WORKER’S JOURNAL
By CHARLES DENBY
The Gap Between Leaders & Ranks

The NAACP and the middle class Negro leaders seem afraid of, or opposed to, the actions the colored people are taking, especially in the bus boycott, and criticize against the Montgomery, Alabama segregated system on its city buses. This is also true among Negro leaders in the Southern Union, as the leaders in the CNB.

THE RANKS ACT—THE LEADERS ARE SILENT

This historic demonstration in Montgomery is greater than anything Negroes have undertaken for their rights, anywhere in this country, since the Civil War. It is greater than anything Negroes have undertaken for their rights, has hinted that the reason for its long, silence is that before this, the Montgomery struggle wasn’t really about their stand on civil rights—have deaf ears so far as the staff members who also sound their notes to the world are concerned.

The unions—especially the CIO with its many Negro staff members who also sound their notes to the world about their stand on civil rights—have deaf ears so far as giving support to the struggle of the Montgomery colored people.

WHO IS THAT GOOD CANDIDATE?

Recently, I was discussing the Montgomery situation with a Negro lawyer. Some years ago, this lawyer was making militant speeches for civil rights and, at that time, also blasted the NAACP leaders for their do-nothing activities, for their failure to oppose boycotts and other Negroes in their everyday life. That was four or five years ago. Today, he holds some elected office in the state.

I asked him whether he thought any Negro lawyer would see how one can turn into his opposite. He started, now, by saying that the Northern Negroes do not have civil rights. So why worry about the Southern Negroes? What the colored people need, he said, is a new kind of leadership. As one Republican said, "Those whites in the South who are committing the crimes are all Democrats.

A SHOW FOR MONEY

One lawyer mentioned the Till case. He said that over half a million dollars was raised nationally by the NAACP for the case. As he put it, he knew the case was closed, but the NAACP made a kill. They seem to have the same politician’s trend of thought. As he put it, the NAACP made money for the treasury, but he also knew nothing could be done with a Negro lawyer. Some years ago, this lawyer was a little crooked. Not entirely double-crossing, just a little.”

I pointed out that Northern Negroes have voted since the Civil War. Who is that good candidate?

No one is opposed to voting. But it seems only to represent the middle class Negro leaders, another one who simply gives lip service when he comes up for re-election.

I talked with several middle class Negroes on what is taking place in the South, especially Alabama. They all see a trend in the South, but they think that the trend isn’t going to be turned back. As one Republican said, "Those whites in the South who are committing the crimes are all Democrats.

A MILLIONAIRE’S PHILOSOPHY

There are always some people who say that they can do without things right now because they have put up one or two just for them. This was but a small part of the answer.

There were the answer to be found in the buying of expensive items, like cars or homes, and that things would be bought in the future. A friend of mine called this a millionaire’s philosophy. It might work out all right for a millionaire, but for a working man, it just won’t work. A miner knows his past and present.

For those who have been living from hand to mouth, they may get worse before they get better. They feel that they should have those things now. They are seeing a different, decent human life. They are getting them, knowing that they may not last, but facing with the prospect of losing them. It will not be easy to get these things away from them.

NOT SO PROSPEROUS MINERS

There are the miners who have worked steadily. But there are many others who have worked only two or three (and even one) days a week. For these men and women, the answer is not working one job in this area, most of the time.

I was laid off for a year. In the other cities I went to, I was laid off and being laid off, or faced the prospect of losing my job, for a decent human life and they are getting them, knowing that they may not last, but facing with the prospect of losing them. It will not be easy to get these things away from them.

MONTGOMERY NEGROES

SHOW THE WAY

MONTGOMERY, Ala.—The Negro citizens of Montgomery have forced the officials of Montgomery and of Alabama, to recognize the power of mass of their boycott against the city’s segregated buses.

December 5 has been reported as the day the boycott started. Actually, the boycott started in the middle of November when increasing numbers of Negroes themselves decided to boycott the humiliating conditions. They didn’t want to put up with any longer.

The spirit was already growing strong in the community. On December 5, when Mrs. Rosa Parks refused to give her seat to a white man. She did not look to make a ‘test case’ by deliberately sitting in the white section. She was sitting in the colored section. A white man was standing because all the ‘white’ seats were full. The bus driver ordered her to get up. She refused and was arrested. It could have been anyone else at the time. This incident, which arose from the growing boycott, speeded up its total spread.

There are about 100,000 people in Montgomery. Three out of every five are Negroes. Practically everyone, 60,000 strong, took an active part in organizing the boycott and holding the line.

Day after day, the buses run empty while Negroes walk or ride in car-loads.

Men, women and girls are doing without things right now. A miner knows his past and present.

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INSIDE MONTGOMERY... page 6
A DOCTOR SPEAKS
BY M.D.

(Reading time— 3½ minutes)

The American Medical Association (A.M.A.) has sent out a special letter signed by its President,晨member. The heading says: "Reading time—3½ minutes."

There are over 200,000 doctors in the United States. Most of them are paid members of this powerful organiza tion. Accompanying the letter is a bill H.R. 2225, now in Congress, already passed by the House. The tone of urgency in the letter is surprising and even frightening. There would inevitably be sure to bring its defeat in the Senate. The bill would provide monthly cash payments to permanently and totally disabled persons, who are over 50 and covered by Social Security.

