

Progressive Worker

Workers of All Countries, Unite!

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SPECIAL

IN THIS ISSUE:

A Look At PEOPLE'S



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CHINESE MILITIA WOMEN TRAINING IN PEKING - STORY PAGE 3

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By Jack Scott

REBEL VOICES

An I. W. W. Anthology

By Joyce L. Kornbluh

The Industrial Workers of the World, better known as the Wobblies, had a relatively short active life on the North American Labour scene. But it is questionable if any of the other short-lived movements made such an impact or left behind them so rich a heritage.

The boomers and the walking delegates drifted back and forth across the land carrying the message of revolutionary industrial unionism. The "fellow workers" wore their red shirts and packed their red cards as a mark of honour. Wherever the class war was fiercest, there you were sure to find the "wobs", the centre faction.

When the call went out for help to bring some hard nosed employer to heel, the fellow-workers dropped whatever they were doing and hastened to the scene of action, a journey, by freight, of several thousand miles was a small thing if the interests of the class were served.

The Seattle Revolution and the Spokane Free Speech fight are about two of the more famous of the ten thousand battles fought by the wobblies. Miners, railroaders, Lumber workers, Textile workers and itinerant farm workers, fought and won many a battle under the I. W. W. banner, and the names of such I. W. W. heroes as Joe Hill will live forever.

The Wobblies had a colorful language that effectively described the type of life they lived and the struggles they were engaged in. Joyce Kornbluh, in this book, has rendered a good service by listing a number of the long forgotten terms used in Wobbly speech.

A pick was referred to as an anchor and a short-handled shovel was a bango. The talks heard in the religious missions was angel food. To buy a master meant to pay a fee to an employment shark for a job. Carrying the banner was avoiding the expense of a bed for the night by walking the streets, sitting in an all-night movie, pretending to wait for a train, nursing a cup of coffee in an all-night diner or a number of other ruses. A scissorbill was a worker who is not class conscious, a homeguard who is filled with bourgeois ethics and ideas; a millionaire without the million dollars.

The I. W. W. was an organization that sang as it fought and no other group has ever produced such a rich harvest of poets. It is fitting that a very large part of this book is taken up with the songs and poems that became famous all over the world. There are songs here that are still sung by working men without, unfortunately, their history and background being known to the singers.

The Wobbly story is best told by the Wobblies themselves; so it is a good thing that Joyce Kornbluh for the most part, lets these militant voices from the past speak out with only a minimum of interjection by way of explanation.

This is a book worth having.



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CHINA

By Jerry LeBourdais

On May 30th at 9:30 A. M., I boarded a train in Hong Kong bound for the People's Republic of China. One hour later, we arrived at the border. Twenty minutes later, I walked across the sixty or so, yard bridge and entered a different world - China! The biggest difference being the fact that in China the working class have state power while the opposite is true in the so-called free world, where the capitalist class control the state.

Three and one half hours later, travelling on a modern train, (built in China), I arrived in the City of Canton. To reach there, we travelled at high speed through beautiful farm land - every square yard of which was producing crops of various kinds.

The next day, I flew from Canton to Peking where I met Chu Tu-Nan, President of The Chinese People's Association for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries. This was the Association which had invited me to visit China.

The following day, June 1st, 1965 was International Children's Day, a truly wonderful day to arrive in Peking. In China, this is a National holiday for children and the Young Pioneers turned out in the thousands in Peking to participate in sports and cultural activities. This was duplicated throughout the whole country.

June 1st was also an historical day in China for another reason. This was the day that the People's Liberation Army abolished all insignia on their uniforms. For example, a General wears exactly the same uniform including markings, as the ordinary soldier.

On many occasions, I spoke to both men and women in the P. L. A. I mentioned the fact that we in the West were being told that the officers were very much opposed to this idea. This always brought laughter. They assured me that the decision to have one uniform and one insignia had been thoroughly discussed and understood by all. The decision reached was in line with Marxism and Leninism and was wholeheartedly supported by ALL members of the armed forces.

THE MILITIA

The policy in China is that every soldier is a civilian and that every civilian is a soldier.

This theory is practiced. For example, soldiers assist the peasants with planting, harvesting, irrigation projects, etc. On the other hand, civilians are armed and do their regular weekly stint of military training. Throughout my travels in China, the militia, (men and women) were very much in evidence. The reactionary forces, of course, attempt to use this fact to spread their false propaganda that China is an aggressive nation. However, the fact of the matter is that the militia is always for the defence of a country and not for aggression.

The militia do a fine job of defending their country. From time to time, the U. S. puppet, Chiang Kai-Shek lands groups of saboteurs in China. These are always very quickly detected and disposed of by the People's Militia. Not even the capitalist's propaganda press of the West attempts to spread lies about groups of "free-

dom fighters" operating inside China.

SOME PEOPLE I MET IN PEKING

I was asked to write a list of people I wished to see as well as places that I would like to visit. This I did.

There were two women on my list. One was Dorise Nielson, a former Canadian Member of Parliament, the other was Anna Louise Strong, the American writer. Both of these women have lived in China for a considerable period of time.

Unfortunately, Anna Louise Strong was in Hanoi. (She is now close to 80 years old), so will have to content myself with her regular newsletters.

However, I did meet and had discussions with Dorise Nielson on several occasions. To me, these were most interesting discussions dealing both with her work in the progressive movement here in Canada and of late, with her experiences in China. On one occasion, Dorise arranged a dinner for me where I met a number of foreign friends living and working in Peking. One of these friends was a former G. I. prisoner of war from Korea. This man is now a university graduate, married to a Chinese citizen and the father of two children. He is also a negro. Incidentally, he assured me that he has no desire to return to all that freedom he has experienced in the "Ol South", U.S.A.

PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY

While in Peking, I visited the Military Museum which was built in 1958 by the P. L. A. themselves. Amongst the thousands of exhibits are three U. S. man-less spy planes shot down by the P. L. A. in recent months over China's territory.

Here I also talked to both men and women in the P. L. A. I am convinced that this is the best equipped army in the world. They have the strongest weapon there is and that is, a thorough understanding of revolutionary Marxism-Leninism.

CHAIRMAN MAO TSE-TUNG AND THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF CHINA

The people dearly love Chairman Mao and the C. P. of China. The people are all studying the teachings of Chairman Mao. Both his teachings as well as his actions are a tremendous inspiration to the people. Chairman Mao is capable of teaching Marxism-Leninism to the peasants as well as the workers of China and for that matter, the whole world.

The C. P. of China now stands at around 17 million members. They stress quality is what really counts and not quantity. To join the party in China is not easy. My interpreter, for instance, had applied to join. He explained that it would take two or more years before he would be accepted and then it was also possible that he would not be accepted at all. All party leaders as well as students and intellectuals do their regular stint at productive labour, either in factories or on Communes.

One party official explained things this way to me.

SCENES FROM THE TOUR



STUDENT NURSES STUDYING AT HOSPITAL IN SHANGHAI



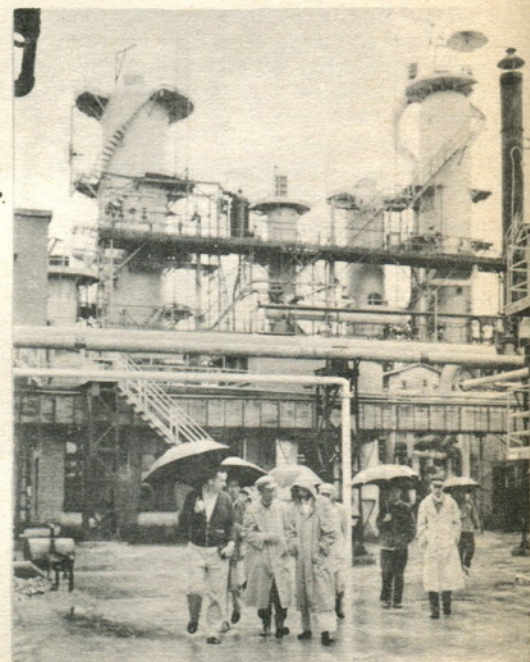
YOUNG PIONEER PRESENTING A RED SCARF FOR MY YOUNGEST DAUGHTER IN THE YOUNG PIONEER PALACE



THE CONTRAST OF OLD & NEW HOUSING IN CHINA



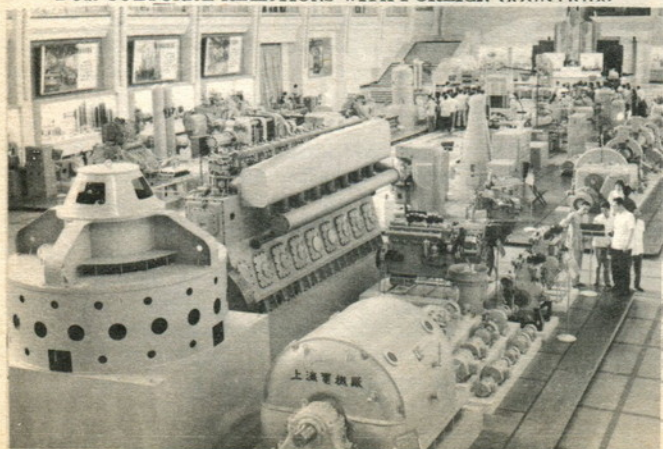
WITH DORISE NIELSON A FORMER CANADIAN M. P.



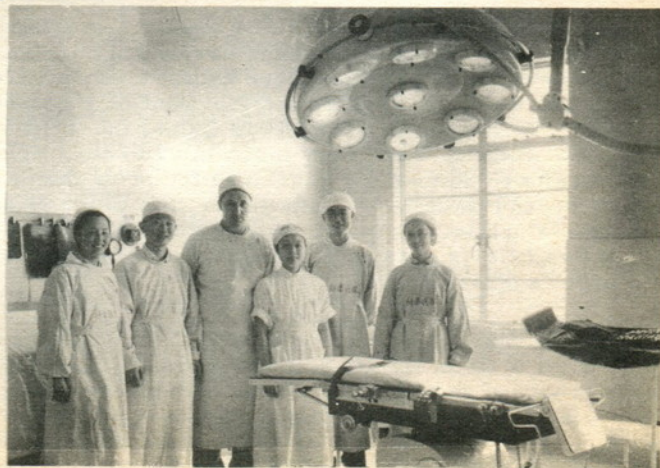
A VISIT TO AN OIL REFINERY WHERE DISCUSSIONS WITH OIL WORKERS TOOK PLACE



A MEETING WITH OFFICIALS OF THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S ASSOCIATION FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH FOREIGN COUNTRIES



THE SHANGHAI INDUSTRIAL EXHIBITION



A VIEW OF A TYPICAL OPERATING ROOM

First, the party fought against Japanese Imperialism. In his opinion, this was the easiest stage. Second, they then fought the civil war against Chiang Kia-Shek. This was a more difficult period than the first. The third stage is the present struggle for Socialist Construction. This he explained is the most difficult of the three stages. Now that they have state power and the living conditions of the people have greatly improved, it would be easily possible for the leadership to raise themselves above the masses. They quote the Soviet Union as an example of this. For this reason, the highest vigilance must be maintained. The best way of preventing this is to work side by side with the workers and peasants doing productive labour.

