing by the white supremacists.

Having bulldozed their candidates and platforms through the conventions, the publicists for the big money are now busy building up the pretense that there is a real contest and that the American people have a genuine choice between the rival "organization men."

The networks are scheduling a series of "debates" between Kennedy and Nixon for this purpose. In this very act they expose the rigged character of the campaigns, for the broadcasting companies and Congress are conspiring to exclude all other parties and deprive them of their right to radio and TV time.

Big business wants to maintain the same tight control over politics and the means of communication as it has over industry and to keep the people from hearing any radical opposition to the bipartisan policies of the old-line parties.

Despite all difficulties, the Socialist Workers party and its candidates, Farrell Dobbs and Myra Tanner Weiss, are vigorously challenging the political monopoly of the capitalist parties from coast to coast. They ask — and deserve — your support.

## SWP Election News Campaigning for Socialism

By Joseph Hansen

Erroll Banks, Socialist Workers candidate for Congress from the Twenty-third District in Los Angeles, recently appeared on Dan Lundberg's TV show together with Carey McWilliams, editor of the Nation, Phil Kirby, editor of Frontier magazine, and Rev. Stephen Fritchman of the Unitarian Church. The topic was "Should Labor Support a Particular Party?"

Mr. Kirby did not take a definite position. He thought he could see a difference between the Democrats and Republicans, but added: "I'm full of apprehension; I'm not too happy; I'm waiting to see what happens."

The editor of the Nation predicted that one of the two major parties would disintegrate in the coming period, although not necessarily in the next four years. However, he felt that the atmosphere was less favorable for third party formations today than when Henry Wallace ran in the 1948 campaign. This was due, in part, to the passage of restrictive election laws that in effect exclude minority parties from the ballot in many states.

Rev. Fritchman wished that voters might have a third choice. He indicated that he was not endorsing the Socialist Workers platform advocated by Erroll Banks but nevertheless was glad to see him run. "This year it doesn't look as though we are going to elect this man, but if we can give him a good running start, and other minority parties, I think we will be back to the old LaFollette tradition that I miss."

Banks commented on the unhappiness of the liberals over the alternative of Nixon



ERROLL BANKS

or Kennedy. "You can protest," he said, "by voting for the candidates of the Socialist Workers party, Farrell Dobbs and Myra Tanner Weiss."

He succinctly spotted the key issues. "The primary problem is the possibility of nuclear destruction. The second most important question is hunger and poverty. Out of every eleven people in the world today, seven go to bed hungry every night. Neither the Democrats nor the Republicans have any solution to the question of minorities. There has been no real civil-rights legislation."

Last week the Socialist Workers party held two regional conferences, one in New York, the other in Chicago, to consider results so far in the election campaign and to discuss the next stage.

The New York gathering noted encouraging successes in winning local publicity over TV and radio and in the press for the socialist candidates. Farrell Dobbs' defense of the Cuban revolution, for instance, received good coverage.

National publicity, however, remains a problem due to the concerted effort of the big TV chains and the major papers to

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## SWP Candidate



**GLADYS BARKER GRAUER, Socialist Workers candidate for U.S. Senator from New Jersey stated last week: "The American Negroes have already waited over a hundred years for equality. If I or any other candidate of my party is elected to office, we will demand an end to all delays and press for the immediate enactment and enforcement of legislation giving full civil rights to our colored citizens."**

## Win Integration At Greensboro Lunch Counters

By Arthur Jordan

The Southern student sit-in movement swept past the half-year mark with a fresh crop of victories to its credit. A notable addition to the growing roll of cities whose lunch counters have been desegregated on a major scale is Greensboro, N.C., where the Southwide sit-in movement began.

The F. W. Woolworth store at Greensboro opened its counter to Negroes July 25 — the same counter where four pioneering students took seats and were refused service last February 1. The Woolworth counter, as well as the one integrated simultaneously at S. H. Kress's, had been kept closed during most of the intervening six months.

On the same day four leading dime stores began serving Negroes in the densely populated Norfolk-Portsmouth area of Virginia, one of the South's major urban centers. Dime, drug and department store counters were integrated at Knoxville, Tenn., where adults fulfilled a promise to continue sit-ins after the close of the students' spring semester. And on July 31 chainstore counters were desegregated in Fredericksburg, Va., after a month of demonstrations.

Mopping-up operations are proceeding in centers like Baltimore, where two new restaurant chains were integrated July 22. But farther South, sitdowns are driving ahead in the face of new mob violence and police repression.

In Greenville, S.C., several hundred white hoodlums assaulted demonstrators at chain stores and drive-in restaurants with brass-knuckles, stones, pistols and shotguns. In nearby Spartanburg, whites surrounded and attacked young Negroes at two dime stores.

In a move clearly aimed at cutting off the sit-ins, Greenville officials imposed a "curfew" July 26 on all persons under 20. The ordinance prohibited all "loitering" anywhere at any time. Spartanburg followed July 28 with a ban on "congregating" on streets and in stores.

## De Gregory Out Pending Appeal

Hugo De Gregory, sentenced to one year for contempt of court after refusing to turn in former New Hampshire witch-hunters, was freed on bail July 20. The State Supreme Court ordered the 46-year-old factory worker released pending appeal after he had spent three weeks behind bars.

De Gregory is challenging the constitutionality of a 1957 law giving the Attorney General one-man power to investigate subversive activities. He said upon release that he had not been allowed to go outside for exercise once.

# Farrell Dobbs Flies to Japan For Anti-H-Bomb Congress

## Johnson Stalls On Civil Rights Legislation

Bars Action at Special Session

Leading Republicans have been taunting the Democrats to enact laws putting their civil rights plank and other proposals adopted by the Democratic national convention into effect when Congress reconvenes on Aug. 8.

Vacationing at his Texas ranch, Senator Johnson told newsmen July 24 that he does not believe the post-convention session should be used for that purpose.

"I do not consider it as a sounding board for platforms adopted by either convention, or as a campaign stump to promote candidacies," he said.

"A platform is drawn up for submission to the voters," he continued. "If the voters approve of it, they will make their decision known in November and it is the duty of the party to carry out the decision in the following Congress."

'58 Promises

The Senate majority leader and Democratic vice-presidential candidate breezily disregarded "the duty" of the present Democratic majority in both houses elected in 1958 to fulfill their previous promises to do something about civil rights.

This helmsman for the Texas oil tycoons and Dixiecrats is arranging a strategy of delay on civil rights legislation. He and his colleague, Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn, are set on giving a maximum of promises and the minimum performance on this touchy problem until the votes are counted in November.

After that, when the new Congress meets, they can reappraise the situation and see how little they can get away with.

When Johnson met with Kennedy July 30 the five-point program they proposed for the short session did not include any civil rights measures. Asked what they would do about the Republican challenge to carry out at once their platform pledges, the Senators said further steps would depend on consultation with Democratic Committee chairmen. These committees are headed by such Southern opponents of civil rights as Eastland of Mississippi and Hill of Alabama.

## SWP Parley Ratifies Presidential Ticket

The Socialist Workers party convention, meeting in New York City July 24, unanimously chose Farrell Dobbs and Myra Tanner Weiss as its candidates for President and Vice President. This is the same presidential ticket that the SWP ran in 1952 and 1956.

The national committee of the party designated the pair as its nominees last March but their nominations were held subject to ratification by this special convention.

Both candidates now reside in New York City. Dobbs, 52, well-known as a strike leader in the Minneapolis area, was formerly an organizer of the Teamsters' union. At present he is national secretary of the SWP.

Myra Tanner Weiss, 42, joined the Socialist movement in the 1930's while a student at the University of Utah, her native state. An active trade unionist for many years, she was an organizer among the agricultural and cannery workers in California. She has been the SWP candidate for mayor of Los Angeles.

The convention adopted a ten-point election platform which will be widely distributed. Reports given to the convention that supporters of the Dobbs-Weiss ticket had already fulfilled requirements for placing the candidates on the ballot

## This Could Be Your Home Town



This is Nagasaki right after it was leveled by the second A-bomb used on Japan. This bomb was dropped Aug. 9, 1945 from a B-29 Superfortress called "The Great Artiste." 73,884 out of a population of 252,630 were blasted to death. The total killed by the two U.S. A-bombs was estimated as 152,034. However, people are still dying from the effects of the bomb. Thus Nagasaki authorities reported

that between Jan. 1 and June 30 this year, 21 persons died from illness connected with the explosion.

