

Communist on The Hit Parade

Folksinger Malvina Reynolds is the second San Francisco Bay Area Communist to win national celebrity in recent months with an original use of words.

Like Communist Jessica Mitford Treuhft of Oakland, Mrs. Reynolds has captured the country's ear with what passes for "social criticism." Mrs. Treuhft's contribution was a tract against capitalist-style funerals; Mrs. Reynolds takes a slap at lookalike housing and its capitalist owners.

Like Miss Mitford (TOCSIN, Aug. 28, 1963), Mrs. Reynolds is no novice at the manipulation of language.

The wife of builder William Reynolds of 2027 Parker St., Berkeley, Mrs. Reynolds as far back as the late 50's was the "kitchen philosopher" for the Communist People's World under the by-line of Marjorie Crane. More recently she has served as an occasional news analyst for Berkeley's left-wing station KPFA, on which her songs are also heard.

In her registration as an Alameda County voter in 1936 and 1942 she listed herself as a Communist. In the following years she performed frequently at Communist-backed benefits, was Bay Area representative for the Communist National Guardian, and ran for city council in Long Beach on the Communist-led Independent Progressive Party ticket.

A graduate of the University of California from which she holds a Ph.D., Mrs. Reynolds was a member of the Young Communist League.

Her father, the late David Milder of Los Angeles, had been a charter member of the Communist Party, according to the People's World, and was actively associated with Anita Whitney, California party official, in the early days of the case of Tom Mooney. Mooney was imprisoned in connection with a "Preparedness Day" bombing incident in 1916 and

(continued on page 4)

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PROBE OF WARREN COMMISSION PROBER

Redlich Record Under Study

The Warren Commission will investigate the presence on its staff of Norman Redlich, a New York University law professor who is an avowed member of a Communist front called the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee, a Los Angeles Times story from Washington said Feb. 19.

The Communist-front activity of Redlich was reported exclusively in TOCSIN, Feb. 12. The Times article stated that members of the commission, which is probing the assassination of President Kennedy under the leadership of Chief Justice Earl Warren, "received copies of 'TOCSIN.'" Redlich's presence on the staff, as special assistant to chief counsel J. Lee Rankin, had been sharply criticized last month by California Representative James Utt and the California Young Republicans after publication of the TOCSIN article.

In addition to the affiliations already listed for Redlich, he was co-author with an identified Communist of an article which appeared in the Nation magazine of June 6, 1953. The co-author was Laurent B. Frantz, who took the fifth amendment at the 1960 HCUA hearings in San Francisco.

Frantz and his wife Margaret, who has also been identified as a Communist, are presently residents of El Cerrito, Calif., and have been active in the Bay Area in promoting the cause of the Communist-backed Highlander Research and Education Center of Knoxville, Tenn. (TOCSIN, Feb. 27, 1963).

Mrs. Frantz' sister Blanche, who lives in Berkeley, is the wife of identified Communist Louis E. Hartman. The sisters' father was an old-time Alabama Communist, the late Joseph Sidney Gelders, who launched the Communist-run Southern Conference for Human Welfare 25 years ago. One of Gelders' associates, according to 1954 hear-

ings of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, was Virginia Durr, wife of Communist-line lawyer Clifford Durr and sister-in-law of Supreme Court Justice Hugo Black.

Despite the glaring publicity which has inevitably surrounded the presidential assassination, no major news medium carried any mention of the presence of Professor Norman Redlich on the Warren Commission staff.

Observers are speculating that this bizarre patch of silence in an otherwise well-covered case may have resulted from Redlich's own desire to avoid advertising his role in the Oswald probe.

Redlich signed an anti-HCUA petition in the New York Times of Feb. 9, 1961, and was a scheduled speaker at a Communist-front congress April 16, 1955, sponsored by the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee.

A letter to the New York Times of Oct. 31, 1961, signed by Redlich accuses the HCUA of seeking to persuade people "not to speak at all."

TOCSIN Goes to a New York Oswald Defense Meeting

The mother of the accused assassin of President Kennedy was seated morosely in one corner of the stage.

