



## Party Hails the Insurrection As Sign of Coming Emancipation

New York, August 17—Sam Marcy, chairman of Workers World Party today hailed the rebellion of the Black People of Los Angeles as a genuine revolutionary upsurge and a sure sign of the coming black emancipation. Condemning the L.A. police and counterrevolutionary National Guard, and calling for workers' solidarity with the black insurrection, he made the following statement in the name of the party:

"When people rise up and face machine guns with fists and sidearms, they are telling the world that they are finished with the old system. They are ready to die rather than live in the old way any longer. The Watts insurrection proves that the struggle for black emancipation has reached a new and higher level and its ultimate victory is certain.

### Free the Prisoners; Avenge the Murders!

"The Workers World Party calls upon all friends of Black Freedom to rally to the cause of the embattled black masses of Los Angeles, to condemn their oppressors and to avenge the murder of their comrades-in-arms. We denounce

the imprisonment of 3,000 innocent people and demand their immediate release. Their imprisonment cannot be considered the punishment of criminals, but persecution of the victims of criminals—the criminals are the little landlords and bosses of Watts and the big landlords and bosses who make up the ruling class of the United States.

"Our party condemns the action of the California National Guard in reinforcing the already Cossack-like police under the notorious racist, Chief William H. Parker. Chief Parker's statement of yesterday: 'We are on top; they are on the bottom' is the voice of the counterrevolution gloating over its victims.

### Kind Words and Machine Gun Bullets

"A few of the rich, it is true, have had kind words for their victims while their paid storm troopers were shooting them down. But this is nothing new. There was always a certain percentage of slavemasters who shed crocodile tears while extracting the maximum sweat and blood from their slaves. Now the

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# Report of Rebellion — Straight From The L.A. Battlefield

By a Blood Brother

Just a few lines to fill you in on what's happening.

Wednesday afternoon (Aug. 11): Two blood brothers got in their car and started to drive off. They were stopped within a block by a C.H.P. (California Highway Patrolman). The driver had left his license at home; some kids on the block ran back to the brothers' house, told their mother what had happened. She walked down to the scene and everything was cool. The C. H. P. was okay and was getting ready to let the brothers go back home when up drove some Los Angeles Police Department cops acting like gestapo troops.

They threw one kid over the hood of their car very roughly (you know, spread eagle). Up to this point the mother was on the side of the cops but when this happened to her son naturally she objected. Then they turned on her. When one of the cops kicked her, it was on. Brothers started coming off rooftops and out of holes in the ground to get in on it.

Thursday: a meeting was called in Watts by the so-called leaders. The downtown leaders. They called for peace. The brothers (young guys 17 to 20) told them point blank they had had it. They weren't going to take it any longer, that

## The Only White Civilian

Dear Editor:

James Maiman, a white man killed on August 16, "was the first civilian caucasian to die as a result of the riot, which is now in its sixth day," the L.A. Herald Examiner reported on the same day. And he was not killed by "rioters," but by the National Guard.

Maiman was the brother of a woman I work with. He was hard of hearing, and might not have heard the command to stop his car and explain his business. (He was driving to work.) The Guardsmen probably called out for him to stop and when he did not do so, they shot straight and aimed to kill.

—G. C., Los Angeles

they would be out that night (The "leaders" were saying stay at home, stay indoors.) and that the cops would have to kill them all to get them inside.

Thursday: 6:30 P.M.: I arrived on the set and there were about 2000 blood brothers already there. The cops were there also, about 100 of them, driving bumper to bumper around the block. It

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## L.A. Cops Beat Strikers, Too

LOS ANGELES—Workers at the Torrance, Calif. plant (in Los Angeles County) of the Harvey Aluminum Company, the country's fourth largest aluminum company, have been on strike since April 4.

Pay at the Harvey plant is low by comparison with other large plants in the area. (The plant employs about 2500 workers.) Men usually start at \$2 an hour and women at \$1.35.

The men may slowly work their way up to \$3, but since there is no job se-

curity it is a common practice for the company to lay off older workers and hire new ones at the starting wage.

Safety conditions in the plant are terrible. Precautions are by-passed and equipment is over-loaded. A few weeks after the strike began, an 18-year-old boy who had been recruited as a scab was killed when a 5-ton weight slid off a towmotor built to carry 1½ tons.