The current H-bombs far surpass these primitive models in destructive power. Last year two members of the Joint Chiefs of Staff testified that the U.S. has more atomic strength than is needed to destroy the USSR. The USSR claims it has equal capacity of retaliation.

## Florida Racists Seek to Jail 2

TALLAHASSEE — Two Negro ministers, leaders of the Miami NAACP, now face possible imprisonment for their final refusal July 27 to produce NAACP membership lists or answer questions before the Florida Legislative Investigating Committee.

Rev. Theodore R. Gibson, president of the Miami NAACP, and Rev. Edward T. Graham, past president, have fought efforts of the state committee since 1957 to obtain access to the NAACP lists.

Their latest defiance of the committee culminated a three-year series of hearings and court actions during which the committee's demand to check membership lists has been upheld by the Florida Supreme Court. The U.S. Supreme Court has refused to review contempt citations against the two ministers.

In New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Michigan, Montana, Colorado and Utah. Efforts will be made in over a dozen more states to qualify the ticket.

Attending the convention were a contingent of young voters who have volunteered to tour upstate New York gathering signatures. The election law sets Aug. 5 as the first day for circulation of petitions. A minimum of 12,000 registered voters distributed through 62 counties must sign to qualify minor party candidates for the ballot.

## Bipartisan Position On Political Police

AUG. 3 — Democratic presidential aspirant John Kennedy declared today that if elected he will maintain the present scope of activity of the FBI. The agency has increasingly assumed the role of a secret political police. Kennedy added he "would certainly continue" J. Edgar Hoover on the job.

## Food for Thought

"In 40 years, communism... has brought more people under its domination than the total number of Christians now living in the entire world — and Christianity has been in existence for nearly 2,000 years." — Agriculture Secretary Ezra T. Benson.

## Congolese Denounce New Belgian Plots

By Lillian Kiezal

Premier Patrice Lumumba has labeled the independence granted the Congo by Belgium June 30 as "fictitious." Openly defying the Belgian government, Belgian imperialists have retained over 10,000 troops in the month-old republic while they plot to split Katanga province from the Congo in a determined effort to protect their multi-billion dollar mining interests in Union Miniere. Meanwhile, using the United Nations as a front, American big business is preparing to move in when the Belgians move out.

With this perspective in view, America's big-business press has been grinding out the most pernicious kind of racist slander against the Congolese. The demand of the Africans for a united and independent Congo has been ridiculed, and they have been alternately maligned as bloodthirsty barbarians and as children who are "unprepared" to take their place in the civilized world.

## The People Say "Now"

In contrast to the lies of the big business press, leading Negro newspapers have praised the Congolese people for their determined struggle to get rid of their imperialist enslavers.

The July 30 Afro-American, for instance, after detailing the inhuman conditions under which the Congolese suffered during Belgium's eighty-year misrule, commented that "Belgium still seeks to hold on to the rich mines, its giant corporations, its fat jobs and its profits. The new African government would oust foreigners slowly, but the people and the army say now."

When the Congolese, through an army uprising and widespread strikes, sought to break the grip of the Belgians shortly after "independence" was proclaimed, the Belgians rushed in troop reinforcements.

The Congo government then appealed for UN aid to stop Belgian aggression, and the UN poured thousands of troops into the Congo. The Belgians, however, refused to budge. Finally, on July 29, they promised to pull out 1,500 of their more than 11,000 troops.

The U.S. State Department lauded the action as "further evidence of Belgian cooperation with the United Nations." Lumumba, on the other hand, described the withdrawal as "an-

other of Belgium's propaganda moves."

On Aug. 2 Lumumba appealed again to the UN Security Council for immediate entry of UN forces into Katanga province to force the withdrawal of the Belgian aggressors. He declared that "no contingent of United Nations troops has so far entered Katanga, because this is opposed by the Belgian Government... it has instigated [the secession movement] in this province, using Premier Moise Tshombe as a screen, in contradiction of the relevant resolutions adopted by the Security Council."

Lumumba also charged Belgium with deliberately disorganizing his country "in order to involve... [the Congo] in numerous economic and financial... (Continued on Page 3)

## 'Heartbreaking' Tale Of Flight from Congo

As a sample of alleged Congolese "atrocities," reporter Patrick O'Donovan cites the following: "A Rhodesian official asked a Belgian refugee whether he had been forced to flee. He said yes. Asked why, he said he heard shooting. Asked where, he said on the other side of town. Asked what his occupation was, he said chief of police." (N.Y. Herald Tribune, July 25.)

## Parley to Mark Anniversary Of Hiroshima

By William F. Ward

NEW YORK, July 30 — Farrell Dobbs, presidential candidate of the Socialist Workers party, left today for Tokyo to attend the Sixth World Conference Against A- and H-Bombs and For Total Disarmament. The conference will commemorate the fifteenth anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

The socialist leader is participating in the gathering to manifest the sympathy of his party with the struggles of the Japanese people against capitalist militarism and his support for the basic objectives of the conference which will discuss ways and means to prevent the growth of militarism, outlaw nuclear weapons and effect disarmament.

## Issues Statement

Upon leaving New York for Japan, Dobbs declared: "The Socialist Workers party's opposition to the making and use of nuclear weapons has been consistent and persistent. It dates back to 1945, even before the Second World War ended. On the bombing of Hiroshima, our party proclaimed its indignation over this monstrous imperialist crime and our solidarity with the victims. We warned that unless capitalism is abolished by the socialist movement of the working masses the danger of still more frightful holocausts can not be averted."

"Since then we have participated in all protest actions against nuclear weapons. In England two years ago, for example, I joined the thousands who marched on Aldermaston calling for a ban on the H-bomb."

"The Socialist Workers Party platform on which I am running for the presidency proposes that the U.S. halt nuclear weapon tests forever and scrap the stockpiles of A- and H-bombs as a pledge of peace. It also urges withdrawing all U.S. troops from abroad and abandoning all foreign military bases."

"As the first and so far the only sufferers, the Japanese are more outraged and sensitive than any other nation to the horrors and dangers of nuclear warfare. The bombs dropped by U.S. planes on their cities still claim victims. No wonder they have risen up in such numbers against treaties which threaten to drag them into new imperialist aggressions. They have given the lead in the movement against nuclear destruction."

"While in Japan I plan to confer with labor, socialist, student and other leaders of the anti-war forces as well as with the organizers and participants of the World Conference. At the conference, I hope to get a broad (Continued on Page 3)

## No More Hiroshimas!

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## NAACP Urges Boycott Of Seven Oil Companies

Several of America's giant oil corporations are fast losing their Negro customers. On July 6 the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People called on members "to withhold patronage from national companies" whose dealers have been "cooperating in the scheme" to deprive Negroes of gasoline and other supplies in Fayette and Haywood counties, Tenn.

Cited in the NAACP call were Esso and Texaco, whose Cuban subsidiaries were recently "intervened" for violating the Cuban law of the land. Also listed were Gulf, Amoco, Delta and two smaller regional companies. The call, based on a June resolution by the NAACP national convention, flatly rejected the companies' collective

"excuse" that they could not control their local outlets.

Subsequent news accounts showed the companies feeling the pinch, with thousands of steady customers turning in their credit cards. Gulf sent top officials to a conference July 20 at NAACP headquarters. They again explained that Gulf cannot give orders to its Fayette County distributor, an "independent contractor" whose contract expires December 1.

Fayette and Haywood Negroes are not that patient. John McFerrer of Fayette recently told how sharecroppers are now forced from their shacks for accepting food packages from the North. A visitor compared the counties with "Korea during the war," adding that "one woman has eaten only parched corn for four days."

The Truth About Cuba

# Cuban Revolution Faces the Future

By Joseph Hansen

Last in a series of articles.

The Cuban revolution is an event of major significance to North as well as South America. Not since the victory of the Chinese people over dictator Chiang Kai-shek in 1949 have the two continents been so stirred. The rise in fear among the reactionary property-holding classes is registered in the preoccupation of the capitalist press and the State Department over the "menace" that has appeared on the tiny island in the Caribbean. In contrast, the rise in hope among the workers and peasants throughout Latin America is visible in constant trade-union resolutions and popular demonstrations in support of Cuba. Moreover, the progress of the political, economic and social overturn in what was formerly one of Wall Street's holdings has inspired fresh political currents.

But the victory in Havana is not yet definitive. Arrayed against the Cuban people is the richest oligarchy in the world — America's billionaire rulers. They are cunning and ruthless. They have decades of experience in suppressing or diverting popular movements. They have vast economic, financial, political and military resources. To succeed against this formidable force requires strong nerves, the utmost determination and — correct policies. A great responsibility rests on the leaders of the Cuban revolution — and not only them, as I shall try to indicate.

