'The Root of Mankind Is Man'

NEWS & LETTER

JUNE-JULY, 1968

Massive Revolt of Workers and Students Is Real Spirit of France

By Eugene Walker

PARIS—In less than a month, ten years of De Gaulle France collapsed. The myth of glory lay in ruins while the spirit of Paris pervaded the whole of France. As against the reaction of Gaullism, the occupied Sorbonne presents a picture, most alive, in the very act of growth and development. At any time of the day or night there are four or five groups of people in the main courtyard discussing some aspect of the movement.

Numerous leaflets are being passed out all the time; dozens of classrooms are occupied with various groups and committees, in the evening the amphitheaters of the Sorbonne are each full of 500 people talking, discussing, planning action. When I go to the Sorbonne I am literally trapped in a sea of students going this way and that. The walls of the courtyard

With thanks to the New Statesman

'WHAT in the name of conscience will it take to pass a truly effective gun control law?" - President Johnson. See Editorial-P. 4

TWO WORLDS By Raya Dunayevskava.

National Chairman, News & Letters Committees

Who Arrested the French Revolution?

De Gaulle's embrace of the OAS fascist generals as co-leaders in the counter-revolution against the daring of the French masses - workers, students, and the average man in the street who attempted to reconstruct French society - should have surprised no one. It most assuredly didn't surprise U.S. imperialism that so clearly understood its class nature that it rushed to the defense of the falling franc. Compared to the threat to the whole "Western system" that a successful French Revolution would have represented, de Gaulle's arrogance and persistent backbiting at the US was a minor enough irritant.

In face of the naked fascist slogan -- "Cohn-Bendit to Dachau!" all the ideologues of the ruling classes, including the Communists, came out against "leftist trouble makers," and stood ready to defend "law and order" - the Gaullist democratic (sic!) order!

Why, then, didn't the class nature of Communism become as clearly visible to the Left, especially the Trotskyists? Why, although, from the start, the Communist attacks on the Trotskyists (who were among the most militant fighters in reaching for workers' power) was unbridled, did the Trotskyists continue to behave as if it were a mere question of "tactics"? Why, above all, do Trotskyists continue to distinguish between "the bourgeois order" and the "Communist"? These are not pedantic questions. The Trotskyists will be among the first to suffer from the reaction. Already they are listed among the organizations to be banned. Yet they are sure to continue to behave as they have for the past three decades and end up as the left face of Communism.

Knowing this, the Communists feared nothing from the exposure of the fact that Premier Pompidou had regular contact with the CP leaders throughout the revolutionary situation. Openly enough, through their control of the CGT, they did their best to contain the revolt, keep it from uniting with the students who had inspired it, and easily switched to both the electoral field and narrow trade unionism, not to mention their role as provocateurs for de Gaulle, a role, three decades back, they played for Franco as the Anarchists and the Trotskyists were still fighting the fascists and the Spanish Revolution was being destroyed.

History is about to repeat itself. Communists feel confident that there is nothing to fear from the Trotskyists. What they do stand in mortal fear of is power in the streets, spontaneous independent proletarian power which is independent of state-capitalism calling itself Communism. It is this, just this, Communism is out to destroy. It is this, just this, that de Gaulle appreciates in (Continued on Page 5)

and the halls of the building are draped with posters, slogans, newspapers, leaflets. as well as handwritten political tracts.

10c A Copy 6d in Great Britain

See TWO WORLDS, this Page, on the Arrested Revolution

It is the same at another part of the University of Paris, a fivestory building of classrooms and offices several blocks away. Here too, the students are occupying the building, and occupying it in the highest sense—a twentyfour hour-a-day thinking and doing movement. It is the university in permanent session. All the buildings and classrooms are taken over by an almost unbelievable number of committees and groups of the strike. **COMMITTEES OF ACTION**

Most of the committees are grouped under the name: committees of action. There is a 'committee of action: workersstudents." Under this committee are many subgroups to promote different aspects of worker-student relationships.

Workers sometimes come from a specific shop to the committee to ask for students to come to speak to them or to help them put out a leaflet. Another committee to promote relationships between workers in different factories. Thus workers in one factory can know how workers in another factory organized their strike committees.

There is a committee to work with high school students; a committee against aggression of the police; a committee to promote the relationships between the city and the country; committees for the various districts in Paris. There are many university committees; from the Sociology Department, from Philosophy, from the Languages, and many others. These committees now number in the hundreds. And new committees are formed as the need arises.

Thus, the French government closed the borders to German young people, and a new committee was formed and started to work against the closing of the borders. One floor of the building is now a hospital for students injured in demonstrations who are afraid to go to regular hospitals because of fear that the police might come in and arrest them.

And these committees are not just names on various doors. I walked down hallway after hallway where these committees meet and almost all had a meeting occuring or people working in the offices. Most meet everyday and there is a general assembly of many committees in the evening.

(Continued on Page 8)

country saying America is a white racist society, I did not want to accept it fully as it was being stated. And I do not completely accept it now, in the sense that every white American is a racist to the same extent. But after listening to many discussions and debates over TV between blacks and those whites who say they are very liberal on the question of racism, I would have to say that the whites in this country who are not racists are few and very far between.

Printed in 100 Percent Union Shop

ON THE INSIDE

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WATCH FOR COMING

SPECIAL SUPPLEMENT FROM

EAST EUROPE

WORKER'S JOURNAL

By Charles Denby, Editor

Racism And The White Liberals

Several years ago when the words began to fly all over this

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Some auto workers were discussing racism among the labor leaders. One said George Meany was an out and out racist. Another said he knew that, but that Walter Reuther is the best liberal of them all on the race question. A third worker said that when he looks at these labor leaders he has to agree with the Kerner report and understands why so many whites are yelling so loud against that report.

He spoke of attending a meeting, called for all black delegates to the last UAW Convention, to force Reuther and the white leadership around him to hire and upgrade more blacks on his staff. It was reported that four years ago there were 750 whites on the staff and 47 blacks. Since that time the companies have hired a number of new employees and there are now more than 1,000 whites on the staff and 67 blacks.

The black caucus told about the three executive board members who are at-large members. One is black and two are white, There was a proposal that Reuther was going to elevate the two white members but not the black member. Reuther evidently got wind of grumbling among the blacks and solved the problem by giving all three a pay raise.

MEMPHIS STRIKE NOT SUPPORTED

But the most shocking thing reported out of the black caucus dealt with Dr. King and the Memphis garbage strike. Rev. King had asked all labor leaders for support of the strike but they had not answered his request. One of the black leaders of the garbage union in Memphis came to Detroit asking for support. He went to UAW's Solidarity House to talk with some of the leaders, but did not receive any financial help.

After he went back and after Dr. King was murdered they all went running to Memphis, offering help. Some promised and some gave. Reuther gave \$50,000 from the UAW. But as one worker said, if this had been done when Dr. King was asking maybe the strike would have been won before his death.

This is the white racism that many people in this country do not see or believe exists. We always avoid calling it that. One worker said that he was beginning to understand what racism is and how deep its roots are.

Abe Lincoln was assassinated because of white racism. The same question was involved in the murders of President Kennedy, Dr. King, Mrs. Luizzo, Medgar Evers and many others in Mississippi, Alabama and all over this country. Each one was a little more shocking and horrible than the last one. The last one, to date, was Senator Kennedy.

NOTHING EVER DONE

Now they are yelling about what is wrong in this country, They know what is wrong. They have been killing blacks without any cause for hundreds of years, and nothing is ever said. The most the government will do is investigate to see if the black man's civil rights have been violated by his being killed. The white killer goes free. If the state handles the case they cannot seem to find enough evidence, even when there are evewitnesses.

What good is this gun control law when we still have this same situation of racist judges, racist juries, racist lawyers which get together to free criminals.

If they doubt they can free him in this way, then there is always the possibility of saying that he was insane when he committed the crime.

Now we are having all those geniuses asking why we have all this killing. The simple answer is that this white racist society has no fear of law.

Reports From the Poor People's Campaign

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Marks, Miss. To to be no overt feelings of animos. **Resurrection** City

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Marks, Miss. - We arrived here with trucks loaded with three to four tons of food and clothing. The young cats I drove with were doing it mostly because it was a job — but said they were glad to be doing something to help other people. They didn't really appreciate what that meant until they got here.

Everyone gathered around the trucks to help, and you could see how badly they wanted what they were unloading, but we weren't distributing the things. The man in charge is Wm. Franklyn, who lived all his life here and is poor himself. He knows just about everybody around and what they need.

He was the first man in Misdesegregation law and has been fighting ever since. He's an old man, but he's really cool. He doesn't feel the people on top are going to give poor people anything until it is knocked out of them, as he put it. He was surprised to see poor white people starting to speak up, and said he's glad they are finally getting together with blacks, Indians, Mexican-Americans and all those

The young people here are really out of sight. They have no illusions and are out to get all the things free people all the things free people should have. Coming here has reinforced my determination to get rid of this system. I have to agree that this is the worst place I have ever seen for people to live, and I've seen some pretty bad places at that.

impression of Resurrection City is that it is worse than what I saw in Marks, Miss. It is just nothing but mud, mud and more mud, with most of the structures about to fall down.

in the center of the city. And a countered en route was in Louis-big tent is used for the cafeteria. ville, Ky., where accommodations Most of the people have been put up in churches for the nights, and come back during the day for different demonstrations and discussions. The demonstration at the Dept. of Agriculture went on all night in a heavy rain. Many felt it was the best so far in the campaign.

The food is often just cheese and bologna, but most of the people agree it is more food than they had before. Some residents have complaints about the way things are being done, but when you ask why they came, they tell you without hesitation.

has been in the city seven weeks, said she came because she was tired of working for nothing and felt she could do more for her five kids by coming on the Campaign. She said she felt good to be "shaking up the old govern-ment people" and would keep right on fighting after June 19.