SURPRISING URGENCY

The tone of urgency in the letter is surprising and even startling. The measure is called subtle and dangerous, as well as a threat to our national economy.

The reason given by the A.M.A. is that physicians would find themselves under constant pressure to abandon the skills they have been taught and to engage in medical care as practiced in the United States, rather than training, where possible, to earnings for the sick and in emergencies.

HUMAN NEEDS

I would like to take the proposed bill for what it appears to be—a threat to the profession in need. At the same time, I know that good medical care, like every other aspect of our life, can never come about through a law of Congress. Good medical care will come when the central purpose of all human activity will be the complete, the total development of the human being.

A.M.A. criticism of the bill is lacking in a fundamental appreciation of the medical needs and wants of the American public. Their analysis does not begin with nor flow from human values.

A Report and Appeal—To Our Readers

Dear Reader:

News & Letters was made possible by a small group of workers and intellectuals who met together in the spring of 1955 and pledged themselves to put out another paper for six months. This pledge has been kept.

We went to press for the first time on June 17, 1955—against the worst strikes then covering this country, especially in the auto industry. Such information appeared nowhere else except in the News & Letters.

The very same issue also commemorated the second anniversary of the popular uprising by East German workers against the Communist tyranny over them.

In all, we have published 15 issues to date. In each issue, we have brought the words and deeds of the people who are the foundation and the heart of America.

Now, the continuation of the paper is in danger. That is why this appeal for help is being made here.

Practically all of the work is done on a voluntary basis, and is poorly paid, if not minimum. With all the economies, this is a picture of what each issue of News & Letters costs:

- Printing $250.00
- Paper 250.00
- Minimum technical help 100.00
- Rent 30.00
- Utilities 10.00
- Stationery and supplies 5.00

Total—every two weeks—$450.00

Your help is needed. How much can you give?

Can you contribute a single substantial sum of money—$50 or $100 or more? Or, can you make a regular contribution such as $5 or $10 a month? Money is needed to continue this paper. The key is in your hands. Please fill in the coupon below and mail it at once.

News & Letters
8067 Grand River
Detroit 4, Mich.

Are you one of those who have been reading News & Letters for some time, but have not contributed? If so, why?

I shall send you 5... a month. My pledge for this month is enclosed.

Name (Please Print): Address:

City: Zone: State:

COAL AND ITS PEOPLE

WEST VIRGINIA—People who think that the miners are dumb and follow Lewis and Okedy, Okedy only, are in for a rude awakening. Whenever I hear that, I remember the time when Lewis okayed the "three-day" week.

MEN GET TOGETHER

My husband was doing maintenance work in the mine at the time. He was notSUPRISING URGENCY

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MEN GET TOGETHER

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Poor Inter-Union Support Causes Long Strikes, Worker Says

LOS ANGELES—The editor-in-chief of the "Life and Security of Workers" newspaper told the number of recent strikes going on in Los Angeles has been a matter of concern for several months. The AFL-CIO to move in and give full support, hits the spot as far as Los Angeles is concerned.

There was just concluded here a strike of some 90 days. A strike of workers in the rock and gravel industry. The union involved was the Teamsters. It seems to be the case that the work at their disposal was so scarce that they had no choice but to strike. That being the case, there was no direct strike rather like a lockout.

In the small shop, in the building trades, in which I work, we were discussing the strike recently. It was going on for 90 or 40 days and seemed to be getting nowhere.

One fellow said, "I'd be willing to give a dollar a day toward that strike and if all the union men in this factory would do so, the thing the strike would be over in a week."

Workers Talk About Scientists’ Missile Research

LOS ANGELES—One of the things which has become the talk of the town is the possibility that scientists who are working on missiles may be planning to make the job of the workers more difficult. This is because the work on missiles is so closely related to the production of war material.

In discussing this, another skilled worker pointed out that the work in the industry was becoming more automated and that it requires closer tolerances and more skill than automobile building.

I had to agree with this but I must say that I’m getting paid as much here as I would if I were a helper building houses in the area that can kill thousands in a single blast.

I have heard it from around the floor, everyone says that I’m being cheated at the company. I’m actually paid the same as a helper building houses. I’m not going to lose my home.

I have heard the management say that they are going to build a new plant in the area. I’m not going to lose my home. I’m not going to lose my job. I’m going to keep everything within the union and I’m going to let loose the real force in the union today.

Construction Worker

Strike Threat Against Speed-Up

LOS ANGELES—As a result of the layoffs the problem of speed-up has appeared in all the auto plants in Los Angeles. At General Motors production has been scheduled to speed up and although every man on the line is now expected to do more than before the lay-off. In some departments we have filed as many as 15 grievances over speed-up.

In violation of the contract, foremen all over the plant are working and getting their white shirts dirty. They are trying to keep the workers from going on the scheduled rate. These foremen are working the laid-off men looking for other jobs.

The situation over speed-up has become so critical that a strike is scheduled to call a strike vote on this speed-up issue.

AN ACT OF GOD?

LOS ANGELES—During the recent flood, here in Los Angeles, many companies advertised over TV and radio for the men not to report to work on account of the plants being flooded or the surrounding streets being impassable.

