

150 Radical Youth Meet in Midwest; Hit U.S. Witchhunt

by Bert Deck

CHICAGO—150 enthusiastic young students and workers met in Chicago over the weekend of Feb. 1st and 2nd at the Midwest Conference of Young Socialists to discuss the problems and perspectives of building a socialist youth movement in America.

The conference, initiated by the Socialist Youth Committee of Chicago, and attended by groups from 16 cities and a dozen campuses, held its sessions at the University of Chicago.

Ages ran from 13 to 32 with a sizeable number of high school students in attendance. The audience was divided about 50-50 between young workers and students. All socialist youth had been invited regardless of political affiliation.

ESTABLISH BULLETIN

In order to extend the cooperation between the various local clubs and independent socialists begun with the calling of the conference, the body voted unanimously to establish a national discussion bulletin. The bulletin will enable young socialists everywhere in the country to exchange ideas and experiences and to engage in a broad discussion on the problems of American socialism.

The conference took a decisive stand against the attacks on civil liberties by the U.S. government. In a series of resolutions it condemned the action of the State Department in lifting the passports of the American students who recently visited China, supported the movement to free Morton Sobell from his 30-year imprisonment at Alcatraz, and called for the freeing of Harry Winston and Gil Green now convicted under the Smith Act.

In further resolutions the delegates demanded an end to the testing of nuclear weapons and sent a message of encouragement to Mrs. Daisy Bates and the Negro students of Little Rock, Ark. in their fight for school integration.

REPRESENT 500 YOUTH

At the opening session of the conference greetings were read from **Keep Left**, the paper of young people in the British Labor Party; Los Angeles Executive Committee of the Conference of Young Socialists; a Seattle, Washington group of young socialists; and the Bay Area Committee for the Young Socialist. A series of reports were given by young people representing new clubs that have sprung up in Chicago, Twin Cities, Philadelphia, Madison, New York, Denver, Los Angeles, Detroit, Antioch and Toronto. Report after report emphasized the success of local formations based on the principle of non-exclusion and independence of any political party. One observer estimated over 500 youth were organized nationally in clubs represented at the conference.

The morning session was summed up in a statement by Dick DeHaan, chairman of the New York Young Socialist Alliance: "The unofficial motto of the YSA is **IBM—Independent, Broad and Militant.**"

Eugene Feldman, editor of the fighting progressive **Southern Newsletter** requested five minutes to speak. He explained that the goal of the **Newsletter** was to rally the Southern whites to the cause of integration and volunteered to speak for any of the clubs. "I am most happy to see this group full of pepper and vinegar," he said. "I think that you are doing something that many adult groups are not doing. It is

time we get together on issues and discuss . . . I am glad that you have come together so that we can have a really democratic nation. You are the hope; not the Young Republicans and the Young Democrats. You are the hope . . ."

Conference Resolutions See Page 3

THE MEANING OF IBM

Two members of the YOUNG SOCIALIST editorial board were invited speakers at the conference. Tim Wohlforth, managing editor, described the aim of the newspaper as a supporter of the idea of a broad, independent and militant socialist youth organization on a national scale. He showed how the publication already had stimulated the growth of local clubs and had reintroduced the question of socialism on a number of campuses. The discussion from the floor brought out suggestions for increasing the circulation of the YOUNG SO-

(Continued on Page 4)

