

COUNTERATTACK

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

FACTS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM

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Dear Subscriber:

WITH THIS ISSUE WE'RE SENDING YOU another Congressional pamphlet that isn't available yet for general circulation. It's "100 Things You Should Know About Communism and Labor". With our Dec 17 issue we sent you an earlier pamphlet, on Communism & Education. Both were prepared by House Committee on Un-American Activities, but during the Congressional recess it couldn't get authorization for a big printing. Whether it will get such an authorization now is something we don't know at this writing.

Counterattack has paid for the printing of a supply of both these pamphlets. The one on labor should prove useful to union educational directors, company industrial relations directors, and many other subscribers.

CONGRESS SHOULD LOOK INTO ACTIONS OF FEDERAL JUDGE LEON R. YANKWICH. This judge has been on U S District Court of Southern District of Calif for 13 years. Lately he made a highly important decision in a case involving Communists in movie industry. Communist Party has greeted that decision with joyful applause, because it greatly helps the Hollywood Communists.

Now Congress is in session, and this is a suitable time for Counterattack to call its attention to the following facts about Judge Yankwich:

"Judge Yankwich's conduct and attitude is a disgraceful reflection upon the Federal bench," said the Calif State Senate Committee on Un-American Activities in its 1948 report.

Judge Yankwich has lectured at a Communist school, the People's Educational Center, also called People's Educational Assn. The Dept of Justice classifies this as a Communist front. It has so notified the Loyalty Review Bd. If any Govt clerk or mail-carrier has ever been connected with the People's Educational Center, he's liable to get fired unless he can give a good explanation. If the same rule were applied to Judge Yankwich, he would be in danger of impeachment by the House, and trial by the Senate.

But Judge Yankwich defends his connections with this front. He says emphatically he's willing to lecture to Communists whenever they invite him.

The Communist school used Judge Yankwich to lure non-Communists, to prove it was a respectable school. It announced in its catalogue, "Among the lecturers will be Judge Leon Yankwich, ...John Howard Lawson." Didn't Yankwich know that his fellow lecturer, Lawson, was the Communist commissar in Hollywood? Lawson, a screenwriter, is now appealing a jail sentence for contempt of Congress. He was the leader of the 10 "unfriendly witnesses" who refused to tell Congress in October of 1947 whether they were members of the Communist Party.

Four of these ten Communists were on the faculty of the People's Educational Center. They are John Howard Lawson, Alvah Bessie, and Herbert Biberman, screenwriters, and Edward Dmytryk, director.

All ten of these Communists are now suing the movie companies for barring them from employment. And five of these ten are also suing for

breach of contract. One of these five is Judge Yankwich's fellow lecturer, Edward Dmytryk. Another is Lester Cole.

Judge Yankwich sat in Cole's case lately. He refused to disqualify himself. And he decided strongly in Cole's favor. Will he also sit when his four fellow lecturers at the Communist school, Lawson, Dmytryk, Bessie, and Biberman, go to trial with their suits?

Evidence that Judge Yankwich has been a personal friend of the educational director of the Communist school was introduced at hearings before Calif State Senate Committee on Un-American Activities (Tenney Committee).

The evidence consisted of a photograph in Communist Party's West Coast newspaper, the Daily People's World, April 19, 1945. Photograph showed "Judge and Mrs Leon Yankwich together with Dr Frank Davis," says the committee. Under the photograph were these words:

"At a reception at their home for Dr Frank Davis, newly appointed Director of Education for the L.A. People's Educational Association, Judge and Mrs Leon Yankwich discussed with Dr Davis new perspectives for the PEA."

Thus we have the spectacle of a Federal judge entertaining in his home the educational director of a Communist school, and, according to the Communist daily newspaper, discussing with him the "new perspectives" for the school...that is, the school's outlook, its plans for more growth.

And Judge Yankwich's wife spoke at a Communist front meeting, according to Calif State Senate committee. Often the actions of a man's wife prove nothing about the man himself...but sometimes they do. And in view of the fact that Judge & Mrs Yankwich were pictured in the Communist paper as jointly entertaining the educational director of a Communist school, it is reasonable to look at her actions as well as her husband's.

In 1945 six party-line radio commentators were fired by Station KFI, Los Angeles. At once the Communists organized a front, the Emergency Committee on KFI, to put on a high-pressure campaign and get their jobs back for them. This front held a mass meeting at which Mrs Yankwich spoke. Plainly a Federal judge himself couldn't speak at such a mass meeting of protest, but if he sympathized with it he could in effect let his wife speak for him.

Judge Yankwich was accused last March of personal bias & prejudice in favor of the 10 hostile Communist witnesses and against the movie companies. The charge was made by an official of 20th Century-Fox Films, who said in an affidavit that he had been present at a party in a friend's home on Dec 27, 1947, and that Judge Yankwich, who was also a guest, had declared that the "unfriendly witnesses" had behaved properly in refusing to tell a Congressional committee whether they were Communist Party members, and that the "studios have no legal basis in suspending the writers".

Judge Yankwich denied the charge and maintained his right to preside in the suit of Lester Cole against Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. He did preside. During the trial he made rulings & statements that were remarkable. The jury, guided by his instructions, found in favor of Cole. And then Judge Yankwich upheld those findings and awarded Cole \$71,500 back pay, and ordered M-G-M to give Cole his job back.

Counterattack will deal specifically with the Cole case in a later issue. But regardless of that case and of Judge Yankwich's conduct in it, his whole record in connection with Communists deserves attention. Congress is now in session and it should look into the facts about Judge Yankwich.