Many men did show up, though. When they got to the gates, the guards turned them away.

The next day the men filed a complaint. The union had not been properly notified and the company should pay them for a half a day. The feeling was so strong that many companies scheduled a Saturday work.

The union contracts state that if work is stopped by an "Act of God," the company doesn’t have to pay the workers. The men were very angry and said that it was no "Act of God" that they were not properly notified.

Company Uses Incident, Intimidates Workers

DETROIT—In the face of recent layoffs, the company was not able to get away with it.

Since Christmas time one of the girls has been asking and doesn’t talk to any of the people around her. We thought we sympathize with anyone’s problems, we resent her. We are trying to help her.

The girls said, "We all have our problems but we can’t take it on the people we work with."

INTIMIDATION

Just last week she explained: "We told them so."

Now Who’s Keeping the Workers From Buying Milk for Their Kids?

DETROIT—For the past three or four years, whenever we auto workers took strike action against the company because of unjust treatment over speed-up, the union officials always condemned the grievances we filed as "lawful strikes" and attacked them in leaflets which they passed out at the plant gates the very next day.

BLAMING THE WORKERS

These leaflets always said that the workers who cause the strike just want to starve other workers’ families and do us no good and to buy milk for the babies. They only use that line when we strike against the company because we are trying to get a living wage.

"But when we can’t make a full pay for weeks, the only thing they can say is that they advised the company not to work over-time."

When you have a short check every week it hurts worse when the company says that they are working overtime.

ACTIVITY OF THE TIMES

(From a current ad in a Michigan paper.)

"Pointe Cali Cat, fully equipped, no cash needed! "Do you have bad credit?"

"I’m willing to give a dollar a day toward that strike."

"That’s what the strikers. That’s what the whole union set-up today."

There was just concluded a meeting of my local union in which the president said that those going on strike should not report to work over the weekend.

I was a little surprised at his suggestion to not report to work over the weekend. When they got to work on Monday morning, he pointed out that over at Douglas Aircraft there was a similar dispute but he didn’t know the details.

Union Helpless in Face of Lay-Offs

DETROIT—I attended a union meeting of my local union last night where some important things were said in regards to this lay-off. The president said that these workers who are getting laid-off will not be called back. He doubts whether they will ever be called back by the company. He hopes that he is wrong but that is the way it looks.

He said the company is planning to put in automation machinery at our plant to do the work. He said that it will do it more efficiently.

They are still laying off. They are saying that they will do it to make better working conditions.

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The San of "Gradualism"

This is the year of the presidential elections. The year when the American people begin to think and talk about the proposed candidates of the Democratic and Republican parties: What is their position on issues and what has it meant with regard to the job market and progress in the past

Whom did it help? What are they promising now in order to get votes? What happens to the promises after the election is over?

It has been stated thousands of times that President Eisenhower was elected, four years ago, on his promise to end the war in Korea. The open war ceased after his election and, as was reported in this paper, has remained on the majority of important issues that have faced him.

Candidate Stevenson played with many pressing issues—as the friend of labor, the civil rights issue and the issue of the white reactionary South—by putting Sparkman of Alabama as his running mate. No one was fooled. Certainly not the Negroes.

It seems that he may well be chosen again as the Democratic candidate for president. The issues have sharpened and are more clearly seen today than in 1952. The Negroes have forced them into the wide open spaces. Stevenson is forced to open his hands and mouth quickly and wider than his conservative allies. The Negroes have forced him into the hole of the solid South. He has and his Democratic party of so-called liberals have yelled out loud that they hope it is not used against them as a political question.

The Negroes are of 16 million people is a political question. The question of the Negroes in America has had a definite political bearing ever since before the Civil War. The Negroes know this and, at every opportunity since then have pushed it forward in all phases of American life.

They have forced Stevenson to state to the world that he is against integration. Gradualism, Stevenson's position, is also the position of the moderate South and of many Northerners. It can mean another hundred years to play with the question of integration.

He says he is opposed to force. That's a joke. He has been forced to force when it comes to protecting Negroes' rights.

No. He is hoping that this position will give him the vote of the Southern States. He is also hoping that the labor leaders and Negro leaders will get him the votes of the Negroes in the North. On both he is wrong.

For years, the labor and Negro leaders have been trying their utmost to keep some peace between the Negroes and the "solid South" within the framework of the Democratic party. The issues were kept apart to a degree. Today, they say, is the time.

This question of the Negroes has wrecked the Southern States. It is shaking the foundations of American society. It appears that the Negroes have been too long overlooked ever. They are forcing many liberal leaders to come out openly for all to see. They are wrecking the two-party system which, according to some divine wisdom, should stand from the beginning to the end of time.

The Republican party is so near it's end, it has had the world waiting for nearly six months before it could give any direct information as to who would run on the Number One position on its slate.

The Democrats seem to have to gamble with Stevenson, not because they want to but because there doesn't seem to be anyone else.

Some hope that Stevenson can speak with two different tongues as he did in the last elections: one for the reactionaries; the one for the liberals, labor leaders and Negroes.

When AFL-CIO president Meany cautioned him about letting Negroes force him to state his position, Mrs. Roosevelt quickly rushed to his aid stating her confidence and belief in him for his record. This has made him as the one who always spearheaded the fight for civil rights.