The union, the United Steelworkers of America, won an NLRB election last

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# N.Y. Youth Defend L.A. Rebellion; Picket Armory

By J. Moore

NEW YORK, August 17 — Youth Against War and Fascism staged a picket line demonstration here today protesting the police and National Guard repression of the Black Rebellion of Los Angeles. About 75 people marched in front of the National Guard Armory on busy 14th Street, a working people's shopping area. It was the first demonstration in the New York area in support of the Afro-American rebels in Los Angeles.

The YAWF demonstrators passed out a leaflet that said of the Los Angeles episode: "This is not a riot. It is a rebellion of the black population against hundreds of years of unbearable oppression. . . . Oppressed [people] throughout the world have had to fight for freedom in the same way."

As the youths marched and chanted for withdrawal of National Guard troops from Watts, it became apparent that the many Afro-American people who passed were highly interested and sympathetic. Several joined the line. Even the whites (the composition of the area is about evenly mixed) showed deep interest and read the leaflet thoughtfully.

As Afro-Americans joined the line and others stopped and watched, pudgy police fink, Fritz Baer, now a fixture at militant rallies, was his usual officious self. He approached a black youth who had been standing close to the line for some time, reading the leaflet and watching.

When Baer ordered him to move on, the youth argued for his rights and stood his ground while Baer, thick neck hunched forward, spit out threats. Sec-

ing what was happening several aroused picketers rushed over from the line to join the youth in his protests against Baer's arbitrary police ruling.

Baer, now surrounded by protesting people, called in his club-and-gun-armed cops and threatened to have everyone in the group arrested for "disorderly conduct."

Still no one moved. Then after further protests the pickets invited the defiant black youth to stand inside the barri-

caded area. He joined the picket line saying angrily in the hearing of the cops: "If they keep this up they'll get the same thing here they got in L.A."

Signs carried by the pickets as they marched in front of the grey stone armory told their story:

"A 'Riot' is a Rebellion of the Poor."  
"Withdraw the National Guard from Watts."

"U.S. Policy: Police Repression in L.A. and Viet Nam."



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## Treats Its Own Allies Like—Black People In Vietnam, U.S. Brass Kills Even More Brutally Than It Did in L.A.!

U.S. papers have told of captured "Viet Cong" being taken up in U.S. helicopters and dropped one by one to their deaths until one who is left agrees to answer questions.

But calloused U.S. soldiers, often white southerners trained to have no feelings for black people, treat even the government soldiers, supposedly their allies, just as cruelly. An extreme incident of this was revealed by a government soldier who escaped one of the most inhuman mass murders since Nazi gas chambers.

HANOI, August 7 (Hsinhua)—U.S. aggressors in South Viet Nam after moving their own dead and wounded to safety, dropped dead and wounded puppet troops from helicopters into the sea to rid themselves of the wounded and eliminate evidence of their defeat.

This loathsome deed was revealed by

a puppet soldier who survived and was released by the South Viet Nam National Liberation Front Committee in Rach Gia province on July 17 together with 64 other prisoners of war. The news was reported by the South Viet Nam Liberation Press Agency.

The survivor, Sinh, belonged at the time to puppet company 31, regiment 9. He was wounded during the Vinh Thuan battle on April 26 together with many other puppet troops. After the battle, he said, the U.S. sent helicopters to pick up, first of all, the dead or wounded American officers. Then they hastily lumped together several hundred wounded puppet soldiers, loaded them into the copters and flew straight to the sea where they dropped them into the water.

Sinh was hurled into the water but was rescued by the local people and later given medical care by the local front committee.

## Another "Friend" Shows His Teeth

On August 10, President Lyndon Johnson said in reference to the Los Angeles rebellion:

"A rioter with a Molotov cocktail in his hands is not fighting for civil rights any more than a Klansman with a sheet on his back and mask on his face. They are both more or less what the law declares them: lawbreakers. . . . They must be exposed and they must be dealt with."

But a man with an atomic bomb in his hand fighting the poor peasants of Viet Nam, a man with a machine gun in his hand fighting the Black People of Los Angeles, can hardly be taken as an au-

thority on "civil rights."