NYC Tosses Out Students To "Solve" JD — Page 3

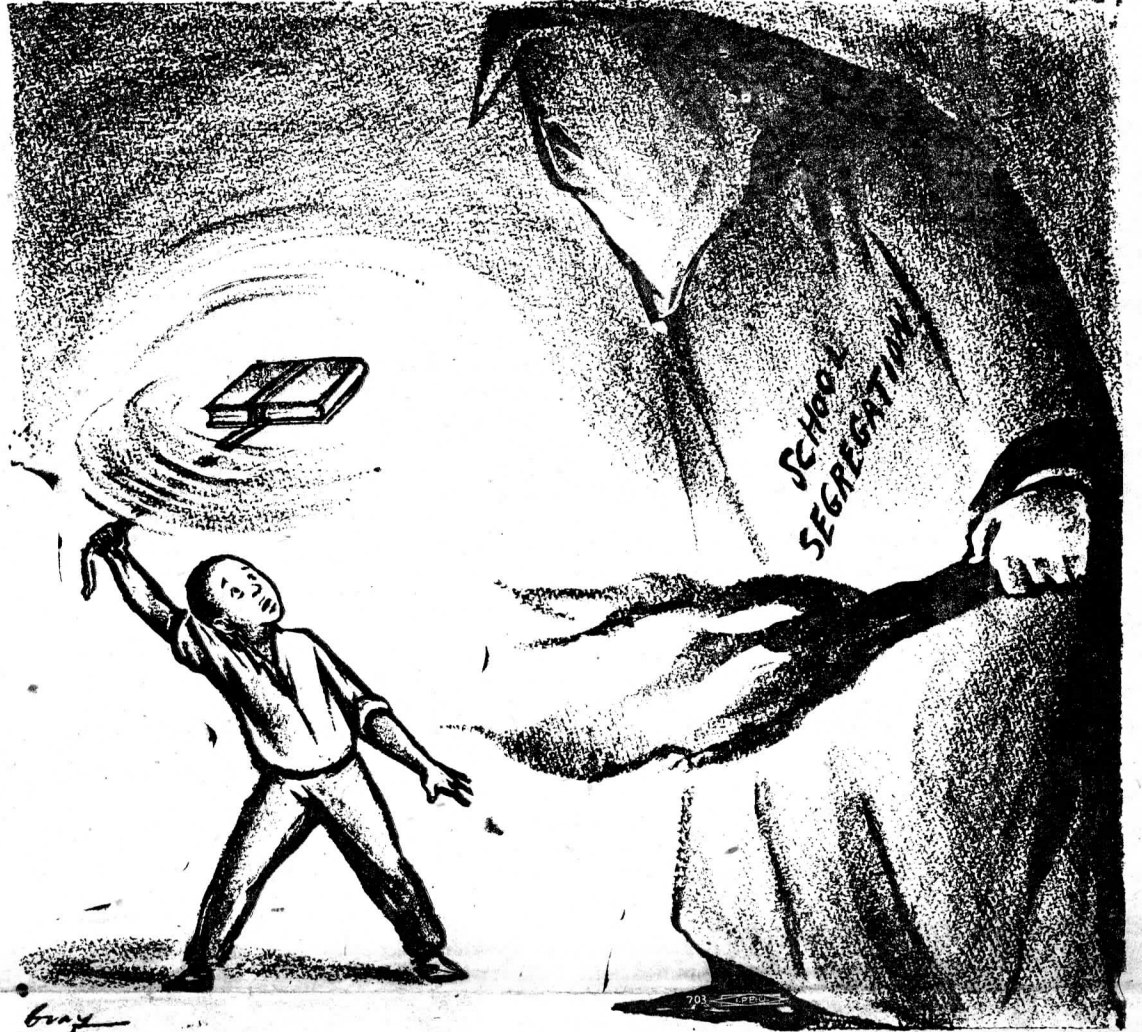
THE YOUNG SOCIALIST

Ten Cents

Voice of America's Future

Vol. 1, No. 6

MARCH, 1958



"DAVID AND GOLIATH" is the title of this famous cartoon by MILITANT artist Laura Slobe whose recent death was a blow to the whole radical and labor movement. See page 3.

ACLU Hits Colorado University Ban on YS; Affirms Right to Distribute on Any Campus

DENVER—The right to distribute non-commercial literature on any campus in America as well as in any town or city has been reaffirmed by the Colorado branch of the American Civil Liberties Union.

The statement was made in a letter sent to Quigg Newton, president of the University of Colorado (Boulder), which has just been released to the press. The ACLU called the University's refusal to allow YOUNG SOCIALIST supporters to distribute the paper on campus "a denial of the First Amendment right of free

expression afforded to all citizens, students and non-students alike."

Fred Betz, Jr., editor of the **Lamar (Col.) Daily** and a member of the University's Board of Regents has served notice that he will put a motion before the next Regents meeting permitting the free distribution of literature

anywhere on campus. "I am not interested in the contents of literature or newspapers, but in the spirit of freedom of the press," he stated. "We can't set up a protective law."

The controversy over the right to distribute at the University of Colorado followed the distribution of the first issue of the YOUNG SOCIALIST by Leonard Hodgett, a graduate student at nearby Denver University. This led to publicity in the **Colorado Daily** and an article in the **Rocky Mountain News**. Following this Hodgett wrote a letter to President Newton to discover the policy of the University towards any future distributions. President Newton in an answer denied Hodgett the right to distribute the paper.

PROTESTS MOUNT

Following protests from the **Colorado Daily**, many university students, the Boulder chapter of the ACLU, and publicity in the **Rocky Mountain News**, **Denver Post**, **Denver University Clarion**, state-wide radio and TV stations, and the college paper at the University of New Mexico (Albuquerque), the ASUC (the Boulder student council) proposed a joint distribution point be set up in the student union for all literature. The board in charge of the student union rejected this suggestion.

The Colorado ACLU also stated that even if a joint distribution point were set up on campus the

administration could not restrict free distribution to this point alone. The ACLU quoted a Supreme Court decision to the effect that "the streets are natural and proper places for the dissemination of information and opinion; and one is not to have the exercise of his liberty of expression in appropriate places abridged on the plea that it may be exercised in some other place." The ACLU went on to state, "it is our feeling that the public streets and sidewalks of our state University are 'natural and proper places for the dissemination of information and opinion and that a formal restriction of such dissemination by the University would be 'state action' within the restriction of the Fourteenth Amendment."

"Even though it be established that the campus is not a public place," the ACLU commented "the right of free distribution has been held to extend to privately-owned property which is open to the public. Certainly the University properties are open to public use."

WE MUST FIGHT

Involved in the Colorado ACLU's statement is a fundamental issue affecting civil liberties on almost every campus in America. The YOUNG SOCIALIST and its supporters intend to fight until it is clearly established on every campus and in every town and city that any non-commercial literature can be distributed without restriction of any kind.

Spector of Hungry Thirties Haunts Youth in Canada

by Ernest Strong

TORONTO—Unemployment in Canada is at its highest point since the Hungry Thirties. You don't have to look very closely to see that Prime Minister Diefenbaker and his new Tory government are uneasy. Figures released by the government's National Employment Service reveal that almost 800,000 are unemployed right now (the comparable figure for the U. S. would be over 7,500,000). Unemployment is expected to swell to even greater dimensions, and prominent trade-unionists are demanding that the government take action. The Tories shamefacedly pretend that this is in the natural way of things, that

it is just a pause in Canada's further expansion, that the population has increased, etc.