## Face Crucial Tests

To successfully defend the gains made thus far, they face crucial tests in four areas: (1) Continuation of the revolution in Cuba. (2) Extension of the revolution into the rest of Latin America. (3) Connection of the revolution with the fate of the Soviet bloc, including the tendency in those lands toward revival of proletarian democracy. (4) Establishment of solid ties with the most advanced layers of the American working class.

How well will the Cuban revolutionaries meet these tests? Some partial answers are already in.

Under attacks from the American monopolists and their agents in Washington, the Castro government has indicated its capacity to go far in expropriating capitalists as well as feudalistic landholders. Some of the requisites of planned economy have been established and the government is already operating a considerable sector of industry in a planned way.

One of the most heartening manifestations has been the recognition, among the main leaders, that the revolution could not stand still; that it had to move forward even to maintain itself. Their acceptance of the need to take continually more radical measures is an object lesson for revolutionary-minded forces throughout the world. This growth in revolutionary consciousness is a good augur for the future.

They have done well, too, in inspiring defense of the Cuban revolution on the continent. From Mexico to Chile and Argentina, Cuba has become a key issue in public life. In all likelihood the next revolution in any of the Latin-American countries will tend to follow the militant example of Cuba rather than that of Guatemala where a compromising attitude toward the old ruling circles and their armed forces facilitated restoration of reaction.

As victims of exploitation at the hands of Wall Street, the Latin Americans have much in common. They are also united by language, by background and culture, and by similar economic and social problems. Such mutual interests clearly indicate the need to form a United States of Latin America. The policy of the new Cuban government to seek closer solidarity with sister countries in Central and South America would gain much greater force if it were tied in with the explicit goal of a mighty co-operative federation reaching from the Rio Grande to Patagonia. This perspective, long supported by Trotskyists, has yet to become part of the political armament of the July 26 Movement.

## Welcome Soviet Help

In respect to ties with the Soviet bloc, the Castro government has moved largely under compulsion from the blows rained on Cuba by the White House, Congress and the State Department. Without economic aid from the Soviet Union, China and the East European countries, the Cuban revolution might be speedily suffocated in the coils of Wall Street. It should be noted that the aid was not free. It took the form of exchange of commodities and was therefore of mutual benefit. Coming when it did, however, this economic aid may well prove to be decisive in saving the Cuban revolution.

It is unclear as yet what political concessions the Kremlin may seek from Havana and how the demand might be handled. So far, the Castro government has demonstrated a strong tendency to maintain the country's independence in relation to pressures from all sources. Che Guevara has publicly declared that independence will be defended in relation to the Soviet bloc no matter what the cost. His declaration undoubtedly reflected the thinking of most, if not all, the leaders of the Cuban revolution. It may well turn out, as we have previously indicated, that the further development of the Cuban revolution will not strengthen dictatorial rule in the Soviet bloc but, on the contrary, help to loosen it by further inspiring the forces working for restoration of proletarian democracy.

Where the Castro leadership has proved weakest is in its appeals to the American workers and farmers. Cuba's cause is directly connected with the interests of the working people in the United States, many of whom are exploited by the same companies that have bled the island since the turn of the century. But boldness of policy in this field has been lacking. Instead the main bid has been to restore the tourist trade. There is nothing wrong with this, of course; Cuba has much to offer as a vacation land, including low cost. But the case for Cuba's revolution and appeals for help against the common foe located in Manhattan and Washington have not been presented with the needed energy and thoroughness. It is singularly difficult, for instance, to find even such elementary items as English translations of the speeches and writings of the Cuban leaders.

Perhaps one reason for this is the fact that the Cuban revolution has not reached the socialist stage where the international ramifications are clearly seen and followed. Its appeals have largely been nationalist in character. These can well serve to arouse the Cuban people for a time to

# We Shall Never Forget Cuba's Hospitality

By Harry Ring

A teen-aged girl bowed with Latin-American grace and said in English: "This is your home." She was speaking to four U.S. tourists in a working-class district of Havana where a street meeting was in progress in front of the headquarters of a local branch of the July 26 Movement. The four tourists were myself, my wife, Priscilla, and another couple from New York.

On our way to dinner we had heard the loudspeaker a block away. Like any other good socialists we automatically headed for the meeting.

We had arrived in Havana a week after Eisenhower slashed Cuba's sugar quota. We had been somewhat concerned about the effect of the hate-Cuba campaign, but it was no empty formality when the young girl stepped to the microphone to assure us Cuba was our home. It had been that way from the moment we arrived. None of us had ever experienced such warmth and hospitality.

For instance, a taxicab driver drove us around for three hours to show us the new low-cost government housing and other accomplishments of the revolution. He was so enthusiastic he refused to take any money. It would be pay enough, he indicated, if we would tell the truth about what we saw of the Cuban revolution when we returned.

### Open-Air Rally

At the street corner meeting, Priscilla, who speaks a little Spanish, was soon surrounded by an eager group. Our friendliness toward the revolution was announced over the loudspeaker. And before she had a chance to get stage fright, Priscilla found herself confronted with the microphone.

Mustering her limited Spanish, she told how the American people were being deceived by the lies and slanders about revolutionary Cuba. She pledged that on our return we would do all we could to combat these lies.

There was tremendous applause. A 15-year-old member of the revolutionary militia stepped forward, removed his insignia and pinned it on her blouse.

We were invited up to the headquarters. An official made a welcoming speech. The crowd gave us an ovation.

After the meeting an official of the branch invited us to take a ride around the city. We found Pepe a perfect host and a wonderful friend. Everywhere we went, his passport automatically brought out the welcome mat—"Four American tourists who want to see our revolution."

For one of our trips out of Havana, Pepe took us to one of the public beaches. Before the revolution the beaches were either private estates or open only to tourists and wealthy Cubans. Now every inch of beach on the island is public property. To many Cubans this change symbolizes the revolution.

Twenty cents admission included locker and towel. Every-

## Ready to Defend Their Revolution



Members of the Cuban revolutionary militia in the farming area of the Sierra Maestra mountains receive military training. In the countryside and cities, Cubans by the thousands have volunteered for militia duty. They fervently want peace and friendship with the United States and all other countries. But they are prepared to lay down their lives to repulse any attempted invasion to crush their revolution. During the struggle against the Batista dictatorship, they took the battle cry of the American patriot, Patrick Henry, and paraphrased it as "Liberty or Death." Since the triumph of the revolution the slogan has become, "Country or Death."

Photo courtesy INRA

thing was spotlessly clean. There were spacious lockers, individual tile showers. Permanent umbrellas and beach chairs were fixed in the gleaming sand. There were basketball, volleyball and baseball facilities. Brand new cabanas cost \$4 a day for singles, \$6 for a two room setup for couples with children.

We were introduced to a young couple sitting on modern sling chairs in front of a cabana. Pepe murmured the magic words, "American tourists." We were invited inside.

It was hard to believe. A large, tastefully furnished, air-conditioned room, a kitchenette complete with refrigerator, a television set.

### "Tell What You See"

The young man, who spoke a little English, tried to talk to me as I took notes. I couldn't understand him. He took the notebook from my hand and wrote: "Say to your friends what you see here."

It was not an unusual incident. Everyone in Cuba seemed to be an agitator for the revolution. We saw many inspiring social achievements, but most inspiring of all was the attitude of the people. They are tremendously proud of the new Cuba. They feel for the first time they are a free people with a voice in shaping their country's destiny.

This was vividly demonstrated at the University of Havana. We walked onto the campus and started talking with the first students we met. A half dozen took us on a tour of the architectural school. They told us

that the new administration consisted of four elected students and four professors.

A number of professors have been ousted on the demand of their political views, but because they were steeped in the old academic tradition which the students felt was utterly inadequate for the new times.

"Before we sat at the lectures and only listened," one explained. "Now we have seminars, workshops. We can discuss problems."

We had lunch together. The political level of the students was extremely high. They looked over a copy of the Militant and questioned us closely on the differences between the Socialist Workers and Communist parties. They asked if they could receive the Militant regularly.

(Incidentally, we spoke with a number of people who are already reading the Militant and all of them warmly praised its Cuban coverage, expressing their appreciation of the defense of the Cuban revolution which Farrell Dobbs has been making over radio and television. A long-time revolutionist said Joseph Hansen's analytical series showed a remarkable grasp of Cuban affairs.)

