

# COUNTERATTACK

FACTS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM

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Letter No. 60

July 16, 1948

Dear Subscriber:.

COMMUNIST PARTY WILL MERGE CIVIL RIGHTS CONGRESS WITH THE EMERGENCY ANTI-MUNDT-NIXON FRONTS that it set up recently. Party has ordered a conference for this purpose Monday, July 19, at Hotel Bellevue-Stratford, Phila.

Merger is intended to pave the way for an even more effective job against Mundt-Nixon bill when it's brought up again in Congress.

Dept of Justice named Civil Rights Congress in list of subversive organizations last November. Geo Marshall, its rich Communist chairman, drew three-month jail sentence lately for defying Congress. He's appealing.

Marshall & Len Goldsmith, Exec Sec'y of Committee for Democratic Rights, signed the call for the July 19 conference. Goldsmith's committee was first front set up by the party to fight Mundt-Nixon bill. Counter-attack revealed June 18 that Goldsmith was a delegate to a closed Communist Party convention in 1945. Various local anti-Mundt-Nixon fronts, such as Comm for Democratic Action (in Chicago) are also to be in the merger.

Civil Rights Congress is successor to International Labor Defense (ILD), founded in 1925. In those franker days, ILD publicly called itself the U S Section of International Red Aid, with hq in Moscow.

Rep Vito Marcantonio was president of ILD many years later.

17 directors of ILD were identified as Communist Party members in 1939 by Benj Gitlow, who preceded Earl Browder as General Sec'y of party. A few were openly party members...but most, like Rockwell Kent, the artist, and Harvey O'Connor, labor writer, didn't admit membership. The 17 were:

|                |                   |               |             |            |
|----------------|-------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|
| Rockwell Kent  | Harvey O'Connor   | Leo Gallagher | Robt Minor  | Jos Pass   |
| Angelo Herndon | Wm L Patterson    | Ben Davis, Jr | Robt W Dunn | Rose Baron |
| Lloyd O'Connor | Jessica Henderson | Wm Albertson  | Anna Damon  |            |
| Mrs Ada Wright | Lawrence Simpson  | Bruce Minton  |             |            |

Another front, Natl Federation for Constitutional Liberties, was set up during Stalin-Hitler Alliance. Geo Marshall became its chairman. Much later the House Comm on Un-American Activities wanted a look at its records. Marshall refused. That's why he's now headed for jail.

Natl Federation for Constitutional Liberties was merged in 1946 with International Labor Defense, which had remained in existence. New name, Civil Rights Congress. Now there'll be another merger, maybe still another name. Anyway you'll see a consolidated front, streamlined for the decisive battle to save Communist Fifth Column by smearing Mundt-Nixon bill.

COMMUNISTS' DISSOLVE FRONT OF WHICH MRS. ROOSEVELT IS HONORARY HEAD. American Committee for Yugoslav Relief was named by Dept of Justice May 27 in its second list of subversive organizations. We wired Mrs Eleanor Roosevelt, honorary chairman, asking if she was resigning. She answered that the committee would "end its work in July" (Counterattack June 11, p 1).

But when the committee was asked about this, it said it wasn't sure

when it would dissolve. Then came the open break between Stalin's Cominform and Joseph Broz, alias Tito. Maybe that speeded up the committee's decision, especially since Communist Party of U S A began cursing Tito. Anyhow this week Zlatko Balokovic, violinist and president of the front, announced it is folding up as soon as pending shipments to Yugoslavia are made.

**COLLEGE PRESIDENT IS COMMUNIST FELLOW-TRAVELER.** Herbert J Davis is head of Smith College, leading women's college. If you want to know where many college students pick up their upside-down notions of American-Soviet relations, you can get an idea by glancing at some of Davis' activities.

American-Russian Institute was listed by Dept of Justice as a subversive organization on May 27. Six days later Pres Davis of Smith College presided at annual dinner of this Communist front. Star guest was Gromyko. Davis indirectly rapped Dept of Justice for listing the front as subversive.

Davis is chairman of a top pro-Communist propaganda committee. This is Comm on Education of Natl Council of American-Soviet Friendship (also listed by Dept of Justice as subversive). This committee has penetrated our public schools by distributing kits of "teaching materials" on Stalin Russia. The materials come from Communist fronts.

