

COUNTERATTACK

FACTS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM

U. S. PAT. OFF.

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Dear Subscriber:

FOR A TRUE PICTURE OF WHAT THE COMMUNISTS ARE DOING, what their psychology is, what tricks they play, what organizations & publications are helpful to them, and what's being done to oppose them, it's necessary to look at a lot of news items of different kinds. Some of them are quite small but they're enlightening. Now, as the world moves from one year to another, let's freshen up our ideas of the Communist problem by considering a wide assortment of fairly recent news, plus one or two reflections.

CP is seeking support among hundreds of thousands of Puerto Ricans on U S mainland. Cesar Andreu, chairman of Communist Party of Puerto Rico, said here lately: "Puerto Ricans have played an important part in maintaining Vito Marcantonio, the great progressive leader, in Congress. They are also coming into the Communist Party in increasing numbers. The full development of party work among the Puerto Rican community in NY will greatly further the cause of Puerto Rico's independence and will be an important factor in the building of our party, both here and in Puerto Rico." And all this is tied in with Communists' war against U S throughout Latin America.

When a trade journal is praised by the Communist press, anti-Communists should take notice. "Billboard", a weekly trade journal of the entertainment business, is quoted approvingly by the Communists because it defends the great French coal strike. This strike was ordered & financed by the Cominform, and it has caused vast losses in France and has badly jarred the Marshall Plan. So the Communist praise of "Billboard" isn't astonishing.

A new book club to distribute Communists' books was formed lately. It's the Liberty Book Club. It chooses 12 books a year, some new, some old. Every book sells at \$1.20. Members of club must take at least four books a year. December choice was "Our Glorious Brothers", novel by Howard Fast, Communist Party member. January choice is Alexander Saxton's novel, "The Great Midland", which has a Communist as hero. Both these books were listed in Counterattack Dec 3, p 4, as among those plugged by the Communists.

Club is reissuing "The Big Yankee", a biography of late Brig Gen Evans Carlson by Michael Blankfort, screenwriter, who was a friend of Carlson's and used to be on staff of Daily Worker. For facts on Carlson's pro-Communism, see Counterattack July 3 '47, pp 3, 4. Liberty Book Club sometimes varies its Communist books with one that's pro-labor but not pro-Communist, like "The Jungle" by Upton Sinclair (not a Communist).

Why is Los Angeles the second most important city for the CP, ranking next to NY? It isn't mainly because there's a lot of industry there now, although that's part of the reason. There are other cities with a greater industrial production. Main reason for Los Angeles' importance to Communists is Hollywood. Not only some stars & writers & directors but many

minor actors, photographers, story analysts, etc, are more or less pro-Communist. And in this atmosphere it's easy for stars to go the same way.

And then the CP uses the stars in fronts... it writes speeches for them...it gets their signatures to statements. And the prestige of the stars has a wide influence in Los Angeles and elsewhere in Calif. That's one of the chief reasons why the CP has maintained a high degree of success in Calif during most of the past dozen years.

New definition of patriotism is given by foreign news editor of Daily Worker: "Patriotism consists in serving the interest of one's own working people." A dishonest definition? Yes...but that isn't all that's wrong with it. Any Communist can easily see that this dishonest definition can be hooked up with another one, namely, the Communist Party is the party of the working class. (It isn't...it's always led by non-workers.) Third step is to hook the logic of the two definitions together and produce this: "Patriotism consists in serving the interest of the Communist Party."

A disguised Communist series of books for children is called Young World Books. Authors are Russians & Americans. Books aren't intended to give Communist propaganda plainly...for the most part they just set a mental tone, to lead the children on by degrees. Publisher is International Publishers, which is an official CP firm. But most newspapers don't seem to know this. They comment on books issued by International Publishers just as if it were a legitimate, American firm. Communist press quotes May Lamberton Becker, reviewer of children's books for NYHerald Tribune, as praising Young World Books. It also quotes American Library Assn and Saturday Review of Literature as praising some books in the series.

One of the Communist propaganda tricks, whenever a number of Communists are on trial in a notable case, is to lump them all together and call them by the number. For example, when 10 screenwriters & directors were cited for contempt of Congress, the Communists pictured them as martyrs and called them "the Hollywood Ten". Not long ago, when five Denver Communists were charged with contempt of court, the party called them "the Denver Five". And when 12 top party leaders were indicted for conspiring against the Govt, they got a simple name: "the Twelve".

Communists in foreign countries have held mass meetings to demand freedom for "the Twelve". Use of such a term is an easy way of fixing a case in people's memory. And somehow it makes the defendants seem to be standing heroically together, a group of martyrs, nobly united.

Here are names of some well-known people who sent messages to a leading Communist front, American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, praising its chief lawyer, Carol King, when the front gave her a testimonial dinner because of her smart work in saving top Communists from deportation:

Henry A Wallace...Claudia Jones, Communist Party leader who is resisting deportation...Thos Mann, famous author of German novels, now an American citizen & Communist fellow-traveler...Prof F O Matthiessen of Harvard, Communist fellow-traveler...Bartley C Crum, publisher of the newspaper PM, which now calls itself NYStar...I F Stone, columnist for the same paper... Albert Deutsch, ditto...Rev & Mrs Eliot White, members of Communist Party... and Robert Morss Lovett, fellow-traveler, professor emeritus at U of Chicago, and former Sec'y of Virgin Islands, whom Pres Roosevelt refused to fire

when Congress tried to prevent payment of his salary. Toastmaster was Donald Ogden Stewart, who has a long party-line record and is husband of Ella Winter, author of "Red Virtue". One of the speakers was Lee Pressman. Another was O John Rogge, lawyer for many Red Fascists and their fronts.

