

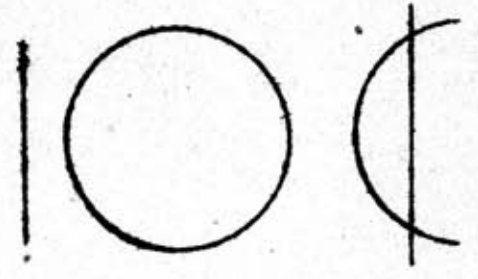
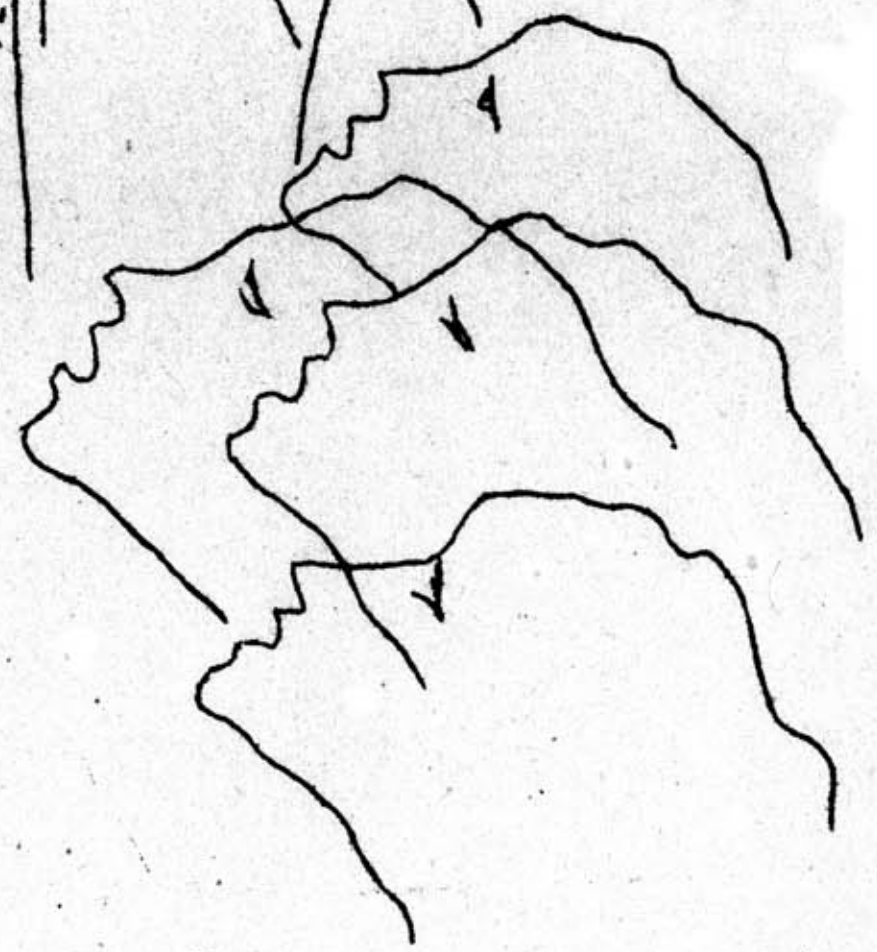
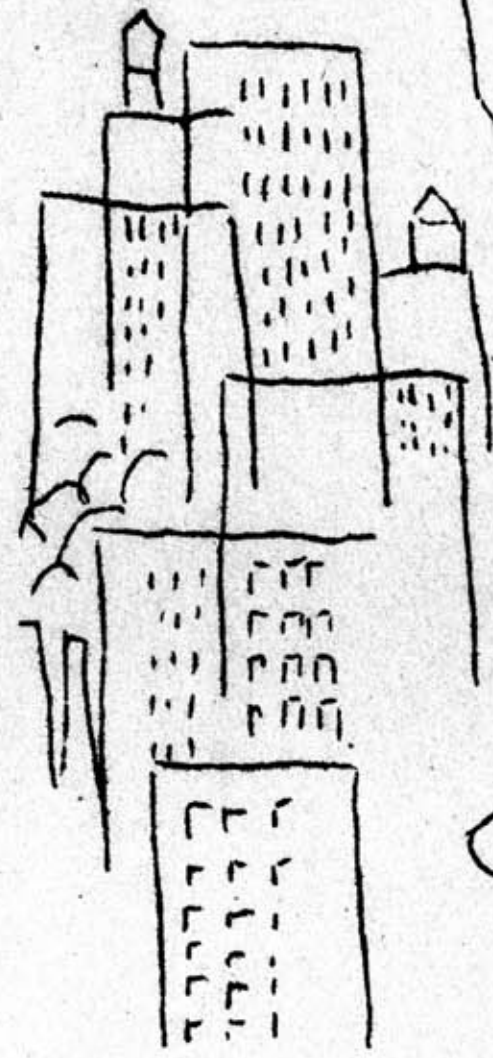