ON THE QUESTION OF THE WAR IN VIETNAM

Everywhere I went in China, there were posters and large bill boards calling for all-out support to the people of Vietnam. Massive demonstrations in support of the Vietnamese people are held throughout China. The nation, as a whole, stands ready and willing to go to the aid of Vietnam the moment they are called upon to do so.

While in Peking, I met and held discussions with Len Feng, Vice-Chairman of the National People's Congress Standing Committee, Chao Yi-Ming, Deputy Chief of the Liaison Dept. of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China, Nguyen Minh Phuong, Permanent Representative of the National Liberation Front (Viet Cong) and a member of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam's Embassy in Peking.

Comrade Chao explained that there are three views on the war in Vietnam.

First - The Imperialists: They subscribe to the dominoes theory. That is, that if Vietnam wins her independence, the rest of Asia will automatically escape from their grip. Every tactic the U. S. imperialists have used in an attempt to defeat the Vietnamese people has failed miserably. Their latest tactic of escalation, (bombing North Vietnam) is like all the others - back-firing on them. The Vietnamese people, both North and South, instead of becoming cowed and crying for mercy have instead become more united and determined than ever. The U. S. imperialists are, in fact, at their wits end. In desperation, they may even carry their policy of escalation on into China. This decision after all is theirs. However, the U. S. Imperialists are not able to win against 30 million Vietnamese, so if they now wish to take on another 650 million people, they will only be digging their grave that much faster.

Secondly - The Revisionists: Are interested only in stopping this just war of liberation, even if this means leaving Vietnam divided in two with the U. S. imperialists in control of South Vietnam. This is a policy of appeasement to the U. S. Negotiate with the imperialists. Hence, Tito and India, along with other so-called non-aligned nations attempting to set up this type of negotiations - negotiations which would, in fact, allow U. S. imperialism to win what it can not do on the battlefield.

Thirdly - The Marxist-Leninists: Full and all-out support to the Vietnamese people based on the principle of International proletarianism. The decisions regarding Vietnam are to be made by the Vietnamese people themselves. This, of course, includes the demand

that every last U. S. soldier get out of their country.

MY DISCUSSIONS WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF NORTH AND SOUTH VIETNAM

The Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North) - "The bombings being carried out by the U. S. aggressors while causing damage and bloodshed are being met with determination and fire power. The U. S. aggressor is paying dearly for this adventure. Several hundreds of their aircraft have been shot down and hundreds more damaged. The spirit of our people is unbending. With each attack, we grow more determined.

The control of our fate must always remain in our hands. There will be no DEALS made regarding our country and people. Only we shall decide."

The representative of The Democratic Republic of Vietnam (North) asked me if I thought the Canadian working people supported the Vietnamese people in their struggle for independence. I told him that it was certainly my opinion that the majority did.

South Vietnam - "A few years ago, we were very small in number. Our weapons were mostly bamboo spears. Today, our numbers have increased a thousand-fold. Our struggle has developed our understanding and tactics. We now control over 80% of the country.

The U. S. aggressors in Vietnam are armed to the teeth with all the modern weapons of war. They boast that they have radar that can detect a mosquito thousands of yards away, that they can detect people under the ground and also they have tanks impossible to be destroyed by guerrillas."

"However," he explained, "we continue to attack them heavily right inside their strongest fortifications."

Nguyen Minh Phuong said that the morale of the puppet forces is at an all-time low. That more and more of them cross over to the side of the National Liberation Front, bringing their weapons with them. This means that more and more U. S. troops must be brought in to fill "the vacancies". However, he explained that the U. S. troop's morale was also very low and that when in actual operation, they were full of fear. He cited the example of where a few days previous to my visit with him, a battalion of 130 U. S. Marines were moved in to fight it out with the National Liberation Front. The western press admitted that 45 U. S. troops had been killed. The truth of the matter was that the whole 130 were annihilated

"The Vietnamese people", he explained, "have now been fighting for their independence for 25 years and if necessary, they will continue to fight for another 25 years."

All together, I spent twelve days in Peking, then went on to visit Wuhan, Shanghai, Hangchow, then back to Canton for a couple of days.

During this tour I visited heavy industry plants, communes, factories, historical museums, workers and children's palaces, parks, a hospital and numerous other places of interest.

I also met with officers of the all China Federation of Trade Unions in Peking, as well as in all the cities visited.

Some of the questions I put to people in the street, as well as to housewives in the worker's homes that I visited brought very heated replies. One of these questions went something like this: "The capitalist press in North America tells us that you people are all looking forward to the day when Chiang Kia-Shek comes back to the Mainland and makes you all free again. Is this so?" While I needed an interpreter to put the question, I did not need him to interpret the answer. In fact, I soon learned a lesson. Before putting this question, I made sure to fully explain that this was not my opinion but only what was printed in the Capitalist press.

The answers, needless to say, were always very heated and left no doubt in anyone's mind that Chiang Kia-Shek and his U. S. backers would be met with the full force and anger of all the Chinese people.

The editorial board of Progressive Worker has allotted me so much space which I have now filled, but just a few short impressions.

JOBS FOR SALE

A contract which some international unions signed recently with the heavy construction industry on the Welland Canal includes a guarantee of no-strikes for a seven-year period. A similar undertaking was written into the agreement covering the Peace River project in B. C. In return for acceptance of this novel innovation, the employers agree to hire only members who have ratified the pact of labour peace.

An agreement covering working standards and conditions of employment has been established before a single workman has been hired. Anyone desiring to work on this project must agree to accept the standards set and pay his fee to the labour bosses, who insist on their cut.

This is a most pernicious form of union - employer agreement and constitutes a radical departure from traditional trade union practices, which were already badly undermined as a result of international-bureaucrat control and the prevalence of sweetheart contracts.

Before the advent of the entrenched bureaucrat, compulsory membership and dues check-off, the employers hired the men and the unions organized and led them in on-the-job struggles to improve wages and conditions. Now, before an employer starts a job, he contracts with the union administrator to supply him with the working force necessary for fulfillment of his contractual obligations and at terms agreed upon by both parties without the worker's consent.

Workers must pay a substantial amount monthly in addition to an exorbitant original fee (sometimes humorously referred to as an "initiation fee") before they can get posted to a job. They must also agree to abide by all the rules laid down by the employers and the bureaucrats. The end result of this vicious system is not trade unionism; it means that the worker must either submit to virtual enslavement or sweat it out on the bread line.

Even the most naive will readily see that both employer and union administrator have a common interest - to keep the worker in line. The employer wants a docile labour force that will ensure him maximum

Everything in New China is clean - the streets, houses and people. The people themselves are healthy, both in body and in mind. For example, today medical colleges don't even teach anything about V. D. This disease, along with prostitution, has been eliminated.

Music, drama, ballet, all the arts are beautiful and revolutionary.

Everyone in China from school-age children and up knows of and respects that great Canadian, Dr. Norman Bethune.

Perhaps the best description of the New China was given to me by a housewife. She stated that before liberation in 1949, the people lived in slum houses whose ceilings were so low they had to walk bent over. Today, because of the unity of the people around Chairman Mao Tse-Tung and the Communist Party, they now stand up straight, never to bend again. This too is my impression of the people of China. This too is the reason I am so very proud of them.



profits and the administrators seek to maintain a submissive and pliant membership that will continue to pay them their fat salaries and expenses and line the vaults with gilt-edged bonds to guarantee continuance of their life of luxury no matter what fate may befall the workers.

It is easy to see that an employer who wishes to get rid of an "unruly" worker need only telephone the union official to secure consent to discharge, while the official, seeking to rid himself of an embarrassing opposition can call the employer and inform him of his desire to be rid of the "troublemaker". The workers who must obtain employment in order to live are the pawns in a gigantic conspiracy between the profit-hungry monopolists and the merchants of labour.

This type of operation, where the worker's fate is settled by a handful of employers and bureaucrats long before a single man has been hired, has nothing in common with real trade unionism. These labour fakers sign away a fundamental right of workers - the right to strike, without even a gesture toward consultation with those most seriously affected. Henceforth, any worker who tried to redress a grievance by resorting to direct action would be accused of striking "illegally" and subject to instant dismissal and "union" men would be posted from hiring halls to fill the vacated positions. This so-called trade unionism could quickly, and easily degenerate into organized scabbery.

This pill is not made any the less bitter by a recognition that both sides in this conspiracy against Canadian workers are, for the most part, citizens of the U. S. who are little concerned about the interests of Canada as an independent nation, or about the interests of Canadian working people.

The time is long overdue for Canadian workmen to rise and throw these leeches off our backs so we can proceed, unimpeded, with the task of building a labour movement worthy of the name.

Let us get back to the fundamentals of trade unionism - the employer hires and the worker organizes and fights for decent working conditions. No more payments to bureaucrats for the privilege of employment.



CAMBODIA DOING BETTER WITHOUT U.S. "AID"

By Teh Kao CHINA FEATURES

Cambodia's national economy has grown as never before, since this Southeast Asian country rejected U. S. "aid" in 1963. Today, Cambodian factories are turning out many consumer items that used to be imported. As a result, Cambodia saves more than 800 million riel in foreign exchange a year.

Industrial growth brings fuller employment. Cambodian industry is also providing capital for building up the national economy. According to official releases, net profits amounting to 216 million riel were made by a textile company and four other state-owned industrial enterprises in the first half of 1964.

The United States began to grant "aid" to Cambodia soon after the Cambodians shook off French colonial rule in 1953. The economic and military "aid" given Cambodia by the United States from 1955 to 1963 amounted to 367 million U. S. dollars. U. S. "economic aid" came to Cambodia in the form of American-made consumer goods, "surplus" farm produce and some equipment for the processing industries.

In November, 1963, the Cambodian Government announced its rejection of U. S. "aid", when Washington overtly backed the so-called Free Khmer, whose aim is to murder Prince Sihanouk and to topple the Cambodian Government. Prince Sihanouk pointed out that one of the objectives of U. S. "aid" was "to poison our administration and our people so that we cannot achieve economic independence and consequently ensure genuine political independence by injecting a kind of real opium which would make us give up everything and commit all kinds of treason."

