

COUNTERATTACK

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

FACTS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM

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Letter No. 38
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Dear Subscriber:

A GREAT SERVICE TO THE COUNTRY has been rendered by the state of Washington. That state, through fair & careful action of Canwell state legislative Committee on Un-American Activities, and through equally fair & careful action of the president & regents of the state university, has done something new in American education.

It has crystallized the great issue of Communism in colleges. It has not only dismissed three professors but has done so in such circumstances that any charge of "witch-hunting" becomes clearly absurd. It has given excellent reasons for the dismissals. It has rebutted all the stock arguments usually made in defense of Communist professors.

Thus it has brought the colleges of the country face to face with the question: Have Communists a right to be college professors? Now the colleges as a whole must face this. Now the American Assn of University Professors, which is largely a labor union, must face it and must decide whether to boycott the University of Washington.

First, what did Canwell Committee do? It held careful hearings on Communism in the state university. Some professors refused to answer whether they were Communist Party members. They were cited for contempt.

Next, a university faculty committee held 33 hearings, taking about 3,000 pages of testimony. It made its recommendations. Then the university president, Dr Raymond B Allen, made his own recommendations, which differed in some ways from those of the committee. And finally the regents accepted the president's recommendations.

The three dismissed professors are Herbert J Phillips and Joseph Butterworth, who now admit they've been secret members of CP for 13 years, and Ralph H Gundlach, who refuses to answer. Three other professors, who admit past membership in the CP, were put on probation. Some university regents urged that all six be fired. This was wrong. The three who are former members of the party have broken with it and seem genuinely repentant. Dismissal of them would be unjustified.

There's no punishment for BELIEFS here, as the Communists and their friends always assert. Counterattack pointed out during Congressional investigations of Hollywood that CP members perform ACTIONS. They have duties as members. They're under discipline. They must help the party in various ways. Professors who are CP members are obliged to help other Communist professors and to indoctrinate students with Communism.

Nor is there any infringement on academic freedom. Pres Allen points out that membership in CP makes academic freedom impossible. The university and the students and their parents have a right to be sure a professor is free from the restraints of the Communist Fifth Column.

Counterattack gave a friendly warning in its issue of March 5 '48 to American Assn of University Professors. We warned that organization,

which has a good record, not to defend Communists. We warned it not to boycott any university that fired a Communist. "For in that case there might be a counter-boycott of your members," we said. That warning still stands.

WHAT TO DO: Urge officials of any college or university in which you have a friendly interest to study the record in University of Washington case, as presented by Pres Raymond B Allen to American Assn of University Professors...and urge them to consider whether they shouldn't start similar action if there are Communists on the faculty.

OUSTER OF REV. WM. HOWARD MELISH BY HIS CHURCH is practically certain now. Louis F Budenz, former managing editor of Daily Worker, has said that in 1944 he visited Melish on orders of top leaders of CP, and Melish agreed to submit to party discipline...which meant that he became a CP member (party cards often aren't given to secret members). And Melish is not only chairman of a big front, Natl Council of American-Soviet Friendship, but is a trustee of CP's biggest school, Jefferson School of Social Science, which gives "courses devoted to Party cadre training". The quoted words are from a secret party document in our possession (Counterattack Oct 3 '47, p 4).

Now Melish is being removed as assistant rector of Holy Trinity Protestant Episcopal Church, Brooklyn. This is being done through dismissal of his father, Rev Dr John Howard Melish, 74 years old, who has been rector of the church 44 years. The father says he stoutly supports all the political activities of his 38-year-old son. Nobody has authority over the assistant rector except the rector...so the only way to get rid of the son is by dismissing the father. The vestry has voted to do this, and it seems certain the bishop and the standing committee of the diocese will approve.

TWO VICTORIES AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS HAVE BEEN WON by vigorous action. Counterattack and its protesting subscribers from all over U S have sharply influenced conduct of Mayor Wm O'Dwyer of NY. Result is a new regulation that no subversive organization shall be licensed to solicit money on streets. In deciding whether an outfit is subversive, the city "will rely strongly on the official announcements made by the Atty General of the U. S."

That's what Counterattack kept asking for last year, but local officials dodged the issue till our subscribers applied enough heat.

And the American Jewish League Against Communism has won a smashing victory against Communist Party's fraternal insurance society, International Workers Order (known as IWO). This big front has been allowed for years to hold classes in many public schools. The league demanded this be stopped.

Lee Pressman appeared as lawyer for IWO in a stormy meeting of Bd of Education. A Communist crowd applauded him and booed Rabbi Benjamin Schultz, Exec Director of the league, who insisted the board kick the IWO out of the schools. Now the board has decided to do this. And the IWO is afraid other action will be taken against it in many cities & states.

COMMUNIST-LED UNITED ELECTRICAL UNION OFFERS KIT TO TEACHERS FOR USE IN CLASSROOM. This union (UE) is bossed by two Communist Party members, Organizational Director Jas J Matles & Sec-Treas Julius Emspak ("Comrade Juniper"). Now the UE is offering teachers a free kit of leaflets, etc, on labor and other questions...practically all of it with a Communist slant. UE is aiming at high school teachers mainly. (Natl Council of American-Soviet Friendship, big Communist front, also used to offer such a kit.)

Reprints of Arthur Gaeth's Monday night broadcasts for UE on American Broadcasting Co network are also offered the teachers "to stimulate

classroom discussion on current events". Gaeth repeatedly argues in favor of position taken by his UE Communist bosses on labor and other matters.