Some who have had experience in action groups have been fighting to get more mass participation in the policy-making and running of the city. They were the ones who forced SCLC to get rid of Rustin as co-ordinator of the June 19 march because of his past record.

But, despite the in-fighting that the papers have played up so much, some very important things have been happening. The most

ity between the poor whites and blacks in the city. They get along very well and share what they have. If the Campaign doesn't show anything else, it shows that unity is possible as far as the grass roots are concerned.

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It is beautiful to see. It is also beautiful to see the stirrings of guilt, especially among middle class black people, when the poor people walk down the streets. On the other hand, the young and working class black people give us the sign of power as they pass.

-Acidi

Northern Caravan

Detroit, Mich. -- On May 13, I joined the Poor People's March contingent in Detroit headquarters and the City who said the march was illegal for the five mile march County Building. An AD sissippi to test the 1954 school through some of the worst slum areas in the city to the Geary, and composed mostly rally downtown. It was a day we will not forget.

> The organization of the march by the Milwaukee Commandos and the SCLC Marshalls, planned and carried out in detail, emphasized non-violence throughout. "If anything is thrown from the sidewalks," we were told, "you can catch it, but don't throw anything

Hundreds of Detroiters - black and white, students and older people, clergymen and even a delegation of Detroit "officials" joined the marchers from Ohio, Kentucky, Illinois, Indiana and Minnesota, gathering in lines of four abreast, women on the inside, men on the outside, and the WASHINGTON, D.C.-My first Marshalls flanking them. We marched and sang, calling for the sidewalk crowds to join us. Many did. Those who were hos-tile, just stared. Police continually surrounded us.

One marcher from Chicago told There is a community out-house me the only trouble they had enand food were minimal, and the police invited them to leave. He said he felt as though something was going to happen in Detroit. It did

MOUNTED POLICE CHARGE

As dusk engulfed the rally area, Detroit police tried to tow away a stalled SCLC staff car, parked for hours along with other cars in front of Cobo Hall. Mounted police charged into marchers and by-standers surrounding the car. Women, children and Father Groppi were among those attacked by police horses and clubs. Only the quick action of the Com-One woman from Marks, who mandos in getting people indoors averted a larger casualty list than the 30 injured by police.

> ang igry, поге militant wanted immediate retaliation. Others just wanted to leave for Washington. But at a meeting held all night, the decision was made to stay another day and seek a protest meeting with the mayor. At the meeting, the mayor promised an "investigation" into the incident. But SCLC officials have promised to return to Detroit, after Washington, to deal further with the Detroit police situation.

Detroit, Mich — Ever since the incident at The Poor People's March, there have been protests and demonstrations. important is that there seems Pickets marched at police stopped by about 20 policemen long until they will break out die as fools.



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News & Letters Photo MOUNTED POLICE charge against crowd surrounding car of Southern Christian Leadership Conference official. Many were injured very seriously by both horses and vicious clubs of cops.

HOC Committee, led by Fr. of white citizens, sponsored a sleep-in outside Mayor Cavanagh's office.

About 20 people showed up Monday night, June 3, and all day Tuesday night. At 10 a.m. Wednesday, they were to see the mayor, but he cancelled all appointments due to the shooting of Sen. Kennedy. Fr. Geary then took his group outside to march around the City County Building.

The mayor finally met with Fr. Geary's group Monday morning, June 10, and gave them his usual liberal line about how two officers were suspended and more may be suspended during the investigation (going on for over a month now), and how it was unfortunate, and, and, and.

It is unfortunate that we have policemen who act like Nazi stormtroopers. It's also sad that in a city which is 40% black, the police force is $2\frac{1}{2}$ % black. On top of that, as of July, the Detroit cops will be the highest paid in the nation. When we have to pay people a lot of money to beat us up, you know this country must be in very bad condition.

Southern Caravan

Deep South, USA - We began the march from Jackson, Miss., behind a muledrawn wagon, then got on buses to go to Selma, Ala. A small plane circled overhead until we were out of Mississippi.

Everywhere we marched white and black people stood and watched us, sometimes together, sometimes standing next to the troopers, but I did not see a white person even call out. One observer from the National Coun-cil of Churches and I were the only whites with the march leaving from Mississippi. One priest came from Selma, and one youth from Montgomery. There were some whites among the local participants in places like Birmingham and Atlanta.

IN SELMA, we were met by hundreds of black people and many police, state troopers, and national guardsmen. They carried rifles with fixed bayonets and stood on every street corner we passed.

IN MONTGOMERY we planned | coln said: that when a country to march to the church where Rev. King first pastored. After

Everyone walked off in small groups in different directions and eventually arrived at the church.

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The police drove around town watching us. Occasionally one would stop to remind us that marching was not permitted. We would spread out a few feet and go on. Thus the police prevented march on one side of one street and produced a demonstration all over downtown.

IN ATLANTA we were greeted by hundreds, perhaps 1,000 people, in a big park. There were the police, but there was also Mayor Allen who came on each bus to officially welcome us.

Over the next week and a half the Southern caravan went to Macon, Savannah, Charleston, Richmond and Washington. I attribute the lack of trouble from the authorities partly to the fact that they knew we were on the way to Washington and wanted to avoid arrests that might lead us to stay longer than overnight. But there also seemed to be less tension as we proceeded to larger cities.

Solidarity Day

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Washington, D.C. - The March today, June 19, was a beautiful thing to be part of. People came from all over. One bus came from San Francisco, others from North, South, East and West.

The police estimated over 50,-000 and the March leaders nearly 200,000. It is hard to count heads in a mammoth crowd like this, but I know that buses were still arriving after 1:30 p.m. and people were streaming in all afternoon.

A lot of the signs were printed. The UAW had thousands of placards. But whether the March was "planned" or not, the feeling of the people, both the poor and nonpoor, was genuine and simple: "We've got to change all this. This is no way for human beings to have to live."

I think most people on the March today also had the feeling that this was the last non-violent chance the government is going to have to do something about it. We decided not to go home after the March. We're staying on to help and we're staying right in the camp. We were assigned our cots this afternoon.

Resurrection City is unbelievable. I'm living in it, and it is still unbelievable. It's mud, mud, mud, and there has been a lot of talk about lack of organization. But all I can see is that the people are running things them-selves, and being here gives you a good feeling that you can't describe.

Everyone in the City seems to feel the same way. The conditions here aren't the important thing. The important thing is that "we've got to get it done."

Way of the World

By Ethel Dunbar

Divided World Will Die Like Fools

Who can understand this Amer-, all at once and go to fight for ican law, when they have it diwhat they want. vided in two parts: one is that Many northerners do not unthe black people shall obey, and the other one is that the white obey it — if he pleases. They still can't find a way to stop these white men from assassina-

ting men who speak for the whole

nation of people, white and black.

leader talks a little too much

about giving black people a little

more freedom, other leaders get

knock him off. They want to

keep these United States under

this same crazy law, and that is to

keep the black people separate

from the white race in every

way: never give the black man

the lead in anything above the

white; keep them all divided by

not up-grading the black with the

But this white race never

thought about what Abraham Lin-

is divided it can't stand forever.

CAN'T STAND DIVIDED

white.

It just looks like when a big

derstand what the black race has been through with white southerners for these past hundred years. Black people were not allowed to go in any public place with the white; even if there was a big street in town, the black was not allowed to go on it. And today, the North is getting to be just like the South used to be.

There are certain places that together and pay some fool to Negroes can't go, and certain places they can't live whic. the same way the South used to do the Negroes.

DIE LIKE FOOLS

There is just no need for people trying to run the whole world in their way of life just because they are white and believe all black people are fools.

Rev. King said just before he was killed that if people go on fighting and treating each other like they are not human beings, then the whole world of people would die as fools.

Everybody is having a funny dream about what is going to hap-So many people will be so tired going a few blocks we were of being held under bondage so pen. There is no need for us to

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NEWS & LETTERS

FROM THE AUTO SHOPS

Mahwah Ford

MAHWAH. N.J. - Ford Motor Company's refusal to improve working conditions at its assembly plant in Mahwah, New Jersey has led rank and filers of local UAW Local 906 to take militant action to solve their problems by themselves.

On Thursday and Friday, June 13th and 14th, as the heat became unbearable inside the plant, over 100 workers from the body paint, and trim shops walked off the job to demand proper ventilation and air conditioning from the Ford management.

Ford responded to the militancy of the body shop workers on Thursday by threatening to hold back their pay on the next night. But on Friday the heat was so intense that once again workers from body, paint and trim shors -more workers than on Thursday-walked off the job, shutting down the line.

As a result of these walk-outs, Ford management claims it has ordered the ventilation equipment. This may or may not be true, but the Mahwah UAW rank and file are continuing to realize that their best way of dealing with graievances is to stand together and take militant actions.

• **Chrysler Mack**

Detroit, Mich.-There was a walk out at the Chrysler Mack plant in Detroit over the assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy. This was the second walk out. The first was at the time of Dr. Martin Luther King's assassination on April 4.

Workers Sit-In at NY Hospital

Brooklyn, N.Y. - Cumberland Hospital is one of the many hell-holes which make up the New York City municipal hospital system. Not only is Cumberland an old and poorly run hospital, but it is also run by exploitative managers who are very antiunion.

About a month ago, 90 laboratory and clerical workers at Cumberland were organized by Local 1199 of the Drug and Hospital Workers' Union. The hospital management did not want to recognize the union, and the city hospital administration and the New York State Labor Relations Board made it hard for the workers to win their rights by holding long, drawn-out hearings over whether or not the workers were entitled to a union election and over which union had jurisdiction at Cumberland

Some 40 workers staged a sitin in the lobby of the hospital. The workers stayed all of one week-end to demand an end to the stall tactics of the State Labor Board and a quick election. Later, the 40 workers took over the hospital labs and locked themselves inside. An arrest of 23 workers followed.

