

Moynihan affirms his racist allegiance

by Mary McCourt

Ten days before the benchmark Sept. 23 Democratic primary contest in New York State, incumbent Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan was forced out into the open to announce his loyalty to party patrician W. Averell Harriman. In an interview with the Albany, New York *Times Union* Sept. 13, Moynihan said that he "was proud to be associated with Harriman. 'If that means I'm in the Harriman wing of the Democratic Party, so be it.'"

Moynihan's declaration of allegiance to Harriman was the Senator's first acknowledgment of the campaign his opponent, National Democratic Policy Committee-endorsed Mel Klenetsky, has waged to expose the Harriman family as the leading American supporters of race science in this century, and to bring to the public complete details of Moynihan's training at Harriman's knee. Under Harriman's tutelage, Klenetsky's published campaign materials have documented, Moynihan has made a political career of promoting racist policies.

Harriman's well-kept secret exposed

The Klenetsky campaign has published full documentation of the Harriman family's sponsorship of the eugenics movement in the United States. Harriman's mother Mary was the founder and benefactor of the Eugenics Record Office in Cold Spring Harbor, N.Y., which was later funded by Averell Harriman as well. In 1921, the Harrimans sponsored the Second International Congress on Eugenics, held at New York City's Museum of Natural History. In 1924, a bill to tighten U.S. immigration quotas, written under the supervision of Eugenics Record Office director H. H. Laughlin, was passed by the U.S. Congress. In the late 1930s, this legislation and other agitation by the Harriman-Laughlin crowd, made it impossible for German Jews being persecuted by the Nazis to emigrate to the United States. Up to 3 million Jews, who would have been allowed to enter this country under earlier laws, died in the Nazi death camps.

Moynihan, a protégé of Averell Harriman since he served as his aide during Harriman's 1955-58 governorship of New York, thoroughly imbibed Harriman's racialism. After being trained at the London School of Economics, Moynihan founded and championed the racist theory of "ethnicity."

First put forward in his 1963 book *Beyond the Melting Pot*, the idea of ethnicity boils down to the assertion that it is race, and not economic or class distinctions, which determine an individual's capabilities. Thus, said Moynihan, various ethnic groups within the United States, including the Jews, Irish, and Italians, had never really been assimilated into American society, and that, due to family structure within the black and Hispanic minorities, these groups would be impossible to assimilate. In 1965, as Assistant Secretary of Labor, in the Lyndon Johnson administration, Moynihan issued the *Black Family Report*, which claimed that black families were inherently inferior, due to the social heritage of slavery. The only way poverty can be controlled among blacks, said Moynihan, is to control black population expansion, i.e., eliminate "useless eaters"

under Hitler's Finance Minister Hjalmar Schacht.

With such a background, it is no surprise that Moynihan should endorse one of the most notorious racist theorists of the recent period, Arthur Jensen, the professor of Educational Psychology at the University of California. In an article published in the *Harvard Educational Review* in 1969, Jensen, basing his work in part on studies Moynihan himself had done during his academic career, asserted that IQ test data proved that blacks are genetically intellectually inferior to whites by 15 IQ points. Black schools, Jensen wrote, "must be able to find ways of utilizing other strengths in children whose major strength is not of the cognitive variety"—i. that intellectual education is inappropriate for blacks. Jensen related this supposed intellectual inferiority to the darker pigmentation of the black population's skin: "The possibility of a biochemical connection between skin pigmentation and intelligence is not totally unlikely, in view of the biological relation between melanins, which are responsible for pigmentation, and some of the neural transmitter substances in the brain."

In a June 12, 1970 interview with *Life* magazine, Moynihan defended this quackery. A domestic adviser to President Nixon at the time, Moynihan claimed that "the winds of Jensen are gusting through the capital at gale force. . . . Dr. Jensen is a thoroughly respectable man. . . . He is in no sense a racist." the President.

Jensen was well aware of Moynihan's support. As he told an *EIR* interviewer Sept. 1, "I met Moynihan at about that time, and had some correspondence with him. We discussed these problems, because he too had been branded a racist for his Department of Labor report when he was Undersecretary of Labor that he put out about the Negro family."

"Did he generally view your study as being on the mark?" *EIR* asked.

"He never said anything to me in correspondence or in person or in anything I've read by him that's published, to indicate the contrary," be very cautious about his statements in this domain, because of his political position, naturally."