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WHOSE
WORLD IS IT
ANYWAY?

SOCIALIST
MONTHLY

MAY-DAY
1952



SOCIALIST MONTHLY
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MAY DAY AND THE LIBERTARIAN SOCIALIST LEAGUE

MAY DAY is an appropriate time for Socialists to take inventory of the Movement-- to draw a balance sheet of its successes and failures, to re-appraise it in the light of political and economic developments, and to plan future activities.

In such an evaluation 4 years ago, a group of revolutionary Socialists found it necessary to launch the Libertarian Socialist League because there existed no organization, uncontaminated by Social Democratic or Communist fallacies and with a realistic approach to the problems of the day. In spite of the political reaction here, LSL has grown in membership, while it clarified its program.

Taking seriously the internationality of Socialism, we sent an emissary to Europe to survey the field for groups that might form the basis for a genuine Socialist International. (The report is available for 25¢). Unfortunately, very little material was found, so such an organization must be postponed, but some kind of a center will be established to exchange information and keep alive the spirit of real Internationalism.

The bright spots at the moment are Africa and Asia, where the long down-trodden masses have finally begun to awaken and while the new movements are primarily nationalistic, organizations calling themselves Socialist are emerging. We are in contact with those we know of and hope to be of mutual help.

While the world picture shows the Socialist Movement in the doldrums with no immediate prospect for the rise of a formidable movement, conditions will eventually force the workers to act. For capitalism is dying; in Europe it lives only by the \$ transfusions furnished by US capitalism, and here, as elsewhere, its internal contradictions bring increasing insoluble problems. War preparations only temporarily postpone financial disaster but threaten a world holocaust which may spell the end of humans..

In the face of all this, on International Labor Day 1952, the Libertarian Socialist League reiterates that the only solution to the social evils that afflict humanity is the overthrow of capitalism and the inauguration of an integrated world Socialist society, wherein the means of production and distribution are controlled and thereby also owned by the working class for our benefit and wherein equality and abundance reign supreme.

To this we pledge anew our minds and efforts.

LONG LIVE INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST SOLIDARITY!!

DOWN WITH EASTERN AND WESTERN IMPERIALISM!!

FOR A SOCIALIST WORLD OF PLenty, PEACE AND HUMAN BROTHERHOOD!!

J O I N T M A Y D A Y C E L E B R A T I O N !

SUNDAY, MAY 4TH - 3 to 6 P.M.

in the

CLUBROOM of the LABOR TEMPLE

242 E. 14th St.
Manhattan

Participating organizations: Libertarian Socialist League, Industrial Workers of the World, Catholic Worker.

significant EVENTS...

STATE DEPT'S "FAST ONE" BOOMERANGS. Last month we reported the State Dept's attempt to include an undercover military aid agreement in the Indonesian renewal of the Mutual Security economic pact. When the Indonesian parliament and people learned that their Foreign Minister had signed it, the almost unanimous opposition forced the minister's resignation. Despite this repudiation, a State Dept. spokesman said the US considered the pact binding and we observed that apparently the Indonesians thought differently.

The new Foreign Minister, emphasizing continuance of his country's neutrality policy in the East-West conflict, made economic agreements with Czechoslovakia and Hungary, sent a delegation to the Moscow Economic Conference and hopes to conclude economic pacts with other Russian satellite countries. He said he was opposed to the US-dictated Japanese peace treaty and that he would accept US economic aid without any military commitments. This must have made the State Dept. boys gnash their teeth.