We had elbowed our way past a throng outside which had been unable to get tickets for the meeting in New York's Town Hall Feb. 18, sponsored by the Communist National Guardian.

The crowd had come to hear what they had already been told by the Communist press since that fateful Nov. 22: that Marxist Lee Harvey Oswald was the victim of a capitalist frameup plotted by the FBI, the CIA, the police, the ultra-right, hate groups, or red-baiters.

Waiting for the meeting to start, we leaf through the assortment of literature we have received supporting this or that

pro-Communist cause: a flyer from the New York Council to Abolish the House Committee on Un-American Activities, an appeal from the Monroe Defense Committee.

HABER CHAIRMAN

The crowd seems inexplicably restless. At last James Aronson, National Guardian editor, rises to introduce the panel. Chairman for the evening is Rutgers University law professor David Haber, whose name we remember in connection with Communist fronts a decade ago.

Aronson introduces the other members of the panel and then explains that the meeting itself is a victory. The Town Hall owners had threatened to cancel it because the Guardian couldn't raise a

\$25,000 bond necessary in case of damage to the property. Through the intervention of lawyer Edward J. Ennis of the American Civil Liberties Union and quick donations from affluent readers of the Guardian, the show had succeeded in going on.

Professor Haber tells the audience he is no expert on the Oswald case, but just doesn't approve of the "secrecy" and wonders what "they" are trying to hide. He does not tell us who "they" are. He also questions the legality of the Warren Commission and the character of its members, except Warren himself.

The speakers seem all to be in agreement that Warren is the only ray of light

(continued on page 4)

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You're Tired of It --And So Are We

This is the corner of the paper we hate to write.

We have to have funds through which to operate, but are irritated by the necessity to keep begging for them and tired of trying to think of different ways to say the same thing.

So let us reiterate for the nth time that we are doing a job which is being done nowhere else as effectively on such a shoestring budget; that we are a small operation but could get bigger if readers would contribute more; that putting out the paper is a sacrifice to the staff but has become an ineluctable necessity.

A subscription or a contribution to TOCSIN is one way to make a commitment to freedom. The freedom to publish the kind of documented information we print could conceivably disappear through lack of use and public indifference.

We don't want that to happen and are certain you don't either.

Now that TOCSIN is back after its brief suspension, it wishes to stress that the time to express your support for the paper is now.

Sobell Defense Group Asks for Full Pardon

An identified San Francisco Communist is coordinating student agitation for a pardon for imprisoned atom spy Morton Sobell.

Optometrist Eugene Eagle, who was identified as a Communist before both the House Committee on Un-American Activities and the Subversive Activities Control Board, is a leader in the new Sobell campaign. Sobell's defense groups, which have long sought clemency, are now demanding a full pardon.

Sobell was a co-defendant with Julius and Ethel Rosenberg, who were executed more than a decade ago for conspiracy to commit espionage.

Eagle and his co-workers for Sobell are using an ad published recently by the Daily Californian, University of California paper, as a part of the defense committee's literature.

Along with reprints of the Daily Californian ad, petitions are being circulated nationally for Sobell's freedom. A meeting is planned for mid-April in San Francisco to press the campaign.

The drive to save the Rosenbergs in the early 50's was considered the noisiest in Communist propaganda history, setting a precedent unequalled even by the current drive to redeem the memory of accused assassin Lee Harvey Oswald. All of the drives have concentrated on the accusation that the accused were victims of a capitalist "frame-up."

THE SEIGEL PASSPORT CASE

Lawyer Denies CP Identification

"My client has never been identified as a member of the Communist Party," protested Communist lawyer Aubrey W. Grossman last month after the arrest of Hyman (Henry) Seigel on a charge of violating the McCarran Internal Security Act.

In reality, Seigel, a San Francisco pharmacist, is an identified and self-admitted Communist whose work for the Communist movement is recorded in the People's World since at least 1942.

His arrest Feb. 13 was based on a charge of illegal use of an American passport while a member of the Communist Party following his 1962 trip to the USSR and Western Europe.