Dr Manfred Kridl teaches at Smith. More on him in a moment.

**PROFESSOR ERNEST J SIMMONS IS ONE OF LEADING FELLOW-TRAVELERS IN AMERICAN COLLEGES.** He's head of Dept of Slavic Languages at Columbia University. He's also director of Russian Institute there. Don't confuse this with American-Russian Institute. Russian Institute was founded in 1946 with grant of \$250,000 from Rockefeller Foundation. Simmons doesn't have everything his own way at Russian Institute...there are some vigorous anti-Communists on its faculty.

Simmons is also a board member & former chairman of American-Russian Institute, which Dept of Justice classifies as subversive..

He was formerly head of pro-Communist Teachers Union at Harvard (before anti-Communists won control of that AFL union nationally). He was a member of League of American Writers, a Communist front. He has written for a Communist Party magazine, Soviet Russia Today, and for the party's former magazine, New Masses (now called Masses & Mainstream).

Communists made him a vice-chairman of American Labor Party (NYState) after they captured it from the anti-Communists who founded it.

Simmons appointed Communist Party members & other Communists as guest lecturers in a course on Russian civilization at Cornell. One of these was Corliss Lamont. Another was Sergei Kournakoff, who is now back in Stalin Russia...he had a full-page dispatch from Moscow in Daily Worker July 11. Still another was Prof Vladimir Kazakevich, a Communist Party member & editor of a party magazine. Kazakevich took part with Wm Z Foster in a forum on "100 Years of the Communist Manifesto" last Dec 8.

Now Simmons, who appointed Communists at Cornell, is at Columbia.

**EISENHOWER'S HEADACHE OVER COMMUNIST QUESTION AT COLUMBIA IS ONLY BEGINNING.** This week Prof Arthur Prudden Coleman, who teaches Polish language & literature there, announced his resignation: Reason: Columbia has accepted a grant of \$10,000 a year from Communist Polish Govt for a new Adam Mickiewicz Chair of Polish Literature, Language & Philology.

Coleman has been battling Prof Ernest J Simmons in Slavic Dept at Columbia. It was Simmons who arranged the deal with Polish Govt for the

new chair. Columbia is already getting \$15,000 a year from Communist Govt of Czechoslovakia for a chair.

Several Cominform countries are using this propaganda device in American colleges. They're trying to set up chairs in colleges, and fill them with "satisfactory" professors. Coleman is against any acceptance of money from Cominform countries. He has told Eisenhower that if he worked as a colleague with a professor in his own field whose salary was paid by a Cominform country, he would be guilty of the same sort of intellectual collaboration as professors who are now despised for serving under Hitler.

Eisenhower entered the picture after the deal with the Polish Govt had been arranged. The financing agreement was reached before he took over as president of Columbia. And the occupant of the chair had also been picked. He's Dr Manfred Kridl, who now teaches at Smith College under Pres Herbert J Davis, Communist fellow-traveler. Kridl, a Pole, has been in the U S several years. He went back to Poland for a visit last year and is on pleasant terms with Communist Govt there.

Eisenhower tells Coleman that Kridl "has been appointed solely by Columbia without advice or suggestion from non-university sources". Fact is Kridl was picked by Prof Simmons, member of board of American-Russian Institute, etc. It might be well for Eisenhower to look into the matter more deeply, and find out whether Simmons didn't lunch a few months ago with Ambassador Jozef Winiewicz of Poland...and whether Winiewicz promised to set up a chair of Polish studies at Columbia, provided the man Simmons recommended for the appointment was satisfactory to the Polish regime.

Some other colleges, including Indiana University and the U of Mich, have also been approached by Polish Govt in same way. And other Cominform countries are trying similar deals. No college in the U S should accept any kind of financing from any Cominform country.

Eisenhower can expect a growing headache from Communist professors under him, not only in Slavic Dept but in other faculties. There are Communist professors in many colleges from coast to coast. But people will expect Eisenhower, unlike other college presidents, to DO something about it.