Thus, while tens of millions are spent propagandizing the world's people with the deomocratic pretensions of US imperialism, State Dept. actions continue to demonstrate the contradiction between deeds and words. The State Dept. should issue a Blue Paper entitled, "How to Make Enemies and Antagonize People" at which it excels.

TRUTH PEEPS THRU. John Foster Dulles, Truman's Republican foreign relations expert and an architect of US foreign policy, said at the Philadelphia Presbyterian Hospital Founders Day luncheon: "Our vast public loans and grants to other nations have been made, not because we wanted to make them, but because we have been told that we had to make them to achieve certain political objectives". Later on, the recently resigned assistant to State Secy. Acheson observed that the US "is today less liked, more isolated and more endangered than ever before in its history". Occasionally the truth seeps thru the fog of lying propaganda that envelops us, but it is doubtful if our "statesmen" will take cognizance of it.

UNITY THAT AIN'T. US foreign policy is directed toward inducing other nations to have no commercial relations with Russian bloc. News stories, radio and TV broadcasts din our ears with reports of one success after the other, illustrating that the East is being isolated. But the falsity of the claims is seen in the report from authentic sources that our two closest allies, Britain and France sent delegations to the Moscow Economic Conference and arranged for new business to the tune of 140 and 11 million dollars, and that several delegations from other countries remained after the conference to continue negotiations. China booked 80 millions of new trade.

Weakened economies of all nations force them to seek exchange of commodities wherever deals can be made, and apparently they are willing to risk the displeasure of the US to the consequences of further economic recession with resultant aroused working classes at home.

It is only a matter of a short time before the whole US foreign policy will collapse of its own failures. How long it will take our stupid politicians to recognize facts and how long the working class will permit huge tax deductions from its wages to support the imperialistic aims of US capitalism is in the laps of the gods.

CUBA'S REVOLUTION "MADE IN USA"? Claiming that the government was corrupt and inefficient, Maj. Gen. Batista, former dictator and darling of US capitalism, seized power by a military coup, set aside the constitution and established the rule of his gang. He immediately assured foreign investors, mostly American, that their interests were safe and promised an return to constitutional government in 18 months. Altho a Cuban national election is only 80 days off, it took the State Dept exactly 1 day to recognize the new government, which is understandable, for Batista's first act was to expel all Russian officials on the ground that they were interfering in Internal Cuban affairs. Looks like the voice is Jacob's but the hand is Essu's.

REPORT ON VERMIN. Ben Gitlow, a founder of the CP, USA, former top leader and several times the party's candidate for high political office, who broke with them 20 years ago, addressed a meeting of "Volunteers for Taft" in NYC. Gitlow was introduced by the FBI agent who arrested him on a conspiracy charge in 1919. (We can't stand the smool either).

Another ex-CP'er, one-time editor of "The Daily Worker", later government-paid infomrer on his former pals and currently economics professor at Fordham (Jesuit) University, which job he got after renouncing Communism and returning to the church, testified under cross-examination at the Wash, D.C. Communist trial that since leaving the CP 7 years ago, he had made \$70,000 from lectures, book royalties and other sources. Judas got only 30 pieces of silver!!!

INJUNCTION AGAINST UNIONS AGAIN. Altho he said that the courts must not and should not be used to impel collective bargaining, Federal Judge Freed granted a preliminary injunction against 3 railroad unions on the application of the Justice Dept. acting for the Army, which took over the nation's railroads in Aug. 1950 when a nationwide strike threatened. The injunction is effective until the judge can hold another hearing at which time it will probably be made permanent, the excuse being "national safety". 6,000 workers in 3 unions were involved, the issues being wages and working conditions. Union leaders bitterly denounced the action and said they intended to appeal to the US Supreme Court, but the Court's record in the last few years indicates it is a slim reed on which to lean. The workers and their leaders ought to recognize some simple facts; it is they themselves, who, by voting capitalist politicians into office, place in their enemies' hands the power to defeat them. Also, a trade union movement, united and primarily concerned with advancing the workers' interests could laugh, not only at injunctions but at any other methods that might be used against them. How long will it take the workers to learn?