WHAT TO DO: Write or wire your congressman, your senators, and the chairman of the House Judiciary Committee, House Office Bldg, Washington, DC, and the chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, Senate Office Bldg, Washington, DC. Tell them the facts which Counterattack has now told you. And ask them to make a thorough inquiry into Judge Yankwich. Remind them that Congress has duties under the Constitution to watch Federal judges.

Also...write Nicholas M Schenck, president of Loew's, Inc, 1540 Broadway, NYCity, parent company of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer. Schenck is Louis B Mayer's boss, the real top man. Urge him to make a strong fight in appealing Yankwich's decision, and thus disprove rumors that the big producers are only going through the motions of fighting the Communists. Urge him to fire all Communists in his companies and to defend anti-Communists in movie industry. A number of highly capable people in the industry have lost jobs or been denied new contracts because they're blamed for exposing the Red Fascists. Tell Nicholas M Schenck this situation shouldn't be tolerated.

And write to heads of other movie producing companies and to big exhibitors, urging them to fight the Communists and defend the anti-Communists.

"MOST POPULAR" AUTHOR IN THE WORLD ISSUES HIS WORLD-WIDE ORDERS. In Bucharest, Romania, a publication appears twice a month in the Romanian language. It also appears in Russian, German, French, English, and many others. Name of this many-languaged publication is, "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy!" Such a long name may seem silly, but don't be too sure. The name has a purpose. It's a SLOGAN, not merely a name...and it was thought up by men who KNOW slogans. The publication is the "Organ of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties".

A recent issue of this organ of the Cominform was almost wholly devoted to a single theme. "Powerful Ideological Weapon of International Communist Movement" was main headline on page 1. What is the weapon? Stalin's book, "Short Course of the History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolshevik)". This was first published in 1938. And now its tenth anniversary was being celebrated.

"Working People of All Lands Study J V Stalin's Book", said another headline on page 1. It's "the most widely circulated and the most popular book in the world," according to the Cominform. In Stalin Russia, 34 million copies have been printed. In other countries, between two and three million. Mostly it's read in Communist schools & study groups.

All Communist parties must be imitations of the CP in Russia... this is the message Stalin is giving through the Cominform when he celebrates tenth anniversary of his "History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union". The Cominform organ says the present period is one "of direct preparation by the proletariat and its allies for...the conquest of power by the working class" (that is, by the Communist parties, which cloak their power-lust by pretending to represent the working class). Stalin's book shows the necessity "for a party of a new type, for a bold, militant and revolutionary party", like the one that seized power in Russia. All Communist parties must bear that in mind...must beware of playing too safe and going tame...and must increase the use of Stalin's book in schools.

Keep ready for a revolutionary opportunity in your own countries, says the Cominform journal. Stalin's book tells how the Bolsheviks did this in Russia...and the lesson is that this is how to do it in any OTHER country.

As Gheorghiu-Dej, General Sec'y of the Romanian Workers' Party,

writes in the same issue of the Cominform organ, Stalin's book is "a guide to action for Communists everywhere."

In this country the book is sold in all Communist bookstores... some of which are operated in connection with party-line unions. These stores also sell the Cominform journal. Thus Communists and their fellow-travelers learn that Stalin is ordering the CP here to imitate the Russian CP closely ...to be bold & militant...to make as much trouble as it can and to be ready for dangerous action on an instant's notice in Moscow's behalf against U S.

COMMUNISTS DENOUNCE DAVID DUBINSKY FOR "STAB IN THE BACK". The president of the International Ladies' Garment Workers Union, AFL, is now under daily attack in Communist press for committing the vilest of all his "long line of treacherous acts against labor..., the worst stab in the back." What's he done? He has proposed a number of legislative provisions to replace Taft-Hartley Act. Among other things, he wants to keep the non-Communist affidavit provision...and even make it STRONGER, by requiring every full-time employee of a union to file such an affidavit.

Dubinsky wants to stop evasion of affidavit provision by known Communists who've resigned as union officers and taken appointive positions, with essentially the same power as before. He wants to use affidavit weapon against them. And when an important labor leader urges this, Congress is pretty apt to listen. That's what makes the Communists mad. They know Dubinsky isn't merely uttering words against them, but is helping to shape a piece of legislation that will hurt them. So their anger at him has now hit a new peak, and they're denouncing him in a hoarse frenzy of hatred.

HERE ARE THE TOP CAMPAIGNS OF COMMUNIST PARTY AND ITS FRONTS. The CP will hold a "Freedom Crusade" in Washington, Jan 17-18, under auspices of a leading front, Civil Rights Congress. Main purposes: (1) To denounce the trial of 12 high CP leaders for conspiracy against Govt...this trial is now set for Jan 17. (2) To attack Un-American Activities Committee.

Natl Council of Arts, Sciences & Professions, a big front headed by Prof Harlow Shapley, is running a month-long campaign against the committee.

A third Communist front, the Committee of 1,000, has issued a letter signed by many "educators, writers, scientists, artists and clergymen", urging the House to abolish the Un-American Activities Committee. The Committee of 1,000 was formed with Harlow Shapley as temporary chairman. Present chairman is J Raymond Walsh, radio commentator, the man who spoke at a meeting of a Communist front lately to praise the Chinese Communists and to predict that the Soviet delegate in U N may soon "be able to say that he is speaking for more than half of the human race" (Counterattack Dec 17, p 1).

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO BEAT THE COMMUNISTS:

1. Tell your congressman and your senators that the House Un-American Activities Committee should be retained, unless it can be replaced with a joint Senate-House Committee on Un-American Activities.
2. Act NOW in case of Federal Judge Yankwich and the Hollywood Communists. See top of page 3 for things you can do in this important matter.

Yours faithfully,

January 7, 1949

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