Moreover, his labeling of the oppressed along with the oppressor as a "law-breaker" is a sure proof that his vaunted civil rights legislation is a sham. His indignation against the L.A. rebels is an aid and comfort to the very Klan he attacks, because it was the Klansmen of all varieties that the L.A. "rioters" were fighting against.

Johnson, by equating the people of Watts to the Ku Klux Klan, only exposes himself as an enemy of the whole Black People and a friend of their murderers, who in this case just happened to wear blue coats instead of white sheets.

## Bail? Sure — for Right People!

HAYNEVILLE, Ala.—While bail of \$5,000 apiece is keeping 4,000 almost randomly arrested black prisoners in the Los Angeles jails, the certain murderer of a civil rights advocate in Alabama had no difficulty getting out of jail on a \$12,500 bond.

Tom L. Coleman, sheriff's deputy and engineer in the Alabama Highway Department, shot and killed an Episcopal divinity student and wounded a Catholic priest, both visiting Alabama for civil rights activities.

The two white clerics were not in any action at the time of the shooting, but had gone into a grocery store to get food. There was a "disturbance" at the store, said the town authorities, and Deputy Sheriff Coleman walked in and opened up with a shotgun to stop the alleged disturbance.

County Prosecutor Carlton L. Perdue, whose duty it will be to try to convict Coleman, told reporters the men would

not have been shot "if they had been minding their own business."

Perdue helped prosecute the Klan murderers of white civil rights crusader Mrs. Liuzzo at a trial in this town last spring. The murderers are now at liberty and officially innocent.

The bail for Mr. Coleman, a member of one of the oldest (white) families in the state, was remarkably low for the charge of murder, which often prohibits bail altogether. In Los Angeles, where the police requested that no bail be granted for "rioters" at all and that they be kept in jail until trial, the bail has been set \$3,000 higher than usual. Thus someone accused of "looting" a pair of shoes can have his bail set at \$4,950. But as Municipal Judge Maurice T. Leader observed:

"These are not ordinary times. Things cannot be done as they are in ordinary times."

## Black Rebels Wiser Than Liberals

It was a crowning "irony" of the Watts rebellion, said the liberal capitalist press, echoed by many middle class liberals, that Congress was passing the most liberal voting rights law in a century at the very time the masses were uncorking their long-bottled rage in the Los Angeles revolt of August 11 to 18.

But what was so ironic about it? What did the voting law mean to the Black People of Los Angeles except an underlining of their misery? The people of Watts have the vote already, and with the vote they have Mayor Yorty and Police Chief Parker with his racist cops recruited from the most backward corners of the South. Along with the vote they have mass unemployment, police brutality and all the blessings of southern segregation in the North.

If all Congress could do was to give Watts the right to have more Yortys and Parkers, then it was indeed time for the people to take action. And the black masses of Los Angeles were infinitely wiser than those dupes of liberalism (including many civil rights leaders) who think that freedom is handed out by Congressional confidence men and

enforced by storm troopers in blue coats.

*The voting law is a concession. But it is also a gimmick to make the hungry think they are being fed.*

The Afro-American people of Watts understand this profoundly, while their liberal critics and hand-wringing "friends" are taken in. The "irony"—the tragic humor and contradictory helplessness of the situation—lies not in the attitude of the oppressed, but in the impotent anguish of those who look for the lofty "middle ground" and find themselves merely providing a liberal chorus to drown out the rattle of machine guns and the cries of the dying.

## Next Issue

Since *Workers World* is a twice-monthly publication and we publish on the same day of the odd week, it is necessary to skip a week every so often to keep our schedule to 24 issues per year.

Our next issue will be dated September 16.

## —Statement on L.A. Insurrection

(Continued from page 1)

percentage is bigger, because the modern masters have to rule by deception as well as by machine guns. They have learned how to disguise the policeman's club with the social worker's crumbs and the sociologist's lies.

"The newspapers have carefully emphasized that mere bystanders and other inoffensive people were hurt in the conflict. (*How many thousand inoffensive persons have been lynched in the last 400 years?*) It is of course regrettable that innocent persons were hurt, even though this happens in all wars and revolutions.

"But if the black masses did not always pinpoint their real enemy in this uprising — and they did so far more often than the racist press admits—it is because the oppression is so extreme, the rage against racial and national indignity is so great. Imperialism always increases national oppression to the bursting point. And the bursting point was reached and passed in Los Angeles last week.

