Anvil Features ‘Who Rules America?’

The latest issue of Anvil and Student Partisan, dated Winter 1957, has just rolled off the press. It is a highly interesting and attractive one, and will undoubtedly enjoy a brisk sale and widespread popularity.

The issue contains many articles and editorials on current political developments: the American political and social scene (including an analysis of the 1956 elections), the Hungarian revolution, the imperialist attack on Egypt, the French war against Algeria, and the relationship of sociology to Marxism. In the features section, the editor reports on the activities of the French novelist Balzac, "Three Penny Opera," and Elvis Presley as a poet.

One of the most attractive features of the issue is the striking cover and profuse illustrations which dominate the pages throughout the magazine. Artist Paul Cowles deserves a great deal of the credit for the overall effect of the magazine.

Featured in this issue is a trio of articles which America some collectively entitled "Who Rules America?" The first two articles analyze the election campaigns and results, discussing the role of the major parties in the winner's victory and examining the prospects for American politics.

The Anvil editor-editor George Rawick, examines C. Wright Mills' book, "Power, Property, and Person," discussing the treatment of the social power of the ruling class. In the last article, Christopher Marks deals with the "Myth of the New Deal," contrasting the realities of the Roosevelt regime and the myths commonly propagated about it in liberal circles.

An article by Donald Bunker, editor of The Worker, notes that the "dirty war" on anti-imperialist literature will continue. In "The Workers Are Here," he describes the activities of both North African and French students in relation to the Algerian struggle for national independence.

In the "Socialist" section, Michael Harrington discusses the news of the day and the philosophy of socialism, emphasizing the need for "demonstration, organization, liberalization," etc., which were supposedly set in motion at that time. The events of Poland and Hungary were caused by resistance to this policy, retribution which was "a Marxist society and the sociology of the working class.

Anvil sells for 25 cents per copy. Bundles of 25 or more are sold at 20 cents per copy in orders of five or more. The price of single subscriptions is 25 cents per year. For a special student subscription, write to Student Communists, Box 44, New York, N.Y.

Report on YSL Tour: A Political ‘Thrash’ in Sight

By Don Harris

The tour of the Midwest unit of the YSL which I have just completed was an extremely harrowing and encouraging experience. In almost every place visited, there was evidence that a "thrash" in the YSL was on the way.

There is a new atmosphere, a new intensity of the struggle in the Hungarian Revolution, a feeling that a new beginning is being made in building a socialist movement. These sentiments are not confined to members of the YSL but are widespread among other groups of socialists, independent rods, and even some students. The Pittsburgh unit of the YSL, although small, is feeling a surge in the YSL tour and carrying on a wide range of activity which evidences the interest of its new French sympathizers.

Moreover, more than anywhere else, it succeeded in putting the YSL in touch with the general public through the letter carriers who carried the YSL to their homes. In addition, it participates in numerous youth and student activities. Pittsburgh is one of the brightest spots in the YSL picture.

Yellow Springs, O., was next, for a meeting at Anticle. The YSL reception was small but it was assured that one of the reasons was that the entire campus was engaged in the trial of Hermann Rorschach. A number of members of the club showed up and the YSL's advocacy of the desirability of a labor party, and in general indicated a high degree of interest in socialism and on various proposals for socialist unification in particular.

In Chicago, the YSL has just finished a quarter of intensive activity, which included two picket lines, several mass meetings, and a regular program of educational meetings. On the first day of the YSL's own meetings, YSL members participat in the NAAACP, in a joint socialist forum, in the local SBP branch, and are interested in various proposals now being advanced for other types of joint socialist discussion and activity. The public meeting on the Hungarian Revolution was well attended, and was followed by a general discussion not only on that topic but on the significance of all the discussions and debates being reported by different organizations. The existence in Chicago of a relatively substantial number of YSL members indicates the strong feeling for the desirability of social union.

PROSPECTS AHEAD

The tour of the Midwest unit of the YSL is one of the most promising of the group. Everywhere there was an almost entirely favorable response to the YSL tour.