A series of measures for economic reform were taken by the Cambodian Government immediately after. The most important included enforcement of state control over foreign trade and nationalization of banks and insurance companies. This improved the financial and monetary situation of the country.

Foundation of Independent National Industry Being Laid

Relying on its own efforts and with the assistance of the Socialist countries, the Cambodian Government has set up the Cambodia-China Friendship Textile Mill, the Sihanouk-Chou En-lai Plywood Factory, the Cambodian and Chinese Peoples' Paper Mill, the Kossamak-Liu Shao-chi Cement Plant and other factories producing sugar, tires and other goods. A modern port and a railway are under construction. Privately-owned and joint state-private industrial enterprises have also made great headway. In the first eight months of 1964 alone, investments by the national capitalists came to 216 million riel with more than 200 small and medium-sized factories put into operation.

Marked Rise in Farm Output

Cambodia is an agricultural country with rice, maize, tobacco, cotton and rubber as her staple crops. In recent years she has made vigorous efforts to build water control projects, enlarge the irrigated area and open up land. This has resulted in substantial increases in crop yields. Rice output rose from 1.2 million tons in 1954, the year following Cambodia's declaration of independence, to more than 2.1 million tons in 1964. In the same period, output of maize went up by 63 per cent; tobacco, by nearly 10 per cent; cotton, seven and a half times; rubber, by more than

40 per cent. Great progress has also been made in fisheries and animal husbandry.

Thanks to the steady increase in farm output, Cambodia has continued to boost her exports of farm produce since rejecting U. S. "aid". The 1964 exports of rice is estimated at 600,000 tons, 33 per cent above the 1963 figure. Rubber exports have also grown.

Favourable Balance in Foreign Trade

With the end of the dumping of U. S. goods in the name of "aid", Cambodia in 1964 achieved a favourable balance in foreign trade, which amounted to 1,336 million riel - an all-time high.

Cambodia also achieved a balanced state budget in 1964. In the past, Cambodia's state budget relied on U. S. "aid" to make good the deficit. The value of the riel has risen.

The achievements made by Cambodia without U. S. "aid" demonstrate that developing nations can build up an independent national economy by relying on their own efforts.

A TRIBUTE TO A COMMUNIST

The following is a tribute to Comrade Jack Wood who died of cancer one year ago and whose passing left a vacuum still unfilled in the progressive movements.

Jack, an active trade unionist of long standing and a member of the Peace movement, was one of the founding members of the Canada-China Friendship Association and served on the Executive as Membership Secretary until his death. Much of the success of the above organization was due to his efforts. The Columbia River for Canada Committee, The New Democratic Party were two more organizations on which Jack left his mark.

With the founding of the Progressive Workers Movement, Comrade Jack was elected to the Central Committee. Several months ago, The Jack Wood Club of the Progressive Workers Movement was named as a tribute to his memory. It was largely due to his efforts that many of our young people came into contact with Socialist ideas.

Most of all, Jack loved the working class and identified himself with, and fought for the oppressed people of the world.

It is to the memory of Jack Wood and the Socialist society for which he worked that the Progressive Workers Movement is committed. The success of our movement will be a fitting tribute to him.

By Ed Charles

MEANY OR??

The June number of Labour Statesman (published jointly by the B.C. Federation of Labour and Vancouver Labour Council) contained an editorial which directed a sharp, if belated, dig at Mr. George Meany, Czar of the American labour movement. Specifically, the editorial rapped Meany for his expression of unconditional support for Johnson's shock troops in Santo Domingo. Several trade union officials followed up with public statements reiterating and emphasizing the main content of the editorial.

At the meeting of the Labour Council immediately following appearance of the editorial, the attending delegates were almost unanimous in expressing support and congratulations for the long-overdue condemnation of Meany's reactionary position. This action of Council delegates, in associating themselves with the criticism of Meany, was well taken.

However, now that congratulations and support have been properly expressed for what the editorial and officials DID say, we must take a look at, and comment on what THEY FAILED to deal with. It may well be that some of our local labour leaders will be encouraged to take additional steps in the direction of improving the present deplorable situation.

While the editorial correctly protested Meany's unconditional support for the presence of Johnson's shock troops in the Dominican Republic, it ignored his equally strong support for U. S. brutal aggression in Vietnam and other areas of Southeast Asia. Also left untouched was Meany's man Friday in the International Affairs Department of the A.F.L. - C.I.O., the notorious professional anti-Communist, Jay Lovestone.

There is a general thread of thought running through the editorial with which we find ourselves in disagreement. This is to the effect that the replacement of Meany by another individual, (a Walter Reuther, for example?) will change the existing situation.

Present conditions in the international trade union movement are due to a crisis of policy and not simply one of good leaders versus bad leaders. The crisis results from the policy of splitting the world labour movement in support of imperialist cold-war policies, enlisting in the anti-Communist ranks in defence of the capitalist system of exploitation and the failure to present a programme that challenges capitalism and points the way to a new social order. Meany and his colleagues have merely been the best available group for making existing policy effective. Any tactical move that is restricted to replacing one individual with another and makes no programmatic changes can have no real or lasting effect on the situation. A Walter Reuther may prove to be more subtle and succeed in continuing present policy for a short time longer, but the end result can only be an intensification of the crisis of policy and a worsening of the situation.

If the Federation and council officials have any doubt of this, we would recommend they study the contents of the May issue, Free Trade Union News. There they will find two statements from the last meeting of the A.F.L. - C.I.O. Executive Council, both of them passed unanimously and, therefore, reflecting the outlook of every member of the council.

One statement, on the question of Germany, proposes a policy said to be aimed at the reunification of Germany. The practical application of the plan which

begins with rejecting the Oder-Neisse line, could result only in devastating war in Europe. In view of the rebirth of Hitlerite political groups and the Nazis who keep turning up in high places in Germany, the exuberent expressions of optimism about the strength of German democratic institutions seem a bit out of place.

The other official declaration deals jointly with the crisis in Santo Domingo and Vietnam. The Council leaves no room for doubt as to where they stand on these important issues.

"The Executive Council", reads the declaration, "has considered the latest developments in war-ravaged Vietnam and in strife-torn Santo-Domingo. We have examined the course pursued by President Johnson... the Council acting on reports from its own investigators on the spot, declares its unequivocal support of the measures, taken to date, by President Johnson".

"The Executive Council welcomes the prompt and energetic measures taken by the President... The President deserves the full support of our country and all Latin America."

This May issue also contains an article by "Democratic Socialist", David Dubinsky, in which he calls for all-out war to resist "aggression". It seems that the deployment of several million U. S. military personnel around the world is just a Sunday School picnic, not aggression.

Speaking, in his capacity as an Executive Council member, for Canadian as well as U. S. workers, Dubinsky says: "We want the President to know that we go all the way with him". Later he chastises the "liberals" for protesting against the bombing of North Vietnam and takes to task those businessmen who seek to increase trade with Socialist nations. (On both these points, the declared policy of Canadian labour is in direct opposition to that espoused by Meany, Dubinsky and the entire Executive Council of the A. F. L. - C. I. O.)

A reading of the contents of this eight page "War Cry" will serve to heavily underline the point we made above: the fight around the question of individual leaders is but a sham battle. The real fight concerns the policy and tactics of the labour movement and in that fight only an INDEPENDENT Canadian Trade Union movement can be effective and make its presence felt through the carrying out of a programme of action suited to Canadian needs and problems.

The entire leadership structure of the A.F.L. - C.I.O. is dedicated to the defence of the free enterprise system and, therefore, aligned on the side of the employers and against any progressive forces that seek to make fundamental changes in the present social system. It follows that so long as present policy is maintained, it matters little who holds the reins of power, they will eventually end up on the free enterprise, anti-Communist bandwagon and as troopers in the capitalist brigades fighting the anti-imperialist movements around the world. The superficial differences between the Meany forces on the one side and those of Reuther on the other will bring no real change regardless of which wins since neither will consent to take the only real step that means anything - breaking with the ruling class and pointing the way to a new social order.

We must also take exception to the way in which the editorial seeks to glamourize the I.C.F.T.U. as an essentially democratic and progressive organization. Nothing could be further from the truth.

The I.C.F.T.U. was a creation of the A.F.L. for the express purpose of splitting the world trade union movement as a contribution to the cold war aims of the imperialists. The I.C.F.T.U., from its very inception, took up the discredited Nazi banner of anti-Communism and stoutly defended the capitalist system of exploitation and war.

When the editorial says: "What Mr. Meany has done in a single stroke is to bring the I.C.F.T.U.'s slogan, 'Peace, Bread and Freedom' into serious disrepute," it stops somewhat short of stating the real case. O.R.I.T., the Latin-American wing of the I.C.F.T.U. did a pretty fair job on that long before Meany expressed his support for Johnson's armed occupation of Santo Domingo. The June issue of Inter-American Labor Bulletin carried a long article and an official statement by O.R.I.T. which support Johnson's contention that a group of foreign-trained Communist conspirators attempted to seize control of the Dominican Republic. There were also statements indicating a favourable reaction toward the occupation of Santo Domingo by U.S. troops, both openly and under cover of the O.A.S.; as an international force.

O.R.I.T. and the A.F.L., acting jointly, sabotaged and brought about the downfall of the Jagan government and the elevation of a pro-imperialist group to the position of state power in Guiana.

In a previous issue of Progressive Worker, we had occasion to point out that officials of O.R.I.T. were appealing to the military junta that had seized control of Bolivia to certify only I.C.F.T.U. unions and refuse recognition to "Communist" unions.

In every case where people have resorted to armed struggle against the imperialists, the I.C.F.T.U., O.R.I.T. and the A.F.L. have lined up on the side of the oppressors in the name of defending peace and freedom. What the editorial refers to as the I.C.F.T.U. fight to "improve the lot of workers under totalitarian regimes" is, in reality, a joint campaign with the imperialists against the Socialist nations.

In short, the record of the I.C.F.T.U. and its subsidiaries is such as to make it obvious that, rather than fighting for "Peace, Bread and Freedom", they have enlisted in the imperialist conspiracy to enslave the people, intensify exploitation and prepare for a new world war under Hitler's old slogan of saving the world from Communism.

The editorial writers of Labour Statesman, while they do a good and necessary job of fingering Meany, miss the real point.

The real factor which we have to contend with is that the A.F.L.-C.I.O. to which the major section of our unions are attached, is a foreign-based and foreign-controlled organization whose leaders are pledged to the support of policies that are opposed to the basic interests of our people and our nation. These policies can be changed only by actions taken by U.S. workers and not by us. There is no possible way in which we can force upon the U.S.-controlled A.F.L.-C.I.O. a political programme suitable to the needs of Canadian workers, nor can we bring about a change in leadership unless it is desired by the U.S. workers.