### Who Are the Real Looters?

"The ruling class horror at the 'looting' in the Watts district would be comic if it were not so disgustingly hypocritical. No people have been more plundered of their labor, their lives, their nationhood and their very identity than the people now accused of 'looting' the trinkets which their oppressors have been selling them at scandalous prices for years. The real plunderers, whether slave-traders, sweatshop bosses, money lenders or merchants, always stand behind the police and the National Guard, always tell them to shoot in the name of 'public order' or 'protection of women and children.' The real plunderers, the looters of the ages, are the forces against which the black uprising was directed in the first place.

"The Watts uprising was accompanied by looting and burning, to be sure. But when was any genuine popular upheaval free from these so-called 'excesses' of the masses? The Watts rebellion is like a hundred or more other rebellions that preceded great revolutions. Without previously prepared positions, without previously chosen commanders, without massive arms and long training—with only the desperate passion of a people provoked beyond endurance—men, women and children fought against machine guns and hardened troops in battle dress. They struck back with the only weapons available to them. They should be praised and honored for this, not castigated and sermonized.

### False Friends and Misleaders

"The hypocrisy of the ruling class, who pretend amazement at the event, is only equaled by the attitude of those treacherous leaders of the oppressed who hold up thier hands in horror and condemn the very people who are being shot down for standing on their feet instead of their knees.

"The responsibility for every single killing in the Watts area last week lies squarely at the door of the U.S. ruling class. Any leader of the oppressed who denies this and calls for discipline or punishment of the people is no leader, but a tool of the oppressor himself. That goes double for the powerful labor bureaucracy which has turned its back upon black labor and handed the bosses a lily-white whip with which to beat it down.

"Had the misleaders of labor done their duty in the past, the struggle would not be so difficult today, nor would the workers be so divided as to color.

"But the black masses are determined to win freedom now, whatever the odds. And the Workers World Party supports them without reservation."



Some of the brothers and sisters at Imperial Blvd. and Avalon St., in the heart of the rebellion, on the second day. Good humor and pride are their main emotions.

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# — From the L.A. Battlefield

(Continued from Page 1)

was very tense, everyone waiting for the first stone to be thrown and it was getting dark and the cops were looking scared with windows rolled up and circling round and round the block. Meanwhile, unknown to us, the brothers about one mile away were getting ready for action. Suddenly it was on.

The first stone struck a cop's car about one block from me. The cops all rushed to that area. The brothers shifted positions for a block and all hell broke loose. Every car was stoned again and again. No cop would dare get out of his car until there were fifty or more of them.

Finally under a terrific barrage of stones they withdrew and set up a perimeter about one half mile away.

By now the brothers around Imperial and Central were in action. (The first action took place at Avalon and Imperial.) The same thing occurred at the second spot.

From there it went everywhere in the Watts area. At first it was just the cops and the young guys. They finally drove all the cops out of the entire Watts area. Then it turned to something else.

With the hated cops driven out of the area the people had complete access to anything they wanted in that area. To make a long story short, they took everything out of every store and then burned each one to the ground. Every white-owned place of business was burned to the ground.

Friday: They put the torch to the downtown section of Watts; on 103rd Street it looks like London during war time, not a building left.

Friday evening: Same thing at Central Avenue. Business section completely gutted. Guns passed out from pawn shops. Thrifty drug store, white front, gutted. Sears & Roebuck, Vermont and

Slawson got it. More than one hundred businesses gutted.

Friday night: A few troops arrived and tried to stem the tide. Nothing doing.

Monday: Things are quiet now. Troops are using 50 caliber machine guns against snipers. Many are carrying sub-machine guns. Will write more later.

Tuesday: Things are slowly getting back to normal and the war is taking on a different character, sniping and Molotov cocktail parties. Sniping is carried out on a regular basis in Watts. Every night as soon as it gets dark it begins. Soldiers and police are the targets. The police are the ones who are acting like savages and madmen.

They showed some of it on TV the other night, a prowler car stopping an auto and while the people had their hands in the air the police were kicking them. Most of the gunshot victims were shot by police. Feelings are very high against them and everybody is saying, "Just wait until the army leaves. Then they'll get theirs."

Dymally [a black politician—ed.] was on TV. He said when he went out to the area to try to quiet it down, one of the freedom fighters said, "Man, where are you from, Baldwin Hills?"

