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Communist Party Is Rocked By Khrushchev Confessions

High Court Limits Firing Of "Risks"

The U.S. Supreme Court on June 11 knocked another chip off the police-state edifice built up during the administrations of Democrat Truman and Republican Eisenhower. This was done in a six-three decision declaring the procedures of the "loyalty" purge illegal when used against government workers in "non-sensitive" jobs.

The decision is important in that over half of the "security risk" firings to date have been of employes in jobs without the remotest connection with security, classified documents or policy making. These witch-hunt victims can now bring lawsuits to regain their jobs and back pay.

HIKING "SUBVERSIVE"

The ruling came in the case of Kendrick M. Cole, a former employe of the Federal Food and Drug Administration, fired because of alleged association with Nature Friends of America. This organization, which went in for hiking and outdoor life, is on the Attorney General's "subversive" list. Cole, a veteran, appealed his firing to the Civil Service Commission.

Under the Veterans Preference Act of 1944 he was entitled to such an appeal. However, the government ruled that Eisenhower's "loyalty" purge executive order, issued in accordance with a 1950 witch-hunt law, superseded Cole's rights under the Veterans Preference Act.

It is possibly significant that on April 20 of this year the U.S. Court of Appeals in Washington, D.C., ruled that the government's firing of James Katcher, the legless veteran, from a job in the Veterans Administration, because of admitted membership in the Socialist Workers Party, also violated the Veterans Preference Act.

PROCEDURES AFFECTED

The June 11 Supreme Court ruling does not outlaw the "loyalty" purge, nor does it even say that government workers in "non-sensitive" jobs cannot

Jobless Lines in Detroit



A common sight in the auto capital, Detroit, is the long lines of jobless outside unemployment compensation offices (top). Bottom picture shows unemployed auto workers filing applications for state unemployment compensation. Michigan's unemployed topped 220,000 at end of May. Over 90 per cent of auto jobless are ineligible for supplementary unemployment payments from companies because of loopholes in United Auto Workers contracts.

REPORT REVOLTS IN SOVIET PRISON CAMPS FOLLOWING 20TH CONGRESS

By Fred Hart

New strikes and demonstrations have occurred in the slave labor camps of the Soviet Union. Latest details come from a refugee, now in Israel, who was recently a prisoner in a Siberian camp some 600 miles from Tomsk.

the refugee reports.

The concentration camps with their estimated 15 million prisoners are one of the politically most explosive elements in the USSR. In August 1953 a great general strike, triggered by the news of the East German uprising, broke out in the Arctic Circle camps around Vorkuta.

sian words meaning "True Works of Lenin." The program of this organization is anti-capitalist and anti-Stalinist and apparently very close to Trotskyism. Another important group in organizing the concentration camp strikes was a pacifist-socialist group known by the nickname "Monashki," i.e. "little

Leadership's Attempt To Divert 'Stalin Cult' Discussion Blown Up

By Daniel Roberts

Reaction of the U.S. Stalinist leaders to the Khrushchev revelations about Stalin has been made up of the following ingredients:

- (1) High indignation over Stalin's crimes. (2) Breast-beating about their past cover-up for the sinister dictator. (The June 8 Daily Worker pleads it was "wholly ignorant that these crimes had been committed," but engages in self-criticism for having denounced as "enemies of the working class" those "who told the truth about them.") (3) Pointing to their record of participation in the class struggle in the U.S. in extenuation. (4) Assurance that "gigantic transformations" have already taken place and a call for yet more changes in the Soviet Union. (5) A new call for a regroupment of radicals in the U.S. leading to the building of a mass party of socialism.

The U.S. CP leaders have moved far away from their initial formulas "downgrading" Stalin. At that time Foster and other party spokesmen pleaded for a "balanced" judgment of Stalin's historical role. "In historical perspective we must assess Stalin as one who made important contributions to the building of Socialism in the USSR, but who departed from certain important Leninist concepts in later years..." Such is the evaluation given by Max Weiss, National Education Director of the CP, at the party's national committee meeting, April 28-May 1. His report, printed as a pamphlet appeared at the same time as the publication of the Khrushchev speech.

RAPID SHIFT

The Stalinists are now keeping awfully quiet about Stalin's alleged "important contributions." Khrushchev's revelations left no room for them any more. Instead the June 6 Daily Worker speak

Myra Weiss Talks On Soviet Events

Myra Tanner Weiss, Socialist Workers Party candidate for vice-president, now on a coast-to-coast campaign tour, is addressing public meetings on the recent sensational Soviet developments.