### Officials Are Accessible

Equally impressive was the character and attitude of government officials. In Cuba, government officials seem to be the easiest people in the world to meet. And they flocked us with their courtesy.

One afternoon we walked into the headquarters of INAV, the government, low-cost housing

States will strengthen that tendency. This has direct bearing on the greatest issues of our time — the struggle for enduring peace, the struggle to end poverty and insecurity, the struggle for democracy and a world brotherhood based on planned economy.

As to what can be done specifically, first of all we can oppose the shameful policy of the top union bureaucrats who have been openly backing the State Department in its campaign against Cuba. Last May the AFL-CIO Executive Council joined in the "hate Cuba" propaganda, smearing the Castro government with the lying charge that it was "endangering the peace of the Western Hemisphere." This from Reuther and Meany, who are still linked with the foul agents assigned by dictator Batista to run the Cuban trade unions!

Against the pro-Wall Street policy of the top labor brass, union militants might well advocate such proposals as sending a local union delegation to Cuba to check the facts and report back to the membership.

In some areas union newspapers will publish letters from members on virtually any topic of labor interest. That's an avenue through which it is possible to spread the truth to new circles. If this leads to a debate, all the better. Nor should the letter columns of the local capitalist press be overlooked.

Another indicated step is to write the Fair Play for Cuba Committee, asking for facts and offering aid. The Committee is headed by Waldo Frank and Carleton Beals, both of whom are recognized authorities on Latin-American affairs. A weekly news letter is published by the Committee to provide information and expressions of opinion by independent-minded Americans. (Address: The Fair Play for Cuba Committee, 60 East 42nd St., New York 17, N. Y.)

Other measures to help spread the truth about Cuba will no doubt occur to many trade-union activists and members of liberal and minority organizations. Suggestions of this kind can be mailed to the Militant which will be glad to give them publicity.

In doing our utmost for Cuba, we are only doing our duty. But it is not just a matter of conscience to help defend a small weak country that is being bullied by the United States. What we do to aid the people on this island ninety miles off the coast of Florida to win emancipation will aid our own struggle for a better world.

As we sped down the street, she asked with a smile, "Do you feel safe riding in a Cuban government car?"

She laughed heartily when I replied that we would feel a lot less safe in a government car in the U.S.

We stopped at one of the new homes. It was a lovely one-family house with a patio in front and garden space in back. There were two large bedrooms, a modest living room and kitchen, a spacious tile bath. An apartment like that in Manhattan would rent for at least \$150 a month.

The lady of the house showed us through, displaying her pleasure at meeting us. She explained that she had lived in Brooklyn for several years. There she worked in a shop for \$40 a week and paid \$22 a week for a single room. Here her husband earned \$30 a week as a bus driver, and they paid \$18.36 a month for their beautiful home. And not for rent. In 25 years it will belong to them.

### Visit to Cooperative

We took a 14-hour bus tour to visit a co-operative farm in Pinar Del Rio province. We had wondered who else would be going since there were so few tourists in the city.

The 34-passenger bus was filled. It was on the road promptly on schedule at 6 a.m. We soon realized we were the only American tourists.

At the breakfast stop, we discovered that the young couple who shared our table spoke English. They were passionately in favor of the revolution and when it was clear where we stood we had two new friends. The wife, Olaya, was a university graduate and elementary school teacher. Her husband, Julio, was about to receive his degree as a public accountant. Olaya impressed us as a firebrand agitator with a razor-sharp wit. Every time she spoke of the revolution you had a vision of her addressing masses.

Both were from comfortable middle-class backgrounds. Yet this was their first visit to the countryside. Later the guide took a poll of the bus for us and we found that half the passengers had never been outside the city before.

In Batista's time the average citizen had no place to go, even if he could afford it, since the beaches were reserved for the wealthy. The average person went to the country only if he had relatives who were farmers. Now thousands of Havana residents are taking the government-sponsored tours to see the attractions of their island for the first time.

After stop-offs at several new public parks of fantastic tropical beauty, we arrived at the Los Pinos Co-operative. It was once the estate of Batista's son. The guide explained that but three field hands had been employed on the whole huge area. Now nearly 4,000 are employed at the peak of harvest.

### Hospitality

The city dwellers were given a royal welcome by their country brothers. Long tables were set on a patio. A roast pig—the traditional Cuban Christmas dinner — was served.

On the trip back, I spoke with a young Negro woman. She said that she was studying surveying and that when she completes her course she will go to the University of Havana for an engineering degree.

I commented that in the United States little opportunity exists for a woman to become a surveyor and engineer. She nodded and said simply: "The women fought in the revolution along with the men. They fought hard."

The next night we had dinner with Julio and Olaya and then went to their home to hear Dr. Castro speak on television. Neighbors who didn't have sets came in to hear the speech. A middle-aged woman was introduced to us with the supreme compliment — "She is a good revolutionary woman."

(A printed card on the foyer wall read: "There is no dog in this apartment. But if anyone speak evil of the revolution they will be bitten by the entire family.")

Castro's speech was impressive. It was the very opposite

of what the American capitalist press universally calls a "ranting harangue."

Castro dealt, among other things, with the defections of Quevedos, the editor of the prominent liberal magazine, Bohemia. As our friends translated, we heard a powerful political polemic. Castro read the full text of the editor's statement, said the defection was a blow to the revolution, and then proceeded to a point-by-point political rebuttal of the statement.

The reasoned political approach was in flat contradiction to the charge that free thought is banned in Cuba. And we felt the absence of any repressive atmosphere everywhere we went. Business people opposed to the regime freely explained the reason for their opposition.

A man who owns two apartment buildings told us the government is "heading toward communism." He had not objected, he said, when a law was passed cutting rents in half. But, he added, some of his tenants still weren't paying any rent and when he went to court to get them evicted the judge never had time to hear his case.

A luncheonette proprietor stood at his crowded counter and said "It's true this government is Communist. It's out to end all private business."

### Freedom for Majority, Too

The great majority, of course, feel equally free to express their revolutionary views. One of our experiences had "an almost dream-like quality." Sitting in the ultra-plush bar of the Havana Libre Hotel (formerly the Havana Hilton) we listened to the bartender deliver an impassioned denunciation of the role of U.S. imperialism in Latin America. Waiters took time out to listen. When he made a telling point they applauded.

The bartender worked many years in New York and was familiar with American attitudes. He wasn't just letting off steam. When we left he grinned and said: "You go back and make propaganda like I made to you."

The dream-like quality of our vacation continued through our last night in Havana. With our friend Pepe we dined at the Rios Crystal, a tropical park with a Castilian style Spanish restaurant. Before the revolution it was a favored spot of the wealthy. Now it is operated by the government at prices ordinary people can afford. On a Sunday, more than 3,000 meals are served.

Our waiter was also a former New Yorker. We talked. Someone commented on the lovely tableware. "Sure," said the waiter. "It was Batista's." Priscilla gulped and said she didn't know if she wanted to eat off it.

"Why not?" the waiter said. "He took it from the people. Now the people have taken it back."

He took us on a tour of the big stainless steel kitchen and then showed us the patio where the employees dined. In the center stood a giant TV set in a handsome mahogany cabinet. This too had been Batista's. Now it's for the waiters as they eat their dinner.

A park policeman showed us more of the sights. He was probably the first policeman I've ever had a voluntary political discussion with. He spoke of the anti-Cuban policies of the U.S. government. I started to explain how the government represents the monopolies, not the American people.

The explanation was unnecessary. "A government of millionaires and militarists," the policeman said.

We sat by the new swimming pool with its ultra-modern diving towers. "We have a good country now," Pepe said.

The next morning we boarded the plane for home. We bought some duty-free Cuban rum. On the carton was an inscription that said everything I have been trying to convey in this article.

It read: "If you want to meet a happy people come to Cuba."

Advertisement

### JUST OFF THE PRESS

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by Joseph Hansen

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# Gagging the Opposition

A resolution suspending the equal-time provision on radio and TV is reportedly to be rushed through the House of Representatives by a voice vote as soon as that body reconvenes on Aug. 15. The resolution was approved by the Senate on June 27. The object is to permit the broadcasters to grant free time to the Democratic and Republican presidential candidates without having to grant time to their minor-party opponents.

Under the existing law the networks do not have to offer free time to any political candidates. But what they give to one they are supposed to give to all.

The American Civil Liberties Union has pointed out the dangers in the resolution to "suspend" equal time. "Were the repealer to be made permanent, Congress would, in effect, have granted a monopoly in perpetuity for the Republican and Democratic parties and would decree the defeat of any new third party as well as the effective elimination of all present minor parties," its executive director, Patrick Malin, said.