Communists who've taken lickings in U S are optimistic...because they expect to be helping Stalin run U S and the world before many years are gone. Although they've suffered terrific defeats in labor, they're heartened by enormous Communist victories in China. They've been taught to believe that Communism is the wave of the future...that there's no resisting it. So they'll continue optimistic until the American people definitely stop the advance of Communism abroad, and crush the Fifth Column here.

A Communist book, "Negro Liberation", has been published by International Publishers, official Communist firm. Its author is Harry Haywood, who expresses the Communist Party line on the question of Negroes. This is that they're a separate nation and should have the right to "national self-determination" in a large part of the South, the "Black Belt".

The Communists adopted this policy to carry out Stalin's strategy of using national minorities as a means of tearing countries apart and wrecking governments. The CP policy for Negroes is intended to wreck the United States. It's opposed by the Natl Assn for the Advancement of Colored People and by other non-Communist organizations.

Communists praise the late Prof Wesley C Mitchell, economist, who died recently, and who from 1920 to 1945 had been director of research for Natl Bureau of Economic Research, an endowed institution. Mitchell wasn't a Communist but he largely sympathized with the Communists and Stalin Russia. A Communist front, the Labor Research Assn, has issued a eulogy of Mitchell. It mourns his death and regrets that some of his associates at the Natl Bureau of Economic Research disagreed with many of his views.

Do you wonder how any sane person can believe in Communism? Here's a roundabout answer. Prof Wm Howells, anthropologist, lately wrote a book, "The Heathens". It deals with the beliefs of Eskimos, Igorots, Truk Islanders, and other primitive peoples. Some of their outlandish ideas & customs (black magic, etc) seem incredible. Is this because their brains are so much poorer than ours? Here's what Prof Howells says:

"Our brains and theirs have the same structure, are fed by the same amount & kind of blood, are conditioned by the same hormones and titillated by the same senses; that is all well known, and nothing in their performance has ever been discovered to point the contrary." These peoples happen to be in the backwaters of civilization, while we're up front. But their BRAINS aren't inferior. Then how can they believe such stuff? Howells' answer is:

There's hardly any limit to what human beings can believe.

In other words, if these Eskimos & Igorots lived in modern civilization, some of the most gullible of them might even believe in Communism.

Cartoons of bearded Bolsheviks are a definite help to Communists. They make the Communist menace seem weak & faraway. When the average man sees one of these whiskered fiends staring up at him from a cartoon in a newspaper, he tends to accept the picture as true. That's just the trouble.

He thinks this is what a Communist is like. Then he turns the page and sees a photograph of a leader of United Electrical Workers, CIO, or of

a \$20,000 or \$50,000 a year lawyer for such unions, or of a professor who's a shining light in Natl Council of Arts, Sciences & Professions. These people aren't wild-whiskered. They don't look crazy-eyed & foreign. They look American, prosperous, successful. So it doesn't occur to him they may be Communists. Thus the misleading cartoons throw the people off guard.

One of strongest weapons to use against Communism is to tell the American people the facts about slavery in Stalin Russia...which few people understand. There's a much bigger number of slaves in that empire than there were in U S in 1860...and they're treated far worse. Now the Workers Defense League has set up a commission to hold public hearings in Feb on subject of slavery anywhere in world. Among members of this commission are important leaders of both AFL & CIO. Workers Defense League has repeatedly asked the U N to hold an inquiry into human slavery in many parts of the world...but of course that subject is too hot for U N to handle. So the Workers Defense League is going to do the job itself...and try to wake people up to one of the grimmest facts of modern life.

"Warning" is the title of a poem in the Daily Worker by Aaron Kramer, a well-known Communist poet who is more adept in propaganda than in poetry. This warning of his will be repeated in other forms by Communists in unions, in fronts, etc. His poem will be copied in Communist publications overseas to show what America is like. What's his warning? This:

Do not take passage for America
if it is joy or justice you desire
or freedom for your hands to mold, your
lips to part, your eyes to question.

Yes, he continues, it's a rich, beautiful country...but there's no joy here, no justice, and "criminals are crowned, the victim sentenced, liars applauded, true words shouted down, idlers royally paid, toilers expelled"...by "toilers" he means Communist labor leaders who're arrested for deportation (unfortunately the cases drag on for years and they don't get deported). "And everywhere," says the poet, "a hymn of freedom rises, accompanied by orchestras of chains." That is, we sing songs of freedom but the country is enslaved. And, incredible as it seems, he can make a lot of people even in this country believe it. Such is the power of words. Overseas, of course, millions already believe this country is semi-Fascist or worse. The Communists here keep issuing propaganda to stimulate this delusion.

Well, now the New Year begins. On the whole, the things we've been telling you in this issue of Counterattack don't make very reassuring reading, do they? We'd rather report a much pleasanter picture. But that's up to you. It depends on your power to wake the people up...to rouse them from the illusion that "it can't happen here"...and to make them stop their misguided tolerance of Communist Fifth Columnists. If you & your friends & associates can do a good job of waking the people up, we'll be delighted to give you a much happier report a year from now. Happy New Year!

Yours faithfully,

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