A LIBERAL GETS A FEW MILD WORDS OFF HIS CHEST ABOUT A STANDPAT ORGANIZATION. Christopher Emmet has long record as a liberal. American Civil Liberties Union has done a lot of good work and is also liberal in some ways. But its liberalism is the 19th Century brand. ACLU is a standpat, stick-in-the-mud outfit that behaves as if Stalin & Hitler had never lived. It's against doing anything to stop totalitarian conspirators.

Christopher Emmet has written an article for his fellow liberals. It appears in June 25 issue of The Commonweal (15¢ a copy, 386 Fourth Ave, NY 16). He analyzes the "hysterical smear campaign" against Mundt-Nixon bill. That bill was stymied in Congress by Communist party's terrific, high-priced campaign against it. Many liberal outfits chimed in, and one of these was ACLU. Now Emmet points out a few of ACLU's faults.

The ACLU's "attitude, like that of many lawyers, is purely negative on all questions of anti-Communist or anti-Fascist legislation," Emmet writes. "It has proposed no alternative or amendments to the Mundt-Nixon bill. Its leading spirits are NON-Communists, rather than ANTI-Communists, and seem committed to the dogma that free speech is a complete answer to the new techniques of the totalitarian conspiracy."

And there's a Communist MINORITY in the ACLU. Though most "of its directors have been fine non-Communist liberals, it still includes such a dyed-in-the-wool apologist for Stalin as Corliss Lamont on its board," and several of its Natl Committee members want to appease Stalin, and they support Communist fronts, says Emmet. "By including such a pro-Communist as Corliss Lamont on its board of directors..., the Civil Liberties Union not only virtually COMMITS ITSELF AGAINST ENDORSING ANY EFFECTIVE ANTI-COMMUNIST LEGISLATION, but it also excludes the only known substitute for legislation against Communism, that is, the private exposure and boycott." In other words, it's against taking ANY effective action against the Communists.

Now what do you suppose the ACLU's answer is to this? In July 9 issue of The Commonweal there was a letter of rebuttal by the staff counsel of ACLU. But he said nothing about Corliss Lamont or others of his sort in the organization. He just ducked the whole question.

All right, we'll make an answer FOR him. Fact is Lamont got lowest vote of anybody elected to the board. He just squeezed in. That's because he's KNOWN as a pro-Communist. But there are a couple of other party-liners on the board who play a slicker game. Still ABOUT 90% OF MEMBERS OF THE BOARD ARE NON-COMMUNISTS. And a few of them are strongly ANTI-Communist...they forced Louis Adamic to resign from Natl Committee lately because of his pro-Communist views...and they simply kicked Carey McWilliams off the same committee. So there's progress even in the ACLU, in this old conservative outfit that's so afraid of new methods to beat a new menace.

WHEN UNION LEADERS REFUSE TO SAY WHETHER THEY ARE COMMUNIST PARTY MEMBERS, and when they defy a Congressional committee by their refusal, you can guess there must be a reason. You can also guess what the reason is.

Nine leaders of Communist-led locals of CIO Retail, Wholesale & Department Store Union defied a House Labor subcommittee last week by their refusal to answer the party membership question. All 9 were on a list of 32 leaders of these locals who had been named a week earlier by Theodore C Kirkpatrick, managing editor of Counterattack, in testimony before the committee (Counterattack July 9, pp 2, 3). He submitted evidence of their party-line activities. The nine hostile witnesses will probably have to tell a jury why they shouldn't be jailed for contempt of Congress.

One of the nine, Arthur Osman, provided a surprise. He's president of union's biggest party-line local, Wholesale & Warehouse Local 65. He made public a telegram the local received from Gov Dewey during its convention in May, congratulating it on its fine achievements & splendid leadership. Political leaders send such wires to unions as a matter of routine, but they certainly shouldn't send them to any outfit that's Communist-led.

#### WHAT CAN YOU DO TO BEAT THE COMMUNISTS?

1. Urge any college with which you have influence to reject any financing by any Cominform country.
2. Notify local school officials, teachers, clergymen and others that Natl Council of American-Soviet Friendship is a Communist front. And put up a fight if anybody uses its teaching kits in schools.

Yours faithfully,

July 16, 1948

*Counterattack*