The broadcasting companies have demanded the abolition of equal air time, saying it costs them too much. This argument smacks of Hitler's stricture against the democratic process. He too claimed that democracy costs too much. Coming from the broadcasting companies this argument is particularly outrageous. They have been granted lucrative franchises on their agreement to keep the public fully and fairly informed on all vital issues. The expense to them of granting equal time to

all candidates is far less than the heavy profits they rake in.

The broadcasters pretend that the legislation is needed to keep allegedly "crackpot" candidates, like Lar Daly of Illinois, off the air. Even this pretext does violence to the principle of free elections. But the real reason for their drive is to exclude third-party candidates, especially socialists, from getting any of the free time accorded the Republicans and Democrats.

As a New York Herald Tribune writer complained last year: "In New York's last gubernatorial campaign, Gov. Averell Harriman and aspirant Nelson Rockefeller were forced to share half-hour programs with Socialist candidates. . . . I was not interested in the views of candidates who stood no chance of representing me in Albany."

The writer's conclusion is obvious. Restrict the programs exclusively to the representatives of big business. The socialist alternative is not worth a hearing, and, regardless of equity, should be muffled in silence.

During their conventions the Democrats and Republicans boasted of their concern for democracy, free speech and civil rights. For legally qualified candidates to present their views to the voters is surely a civil right.

However, the two big-business parties are conspiring with the networks to deny this right to their opponents in the midst of this national political campaign. The people can judge from this how seriously they intend to live up to their pledges to broaden civil rights.

# No More Hiroshimas!

Every sane person dreads the prospect of H-bomb annihilation and wants "No More Hiroshimas."

Yet fifteen years after U.S. planes dropped the first A-bombs on Japan, the fear of nuclear catastrophe is greater than ever.

Why must we all live today under constant sentence of death? Who is responsible for this horrible predicament? What must be done to escape from it?

The U.S. government seeks to justify its militarist policies and stockpiles of nuclear weapons by claiming they are required for national security. But the administration of millionaires and militarists in Washington is far less concerned with protecting the lives and liberties of the American people than the interests of the profiteers.

Their arms race is above all designed to safeguard the security of the capitalist system which is being questioned and rejected by underprivileged peoples the world over.

The development of H-bombs, missiles, warplanes and submarines is the biggest of big businesses in this country. It is the most lucrative of enterprises for the monopolists. For fifteen years the mounting arms budget has sustained the economy and kept it from collapse.

Whatever their conclusion, the three-power talks in Geneva can no more be relied upon to solve the problem of the nuclear bomb than the aborted conference

# A 'Debate' Without Differences

Senator Kennedy has challenged the Republicans to make foreign policy the main issue in the campaign.

Rep. Walter Judd accepted this challenge in his keynote address opening the Republican convention.

Just what differences will the spokesmen for the two organizations have to debate about in this field?

For the past eight years and more the Republicans and Democrats have teamed up harmoniously on all major questions of foreign policy. Truman started the cold war; Eisenhower has continued and implemented it.

When U.S. troops were landed in Lebanon to save the oil monopolies from expropriation in the Middle East, when treaties were made with Franco for bases in Spain, when the hate campaign and economic warfare was launched against Cuba, the leaders of both parties spoke with one voice and acted unitedly.

The platforms adopted at Los Angeles and Chicago maintain this basic bipartisanship. "The foreign policy plank approved by the Republican platform committee is different in tone from the corresponding plank of the Democrats," says the lead editorial in the July 27 New York Times. "It is more strident, more military-minded, tougher in approach — but not fundamentally different in the basic essentials . . . The sharpest disagreements show up over the best methods to pursue

those ultimate objectives that are shared by the Republican and Democratic parties alike. . . ."

Even these marginal disagreements on how best to further the same aims are not confined to one party or the other; they are asserted within both parties.

The chief point in dispute at the moment is over how many more billions to throw into the arms program. Senator Kennedy has urged that the special Congressional session vote up to \$3 billion more for military purposes. His ante has been raised by Rockefeller who requested the Republicans to approve an increase of at least \$3½ billion.

Eisenhower says that the current \$40 billion budget is providing the most powerful military establishment in the world. While defending all the administration's achievements, the Republican platform states "there is no price ceiling on America's security." This leaves the door open for Nixon to go along with the bigger spenders if he considers that politically and militarily expedient.

The issue of foreign policy is central in this campaign and we socialists welcome free and full debate over it. But the words exchanged between Democrats and Republicans are quibbles over ways and means of carrying out the identical policy of unrestrained militarism, hostility to progressive movements of national liberation and socialist advance, and the protection of reaction.

# How Did They Greet A-Bombs Back in 1945?

By David Stevens

The main responsibility for the criminal atom-bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki in 1945 rests squarely upon the Democratic and Republican warmakers. They received full support from the official leadership of American labor.

Something better might have been expected from those parties claiming to stand for socialism. What position did the three radical parties take toward these bombing then?

### SWP

The Militant of Aug. 11, 1945, in its first comment on the bombings, condemned the "capitalist barbarians" who "have in their hands the most fearful instrument of destruction" and warned that "unless mankind rises to destroy capitalism, capitalism will extirpate mankind."

Its next issue carried the manifesto of the national committee of the Socialist Workers Party on the End of the Second World War. Bannering "There Is No Peace," it posed the alternative of "Socialism — or perdition!" The statement concluded: "No trust whatsoever can be placed in the 'peace loving' declarations of the statesmen of this or any other country. Only the utter wiping out of capitalist rule throughout the world can insure that atomic explosives will never again be used for mass murder."

### Socialist Party

While deploring the horrors of the bomb, the Socialist party leaders did not unambiguously condemn the destruction of Hiroshima or the imperialist authors of that crime in this country. In the Aug. 13, 1945 issue of the Call, Harry Fleischmann, then national secretary of the Socialist party, wrote: "It is true that the sheer horror and destructiveness of the atomic bomb may shorten the Pacific war. . . . Although he alluded to the terrifying implications for the future," he didn't make clear whether he was for or against this way of shortening the war.

Norman Thomas took an equally sleazy position. In the Aug. 20 Call he testified "as an American" to "a sense of shame for the horror which the atomic bomb released upon the earth." This marred his rejoicing "over this inestimable boon of the ending of a victorious war."

"Certainly that bomb [on Hiroshima] should not have been dropped on a crowded city without warning!" he wrote. (Should it have been dropped with a warning?) "It was wholly inexcusable," he went on, "to drop the second bomb on Nagasaki." (Was the first bomb enough — or partially excusable?)

### Communist Party

The Communist Party record is not unembarrassed with any such expressions of shame or reservations. Its spokesmen greeted the funeral pyres of Hiroshima and Nagasaki with superpatriotic frenzy.

Today, in the July 1960 Political Affairs, p. 15, William Z. Foster can write: "People are still dying . . . in Japan as a result of the unnecessary and brutal bombings by the United States of Hiroshima and Nagasaki." Fifteen years ago he found them necessary and salutary.

In a statement printed by the Daily Worker Aug. 8, 1945 Foster wrote: "Three days ago Japan suffered the great shock of the first atomic bomb; now it staggers under the still heavier blow of the Soviet declaration of war." Apparently his only criticism of the bomb was that it was less devastating than the Soviet entry into the war.

The most cynical expression of the Stalinist attitude was given in an Aug. 8, 1945 article in the Daily Worker by "A Veteran Commander." He refers to atom-shattered Hiroshima as "the Japanese city which was the first to feel the impact of the latest step in the direction of human progress."

"We are lucky," he exclaimed, "that we found The Thing and are able to speed the war against the Japanese before the enemy can devise counter-measures. Thank God for that."

That same issue of the Daily Worker pointed to the "great impact of the new discovery . . . within the realm of human progress" and concluded: "So let us greet our atomic device not with a shudder, but with the elation and admiration which the genius of man deserves."

### A Stylish Finish

Strategic Air Command headquarters in Omaha has a special gold-colored telephone to receive a presidential order to launch nuclear war.

# Socialists Protest Nuclear War



Every Saturday during July the Young Socialist Alliance, the Socialist Educational League and their supporters have picketed the "do-it-yourself" fallout shelter erected at Queen's Park by the Toronto, Canada, metropolitan government. Their leaflets characterize the shelters as "convenient coffins in which masses of dead Canadians will be buried," useful only as psychological preparation for nuclear war. Other placards protested Bomarc missile bases on Canadian soil and the projected nuclear armament of Canada.