We require an independent trade union movement that can shape its own policies in the interests of labour and the nation. So long as we remain under the domination of a foreign-controlled movement, especially when it is as reactionary as the A.F.L.-C.I.O. with its pro-imperialist attitudes, we will be shackled to a policy that is opposed to our own best interests and inhibits us from developing a programme that will challenge the status quo and set labour in motion toward a solution of the complex economic and political problems that beset us. Any seriously intended proposal to break with the Meany leadership and their policies must, of necessity, be accompanied by plans to place the Canadian unions in a position to be able to take independent action. This can only be achieved if we have an independent movement.

The ferment that can be discerned in the Canadian unions indicates the readiness of the workers to follow a leadership that will promote a policy of uniting all Canadian unions in a single centre, regardless of political outlook and around a programme of struggle for full employment and an improvement of conditions. Such a move would considerably strengthen our unions and assist the progressive forces in the U.S. that are working for the rejection of the Meany junta and its policies.

The success of such a move would depend upon rejecting the divisive policies of the I.C.F.T.U. and promoting a campaign for the reunification of the world labour movement around a programme of peace and social advance suited to the specific needs of each independent group and nation.

Having taken this first faltering step of rejecting the personal leadership of Meany, our B.C. union leaders should now make the necessary follow-up by urging rejection of the whole reactionary programme of the A.F.L.-C.I.O. and lead the way toward an independent Canadian trade union movement, a united body of world labour and a programme based on a Socialist perspective.



SOUTH VIETNAM LIBERATION ARMY

The small bands of poorly armed South Vietnamese patriots who rose in battle against the Americans and their puppet troops a few years ago have grown into a powerful Liberation Army. This army has liberated four-fifths of the territory of South Vietnam and 70 per cent of its fourteen million population.

The shotguns and even spears and bows and arrows with which the liberation fighters began have been replaced by U. S. -made rifles, machine-guns, mortars and other modern equipment captured from the puppet army. The Liberation Army also has its own supplies made in jungle arsenals in the liberated areas, equipped with captured American-made machinery.

The people's forces consist of regular army units, local troops and guerrilla detachments. The regular army has artillery units, engineering corps and units equipped against the toxic and poison gases used by the American and puppet troops. Backed by hundreds of thousands of armed villagers who carry arms while working their land, the Liberation Army has defeated the U. S. imperialists and their puppets.

When the resistance fighters who had fought the French re-grouped and left for North Vietnam, after the Geneva agreements in 1954, the Americans and their lackeys took repressive action against the people. Several hundred thousand were massacred or imprisoned. The people stood up in self-defence.

In 1959, a people's self-defence unit in Ben Tre Province destroyed an enemy post and seized its weapons. Then another unit slipped into an enemy barracks and took away all the weapons there. Numerous other guerrilla units came into existence in the same way all over the land and on February 15, 1961, they merged to form the Liberation Army under the leadership of the South Vietnam National Liberation Front.

In the four years ending 1964, the Liberation Army and guerrilla units killed, wounded or captured more than 300,000 enemy troops, including over 3,000 Americans according to figures released by Liberation Front. They shot down or damaged 2,000 U. S. aircraft. In the first quarter of this year alone, they put out of action 45,259 enemy troops. This figure includes 1,129 American casualties, among them two major generals and six majors.

According to the Liberation Press Agency, 12,400 puppet troops crossed over to the liberation forces with their weapons in the first quarter of this year.

From fighting defensive battles in the early days, the liberation forces have switched to the offensive following their brilliant victory in Ap Bac Village on January 2, 1963 when they routed an enemy force ten times their own number.

In the first eleven years, the United States poured 4,000 million U. S. dollars into South Vietnam to prop up its puppet regime. This "aid" has since been stepped up to two million dollars a day. Yet it cannot stop the advance of the liberation forces.

The Americans and their lackeys have now pulled back into fortified cities like Saigon and Da Nang, which are encircled by the liberation forces.

Defeated in South Vietnam, Washington has resorted to escalation of the war by bombing the North and directly committing increasing numbers of U. S. troops in the South. The people's forces are now fighting the U. S. invaders and their puppets at the very gates of the provincial capitals and big cities.

South Vietnamese women in the forefront of the struggle against the U. S. imperialists and their henchmen.



An arms workshop of the South Vietnam people's armed forces



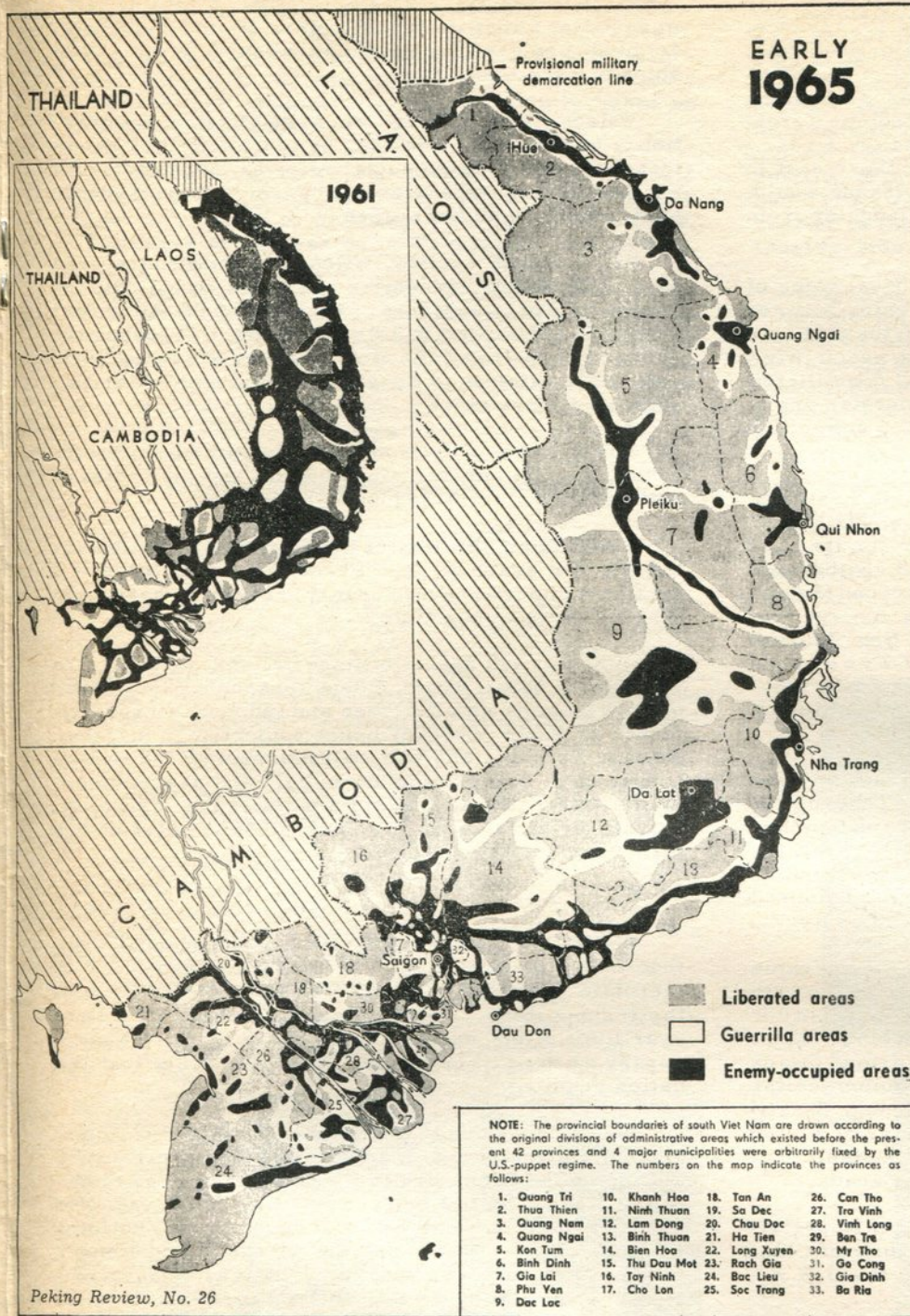
Their surprise attack on Bien Hoa, the important military base outside Saigon, in which 59 U. S. planes were destroyed or damaged and 293 American troops were killed or wounded, showed that the people's forces are powerful enough to hit hard at strongly fortified enemy posts even in the heart of the U. S. - puppet controlled areas.

The growing combat strength of the Liberation Army is seen in the fact that they can now wipe out regular enemy formations by the company and battalion. There is every indication that enemy troops will soon be knocked out by the regiment.

The liberation forces are waging a war of national independence to free their land from the clutches of Washington and its hirelings. They are fighting for the liberation of the South and the defence of the North and for the reunification of their fatherland. Their struggle is engaging considerable United States forces and making it more difficult for the U. S. A. to apply aggressive pressure on other countries. Thus it is greatly assisting the struggles of the Afro-Asian and Latin American peoples. Upsetting the global strategy of the U. S., the Vietnamese people are contributing to the defence of world peace. Theirs is a just war that has won not only the support of their own people but the backing and sympathy of revolutionary people the world over. They are sure to win.

CHINA FEATURES By Chang Tung

EXPANDING LIBERATED AREAS IN S. VIET NAM



Liberation Fighters—The People, Themselves!



Guerrillas in ambush in South Vietnam

The ignominious fate of a U.S. helicopter in south Viet Nam.



Men of the south Vietnamese people's armed forces study tactics before an operation.



Officers of a unit of the South Vietnam Liberation Army are working out their plan of attack.

NEGOTIATIONS HOAX

The Commonwealth Prime Ministers Conference, called ostensibly to discuss Commonwealth problems, was turned into a forum for the propagation of Johnson's phony negotiations proposal and as a sounding board for anti-China diatribes. The shoddy performance, staged in London, could hardly be called a roaring success. A glance at the names of those cast in the role of Angels of Peace in this burlesque would, in itself, be sufficient to raise gales of laughter from any discriminating audience.

Pearson of Canada was playing his usual game of "hard-to-get" while prancing and preening between center stage and wings. The squire of the Ottawa Valley, (who conned the Swedes out of a peace prize) tried to pose before the world as a neutral conciliator when anyone with even a minimum of understanding is aware that he and his government are fully committed to U. S. objectives.

At the very moment that the Honourable Lester B. was taking a bow as a neutral peacemaker, his Minister of Foreign Affairs was standing history on its head in an effort to prove that demands for U. S. withdrawal from Vietnam constituted proposals for a second Munich.