The next day, a few of the Cumberland workers staged another sit-in; this time at the office of City Hospital Commissioner Terrenzio.

The workers won their election and celebrated their victory.

This report is from members of the N.Y. Local of News and Letters who participated at the first sit-in at Cumberland.

4.00

Some workers were amazed when they noticed so many workers walking off their jobs and out of the plant. After the death of Dr. King most of the black workers were saying, before work started, they were going out, and practically everyone knew there would be a walk out. But as one worker said after the death of Senator Kennedy, "I do not think there will be a walkout today, because there was no walkout over the death of President Kennedy."

KILLINGS PLANNED

Some workers began to say, these assassinations of leaders that speak for the blacks and the poor is not by some nut. These assassinations are planned and carried out by Birchites, K.K.K. and white racists from above, and we must walk out to show sympathy to Senator Kennedy. Still most workers did not think enough would walk out to stop production.

At ten o'clock a few began going, by ten thirty both main production lines were shut down. At least 50% more whites walked out than when Dr. King was killed. By eleven o'clock the plant was down with the exception of a very few white and black workers that never walk out until they are sent home-and at 1 p.m. the company did send them home.

COMPANY'S FAULT?

The foreman had not said a word when the workers walked out after Dr. King's death, but some of them tried to stop workers after Senator Kennedy's death. One foreman asked whether we were going to walk out everytime someone gets killed in this country. Another said that we were acting as though the company is responsible for these acts of murder.

The workers were both mad and sick over the assassination. They were saying that now we have no one to vote for. Nothing was left, only Humphrey, Nixon and Wallace. One said with that choice he would not bother to go to the polls.

They felt that even if the government says there was no conspiracy, they would always believe there was one.

Mound Road

Detroit—About two months ago, Chrysler added another assembly line at the Mound Road Engine plant. They had so much production to put out that they set up a manual assembly line, and put the men to work using hand guns instead of the big machinery.

But they expect that you will get out production with only the 30 men they put on that line. One of these men said: "It's loo much for one man to do. They put so many jobs in the same operation that nobody can get it done. They want 35 units an hour off that manual line-that's the minimum."

The union doesn't have the standards set up yet for that line. This means that the company can set any standard they want, and work the guys harder on the manual line even than they do on the regular line.

The huge production at Mound Road has been affecting the machine departments. There, Chrysler has been running forced

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production on the lines. Everybody in Machine has had to work ten hour shifts, six or even seven days a week. I heard that some men in that department worked two weeks without a day off.

People ask why we have to work so many hours. I guess Chrysler is just really greedy; they got to have every minute.

Fleetwood

Detroit — A sorespot at the Fleetwood Cadillac plant is the cafeteria. In the plant itself, there are a couple thousand black workers out of a total of about 5,000. We work on the roughest jobs, like in the body shop, where it is 85 per cent black, and there aren't many blacks on the day shift, or on floors where the pay is high or the work is not real tough.

But the plant is nothing like the cafeteria, which is run by an outside cafeteria outfit. There, you have two shifts, with 30 40 on each shift. Only out of this whole work force, there might be two or three black men-and not one single Negro woman.

A lot of black workers eat there, and we've been asking ourselves why we should have a cafeteria where we can't get a

ON THE LINE UAW Convention Turns Big Tigers Into Little Pussycats

By John Allison You hear a lot of talk about working men and women coming together in convention to make laws and democratic rules to govern free men of labor. You also hear of dictatorship being practiced in far away lands. Yet here in Detroit, the headquarters of the UAW, Walter Reuther rules with an iron hand.

With the skill of a heart surgeon, Reuther and his bureaucrats pressured the delegates to the point where they surrendered here in the Motor City before the first vote was taken in Atlantic City, where the UAW recently held its constitutional convention.

DELEGATES ROAR OUT

Delegates elected by the rankand-file leave their local unions like tigers, because the pressures of production and the problems laying on the workers are so great and they can't seem to be solved. So they leave the assembly line to change the contract or the constitution to bring some relief to the workers.

But the hint or promise of a job with the International changes many of these tigers, and they wind up at the convention nothing

Even now, the UAW Convention has lost all appeal to the public and to the rank-and-file-and with good cause. Everyone is saying a democratic convention no longer exists.

OPPOSITION LOSES

What started out to appear to be a fight over the adoption of rules went down to defeat without even a roll call vote, and then the second "fight" came up over the adoption of a resolution calling for a referendum vote of all UAW officers. And this resolution also went down to defeat without a roll call vote.

The stage was set. At this point the convention fell apart for those opposed to Reuther, and the delegates went on to raise the pay of the International officers.

Problems in the shops gave way to political speakers who said they were friends of labor, and they made it clear that they were looking for back pay for what they claimed were favors done in the past. Actually, the political candidates provided about the only excitement there was at the convention, which went off with a lot of whooping and hollering-and with a bunch of kids all over the place.

CUT-AND-DRIED

The rest of it was all cut and dried. And you knew it from the way Walter could call delegates by their first names who were able to get to microphones to speak. You kind of got the feeling like it was old home week for Walter and his gang - and it really was the way it all turned out.

Area-wide seniority never got a hearing on the floor at the 21st convention, because relocation of plants from state to state was a hot issue. The same old "solution" was applied here as it has been for years on end-the issue was referred to the executive board to solve without reopening the contract, whatever this means.

On another hot issue-that of dues increase-this too was postponed. The groundwork for this was laid at the special convention called in Detroit during the Ford strike. There, the principle was set that you could take up dues someplace else than at the Constitutional Convention, which had always been the place where dues action was taken.

So Reuther called a special oneday convention to consider the question of a dues increase. By now, many rank-and-file workers have gotten a taste of what was negotiated away in the last contract, and maybe they'll just begin to put pressure on the delegates. The question of the dues increase could produce a good fight.

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more than tame pussycats. Columbia Cafeteria Workers

New York, N.Y-For the strong class feelings against their past six weeks, the striking students at Columbia have been fighting the university's racist expansion policies and its imperialist corporate connections with the institute for Defense Analysis (IDA).

Another of the issues which Columbia's Strike Committee has tried to publicize is the exploitation of workers at Columbia.

COLUMBIA'S PLANTATION

To its workers, Columbia is like a large plantation with many small, self-contained units of employees working under the constant pressure of nasty supervisors. These workers, whether they are blue-collar electricians, janitors, maids, or white-collar key punch operators or bookbinders, are underpaid, have few benefits, and have little or no job security.

The worst case of Columbia's exploitation is in its treatment of cafeteria workers in the University Food Services. Workers in the cafeteria average about \$70/wk. with many men receiving this wage after as many as 10 to 20 years' service. The kitchens and dishrooms are hot and poorly ventilated and many men are forced to work 10 days without an off day, or 12-hour shifts.

Columbia has had a long standing anti-union policy. The cafeteria workers have attempted to organize many times since 1937. and the university's union-busting tactics have been well documented.

WORKERS ORGANIZE

During the second week of the student strike at Columbia, some strikers, who had previously been in contact with the cafeteria workers, got together with an organizer from Local 1199 to quietly organize the cafeteria. The drive went quickly; a majority for 1199 was reached in a week.

The speed of the organization over-time to keep up with the not only reflected the workers' bia.

Have Student Help for Union

bosses, but also reflected their militance learned through the experience of several past union drives.

This militance was demonstrated when a delegation of five workers and the 1199 organizer marched off the job and over to the office of Joseph Nye, Columbia's business manager, to demand an immediate election.

The election was granted, but Nye had no intention of keeping the agreement with 1199 and the workers. Instead, the university called in organizers from Local 241, a "sweetheart" local, to split up the workers and create a jurisdictional dispute between 1199 and 241. Local 241 managed, through bribes, to get seven cards signed by workers in the smallest of the three cafeterias in the bargaining unit.

Nve had still another trick up his sleeve. When lawyers from both unions and from Columbia met to determine the election rules, the university announced that 241 had asked the State Labor Board for an SLRB supervised election.

WORKER DEMAND 1199

Local 1199 had not gone to the SLRB with its long hearing procedure since these hearings are often used by management to demoralize workers and to break organization drives. Presently, 1199 is engaged in hearings at the SLRB. The workers are very solid in their demand for 1199they also all recognize 241 as a company union and a tool of Columbia.

The election for the cafeteria workers will be a tremendous victory for the hundreds of unorganized workers at Columbia, and it should also be a signal for them to organize themselves. The workers can count on assistance from the Strike Committee of students, and from these unioniza tion drives may come a real worker-student alliance at Colum-

SUBSCRIBE TO NEWS & ETTERS A YEAR

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EDITORIAL

The Climate For Murder

The assassination of Senator Kennedy — only two months after the murder of Rev. Martin Luther King, and less than five years after the death of President Kennedy — has given rise to all sorts of arbitrary statements about "violence" in America.

It is true that the capitalist system has become so degenerate that the "struggle for the minds of men" has been replaced with blowing the brains out of dissenters, including those within the ruling class itself. Whether it hires a gunman, as was probably done in the murder of Rev. King, or whether it has only created the climate for murder — with an assist, in the case of Senator Kennedy, from the type of propaganda that issued from the Arab-Israeli war — every man in the street knows that it is our "sick society" that is more guilty than the sick men who actually pull the triggers.

REACTIONS FROM THE RIGHT

Nothing shows the sickness more, however, than the fact that some — reactionaries and "liberals" alike — have had the gall to blame, not those who breed the sickness, but those who have been fighting against it. The extreme right-wing is taking the opportunity to move against both the student rebels and the black revolt. The move to the right can be seen not only in the actions of the reactionary National Rifle Association, and the racist speeches of George Wallace, but even in the recent decision of the "liberal" Supreme Court to uphold as constitutional the "stop and frisk" laws which have consistently been used against the black community.