The April 8, 1944, People's World refers to Seigel as the star Communist Party builder in the North Beach (San Francisco) Communist Club. He is further identified, in the Sept. 19, 1944, issue of the publication, as a member of the San Francisco County Committee of the Communist Political Association, World War II version of the CP.

REGISTERED COMMUNIST

He is also identified as a CP member in the April 29, 1946, People's World and was registered in 1943 as a Communist.

Under the name Henry Seigel, he was identified as a dues collector for a Communist Party unit at 1957 hearings of the House Committee on Un-American Activities. The identification was made by Dr. Jack Patten, a former Communist.

When the Communist-led riots against the HCUA occurred in San Francisco in May 1960, one of five teen-agers arrested in addition to 64 other persons was Seigel's son Daniel. Young Seigel and the other four were "severely admonished" and the charges dismissed. "I told them that in my opinion they had been the unwitting dupes of professional agitators," said the judge.

Reared in New York City, Hyman Seigel attended Fordham University and moved to California in the late 20's to practice pharmacy. In 1941 he became a job steward under jurisdiction of the Bay Area's Warehousemen's Union and later took a leave to head the People's World Victory Drive.

MENTIONED IN P.W.

In the 1940's and 50's, the People's World carried frequent announcements of events in Seigel's honor, advertisements for his business and for Communist benefits which he hosted.

He was a 1951 sponsor of San Francisco supervisory candidate Oleta O'Connor Yates, a Communist leader; sponsored a "Bill of Rights" petition from the Communist Civil Rights Congress in 1952; and contributed to the American-Russian Institute's "Friendship Book" in 1954.

Seigel hosted a Christmas Eve Party

in 1955 for the Communist-run California Emergency Defense Committee to raise funds for Smith Act violators.

Reporting the death of his wife Pearl in 1961, the People's World referred to Seigel and his son as "both active in local progressive ranks."

In 1962 Seigel hosted a private Communist Party reception at his San Francisco home for CP boss Gus Hall during Hall's trip West for a well publicized speech at the University of California YMCA.

Seigel's trip to the Soviet Union in 1962 included his participation in the Kremlin's "peace" congress of that year.

School Admits 'Radical' Goals

The first class at a radical institution which calls itself the New School is scheduled to be held today in San Francisco. Purpose of the school is "to develop a radical public in the San Francisco Bay Area," according to a handout.

Associates in the venture include former Trotskyite Paul Jacobs, who is on the staff of the University of California's Institute of Industrial Relations; Mike Miller, a former chairman of UC's left-wing Slate party who was a featured speaker last month at a birthday celebration of the Communist People's World; Saul Landau, a pro-Castro spokesman in the Bay Area; and Robert Scheer, former leader of the UC Fair Play for Cuba Committee and a 1960 visitor to Communist-held Cuba.

Classes will be held in the building of the Presidio Hills School, 3839 Washington St., San Francisco, through May 13. The organizing group for the school refers to itself as the San Francisco Opposition. Listed as a member of that group last year was Nora Lapin, daughter of the late Communist Adam Lapin. Lapin was an associate editor of the Communist People's World and was wartime Washington correspondent for the Daily Worker.

Other New School associates are R. G. Davis, Alvin Duskin, David Eakins, Jerry Mandel, Jerry Rosenfield, Marvin Stender, Judy Stiehm, Laurel Weinstein and Carl Werthman.

Reprints Available

A reprint of TOCSIN's article of Aug. 28, 1963, entitled "Writer Jessica Mitford Equals Communist Decca Treuhaff" is available at the rate of 20 cents for five; \$2.50 per 100; \$20 per 1000.

A reprint of articles on the Fair Play for Cuba Committee from the Dec. 4 TOCSIN is also available at the same rate.

Richmond Back As P.W. Editor

Back on the job as executive editor of the Communist People's World is admitted Communist Al Richmond, who has been on leave for a year. His return was scheduled to be feted Feb. 22 at Berkeley's party gathering place, Finnish Hall, at 1819 10th St.

Richmond, according to the People's World, spent the leave writing a book, whose title and content were not, however, disclosed.