We can be certain that a large section of the unemployed are young workers, who, because of their lack of skill and low seniority in the plants, are the first hit. This "recession" is making its impact on their thinking. Unlike their fathers, they have never experienced unemployment before. They have only known a booming economy, an economy which on top of high armaments production has been the recipient of heavy U. S. investment.

The colonial world, scene of fierce revolutionary struggles (Continued on Page 3)

Youth Speaks Out!

(Editor note: We are devoting almost a full page of the Young Socialist this issue to letters from our readers. We hope in this way to further discussion among young socialists leading towards the formation of a national youth movement. We are interested especially in receiving comments on the discussion of America's Road to Socialism which appeared in our last issue.)

Dear Editors:

I am a Japanese student, now in Nagoya University, learning the history of science. But I have strong interest in socialism because it brings the emancipation of mankind. I like to hear of your point of view.

Iwasaki Shigeo
Nagoya, Japan

Breadlines Return to Ohio With 22% of Area Jobless

Dear Editors:

Lorain County (Ohio) is in such bad shape now that yesterday Lorain Mayor John C. Jaworski announced a bread line, for the first time since the Thirties. Left-over bread from three bakeries will be given to the city at 6:00 p.m. closing time and needy families can come get it. The Salvation Army also announced that it has exhausted its funds helping 100-odd families. You recall that the Supplemental Unemployment Payment (SUB) was outlawed in this state, that you can only collect unemployment insurance for 26 weeks, and the maximum possible weekly check is something pretty low, I believe \$39. Many National Tube employees are now nearing the end of the 26 weeks. Western Automatic is now going on a 4-day week, after laying off men up to 16 years seniority and women with 12; Republic Sheet and Tube is on a three-day week; General Motors, where I worked, is on a four-day week at half production, with even salaried workers and foremen getting laid off.

Ford opened a new plant in Lorain to replace one at Buffalo,

which will hire 2,000 at full capacity; but old Buffalo employees get first crack and anyhow that's hardly a dent in the 6,000 laid off at National Tube alone. Bendix-Westinghouse is also down pretty low, laid off another thousand at the end of January, and Thew Shovel is practically closed down. That's what we hear about the big employers in the county—I don't know how the little outfits are doing. Most of the fellows I was working with are worried about how they're going to meet house payments and food bills, even if they keep on a 32-hour week. Jaworski has announced that he's conferred with bank and finance company officials and they're not going to foreclose now, which is damn nice of them!

Even the newspapers (Elyria Chronicle Telegram and Lorain Journal) have started to run stories about unemployment, admitting the government figures show 22.1 per cent of the county's workers out of jobs last week, in contrast to last spring when there were thousands unemployed but the papers kept on talking up our great prosperity.

Gerald Lehmann
Oberlin, Ohio

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March, 1958

For a New Youth Movement

The Mid-west Conference of Young Socialists was an exciting portent of the future. Young Socialists from many areas and from the most diverse political backgrounds were able to assemble in an atmosphere of enthusiasm and solidarity. We discussed the most important, most controversial political questions in a friendly and constructive spirit, with no point of view barred from the discussion. And we were able to reach full agreement on meaningful resolutions dealing with important political problems of American youth.

The Mid-west Conference points the way toward the kind of socialist youth movement we of the YOUNG SOCIALIST seek to build—a movement that is independent, broad, and militant. We believe that no other kind of movement can meet the needs of socialist-minded American young people.

Young socialists need an independent movement, we need freedom to develop our own ideas, to take our own stands, free from the domination of any "adult" group. We want a movement that is more than the "youth section" of an adult party, that cannot be dissolved at the whim of an outside organization, that has its own press, not a page in someone else's newspaper.

Young socialists need a broad movement. The socialist movement of America is split into many different tendencies, with major political differences. These old lines should no longer divide young people. We need a movement in which we can discuss the points we disagree about, while acting for the things we agree on.

And young socialists need a militant movement, a movement that is not afraid to speak out against our own imperialist rulers in America, a movement ready to stand up for basic socialist principles: civil rights and civil liberties for all, the fight for peace, and solidarity with the freedom struggles of workers and colonial peoples everywhere.

We are confident that a youth movement like this must, can, and will soon be created in America.

How Remote Is Marx?

Dear Editors:

How remote is Marx? As an experiment I carried on a survey among my fellow high school students and got some interesting reactions.

The question was posed to several students as to why a certain article has a certain value. For instance, "Why does a ball point pen cost \$1.98?" All of the answers were along the following lines: "Something costs a certain amount because human strength, energy, and time went into making it." "The labor time in something gives it its value."

It is interesting that these students unknowingly agree with Marx's labor theory of value. They have taken no courses in economics and haven't learned yet to "refute" him.

Nora Aaron
New York City

CONTROVERSY OVER CHINA:

Are Some 'Rightists' Leftists?

Dear Editors:

We would like to point out some misunderstanding about the charge of "rightists" in China expressed by Nina Landau who made her courageous trip to China recently. As she said: "A rightist is usually a person who rejects the revolution, clings to feudal ideology, and is against socialism." Apparently her opinion is concluded from her observations in China. But we doubt whether she was in a position to make a penetrating observation and gain a complete understanding of the Chinese people.

We read the Peking People's Daily day by day. We found out that, in fact, there are two kinds of "rightists" in China. One kind is the real rightist. They are bourgeois politicians, such as the Ministers of Food and Forest Industry mentioned by Mrs. Landau. Using some weak points and mistakes of the People's Government and the Chinese Communist Party as their evidence, they attack the socialist system itself.