The Premiers of both Australia and New Zealand are in the U. S. jar of pickles up to their eyebrows with sizeable forces committed to action in South Vietnam. Yet both participated in the farce of setting up an "uncommitted" peace mission.

Yet another seeker after "peace and freedom" was Smith of Rhodesia who heads a lily-white government that rules an African nation where blacks outnumber whites by 20 to 1 but are excluded from all governing and administrative bodies. Smith has a vested interest in the maintenance of a world where the coloured majority is ruled and exploited by the white minority.

Shastri of India, that "noble man of peace", came to this conference of phony seekers after peace with his hands dripping blood. India has not settled a border problem with a single one of her neighbours. Most recent of the Shastri escapades was the armed attack on Pakistan, (a fellow-member of the Commonwealth). Just hours before the conference opening, Shastri astounded his hosts when he took advantage of a visit to Canada to launch a public attack on Pakistan. The performance brought him no new friends in Canada.

Shastri is preparing India for the role of Imperialist spearhead against the People's Republic of China and is utilizing weapons supplied by the U.S.A., U.S.S.R. and Britain for this purpose.

While Mr. Shastri wanders abroad in the service of Imperialism, millions of his Indian subjects die of starvation and hundreds of millions live out their brief life span in a dismal abyss of hunger, misery and degradation.

Wilson of Britain, the "Socialist" Prime Minister who can out-Tory the Tories, was chosen Chairman of the "Peace Mission" and what a sorry spectacle he was. A number of Asian and African delegates showed definite signs of requiring a large draught of water to help them swallow the idea of Wilson as a man of "peace and freedom".

Of all the delegates at the conference, Wilson was the one most openly and totally committed to U. S.

imperialist aims. In fact, no other world figure shows so much pride and contentment when acting as shoe-shine boy for Uncle Sam.

Wilson stated long ago where he stood on the question of Imperialist aims when he told the British people that there would be no social reforms instituted at the expense of over-seas interests. "Foreign commitments, said Wilson, take first place."

In line with this policy, Wilson is committing a large part of Britain's manpower and taxes to building the puppet state of Malaysia as an imperialist threat against Indonesia and Southeast Asia. Wilson and Johnson have common Imperialist aims in Asia and there is no noticeable difference in strategy and tactics in the pursuit of these aims.

The picture of Wilson as an impartial arbitrator in the struggle between imperialism and the forces of national liberation is the joke of the century.

Aside from the matter of the personell who are bidding for seats on the "Peace Mission", there is a small but important question that needs to be answered: What is there to negotiate?

Only outright agents of imperialism, or those who are utterly naive, would accept Johnson's phony claim of two Vietnams with the "free and independent government" in South Vietnam being subjected to invasion. Neither Britain, who was co-Chairman of the Geneva Conference, nor Canada or India, who are members of the International Control Commission, can plead naivete or ignorance, they are all fully informed on all developments since Geneva.

Vietnam is one nation!

The Geneva Conference made it abundantly clear that the 17th parallel was a temporary expedient to facilitate withdrawal of the French Colonialists and their supporters. The Geneva conferees set a two-year limit at the end of which, (July, 1956), the temporary demarcation line would be erased and the nation reunited.

The U. S. refused to sign the Geneva Accord and acted unilaterally and in an aggressive manner by setting up the Diem dictatorship, declaring the temporary line of demarcation to be permanent, and announcing there would be no elections and no national re-unification. Diem, and the dozens of reactionary cliques that have followed him, have all been maintained in power by U. S. military force and against the wishes of the people.

The only foreign forces on the soil of Vietnam belong to the U. S. and its supporters. The Liberation Forces are equipped mainly with U. S. weapons captured from the imperialists and their puppets.

Johnson has stated that even if the Saigon government, which is wholly a U. S. creation, requested the departure of foreign troops, the U. S. would not withdraw but would remain in defiance of Saigon to "contain communism and defend the interests of the U. S. and the free world." This is a quite conclusive negation of the claim that the U. S. is in South Vietnam at the request of an independent government and for the purpose of aiding in the defence of that so-called government against foreign invasion.

"CENSORSHIP"

There is one root cause for the continuing crisis in Vietnam - the presence of U. S. armed forces. Let the U. S. withdraw from Southeast Asia and the people will quickly compose their differences and establish a peaceful and united nation. Military dictatorship, lacking U. S.-armed support, will be rapidly destroyed and replaced by regimes firmly based on the democratic principle.

There is, therefore, no logical or demonstrable reason for any phony peace mission travelling to Hanoi and Peking to negotiate what is not negotiable. The source of aggression is Washington, not Peking.

If these gentlemen of the "Peace Mission" had any real desire to serve the cause of peace, they would travel, not to Peking and Hanoi where the cause of peace is being well-served, but to the U. S., the centre of aggression and reaction in the world. There they would register the demand that the American imperialists get their troops out of Asia, out of Africa and out of Latin America.

IN BRIEF

Daily events are constantly proving how the revisionist line merges with, and aids, imperialist plans. One more proof has recently risen to the surface. A public statement of the B. C. executive of the C. P. issued on February 19th criticized the Progressive Workers Movements' position on Vietnam in the following words:

"there are those.....who emphasize winning instead of ending the war in Vietnam."

Just four months later, on June 23rd, Dean Rusk, in a speech defending U. S. aggression in Southeast Asia, identified himself with this line of thought when he said: "It is obvious what is wanted in Hanoi is a military victory, not peace."

Members of the P.W.M. Norman Bethune branch made a mass distribution of 10,000 leaflets on Vancouver streets on June 19th. The leaflet exposed the



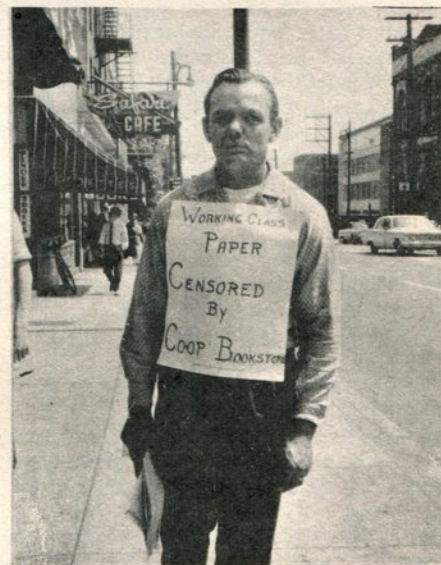
efforts being made by some in high places to prepare the conditions to drag Canada into war on the side of the U. S. in Vietnam.

Members of Youth Against War and Fascism are holding a series of meetings and film showings on Vietnam in the Vancouver area. The organization has also begun publication of a paper, the first number is now on sale. Subscription rates are 50 cents per year. Address subs to 5842 Olive Avenue, Burnaby 1, B.C.

I recently attended the annual general meeting of the People's Co-operative Bookstore held on June 18th. The shareholders were to hear a speech on Censorship at the end of the meeting but before that, "censorship" was applied. Under new business, a shareholder moved "that the publication PROGRESSIVE WORKER be prominently displayed and sold in the Co-op Book Store." Mr. Stanton, Chairman of the Board put the position of the Directors thus, "the Board of Directors had discussed and rejected selling this publication earlier in the year on the grounds that it was a 'shill' local version of the views of the government of China."

Mr. Stanton was asked on a point of information "whether the publication in question dealt ONLY with the views of the government of the People's Republic of China or with events on the Canadian scene?" I will leave the answer to this question to the readers of this paper. The point in question wasn't debated at length as "question" was called with the result that Progressive Worker is to be denied to the supporters and patrons of the Co-op Book Store.

However, the following afternoon, several people were seen selling PROGRESSIVE WORKER outside the Co-op Book Store. They displayed information placards with the words, "WORKING CLASS PAPER CENSORED BY CO-OP BOOK STORE" plus "READ THE PAPER THE CO-OP BOOK STORE BANNED".



This once again proves that censorship from whatever quarter cannot stop progressive ideas from being heard. As the saying goes, "No army can stop the advance of an idea whose time has come".

E. C., Vancouver

THE SHELL OIL STRIKE

The sit-in demonstration of oil workers at Shellburn Refinery in Burnaby was an inspiring one and has served to shed a great deal of light on the reactionary policies of this oil company. Nation-wide publicity attended the demonstration and its "Public Image" has suffered considerably.

Attempts to obscure the real issues by attacks on Jerry LeBourdais, plant chairman, with the inference that the struggle was dominated by "Peking Reds" found little support. The "Labour" Statesman, organ of the B. C. Federation of Labour set the record where it belongs, in the lap of the Shell Oil Company. Among the very few within the labour movement who took up this line from the boss were some of the so-called radicals. The revisionists were away off to the right and came as close to the bosses' position as it was possible to get. (This situation requires further issue when names and actions will be recorded).

The scene at Shellburn was an inspiration for those who admire a workers' struggle for dignity, self respect and the right to earn a decent living. The four-day demonstration commencing July 5th has without a doubt sharpened the struggle for a new contract that has been dragging on through frustration after frustration since last February.

A mile or more of wire fencing surrounds this property. Meetings were held along the fence and wives, families and friends visited through the wire with the men inside. Food, sleeping bags, changes of clothes and other comforts were passed over the wire along with messages of solidarity and encouragement.

The struggle against intimidation at Shell Oil is a continuing one and has intensified as negotiations for a new contract meet with stall after stall. The present one flared into the open when ten workers were threatened with suspension for refusing to work overtime under conditions regarded by the workers as discriminatory. On Monday morning July 5th, the night shift coming off and the day shift going on held a meeting at which they decided that the threatened suspensions must be lifted or no more work. The company responded by suspending all workers on both shifts. A decision was made to stay in the plant and the battle was on. During the day repeated threats were made by company officials and an announcement was made that Jerry LeBourdais, plant chairman of the union was not suspended, but fired.

Dick Cordon plant secretary, when interviewed about this development made it clear that while the company may have fired Jerry there is one thing for sure "we still stand solidly behind him".

The next development came at 4 p.m. when the afternoon shift reported for work. At the gate each man was presented with a document to sign which committed him to refrain from participating in the demonstrations and work in the plant if he should be allowed to enter. No one signed and this shift was locked out. This group promptly set up a "Locked Out" picket line which they maintained until next day when a court injunction forced them to desist. This attempt by Shell oil to bring to life the "Yellow Dog" contract, a device long ago discredited and banned in modern society was a further indication of the company's attitude.

On Wednesday, July 7th, each of the demonstrators inside the plant were served with an injunction for "trespass" and on Thursday evening demonstrators marched out of the plant in a body and were joined by great numbers of other oil workers and friends and with bagpipes in the lead the march continued away from the plant.