The assassination has, likewise, been followed with a great deal of sound and fury about gun control legislation. While one reactionary, like Senator Dodd, thunders for it, another like Wallace, thunders against it. Some genuinely alarmed citizens have been so moved that they have turned in their hunting rifles to their local police already armed to the teeth in preparation for the summer ahead. But not a word about control of those guns has been uttered. While LBJ piously pleads for a "gun control law" thousands upon thousands of dollars are being spent for new and deadly police "riot-control" equipment by police agencies all over this country — not only guns ,but tanks and chemical gas as well. And no less than \$25 billion a year is being spent for the guns, bombs, tanks, napalm, planes, crop-destroying chemicals, that continue to rain death on both North and South Vietnam.

THE REAL ISSUE - CAPITALISTIC VIOLENCE

The misleading generalizations about violence have but one purpose in mind — to divert the whole question from the concrete issue of capitalistic violence, to the rebellion against the system. The truth of the matter is that the climate for murder that permitted the assassination of Robert Kennedy stems from nowhere more than the White House itself — which continues to conduct the barbarous war against the Vietnamese people at the same time that it hypocritically creates one more Commission to investigate the causes of violence in this country.

It he really wanted to find the cause, LBJ need look no further than at his own administration and into his own backyard, where several thousand poor people have brought the evidence of the lifelong violence THEY endure — mudhole poverty in the midst of unprecedented affluence — right to Washington for all the world to see.

They represent millions more — black and white, Puerto Rican, Indian and Mexican-American. No less than 35 million live below even the official "poverty line" of \$3,130 a year for a family of four. Another 30 million live just above it. Only seven million even receive welfare payments.

"WE SHALL OVERCOME"

The wooden shanties which they have willingly accepted as home for their Campaign are certainly no worse than many of the shanties the poor left to come to Washington. The meals are better than many have ever had before. Yet, so hardened and so unmoved does Congress remain, that all even the Poor People's so-called "friends" in Congress can do is tell them to "go back where they came from" so they can fill in the mud-hole again.

Though he was part of the capitalist system, Robert Kennedy had been the one candidate who spoke out on the issues of poverty and discrimination, as well as the war. And when the black people of Baltimore sang "We Shall Overcome" as they waited for the funeral train in Baltimore, they sang it with a grimness that said, as one young militant put it: "You got him, but you can't get all of us."

The poor and the black masses of this country have consistently shown themselves aligned against the whole system, and determined to do away with it. For it is the capitalist system that not only breeds, but needs, the class violence it daily practices on the poor and black right here and on the Vietnamese people on the other side of the world. When that system goes, so will the violence.



NEWS & LETTERS



ENOCH POWELLISM

The support given by London Dockers and some other workers to the Enoch Powell speech took everyone, including Powell himself, by surprise. It is a reflection on the entire working class movement.

As against this, there is the fact that many trade unions have come out against Powell. The Glasgow Trades Council Exec. Committee made a declaration, but it is the usual kind of stodgy statement.

Unfortuately, there are no signs of a re-appraisal of the movement and what it stands for in the present situation.

There was a fascist influence behind the demonstration by the meat porters at Smithfield. A Moselyite candidate for West Islington was active in the move. The printed petition was paid for by the boss of one of the biggest transport companies at Smithfield. It is a very dangerous business.

Since we see no obvious signs of racialism in Scotland at the moment, we too readily act as if it did not exist . . . An attempt is being made in London to organize a demonstration to the House of Commons on July 7. The organizers, mainly fascists, say they are communicating with Birmingham and Glasgow. It springs from elements at the market at Covent Gardens . . .

We are going to put out a special bulletin on what Enoch Powellism means. We will try to get an article for it from an African or a West Indian, though that will not be easy here in Glasgow.

H. McShane Scotland

When a Tory like Enoch Powell — who is traditionally an enemy of the workers, advocating a constant 3% unemployment pool, lowering of the dole money, increase in health charges, less council houses — makes an openly racialist speech and 's supported by dockers meat packers and covent garden workers . . . is there any sanity anymore?

Peace Worker London * * *

KENNEDY ASSASSINATION

The first reaction of most so-called radicals, I am sure, was to conclude that the black people who poured out to mourn for Kennedy after his assassination were "backward." They never bothered to try to listen to what the people were really saying.

RFK might have been just another capitalist candidate, all right, but he was the only one of the whole lot who even bothered to talk out not only on the war, but on poverty and discrimination as well, and to talk to poor whites and blacks, Indians, Mexican-Americans, Puerto Ricansall of them.

No matter what the "real facts" are, I think they were right to think he was killed because this rotten system just can't tolerate anybody who speaks up any more.

> Reader Philadelphia

If they can even kill their own, what chance do we have? Negro Woman Worker Detroit Rev. Cleague was puzzled and Stokely was just plain angry that blacks should cry for Bobby. Carmichael actually said it was all because RFK had a good "press agent" in his brother Ted. Cleague said it was because they haven't got over the "slave mentality" yet. All they really exposed, so far as I can see, is how wide is the gulf between their "elite" mentality and the masses.

Activist Detroit

STUDENT REVOLUTION I notice that the German students are carrying a banner inscribed, "Marx, Mao and Marcuse." Mao or no Mao, the West German people will find their own way out. That does not mean that we should not be concerned about the situa-

tion. In France, the role of the Communist Party is now clear for all to see. The Trotskyists attack the French Communist Party bitterly but call on it to break with its present policy. They call them "traitors" but say "What is needed is a Government of the CP,CGT and other trade unions pledged to the expropriation of the capitalist and the establishment of a Soviet France."

They say that there was a revolution in France but the CP betrayed it by not playing the Vanguard Role. To them, this is fundamental. The effort to represent "the Party" as playing the Vanguard Role is laughable. The masses moved into action on their own.

Marxist-Humanist Scotland

* * * The student movement is definitely not just in Columbia University or the Sorbonne. It is also in Saigon. The latest statement f r o m the 25,000strong Saigon Student Union demanded an end to the war to prevent "the destruction of the people."

So much for the myths they have been trying to tell us that the youth of South Vietnam are suddenly enlisting in support of the war.

Teacher New York * * *

After what has been happening in France, Marxist theories are more clear to me now, i.e. Worker and Student, Mass Action or Activity, Paralyzing Strikes, Worker's control of Production.

Most liberals think that the workers and students raised the red and black flags just to get more money. You can see the gears that operate their minds.

High School Student California

If any major gains are made by the general public in France (whether workers, students, or peasants), it is now clear that the Communist Party must he publicly identified as an enemy and an obstacle that seeks to prevent major gains on their part.

Cohn-Bendit identifies himself with the students, workers, and peasants, while ignoring their alien organizations and bureaucracies which had in fact to be overcome and were in practice surpassed by the spontaneous activity of their members. The same type of surpassing is vital in the U.S. on both the race and war issues. Black Americans must surpass the NAACP and SNCC in order to unite among themselves in the most effective possible way to defeat racism and the system which exploits this racism to benefit an affluent minority.

June-July, 1968

American workers must surpass their union bureaucracies and ethnic prejudices in order to coordinate an attack on their common enemies. On the Vietnamese issue, groups tend to follow numerous schisms without fundamentally thinking and acting for themselves. Many are kept in narrowly limited areas of thought and action in the interests of both the Establishment and its official opponents.

American In Canada * * *

LESSON OF WARSAW

When the last anti war march of the Los Angeles Peace Action Council came to its rallying point, the marchers were met by a group of American N a z is who wore swastika armbands, carried racist posters, shouted racist slogans and attempted to provoke the demonstration into a riot. They were driven off by the blacks they attacked.

Such resistance to the fascists recalled the Uprising in the Warsaw Ghetto, which occurred that same week just 25 years before. Because there was not unity between all oppressed and progressive forces, because there were misleaders inside and outside the Jewish community, and because the Jews were separated from who could have been those their allies, the Nazis nearly achieved the "final solution to the Jewish problem."

The Warsaw Uprising has lessons for us today: Blacks are now the prime targets of the American racists . . . they must learn that not all blacks will be their allies, that not all whites are their enemies, and that they must resist now.

Psychologist California

POOR PEOPLE'S CAMPAIGN

The Poor People's Campaign could be a turning point in the battle against American poverty and racism. It doesn't need to succeed dramatically in achieving its expressed.demands to be an important event. If black and white poor are brought together, if black and white workers support the march, then it will have been a success.

Observer Canada

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* * * A white friend of mine who 1.客:腹 was at the Poor People's demonstration here said that a Negro man who was selling march buttons just gave one to him for free. Such was the atmosphere at the rally here. Despite all the noise made by the nationalists, it was Abernathy and the Poor People for whom the black masses of this city came out 20 to 30 thousand strong. There were thousands of pupils from Philadelphia high schools who took off from classes to participate. The Superintendent of Schools said they would be excused. The police commissioner estimated over 10,000 on the



march preceding the rally. The march leaders said they were overwhelmed by the response. It was the best of any city the campaign had seen in the northeast.

Committee Member Philadelphia

AMERICANS ABROAD

People here in Italy seemed to find Rev. King's death more of a shock and tragedy than JFK's death. They asked us, "Are you animals? What kind of people could kill such a man?" We were sick.

Try to explain to people that there are some white people who are not racists, when they are pointing to you as if it was your fault. OK, it is. But when people look at you as if you personally pulled the trigger it is an awful experience.

Hearing the news was had enough. Having to answer for it was more than we could take.

Americanin-Italy

* * * We were in Mexico when the revolt happened in Detroit and the Mexican papers had big headlines: "Civil War in the United States", "The Poor Against the Rich". All of the Mexicans (except

the rich ones, of course) seemed to be on the side of the American Negroes. When we explained that we, also, were on the side of the American Negroes they were happy to hear it - because the majority of Americans they see (tourists) talk down to the average Mexican a'so.

This year we were also glad to run across American college students there who were civil rights fighters here at home. At least it lets Mexicans know there are some decent people north of their border.