The everyday life of the common Negro man and woman will not let this situation slow down or stop. They have made intentions are for full integration into all phases of American life. Telling them about compromise is something they have listened to for centuries.

LEADERS & RANKS

Thousands and thousands of auto workers are being laid off and, at the same time, the union leaders are spending thousands and thousands of dollars out of the union treasury buying and building an expensive union hall. An old hall is good enough if they are going to do something.

UAW Member Control

With all the lay-offs and short weeks they suddenly deducted three weeks advance payment for insurance and hospitalization. The union excused it by saying they didn't have the money. Well, they can use our policies to lapse if we were laid off. I didn't take home $40 last week. Do they think the lay-offs are only going to last three weeks?

Auto Body Worker Detroit

You have to go through an experience really to understand it. The ones who know, are the ones who've had the experience. A lot of people who are supposed to be "experts" don't really know what they're talking about. I remember how burned up I felt at that time when they put the "$64,000 Question."

Mail Worker Pittsburgh

You have to go through the typical. She could give plenty of advice, but she couldn't tell me what she read. A lot of people who use the books, buy the books, are the ones who've had the experience.

Working Mother Charleston, W. Va.
Views

NEGRO AMERICANS

God bless the Negroes from Alabama.

Negro Housewife
Chicago

There are a lot of men in my shop who never used to go back South to visit their folks. For a few years one's end to the other. Lately they've been going home to visit for the first time. It's like they suddenly had a shock out of their existence. Their folks give up their home in that neighborhood.

Steel Worker
Pittsburgh

The Northern papers and Negro organizations have the hurt the Negroes down South with all they've been saying about the way the Southern states have been violating the court decisions. But when you consider Southern sees that the only thing organizations the Negroes are going to do is complain to the law, he knows he's got nothing to worry about.

Fairmont, W. Va.

When Stevenson talks about Negro rights in 1965 and 1966 I don't know what he's talking about. Our whole country is a mess.

Miner
Pittsburgh

If Eisenhower is so dumb that all he knows about the South is "allegations" that Negroes can't vote or whatever. He always was a man that was afraid to get involved in a whole situation. When there were divisions roughy according to class, the effect was that they were anti-labor as well as anti-Jewish and had practically found relation with the two sides. In the years of the British Mandate the standard of living of Palestian Arabs rose to be the highest in the Middle East, with the effects that Arab immigration into Palestine increased while the large Arab landowners were up in arms. In 1936-39 armed gangs raged in the country of Jewish threatening and carrying out reprisals against villages that maintained friendly relations with Jewish settlements. Despite this there would be few incidents between Arabs and Jews against the terrorists.

Professional
Network

THIS ONE WORLD

The UN has a lot to say about Human Rights but even the advanced countries have not really been effective in some of the Rights they believe in. We are still a long way off from equal pay for women workers and we certainly don't have freedom of movement. Our schools are segregated by race, sex, class, etc., and our Government has no money for roads, railroads, highways, bridges, houses and vital things as they spend so much on "defence". We take a fantastic amount of money and although we work seven days a week and sleep only one night (many of us all night) we still remain poor. At present it's all work and precious little at the end of it for the working classes.

V. T. Southport
England

MIDDLE-EAST CRISIS

Negotiations exist in many areas right up to and through the beginning of the war between Israel and the Arab States. I know of an instance when the government of Britain and the British Empire in the 21st century unless they completely change their hearts and minds in their racial attitude and patterns. They will be defeated, and no nations have ever been defeated before.

Reader

MIDWEST BREAKDOWN

It seems to be quite impossible for an ordinary British citizen to go to America. Nowadays our Government, won’t make an allowance. Of course we can't expect such an insurrection to happen, but it's a sign of how we've changed with the times. Our whole country, however, is very small so one can’t tour or stay long. We can go to America for a month, but their rate of exchange is so unfavorable and a visa is required too, just to compare with what's going on.

V. T. Southport
England

The majority of the Jewish settlers in Palestine have always been nationalistic. When the Nazis came to power, there were divisions roughly according to class. The effect was that they were anti-labor as well as anti-Jewish and had practically found relations with the two sides. In the years of the British Mandate the standard of living of Palestian Arabs rose to be the highest in the Middle East, with the effects that Arab immigration into Palestine increased while the large Arab landowners were up in arms. In 1936-39 armed gangs raged in the country of Jewish threatening and carrying out reprisals against villages that maintained friendly relations with Jewish settlements. Despite this there would be few incidents between Arabs and Jews against the terrorists.

Professional
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TWO WORLDS

The frenzy of self-conceit

A colleague of mine has written the following:

"You wrote recently ("Two Worlds," Jan. 31) about the effects of the war on young people of all ages. In everything. In a 'frenzy of self-conceit' he cannot accept the world as it is, but he knows not how a new one will come into being. He spends his time trying to set the conflicts and contradictions in this cold-war world, while at the same time he has nothing but contempt for the new youth's instinctual desire to break with the past.

"There are people I know who fit this bill to a T. They grew up during the dark days of the Depression and, during the war, they were full of 'the heart-throb for the welfare of mankind.'"