The meetings provide the opportunity to hear and discuss a Trotskyist analysis of the recently published Khrushchev speech to the 20th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party. Watch The Militant for the date when she will be in your city. She will next speak in Cleveland, Saturday, June 23, at 8 P. M., at 10609 Superior Avenue. The occasion is an Ohio Election Rally.

editorially about "a monstrous perversion of socialist principles under Stalin's brutal rule." So rapidly have the U.S. CP chiefs shifted their expressions and terminology inside a few brief days.

Just the same, the U.S. CP leaders are no more inclined than two months ago to answer burning questions posed by their own members at the very start of the discussion about the Stalin cult. The members asked: "What were Khrushchev and his associates doing while Stalin was committing his crimes? Why did the American CP leaders shield these crimes? What guarantees are there that the crimes won't be repeated?"

These questions lead straight to a fundamental examination of Stalinism — its basic political program and its social origin.

But this examination is just

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... American CP Rocked

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what the CP leaders seek at all costs to prevent, for it will expose them as accomplices in Stalin's betrayal of Leninist politics in the Soviet Union and throughout the world. All the other crimes advertised by Khrushchev flow from that central crime. Max Weiss, in his national committee report, speaking on the tremendous waste of Soviet manpower occasioned by Stalin's conduct of World War II, states, "It is not yet possible for us to draw all the conclusions from this mistake, for these would include the political conceptions which made it possible."

To preclude the membership exploring the "political conceptions" on their own, Weiss recommends that the discussion in the U.S. CP on the 20th Congress be steered away from the Stalin cult. "Questions dealing with the mistakes made by the CPSU," he complains, "began completely to obscure the historic significance of the 20th Congress in respect to . . . the fight for peaceful coexistence, the new theoretical questions. . ." etc. "We propose therefore to end this situation by issuing material to guide the discussion on the basis of a collective evaluation by the National Committee."

And in truth, leaving unanswered all the questions of the Stalin cult which had correctly preoccupied the minds of the CP members, the Stalinist leaders, with Max Weiss in the van, began diverting the discussion onto the so-called "theoretical questions." These included such topics as debate as to whether civil liberties would be granted by a Socialist America to former capitalists.

The publication of the Khrushchev speech again puts the Stalin issue front and center. There it belongs and ought to remain while the discussion reviews the whole course of the Soviet Union and Communist Parties outside the USSR during the last 32 years and draws the necessary political conclusions. Only on the basis of such a discussion is a genuine socialist regroupment possible. For this CP members should be provided with all Trotskyist documents. For the history of the last 30 years is not only that of Stalinist crimes but of Trotskyist struggle for the authentic Bolshevik program.

BACK TO 1924

Khrushchev, himself could not touch on the question of why he and his associates did not block Stalin's crimes without going back to 1924. "We were in poli-

tical agreement with Stalin from the time of Lenin's death," he says in effect. "We" joined with him in the fight against the Left Opposition led by Trotsky. (Of course, Khrushchev continues to slander the Trotskyists and falsifies the struggle as one conducted by Stalin with ideological weapons rather than rude, disloyal, bureaucratic means and police measures, as was actually the case.)

The distinctive "theory" of the Stalinist gang from 1924 on was "socialism in one country." This anti-Leninist slogan did not mean industrial build-up and collectivization. On the contrary, Trotsky and the Left Opposition were hounded as "super-industrializers" for advocating a five-year plan of industrial development. "Socialism in one country" meant fattening up the bureaucratic caste at home, crushing the workers' democracy of Lenin's time, and using the CP's abroad merely for pressure and bargaining purposes in order to arrive at status-quo deals with imperialism. That is also what "peaceful coexistence" means today.

To these ends, Stalinist formations arose in every CP, composed of second-rate careerists and disoriented elements. All opposition was ruthlessly expelled. The Trotskyists were slandered, ostracized and made targets of goon-squad attacks. A number of them were murdered. The CP's were thus transformed into Stalinist appendages.

Since its Stalinization some 28 years ago, the history of the American CP is not one of "devotion to the interests of the American working man," as claimed by the June Daily Worker, although revolutionary minded CP members have earnestly sacrificed to make it such. It is a sordid record of class-collaboration featured today by support for the Democratic Party.

Nor does history permit the slightest confidence in Khrushchev and Co.'s intention to restore workers' democracy in the USSR. The "gigantic transformation" over there has been with the Soviet masses — primarily the working class. They are beginning to assert themselves as an independent force. Already their energetic pressure has forced the Kremlin dictators to dump the Stalin cult and give economic concessions. In the near future they will rise up against the bureaucratic caste in a political revolution that will restore workers' democracy and Lenin's policy of revolutionary internationalism.