Traveler California

CHANGING OUR COURSE In the last 20 years the error of our economy has become obvious. The "stability" of employment turns on the production of destructive material and an unconstitutionally drafted youth to man the guns, missiles, napalm, bacteriological warfare. These sad truths charge the American people, and their exchange medium, the dollar, with offense. The "strength of the U.S. econ-omy" relies on violence.

As for "reaping the whirlwinds," we can change our course, if we will. But will we? If the facts can be gotten across, self - preservation instincts will swing us to act for our lives.

The Asians, Africans and South Americans know that the capitalist-investor-imperialist-profiteer is a hunk of carrion about their collective necks. As protesting, marching Frenchmen recently proclaimed, "Everything is rotten-revolution!" U.S.A. workers could answer "Amen" to their overseas fellow-victims. E.M.

Chicago * * *

The first of May, Labor Day, has come again, and we are not so much better off than we were 50 years ago. When are we slaves going to organize into one union and put the boss to work? Why don't we get him off our backs for all time and see if we can have freedom: What do you say, fellow workers?

As for Canada, we have a lot of political parties all over Canada-but not much unionism.

> Wobbly Vancouver

Who Arrested the French Revolution? (Continued from Page 1)

TWO WORLDS

Communism. For it is this, just this, which permits him his two faces: OAS and CP.

To all this Trotskyism remains deaf, dumb and blind, not because it does not know Communism's "history," but because it cannot comprehend its class nature. Because it is this which arrested the French Revolution, it is to this that we must turn. STATE-CAPITALISM AND THE TROTSKYISTS

The first Trotskyist denial that Russia had become a statecapitalist society was based on the fact that, though "Cain-Stalin betrayed the Russian Revolution," its result - nationalized property — remained and, therefore, the workers' state, "though degenerate" enough to be tied to a Hitler-Stalin Pact, had to be "though 'defended."

The second denial that Communism was no more than a euphemism for state-capitalism concerned East Europe where statified property had been instituted, not via a social revolution from below, but via a bureaucratic Party from above, propped into state power with the aid of a "Red Army." Again, though born degenerate" and even though the Hungarian Revolution opened up an entirely new page in world revolution, and, in pools of blood, proved it wanted freedom from Communism (its Party as well as its secret police), wanted freedom to establish genuine workers' power through Workers' Councils, still the Trotskyists kept intoning that it was "impossible" to have a revolution unless there was a "vanguard Party to lead it."

Then the Third World was born without the aid of any of the shibboleths of Communism - statified property, or "the Party," Red Army, or the "International." So the Trotskyists came up with still another excuse for tailending the Communists . these countries were technologically backward and US imperialism, as "enemy No. 1" would only perpetuate neo-colonialism and "therefore" one must be with the "Communist camp."

Now, what can possibly be the excuse for not unfolding a totally new philosophy of liberation free from all the shibboleths of what they call "betraying Stalinism"? France is neither isolated nor a backward country. It is far from having "workers' power" thrust upon it, pure, degenerate, or in-between; from below or above which somehow has to be defended from "imperialism no. 1" as an outside force or some inner "usurpers" (unless that be precisely Gaullism which must be overthrown and which Communism, instead, is propping up).

France is a technologically advanced land which is in the very heart of Europe. It is a world power, with a force frappe to boot. And the native Communists have betrayed it not once but twice. (Three times if you count the mid-1930s not only as it appeared in Spain, but also in France.)

When the Communists preferred sharing power with de Gaulle although they controlled the majority of the Resistance, and, again, even when the Marshall Plan came "to save" Europe for imperialist enemy no. 1, still the Trotskyists could not totally free themselves from the coat tails of the Communists. After all, the Trotskyists maintained, the Communists opposed the US purchase of Western Europe, they were the "mass party" and "the relationship of forces demanded," etc., etc., etc.

As in the mid-1940's, the Communists refused to fight for power if it meant facing an independent proletariat that came to power without the aid of the Communist Party or the Red Army, so in 1968 they "led" the proletariat only in order to betray it. How many betrayals are needed to kill the self-delusion of the Trotskyists about the class nature of present-day Communism even where it is not the state-power?

The answer is that the number of times is numberless for the good and substantial reason that the Trotskyists themselves believe in statifed property, the State Plan, the elite party which binds them to the concept of the backwardness of the proletariat that is incapable of reaching socialism without being "led by the vanguard party." It is for this reason that the struggle against Stalinism, despite all the sacrifices, has amounted to nought, that is to say, has looked like just a family quarrel precisely because that is all it is.

It is for this reason that shouting "betrayal," "class callabora-"new form of reformism." means nothing since they continue tion." to tailend the Communists on the ground that "only in action" can they win over the masses in general and the rank and file Communists in particular. The elaborate subterfuge for the Trotskyist bizarre behavior has stood out nowhere more clearly than in the self-paralysis they brought upon themselves in France in 1968.

Although they have been in the forefront of the militants calling for workers' power and the revolution has only been arrested, not vet totally destroyed: although the fascist face of deGaulle is aided by the Communists who are willing to settle for a few ministerial posts in an impotent Assembly, yet the Trotskyists do not draw a class division between themselves and the Communists. The reason for this can have but one explanation: they have no new, v, genuinely Marxist philosophy of revolution, but a variant of the Communist elitist one, for which, once again, they are ready to die.

No doubt it is brave to die for the revolution. The point, however, is to live for it. That is to say, to assure the revolution's success by a new unity of theory and practice which relies, not on some "vanguard party," but on the masses, the masses alone who would help forge out this totally new philosophy because they had a vision of a fully free society.

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TO LIVE FOR THE REVOLUTION

To live for the revolution is not done only "in action," nor only by "bravery." It is impossible to prove "in action" what you have proved incapable of proving in theory-that you do indeed have a philosophy of liberation totally freed from Communist elitist concepts, and totally dependent on only one force beside a philosophy of liberation and that is the spontaneity of the masses who will themselves "to a man" reconstruct society on totally new, Humanist beginnings.

(Continued on Page 7)

Paris Interview With Cohn-Bendit...

(EDITOR'S NOTE: The following are excerpts from an inter-view with French student leader Danny Cohn-Bendit, which appeared in Le Nouvel Oserva-teur, May 8.14 and Le Nouvel Observateur, special edition, May 20.)

There are some people among us, whom I will call the "t hir d-worldists," for whom the fight against imperialism and against exploitation in the third world is the theme par excellence, which sparks political understanding.

On the other side, we feel that the fight of the third world must be supported by actions directed at destroying, as much as we have the strength to, the centers of exploitation which are at our door, even in France.

* * 4

Thus, we clash with the system in our demands - with political power, with capitalism in its conception of the university. Politicization is part of this: the questioning of the capitalist system, of the social function that it assigns the university; the refusal, on the part of students, to be future cadres, formed to exploit the working class.

1 🔶 👘 🖓 By using the traditional means of action of the labor movement -the strike; the occupation of the streets and working places -- we overcame the first obstacle: the myth according to which "nothing can be done against this regime." We proved it wasn't so. And the workers haves flooded into the breach. Perhaps they won't, this time, carry through to the end. But there will be other explosions later on. The important thing is that the proof has been given of the efficacy of revolutionary methods.

For my part, it isn't a matter of metaphysics or of figuring out how to make "the revolution." I think, as I said, that we are rather moving toward a perpetual change in society, spurred on, at It happened quite naturally, and each stage, by revolutionary ac- nobody had to say anything.

tions. A radical change in the Union of Communist Students. structures of our society would (orthodox CP) or the Revoluonly be possible if, for example, tionary Communist Youth (Trotall of a sudden there occurred skyist) or the Marxist-Leninists (pro-Chinese) has been able to simultaneously a serious economic crisis, a powerful upsurge in take over the leadership of the the labor movement and a strong movement. Their militants have been able to participate in varstudent action.

Today, these conditions are not combined. At the most, one can hope to make the government all. But there's no use dreaming ff making bourgeois society fall part. No avant garde whether the garde." fall. But there's no use dreaming of making bourgeois society fall apart

French Aviation Workers (EDITOR'S NOTE: The following are excerpts from an inter-view by Eugene Walker, with workers in an occupied aviation factory near Paris.)

The strike began in an extremely spontaneous way. First there was the student movement. After the student movement started, you could see a lot of excitement among the young workers, lots of discussions, and then a work slow-down which automatically alerted the unions.

The unions made a little survey and saw that there were many factions, that they were rather hesitant, but that there was a great majority of youth who were ready to go.

At the beginning you could say that the movement was sponeous because the day it began, the union was talking about calling for a two-hour strike. The next day, at 10 o'clock the factory was occupied.

It wasn't organized by anyone. It was enough to set the time of the walkout. The CGT gave the word to come out at 10 o'clock because it couldn't do otherwise. OCCUPATION WAS NATURAL

The people walked out, almost everyone, and the occupation began practically right away, without anybody voting for or deciding on either an unlimited strike or the occupation of the factory.

In the beginning there was an elected strike committee which took the most important decisions during the first four or five days concerning the occupation of the factory, but later on the CGT tried to limit this strike committee by having an Executive Committee of the strike committee elected which was made up in the majoriy of CGT people.

ious actions in a decisive manner

but they have always been drowned in the vastness of the

After the election of this executive, the strike committee didn't meet for five days and it is only today that people are starting to move again to give new life to the strike committees.

I think that the essence of today's movement is that it is a wind of youth that has blown over the Left-wing movement, and that this wind of youth blames the old left parties for a certain stodginess and a certain static way of protesting which doesn't get anywhere. The new movement wants to go much farther and much faster.

For me the students' movement and the workers' movement must necessarily join up, and they will be linked, I believe, precisely by the factor of youth. That's the main thing.

They will have to link up to make this revolution, in one way or another-I can't say how it will be made-but in order for it to succeed, the two movements must join.