FROM 'HEART THROB' TO CONTEST

"Today, they are between 35 and 45. Very sentimental about the value of their parents but positive that it was unrealistic because it glorified the worker who isn't interested in anything but his body.

"His job was to break down the most complicated situations into the way any given individual is affected, example, how it affects a prejudiced white or an angry Negro; a man on an anti-Semitic trip or a middle-aged housewife; a storekeeper or a cop on strike duty, and so on.

DEGRADING MAN TO A COG IN A MACHINE

"Since we know from psychology, he went on, 'how to solve the individual's problems, if we analyze the tens of thousand of individuals, we can work out the solutions. By organizing workmen and simple people who wages, whenever community tension arises we can feed the problems into the machine and come out with the correct answers in a few minutes.'

"He said, 'It's harsh but it's true and as a scientist I have to deal with truth. That old stuff we used to talk about, as a political drama, is all over. Communism and the terrifying war, the British Mandate is in the back yard. His job was to break down the most complicated situations into the way any given individual is affected, example, how it affects a prejudiced white or an angry Negro; a man on an anti-Semitic trip or a middle-aged housewife; a storekeeper or a cop on strike duty, and so on.'

IDEALISM OF YOUTH

"As a young professor in a law school, he had invited an American student to his house because that is what is going on in the South..."

MIDWEST BREAKDOWN

"I have to deal with truth. That old stuff we used to talk about, as a political drama, is all over. Communism and the terrifying war, the British Mandate is in the back yard. But the old way, the political, didn't work.

"We are still a long way off from equal pay for women workers. Our schools are segregated by religion, sex, class, etc., and our Government has no money for roads, railroads, bridges, houses and vital things as they spend so much on "defence". We take a fantastic amount of money and although we work seven days a week and sleep only one night (many of us all night) we still remain poor. At present it's all work and precious little at the end of it for the working classes.

V. T. Southport
England

MIDWEST BREAKDOWN

It seems to be quite impossible for an ordinary British citizen to go to America. Nowadays our Government, won’t make an allowance. Of course we can't expect such an insurrection to happen, but it's a sign of how we've changed with the times. Our whole country, however, is very small so one can’t tour or stay long. We can go to America for a month, but their rate of exchange is so unfavorable and a visa is required too, just to compare with what's going on.

V. T. Southport
England

Notes from a Diary

TWO WORLDS

THE FRENZY OF SELF-CONCEIT

A colleague of mine has written the following:

"You wrote recently ("Two Worlds," Jan. 31) about the effects of the war on young people of all ages. In everything. In a 'frenzy of self-conceit' he cannot accept the world as it is, but he knows not how a new one will come into being. He spends his time trying to set the conflicts and contradictions in this cold-war world, while at the same time he has nothing but contempt for the new youth's instinctual desire to break with the past.

"There are people I know who fit this bill to a T. They grew up during the dark days of the Depression and, during the war, they were full of 'the heart-throb for the welfare of mankind.'"

FROM 'HEART THROB' TO CONTEST

"Today, they are between 35 and 45. Very sentimental about the value of their parents but positive that it was unrealistic because it glorified the worker who isn't interested in anything but his body.

"His job was to break down the most complicated situations into the way any given individual is affected, example, how it affects a prejudiced white or an angry Negro; a man on an anti-Semitic trip or a middle-aged housewife; a storekeeper or a cop on strike duty, and so on.

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IDEALISM OF YOUTH

"As a young professor in a law school, he had invited an American student to his house because that is what is going on in the South..."
**The Way of the World**

By Ethel Dunbar

A Christian life is a miserable life to live. Everything bad gets in the way of making you do evil. Everything good is not doing anything when you are trying to live a Christian life.

Today, many colored people have laid aside their religion for a while to see if the Lord will be as good to them as He is to those Southern white people who don’t mind killing every colored person they meet; and a “Good damn” at every word they say; and never a word of prayer to be found in their lives.

But since the whites see that the Negro people have forgot about all of that, Lord, have mercy on me when I come to die.

**WE MUST FIGHT**

And, O, Lord, will you please go along with me and stand by me as I try to stop the colored people from coming to kill us. We have to break up segregation in the United States for the colored people to live. Everything when you are trying to make a thing work and say some horrible bad gets in the way to make it work.

**BOYCOTT’S BEEN COMING A LONG TIME**

The idea of boycott has been around Montgomery for a long time. People have been waiting for the straw that could have been pushed up by the buses. At the bus stops were often passed by the buses half empty in front and crowded in the rear. If they could get on they’d be crowded to the back and have to stand a lot more than they could sit.

As far back as 1947 or 1948, there were two or three old buses and tried to organize a service to carry Negroes to and from ball parks. Wherever and whenever people would get together, they’d talk about getting their own bus system; they’d say to each other that they didn’t have to stand for such treatment. This time, they took all they were going to do about it and they did something about it.

**WE DON’T RIDE BUSES NOW**

The strongest supporters of the boycott are the everyday Negro men and women. They don’t argue; they just say, “Negroes don’t ride buses.”

A young man visiting his relatives in Montgomery arosy in Christmas time, learned this when he got off the train. One day he and asked where he could get a bus. A man near the station told him, “You either walk or take a cab. We don’t ride buses.”

The visitor said, “It’s too far to walk and too far to pay for a cab. Where’s the bus?”