Another kind charged as "rightists" are rank-and-file party members, young students and workers. They made criticisms in order to rectify the wrong points and mistakes of the government and the Party which, they think, do harm to the socialist reconstruction. We could not get their original and genuine opinions; the only inkling we could get was from the accusations against them appearing in the Peking People's Daily. Although these opinions are distorted, some of them are still clear enough for us to judge whether they are "rightist" or not.

During the "rectification campaign," students of Peking University organized a group called the "Open Forum" and adopted a program for action. This program, which was criticized by the People's Daily on July 24, 1957, as "anti-party and anti-socialism," contained the following points: "Center our discussion on the roots of three evils—bureaucratism, sectarianism and subjectivism, and let everybody be aware that the question is not simply about the attitude or behavior, it is something related to the whole nation's system." "Struggle for

the freedom of speech, publications, meetings and organizations. With the freedom of public opinion, we can convince people by reason and form a social pressure and force the conservatives to retreat." "Abolish the censorship of publication, give people the right of publication; otherwise the 'blossom and contend' policy has no material guarantee." "In order to realize the above program, our group should become the nucleus of the masses." "Use various means, such as forums, discussion and public meetings to enlarge our influence out of the campus."

Wang Shih-Chien, a teacher of the Kang-Chieh Middle School, Yun-Cheng, Shansi, proposed four programs: "1. Turn away from the wrong line which is to follow Stalin's theory blindly. 2. Exercise the freedom of speech promulgated by the constitution. 3. Change the tendency which transforms branches of the Party into probational jails and the party members into secret police. 4. Correct immediately the errors and mistakes done by the last 'anticounter-revolutionary campaign.'" (People's Daily, Aug. 1, 1957).

From the above examples we can also see how and why the mistakes and faults of the CCP have aroused the resentment and criticism of the rank-and-fileers. If we had started to collect the criticisms from the rank-and-file, students, peasants and workers of China, we could nearly compile a

book. We have found out, from these references, that the problems the People's Republic of China is faced with are very much like that of the Soviet Union and Eastern European countries. We would urge that every socialist consider with the most profound thought and care as to why the opposition has been charged as "Rightists," and would suggest that the criticisms present here, and made within China itself as reported in the People's Daily, would indicate that a genuine socialist opposition, seeking a reform of the regime towards greater democracy and mass participation exists there; and further, that it is being systematically slandered and crushed.

Ernest Wong and Ardent Lin
Vancouver, B.C., Canada.

Readers Present Differing Views On Socialism And Soviet Union

Dear Editors:

Your treatment of the Soviet Union in many of your articles seems to condemn rather than recognize the fact that socialism is being practiced there, maybe not to the direct liking of particular individuals who to my way of thinking seem to feel the Soviet Union exists on another planet. Where there is no other system or country to contend with can the purest of pure socialisms be practiced today!

It is impossible to let an infant out into the world when millions are seeking to harm him! Socialism is the infant which the capitalist world is seeking to destroy. It is essential to secure our foundations for socialism before bickering over minute infractions of policy. Socialism as it is being practiced today will of course ultimately bring forth all the ideals we wish for in the future. However in our present state we must protect socialism, standing if need be by strong measures.

UNITY is our only hope to save the movement. With so many splinter units the progress is stil-

ted if not halted! Realization of these essentials are fundamental and are necessary for growth.

Bobbie Finkel
New York

P. S. The December editorial on Hungary to my way of thinking was shameful. It is self-evident that Fascist influence both internal and external was the primary factor in inciting the revolution.

P. P. S. Don't get me wrong. Any progressive movement is refreshing and I will be looking forward to next month's issue.

Dear Editors:

Today the world is faced with crisis after crisis, and the solution is neither sought nor wanted by the politicians of the bourgeoisie and the Stalinist bureaucracy of Russia. This dereliction of humane duty in favor of class and caste interests is what has led us to the overhanging threat of hydrogen holocaust.

The solution are simple ones. We may all be exterminated in hydrogen warfare or we, as the common working peoples of the world, can rise to take this power

out of the hands of those who would wipe us out for the interests of an exploiting minority. For this there needs to be a vanguard of militants conscious of their responsibility to the majority, the working peoples of the world.

In Hungary and Poland this vanguard found form in the intellectual working youth and university students. This aggressiveness and idealism of the youth was the spark needed by the masses to throw off the chains of slavery. In the West and America I believe this also to be the case. Now with the political youth formations moving out from under the parent parties, their regroupment and uniting on a common road is the immediate problem. I find the youth of the Young Socialist Alliance and similar groups rising to meet this task admirably. In Canada we are attempting to follow the same course.

The road we travel is not an easy one, but with the youth in the forefront the victory of the socialist revolution is at hand.

Toronto, Ont.
Charles Lee

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SUSPENDS 'DIFFICULT' STUDENTS:

Panic Grips NYC Bd Of Education

by Virginia Halstead

Sparked by the recent suicide of a harassed school principal, and succumbing to mounting pressure and hysteria, the New York City Board of Education has decided to meet the increase in teen-age violence in the schools by a major change in policy, a new "Get Tough" approach. In order to carry this out, they have authorized the suspension of any pupil "charged with a violation of law involving violence or insubordination" (this has been interpreted as any "serious misbehavior.") So far 644 students have been suspended.

School officials have long been aware of the problem of overcrowded schools and underpaid teachers who cannot cope with the seriously disturbed children in their classes. Yet the city administration has brushed off wage demands in the 1957-58 budget. They asserted that the problem was the responsibility of all: Community, Family, Church and Government. However President Eisenhower's budget also disappointed educational leaders, since less federal funds were proposed for schools than in last year's meager program!