At the time of this writing, negotiations have been conducted and an agreement reached which put the men back to work Sunday night, July 11th. Jerry LeBourdais voluntarily agreed to withdraw as a means of reaching a settlement and the union has insisted on paying his wages in full while negotiations continue under grievance procedure, for his reinstatement. Whatever developments take place in this struggle one can be sure of one thing, it won't be easy.

In modern society oil is power and the great oil companies have led the capitalist world in the development of tactics of suppression. This history is one of robbery with violence. Massacres, murder and war are still used by these companies to obtain their ends.

The British led the way and now the Americans have outdone them. Governments have been overthrown, armies pitted against each other and millions of lives have been squandered by the oil industry in the struggle for "Black Gold".

By Jack Greenall

CUBA

Dear Mr. LeBourdais:

I apologize for not having written sooner, but I was waiting till I had something to tell you: and it happened last week.

Last week was Holy Week, and we, under the name of Spring Week mobilized towards the sugar fields with the intentions of cutting at least 500 @'s of sugar cane. An @ (arroba) equals to 25 pounds.

We had classes on Monday all day and Tuesday morning. In the afternoon, we were taken in buses to our camp. We arrived there, undid our hammocks

TO OUR READERS

Last September our movement purchased the necessary machinery - press, typewriters and auxilliary equipment to begin publishing the Progressive Worker. The cost to us was a phenomenal \$6,200.00 of which \$1,000.00 of this was finance charges. Our initial down payment of \$1,200.00 was raised solely from contributions from members of the Progressive Workers Movement. From that time to the present, we have been making a monthly payment of \$145.00.

Two weeks ago, we decided to try to pay off the remaining \$3,850.00 by July. The reason for this is two-fold; firstly, we will save \$575.00 in finance charges and, secondly, the sooner we rid ourselves of the \$145.00 monthly payments, the sooner we can direct that money to more advantageous areas of work. For example, public meetings, leaflets, pamphlets, etc.

Thanks to one substantial donation and many other smaller donations from members and friends, we have raised over \$2,100.00, leaving a total of \$1,100.00 still to be raised by our July deadline.

For this remaining \$1,100.00, we have decided to ask you, the reader and subscriber, for a donation. If you could send us a donation in accordance with your ability to pay, we are confident that the remaining \$1,100.00 will be raised.

In addition to a financial contribution, there are other ways in which you can help the Progressive Worker to be an even greater success in the future. These are:

- (a) Become a distributor for the paper in your community.
- (b) Send us names of possible subscribers and interested people.
- (c) Send articles for publication.
- (d) Help us assemble the paper each month if you live in the Lower Mainland.

It's your paper fighting for you - help our efforts and you help yourself. We pledge an even greater effort on our part to defeat the capitalist society and to build that socialist society free from the exploitation of man by man.

By Jack East

bags, etc. and went to bed early so we could get an early start next day. Every day we got up at four o'clock and we had coffee and a sandwich of tomatoes. By the time we got to the field, it was around five o'clock. We worked all morning until 10:30, came back to camp and had lunch and rested until 2:30 when it was time to start back to get in time to begin at 3:00 o'clock cutting cane again until 6:00 o'clock. You can see that we worked 8 1/2 hours every day as we had made up our minds to. We worked on the same schedule until Saturday night when we were told that there wouldn't be any work done on Sunday. Since there was no work next day, we (almost everybody) went to town and tried to have some fun but were so tired that by 11:00 o'clock we all were lying and sleeping in our hammocks back in camp.

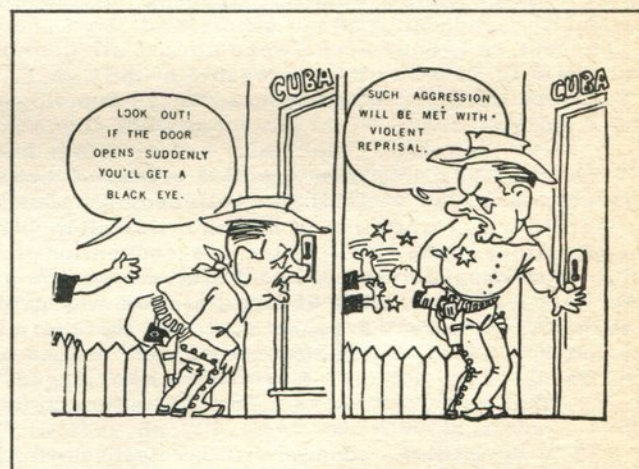
Our university has nearly 4,000 students and having in mind that more than half of them are workers and couldn't go with our group (they all went with their group), we were a total of 1,116 students in the sugar fields. This happened in our school. Can you imagine all three universities, all secondary schools, all institutes, all working centers mobilized?

There were some students among us who worked until Thursday at 10:00 o'clock in the morning and then they left for religious beliefs. Some of these came back to work on Saturday but most of them didn't.

Our university had three campaments. No. 1, No. 2 and No. 3. Sister was in No. 1 and I in No. 2. This doesn't mean that girls were in one camp and boys in others. In my camp, there were girls who instead of cutting cane, they picked potatoes, tomatoes and such things, but they worked faster than calculated and in order not to have them loafing the last day, they helped us to gather the cane that we cut.

Very soon we will have 1st of May celebrations and it seems to me that only last month I celebrated it. Times fly for us. But can you imagine how slow it must pass for the Vietnamese people?

My friend and I have made our minds up that if Cuba sends men to Vietnam, we're going to be on that list. If they accept us.



We are receiving the Progressive Worker and we (father and I) enjoy reading articles by people like you, or Sharon or Jack. Last week we received the number 6 edition of it, where Che Guevara is interviewed. I liked your article where you answered the attack made in the P. T. that your party was splitting the worker's union.

With revolutionary greetings,

Eduardo

LABOUR PARTY ??

By Malcolm Bruce.

For some fifty years, almost since the beginning of the century there have been attempts to create a labour party in Canada, and several have been launched. The advanced workers were opposed to the policy and slogans of the conservative trade union officialdom who followed the Gompers A.F. of L. slogan of "Reward Your Friends and Punish Your Enemies" in the two capitalist parties.

To name a few, there were the Independent Labour Party, The Socialist Party of Canada, The Socialist Party of North America, the Social-Democratic Party. In the early 1930's the S.P.C., the I.L.P. and some western farmer organizations joined to set up the C.C.F. which while not fully a Marxist party nevertheless based itself on the class struggle and set as its aim the eradication of capitalism.

On the death of its founder and leader Woodsworth the leadership passed into the hands of M.J. Coldwell a former school teacher who never in his whole career was anything more than a Lloyd George liberal, a Christian reformist dogooder who thought that the capitalist welfare state was socialism.

Under Coldwell's misleadership the C.C.F. degenerated rapidly, lost influence and became reactionary. It supported the U.S. - U.N. undeclared war of aggression, on the Korean people, in support of the U.S. puppet government of Syngman Rhee, at the cost of U.S. and Canadian lives whose blood is on their hands.

In a National C.C.F. convention they repudiated the paragraph in the Regina Manifesto which called for the eradication of capitalism, and declared for support of capitalism which they emphatically called "free enterprise". This apostasy accelerated its decline. The itch to acquire "respectability" in the hope of gaining more votes led the C.C.F. deeper into the political mire. They lost support of many workers who far outweighed the gain in support of the middle class. It was a case of "gaining at spigot and losing at the bung".

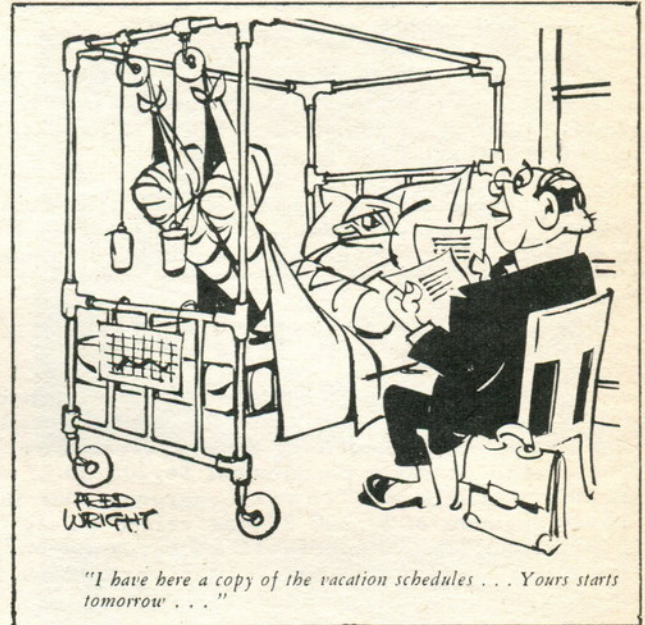
The next step was to create a labour party (at least that was given as their purpose). Accordingly under the leadership of the officials of the Canadian Congress of Labour - who were almost all members of the C.C.L. - and the leadership of the C.C.F. resolutions were passed to proceed to the founding of a new party.

A national convention was held in Ottawa which was largely attended with all the ballyhoo, parades and other antics in imitation of Democratic and Republican conventions in the U.S. In the pre-convention period two draft programmes and constitutions were sent out for discussion but little if any attention was paid to suggestions from the grass roots for the platform, constitution and leadership were already decided upon by the C.C.L. and C.C.F. leaders who rigged and controlled the convention as a well-oiled machine.

The programme adopted was barely distinguishable from that of the Liberal Party. It declared for "Free enterprise", support of NATO and the entire foreign policy of U.S. imperialism and for "planning" of the economy - within the limitations of capitalism, as if the capitalists are not doing that now. The programme says that if they form the government they will provide "full employment". But they know full well, or should know that unemployment is inevitable as long as capitalism exists. The reform or abolition of the senate which was proposed in the first draft programme was dropped.

No doubt they felt it prudent to preserve the Senate as a place of idle retirement for worn-out lame duck politicians who were faithful servitors of the capitalist class - A Canadian House of Lords.

The constitution adopted at the N.D.P.'s founding convention is undemocratic and aimed at ensuring continuing control by the right wing petty bourgeois leaders.



In the debate on a name for the new party those in control and their supporters angrily resisted the use of the word "labour" or "Socialist", declaring the new party was neither, but a party of all the people including "good" capitalists.

On the choice of a national leader it was abundantly clear that Douglas would be chosen because of his prestige, his popularity and his oratorical power. His opponent had been the C.C.F. leader, the prairie "kulak", Hazen Argue. In his campaign for leadership his only hope for success was support from the left. So he went all out to get it. In doing so he posed as a socialist and an opponent of NATO. The credulous left wing fell for his hypocritical demagoguery on the grounds that he was "saying things that needed to be said", but so had Roosevelt, Kennedy and even Nixon and every other office hungry charlatan and careerist out to bamboozle voters, especially those of the Left Wing.