Except for a three-year wartime stretch in the Army, Richmond has continuously been at the helm of the Communist West Coast paper. His work was briefly interrupted when he was convicted under the Smith Act (1952) and when he was charged with having obtained his U.S. citizenship by fraud (1959). The Smith Act conviction was reversed by the U.S. Supreme Court in 1957.

The matter of Richmond's citizenship, which he obtained through naturalization, was resolved when a U.S. district court ruled that he was guilty of no concealment of his CP membership on alien registration forms.

Born in London in 1913, Richmond is the son of the late Gonya Gorelick Shapiro, a staunch Russian-born Communist till her death in 1954. Mrs. Shapiro at 21 was a regional leader of the unsuccessful 1905 revolution, served a stretch in pre-revolutionary prisons, escaped from Siberian exile to England and came to the U.S. for the first time in 1915.

Richmond, who was two when his mother moved to the U.S., accompanied his parents on a return trip to Russia in 1917. His mother joined the U.S. Communist Party after her return to this country in 1922.

Richmond joined the staff of the New York Daily Worker in 1934, was a founder of the Sunday Worker and served as its managing editor until he came to California to edit the Western Worker, forerunner of the People's World.

During his leave, Richmond's post was occupied by Communist Charles Percy ('Steve') Murdock, People's World political writer and commentator on Berkeley station KPFA.

The Communists' Co-op Spouses

In addition to the identified Communist Party members in leadership positions at the Berkeley-based Consumers Cooperatives, a number of spouses of other Communists are also directing the thriving Northern California chain.

One is Brownlee W. Shirek, 52, husband of the late Hattie Shirek who was killed last year in an East Bay auto collision. Mrs. Shirek had been an organizer for a California section of the Communist Party.

Shirek, of 2705 Walker St., Berkeley is a counselor for the Bay Area Funeral Society, a Co-op affiliate, and is chairman of the Telegraph Avenue Co-op center.

In the early 40's he was a member of chapter 25 of the International Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians (FAECT), a Communist-run organization which laid an elaborate espionage network at the University of California Radiation Laboratory during World War II.

MRS. OPPENHEIMER TESTIFIES

Mrs. Jacqueline Oppenheimer, wife of former admitted Communist Frank Oppenheimer and sister-in-law of famed nuclear physicist J. Robert Oppenheimer, identified Shirek among her acquaintances in FAECT when she testified before the House Committee on Un-American Activities in 1949. Although she admitted her own past Communist Party membership she refused to discuss affiliations of Shirek and others during the HCUA's probe of Communist infiltration of the super-secret Berkeley atomic project.

Arrested for grand theft in March 1945 when he headed a war-bond drive, Shirek was charged by a Berkeley woman with having taken funds without delivering the bonds.

During the case, Frank Oppenheimer, then employed at the UC Radiation Laboratory, offered to make restitution of the funds if authorities would release Shirek. He said he was interested in the case because his wife had attended school with Mrs. Shirek.

The court later dismissed the case against Shirek, who was represented by San Francisco Communist lawyer George R. Andersen, after funds had been returned to the plaintiff.

In the following decades, the Shireks were active in various party-supported activities, including the Independent Progressive Party, the "peace" movement and a "discrimination" survey publicized in the Communist People's World.

From our divided home front: "There's no use fighting Communism," a patriotic American woman told us last week, "unless we first do something about female cigarette-smokers."

PHASING OUT

Self-exiled Communist leader Henry Winston is returning to the U.S. after two and a half years in the USSR and will appear at the Worker's 40th anniversary celebration in New York City March 5. His homecoming coincides with his million-dollar damage suit against the U.S. government for alleged mistreatment while he was imprisoned under the Smith Act.

Broadway actress Ruby Dee and her husband Ossie Davis continue active at pro-Communist entertainments. They were set to provide diversion at a memorial tribute to the late Communist W.E.B. DuBois Feb. 23 in Carnegie Hall. Davis also served as chairman of the tribute committee.

