INQUISTORS FUMBLE

THE RECANTATION by another informer has dealt new blows to the whole informer system and has evidently staggered both the Justice Department and the Subver-
sive Activities Control Board.

This is the only possible explanation for the abrupt halting of the trial of the 22 SACB defendants this week in the Civil Rights Congress and the announcement of the removal of the hearing to Washington at some later date.

The adjournment came just as the Justice Department had started to cross-examine the latest informer who con-

fessed to conduct of Law B forerunner of the Federal Bureau of Narcotics. As an added bargaining chip, he had been given a free ride by the F.B.I. over the past two years.

Brown's testimony ripped to pieces the Justice Depart-
ment's case against the 22 SACB defendants. This case had been present-
ated through 22 informers and now Brown is confessing to his lies, exposed the unreliability of the other 22.

But for what purpose was the hearing receded? Evi-
dence arrived too late to save the case, but an attempt to fudge it was made.

Remember how the first recanting informer, Harvey Matson,
was jalled in Texas, how the second, Mrs. Marie Nathanson, was jalled in New York.

The McCarran Registration Act, under which the SACB operates and which is now before the Supreme Court, is an unadulterated witch hunt, and the court can depend on evidence for on-
formers and their perjuries. The SACB has performed a service to the country with its vigorous defense in this case — and the Twenty Second Amendment is a fraud.

The Supreme Court should be supported in its demand for the removal of Kinsey and for the dropping of the entire frame-

up proceedings against this and other organizations of the people's front. The SACB defendants should be re-
pealed by Congress; it should be reviewed and tossed out by the Supreme Court.

LIFE BEFORE PROFITS

NATIONAL ALARM aroused by the vaccine short-
age has resulted in widespread demand for setting up a rigid national system of distribution. Even the Republi-

can Herald-Tribune felt it necessary to publish a front-

page editorial this week that such a system is not only necessary but also practical, including priorities, allocations and price control — with stiff penalties for violators.

The shortage is the inevitable result of the "free enter-
prise" mentality dominating the Eisenhowiver Adminis-
tration. This mentality is in sharp contrast to that of the New Deal when it is clear the shortage will extend beyond the polio season, Administration spokesmen insist on sticking to "voluntary" methods.

Regardless — for all the reasons for the shortage, its existence makes it necessary that all available supplies go to children of the most susceptible ages. This can be done only if all vaccine goes to the public health authorities throughout the country charged with the job of giving it to the children in the order of need.

A lot of it has already gone to private doctors and commercial distribution agencies, who have used it with regard to priority. Today, the companies producing the vaccine are on notice that their biggest profits, and they will not voluntarily give up the chance to make a profit killing while the vaccine is new.

Several bills are being introduced into Congress for a distribution setup. But speed is essential before more of the supply gets away. The bills desiring support should have provisions for allocation, priority and price control, with enforcement teeth.

Besides distribution control, we think it is time the public be informed that the federal government has put to work producing the vaccine so that all needed supplies are guaranteed ample supplies by mid-summer.

NO DANGER?

AGAIN AND AGAIN the Yucca Flat nuclear ex-

plosive has been postponed. The reason given is that weather conditions endangered the safety of the observers.