Argue was soundly beaten and within a few weeks he removed his mask, crossed the barricades into the enemy liberal party camp, his spiritual and political home - but not before kicking his Left Wing supporters in the teeth before the convention ended by declaring his support for the programme including its support of NATO. It is hoped that the Left Wings, sincere people as they are, have learned a salutary lesson from their experience at the founding convention and will in future "look a gift horse in the mouth".

In view of the foregoing the question arises: If the N.D.P. were given a majority in parliament and formed a government, would it be a labour government? Even if it was to be considered a labour party - which is highly questionable indeed - would that mean that their government would be a labour government?

It cannot be truthfully said that any liberal party government was a liberal government any more than

Hitler's National Socialist Party government was a socialist one. They were anti-labour despite their names. A government's character is judged by the class interests it serves, the class of producers or the class of idlers and parasites. The N.D.P. is committed to serve and perpetuate "free enterprise" and imperialist foreign policy. Therefore an N. D. P. government would be a capitalist government as is the present Labour Party imperialist government in Britain, regardless of the name it bears or the voters who elected them.

QUOTES FROM MARX, ENGELS & LENIN

"Of course, for the most part the Labour Party consists of workers, but it does not logically follow from this that every worker's party which consists of workers is at the same time a political worker's party; that depends upon who leads it, upon the content of its activities and of its political tactics. Only the latter determines whether it is really a political proletarian party. From this point of view, which is the only correct point of view. The Labour Party is not a political worker's party but a thoroughly bourgeois party because although it consists of workers, it is led by reactionaries and the worst reactionaries at that, who

lead it in the spirit of the bourgeoisie and with the aid of the British Worker and Sheiderman, they systematically deceive the workers.

(V. I. Lenin, Speech on the Labour Party at the Second Congress of the 3rd International. Collected Works. Volume XXV)

On the French Worker's Party, Engels wrote to Bernstein on November 28, 1882 with regard to the Possibilists: "these people are... anything but a worker's party. They are, however, in germ what the people here (in London) are in full maturity: the tail of the bourgeois radical party... They have no workers' programme at all. And in my opinion, the workers' leaders who lend themselves to the production of a herd of working-class voting-cattle of this sort are guilty of direct treachery."

(Marx-Engels corr. - Page 404)

...every movement which does not keep the destruction of the wage system in view the whole time as its final aim is bound to go astray and fail - than many a piece of nonsense may be avoided...

(Engels to Sorge - November 29th, 1886 - Page 451)

THE INDIAN

I chortle when I see the odd Canadian Indian being glamorized by the bigwigs of the Liberal Party and whose pictures are displayed with great flourish in our national press. Big deal! Whether the soft soap comes directly from the Indian Department or from the Big Brass himself in Ottawa, the meaning and purpose is the same - a lot of hogwash and white wash! The immigration department is one of the most farcical departments of the civil services. Whether they are dealing with Indians or minority immigrant groups they always spend a lot of time and money, painting an exaggerated rose picture of conditions among these groups; like the recent Citizenship parade in Stanley Park where a handful of new citizens participated in paying allegiance to the new flag. It has always been a sore point with the average Indian to participate in this farcical ceremony. The only Indians who do participate, are the brain-washed youth. It is apt that the Indian affairs is classed under the Immigration Department, because both are exploited under the same conditions. I agree that a "good Joe" in the Indian Department never lasts long in there; because to be a good civil servant, you have to be vain, heartless, devoid of an analytical mind and obey your superiors without question or criticism. In plain English, you have to be a borderline idiot.

A reader of this paper took exception to my criticism of missionaries in a previous article. I will extend my criticism and say that missionaries were and are still an exploited class whose terms of reference were to subdue by religious means, a subject people in a conquered country. They didn't need to teach Indians brotherly love through their imported religion "Christianity". The Indian had a better system of brotherly love. They practiced communal ownership and the art of sharing. Is this not true brotherly love? They had a better understanding and a truer interpretation of "love, honour and obey" as interpreted in their tribal symbols.

I take great exception to the criticism of the clergy class who claim that Indians will always need the non-Indian to run their affairs for them and that they are indolent and unambitious people. Indians are to a great degree the back bone of the missionary societies. I

will guarantee that they are responsible for a good percentage of the establishment of churches in the Dominion of Canada. I have known them to shoulder two thirds of the cost and maintenance of a church where the congregation is both Indian and non-Indian. What do they get for subscribing to all this piety? Fourth class citizenship; low paid jobs; unemployment; slum conditions; pangs of hunger and alcoholism.

The free health scheme for Indians makes me laugh. The doctors hired to handle Indian cases are usually doctors who were too dumb to make a "go" of private practice and who do not keep up with modern methods of medicine and surgery. As a matter of fact, Indians and immigrants are just the unfortunate people to pawn off old surplus pills and what-have-you, replaced by modern cures and treatments. They also make a good guinea pig for medical experiments.

My step-father who was an atheist, used to say that, on the one hand the missionaries cajoled the Indians to part with their money to build bigger and better churches and maintain the missionary societies; while on the other hand, the traders baited the Indians with cheap whiskey and rum to part with the rest of their money to buy cheap trade goods.

It's about time the Indians got together on a platform of action to improve their lot, in a land of plenty. To do this, they have to leave religion, politics, tribal and clan differences right out of the picture to form that solidarity which is necessary to create the power vehicle with which to make themselves heard and felt. Until they do this, they will muddle along, blaming Japanese and Frenchmen for conditions which they themselves have only the power to do something about. And they should ignore and fight the red baiting which the Indian Department tries to use to stop any militancy shown among Indians. This is an old "pressure trick" which the ruling class have been using effectively for eons. I wholly agree with an Indian Chief I heard say that Indians must never forget that their allies lie with the labour class of the non-Indians and so be it.

HELEN BAYLOR

WAR IN SOUTH VIETNAM AS A JAPANESE REPORTER SAW IT

(NOTE: Following are excerpts from articles by Takeshi Kaiko, who covered a U. S. -puppet "mopping up" operation in South Vietnam early this year. He is a correspondent of one of Japan's major newspapers, Asahi Shimbun. His articles appeared in the weekly magazine of the paper. References to Viet Cong mean the People's Liberation Forces: "government troops" indicate troops of the Saigon puppet regime - Editor)

We set out early in the morning of February 14th for the Tam Ma Pho jungle, in the northern part of Phu Cuong district, where the Viet Congs had built tunnels from five to ten kilometres long. Over the past three or four years, the government troops did not dare enter the jungle because it was simply too dangerous.

This time we were to conduct a big operation. The troops were composed of three battalions and one company totalling 500 men.

We were equipped with ten armoured cars as well as 105 mm and 155 mm artillery. We pushed forward in three columns and penetrated the jungle from three directions.

We presently found some wooden huts and cooking ashes left by the Viet Congs. Later on we discovered a supply post of the Viet Cong. It was a shack in which were kept hand grenades, machine-gun and pistol cartridges, account books, etc.

Then, five minutes later, we were subjected to a barrage of machine-gun fire from nowhere. We had been ambushed by the Viet Cong.

When I recall this incident, what we then took for a Viet Cong supply post was probably a trap set for us.

We hid behind the trees or lay flat on the ground under the barrage of machine-gun fire. The commando units should have gone to cover our flanks but they lost their nerve and did not return a shot.

The opposition's fire was so fierce that we could not raise our heads. We did not know what to do.

When the helicopters and artillery pieces opened fire and that was the only moment, the Viet Congs did not fire a single shot at us. But as soon as the gunfire was stopped, the fierce machine-gun and rifle fire struck us as before but from another direction. Our heavy gunfire had failed to produce any effect. No matter how many bombs we dropped, the Viet Congs switched their position immediately, now to the right and now to the left, firing at us continuously.

And I felt that the Viet Cong were approaching. The government troops had lost their fighting will. They did not open fire and fled towards us.

Bullets were still fired at us constantly. Finally we had to flee helter-skelter. We went with American soldiers and a South Vietnamese battalion commander. But alas! We lost our bearings and in the excitement of the moment, ran in an easterly direction and into a Viet Cong base. Soldiers ahead of us cried, "Viet Congs are five metres away!"

We came to a sudden halt. We turned pale. Without uttering a word, we about-faced and took to our heels as fast as we could in what we supposed was a southerly direction. That is how we fled hither and thither, trying to avoid the hidden enemy.

At long last, we broke out of the encirclement. We ran so desperately for our lives that we did not even return a single shot. One South Vietnamese soldier was so scared that he threw away his machine gun and sat motionless on the ground muttering some inaudible words.

An American sergeant ran here and there, shouting and firing shots at random. But the Vietnamese troops paid no attention to him. Their job then was to save their own lives.

When we finally arrived at a camp, it was found that of some 200 men in our first battalion, only 17 remained. The rest had been wounded or killed or were missing.

We were completely isolated and helpless. Since the American signal man had lost his radio earphones, communications became very difficult.

We decided to withdraw. On our flight home, we were continuously attacked by the Viet Congs. They flitted about like squirrels. It seemed that they were moving in tunnels, coming out here at one moment and there at another.

At that time, the helicopters were flying back. They were attacked by Viet Cong gunfire as they strafed. The Viet Congs were waiting up in the trees with machine guns. They opened fire as the helicopters drew near.

To judge from what happened, the Viet Congs had complete control of the area. I thought that we were able to escape only because of the kindness of the Viet Congs.

Though the government troops, equipped with armoured cars, tanks and trucks, could maintain a mobile force on the highways, they could do nothing at night when they faced mine explosions and sniper attacks. The Viet Congs became very bold in their action.

The Viet Congs seem determined to fight to the bitter end. The government conducts heavy bombing thus killing not only the Viet Congs but also the peasants. As a result, the remaining peasants go over to the Viet Congs.

I talked with the soldiers. They said, "The Vietnamese are dog-tired." This explains all.

An infantry captain finishes ten bottles of beer a day. Asked why he should indulge in so much drinking, he said with head drooping, "I'll be killed some day."

A tank unit captain said, "I hope to retire from military service next year, if I'm still alive. I've been fighting for sixteen years. It is far too long. I'm longing to go back to my native place to grow bananas and palms."

The officers who were no longer young said, "We are fatigued." They avoided war talk and only spoke about their children and the difficult life at home. They said they had to fight day in and day out and were worn out and had to sleep by the roadside.

The Vietnamese soldiers have no will to fight. They have not the slightest idea why and for whom they are fighting. Once the machine-gun rattles in the jungle, they throw away their rifles and ammunition, part company with their comrades-in-arms and run desperately for dear life. When they are wounded, they stare blankly and bleed to death without uttering a single sound.