Three movies made by Carl Aldo Marzani, convicted State Dept official, are also offered free to teachers for school use. Marzani made one of these 16mm movies, "Deadline for Action", in 1946, while he was still on payroll of State Dept at \$7,175 a year, before he was prosecuted for lying to Govt by denying he was a Communist Party member under name Tony Whales. That movie gave the Communist line on political action. The other two are "The Great Swindle," which deals with prices, and "Our Union", a slick job in which Marzani whitewashes the Communist leaders of UE.

It's significant that Communists Matles & Emspak should be making this open, cheeky appeal to teachers at the very time they're in trouble with Philip Murray and much of their membership. Biggest locals in UE have mainly voted for anti-Communist tickets in recent local elections. Members of these locals are largely swayed by public opinion in their communities. Now Matles & Emspak are trying to reach minds of UE members indirectly... by sending propaganda to their children in high schools (through teachers), and by influencing the teachers, who're important in molding public opinion.

WHAT TO DO: Write, wire, phone, or visit your school officials, warning them of this propaganda scheme by the red reactionaries.

GIESEKING WAS FORCED TO LEAVE U. S. WHY NOT THE "RED DEAN"?

The State Dept gave a visa to Walter Giesecking, German pianist, even though there was a lot of evidence that Giesecking had actively collaborated with the Nazis and had even applied for admission to a Nazi front organization. Giesecking arrived here Jan 22. Opposition to him grew stronger...it was sharply expressed by some members of Congress...and within two days Atty Gen Tom Clark yielded to it by ordering Giesecking arrested. This spoiled Giesecking's concert tour and he agreed to leave the US at once.

All right...now what about the "Red Dean", Rev Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury Cathedral, member of Communist Party of Britain, and member of editorial board of the party's official paper, Daily Worker (London)? State Dept gave HIM a visa too...in fact it practically invited him to come here, as Counterattack has repeatedly shown. He was admitted in violation of U S immigration laws. Why didn't Tom Clark order Immigration Service to arrest Hewlett Johnson and ship him back?

Counterattack asked the Immigration Service about Communist Hewlett Johnson during his visit here in Nov & Dec, and was told he'd been admitted on a visa issued by State Dept. Of course that was true...but why didn't Immigration Service (which is in Tom Clark's Dept of Justice) arrest him after he got here? Was it because not enough heat was applied?

Hewlett Johnson is an actual MEMBER of Communist Party of Britain ...whereas Giesecking apparently never actually joined the Nazi Party. When some Counterattack subscribers protested to State Dept against admittance of Communist Johnson, they were told the "Govt has no evidence that he is a Communist or is a member of, or affiliated with, the Communist Party". This statement was untrue. The Govt had and has such evidence.

Didn't the State Dept have it? Didn't it know Johnson is a member of editorial board of Daily Worker (London)? Didn't it know that when in NY he visited the "American Kremlin", Communist Party hq, and spent some time on the Ninth Floor, the big shots' floor, in conference with members of the CP's top board ("Politbureau")? And didn't it know that he then went

downstairs to visit editorial staff of Daily Worker and compare their problems with those of Daily Worker in London?

The "workers" everywhere must have a strong Communist Party... that's what Hewlett Johnson has said repeatedly, as Counterattack can show (we haven't space here to quote his books). Was State Dept ignorant of this? And what about Tom Clark's Dept of Justice? How much heat must be applied to get Dept of Justice to expel a Communist clergyman who isn't as simple as he looks, who wears a mask of benevolence and who spreads the Kremlin's propaganda in dozens of lectures over most of the country?

It isn't too late for you to ask Tom Clark & State Dept these things. Why one treatment for pro-Nazi Giesecking and another for the "Red Dean"?

SUPPOSE YOU WERE SUED FOR LIBEL BY PAUL DRAPER AND LARRY ADLER, as Mrs John T McCullough has just been. She's the young Greenwich, Conn. woman, who had the courage and energy to oppose their appearance in a concert there Jan 21. Now Tap Dancer Draper & Harmonica Player Adler have sued her for \$200,000 and attached her home and bank account.

She declared truthfully that they're backers of Communist fronts. She didn't charge them with being secret members of Communist Party, as Draper's mother is (that's Muriel Draper, Executive V-P of Congress of American Women, a leading front). Mrs McCullough pointed out some of the Communist-front connections of these men (Counterattack Jan 14, p 4).

How can anyone who isn't rich defend libel suits by highly paid celebrities of stage, screen, radio, & television? Mrs McCullough's husband is on editorial staff of Time magazine, and he makes enough to live comfortably...but fees for lawyers & competent investigators can run high.

Checks that the McCulloughs wrote last week for taxes, mortgage interest, etc, have already bounced because their bank account is attached. (And the day after Mrs McCullough was served in the suit, Larry Adler appeared on Procter & Gamble's television show on WNBT.)

If the McCulloughs have to pay many thousands of dollars for expenses, will they be able to speak freely the next time the Greenwich Community Concert Assn brings a highly paid backer of Communist fronts to town?

Won't other anti-Communists all over U S be afraid to tell truth about Paul Draper & Larry Adler...or other persons with similar records?

Suppose you were hit with a libel suit like this? Would you remain unafraid? Would you think it right that you should have to pay the whole expenses of defending a suit that was really aimed not at you alone but at all anti-Communists? Wouldn't you think you deserved help in your fight?

Anti-Communists should make an organized defense against such libel suits. If Mrs McCullough were a Communist and she needed help, the CP would form a committee to defend her by holding meetings and raising money, and would make a political issue of her case. Anti-Communists should organize a Freedom Committee to Defend Mrs McCullough.

The Paul Draper & Larry Adler libel suit is really a suit against YOU, as an anti-Communist. If you want to do your share in this fight, write at once to Mrs John T McCullough, Parsonage Road, Greenwich, Conn.

Yours faithfully,

January 28, 1949

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