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NEWS & LETTERS



Doing and Thinking By Bernard Wendell The Individual In Our **Miseducational System**

sions and slogans of the present miseducational system is that it turns out "well-rounded" individuals. As a result, attacks on the process of education which do not deal with the lack of educational materials are often systematically misinterpreted as attacks on the well-rounded individual in favor of narrow specialization.

This is particularly ridiculous when we consider higher educational and social practice; there is also the fact that even those "educational theoreticians" who are an integral part of the system say that the schools are going to drop all pretenses in the very near future, and become trade schools for every imaginable social function. FRAGMENTED INDIVIDUALS

But, no matter, this attack is leveled even against Marxists, and our whole opposition to the school system is that it is a mechanism for indoctrination and for turning out fragmented individuals, fit for only one social function. These are the building blocks of this society's future.

These charges, and the claims of the school system about "wellrounded" individuals, can be disposed of by briefly considering the "educational" and social reality which these and similar establishment slogans seek to whitewash. As usual, the basic contradiction is between their slogans and this reality.

The school system forces students to take required courses, whether they are interested in them or not. It then makes sure that students stay in them through such prison-like mechanisms as the attendance office and the administration force that backs it up. Thus, it claims, it turns out "well-rounded" individuals.

The characteristic logic of the system is that students are weakwilled, and can be made wellrounded by administration decree. enforced by means of the tried and true methods of compulsion with which every administrator is so intimately familiar. much for school claims; now let's look at school reality. The nature of the "well-round-

ed" individual who emerges from the treadwheel of the miseducational system has been brilliantly described by Mario Savio, leader of the Berkeley Free Speech revolt of 1964, as one "with all the sharp edges worn off." This phrase, which appeared in the essay, "An End to History," is graphically descriptive of the confused, tired, mediocre, "loyal American" zombie that our schools try to produce.

A MATTER OF DISCIPLINE

Let's consider, for example, what happens to students in required classes. A required class ties to which these schools be-does not open up new perspec- long customarily wallow. The tives to us and make us appre- are trying to train a new generaciate a subject about which we tion of exploiters.

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One of the favorite illu- had previously been uninformed; it bores us; it makes us hate the subject and hope that we never come into contact with it again after getting out of the class. When we question the meaning of being forced into these things,

our teachers reply, and honestly that it is a matter of discipline. So it is. The system couldn't care less about making us well-rounded in

the true sense: it forces us to study varied subjects, not to help us develop as individuals, but to make us docile, obedient little zombies. It uses required classes as a tool with which to enforce its totalitarian discipline upon us, as well as to train us to believe its lies.

The "well-rounded" individual of the system is thus primarily not a person of many interests, but a person of many dis-inter ests. And if this person goes on to the university (if he is des-tined to serve one of the "higher" functions of this society), here again he will have to endure often unrelated required courses to get his degree in a single field.

INDIVIDUALITY DESTROYED Whatever small benefits he is able to get out of required study outside of his chosen field will be largely lost as he leaves the university and goes out into the society which it serves. Educationally, the well-rounded individual does not exist; even if he did, he would be destroyed as soon as he left school and entered the social reality.

The school system is no isolated entity, but is part of a social system whose very basis is the division of labor between those who work with their hands and those who work with their minds. This monstrous social perversion is the ultimate judge of the farcical nature of the "well. roundedness" our schools claim to develop. The schools train students to take their places with in the social division of labor.

In poor communities, students are going to be workers of various types, and are trained as such. In the "top ten" high schools of the upper middle-class and rich communities, the students are going to be the capitalists, bureaucrats, and political leaders of the future (assum ing this system has one, which at this point in history is a questionable assumption.) SYSTEM TRAINS

They are trained for that purpose; they are given enough intellectual finesse and appearance of well-roundedness to allow them to follow in their parents' footsteps; enough to give them the best possible chance of keeping this society's contradictions manageable.

This is the truth behind all the "liberal" and "humanitarian" rhetoric in which the communi-

students and three faculty strike began. On May 23 a group of students, members were suspended at including SDS leader Mark Rudd, Columbia University for parwere singled out of the 720 ticipating in a sit-in on May answer original strikers to 23 protesting the administracharges before the dean under tion's action against 12 memthreat of automatic suspension. bers of the April 23 sit-ins.

Administration charges range from Criminal Trespass to Criminal Conspiracy and Inciting to Riot against these 76 and the 730 arrested in the "big bust" of April 30. Bails are as high as \$7,500; sentences could run to five years. Meanwhile, new disciplinary proceedings have been instituted against other students. DOUBLE JEOPARDY

The Kirk-Truman Administration is clearly out for blood; no 'liberalism" remains. The one year suspensions are expulsions, since suspended students must reapply for admission after a year.

Moreover, given the present draft situation, expulsions are equivalent to one-way tickets to Vietnam. Students are also in double jeopardy, forced to answer university charges while their criminal cases are pending in court.

In reaction to this injustice, the 76 staged their one-night sit-in on May 23, exactly one month

SDS Confab **Eyes Student** Worker Link

East Lansing, Mich. Everyone at the SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) convention was talking about the possibility of a worker-student alliance. For the first time, students were demanding to know more about the working class in America that they have for so long ignored with impatience.

The events in France were largely responsible for this new awareness and at every general meeting examples were drawn again and again from the French experience.

INTERNATIONAL CONFAB

There was also a workshop on the international student movement which discussed the calling of an international conference late this summer so that Ameri-can SDS and the Columbia Strike Committee could establish fraternal ties with organizations like German SDS, Zengakuren in Japan and the 22 Mars movement in France

Although it was very encouraging that for the first time students were discussing the meaning of wildcats, the problems of racism in the shop and the nature of class consciousness on the line, some students were caught in the trap of thinking they could "teach" the workers the need for socialism instead of realizing they had a lot to learn from workers.

This kind of elitist attitude that comes from being isolated from the movement from below was shown in some proposals for "summer plant organizing" projects where students would attempt to "activate" the working class in three months(!). "French workers may understand, but our American workers are somewhat backward" was an often-heard sentiment. **INTERESTED IN LABOR**

Nevertheless it is a hopeful sign that these students from all over the country were interested in hearing about labor problems and in trying to break down the wall which separates alienated

Four students insisted on being represented by their lawyers. When the lawyers were turned away and the students suspended for "failure to appear," a large crowd of sympathizers reoccu-pied Hamilton Hall, site of the original sit-in.

The administration acteo swiftly and brutally. They declared all occupants of Hamilton subject to immediate suspension and called police. While protesters inside Hamilton debated how to react, a large crowd of rightwing counter-demonstrators was allowed to gather outside. Finally a little after 2 a.m., the cops arrived. They cleared Hamilton without incident.

"CLEAR THE CAMPUS"

But Kirk also ordered them to 'clear the campus of all other students" in ten minutes.

The resulting brutality was in describable. Instead of driving the students off the campus, the cops — uniformed and plain-clothes, all with their badges covered-deliberately drove the students into corners and beat them. Known leaders were singled out for special beatings. At one point, the cops entered the dormitories - supposedly "safe" areas - with drawn guns and dragged students out to beat them.

For the first time, however the students — perhaps inspired by their French counterpartsactively resisted. Makeshift bar ricades were thrown up at the campus entrances before midnight and police and police ve hicles were pelted with paving stones. According to some witnesses, however, plainclothesmen played a role in provoking violence in the crowd.

In the face of all this violence and repression, the original student political demands have been obscured-which is again precisely what the administration wanted. What are the issues at Columbia?

ISSUES AT COLUMBIA

The issues are now, and always have been, militarism, imperialism, racism and genuine political freedom. Militarism and imperialism are represented at Columbia by the IDA (Institute for Defense Analysis) which uses university staff and facilities for programs, including napalm and missile research, counter-insurgency and repression of U.S. ghetto revolts. The Columbia strikers want IDA out.

Racism at Columbia takes the form of the university's vast real estate operation which includes slum-lording, mass evictions and the construction of a gym on public land swindled from the Columbia of Harlem. people strikers want the gym removed, and this issue brought in the black students whose militancy and determination transformed the struggle in its early stages.

A few quotes from the administration will bring the issues into focus: "Columbia is definitely not a democratic institution"; "These things (the gym and IDA) are not in the purview of faculty and students"; "A university does not need students"; and this finally from Kirk on television after six weeks on strike: "I see no need for change".

Throughout the whole crisis, Kirk and Truman have obscured the politics involved by constantly harping on the students' allegedly violent tactics-sittingin or picketing classes.

It is unfortunate that many observers, including well-meaning Columbia faculty, have been sucked into Kirk's trap of judging the protestors' tactics without regard to the justice of their demands or the years of peaceful protest that preceded April 23. Such are the limits of the liberal imagination. The essentially repressive nature of this liberal capitalist society is thus revealed. MOVEMENT GROWING

Meanwhile, the Columbia movement is spreading out in many directions: organizing itself, deepening its political consciousness through a Summer Liberation School, creating links with labor, with the surrounding community, and with the international student movement (See stories, page 3, 6).

Ultimately, the Columbia crisis will not be resolved at Columbia, and more and more students are aware of this. Their fate is intimately linked with those of other young freedom fighters in France, in West Germany, in Poland, Czechoslovakia and Yugo. slavia, in Japan, in Latin America and in Vietnam.

The Columbia crisis is part of the world crisis of the capitalist system that is so corrupt that even its ivory towers carry the stench of death. The Columbia strikers are a part of a world movement which, by its own dynamic, cannot and will not stop short of a new society.

The Columbia strikers need support to expand their Liberation School and organizing activities this summer. Send contributions to Strike Steering Committee, 536 W. 114 St. News & Letters members are involved in every aspect of these activities; we urge our readers to join us.