He replied, "No, I live on Avalon Boulevard, and I know and understand your problems."

The freedom fighter then handed him a Molotov cocktail and said, "If you're with us, throw it; if not get the hell out of here."

Dymally did not say which choice he took, but we know.

I shot two rolls of film with the lens jammed, so I am shooting some more. You should receive some newspaper clippings in a couple of days.

—Rob Perkins

## Vietnamese Forced to Fight for GIs' Garbage U.S. Troops Shoot Starving 'Allies'

By E. Pierce

On August 10, at Quinhon in South Viet Nam, some 150 Vietnamese men, women and children approached a U.S. Army garbage detail. The Vietnamese were hungry. They were so desperate they could not even wait until the garbage had been dumped to begin their frantic search for scraps of food.

Then army guards fired at the crowd. Two boys and a man were wounded by what a U.S. spokesman called "warning shots." The spokesman said he did not

know what the crowd wanted. The incident is being investigated. . . .

President Johnson talks about a billion dollar aid program for Southeast Asia, but meanwhile, starving Vietnamese are shot as they search for food in U.S. Army garbage.

Incidents like this—and there have been several—show how false is all the talk about economic aid to raise the standard of living for the Vietnamese people. Obviously, the aid program has not gotten very far if the population of U.S.-controlled territory has been reduced to scavenging for food in garbage dumps.

Furthermore, how can the Vietnamese possibly believe that the U.S. will give them "aid" when they are shot for taking garbage that the soldiers have thrown out?



Woodcut of an actual guerrilla experience: two Vietnamese patriots holding an emergency foot bridge on their shoulders, as their comrades cross it to attack a fortress.

### In USA It Pays to Be Right—Far Right!

When two American Nazi Party men smeared red paint on anti-war demonstrators in Washington, D.C., the police waited politely until the Nazis were done before they took them into custody.

In court, the two Nazis were fined \$10 each for disorderly conduct and freed.

When the hundreds of demonstrators tried to present an anti-war petition to Congress, the police attacked them with clubs swinging and arrested 350 people.

These peaceful pickets all got fines of \$25 to \$50 or sentences of up to 45 days. Three of the demonstrators who went before a particularly vicious judge, got 90-day sentences. The young pregnant wife of one of the men cried out in shock when she heard her husband sentenced to 90 days. She was then given 30 days for contempt.

The two Nazis had, according to the New York World-Telegram, committed "the principal act of violence" during the demonstration.

### How Rank & File Organized The Watts Freedom Fight

Although the uprising in Los Angeles was spontaneous, the Black youth of Watts were able to make use of the one form of organization which was available to them — their well-established gangs—as centers around which they organized.

They built up makeshift armored cars known as "Watts tanks" in which young Black Freedom fighters armed with rifles and pistols were able to drive around the huge ghetto area. They were able to move around quickly and freely, while the occupying army of police and National Guard could only move slowly in large convoys of trucks, tanks and jeeps with mounted machine-guns.

They used arm bands and hand signals to identify the various gangs which now were fighting not each other, but the common enemy. They took not only weapons from the pawnshops, but also walkie-talkies for communications and police-band radios which could overhear police orders. They surrounded the Watts police station at one point and were only driven off by heavy machine-gun fire.

Their battle cries were: "This is a real revolution," and "Burn, baby, burn." And many times the question was heard:

"Why risk our lives in Viet Nam, why not fight to the death here for real freedom?"

#### "I'm the Law — You Ain't Nuthin"

As leaflets were being passed out near the picket line explaining the Marcelo Bermudez case, a cop ordered a distributor to stop the distribution. The youth protested that he had a legal right to pass out leaflets. To this the cop said:

"Listen, you ain't nuthin' to me, buddy. I'm the law!"

#### BULLETIN

AUGUST 25—The U.S. government just sent Marcelo Bermudez to Puerto Rico and imprisoned him there. Excuse: Venezuela refused to give him asylum.

### Devastation and Defiance

## "Officials' Faces Are Wet With Spit, Filled With Fear"

Aug. 14, 1965

The situation here is fantastic. You pass through a block cluttered with debris—devastated with burned out stores and torn down walls—glass strewn everywhere, and then every so often as

you pass through more such blocks there will be "Blood" written on an untouched store—or "Colored Owner"—or "I am Colored: Brother, let me live."