Despite the knowledge that it is becoming increasingly hard to raise funds for schools on the local level, Eisenhower in his budget message (which by the way recommends a figure of 73.9 billion, 64% of which is for "defense") stated that the local communities should do more to support education and to acquaint teachers, parents and pupils with

the needs the country faces.

It seems that the ones best acquainted with the problems they confront in the schools are the pupils themselves. They know what it is, for example, to have teachers who prefer not to teach in the "difficult" schools, so that over half the teaching is done by substitutes. And now, to add to their troubles, they are having their Civil Rights stepped on; they are convicted of "illegal acts" and punished for them without any prior hearings. And due to completely inadequate special educational, training, and detention facilities, most of the pupils barred from the schools have simply been thrown out on the streets. These students' hearings will not be held for thirty days, even though the Board is responsible for the continuous instruction of any suspended pupil under section 3241 of the State Education law.

Meanwhile, most of the newspapers continue their hysterical attacks on the "young punks," blaming in particular, the parents for a lack of interest in their children. They do not point to the true offender: the entire society into which these children are born. This teen-age generation has experienced nothing but violence: wars going on ever since their birth, television programs with sadistic tendencies, movies with titles like "I Was a Teen-Age Werewolf," magazines and books in sale everywhere describing crimes to the last detail, advertisements of knives and gun cheap

enough to entice any youngster

Here is where we must look for those who are responsible. Let us place the blame on the correct source; and that is not the youth who are the victims of this society.

ATTENTION READERS —
The second issue of the **YOUNG SOCIALIST FORUM** is off the presses! The **FORUM**, a discussion bulletin published by the YS as a service to radical youth, contains: two views on the colonial revolution in Indonesia; the resolution on Perspectives for American Socialism of the left wing of the Young Socialist League; an article on Paul Sweezy; language and socialism; and a review of the French film "Gervaise". Send ten cents to rm. 3, 218 7th Ave., N.Y.C., for a copy.



Above is another famous cartoon by MILITANT artist Laura Slobe (Grey). Laura joined the Socialist Workers Party in 1942 and her first cartoon appeared in the MILITANT in 1944. Her cartoons have appeared in socialist and labor publications in more than 20 countries. Many of her cartoons dealt with problems facing young people—conscription, war, integration, unemployment.

Resolutions Passed At the Midwest Conference Of Young Socialists

FREE MORTON SOBELL

1. That the Mid-West Conference of Young Socialists send greetings to the Committee to Secure Justice for Morton Sobell and conveys its wishes for an early victory in the campaign to free Morton Sobell from his unjust imprisonment.

BAN THE TESTS!

2. This Mid-West Conference of Young Socialists recognizes that continued testing of nuclear weapons, by poisoning the atmosphere with radio-active matter, presents a clear and present danger to the health and very life of present and future generations. We recognize that the government of the USSR has proposed the immediate cessation of nuclear tests by all powers. We further recognize that such a ban would be "self-enforcing" since any nuclear explosion would immediately be detected throughout the world.

We therefore call on all governments to conclude an immediate and unconditional prohibition of nuclear explosions.

We offer our support to all efforts to end radioactive poisoning of the air we breathe.

GIVE US OUR RIGHT TO TRAVEL

3. The Mid-West Conference of Young Socialists condemns the U. S. State Department for its illegal and unconstitutional seizure of the passports

of the 41 American youth who traveled to China. This action violates the democratic rights of all Americans. We demand the return of the illegally seized passports and a guarantee of the right to travel without restrictions.

We support the action of the 41 in traveling to China in open defiance of the State Department ban. We call for widest possible united action of all democratic-minded youth in defense of the civil liberties of the 41 and of the right to travel for all Americans.

FREE GREEN AND WINSTON

4. We, the participating members of the Mid-West Conference, do resolve that the Smith Act is absolutely illegal under the constitution of the United States and condemn this Act as an infringement upon the civil rights of the American people.

We demand the immediate release of Gilbert Green and Henry Winston, the last two victims of the Smith Act.

GREETINGS TO THE 9 IN LITTLE ROCK

5. This Mid-West Conference of Young Socialists sends their greetings and approval to the 9 Negro students attending Central High School for your valiant efforts on behalf of the struggle for minority rights.

Canadian Students Protest U.S. Bar on Communist Youth

by Michele Erin

VANCOUVER, B. C., CANADA —A mass trip to Seattle Wash. by the University of British Columbia 'Mock Parliament' was cancelled by the members unless immigration bars are lifted for two Communist students.

The two, James McFarlen and Victor Anderson, are president and vice-president of the campus Labor - Progressive (Communist) Party.

They are also elected members of a 100-student group invited to stage a demonstration of the workings of Canada's Parliament at the University of Washington in Seattle March 3. The UBC Mock Parliament is made up of all five political parties.

Under the American McCarran-Walters Act, members of the LPP are not allowed entry to the US, except under special circumstances. The UBC Parliamentary Council stating it would not attend the session without the LPP members, will apply for temporary entry of the Communists paying waivers of \$25 each freeing them from the restrictions of the act.

The two students were heartened by the actions of the other students. They told the YS reporter that "the solidarity of the four other political parties was a fine thing—a stand for Canadian democracy and the right of the LPP to exist."

A request has also been made by President Schmidt of the University of Washington to U. S. Immigration officials, to allow the students to enter and participate.

President Ben Trevino of the UBC student council said U. of W. officials had told him the two LPP students will be allowed to speak if they keep within parliamentary rules.