AMERICAN ILLUSIONS. Addressing a meeting of teachers on "Understanding the News About Foreign Affairs", Lester Markel, Sunday editor of the "NY Times" said Americans were suffering from six great illusions: Belief that the rest of the world loves us; that we can go it alone, ignoring the rest of the world, if necessary; that isolationism is dead; that our industrial know-how is enough to protect us; that we really practice freedom of speech and thought, and that a strong leader can solve all our problems.

Without straining our thinking apparatus we could enumerate several more, among them--that democracy exists here; that Russian leaders are all liars, tricksters and fones and that all ours are intelligent, truthful and genuine, that the government represents workers and capitalists; that a strong military establishment guarantees peace; (there's no end to this)!

EDUCATOR DECRIES CATHOLIC SCHOOLS. Speaking in Boston to 5,000 school and college teachers of the Am. Assn. of School Administrators, Dr. James B. Conant, Pres. of Harvard U. deplored the developing system of private schools, with public funds going to the support of some of them, menacing the public school system and causing a divisiveness that endangered our political system. Altho not specifically mentioned Catholic parochial schools as his target, it was obvious that Dr. James M. O'Neill, opening the 49th annual convention of the National Catholic Educational Assn., in Kansas City a week later, delivered the following: "Government controlled education.. is the necessary foundation for all dictatorships...totalitarians have to take over the education of the children in order to have grown people who consent to live without freedom." The Catholic Church set-up is completely totalitarian and its apologists' "double-talk fools no one."

Go fight, you fools! Tear up the earth with strife
And spill each others guts upon the field;
Serve unto death the men you served in life
So that their wide dominions may not yield.

Stand by the flag--the lie that still allures;
Lay down your lives for land you do not own,
And give unto a war that is not yours;
Your gory tithe of mangled flesh and bone.

Remember too that if you die or kill,
You must not pause to question why or where.
You see the tiny crosses on that hill?
It took all those to make one millionaire.

It was for such the seas of blood were shed
That fields were razed and cities lit the sky;
That they might come to chortle o'er the dead--
The conder Things for whom the millions die!

The bugle screams, the cannons roar.
"Enough! Enough! God give us peace again."
The rats, the maggots and the Lords of War
Are fat to bursting from their meal of men.

So stagger back, you stupid dupes who've "won",
Back to your stricken towns to toil anew,
For there your dismal tasks are still undone.
And grim Starvation gropes again for you.

What matters now your flag, your race, the skill
Of scattered legions--what has been the gain?
Once more beneath the lash you must distil
Your lives to glut a glory wrought of pains

In peace they starve you to your loathsome toil,
In war they drive you to the teeth of Death;
And when your life-blood soaks into their soil
They give you lies to choke your dying breath.

So will they smite your blind eyes until you see,
And lash your naked backs until you know
That wasted blood can never set you free,
From fettered thralldom to the Common Foe.

They you will find that "nation" is a name
And boundaries are things that can't exist;
That Labor's bondage, worldwide is the same,
And ONE the enemy it must resist.

--Ralph Chaplin

(Reprinted from "The Industrial Worker")

* * * * *

"The strongest bond
of human sympathy, out-
side of the family rela-
tion, should be one
uniting all working people,
of all nations, tongues
and, kindreds."
--Abraham Lincoln

* * *

The night so dark
And dreary and long,
At last shall the morning
bring
And o'er the land the
victor's ong
Of the Working Class shall
ring--
Of how salvation truly came
By work, and work alone,
How Toolers built the
edifice
Where Marx had placed the
stone.
--Hugh Stone

* * *

"My country is the world;
my countrymen are all
mankind."
--William L. Garrison

* * *

"This country, with its
institutions, belongs to
the people who inhabit it.
Whenever they shall grow
weary of the existing
government, they can ex-
ercise their constitutional
right of amending it, or
their revolutionary right
to dismember or overthrow
it."
--A. Lincoln.