# . . . Dobbs Flies to Japan

(Continued from Page 1)

view of all shades of opinion in the antiwar movement not only in Japan but in many other countries so that I can bring back a full report of the situation to the U.S."

Individuals and groups from 24 countries, both East and West, have signified their intention of attending the conference, organized by the Japan Council Against A- and H-bombs. The conference sessions, to be held from Aug. 2 to 9, are being preceded by a prolonged peace march.

In 1959, ten million participated in the march which started early in June from three places in Japan and ended at Hiroshima. This year an even larger number of people are already involved in the action which started from Yoron Island on April 20 and from Hokkaido in the extreme north on May 1.

This march is passing through the more important of the 182 large and small U.S. military bases and facilities in Japan and of the 485 Japanese Self-Defense Force bases, camps and warehouses scattered throughout the country.

The marchers are gathering information and complaints about the damage, inconvenience and abuse suffered by

those living in and about the bases, which will be presented to the conference when they arrive in Tokyo Aug. 5.

The conference agenda is divided into two sections: (1) "What is required of peace movements in order to create an atmosphere favorable to and promote the achievement of prohibition of nuclear weapons, total disarmament and peaceful coexistence, and to prevent the further growth of militarism centering around military alliances and nuclear disarmament?"; (2) "What is the effect of military policies, above all the policy of nuclear arms, upon the living standards of the people, and what will be the effect of prohibition of nuclear weapons, total disarmament and peaceful coexistence upon the people's life?"

### Meetings for Dobbs

Upon his return to the United States in the middle of August, Dobbs will report on his observations and experiences in Japan at meetings in Los Angeles, Aug. 13, and New York, Aug. 17. (See details on page four.) When he resumes the second round of his coast-to-coast speaking tours in his campaign for the presidency, the SWP candidate, in addition to discussing key issues of national politics, will give an account of his trip to Japan.

# . . . Congolese Score Belgian Plots

(Continued from Page 1)

the aggressors, the Belgians, who are the conquerors here, are permitted to keep their weapons and their means of inflicting death."

The UN policy, Gizenga charged, permits the Belgian invader to attack the disarmed population and to continue systematic looting of the country while accusing the Congolese of "rape."

Congolese are also resentful over UN attempts to run their country. Henry Tanner reported in the July 31 New York Times that a Moroccan general, bragging how he brought the Bakongo district under "control," was asked by a Congolese: "Excuse me sir, may I ask you a question? Is this our country or yours?"

When the Congolese government asked for UN troops to get the Belgians out, it clearly stated that the Congo did not want UN intervention in its internal affairs. Despite this, Bunche originally instructed his UN staff "to pacify and then to administer the Congo."

The result, said Tanner, "would have been an all-United Nations show, with the Congolese Government a more or less inactive free rider. . . ." But now "this will not be possible for political reasons. The Congo leaders have power in their country and they want to assert it. . . . they will turn against anybody who stands . . . between them and the full fruition of their power."

### Scores UN Policy

At the session, Gizenga told Hammarskjold: "We do not understand that we, victims of aggression, who are at home here, are being systematically disarmed [by the UN force] while

# The American Way of Life

## An Incident at the Bank

"But that's all I had this morning. Just that one roll and coffee."

"But you told me yourself that you had butter on it. I'm really sorry, but we'll have to reject you."

"Look, forget what I said — please," pleaded the young applicant. "Just make believe I didn't say it."

"But you already said it. And I can't just forget it."

It was late Saturday afternoon and this was the only bank that was open in town.

Behind the desk, the young Negro medical student looked sympathetically into the applicant's eyes, his pen poised over the application card.

"Please, please, I need the five," said the young man. "I've been out of work and I just don't have any food in the house."

The medical student behind the desk still pondered. Suddenly a tall, distinguished, but bored-looking man with a shiny stethoscope neared the desk. The medical student tensed. His smooth, brown hand moved across the white card.

"Okay this time. . . . But remember, if he asks you, you didn't have any butter this morning."

The young man beamed a big smile at his nameless benefactor. "Thanks a lot, I really appreciate it."

A thermometer protruded from his mouth as he eased from the chair beside the desk and moved into a small room.

Outside, the rows of men edged one position over as the end chair was vacated.

The young man's examination was over. "Okay, get dressed and wait over there," said the bored-looking doctor.

Clutching his precious white card, the young man moved to a chair in the doorway of the room. Soon he took his place on the flat, drab table. A large bottle, partly filled with a colorless liquid hung in the still air from a shiny hook. "Citrate whole human blood," read the label.

The girl smiled warmly and reassured him it would be over in a second and there was nothing to fear. Deftly she plunged the long hollow needle into the distended vein and immediately the red liquid pulsed through the plastic tube.

"Whiskey or orange juice?" asked the girl as she removed the needle from his arm.

"Whiskey."

He rose, slid off the table and, wavering from a slight dizziness, walked to a long counter by the door. On it rested a shot-glass of whiskey, a crisp new five-dollar bill and a card that read: "If you return within two weeks after the above date you will be given a bonus of 50 cents. Please do not eat for four hours before giving blood."

The bill and note slid quickly into the young man's pocket. He gulped down the shot, smiled slightly and said goodbye to the

girl. He walked past the outer desk, nodded and smiled to his benefactor.

"Thanks a lot, now," he said and continued out the door.

The sun blazed in the cloudless sky and the heat waves shimmered over the baked asphalt street as the young man walked one block to the right before changing direction to the east.

A grocery store was in that direction.

—Eric Lundquist

# . . . Campaigning

(Continued from Page 1)

bar the socialist position from a public hearing.

The delegates reported a rise in interest in socialist ideas and greater readiness to discuss the bearing of socialism on such key issues as the struggle for enduring peace.

At the Chicago conference the general conclusions were much the same. Some of the representatives reported the best publicity in years for the socialist cause. In the Twin Cities, for instance, rather lengthy articles appeared in the press about Myra Tanner Weiss and her vigorous presentation of the civil-rights issue and the sit-in demonstrations.

One of the highlights of the conference was a discussion of the reasons for apathy among many old-time socialists in face of increased opportunities to present the case for socialism and to win a favorable hearing. It was hoped that the heartening experiences of those who pitched into the campaign with full energy in the past months will encourage others to similar efforts between now and election day.

The Weekly People, official organ of the Socialist Labor party, devoted some 84 square inches in its July 30 issue to our election platform.

However, no serious effort was made to analyze the platform. In a way that did no credit to anyone who considers himself a scientific socialist, the author simply asserted that "the effect" of certain planks in the Socialist Workers platform is "to raise hope that capitalism may be made tolerable." This is offered as proof of the "reformist" character of the SWP.

The author pinned his assertions on the fact that the SWP recognizes the need to join in partial or inconclusive battles against capitalism, and that it advocates transitional measures leading toward socialism. This is not at all a "reformist" position the Weekly People makes out. It is in the tradition of the 112-year-old Communist Manifesto, which, we assume, the SLP leaders still profess to believe in.

We suspect, however, that it was not the SWP's defense of democratic rights, civil liberties, civil liberties and militant unionism that stirred up the Weekly People. It was the SWP's inclusion of the name of Daniel De Leon in describing the kind of socialism we advocate.

Parsons, Debs, Trotsky, Lenin, even Marx and Engels they were willing to give us. But not De Leon. The SLP claims De Leon as private property, and private property, you know, is sacred.

That, of course, did not prevent our rather rigid friends from engaging in a bit of dexterous political gymnastics. They recalled Lenin's favorable comment about De Leon even as they fumed over the way Lenin's American followers indicated their appreciation of this grand figure of the international socialist movement.

We respect the determination with which the leaders of the SLP try to adhere to the principles of socialism, as they interpret them. However, we do wish they would consider one change, a change that would enhance, not injure, De Leon's standing with the American workers. That is to unite with other socialists in struggles of mutual interest; for example, fighting the current move in Congress to deny minority candidates equal TV time. Or is that a reformist pipe dream?

### Stop the Press

The federal government has learned, through a "depth" survey, that the more successful you are in business the better your chances for a long, healthy life.

In a Short Time I Will Bring the Best of All Gifts

Editor: The following is a translation of a letter written by Renee Ramos Latour, who died for Cuban freedom, to his daughter Haydee on the occasion of her first birthday.

My friend Arnaldo, the hero's brother, and I wish we had not lost so much in translation.

My Dearest Daughter:

Today you reach your first anniversary without feeling on your tender, rosy cheeks the sweet father's kiss that conveys my deep love for you.