"We were invited to Seattle to show how Canadian democracy works," one student said; "I guess they've got a pretty good idea by now."

Canadian Youth Face Unemployment...

(Continued from Page 1)

since the end of World War II, has proven to the U. S. Wall Streeters not to be the safest place for the investment of capital. While the returns on capital invested in Canada might not be as high they are more secure. There isn't the danger of the property being seized by angry colonial masses. Resulting from this heavy influx of capital, Canadian productive power has increased—increased at a much faster rate than that of the U. S. itself. This has been the main factor in the boom now busting: a boom that has lulled the working masses, the unions, the youth of Canada, into complacency.

NO DRAFT

In most NATO countries, a source of resentment among youth has been the draft, with its inevitable interruption of job or studies and the threat of being dragged into a war. Even this factor has not disturbed Canadian complacency. Outside of Iceland, Canada is the only country in NATO which does not have the draft. Youth here have escaped this part of the Cold War.

But this complacency is now being rudely shattered. The busting boom and unemployment will have an inevitable radicalizing effect on the thinking of young people. Out of this, where will the youth go? To what organizations can they turn for leadership?

In no meaning of the word is there a national youth movement in Canada. Before Korea, one did exist. The Co-operative Commonwealth Federation (CCF), the farmer-labor party of Canada, which once was socialist but can now only be termed liberal, had a dynamic and flourishing youth organization. In industrial Ontario, Quebec, and British Columbia young workers and students were its main driving force, and it had a large following in the prairie provinces of Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Since then, many events have had a disastrous effect on this youth organization. The CCF youth, unlike the "adult" section, was opposed to Canada's participation in the Korean War. This stand met with immediate disfavor and reprisals. The British Columbia youth section was opposed to NATO. The adults immediately dissolved the entire section.

In Ontario, both adult and youth sections were left-wing. A whole series of expulsions dissipated the movement until it now is non-existent. In every province, if the youth section did not conform to the line and policies of the right-wing CCF leadership it was subjected to organizational reprisals.

CCF YOUTH DISAPPEAR

Today, only in one province does the CCF youth exist as an

organized force—Saskatchewan, the wheat province, where the CCF is the provincial government. Here the youth movement is, at best, a social one.

The National Federation of Labor Youth (NFLY), the youth organization of the Labor Progressive (Communist) Party, which also was once a dynamic force, has similarly disintegrated.

The "Khrushchev Report" had a profound effect on the NFLY. A struggle took place around the question of the youth group's relationship to the LPP, which until then had dominated it. A group centering mainly in the Montreal area opposed this relationship and demanded that changes take place to liberalize the movement. But a "hard" group successfully held out for continuing the old relationship. As a result, many members have walked away, disgusted that no change took place.

COMMUNIST YOUTH CHANGE?

There has, however, been one change—the organization changed its name to the "Socialist Youth League." The "independence" of this movement was spelled out in a resolution of the National Committee of the LPP: "The role of the party is to advise the SYL and assist them in their task of winning the youth for socialism. The LPP is unique among Canadian political parties in encouraging full organizational inde-

pendence to"—and here we come to the gem—"youthful adherents of its political and organizational outlook."

This statement embodies the policy which led to the downfall of the NFLY and the enfeebled and sterile condition of the SYL. Its fruits were seen in a meeting the SYL organized in Toronto where only two people and the speaker turned up.

A way out of this disorganization and confusion in the youth movement is shown by the organization of the Socialist Youth Forum in Toronto. For the first time there is a possibility for youth to get together in an organization hoping to bring about the regroupment of socialist youth. The forum is independent of all political parties, and provides a place where differing socialist views can be heard without prejudice.

There is also a revival of political interest on campus. Students at McGill University in Montreal have organized the McGill Socialist Society which has held regular forums addressed by speakers with differing viewpoints.

What is needed is that these groups broaden and help to form a national youth movement—a broad and independent socialist youth movement. The organization of such a movement is on the agenda of the Canadian left today.

Reuther Backs Profit Sharing Gimick; Deserts Shorter Work Week Fight

by Art Ross

(The author of this article is a young unemployed machinist who attended the recent UAW convention as an observer.)

DETROIT — Under a slogan calling for "Collective Bargaining Based on Economic Facts—Full Equity for Workers, Consumers and Stockholders" the Reuther Leadership of the UAW once again capitulated on the increasingly urgent demand of the auto workers ranks for a shorter work week or what is known by many as "30 for 40." The scene of the latest surrender was the special convention of the union that assembled in Detroit's Masonic Temple on January 22-24 and there proceeded to hammer out the "new look," "flexible approach" package of basic and supplementary economic demands.

With the same delegates present here in the auto capital as were in attendance at the 1957 Atlantic City convention from which the call for the special convention issued—ostensibly to formulate strategy and tactics around the shorter work week at increased take-home pay demand—Reuther and the whole International leadership were in a somewhat delicate position of explaining why the major objective of the 16th Convention was scuttled in favor of the much ballyhooed profit sharing plan.

REUTHER OPPOSES THE RANKS

The opposition of the Reuther bureaucracy to the "30 for 40" demand goes back several years. In 1949, he attacked its proponents as being idealistic and living in some kind of dream world. During the height of the McCarthyite witchhunt at the 1953 convention, Reuther scored his opponents as agents of the Kremlin who were bent on undermining America's defenses. Finally when the 1955 convention voted to "place the winning of the shorter work week at the top of our union's collective bargaining agenda after the guaranteed wage has been achieved" Reuther had to acknowledge the increasing pressure of the ranks for this proposal.