The man said, “We’re boycottin.” The visitor ’took a cab.

(Alabama law prohibits white cab drivers from carrying Negro passengers.)

**SOCIAL CLUBS IN MONTGOMERY**

Groups of Negroes all over the city began to organize their own social clubs about this time.

These are the first decent places where Negroes can go for recreation, eating, drinking and talk things over in general. There are many such clubs around Montgomery today.

Before they organized their own clubs, the only places Negroes were allowed to patronize were miserable dives. One of the best of these dives was known as the Storyville. It was owned by a Negro and haunted by a white city official.

**STANGE AND FOREIGN PRINCE**

About six weeks ago, the home of a prominent Negro minister, Rev. M. L. King, was broken into by a dynamite blast.

Following the bombing, the white Central Alabama Citizens Council offered a $500 reward for a solution to the bombing and said they wanted to fight against integration by “doing everything possible to deny them this type of demonstration.”

State Senator Sam Edgell, representatives of the Central Alabama Citizens Council, Mayor Gayle of Montgomery also posted a $500 reward for a solution to the bombing.

The Negroes on the City Commission announced they would consider statements such strange and foreign acts as the bombing. They all announced that the boldest of the white Montgomery Citizens Council. A week-and-a-half later, a Negro was killed on the steps of the U.S. post office by a bomb.

No one has been arrested for the bombings. Rev. King and Mr. Nixon are the only ones who have just been arrested for “conspiring” to boycott.

**ANTI-LABOR LAW USED AGAINST NEGROES**

The Alabama law under which 90 Montgomery Negroes were arrested and convicted, in a desperate effort to break the boycott, was passed in 1921 to break the miners’ strike in North Carolina.

In addition to this anti-labor law, Birmingham mine operators have used the Negroes from the farms to work as seals. Negroes who went out on the strike were given a choice, “Sure, you can go up and the white man will give you a job, but this is one time when you don’t be on the bus.”

One man said, “I’ll call the police.” The other said, “Well, I won’t move. I got on here at 8067 Grundy River, Detroit, and said, ‘Come on. You can’t send me back. As long as you’re white, I’ll do the same to you if you just get in reaching distance.”

“If you don’t move back I’ll call the police.”

“Call everyone in the city.”

“Then you are asking me to get home and I don’t intend to get off this bus until you get your Negro out of my bus. If I go up there will be my dead body going off.”

The majority of the Negroes who were on the bus encouraged me.

The bus driver got up and said, “Let me get you off.”

He said, “If you don’t move back I’ll call the police.”

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“I don’t care what happens to me, I just want to get home.”

“We don’t want any Negroes on this bus while we were still standing.

It looked as if she was deliberately making me stand up because the slaves were not freed.

History will tell you that many of the owners of Negroes had great wealth. Harriet Tubman among them, did not think very much of the freedom of the Negroes as they were still standing.

This, the average Negro knew. But it was the re- st of the man who did not pay attention. The Slave Act, the Abolition movement that would have come about because the slaves were not freed.

History will tell you that many of the owners of Negroes had great wealth. Harriet Tubman among them, did not think very much of the freedom of the slaves.

Her husband jumped up and said, “Nigger, get up. You’re sitting in front of my wife. Get out of that seat or I’ll knock hell out of you.”

(To Be Continued)
One of the journeys I served an apprenticeship with, was named Paul. He worked his apprenticeship in Hungary, somewhere around 1910. He said he received no money during most of his apprenticeship and had to be satisfied with room and board and saw his family only very rarely.

He came to this country and was active in organizing rank-and-file workers in the East, during the 1910's. When he was different then, he said. Everyone was involved.

He was instrumental in organizing the shop, which was typical of the small AFL union shop.

**Just A Housewife**

*By Martha Hunt*

(Note: Mrs. Martha Hunt, his issue, has turned her column over to a Los Angeles housewife.)

The other evening some friends came to my house to play a game of Scrabble. During the game, one of my friends said, "Doesn't it give you a feeling of luxury to be playing a quiet game in a comfortable house?"

As part of my apprenticeship, I had to attend school and might as well have been working. This thing wasn't paid for, of course. Apprentices' wages were very low and some guys with families took on other jobs to make ends meet and were often school school. A lot of other guys didn't go for their own reasons.

The secretary of the local called a meeting of all apprentices. He addressed the group: "Either you guys start going to school or I'm going to have you all thrown out on the street. Now get out of here."

That was the meeting. In the fun, the union, that was the closest they ever came to having a membership meeting.

Older workers try to consolate younger workers with stories of how much worse things were when they were just starting out.

**PHONY SYMPATHY**

Paul would agree that the apprentice very often got the dirty end of the stick. But he would always hasten to point out that it was more important to fight for the betterment of the rest of the workers in the shop because you don't stay an apprentice forever.

I told him he was beginning to sound like the union bureaucracy he hated so much. I said I had to live now and pay the rent.

It has occurred to me since, that young heads must be crammed to the bursting with this kind of sympathy. To the adolescent: "Patience, you're going to be a man— a cabinet maker!—and when the drafter: "It will be over before you realize it."

And, indeed, for some it was.

**Women**

**Your Chance for Success In Whose World?**

Los Angeles—Recently, this Sunday paper carried a test on "Your Chance for Success. Two girls where I work gave the test to each other.