Putting his life in a just cause. And whose cause is that? It is yours, and all your brethren who suffer.

Yes, my little daughter, it is for you, for your beautiful land, and for the generous people who saw your birth, that I am today far from the place where you were born.

After taking on the enormous responsibility of bringing you into the world in an enslaved country, your father would be unworthy if he had not gone to the mountains, to the battlefields, and to the streets of Cuba to win for you and your people the liberty that every human being should have to develop himself and enjoy life fully.

Because I cannot yet offer to you, as the most valued of gifts, a country free of chains and affronts, I must stay here, far from you, but enduring the separation with my thoughts of you and my heart between your tender little hands.

Cuban Conditions Fifty Years Ago

Editor: These last three years, I have read acres of print "about Cuba," but even the labor press carries not a paragraph about what has happened to the workers in that unhappy island.

tary Governor in Oriente Province from 1906 to 1908. In 1907, laborers in a sugar factory in Mayori, in Oriente Province, got \$1.35 for a 10-hour day. In that same year, workers in Michigan beet sugar mills got the identical pay.

In 1907, one third of the entire Cuban interior was marked on the map as "despoblado," uninhabited. During the half century, American sugar interests took over all of that land — about half of it for building wagon roads to it.

In this country, around 1850, a banker syndicate made a deal that gave them all public lands west of the Allegheny's. In 1862, the Supreme Court declared that deal void and against public policy.

When I was there, workers had shoes, at least for church and weddings and funerals. They had kerosene lamps. Fifty years later, they went barefoot and kept a candle for extreme emergencies.

I'm sick of the sugar-coated, tobacco-filtered, fruit-flavored "news" I get about Cuba in this country. But I do have a radio that gets Havana, and what I hear is a lot different from what I read in the Detroit daily papers.

Retired Chrysler Worker Detroit

Cuba's Right To Free Trade

Editor: Russia needs sugar. Cuba needs oil. They want to trade. No nation has a right to forbid the Cuban people to do so or to interfere with their commerce and their trade with any nation of the world with whom they wish to transact business.

Cuba has been alienated beyond any hope of reconciliation because of foreign capital which has invaded its country and en-

deavors to conquer it with money in order to make itself the master of Cuba and to take away from the Cuban people profits, property and government, all of which rightfully belong to the Cuban people.

Bill of Rights Must Apply to All Viewpoints

Editor: I quite agree with the editorial in the July 11 Militant, "The Worker and Free Speech." As a political and religious heretic I say if you and I can't disagree today, tomorrow we may be forced to agree with something that neither of us wants.

Let's keep the First Amendment, the Bill of Rights and the Declaration of Independence. Let's do all we can to save them from the forces that would destroy them.

Fond du Lac, Wis.

A Timely Pointer Taken from History

Editor: The Socialist Workers party slogan of independent socialist political action is correct, but it is not new. In 1890, the Russian Marxist, George Plekhanov, wrote of the need for such action and referred to an even older comment illustrating the same point.

"... in the brochure, 'What Is the Third Estate.' ... which must be regarded as the program of the bourgeoisie of 1789, the sophistries of the 'pure politician' then to be found in the two upper estates, were refuted with much talent.

"Abbe Sieyes insisted that the nation ... was divided into two camps: in the one, the privileged; in the other, the oppressed; and that this actual division must be reflected in politics.

J. B. St. Paul

See Policy Change by NEA As Aiding Teachers' Union

By Donald Morris

The executive board of the National Education Association shattered tradition at its annual conference last June in Los Angeles, by voting for the first time to approve collective bargaining for teachers.

Only 5 per cent or some 60,000 of the 1,250,000 teachers in this country belong to a real union, the American Federation of Teachers, AFL-CIO. The vast majority, 700,000, are associated with the NEA and its affiliates.

This is organizationally and ideologically controlled by school administrators (superintendents, principals, etc.). It is closely tied to the American Legion, has been consistently anti-labor, and has been condemned by the AFL-CIO as a company union. The NEA has stigmatized collective bargaining as "unprofessional."

The NEA ignores two fundamental facts. One is that other professionals like musicians and actors are organized into effective unions. The other is that, unlike individual professionals, teachers have no control over their jobs, salaries or working conditions.

It is a sign of changing times in the teaching field that this ultra-conservative body has been obliged to reverse its position on collective bargaining. This has been brought about by the intensified pressure it has felt from its rival, the American Federation of Teachers.

This came to a head in the spring of 1960 when the New York City local of the AFT, after setting a date for a walkout, succeeded in wresting from the Board of Education a promise to hold a collective-bargaining election.

Its New York chapter met, overturned its policy of decades, and decided to enter the collective-bargaining election. After this precedent, the national organization had to follow suit.

This does not mean that the NEA has been converted into a legitimate union. Its attitude of

opposition to strikes remains. Moreover, it is one thing to participate defensively in an already scheduled bargaining election and another to solicit and initiate such elections.

The reactionary NEA leadership aims to protect its flank against the AFT's advance by formally accepting collective bargaining in principle and preventing the AFL-CIO from representing the teachers. But its concession on this crucial point is probably the union's greatest victory in twenty years because the union has always been identified with collective bargaining.

Now that it has won this ideological victory, the AFT, small, weak and poor as it is, ought to press forward to take full advantage of it. Here are four proposed lines of action that can strengthen the position of the teachers' unions.

(1) The union locals should make collective bargaining more than a declaration of intention. It should be the rallying cry and

Bay Area Labor Urges Boycott Of Sears Chain

By Virginia Kaye

The San Francisco AFL-CIO Labor Council has instituted a boycott against Sears Roebuck and Co. for firing 262 employees from its four locations, replacing them with non-union strikebreakers, and refusing to negotiate fairly with the machinists union.

The Sears workers were victimized for their solidarity with the strike of Production Machinists Local 1327. Over 400 employees refused to cross its picket lines. Sears obtained a court order which temporarily halted the strike and then set a lockout in motion. As fast as they re-entered the stores, the personnel were told they were being discharged, demoted or transferred. Some of the 262 had worked at Sears for periods up to 19 years.

These reprisals against its workers for respecting a picket line are tied up with Sears' union-busting tactics against the machinists. Sears is using the company's stand on "national policy," arbitrarily fixed in Chicago, to make a mockery of collective bargaining. Lodge 1327 proposed improvements in the company's health and welfare plan to bring its benefits up to those provided by union contract with other San Francisco firms. Sears said flatly it would not consider any changes in its national program.

Open Shop Mandatory On union security the union was told the open shop, by dictate from Chicago, was mandatory. Local negotiators could not even discuss the question.

Sears also refused to negotiate for more than one location, although machinist members worked in at least two of the company's four locations.

Contracts covering an entire city or industry are firmly established in San Francisco. They ensure equal pay for equal work and bar employers from degrading wage scales and paying lower wages to women. Sears is aiming to break down these hard-won conditions.

That is why the fight against Sears is of immediate importance to every worker in the Bay Area. Recognizing this, the Oakland-Alameda Central Labor Council has backed up the boycott.

The pattern of Sears' conduct in this case was set down by Nathan Shefferman, described by Fortune as "a professional wrecker of union drives," who was the company's labor relations manager from 1935 to 1948. "Through a variety of ingenious techniques he strove to single out, isolate, buy out, or discharge pro-union 'troublemakers' in a company, organize anti-union task forces of employees, and, if unionization seemed inevitable, to bring in a compliant union ..."

Free Enterprise Check forging is now a half-billion dollar yearly business.

Howard Le Compte

Howard Le Compte, a founding member of the Socialist Workers party, died on July 30 in Philadelphia at the age of 59. He had been suffering from cancer for over a year.

Howard was a carpet layer by trade — a skill he learned in his teens. He was also one of the first in the Philadelphia area to acquire skill as a linoleum layer.

He was a charter member of Local 1823 of the Brotherhood of Carpenters, AFL, and a well-known militant throughout his life in the local. He helped draw up many of the contracts the union signed with the employers.

Howard did not finish high school. But he had a great thirst for knowledge, and as a young man spent most of his free hours in the public library.

Studied Philosophy

He became well-versed in literature, history, science and philosophy. By reading the works of the great philosophers, he hoped to find the answers to his quest for a rational and humane social order. The writings of Karl Marx convinced him that through socialism mankind would achieve a harmonious society.