CAPITALISM is not to be saved. If socialism does not triumph now, then Imperialism will seize upon our society and establish a sort of feudo-capitalism that will set back the wheels of Progress, and force Freedom to start all over again along some fresh path. --De Leon

US SUPREME COURT CONTINUES TO DESTROY OUR LIBERTIES. Last month the US Supreme Court added one more to the growing list of "illegal" activities. It upheld NY State's Feinberg Law, which bars from public school jobs anyone who belongs to an organization advocating the forcible overthrow of the government, or who does so individually. They will determine what constitutes the advocacy of forcible overthrow.

Justice Minton, for the majority, held as follows: (1) Teaching is a sensitive area; school officials have the right and duty to screen employees; (2) One's associates, past and present, as well as one's conduct, may properly be considered in determining fitness and loyalty. From time immemorial, one's reputation has been determined in part by the company he keeps; (3) No one has the right to work in the schools on his own terms; he may work "upon the reasonable terms laid down by the proper authorities", and (4) There is nothing unconstitutional in making membership in a listed organization prima facie grounds for dismissal.

Justices Douglas and Black dissented. "I have not been able to accept", said Douglas, "The recent doctrine that a citizen who enters public service can be forced to sacrifice his civil rights. The very threat of such a procedure (dismissal for membership in a listed organization) is certain to raise havoc with academic freedomThe law inevitably turns the school system into a spying project"...

BERTRAND RUSSELL TELLS OFF A SUPER-PATRIOT. Answering a letter in the "Manchester Guardian", by Am. professor Eugene H. Bird, denouncing him for criticizing the US, Russell wrote: "Prof. Bird seems to think that when I protest against the evils in America I do so because I am anti-American. This is not the case. There are in America many men and women for whom I have profound respect, and when I protest what is being done I do so for their sake.

"Those who inflict terror and those who pretend it does not exist are attempting to destroy what is best in America". "Most Americans", he continued, professed indignant credulity when the Germans said they had not known what went on in the concentration camps. Their own ignorance of what goes on in America shows that such Germans may have been quite sincere. Most of those cases of oppression that occur in America cannot be publicized since any victim who did so would be even more severely victimized".

SUPREME COURT OKS JAILING OF ALIENS. Justice Black warned that our liberty is endangered, as the US Supreme Court handed down two decisions which held: (1) That foreign born residents of the US may be deported for past as well as present membership in the Communist Party; (2) That foreign-born residents may be jailed pending deportation "The effect of the decision denying bail to aliens suspected as Communists, is to permit the indefinite jailing of American citizens as well", Black said in a minority decision. "This is a Communist case. I suppose as long as you can throw that one word in, everything may be alright. But I have an idea that the liberty of every American is at stake. As long as I am here, I shall protest every encroachment like this."

GOVERNMENT BLACKLIST NETS TWO SAILORS. Two sailors employed on an American first-class passenger ship are the first victims of the Magnusson "Waterfront Blacklist" Law. The two were accused of working aboard commercial ships without Coast Guard validated papers. They face a maximum sentence of 10 years in jail and \$10,000 fine each, if convicted.

3 CONVICTED IN STRIKE AFTERMATH. In a retrial of charges growing out of a picket line row in New Kensington, Pa., a jury found Harry W. Truitt and 1 co-defendant guilty of assault and battery on a police officer, and another guilty of affray. The judge suspended sentences, but ordered them to pay \$800 costs within 30 days. One defendant was acquitted and Truitt termed this a partial victory, indicating that the jury found something fony in the charges brought by a police captain, who arrested the four in Truitt's house, used as strike headquarters. In the first trial, all

LETTERS

Dear Comrade:

A radio play, "The Big Hand", recently called the Stalinist dictatorship in Czechoslovakia "anarchists".

The play also featured a Spanish fascist newspaper correspondent as a hero. In the play, he was fighting Czech villains who were persecuting a Roman Catholic priest. The play called the villains "anarchists"--altho only Stalinists persecute people in Czechoslovakia.

I wrote a letter to the American Broadcasting Co. protesting this insult to anarchists--who, along with Marxist revolutionaries are being shot, jailed and tortured in Spain. I also protested against the radio play for glorifying a Franco fascist. I wish all Socialists would do the same.