Student Strikers Show Solidarity For French Revolt

New York, N.Y. - Over 300 Columbia University strikers and their sympathizers around the city gathered at the French Consulate on Saturday, June 5, at 12 noon, to demonstrate their solidarity with striking French workers and students. The demonstration was called by the Columbia Strike Committee along with other groups.

The call read as follows: "For more than two weeks 12 million French workers and students have been carrying on a massive general strike against the same type of conditions we face in America: rising prices, low wage guidelines, unemployment, production speed-up, police brutal-ity, overcrowded classrooms, outmoded and bureaucratic school administrations and a government which has ignored the people's needs for 10 years. . The French economy is directly linked with our economy; today's crisis is a world crisis. . . .

"If we win in France, it will give new life to an international movement which is already making strides in West Germany, Spain, Italy, Japan and right here in the United States. When we fight our own battles here, we help create the conditions for a victory in France and through-out the world. Their fight is our fight. . . .

"The workers and students in France are looking to us in America for a response to their first giant step in the battle for a new society. ORGANIZE WHERE YOU WORK AND GO TO SCHOOL. SHOW OUR SOL-IDARITY."

. essent a plant dan da mier Parisaccener

students from the workers.

Clip and mail with full payment (\$2 per year) to the Activist,

June-July, 1968

Eyewitness Report

German Students Strike as New Emergency Who Arrested the French Revolution? Laws Pose Wave of Repression in Nation

Frankfurt, Germany What a magnificent time to jority it was decided to continue be in Germany! How many generations ago was it that such a statement could be made?

On Wednesday, May 15, the students shut down the main building of the university by putting themselves in front of the doors and preventing all from entering. Only a few right-wing students managed to break through, but all classes were cancelled. And it was not only Frankfurt University. Universities throughout the country held strikes or teach-ins about the Emergency Laws. HIGH SCHOOLS OUT

Not only did the university shut ing the door, not by hitting them. own, but four of the high schools Most of the day was again down, but four of the high schools walked out and marched to the campus. In addition, SDS people went to several other high schools to try to get people out and managed to hold teach-ins at several schools.

Besides the students there were numerous token strikes ranging from half-hour work stoppages to shops where the workers walked off the job and marched to other shops to get workers out. In all, it is estimated that some 10,000 workers walked off their jobs.

Most of the day on campus was spent listening to speeches and listening to the debate of the German parliament on the emergency bill which was broadcast on the radio. That evening there was a teach-in discussing the strike. Some students wanted a strike, but did not want to blockade the university, feeling it was should add, they will pass be in Germany since th undemocratic and provoked vio- cause we will do nothing mean- Republic was formed.

lence. However, by a large ma-| ingful against it. the strike with the blockade. **RIGHT WING STUDENTS** When we arrived on Thursday

morning, the students were at the barricades. Wood planks and metal wiring blocked the doorways. The students were arm-inarm in front of the barricades. Chains were on some doors.

The right-wing, too, had organized. They marched in the street and then crashed through one of the doors, which was not guarded as well as the others, with considerable violence. The left-wing was not violent; they just tried to prevent the right-wing from getting in by linking arms and block-

spent listening to speeches. School was most certainly in session . but the lessons were different from the usual ones. A number of liberals spoke, saying they were against the Emergency Laws, but this was not the way to do it, etc., etc. The president of the university came over to speak. He said he, too, was against the Emergency Laws and thought students should demonstrate against them, but, of course, not by closing his university.

OFFICIAL HYPOCRISY

The minister of culture of Hessin then spoke—he also is against the laws, but of course, we should discuss our opposition in an orderly manner within the university.

In short "everyone" is against the Emergency Laws, but they

At about 6 p.m. it was decided to call off the strike until a few days later when the third reading of the bill came before Parlia-

ment. WORKERS, STUDENTS

In the meantime a meeting had been arranged between students and workers. The meeting place was on the other side of town in the trade union house. So off we went, 2,000 of us, arm in arm, right into the middle of the street with no parade permit, singing, shouting slogans, blocking traffic. While 2,000 is not the 200,000 out in France, still it was great.

At the trade union house there were mixtures of speeches. The trade unions say they, too, are opposed to the reactionary Emergency Laws, but again, they have not done anything specific against them.

The first speeches were not too good; they tried to be militant and thank the students for what they had done and to keep doing it, but they did not say anything about the walkout in their plants on Wednesday.

The divisions between rank and file and labor bureaucracy were shown and many attacked the top union bureaucracy.

It is difficult to say what will occur, especially if the top union officials don't want a strike. But at least the students realize they must look to the workers, and they do see a separation between rank-and-file and leadership.

The token strikes on Wednesday were the first political strikes in Germany since the Federal

(Continued from Page 5)

TWO WORLDS

The general strike in France was not, after all, just an economic strike. And this was so, not because there were no economic demands, but because they clearly were not the dominant demands.

This was not just a political strike, again not because there were no political demands, but because these, too, did not predominate.

This general strike sharpened all class relations, and not only in the factory, but also the nature of education and "culture." In achieving this, the general strike went beyond economics, beyond politics, questioned the very way of life and its underlying philosophy.

No one, not even the bourgeoisie, failed to recognize that, both among the workers and the students, this was neither a dollar and cents nor a parliamentary struggle. The general strike of 10 million French workers brought the whole economy to a standstill, was not isolated from the student youth that inspired it, and, together, they nearly toppled de Gaulle.

Yet the revolutionary situation did not develop into a full revolution. And while the counter-revolution is mobilizing both visibly and clandestinely, the revolutionary forces are in disarray, not because they were defeated, but because they lacked the unifying cement of a philosophy of revolution. It is no accident that it was in East Europe, precisely because their struggle was directly against Communiesm in power, that this was expressed most clearly by Danilo Pejovic in Socialist Humanism, p. 199:

"Philosophy and Revolution is only another way of expressing Marx's well-known catch phrase about the 'realization of philosophy,' beginning as a revolution in philosophy in order to end as a revolutionary philosophy in the form of the philosophy of the revolution." This is the missing ingredient in France today.

For the 10 million workers and tens of thousands of students who have begun this new page in world freedom-the first such in the post-war world in a technologically advanced land-the world and France is still full of revolutionary possibilities. For the heroic Frenchmen who have already destroyed so many mythsfrom the invincibility of de Gaulle to the myth that global gloryseeking is a substitute for social revolution within a country; from the myth that Communism represents "the Left" to the myth that revolutions can be made without the proletariat; for the world that has watched this drama of revolutionary change in the heart of Europe and saw France standing on the threshold of revolution, a new rebirth of revolutionary passion and revolutionary philosophy is sure finally to coalesce.

Jail 7 Mexican-Americans in Secret Probe

geles basic issues concerning | conspiracy were arrested. the inadequate and under par | These men were held in the schools on the Eastside and local jail on bail of \$12,500 free speech rights were each. thrown out the window on Friday morning of May 31,

Los Angeles-In Los An-|American men indicted on tions held the first weeks of

They were arrested for con spiring to disturb a public school when seven of 13 Mexican- during the student demonstra-

A necessary background to understand the turmoil now seething in East Europe An International Symposium on

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March. (See N & L April 1968.) Among the men arrested for this "conspiracy" were Salvatore Castro, school teacher and community political leader; Moctezuma Esparza, a college student; Jose Angel Razo, Social worker for Economic and Youth Opportunities Agency, and Eliezer Ris-co, Editor of "La Raza," a militant Mexican-American community newspaper.

SECRET INVESTIGATION

The arrests followed a 12-week Gestapo-like secret investigation conducted by intelligence officers of the L.A. Police department, the sheriff's department and Los Angeles County District Attorney Younger who, no doubt, had the coming elections in mind when he pursued this "grandstand" play.

It is reported that more than 50 witnesses were called in on these secret hearings. A group of teachers and administrators chose to turn their backs and ignore the deplorable conditions of their Eastside schools by appearing at these hearings and offering information that led to the arrests.

One Mexican-American com-munity leader stated: "This is an attempt on the part of the establishment to confuse the much larger issue-the problem of inadequate education offered to Mexican-American students in East Los Angeles high schoolsby casting suspicion on the walkout leaders."

DEMONSTRATE SUPPORT On June 2, the Sunday following the arrests, several thousand young people of Mexican descent demonstrated in front of the Los Angeles Police Station.

This was the largest demonstration by Mexican-Americans in Los Angeles, according to one observer. It demonstrated the fervor of the young Mexican-American in his fight for freedom and equality.

The one still remaining advantage the French masses possess is that their revolution has not been defeated. It has been arrested; it is threatened; the whip of counter-revolution is visible. But there is time yet for regroupment and rearming with a philosophy for our age, the concretization of the Humanism of Marxism.

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12000 Page 7

Worker and Student Revolt Shows Real Spirit of France

(Continued from Page 1)

It is this enormous multiplicity of committees (committees, not bureauracies), opinions, discussions, which one sees best among the students.

But it is not just students. All Paris is talking about the movement, and talking about it in the streets. In various districts people in the neighborhood, not militants or students, just ordinary people, begin talking in the street in a group and it lasts all day long.

In walking around the street during the day or even at one in the morning I would come upon a group of people, fifty or sixty, standing on a street corner, discussing the strike.

LIKE PARIS COMMUNE

In discussing the Paris Commune of 1871, Marx wrote of "working, thinking, fighting, bleeding Paris." In viewing Paris at this moment I finally got a glimpse of what it must have been like.

Now let us move to the workers and the occupation of the factories. The first thing is that all who say that a revolution can be made without the workers should come and view France. Everyone realizes that it is only with the workers that a true overturning of society can occur.

Nevertheless the type of activity which was described above is now happening to its deepest extent only with the students. But at the same time it is precisely the occupation of the factories that has transformed the face of France, and shaken De Gaulle's regime to its very foundations. The occupation of the factories is not merely the sitdown extended. It is clear that the workers, and they alone, can run them. This is workers' power in operation.