His much publicized Guaranteed Annual Wage proved to be neither guaranteed, neither annual, nor a wage in any loose interpretation of the word. As far as providing "steady full time employment, week by week" GAW turned into something decidedly inferior, the miserly SUB, or supplemental unemployment benefits, which covers only 26 weeks of unemployment, excludes a great many auto workers, and averages a measly \$12 a week at its very best.

Today with lay-offs rising rapidly in all industries and all sections of the country and many workers on three and four-day weeks, the transparency of Reuther's "panacea" is now apparent to all. (At present time, there are about 200,000 unemployed in Detroit, 325,000 jobless in Michigan, and 4,500,000—by conservative estimates—out of a job throughout the nation.)

At the 1957 convention, when the first signs of the developing economic decline were becoming manifest, the delegates voted "to make the shorter work week, with increased take-home pay needed to expand purchasing power, the next major collective bargaining objective of our union." With this explicit mandate from the membership, why did Reuther suddenly drop the demand and substitute his infamous profit-sharing scheme which the N. Y. Times notes the UAW "had long been cold to . . . on the ground that

such programs represented a device used by employers to build loyalty to the company at the expense of the union."? And secondly, how did the Reuther bureaucracy operate at the convention to push through its sell-out program?

For a successful struggle around the demand for a shorter work week, Reuther would have to mobilize fully the entire union—the skilled workers, the production line workers, and the growing ranks of the unemployed. The fight would be long and difficult and the financial and political might of the auto barons would be thrown into the battle. But Reuther in his role of "Labor Statesman" is more accustomed to special pleading, more adept at asking favors from the companies than in girding the ranks for a serious struggle. In short, he does not wish to "rock to boat," much less tip it a little. Consequently, in a patriotic fervor, he fulminates against the Sputnik and the Soviet ICBM and declares that now is not the time for the shorter work week and more leisure time.

I think it is significant that the opposition to Reuther's strategy comes mainly from the large auto locals such as Ford Local 600, Dodge Local 3, Chrysler Local 212, and others. The suddenness with which the Reuther plan was released only a week before the convention opened didn't allow time for the opposition to organize itself as it did at the 1957 convention. It left many delegates with-

out instructions from their locals. A hastily prepared mimeographed sheet distributed at the Mich. Employment Security Commission (unemployment offices) throughout the Detroit areas failed to bring out the unemployed to demonstrate in front of the convention hall.

MACHINE AT WORK

And in Masonic Temple the Reuther machine worked effortlessly and smoothly. Each section of the auditorium was policed by the "blue card" International Representatives and at each mi-

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crophone (there were 7) a hand-picked sergeant-at-arms nodded a signal to Reuther, who chaired the entire convention, and was thus able to weed out and prevent from taking the floor any undesirable militant. The facade of democracy was preserved since the chair did recognize a pro and con on every resolution before the body.

However the growing opposition to Reuther in the ranks of the UAW will soon express itself around the demand for "30 for 40" and for a program to meet the needs of the growing unemployed in the industry. The pressure of the Reutherite machine and the demagoguery of Reuther himself cannot prevent such a development for long.

150 Young Socialists Meet . . .

(Continued from Page 1)

CIALIST especially among young workers.

Gil Turner reviewed the case of the 42 students who had defied the State Department ban and had visited China only to have the U. S. Government seize their passports upon their return. The YOUNG SOCIALIST editorial board member observed, "If we feel that it is important that we build a youth movement independent of the Communist Party, the Socialist Workers Party or the Independent Socialist League, then surely it is doubly important that we be independent of the State Dept. We must be independent of those who want to tell us where we can go; reserving for ourselves, of course, at some future time, the right to tell them where they can go." A spontaneous applause greeted this last remark.

A fraternal exchange of views took place in a series of concurrent panel discussions on Peace and the H-Bomb, Political Action, Montgomery and the Negro Struggle, Socialism and Democracy, Juvenile Delinquency, the Recession and Trade Union Problems. Reports on each of the panels were given to the whole conference during the Sunday session. A number of the resolutions passed by the conference originated in the separate panels.

T-H CONSPIRACY CASE

A civil liberties symposium presented reports on academic freedom, the army security program, the Smith Act cases, the China passport cases, the Sobell case, and the Cleveland Taft-Hartley conspiracy case. One of the highlights of this session was the remarks of Sam Reed who had just been convicted for "conspiracy to violate the Taft-Hartley law." Mr. Reed told of the seri-

ous dangers to the labor movement resulting from his conviction and of his determination to carry his case all the way to the Supreme Court if necessary. The veteran trade-unionist wished the conference success in its work and expressed his appreciation for the possibility of presenting the facts of his case to so many young people.

Gene Tournour, Jr., 19, a student at Western St. Louis University, spoke for the Sobell Committee. He stated, "Many college groups across the country are setting up activities in support of the Sobell Case. We want a presidential clemency. . . . If this case is not won civil liberties will be dealt a terrible blow." At the social following the civil liberties session Haven Perkins, midwest representative for the Committee to secure Justice for Morton Sobell, conferred with delegates from every area about extending Sobell work among America's young people.

Bob Himmel, of the Wayne Young Socialist Club, made the closing speech of the conference. The Detroit socialist observed, "There is a commitment on the part of everyone who has attended this conference to build a socialist youth movement in this country that will become a living part of our generation."

IT WILL BE MILITANT

"This movement will be independent of all adult organizations; it will be broad and include the widest variety of political opinions; and above all, it will be militant."