CHINA FEATURES

HEROIC PEOPLE OF THANH HOA

By Liu Hu CHINA FEATURES

Vietnam is showing that the much-vaunted "air superiority" of the U. S. imperialists is not so superior.

Ever since August 5th of last year, the U. S. has been bombing the Democratic Republic of Vietnam in the hope of getting out of their predicament in the south.

Especially since February of this year, their bombings and strafings have increased in frenzy. They have sent hundreds of jets of the "latest" models and have extended their bombardment gradually from the 17th to the 20th parallels, from the towns to the villages, and from the coastal islands to populated areas along the lines of communication.

But the undaunted Vietnamese army and people are proving that all Vietnam is a death-trap for the U. S. aggressors. Every factory, village, office, school, hill and island is an armed fortress. Everyone, young or old, man or woman, army commander or militia man, worker or peasant, is a heroic fighter.

They express their hatred of the U. S. aggressors through the muzzles of their guns. And the enemy planes get a thrashing wherever they go. With enemy planes as live targets, the Vietnamese army and people are becoming increasingly accurate gunners with each battle. They are bringing down an astonishing number of enemy planes.

From August 5th last year to the end of April, this year, the heroic army and people brought down 293 planes, including 27 planes which were hit in the north but crashed in the south. In April alone, the number of enemy planes downed in North Vietnam reached 163.

Some of the biggest U. S. raids took place on April 3rd and 4th, when U. S. planes made massive attacks on Thanh Hoa Province. In greater numbers than ever before, they bombed residential areas, and industrial and other establishments, but they were hard hit in return. The armed forces and civilians of the province brought down altogether 47 enemy planes and captured two American pilots. U. S. imperialism suffered its heaviest losses since starting its raids of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam on August 5th, 1964.

Located between the 19th and 20th parallels, Thanh Hoa is only 130 kilometres from Hanoi, the capital of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, and rice and coconuts grow there in abundance. Its people were tempered in the protracted war of resistance against French imperialism.

On April 3rd, the sky over Thanh Hoa was clear and cloudless. Between seven in the morning and four in the afternoon, American planes from 7th Fleet carriers in the South China Sea made several hundred sorties, flying over Thanh Hoa in groups.

The battle was waged with splendid co-ordination between the anti-aircraft, air and naval units, the local armed forces and the people.

After circling for awhile, the marauders dived on residential areas, non-military projects and economic establishments in the northern part of Thanh Hoa, dropping bombs and strafing as they headed back toward the sea. They probably thought that by flying in the direction of the sea, they could escape without being punished, could bale out if hit and drift until

rescued by a helicopter. But they miscalculated. As they dived, anti-aircraft units, the local armed forces, the naval units and the militia self-defence forces opened fire with weapons of all descriptions. One by one, the enemy planes were caught in cones of fire and fell amid columns of smoke. That day 17 enemy planes were downed and one American pilot was captured.

It was a record number of hits on any one day. Despite their victory, the people of Thanh Hoa did not relax. They knew the badly beaten enemy, like a cornered beast, would fight desperately. So after a day of strenuous fighting, they replenished their ammunition, repaired their dug-outs, and prepared for further battle.

Sure enough, the next day, the American air pirates came again. Altogether 30 planes were shot down that day and another American pilot was captured.

The names of the heroes of the two days of battle are legion. The young gunners of AA battery No. 12 fought dauntlessly and with great presence of mind. Seven of them were admitted to the Workers Youth League while the battle was going on. Three soldiers of a machine-gun team were stunned by the explosion of a heavy bomb, but resumed firing the moment they regained their senses. Seeing the pilot of a downed plane parachuting to earth, Vo Van Doc, a veteran of the battle of Dien Bien Phu and now leader of a militia platoon and vice-director of an agricultural producers' co-operation, led his men at a run from their trenches. As the pilot landed, every gun was pointed at him, and he stood trembling, with head lowered and both hands up.

A young woman, a member of a self-defence corps working in a restaurant, together with her army man husband, then on leave, took turns to shoot at enemy planes with one rifle. Another militia team mostly of women, shot at the enemy aircraft with ten rifles simultaneously, in co-ordination with neighbouring units. When one of them was wounded in the hand, she refused to leave the firing line but stayed on until the enemy planes were driven off.

Ordinary people, including old folk, also volunteered to help defeat the aggressors. An old retired worker served all day long as an ammunition supplier.

In celebrating their victory, the people and the armed forces of Thanh Hoa also summed up their experience and those who had rendered good service in the battle were warmly commended. They decided to watch closely for any new schemes the U. S. imperialists may contrive. They made ready to deal the invaders' fresh blows at any time.

The workers and the members of the farming co-operatives in the province have adopted as their slogan: "No neglect of production while fighting!" They are celebrating their victory with a new emulation drive, one to fulfil and overfulfil the state plans and achieve a bumper harvest of early rice. They are out for victory on both fronts, in battle and in production.

I PAINT WHAT I SEE

In the early part of 1933, Rivera moved into Rockefeller's Radio City to begin the painting of a mural for the comparatively high fee (at that time), of \$21,000.00. Rockefeller disliked the theme of the mural and particularly the presence of a likeness of Lenin. The mural was covered from public view, later stripped from the wall and shipped to Rivera in Mexico.

E. B. White, the American poet, wrote the following poem to commemorate the event:

I PAINT WHAT I SEE

A Ballad of Artistic Integrity

E. B. WHITE

"What do you paint, when you paint a wall?"

Said John D.'s grandson Nelson.

"Do you paint just anything there at all?

"Will there be any doves, or a tree in fall?

"Or a hunting scene, like an English hall?"

"I paint what I see," said Rivera.

"What are the colors you use when you paint?"

Said John D.'s grandson Nelson.

"Do you use any red in the beard of a saint?

"If you do, is it terribly red, or faint?

"Do you use any blue? Is it Prussian?"

"I paint what I paint," said Rivera.

"Whose is that head that I see on my wall?"

Said John D.'s grandson Nelson.

"Is it anyone's head whom we know, at all?

"A Rensselaer, or a Saltonstall?

"Is it Franklin D.? Is it Mordaunt Hall?

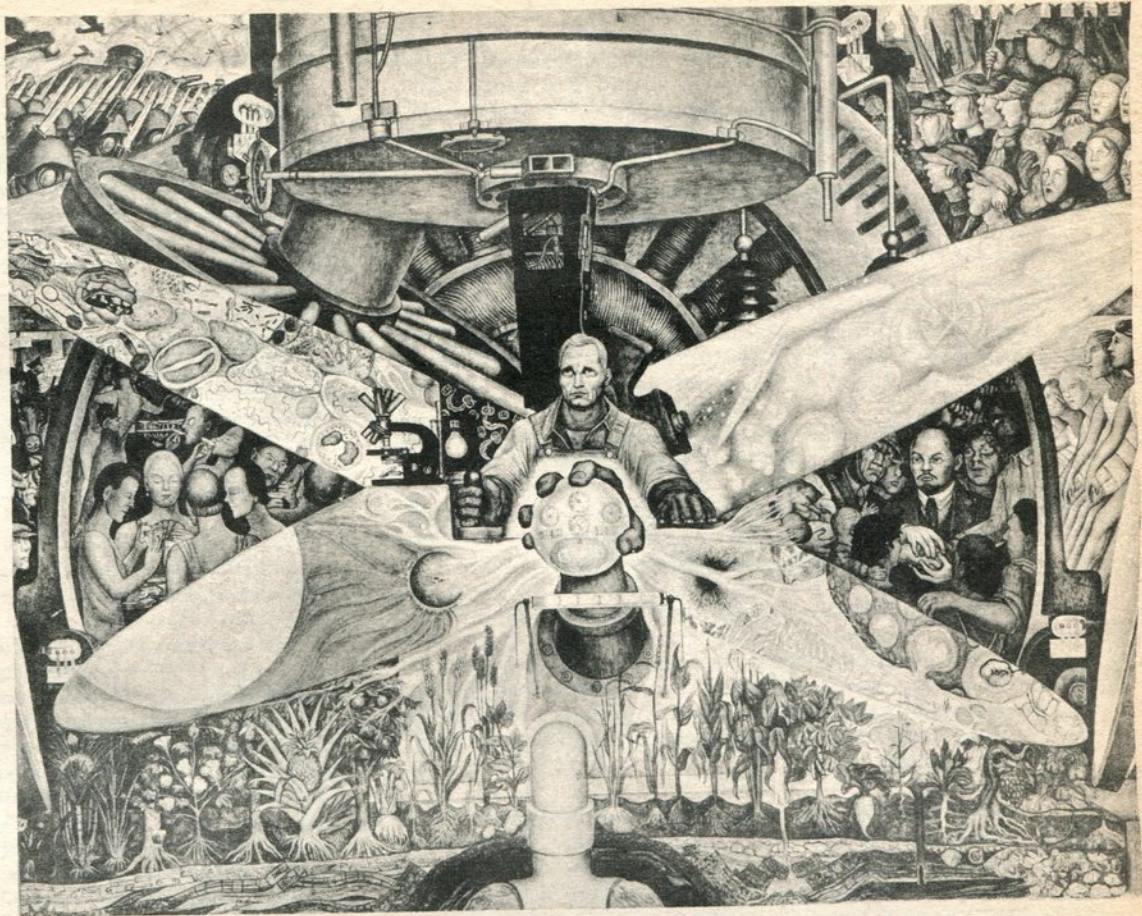
"Or is it the head of a Russian?"

"I paint what I think," said Rivera.

"I paint what I paint, I paint what I see,

"I paint what I think," said Rivera,

"And the thing that is dearest in life to me



Center of Resurrected Radio City Mural in Mexico.

"In a bourgeois hall is Integrity;

"However . . .

"I'll take out a couple of people 'drinkin'

"And put in a picture of Abraham Lincoln,

"I could even give you McCormick's reaper

"And still not make my art much cheaper.

"But the head of Lenin has got to stay

"Or my friends will give me the bird today

"The bird, the bird, forever."

"It's not good taste in a man like me,"

Said John D.'s grandson Nelson,

"To question an artist's integrity

"Or mention a practical thing like a fee,

"But I know what I like to a large degree

"Though art I hate to hamper;

"For twenty-one thousand conservative bucks

"You painted a radical. I say shucks,

"I never could rent the offices—

"The capitalistic offices.

"For this, as you know, is a public hall

"And people want doves, or a tree in fall,

"And though your art I dislike to hamper,

"I owe a little to God and Gramper,

"And after all,

"It's my wall . . ."

"We'll see if it is," said Rivera.