The workers' actions are allowing what is occurring at the university to continue. While we are all able to see the results of the workers' actions, it is very difficult to find out what these workers are thinking about and talking about in the shops. This is because the Communist-dominated trade union, the CGT, has sought to keep the workers' movement separate from the student movement.

WORKERS' SPONTANEITY, COMMUNIST SABOTAGE

What we do know is the following: the workers organized their factories in a spontaneous way. They held their meetings and decided to sit-in. Far from leading the workers, the CGT only followed, dragging their feet after the workers all over France began occupying their shops. Only then did the CGT begin to take over the strike committees that the workers had set up.

Rather than leading the strike the Communists are misleading it. In succeeding to control the strike committees they have sought to make the strikes economic rather than political. They are always trying to separate workers and students. The students have tried to come into the factories and speak with workers. The CGT is forbidding students from entering CGT-controlled factories.

The students have instinctively felt the necessity for a close affinity with the workers. Many of the young workers are coming out of the factories and into the student quarter. They have fought with the students against the police. In a few factories the workers have maintained their own spontaneously-organized

strike committees. There, there are meetings of workers and students.

The workers have shown their independence of the CGT. The massive turndown of the agreement that the CGT had made with the government is the best evidence. The workers in plant after plant refused this agreement and it was only then that the Communists came forth with their slogan for a Popular Government with Communist participation. But the decisions to be made were in the factories and in the street, not in ministries.

CGT DOMINANT FORCE

Despite the turndown by the workers of the CGT agreement, there is no doubt that the CGT remains a dominant force. They have to a great degree succeeded in keeping students and workers apart. And in a very real sense the CGT is stopping the possibility for a revolution. De Gaulle knows that and that is why he can issue a call for 'civic action," a call to the men of the right, without real fear of unleashing a civil war; because he knows the Communists would rather give in than take their chances with a revolution which they could not control.

The tremendous power of the CGT can be seen in the fact they could mobilize close to 500,000 workers for a demonstration in support of the union, while the students mobilized 40,000 for a demonstration two days previously that the CGT refused to support.

The two marches gave other contrasts. The student march, which also had many young workers, was spirited. The slogans, 'In the Street, With Us," "The Power-Workers," the singing of the International with clenched fists held high as we passed an occupied factory, all gave a feeling of movement, of action. In contrast, at the CGT-sponsored march one certainly felt the quiet power of marching with 500,000 - most of whom were workers. But one did not feel the spontaneity of the student march. The slogans for a Popular Government did not match the actions of those days. At the end of the march the words, "this march is finished; please go home," were repeated over and over a loudspeaker.

REVOLT IN MIDSTREAM

The French Revolt of 1968 is in midstream. Despite the totalitarian moves of De Gaulle in banning all street demonstrations and ordering the dissolution of a number of revolutionary organizations, despite the calls for a parliamentary solution by some of the left, including the Communist Party, despite the exhausting efforts of participating in a strike of workers and students, there are still workers on strike, still occupation of some universities and high school.

While the Communist Party is aiding the counter-revolution, there are other groups-the Anarchists and the Trotskyists, despite their refusal to face the capitalist class nature of Communism-who are taking a position for a true social revolution. But it is especially the Committees of Action which are the form of the French Revolt. Not a single party or a single action, but a multiplicity of actions, thoughts, ideas. To the extent that the Committees of Action represent the self-development and selfdetermination of the millions of French workers and students, women and men, to that extent are we on the way to a new

Judge Throws Out Real Issue in Dr. Spock Trial

By Peter Mallory

Our Life and Times

he actions of 85-year-old Judge Frances J. W. Ford in the trial of Dr. Benjamin Spock, world famous baby doctor, is symptomatic of this sick society-waging a brutal war in Viet Nam with such blandness that does not even bother to make an official declaration of war. The U.S. government has rained more bombs on the population of Vietnam than it did on all of Germany in World War II -at a cost of over \$25 billion a year.

The main issue on which Dr. Spock and his fellow defendants, on trial for "conspiracy to council draft evasion," had based their defense was simple; the entire war was il-

MOSCOW IN MAY

The world-wide wave of student protests against the society in which they live has spread from country to country like a prairie fire. Starting in Berkeley, California, it spread to Columbia University in New York and through universities in Czechoslovakia. Poland, Yugoslavia and West Germany, and wound up in a national crisis for the France of DeGaulle.

The latest indications are that it has reached into the Soviet Union. Reports indicate that the first "western style" student protest against teachers has broken out at the Polytechnic Institute at Baku, on the Caspian Sea.

Throughout both the "communist" and capitalist worlds the youth are ready for dramatic and complete changes in their way of life.

POVERTY IN AFFLUENCE

The "clean" intellectuals whose hearts bleed for the poor, and politicans who want to win elections, can afford to discuss poverty in their comfortable homes. The poor — and they number over 30 million! — want their poverty erased, not discussed. Instead, they find that these liberals help not only in creating the laws to protect the rich but in providing the loop-holes for further tax-evasion.

Theoretically, our income taxes are supposed to be graduated, from 14% on taxable incomes under \$5,000, to 70% on incomes over \$100,000. In fact, according even to treasury figures, the taxpayer earning \$50,000 and over only pays 25%—with a significant number of millionaires and multi - millionaires escaping taxation entirely.

Thus, the "American way of life" tolerates the extremes of people going hungry to bed by the millions while the millionaires have found ways either to pay little or not at all. This isn't mere rhetoric. All one has to do to get the latest statistics from official government sources is to read the study of Herman P. Miller's Income Distribution in the U.S. There you will find that fully 20% of the U.S. population gets only 5% of the national income, barely enough to survive. Here is a good personalized

legal. Judge Ford immediately ruled out any discussion of the legality of the war and the defendants had to fall back upon defending the legality of their actions, thus subordinating the moral issues which would have taken precedence in any but the most reactionary court room. So little regard does the

judge have for ideas that he declared in effect, that the affinity of ideas themselves constitute a "conspiracy." The judge, like so many others of his ilk, is actually a part of the v as t conspiracy which constitutes American capitalism, making and judging the laws, starting and prosecuting the wars, sending men to die,

way to remember the "Ameri-

can way of life." The top 5%

include billionaires like Paul

Getty, Howard Hughes, the du

Ponts, Fords, Mellons and

Rockefellers. The bottom fifth

includes the Negroes and poor

whites, the jobless, the unwed

mothers, the penniless. Of all

the myths of affluence-as if

that meant the nation-none

is more carefully nurtured by

the economists than the alleged fact that "the American

economic pyramid is becoming less unequal." The truth

is this so-called "social revo-

lution" has seen no change

whatever for the past two dec-

Thus, Mr. Miller shows that

during the past 15 years "in-

come distribution" has re-

1947

46%

22

16

11

The only thing that is differ-

ent is that within the top 20%

of the population, the concen-

tration at the top 1% is great-

er still. On the other hand,

within the lower 20% the pov-

erty is deeper still so that

people are actually starving.

in Congress can do is shout

what an eyesore the encamp-

ment of the Poor People is!

Needless to say, the U.S. Con-

gressmen and senators who

shout the loudest - the South-

erners - come from those

areas where the poverty is

DE GAULLE

MAKES A DEAL

During the recent wave of

strikes and student demonstra-

tions which almost toppled the

government, Charles DeGaulle

And all the representatives

5

National Income

1962

45.5%

22.7

16.3

10.9

4.6

mained "stable" indeed:

Population

Top 20%

Second 20%

Third 20%

Fourth 20%

Low 20%

greatest.

and jailing those who oppose this unjust and barbarous war. Under such a sick society the right to dissent has become impossible if the dissenters are to be judged in capitalist courts by reactionary 85-yearold judges who regard wars as more sacred than h u m a n rights.

The anti-Vietnam war movement is now faced with a new task. It must decide if it is to conduct the struggle along legalistic lines confined to individual cases, or to take up the broader struggle and unite with other groups to fight the root and cause, to abolish this decadent capitalistic society and build a new society.

held a secret meeting with the top French Army officers and appealed to them for military assistance to maintain himself in power. He got their promise on the condition that he free the Army traitors who were jailed six years ago for operating the terrorist Secret Army Organization.

DeGaulle has now released General Raul Salan and 12 other top Army officers who seized power in Algeria and conducted a wave of terror both in that country and in France where hundreds were assassinated.

Thus the extreme fascist wing of French politics and DeGaulle are together again in their counter revolution.

In his first election speech, Premier Georges Pompidou appealed to "those who had opposed deGaulle's Algerian policies" to rally round.

Six years appears to be long enough for deGaulle to forget the role these men played. After all, they brought him to power.

In April, 1961, Salan seized the city of Algiers at the head of a regiment of the Foreign Legion, arrested the commanding general and threatened to send paratroopers to capture Paris. His colonialist rule in Algiers was one of bloody terror, and after he was overthrown he took over as head of the Secret Army Organization consisting of groups of commandos in both Algeria and France who conducted a series of assassinations and acts of terrorist sabotage.

There was deep criticism at his trial, when he was caught a year later, that he had not been given the death penalty instead of life imprisonment. Now he is a free man.

Salan's close associate in Algiers was General Massu, now commander of French forces in West Germany. It was at Massu's office that DeGaulle made his deal to suppress the revolt on the home front.

BANNED LEFTISTS ASK AID

The Communist Party helps the government in stopping the strike and De Gaulle thanks them by banning the extreme left-wing. The day before the murder of the left-wing boy in Flins, **Humanite** (the Communist Party paper) wrote that the government was too mild with all the left groups. Two days later, seven student groups were banned.

Some comrades in each group were jailed, and it is no longer possible to put out our paper. We are hindered in our activities, of course, and will need considerable help to pay for all the lawyers we will need. You can help us by protesting against the banning of the groups in your paper.

Ed. Note: Any aid sent through News & Letters will be forwarded promptly.