Rutgers University law professor David Haber was the announced chairman for a Feb. 18 meeting in New York featuring lawyer Mark Lane, of the "Oswald was framed" propaganda case. Haber, we recall, was a director a decade or so ago of the National Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions, a Communist front; supported clemency for the Rosenbergs in their atom-spy case; and sponsored a 1951 testimonial for Communist DuBois.

Communist writer Ella Winter, now of Berkeley, was announced as speaker for the first annual Anna Louise Strong lecture-ship, set for Feb. 21, at the Los Angeles First Unitarian Church. Miss Winter was to be introduced by Rev. Stephen H. Fritchman, a fifth-amendment witness before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. Miss Strong is an aging American Communist who now writes on the Far East for the Communist press.

"Dan Marshall, an attorney with a long and distinguished record as a defender of civil liberties, will be master of ceremonies at the People's World 26th anniversary affair" in Los Angeles Feb. 16, said a story in People's World last month.

Marshall's distinguished record includes the former presidency of the Los Angeles chapter of the National Lawyers Guild, a Communist legal front. His equally distinguished wife is chairman of the Communist-run Citizens Committee to Preserve American Freedoms, a front which opposes the HCUA. Both of the Marshalls have long been connected with L.A. functions of the Communist movement.

Rev. Lee H. Ball, executive secretary of the Communist front called the Methodist Federation for Social Action, has an article praising the glories of Soviet Communism in the Communist publication New World Review (formerly Soviet Russia Today) for February.

Now that everybody has seen the photo of Oswald holding the rifle that killed President Kennedy, the pistol that killed Officer Tippitt and a copy of the Trotskyite-Communist "Militant," it is hard even for do-good liberals to assign the crime to those vague "forces of hate" we'd been hearing so much about.

(continued on page 4)

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PHASING OUT

(continued from page 1)

The Monroe Defense Committee, which is backing pro-Communist propagandist Robert F. Williams and four others involved in a 1961 racial agitation case, has set up new headquarters in Monroe, North Carolina. It is asking donations from throughout the country in an appeal signed by its chairman, Clarence Seniors.

The Communist-fronting Citizens Committee for Constitutional Liberties will honor Willard Uphaus, its current chairman, March 15 at a New York City celebration.

"Perhaps the most significant accomplishment of President John F. Kennedy was his contribution to the easing of cold-war tensions and to improved Soviet-American relations achieved in 1963," says the editorial in the February issue of Political Affairs, theoretical organ of the U.S. Communist Party. "...The actions and declarations of President Lyndon B. Johnson, in the two brief months since he assumed the helm of the government, so far indicate that he intends to pursue the path of his predecessor."

Add silly headlines (the Worker, Feb. 18): "FBI's Infiltration of Churches Assailed."

American Civil Liberties Union attorney Maury Maverick of San Antonio represented Communist John W. Stanford in a recent hearing before the Texas 57th District Court resulting from Stanford's indictment under the McCarran Internal Security Act.

The Communist People's World has announced the retirement of its articulate movie critic "David Ordway," who will be replaced by Nancy Scott Drake and other staff members. "Ordway" is in reality Communist former screenwriter Alvah Besie of the "Hollywood 10," who served a contempt-of-Congress sentence more than a decade ago when he refused to answer questions about party affiliations. "Ordway's" new line of endeavor was not specified.

In an era when Communism is winning through bluff, bluster and talk, a new pro-Communist magazine has been launched under an appropriate name: It will be called "Dialogue." The word, by the way, has lately become a favorite of the ultra-left. It's supposed to have some talismanic quality through which disparities are overcome and conflicts bridged. Roosevelt and Stalin engaged in "dialogue" at Yalta.

Communist Sidney J. Gluck, chairman of the so-called Emergency Committee for Disaster Relief to Cuba, has joined Linus and Mrs. Pauling and other members of the group in asking visas to visit the Castro-held island "to study the needs and distribution of the committee's relief supplies for hurricane victims." Thus reports the Feb. 18 Communist Worker, chief publicity outlet for the committee.

MALVINA REYNOLDS

(continued from page 1)

later pardoned by California Gov. Culbert L. Olson.