A protest to a private firm, which often fears public anger, does more good than letters to politicians.

Socialists can show these reactionaries they can't insult revolutionaries and get away with it. And this piece of capitalist propaganda was unusually nauseating.

To protest, all you have to do is address a letter or post card to American Broadcasting Co., New York City. Just say you protest against this radio program, "The Big Hand", because it glorified Franco fascism and insulted his anarchist opponents.

--John Loeb

* * *

LIBERTARIAN SOCIALIST LEAGUE DIRECTORY

Branch New York: Meets 2nd Saturday of every month at Headquarters, 115 West 25th St. 3rd floor. Visitors welcome. (DONT FORGET MAY DAY CELEBRATION-NOTICE ON PAGE 9).

Branch Chicago: For information, contact Burt Rosen, 1328 East 57th St., Chicago 37 Ill

Branch Los Angeles: For information, write the National Secretary, P.O. Box 770, G.P.O. New York 1, N.Y.; also write Nat. Hq. for addresses of outlying areas.

Publications

SOCIALIST VIEWS: Quarterly discussion organ. Price \$1 a year. Address: Socialist Views, Box 652, Chicago 90, Ill.

SOCIALIST MONTHLY: Official newsletter; price \$1 a year. Address: P.O. Box 770 GPO NY 1 NY. May be purchased also in New York City at Rudkins newsstand, 42 St & 6 Av, and Rand Book Store, 7 East 15 St. and in San Francisco at MacDonald's Bookstore, 867 Mission St.

HOT OFF THE PRESS!!! For detailed information on the latest in the Revolutionary Socialist Movement in Europe and Asia read and buy for 25¢ the International Report by the representative of the L.S.L. who has just returned from Europe (England and France). Send 2 bits to P.O. Box 770 GPO NY 1 NY.

Franco agents and sympathizers are spreading the lie that no organized underground now exists in Spain. But Franco's recent killing and jailing of labor union members proves that anti-fascist underground resistance continues in Spain. Mountain guerillas still fight. They attack Franco police in villages. Anarchists and other democratic revolutionary socialists lead the fight against Franco. Wall Street's alliance with Franco forces even members of the exiled Rightist Socialist Party to oppose both war camps. . .

Stalinists still fool many Europeans with fony "peace" slogans. Am. Stalinists envy the many fellow-travelers still owned by European Commies. . .

In England, the Franco ambassador-sponsored a Spanish song and dance festival-- at which British workers shouted: "Down with Franco, the murdered!" Am. workers, too, should hold mass protest demonstrations against Franco terror and against the Washington government's support of Franco. . .

Demanding wage raises, mine, metal, chemical and ceramics workers in Rome held 2 to 24 hour "warning" strikes. In Athens, shopkeepers, transport and communication workers held a similar 24 hour "warning" strike. And a 12 hour Trieste general strike protested police violence against workers demonstrating for the city's return to Italy. Saar coal miners, demanding 15% wage increases, held their second 24 hour "warning" strike in 2 months. . .

The Indian Socialist Group in England, comprising students from India, is spreading in Britain the ideas of the India Socialist Party--which advocates a real Third Camp policy of opposing both imperialist camps. . .

Nye Bevan--whose logical blows often shatter Churchill's oratorical gems in parliament debate-- knows how to tell off Stalinists, too. After he recently attacked both war camps, the London "Daily Worker" complained: "Can Mr. Anaurin Bevan never criticize America without at the same time indulging in an unfair and unnecessary attack on the Soviet Union?" . . .

LOVE'S NOT FREE UNDER ROMAN CATHOLIC FASCISM: The "New York Times" Anne O'Hare McCormick and a "Readers Digest" article both recently praised clerical fascist dictator Salazar as devoted to his people and "humble". But neither the Digest nor the reactionary Catholic, McCormick, mentioned that under Salazar Portugal is so poor it has more prostitutes than any other country in Europe-- proportionate to population. . .

Incidentally, the charter of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, to which Portugal belongs, says NATO comprises "democratic nations". But Portugal officially is fascist "corporative". . . .

