will repose in museums but they will have the same right of access to whatever society produces as will the rest of the population.

H.V.: Does your organization advocate the overthrow of the government?

H.M.: We go much farther than that. The overthrow of governments can only result in **new** governments and **new** masters. We want to abolish the economic relationships of capitalism which will result in a system in which governments will not exist—**things** and **affairs** will be administered, but **people** will not be governed.

H.V.: How does socialism differ from communism, as it is practiced in the Soviet Union, China, etc.?

H.M.: Communism is **not** practiced in the Soviet Union or any place else in the world. Khrushchev, Mao Tze tung, Castro, and the rest of them, may call themselves socialists, or communists, but they are pledged to defend the wages, prices, profits, money, economy that exists in their countries as well as the rest of the capitalist world. Their system is state capitalism.

H.V.: How will world socialism avert World War III?

H.M.: By abolishing the system that breeds war. The trouble between the U. S. and the U. S. S. R. is not caused by conflicting ideologies. They got along very well during World War II. The trouble is over markets, trade routes, sources of raw materials and so forth.

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At this point the telephones were opened and the questions and comments poured in. Typical, were the following:

Q: How will goods be distributed?

A: The capitalist system has already developed a marvelous technique — the supermarkets. Only the cash registers will not be needed. There is no problem in producing and replenishing the shelves with the food and other goods, not even today. The problems that do exist are caused by the fact that the ownership is vested in a minority of the population.

Q: How will individual genius be rewarded?

A: Neither the "genius" nor anyone else resents what other people get so long as his needs are taken care of. Nobody resents the fact that one man, even a non-capable or a "lazy" man takes six swallows of water at the bubbler. There's plenty of water for all and there can also be plenty of everything else people need. On the other hand, the best brains in the world today can be bought for salaries ranging between $5,000.00 and $10,000.00 annually, which is not by any means rewarding genius to the degree that **ownership of property** brings rewards. Nor has ownership anything to do with ability.

Q: How will inefficiency and waste be eliminated under socialism?

A: Socialism will eliminate the need for all of the wasteful and needless industries that society can get along well without—industries such as banking, advertising, insurance, military production, and the wasteful duplication of effort due to competition in business.

Q: Socialism seems to be something that is possible only in highly developed countries. What about the backward nations?

A: In the classical sense it is true that a country has to go through capitalism to a high degree of development before socialism is possible. Today things are different. The heart of world capitalism beats in America and the rest of the developed world. Let capitalism be abolished in these countries and the backward countries could become forward virtually overnight. There would be no problem here.

Q: How do you differ from other professed socialist organizations in America? Do you advocate reforms "in the meantime?" How do you intend to implement your program?

A: We are the only organization in America that advocates the immediate abolition of the wages, prices, profit, money, system of society. One need only read the literature of the others and ours, to see this. We are not **opposed** to reforms but we do not advocate them because we understand that capitalism is a society that needs constant reforming and that the avowedly capitalist political parties must and will do the job. Socialism can be implemented only by building a large and powerful political party, the aim of which is to send a majority of socialist representatives to Washington and to the other centers of government, pledged to abolish the capitalist system completely and immediately, and nothing short of this.

Q: Will socialism not lead to dictatorship?

A: There is no socialism without democracy; nor can there be democracy without socialism. There is no real democracy when 40% of the population is deprived of a decent standard of living while a tiny fraction of the population owns and controls 90% of the country's wealth.

THE NEW PROLETARIAT

Socialism, we are so frequently told, is passe'. The language and expression of the Marxist movement has become all but jargon, scheduled for obsolescence. Take, for example, the term **proletarian.** To the scientific socialist the word signifies much more than merely **working class,** rather denotes propertyless, enchained, **wage slaves.** "Where are your propertyless proletarians, your enchained workers today," we are taunted. The workers in America, our critics assure us, are indeed far from the miserable conditions described by Marx as the destiny of workers who must remain wage workers. The America of these times, they insist, is a complete refutation of Marx's predictions.

Are our critics right? Was Marx but a product of his particular time, his ideas fated for oblivion? Are the working people of the United States, for example, approaching a life of true affluence, their leisure time becoming a burden to them? Are the old lines of class division on the point of evaporation?

If we were to judge solely by the sparsity of genuine socialists in the world today, we might well have to abandon our case as hopeless. The fact, however, that so few people recognize the true nature of world capitalism, in general, and American capitalism, in particular, is not a criterion of the correctness of socialist theory. Had an appreciable portion of the population actually examined our case carefully and found it wanting, we could very well have doubts of its adequacy. But we know that this has not been the situation. The world is rich in **professed** Marxists, but poor, as yet, in the number of those who know how to differentiate between state-capitalism and welfare statism on the one hand, and a system of production based upon production for use, on the other.

PROSPERITY

To see the inadequacies of twentieth-century capitalism; to discover that the teeth and claws have not been removed; to comprehend that the capitalism of these times has **not** been harnessed to the wheels of progress for the human race; we need only open our eyes to the real situation. Shall we, like so many today, be blinded by the multitude of things the population has at its disposal that it did not have, say, a half century ago? Is it not true that we see all around us such improvement to gracious living as automobiles, refrigerators, televisions, airplanes, automatic washing machines — a near endless list? Yet for some reason we also observe that although these conveniences are being produced in great quantities, much inferior, shoddy, and second-hand merchandise is still purchased by a large part of the population. A great many of our neighbors drive cars that are several years old (and still unpaid for); purchase refrigerators that are too small for their needs; swelter during hot summer days in stuffy rooms and apartments despite the prevalence of air-conditioning equipment waiting for buyers; continue to inhabit their cramped and even slum dwellings