Other members of Mrs. Reynolds' family have also been active in Communist functions:

— Her mother, Mrs. Lizzie Milder, was associated with "Anita Whitney, Tom Mooney, Max Bedacht and other working-class leaders in the early years of their West Coast activity," said a laudatory obituary notice in the People's World of April 26, 1947. A member of the old Socialist Party before the establishment of the CP, Mrs. Milder was termed by the P.W. to be a "pioneer progressive" who had contributed money to the Communist newspaper.

— Eleanor Lawrence of 2728½ Stuart St., Berkeley, Mrs. Reynolds' sister, is a former Communist Party organizer in Alameda County. Besides her former married name Kaplan, she has used the aliases of Laula Dobbs and Laula or Laura Davis. As Laula Dobbs she was identified as a Communist at 1952 Smith Act hearings.

— Mrs. Lawrence's husband, Thompson Cockrill Lawrence, has a long record of support for Communist causes be-

Bay Area realtor Morris Tepping, whose affiliations in the Communist movement were reported in TOCSIN, Oct. 2, 1963, used a line from Malvina Reynolds' "Little Boxes," in a Berkeley Gazette housing ad Jan. 13. Mrs. Reynolds' song outlet, the magazine Broadside, reprinted the Tepping ad in one of its February columns. The magazine is co-edited by Communist folk-singer Pete Seeger, who was recently welcomed by Ambassador Chester Bowles as a "true representative of the United States of America" when Seeger visited India.

ginning in 1949 and including association with Yetta Land of Berkeley, a charter member of the Communist Party who was formerly active in Ohio.

— Jennie Newman, sister of Mrs. Reynolds' mother, was the wife of Edward Newman Sr. of Santa Cruz, who was a distributor of the old Communist Western Worker, forerunner of the People's World, in the early 30's. Newman Sr. is listed in the People's World of Dec. 28, 1938, as a contributor to the P.W. sustaining fund.

— Newman's son, Edward F. Newman, Jr., of Hayward (Calif.) is a member of the National Lawyers Guild, Communist legal front. Secretaries for Newman's law firm have included two identified

OSWALD MEETING

(continued from page 1)

on the commission, but fear that he will put the prestige of the country above the truth. Professor Haber ends with an appeal for a continuation of the public's "soul-searching" to get at the facts.

Professor Staughton Lynd, a youthful American history professor who will be teaching at Yale next year, likens the case to the Dreyfus affair of late 19th-century France. He draws an analogy between the government conspiracy against the ill-fated French captain, who was twice convicted on manufactured evidence, and the present situation. "Why has our society become so fearful of the truth?" he asks the audience. He does not tell us what "truth" is missing in the case against Oswald, but the audience greets his comment with resounding applause.

Mark Lane, the New York lawyer who heads the Oswald "defense," repeats most of what he has already written in the National Guardian in his widely circulated "brief" to the Warren Commission. He draws large diagrams on a blackboard to explain the theory of the position of the President's wound. He cites many newspaper reports to bolster his theories, but does not refer to those which contradict them. He reminds the audience that Dallas is a terrible place.

After a short fund-raising pitch from Dr. Annette Rubinstein, a pro-Communist lecturer, Mrs. Marguerite Oswald takes the stage. In parts of her speech, she rambles incoherently — a fact which becomes all the more apparent when she delivers part of the speech in a practiced tone, using a vocabulary and syntax which sound as though they came from someone else.

During the question period, a spectator asks her what evidence there is that Lee Harvey was working for the FBI or the CIA. She replies that while he was in the Soviet Union, he wrote many letters. She promises that all the information will be supplied in a book she is writing.

For part of the proceedings the audience seems bored, but it rises to a pitch of enthusiasm when some new treachery of the FBI is brought to light.

Communists. In 1958 he was a sponsor of Communist Holland Roberts for California superintendent of public instruction.

— Newman Jr. is wed to the former Carol Jean Rosenblum, sister of Los Angeles Communist Party Chairman Dorothy Healey.

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NEWSPAPER

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