"I don't think it would be stretching the point to say that this conference has an historic meaning in that it has brought us another step closer to the building of such a movement."

Youth Notes

LOS ANGELES—A nationwide Committee to Defend the Anti-Franco Sailors, whom the State Department is trying to deport to Spain, has been organized by the Workers Defense League. Among the members of the committee are James B. Carey, Norman Thomas, Victor Reuther and Dwight MacDonald. In addition support for the sailors among unions continues to mount. The United Shoe Workers Local 122 stated, "As trade unionists we express our solidarity not only with the five sailors but the workers of Spain who are crushed by Franco's Falange." The five young sailors had sought asylum in Mexico but were forcefully brought into the U. S. to be returned to Spain where they face imprisonment and death for their opposition to the regime. The Mexican Government has offered them asylum if the U. S. will release them. The case is now before the ninth U. S. Circuit Court of Appeals . . . The San Francisco News reports that two Chinese-American soldiers face hearings that could lead to undesirable charges for their membership in a Chinatown club which is not listed by the Attorney General but which the Army has placed on its own "list" . . . Jack Wright, candidate for City Council in Seattle, Washington, has condemned the imposition of a curfew on Seattle youth. "The curfew is an outrage against young people," he said, "violating every basic precept of democracy." Wright, a socialist candidate, is endorsed by his union, Molders Union, Local 158, the Socialist Workers Party, Terry Pettus, Northwest Editor of the People's World, and Vincent Hallinan, 1952 Progressive Party candidate for president.

CARACAS, VENEZUELA—Students were in the forefront of the victorious revolution which recently toppled dictator Jimenez. The uprising, which followed a series of student strikes, was begun by a general strike coupled with a student strike sponsored by the Venezuela Student Front. All schools from kindergartens to universities closed on the day of the strike and students of all ages participated with the working class in the battles against the dictatorship . . . The rigidly censored press of Franco's regime in Spain has been reporting in panic the widespread interest in Marxism among university students. In addition signs of unrest among Falange youth and the distribution of anti-regime documents and pamphlets has become widespread . . . In Rabat, Morocco, the police had to be called out recently to prevent a crowd of several hundred students from marching on the French Embassy to protest the French Government's recent decision to dissolve the General Union of Algerian Moslem Students . . . Budapest papers report that several Hungarian boys ranging from 14 to 15 years of age will be put on trial as "counter-revolutionaries" for their activities in the Hungarian Revolution . . . Two hundred youths belonging to the Revolutionary Directorate, an anti-Batista group made up of Havana University students, have opened up what they call a "second front" in the Trinidad Mountains in Cuba.

WINCHESTER, VA.—The following article appeared in the Packinghouse Worker under the title "Ode to a Big Heel":

"The strike-bound O'Sullivan Company tried to convince Winchester, Va., high school students that America's No. 1 Heel was the best of all possible companies. After O'Sullivan Company president, Paul Terrata, finished speaking to the senior class of James Woods High School a number of students instead of applauding gave vent to their sentiments in song. They boomed into a lusty chorus of "Terrata is a stinker, We shall not be moved. We are fighting for our union, we shall not be moved." The students then took a tour through the O'Sullivan plant holding their noses. Strikebreakers reportedly protested. In another student move some college students who had done summer work for O'Sullivan obtained time on the Winchester radio station and dedicated a song to their former boss, "You are nothing but a Hound Dog." . . . For information on the integration struggle in the South and on trade union activity we suggest the Southern Newsletter, P. O. Box 1307, Louisville 1, Ky. Subs are \$3 a year.

NEWARK, N. J.—The American Civil Liberties Union protested recently the action of reactionary elements in this area to prevent radicals from using public halls. The action followed the cancellation of the Masonic Auditorium which had been rented for a meeting at which Tim Wohlforth, managing editor of the YOUNG SOCIALIST was to speak on "Perspectives for America's Youth." Earlier in Paterson a hall where a reception was to be held for Elizabeth Gurley Flynn was also cancelled. The ACLU is investigating the possibility that concerted campaign is being carried on in the whole North Jersey area to prevent radicals from speaking . . . Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois is taking steps to ensure that owners of off-campus apartments follow the university's policy of assurance of housing regardless of race, creed or color. Also at Northwestern distributors of the YOUNG SOCIALIST were met by an administration official who threatened them with jail if they continue distribution on University property . . . Young Socialists in Toronto have organized a Socialist Youth of Frum and are presenting a series of forums entitled "Youth Speaks Out." For further information call LE 4-8040 . . . Carl Ross, Minnesota chairman of the Communist Party, is scheduled to address a current meeting of the Independent Political Youth in Minneapolis. For further information call TA 2-0930. The Young Socialist Educational Service (218 Seventh Ave., NYC) announces that copies of the special 40th anniversary of the Russian Revolution issue of Peter Fryer's NEWSLETTER are now available for \$4.00 each. The British publication carries articles by Joseph Clark, Hyman Levy, Paul Hogarth and experts in such diversified fields as architecture, education, psychology and medicine.

SCOTLAND—The Scottish Labor Party youth have been in the forefront of a campaign to prevent the setting up of rocket bases in the east of Scotland. Led by the Aberdeen Youth Section of the Labor Party, they are calling upon the Scottish Labor Party, the trade unions and youth sections throughout Great Britain to support the campaign. Left-wing youth in the British Labor Party Youth Sections now have a nationwide printed monthly newspaper, **Keep Left**.