In Sweden they're digging caves in the country's hard rock-- to avoid any A & H bombs that may fall on the neutral country. But a new, US-invented, "penetration" atom bomb burrows far underground before exploding. It can wipe out underground forts and fuel tanks-- and people in caves. . .

A BAS DE GAULLE! Gen. de Gaulle's followers often bellow slogans like "France for the French!", "Long Live the Leader!", and "Kill All the Jews"! Altho less reactionary Catholics dominate the centrist MRP, the reactionary Roman Church hierarchy supports the anti-Semitic de Gaulle movement. Instead of mobilizing workers against fascism, the reformist French "Socialist" Party practices crass collaboration with capitalists. . .

Starting in Saskatchewan, "Bevanism" has expanded thruout the whole Cooperative Commonwealth Fed'n. of Canada. National CCF leaders have attacked Wall Street's huge arms program. . .

US imperialists revealed they have a new air base in Greenland near the North Pole. . .

SO DID HITLER: State Department officials and others in the government in Washington often consult astrologers before making important decisions, gossips say. We didn't know it was that bad. Altho a Los Angeles laborer, Gordon G. Van Ess, recently willed his body to the nearest medical college-- and his brain to Truman. . .

Of course, everybody has enough to eat in the glorious Soviet Union. But hundreds of pigeons-- substituting as peace doves-- were released from atop the Moscow

Hotel while movie cameras recorded the scene. Then Moscow workers began chasing the fat pigeons for cooking purposes. Stalinist police chased the workers. . .

ATLANTIC PACT COLLAPSE? Walter Mentz, writing in "Commonwealth", Saskatchewan CCF organ, refers hopefully to the "coming collapse of the Atlantic Pact". Europeans' opposition to rearmament may sink the pact, the writer implies. . .

THAT DOVE'S A WARMONGER: If you know any Stalinists who really think Russia "peaceful", give them these figures: Russia last year spent 77% of her gross investment on arms. That's an 8 % increase over 1950. Even the imperialist Washington government spent only 67% on arms last year. Of course, Stalin claims he arms only for "defense", but that's the excuse of Wall Street warmongers, too. . .

Stalinist soldiers still rape many women in Eastern Europe (The Commies call dirty jokes featuring women "male chauvinism". What do they call rapes committed by Russian soldiers? Communist Comradeship?

BUT EQUALITY WOULD BE BOURGEOIS: In Russia--where bureaucrats receive incomes hundreds of times larger than workers-- Stalinist army colonels get 240 times more than privates. Even US capitalist army colonels get only 5 times as much as privates. (To call Russia "a higher type of democracy" is like a bum in the last stages of B.C. sprinkling himself with perfume.). . .

10,000 doctors, nurses and other public health employees in Montevideo, Uruguay, ended an 8-day strike after pay raises were promised. . .

Underground leaflets distributed in Havana urged passive resistance against Dictator Batista-- whose rebellion Wall Street supported. The leaflets urged Cubans to stop buying anything but necessities. Havana U. students lead opposition to Batista. . .

Capitalist press reports about Guatemala usually don't mention that Stalinism there thrives on Wall Street imperialist exploitation. United Fruit Co. workers' fight for higher wages is dismissed as a Stalinist plot. Stalinist influence in Guatemala is strong, however, and the people need a real revolutionary alternative. .

The "New York Times" reports the formation of an Iranian Toilers Party, "a left-wing group supporting Premier Mossadegh's National Front". The Toilers Party reveals dissension among Iranian Stalinists. . .

World textile unemployment is hitting workers in Belgium, Canada, Japan, Australia and Britain. . .

Overwork often kills Japanese miners. But extra-fast speedup continues. Workers get 8 hours pay for 12 and 13 hours work. In Northern Japan, farmers unable to earn a living become industrial workers. But many can't stand industry's pace and commit suicide, with their entire families.

* * * * *

"MAY DAY CELEBRATION"

Branch New York City will hold a social and May Day Celebration Saturday, May 3, at 1:30 PM, at Branch Hdq. 115 West 25 St. NY 1 NY. Food and drink will be served with no charge for food, drink or admission.

All comrades and friends are urged to attend and help make this a successful affair and an expression of International Solidarity with the Workers of the World.

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