Greedy Workers!

No Sense of National Urgency

The following editorial in the New York Times of May 9, 1961 berates the "gold rush spirit" of workers in the missile launching sites.

A STANDSTILL IN SPACE

Man seems to be doing better in conquering outer space than in triumphing over his own greed. This melancholy observation is prompted by the dismal revelations of featherbedding, blackmail strikes and other forms of labor irresponsibility at our top-priority chain of missile launching sites. The hearings before Senator McClellan's investigating committee have revealed a tragic gulf between the no-strike policies enunciated by the national leadership of the building trades unions and the abuses committed by their rank and file at the missile bases.

A gold-rush spirit, predicated on the apparent belief that any excess was permissible if it put more money in the workers' pocket, evidently replaced all sense of national obligation or urgency, despite almost daily warnings from Government leaders that we were already far behind in the space race. Employers, made slothful by cost-plus contracts that increased their profits as labor costs soared, operated on the theory that it was sound policy to appease the unionists and pass the bill on to Uncle Sam. Inter-union jurisdictional feuds resulted in adding millions of dollars to payrolls and in losing thousands of days of work time.

Defense authorities contributed their share of bungling by waiting inexcusably long before setting up on-the-spot machinery for dealing with labor problems. Secretary of Defense McNamara has at last ordered the Air Force to crack down. He and Secretary of Labor Goldberg are now trying to prevent further holdbacks through a responsible, consistent effort by labor and management to advance the missile program. It is imperative that this move be more than a gesture. It is imperative that it extend beyond the issuance of virtuous homilies unaccompanied by vigorous enforcement measures.

The dawn of the Space Age is no time to crawl back to the Stone Age in industrial relations. A drastic tightening of our legal restraints against extortionate labor-management practices will have to be undertaken if this retreat from decency continues.

We are waiting with bated breath for the New York Times to tell us just what is the "national obligation" of the workers in the United States to sacrifice their own interests so that the American capitalists may become masters of the globe.

CRIME IN THE "WORKERS FATHERLAND"

Munich, Germany—Soviet Russia's crime rate has been rising World War II.

Authorities are striking back with a new "get tough" policy that includes stiffer prison sentences and an increase in the number of crimes punishable by death, the Institute for the Study of the U.S.S.R. here reports.

In May this year, a top-level decree extended the death penalty to include three crimes previously punished by imprisonment. They are embezzling state or public property on a large scale, habitually manufacturing and selling counterfeit money and securities, and terrorizing prison inmates or attacking prison personnel.

The charges, according to Y. Mironenko in the Institute Bulletin, spring from a spurt in both criminal and political offenses. Political crimes were called "counter-revolutionary" before 1958, but are now known as "especially dangerous state crimes."

The report quotes Soviet State Procurator-General R. Rudenko, commenting on embezzlement of state property, as saying that "such plunderers, ar well as murderers, bandits and counterfeiters, must be punished without mercy, even to the point of shooting them."

Boston Globe, Aug. 15, 1961

Its really confusing when workers steal from themselves!

PASS THIS COPY :————

————: ON TO A FRIEND

Read SOCIALIST LITERATURE

PARTY PUBLICATIONS

The Socialist Standard (S.P.G.B.) per year	1.00
The Western Socialist (S.P.C. — W.S.P.) per 8 issues	1.00
The Western Socialist — Bound	
Volume 1947-1949	2.50
Volume 1950-1953	2.50
Volume 1954-1957	5.00

PARTY PAMPHLETS

Family Allowances — A Socialist Analysis (S.P.G.B.)	.10
Socialism (S.P.G.B.)	.10
Should Socialists Support Federal Union? (S.P.G.B.)	.15
Is Labor Government The Way To Socialism? (S.P.G.B.)	.15
Manifesto of the Socialist Party of Ireland (S.P.I.)	.20
Nationalization or Socialism (S.P.G.B.)	.20
Schools Today (SPGB)	.20
Socialist Comment (SPGB)	.20
The Socialist Party, Principles and Policy (SPGB)	.20
Questions Of The Day — New Revised Edition (S.P.G.B.)	.25
The Communist Manifesto — And The Last Hundred Years (S.P.G.B.)	.25
The Racial Problem — A Socialist Analysis (S.P.G.B.)	.25
Russia Since 1917 (S.P.G.B.)	.25
The Russian Revolution — Its Origin and Outcome (S.P.C.)	.25
The Socialist Party and War (S.P.G.B.)	.25

ECONOMICS

Economics For Beginners (Keracher)	.10
Wage-Labor and Capital (Marx)	.25
Value, Price & Profit (Marx) (paper cover)	.45
Value, Price & Profit (Marx) (cloth cover)	.75
Critique of Political Economy (Marx)	2.50
Capital — Vol. I	4.00

THE CLASS STRUGGLE

The Civil War In France (Marx)	.35

PHILOSOPHY and SCIENCE

How the Gods Were Made (Keracher)	.25
Socialism, Utopian & Scientific (Engels)	.45
The Positive School Of Criminology (Ferri)	.75
Anarchism & Socialism (Plechanoff)	.95
Evolution of Property (Lafargue)	.95

PHILOSOPHY and SCIENCE

(Continued)

Revolution & Counter-Revolution (Marx)	.95
Social and Philosophical Studies (Lafargue)	.95
The Evolution of the Idea of God (Grant Allen)	1.00
Thinking—Its History and Science (Casey)	2.00
Philosophical Essays (Dietzgen)	2.00
Poverty of Philosophy (Marx)	2.00
Anti-Duhring (Engels)	3.00

GENERAL

Mutual Aid (Kropotkin)	2.00
Ancient Society (Morgan)	3.50

POSTAGE PREPAID

Order from Literature Agent, 11 Faneuil Hall Sq., Boston 9, Mass., or Socialist party of Canada, P.O. Box 115, Winnipeg.

BOSTON: Study Class on General Knowledge Test. Every Friday at 8:00 P.M. 11 Faneuil Hall Square, Boston. If office closed, phone BI 4-8772 or TA 5-9572.

DETROIT: For further information contact Secretary, Detroit Local, W. Kobus, 109 Fisher Ct., Clawson, Mich.

LOS ANGELES: Contact A. H. Smith, 406 So. Main St, Room 445, Los Angeles, 13, Calif.

NEW YORK: Economics Study Class, 3rd Wednesday of each month, 8:00 P.M. at Academy Hall. Room 15G, 853 Broadway, New York City. For information write 84 Dean Drive, Tenafly, N. J.

SAN FRANCISCO: All those in the San Francisco area interested in Socialism, contact J. A. McDonald, 48 Turk Street, San Francisco 2, Calif.

TORONTO, ONT.: Discussion group meets every 2nd Monday evening at 184 Beech Avenue, Toronto. All are welcome to attend. Phone S. or G. Catt, OX 9-5987.

VANCOUVER, B. C.: For further information, contact Secretary, P. O. Box 2837, Vancouver, B. C.

VICTORIA, B. C.: For local activities in Victoria, B. C., contact C. Luff, Sec'y; 2518 Empire St., Victoria, B. C., Canada.

WINNIPEG, MAN.: Dominion Ex. Com. of the Socialist Party of Canada meets on 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of each month. For information on activities, contact secretary, P. O. Box 115, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada.