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### Political Points: A Bulletin Of Opinion To Clarify And Organize - March/April 1950 [Vol I, Number 2]

Communist Party

*1st Congressional District*

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# POLITICAL POINTS

Volume I, Number 2

March-April, 1950

Santa Rosa, California

A BULLETIN OF OPINION  
TO CLARIFY AND ORGANIZE

April 10, 1950

## MUNDT-NIXON = POLICE-STATE

S.B. 2311. That isn't a license number, nor is it an abbreviation of a swear word. It's the number of the police-state bill reaction is trying to rush through Congress. The Mundt-Nixon Bill is the latest in a long series of attempts by the Legislative, Judicial and Executive branches of our government to subvert the Bill of Rights, ring in a police state and lead us into an aggressive war.

The bill makes the 'finding' that the communist movement is one "whose purpose it is...to establish a communist totalitarian dictatorship in all countries." Under the bill a 'communist political organization' is one said to be "substantially dominated by a foreign government." A 'communist front organization' is one said to be under the "control of a communist political organization."

You say you don't belong to an organization which is under the control of a 'communist political organization'? Unfortunately, you're not the one to determine that. The 3-man appointed committee the bill authorizes would have the power to determine which organizations were 'communist', and would require them to register with the Attorney General under pain of fine and imprisonment. Any group or individual thus complying with this section of the law would then be liable for up to 10 years & \$10,000.

under sec. 4 of the law on the grounds that he is substantially contributing "to the establishment in the United States of a totalitarian dictatorship". (!)

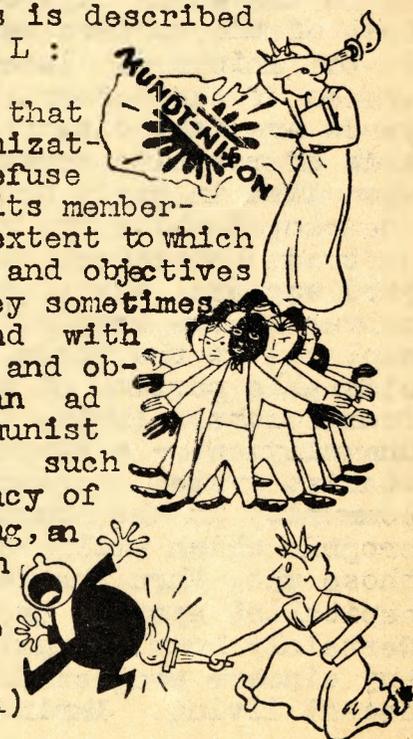
The all-embracing threat of this bill was recognized by Sen. Wm Langer in his minority report to the Judiciary committee. He said:

"Under the guise of protecting our democratic institutions, ...it is proposed to regiment the thinking of the American people...."

The way the Mundt-Nixon bill is to be used against unions and other organizations is described by the AF of L :

"The fact that a labor organization might..refuse to disclose its membership or the extent to which its policies and objectives might, as they sometimes do, correspond with the policies and objectives of an admittedly communist organization, such as the advocacy of better housing, an adequate health program, the repeal of the T-H Act, and

(Cont'd. on p 4)



## 1ST CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT (first of a series)

Marin County today has an estimated population of 96,000, having increased by some 80% in ten years. Its voting strength has increased proportionately. How can the voters influence events in 1950 to achieve adequate representation in the state and federal lawmaking bodies? Let's see first what these voters need.

The bulk of the increase was caused by an influx of people who wanted to make a contribution to the war effort. Several thousand are housed in the temporary government project of Marin City. These working people and their families clearly need a housing program which will insure continuation of the project and guarantee low-cost housing for Marin. The 6000 residents of Marin City must defend themselves against the money-hungry real estate interests who are already breathing down their necks in their eagerness to make a killing.

In the early days of the project most of the workers were employed in the shipyards close by. Today all traces of the formerly buzzing shipyards are fast disappearing. Thousands of maritime workers - many of whom live in Marin County - are now unemployed while the embargo on China trade continues. Many former shipyard workers, therefore, find themselves in the army of 600,000 unemployed in the state. While a considerable portion of the jobless are from southern Marin, the disease of unemployment - a symptom of the capitalist system - creeps into every community in the county. We need a program which will create jobs for those who, thru the fault of the capitalist system, are without work. Certainly housing must rank high in any sincere program for jobs and decent living. Marin City must be

# MARIN

maintained, rebuilt, and turned into a permanent federal housing project.

**PEOPLE VS. BIGOTS** When we Communists speak of Negro rights, some may think that we seek only to aid in protecting and advancing the rights of the Negro people. It is true that the struggle for Negro rights has as its aim the political, social and economic equality of the Negro people. But the struggle is equally important to the white worker - slow as he is to understand this fact. The burning of the KKK cross over Marin City points to the existence of warped thinking and bigotry on the part of some in the community, which needs to be met by a series of local, state and federal laws which will guarantee to the Negro people their full rights and dignity and severely punish any out-croppings of overt or subtle acts of discrimination. The instant reaction of hundreds of people to the cross burning is a fine example of how this threat must be met.

The fight for jobs and the breaking down of discrimination in the unions is the first job in the fight against discrimination. Labor in a white skin will never be free as long as labor in a black skin is degraded. This fight must be intensified, tho we hold that complete emancipation of both the white worker and the Negro people will be attained only under socialism.



**MODERN HIGHWAYMEN** Many Marin residents work in S.F. The only form of public transportation available is the Greyhound Bus. This monopoly (S.P.) has won the well-merited hate of the commuters and drivers alike. The former are overcharged for the poor service received, and the latter are underpaid for the work rendered. Now we note with considerable anger that Greyhound is asking for commuter rate increases amounting in some cases to nearly 100%. This attempted robbery can be defeated if enough heat is generated against this monopoly.

Another need of Marin is a more adequate system of public schools for the growing number of children of school age. In many communities

classes are held in shifts, so overcrowded are the facilities. More and better schools, larger and better-paid staffs are needed. The as-yet unrealized demand for the hiring of Negro teachers, so that our children may see democracy in practice, is a 'must'.

**THE KEY** THE VERY POSSIBILITY OF WINNING ANY OF THE ABOVE ESSENTIALS IS CONDITIONED UPON WHETHER THERE IS TO BE WAR OR PEACE.

THE FIGHT TO DEFEAT THE WAR-MAKERS AND TO KEEP THE PEACE BECOMES THEREFORE THE KEY TO ALL THE REST - THE KEY TO PROGRESS.

\*\*\*\*\*

Marin and Sonoma Counties comprise the 7th Assembly District and are 'represented' in Sacramento by Richard H. McCollister (R) of Mill Valley. Marin is also part of the

1st Congressional District and our 'representative' in Washington is Hubert B Scudder (R) of Sebastopol. They are both candidates to succeed themselves. Let us see what kind of representing they did - whom they represented.

The voting record on the key issues of jobs, relief, FEPC, schools etc, shows that McCollister recorded 16 good votes to 13 bad with 8 absences. This isn't a good record. And by his record McCollister shows that the welfare of the people of Marin is not his primary concern.

**THE LINE-UP** McCollister is confronted with 3 opponents in the primary elections in June. Of these Vera Schultz, Mill Valley Councilwoman, appears to be the strongest. Even tho McCollister has had some severe jolts during the past few months, only a vigorous and sincere campaign, based upon the things the people need, can hope to dislodge such an entrenched and astute politician.

The Congressional race, dealt with elsewhere in this issue, presents a similar picture - only worse. Scudder, the outspoken reactionary (for T-H, against FEPC and federal aid to education, etc) is opposed by millionaire playboy Roger Kent who follows the Truman pattern of promising all. His actions very often fail to fit his words and there is reason to question his sincerity. He has, however, committed himself publicly for repeal of Taft-Hartley, for the Brannan Farm Plan, FEPC, Central Valley, etc. The people of Marin must join with other voters of the 1st C.D. in demanding enactment of such a program. Only through independent, militant action, without reliance on either major party or candidate, can such a program be won.

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(Cont'd. from p.1)

the like, might be utilized by a hostile commission to make a finding that a particular labor organization is a communist front..."

The people of the 1st C.D. need legislation to alleviate unemployment and the developing farm crisis, they want civil rights laws and repeal of T-H. We need a Mundt-Nixon Bill like we need a hole in the head!

We have a chance in this election year to register our vigorous opposition to such fascist legislation. The attempt of Richard Nixon to win election to the U.S. Senate must be defeated. Senators Knowland and Downey must be urged now to turn thumbs down on this bill. Likewise Congressman Scudder. In fact, both Scudder and his opponent Roger Kent should be made to state exactly where they stand on this issue.

Let's apply that Liberty Torch of mass indignation to the seat of reaction - the police-staters in Washington D.C. !

**DEFEAT THE MUNDT-NIXON BILL!**

If you feel that 'Political Points' is playing a constructive role in the life of the 1st C.D., why not send in a dollar bill to keep it going?

## **POLITICAL POINTS**

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Editor....Francis G. Fink

P.O.Box 664, Santa Rosa ; P.O.Box 79, Sausalito; P.O. Box 707, Eureka

Suggestions & Criticisms Welcomed

## **HIND LEGS EN MASSE**

As we feared, the voters of the 1st C.D. have the dubious choice of voting for either Hubert Scudder or Roger Kent, neither of whom can exactly qualify as a 'champion of the people'. If the trade unionists, dirt farmers, plagued poultrymen, vets and minority groups hope to counteract the instinctive bent of both candidates to vote the way the monopolists, lobbyists and assorted bigots want them to, they will have to get up on their hind legs en masse and demand that they vote in the interests of the people.

While this isn't as easy as having a Congressman who is willing and anxious to vote in favor of the people, it can extract concessions. For instance. In '48 'Restrictive Tariff' Scudder was unconditionally for the T-H Law. Kent, after considerable juggling, came up favoring an amended T-H. Today, with the lessons of the Norgard campaign and from continued demands of labor for repeal of T-H, Kent has been forced to plug for repeal to win labor support. And Scudder (of all things!) according to the SF Chronicle has conceded that some 'administrative' amendments are needed!

Neither candidate has yet come out for return to the Wagner Act. Nor has either urged the sacking of NLRB counsel Robert Denham, Truman appointee and rabid foe of labor. Certainly if Kent is sincere in his words, he must agree to these demands of labor.

It will be one of the aims of 'Political Points' to assist as it can to clarify the issues, raise demands and sound the alarm when necessary between now and the November elections so that the majority of the people of this sprawling district will pack enough weight to force our 'representative' to be representative. -F.G.F.