The first group of questions was to determine "lead-workers in the shop because they both answered the questions correctly.

In one group, the test ambition, there was the question, "Is it true or false in most ways the poor man is better off than the rich man?"

One girl said that in most ways the rich man is better off. But the other girl argued that people who work for a living don't have to put up with ulcers and false friends—people who live right.

The girls came through with flying colors. It was almost like the little poem that starts, "Come into my parlor said the spider to the fly."

The girls didn't say anything, and the test was an important one, I think. They were letting themselves in for a good book-learning.

**SPIDER TO FLY**

That is exactly the point. It's almost like the little poem that starts, "Come into my parlor said the spider to the fly."

The web just dangles there, you want to say, it's a little difficult to appreciate the "luxury" of it all.

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**Thinking It Out**

*By Robert Ellory*

One of the journeys I served an apprenticeship with, was named Paul. He worked his apprenticeship in Hungary, somewhere around 1910. He said he received no money during most of his apprenticeship and had to be satisfied with room and board and saw his family only very rarely.

He came to this country and was active in organizing rank-and-file workers in the East, during the 1910's. When he was different then, he said. Everyone was involved.

He was instrumental in organizing the shop, which was typical of the small AFL union shop.

**HISTREATING APPRENTICES**

There are only a couple of lists that I can get at the union office and they are invariably mistrusted. Regardless, I often have been required to run errands, buy lunch for the shop, sweep up and take orders from the shop floor.

As part of my apprenticeship, I had to attend school and might as well have been working. This thing wasn't paid for, of course. Apprentices' wages were very low and some guys with families took on other jobs to make ends meet and were often school school. A lot of other guys didn't go for their own reasons.

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**Schools Don't Meet Son's Needs, Mother Says**

WEST VIRGINIA. — My son is 15 years old and he's very good at making all sorts of things. He's made books cases and end-tables that are really good pieces of furniture, and he likes to do that sort of thing. He's already made all the things that the rest of the class is just beginning to work on.

He was all excited once about making a beautiful cabinet for my kitchen. He knew I wanted one. He even took all the measurements and decided just where it would have to go. But when he went to the shop teacher and asked if he could have to do that instead of what the rest of the class was doing, the teacher told him it was too complicated and would take too much material.

My son said he would pay for the material, he was so anxious to see whether he could build the cabinet for me—but he didn't. He'd have to do the same as the rest of the class—and no cabinet!

That's what gets me about the educational system. When a kid is good at something, the books promote him and encourage him to go on ahead. But if a child is good in vocational things, they hold him back. They don't recognize that kind of skill or learning.

My son isn't too interested in "book-learning." He's not very fast with that sort of thing. He doesn't even have much interest in blueprints or reading books on making things. He likes to make things himself, even without blueprints. He makes more beautiful pieces without any blueprints, all on his own, than some of the other boys he knows can do with the blueprints.

Reading books and having a good "book-learning" is fine. There have to be people who know that sort of thing. But that the way I see it, if all the people just knew how to read blueprints and how to read books—and nobody knew how to do things—not much would get done in this world, but that's not how the schools see it. —Interested Mother

**MINOR'S WIFE SAYS, "POLITICS IS A RACKET"**

MINOR'S WIFE SAYS, "POLITICS IS A RACKET" — Outlook.— Scott's Run, W. Va.— Presidential candidates? Elections? I haven't given a thought to them.

I've voted twice in my life. That was because I was working at the time. But the way I see it, if all the people just knew how to read books and how to read blueprints—and nobody knew how to do things—not much would get done in this world, but that's not how the schools see it. —Interested Mother

**A BITTER JOKE**

They've always called them "voting for the poor, voting for anybody isn't going to stop them. I've been noticing the pure voting for the poor now. It looks as if they're itching to get into it. What do they want a war for—to kill a lot of women's sons?**
Where Does the Money Go?

(Continued from page 1)

lot more coal. In '50 there were some 450,000 men and women at work. They are about half that much. There will be fewer in the years ahead.Although the miner keeps coming in, there is continuous lay-off. And it is going to be coming in.

OLDER WORKERS

The younger men who are laid off try to get jobs in other industries, but most of them have to scrape together the money they make in one part-time job, and make up the difference in another. Some of these old men will go to small mines to hand load and haul coal. They will take hard-terrible conditions and risks at low pay, working in the small mines. The small operator will not have the mine to make a quick killing when there is a high market for coal. And he is interested in but one thing—to get as much as he can and as fast as he can. They know they are distorting mining all they know, all they will ever know. They have no other choice.

The overall situation has sent women out to work who had made a practice of staying at home. They know they will not take back home.

CONDITION NOT LOCAL

This unreasonableness about the "protection of the local men" is deadly. A steel worker friend of mine in Pittsburgh had told him that if credit buying was cut off, every store in Pittsburgh would be closed inside of six months.

ALL PEOPLE CONCERNED

The friends of mine, working in a professional field, spoke of conditions and experiences of the people they works with. They are not crying depression, but they are not satisfied. They are not happy, but they are not-hating the fate of their new living.

The result is that there is a fierce competition among the miners. The miners, it seems, are trying to keep their wages and conditions at levels that can be considered acceptable.