There is no doubt that the Afro-American in L.A. has had it—has had all of the police brutality—all of the material and spiritual deprivations he can stand and is taking the most direct means of spitting all of his pent up rage and frustration on his oppressor. He is fighting back with no holds barred and the faces of city and state officials are wet with spit and filled with fear. They did not bargain for all of this.

Nothing is going to stop the Black People here except their own exhaustion. Their object is to take what is theirs. There is fear in this city but among the Black People there is silent and vocal approval even among those not involved.

The decadent city of Los Angeles, this

Hollywood of corruption, will never be the same. Although this present uprising will end, the Black People have come to know their capacity to fight back and take, and there will be more uprisings until they are free.

—B. C.

### Free as a Canary

NEW YORK, Aug. 8—"This is a wonderful country, a beautiful country. I can play my mandolin. The judge said so," said Mr. Joseph Traficante to a group of his friends in Washington Square. He had just been acquitted after being arrested for playing his mandolin in the park.

A cop overheard the conversation and immediately arrested Mr. Traficante on the same charge, plus resisting arrest and assaulting an officer.

### U.S. Immigration Would Have Deported Him—to Death

## YAWF and MPI Rescue Dominican Patriot

By Peter Storch

NEW YORK, August 20—The quick action of Youth Against War and Fascism (YAWF) and the Pro-Independence Movement of Puerto Rico (MPI) has saved the life of a Dominican revolutionary in this city. To do this, the groups had to stage demonstrations against the U.S. Immigration Service.

The Dominican, Marcelo Bermudez, now in the U.S. on a visa renewable on August 30, was arrested by the Immigration authorities on August 16 and held in prison since that date. Bermudez, twice exiled by Trujillist regimes, was a guerrilla fighter in 1963 against the Reid Cabral junta and is now a representative-in-exile of the Fourteenth of June Revolutionary Movement.

For the first 24 hours of his detention, Marcelo was not allowed representation by attorney. The next day, August 17, Immigration authorities refused to obey a signed petition by a Federal District

Judge which ordered the release of Marcelo pending a habeas corpus hearing set for August 24.

Deporting Marcelo Bermudez to Santo Domingo would have meant handing him over to Imbert's execution squads. So YAWF and MPI staged an all-night demonstration in front of the Immigration and Naturalization Service at 20 West Broadway from midnight to 11 A.M. of August 18.

On Thursday morning, August 19, YAWF held another picket line, putting on more pressure against the Immigration authorities. That evening, YAWF and MPI organized another and larger demonstration at 5 p.m. which was seen by many people leaving work. As news of the case and the picket lines spread, Immigration authorities were getting nervous and feared the consequences of making this a big case. Marcelo, through his lawyer, Mr. Antonio C. Martinez, was offered voluntary departure out of the U.S. into any country which would accept him.



Marcelo Bermudez

# Rich People's Rent Strike Has Happy Ending

By Ellen Pierce

Do you know that slumlords have been paying smaller and smaller fines for violations in the rat-hole apartment buildings they own? This year, fines have been about 26 per cent lower than last year, averaging \$14. Paying the fine is a lot cheaper than repairing the violation.

But don't be bitter about it. That's

only half the picture. Just last week, tenants in an East 80th St. N.Y. luxury building won a rent strike and got \$15,000 to make repairs.

Those people had it rough. For example, take one of the poor matrons living there. She doesn't work, so when she sits around in her \$535 a month apartment all sorts of imperfections in the place start to get on her nerves. Like the pale

smudge of incinerator smoke on the inside of the door, or the dust on her antique satin draperies, or the three little lumps in her wall-to-wall carpeting.

So she got together with other tenants in her building and they hired a lawyer, a very expensive lawyer. They held a rent strike. And the happy ending is that they won it.

It was a nice, well-mannered strike. No noisy pickets or sit-ins. Just a group of cultured Upper-East-Siders and their very expensive lawyer meeting with the landlord and the judge.

You, too, can get justice and win your rent strike in a friendly way—if you live in a luxury apartment . . . and get a luxury-priced lawyer.

## Socialist Conference

Rutgers University is scheduled to play host to the Socialist Scholars Conference on the week-end of September 11 and 12.