Howard often related in later years how, in his reading and thinking, he had retraced the course of German philosophic thought. The ideas of Kant, he said, had posed problems to him for which he sought answers in Hegel's writings. Dissatisfaction with Hegel led him to Feuerbach and Feuerbach's weaknesses led him to Marx.

In a Philadelphia club he belonged to, the Liberal League, he made friends with A. J. Carey, a Communist, who in 1929 decided that Leon Trotsky was right in the historic conflict inside the world Communist movement. Though Howard was not a CP member, Carey prevailed on him to study the documents in the controversy, and when Carey and several others launched a branch of the Communist League of America (which later became the Socialist Workers party), Howard joined with them.

From that time until the onset of illness, Howard was a mainstay of the SWP in Philadelphia. In 1938-39, he organized antifascist demonstrations conducted by the SWP. At the most intense point of the witch-hunt he was active in the movement to save the

lives of Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, executed in 1953 as alleged "atom spies." Howard shared the conviction of millions throughout the world that the Rosenbergs were innocent and the victims of a horrible frame-up.

Over the years, Howard taught many classes in socialist principles and lectured frequently. He considered his most useful role in the socialist movement to be that of encouraging young people to join the party and of imparting to them his extensive knowledge of socialist theory as well as his experience in the class struggle.

Even in his last illness, Howard's interest in socialist ideas and in the progress of the movement remained keen. These topics figured prominently in his last conversations.

Howard spent virtually all his life in Philadelphia. It was there he married Margaret Murphy and helped raise their only son, George. A memorial meeting for Howard Le Compte will be held Saturday, Aug. 13, 8 P.M. at the Socialist Workers party hall in Philadelphia, 1303 W. Girard. Max Goldman and Louis Shoemaker will speak.

178 of Penn Faculty Score Senate Threat Against Dr. Pauling

The threatened contempt citation of Dr. Linus Pauling by the Senate Internal Security subcommittee was denounced Aug. 3 by 178 faculty members at the University of Pennsylvania.

At a June 22 hearing of the subcommittee, the internationally famed chemist and outspoken foe of nuclear testing defied a demand to turn over the names of scientists who helped him gather 11,000 signatures from 44 countries for a ban-the-bomb petition that he presented to the United Nations in 1958. He is scheduled to reappear before the witch-hunting committee Aug. 9 when the list of names will again be demanded.

The University of Pennsylvania faculty petition declared its opposition to "the current harassment of Dr. Linus Pauling by the Senate Internal Security subcommittee" and agreed with Dr. Pauling that turning over the names of the petition gatherers "would result in unwarranted harassment" of those involved.

Unholy Alliance Rules Democratic Party

By Theodore Edwards

This year the Democratic party showed itself to be what it has always been — the open and cynical alliance of Northern big business spokesmen and of Southern Jim Crow.

The first step of any Northern presidential aspirant is to seek out the Dixiecrat machine bosses and assure them of his moderation and circumspection on the question of civil rights for Negroes. That is what Stevenson did in 1952 and 1956. This is what Kennedy did in 1960, getting together with Gov. Patterson of Alabama before his steamroller operation in Los Angeles.

As for Lyndon B. Johnson, he has the solid support of the Jim Crow Southerners. We can be sure he did not earn that support by being a friend of the Negro people. The civil rights law for which he takes credit might make it harder, not easier, for Negroes to vote in the South, Roy Wilkins of the NAACP pointed out.

With only token resistance by the Southerners, the Democratic convention this year passed what is hailed as the most liberal platform ever adopted by any of the major parties. If past performance is any test, and that is how platforms should be judged, the 1960 Democratic platform will prove to be a worthless scrap of paper.

Of the 1956 pledges made by both major party platforms, only one was kept: statehood for Hawaii and Alaska.

Urged T-H Repeal

The 1956 Democratic platform said: "We unequivocally advocate repeal of the Taft-Hartley Act." The 1956 Republican platform professed that "the protection of the right of workers to organize into unions and to bargain collectively is the firm and permanent policy of

the important Congressional committees that blocks progressive legislation; (3) a recognized liberal, such as Sen. Humphrey, as vice-presidential candidate. How well the labor "statesmen" fared with this device of "political realignment" is found in Johnson's vice-presidential nomination — at the express wish of Kennedy, who knew he had the labor officials in his pocket anyway. Aware that the platform was an empty promise, the Southerners not only did not walk out but offered only token resistance. Instead of "political realignment," the Democratic convention reaffirmed the old-time alliance of Northern big business and Southern racism. The labor leaders were left holding an empty bag.

Even if the Dixiecrats had walked out, as they did in 1948, the Democratic party would be far from a party favorable to labor or to the Negro people. Many people forget that in 1948 the Democratic party under Harry Truman adopted what was hailed as the most liberal program in the party's history. Despite Dixiecrat defections and the Wallace Progressive party candidacy, Harry Truman won the election.

Big Business Party The union and Negro leaders prepared to celebrate their victory and waited for the fulfillment of the platform promises. They are still waiting. Not a single pledge was redeemed. Whether allied with the Dixiecrats or not, the Democratic party remains the party of big business and of Jim Crow.

One might expect the labor leaders, even if they are not too astute, to have some kind of memory. But here we are, twelve years later, with the same disproven policy portending an even more discreditable result.

the labor officials came to lobby at the Democratic Convention for three objectives: (1) a strong civil rights plank that would not be acceptable to the Southern racists; (2) a pledge to remake the rules of Congress to break the stranglehold of the Dixiecrats on all

the important Congressional committees that blocks progressive legislation; (3) a recognized liberal, such as Sen. Humphrey, as vice-presidential candidate.

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Editor Finds Flaw In Fallout Shelter

Harold Peters, a Hyannis, Mass., editor who is spending a week in a fallout shelter with his family, complains that the shelters aren't designed to keep out humidity. "Everything you touch is damp," he reported. "Water drips steadily from the piping. Sheets are clammy. The labels are beginning to come off food cans."

Special Offer During Election

The Militant 116 University Place New York 3, N. Y.

Yes, I'd like to take advantage of your special election offer. Enclosed is 50 cents for a 26-week subscription.

Name Street Apt City Zone State

Special Events Set for Camp On West Coast

The West Coast Vacation School will hold its 1960 session from Aug. 26 to Sept. 5 at Big Bear Lake, one hundred miles from Los Angeles. The camp is located at an altitude of 6,800 feet in the San Bernardino Mountains.

In addition to exceptional recreational facilities, the camp offers a varied nine-day program on current political, cultural and scientific subjects. The outstanding staff of teachers includes Arne Swabeck, Theodore Edwards, Oscar Coover, Steve Roberts, Joyce Cowley, Asher Harer and others well-known to Militant readers.

Two special events will highlight the Labor Day weekend. Farrell Dobbs, SWP presidential candidate will report to an active workers conference on the 1960 election campaign.

The Young Socialist Alliance will present its own program on Sept. 4-5. Sunday morning there will be a youth symposium of Cuba led by four young socialists who attended the Latin American Youth Conference in Havana. Monday morning Tim Wohlforth, YSA National Chairman, will speak on "Revolt on the Campus — the Student Movement of the 1930's."

For further information, write West Coast Vacation School, 1702 E. Fourth St., Los Angeles 33; for rates and reservations, phone NO 3-0387, WE 5-9238; AN 9-4953.

Calendar Of Events

NEW YORK Open House for ROBERT F. WILLIAMS, Negro leader, sponsor of Fair Play for Cuba Committee. He will report on July 26 Celebration in Cuba's Sierra Maestra mountains, which he attended. SUNDAY, AUG. 7, 8:30 P.M. at 116 University Place (Near Union Square).

MINNEAPOLIS Canadian trade unionist, Ken Sutherland, speaks on "Canada's Labor Party — a Big Step Forward." Sat., Aug. 13, 8:30 P.M., 704 Hennepin, Hall 240. Auspices: Twin City Labor Forum. Donation 50 cents.

Hear Farrell Dobbs On His Return from Japan He Will Report On The World Conference Against H-Bombs And the Mass Anti-War Struggles Los Angeles Saturday, August 13 - 8:30 P.M. Embassy Auditorium - North Hall 839 South Grand Avenue Contribution \$1 New York Wednesday, August 17 - 8 P.M. Main Ballroom, Hotel Albert 23 East Tenth Street (At University Place, 3 blocks south of Union Square) Other Speakers: William F. Warde, staff writer, The Militant; James Lambrecht, National Secretary, Young Socialist Alliance; Tom Kerry, National Organization Secretary, Socialist Workers Party. Contribution: \$1 Auspices: Socialist Workers Party and Young Socialist Alliance