Top rate for clerical department store work is about $10 a week; most of them make it. About 25 or 30 men a week are laid off, and often, the only thing left for many of them is house work which pays about $15 or $20 a week for hard work and long hours. In the winter, this condition gets worse. Farmworkers went to the farms, during the winter are so in need of money that they will work for lower wages than the regular domestics who have a sort of established rate and relations with their employers.

When the p a r e n t s of a European war-bride heard about the conditions she had met here, they were horrified. They immediately sent her a letter, telling her to get out,

NEW YORK HOUSEWIFE WRITES

NEWS & LETTERS

Wednesday, February 29, 1956

WORLD OUTLOOK

Short Weeks For British Auto Workers

British auto workers, like American workers now, are working about 40 hours a week. The cut in employment, as in America, followed im­ mediately after the new year announcement of a high production was in 1955. British auto industry, like American industry, produced more cars in 1955 than ever before. As in America, there are those saying that a large spread of unemployment.

While the cut-backs are going on, British workers have never been informed that their cost of living is also going down. In a striking parallel, American workers have also just been informed that their cost of living is going down.

First Terra Nova Compromise

The people of Kenya have just been offered a compromise by the Kenyan Government. They have been offered the right to vote for their own "representatives": in Government, in the district, in the moment, that they have been offered six representation: in votes, and 6,000,000 Africans, these are the proposed voting qualifications:

Yet the Kikuyu, Meru and Emba peoples are the bulk of the popula- tion. The Kikuyu and the Emba have been both the spearhead and the base of the Afri­ can's battle for freedom in Kenya.

2) No African may vote if he has been to prison.

How many Africans have been to prison in the last three years? Three years during which the Government has repeatedly rounded them up by the tens of thousands and sent them on starvation camps for varying peri­ ods of time.

3) No African may vote unless he earns more than $2 a week (about $700).

Very few Africans earn that much in five years.

The Kenya Government is a clearly representative government. It represents 30,000 whites.

They are now adding "compromise" to terror in an effort to keep their deprived supremacy.

The Voice is Different

The Arms Are The Same

Hardly a month has passed since Socialist Guy Mollet was named Prime Minister of France. The double-barreled crisis, which overthrew the previous government, is already making Mollet very shaky. Since the start of World War II, the French workers have lived on the barest subsistence level. For the overworked, overmanned, overfatigued workers, they had to en­ garge in furious wildcats last month.

Now, France is on the verge of a merciless inflation. They have just been informed that their costs of living is also going down.

Fearful of the workers' demands and a new hard­ ing of struggle, Mollet, vaguely promised to im­ prove by increasing some wages, raising the old age pension and offering new paid vacations from two to three weeks.

Even this little bit caused a rift between Mollet and his fellow countrymen. Mollet, who is a de­ fra-France, who warned that such "gains" for the workers would be cut into an even deeper danger for the French economy.

But Mollet had to do something about the million workers. Mollet, who is a de­ fra-France, who warned that such "gains" for the workers would be cut into an even deeper danger for the French economy.

The most pressing prob­ lem facing Mollet, as he took office, was the violent struggle for independence in North Africa, particularly in Algeria.

His first act was to go to Algeria, to discuss with Algerian leaders on how to make peace. He announced that he would receive any treatment, but first, they would have to lay down their arms and later on they would discuss national independence.

No sooner did Mollet return to France than he received a demand from his "liberal" minister in Algeria for a cease fire in Algeria. Mollet had to throw away the Algerian, whose under­ standing Mollet had to give up. Mollet had to say that he had not defeated the French forces for the last 17 months.

France already has about 200,000 troops in Al­ geria.

Mollet's immediate re­ ply was a sugar-coated ultimatum to the Algerians: cease fire within three months or face an all-out war. In the meantime, 50,000 French troops are now being alerted for Al­ geria.

Good Neighbor Policy

What has happened to all of the ballyhoo of re­ storing democracy to Gu­atemala, when Secretary of State Dulles and American Ambassador to Col­ onial Ar­ man to become dictator of that country.

Here are some of the democratic gains:

The United Fruit Co. (which also backed Col­ an, which is intimidating the United Fruit Co. from organizing at Puerto Barrios, Guate­ malia's major port)

Guatemala's secret po­ lice are persecuting trade union leaders and intim­ idating trade union mem­ bers.

Wages are being cut and working hours increased.

New social reforms, of similar nature have been planned and will soon be coming into effect in the Guate­ malian Chamber of Deput­ ies.

From "Collective Farms" to "Collective Leadership"

To "collective leadership" on the part of the 29th Congress of the Russian Com­ munist Party has taken a definite place, the word headlines. Stalin has now been thrown off the official dump heap; there is talk of a new "collective leadership." This is a significant event in the myth and the glorifica­ tion of one man's rule, and it is now a "collective leadership." To prove this new "collective leadership," one man, Khruschev, has been put in charge of the first party and the state. Khruschev was offered the job as Premier of France. The dou­ ble-barreled crisis, which overthrew the previous government, is already making Mollet very shaky. Since the start of World War II, the French workers have lived on the barest subsistence level. For the overworked, overmanned, overfatigued workers, they had to engage in furious wildcats last month.

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