stance, and could be relieved by the institution of a sane social order.

Of purely economic crimes: (a) vagrancy and mendacity; (b) theft and analagous crimes, i. e. theft committed from poverty and theft committed from cupidity; (c) robbery, etc; and (d) fraudulent bankruptcy, adulteration of food, etc., he demonstrates clearly that these have an economic base and are produced by the conflicting relationships arising from the commodity mode of production. In short by capitalism.

When the book was published (in English) in America, Frank H. Norcross, Chief Justice of The Supreme Court of the State of Nevada wrote the Introduction in which he states: "The cost in dollars and cents of dealing with our criminal problems, to say nothing of the incidental economic waste, exceeds a billion dollars annually." And, may we say, in the four decades which have passed since those words were written, the cost of dealing with crime has increased tremendously.

The eminent Justice was but expressing the concern of the collective ruling class against the sinning (and worse) of some of its members and their stooges, as well as of those of the so-called lower orders.

In this connection it seems apropos to cite Marx's statement, in his Eighteenth Brumaire, of the interests of the individual bourgeois vis-a-vis his class: "...the shallow egoism which makes the ordinary bourgeois always inclined to sacrifice the general interest of his class for this or that private motive."

This certainly applies to the acts of the Sherman Adamses, et el. But more of this later.

Crime, in the main, today stems from a society based on private property in the means of production. To take an excerpt from the closing passages of Bonger's work:

"The basis of the economic system of our day being exchange, the economic interests of men are necessarily found to be in opposition. This is a trait that capitalism has in common with other modes of production. But its principal characteristic is that the means of production are in the hands of a few, and most men are altogether deprived of them. Consequently, persons who do not possess the means of production are forced to sell their labor to those who do, and these, in consequence of their economic preponderance force them to make the exchange for the mere necessaries of life, and to work as much as their strength permits." (p. 667.)

The need for markets (foreign and domestic); the control of sources of raw material supply, in order to maintain profits and a foothold in the race therefor, produce antagonisms between sections of the ruling class in society today. Hence intense economic rivalries which inevitably develop a tendency to war — as the court of last resort. So militarism on a huge scale and increasing armaments prevail.

Capitalism, as a system of society, is but two or three centuries old. But it has grown and expanded rapidly. It has also made contributions to society, historically considered. For it has brought far distant places together; it has bound continents into one world entity through the telegraph cable, railroads and still later, even more rapid means of transportation and communication.

But, needing a state, as a coercive power (a) against the exploited workers whenever they show signs of rebellion and (b) as a war-producing machine when so-called national interests (that is, trade) are threatened by the so-called national interests (opposing trading interests) of some other national group of capitalists.

And such a state must have a bureaucracy (administrator, clerks, tax-collectors, etc., ad infinitum) and in these recent years of tremendous expansion this bureaucracy has correspondingly increased. More probably we might say the state's bureaucracy has increased more rapidly than the functions of the state.

The chief task of this bureaucracy is to so administer the affairs of

state that some sort of order, in a society whose contradictions continually engender disorder, shall be maintained. It must help preserve the right of the various capitalist groups to their profits and to this end it maintains and administers a harsh penal and judicial set of machinery.

But the exploitation of the workers — the real *something for nothing* accruing to the masters — the accumulation of vast wealth (or titles to wealth) in the hands of a comparative few cannot help but excite envy and cupidity in many much less fortunate. So "the something for nothing" bug bites many and divers kind of folk. The gangsters preying on business, the professional bank robbers, diamond smugglers, gamblers, et al, get into this game of *something for nothing* and we have crime rampant. So much so that now we here see before us in this country, gangsterism as a business in itself, with its own ledgers and account books and high-priced mouth-pieces (lawyers) to guide them through the labyrinths of the law.

This temptation, this excitement to cupidity, touches also the politician and government bureaucrat. And since they are in a position to exert influence or bestow favors they can become the paid stooges of individual capitalists — manufacturers with goods to sell for government purposes; air lines looking for special privileges; oil magnates seeking lower taxation, etc.

So, within the memory of most of us we had the Tea-Pot Dome Scandal of the Republican Harding regime; the Five-per-centers and General Vaughan's Deep Freezers in the Truman era; and very recently under the current administration the capers of Sherman Adams, assistant of the President.

William V. Shannon of the New York Post points to the ironical twist by which Adams has been laid open to public ridicule for his connection with a rank outsider in the business and political circle, while those on the INSIDE (giant corporations and financial institutions) remained untouched and can exert their pressures and make their deals with little or no outcry.

It was because of disagreement among the insiders that the Dixon-Yates contract was stopped, after a big political fight. The clear line of influence and favoritism connecting big Boston banking interests with government departments, running somewhat miraculously through the capable hands of Sherman Adams, did not really upset his position in the government. And this rot runs down the scale to the petty job-holding bureaucrat.

So we find crime, or criminal intent, to be of the very blood stream of capitalists themselves. The bribery of the Dixon-Yates contract; "Alvin A. Schultz of Knox Steel & Wire Co., under indictment for alleged embezzlement of more than $2,000,000 ("L. A. Examiner 3-15-59); the use of highly-paid call girls to help swing business deals (L. A. Herald Express (1-26-59). The N. Y. Times, Feb. 15, 1959 reports the arrest of millionaire A. L. Gutesna; his operations against his brother capitalists netted him millions of dollars.

In this league of big players we find daily reports of addiction to capitalist "ethics." As Karl Marx showed "There is not a crime at which it (capital) will scruple nor a risk it will not run, even to the chance of its owner being hanged... (if an) — adequate profit is in view."

Corruption in the Trade Union Movement

Another facet of crime claiming headline attention just recently is the corrupt practices of certain labor officials. The degree of degeneration of the present social system is well exemplified by the recent expose of so-called Labor Leaders.

Very few workers are given to study or question the stranglehold union bureaucracy has on its membership. The huge salaries and fat expense accounts of the union bureaucracy,