The two-day conference at New Brunswick will consist of a series of panel discussions by such figures as Professor Staughton Lynd of Yale, Dr. Connor Cruise O'Brien, formerly of the UN, now teaching at New York University, Dr. Herbert Aptheker (American Institute of Marxist Studies), Professor Eugene Genovese (Rutgers University) and Dr. Paul M. Sweezy (Monthly Review).

Detailed information may be obtained from Professor Marvin Gettleman, Department of History and Economics, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, 333 Jay Street, Brooklyn, New York.

## Govt. Letter to Reservist:

### "Prepare Your Will"!

By J. Myer

In case you took one of those reservist programs in the Marines and were hopeful of avoiding such situations as Viet Nam, you are likely to be disappointed. The Marine Corps has been sending out a letter to reservists which portends things to come.

Here are some of the nice things the letter says:

... "Upon declaration of a national emergency by the President, all Class II ready reservists will be ordered to active duty on a priority basis to or concurrently with the involuntary mobilization of any Class II ready reservists. . . ."

"Intention: It is the intention of this district headquarters to order you as a member of the ready reserve to active duty during the first 30 days of mobilization. . . ."

"Prior Arrangements: You are urged to make all practicable advance arrangements to prepare yourself and your family for the receipt of mobilization orders in the event a mobilization is required in the future. . . ."

These arrangements include seeing "your attorney about the preparation or revision of your will. Consider making your bank account a joint account with your wife or parents. . . ."

"If you are employed, arrange with your employer for your return to employment when military service is finished. . . . Arrange for suspension or adjustment of club, lodge or union dues. Consider transferring to wife property now held in joint tenancy. Note that joint ownership does not avoid death taxes and may have some risks and disadvantages."

Anticipating the alarmed reaction such a notice inevitably provokes in those who thought they were safe, the letter hollowly assures them.

"Remember! This letter is not orders to active duty. The only purpose of this letter is to assist you in preparing your personal affairs in the event that you are mobilized."

—And in the event that you are shipped back in a six-foot pine box!



## Through the Magnifying Glass

By John Moore

### Hometown Doesn't Like the War

"Sure, I'm against it but what can you do about it?"

That was the gist of remarks about the war we heard recently on a trip back to Hometown and other towns and cities.

We met no one that was for the war—the closest being a grudging echo of the liberal newspaper line: "I don't see how we (!) can pull out now."

Our first discussion was with a middle-aged couple on a prosperous dairy farm. She, an old friend and former teacher, said of Johnson as we sat at night in the homey living room, "I don't think it's right that one man can have so much power."

Her husband, a former political office holder in the town, felt that "We" could pull out now but that the UN should do something. When we pointed out some of the reasons why the UN would not do anything, he listened. He offered no other solutions.

At another stop at a small college noted for its conservativeness, we saw remarkable evidence of change even here. A sharp split has developed in the college over the issue of civil rights which a young liberal professor we talked to supports from a Martin Luther King position against the old guard who consider him and his friends "Communists."

His job is threatened but he is, as a result of all pressures, more militant. He and his wife worry about the war and whenever the faculty gets together a discussion of it comes up, they said. Everyone is worried.

### He Wants to Know More About Workers World

But while they are worried they want to debate whether the Vietnamese people "want us" there. He refuses to accept the evidence we lay out as final that they do not want U.S. intrusion. He appears to know better but cannot face the conclusions that would follow from an admission that it is purely unwanted, unjustified American aggression.

His argument makes clear the importance of Johnson's peace propaganda in keeping sincere liberals from more open opposition.

Surprisingly, though he does not agree with us, the young prof expressed an interest in knowing more about *Workers World*.

In Hometown we find a grandmother who is usually careful to avoid any political statements of her feelings on political questions very perturbed by the possible drafting of a grandson. And, she states strongly, "It is not just him I feel sorry for but all of them that will have to go."

In the local hotel bar we run into an old schoolmate who runs a small delivery truck business by himself. He is completely aware of Johnson's hypocrisy but about the war he feels, "What can you do?" We talk further. It turns out that he has read some socialist literature, is interested in hearing more. We agree to send him *Workers World*.

### Others Disapprove of the War

Accidentally we run into a city cousin with whom we have had little contact. To the question of why we are living in New York now, we tell her that we are active politically and are working to stop the war.

"So how can you do it?" she exclaims.

I ask her how her husband, a skilled worker, feels.

"Just like we all feel!" she says.

In a city of 20,000 as we sit on the lawn and talk to a small businessman, we casually bring up the war.

"There was a fellow down at the shop who was over there," he says. "He said he was glad to get out of there."

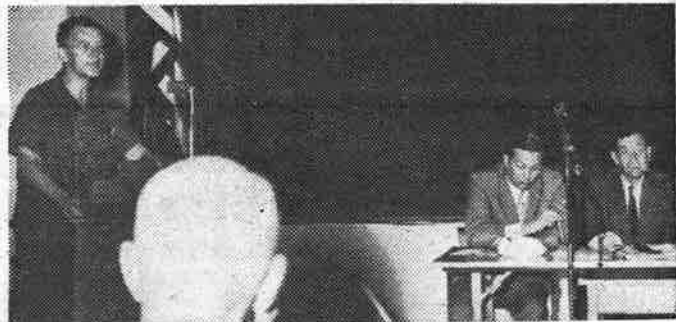
In the big industrial city a steelworker tells us that the doubling of the draft brought a serious questioning and sober discussion at the mill. No volunteers were reported.

The wife of a truckdriver says, "Everybody around is against it." She tells of a sister who is a cashier in a restaurant and who reports the widespread comments against the war. Our friend, speaking of her neighbors, says, "Nobody wants any part of it!"

Mass opposition to the war is growing. But this opposition is still in its first stages, the so-what-can-you-do? stage.

The average small town person sees little in the student-youth street opposition. He sees the limitations of these demonstrations as they are now and fails to understand their future rôle as sparks to ignite a vast fire of opposition.

But events are developing rapidly which will deepen and intensify the mass opposition to the war.



Vince Copeland, editor of this paper, speaking August 13 at hearing held by Congressman William F. Ryan (far right) in Community Church in N. Y. Copeland attacked Congress on the law against burning draft cards.

## —Police Violence at Aluminum Strike

(Continued from Page 1)

winter by a 2 to 1 majority, but this did not win it any recognition inside the plant. Since the strike began the company has brought in a full contingent of scabs, some recruited from Texas, Arizona, Nevada, Idaho, and Michigan. At one point the union offered to go back to work at the old wages if they could be granted job security and union recognition, but the company turned this down.

After pickets had been subjected to violence during the midnight shift changes, it became necessary to begin to hold nightly demonstrations. For three nights in a row these demonstrations were savagely attacked by police from the cities of Torrance and Los Angeles as well as the L.A. County Sheriff's Dept.

Nightsticks have come down on strikers and by-standers without regard to age or sex. A 13-year-old boy who happened to be walking his dog near the company parking lot was knocked down and beaten by two cops. (The next day the L.A. Times showed a picture of this incident, referring to the figure on the ground as a man.)

Since Friday, July 30, a court injunction prohibits more than two pickets at each gate. However, the striking workers continue to come down in large numbers when they are needed.

Company president Leo Harvey is a powerful figure in the Democratic Party in California. He owns large pieces of choice real estate in downtown Los An-

geles, which house such offices as the main Post Office, other Federal and State offices, as well as private offices. He also has extensive property in neighboring Orange County. Harvey's daughter is Democratic State Chairman for Southern California. Her husband, Louis Warshaw, manages the building in which Assembly Speaker Jesse Unruh has an office.

Besides plants in Oregon and Michigan, the Harvey Aluminum Company has a plant in the Virgin Islands and mines in Ghana, where it gets raw material. Harvey recently received a \$100 million loan from the federal government to build a plant in Ghana. This was after having refused to comply with government certification of the union here. Needless to say, Harvey pays the black workers of Ghana only a small fraction of what the workers demand at home.

Much of the equipment used in the Torrance plant is stamped "U.S. Navy" and "U.S. Air Force" and is leased from the government by Harvey. The plant is considered a "defense" plant and regular employees have to have a security clearance, although the scabs now working there have not had to go through this procedure.

When Secretary of Labor Willard Wirtz was in Los Angeles, union representatives asked his help in getting the company to bargain in good faith. Wirtz promised that something would be done, went back to Washington, and has not been heard from since by the union here.

—L.M.