

COUNTERATTACK

REG. U. S. PAT. OFF.

FACTS TO COMBAT COMMUNISM

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Letter No. 69
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Dear Subscriber:

DIRECT TIE-IN OF COMMUNIST PARTY WITH ATOMIC BOMB SPYING is shown by actions of Steve Nelson, one of leading officials of Communist Party. This week he refused to answer questions of House Committee on Un-American Activities. During the war he operated on the West Coast. With the help of other Communist Party members, he received secret information from radiation laboratory at Berkeley, Calif, and he transmitted it to the underground Comintern agent, Arthur Adams...who was a Soviet citizen of Canadian birth.

The FBI was watching Adams, Nelson and a number of others. But it was forbidden to act effectively against them. Reason: fear of offending our "great ally", Stalin Russia. Result: Adams disappeared.

Nelson was promoted by Communist Party for his spying. In July, 1945, after European war was over but while war against Japan was still going on, he was elected to the top party body, the Communist Natl Board ("Politbureau"). He remained a member for two years. Then he was nominally removed when the board was reshuffled so that the party chairmen in the three leading Midwestern industrial states, Ohio, Michigan, and Illinois, could be added to it. But Nelson still sat in at board meetings.

He was chairman of the party's "national groups" commission for a long time after the war. This commission promotes various fronts and other activities among foreign-language groups. Recently Nelson became head of the party organization in the Western Pennsylvania (Pittsburgh) district, one of the chief industrial districts of the country.

In refusing to answer the House committee's questions, Nelson is following the Communist pattern. Of course he knows he's risking a jail term. As a matter of fact, if he hadn't been taken off the "Politbureau" last year for tactical reasons, he would have been among the party leaders indicted recently for conspiring against the U S Govt. Conviction on that ground would have brought him a much stiffer term than the one-year maximum which is all he can get for contempt of Congress.

ARTHUR ADAMS, THE UNDERGROUND AGENT WHO WAS ALLOWED TO ESCAPE and who apparently left U S, had a cover job while engaged in atomic spying. He was paid \$75 a week by a company called Keynote Recordings, which manufactured records. Thus he went through the motions of having a legitimate occupation, to cover his activities.

The head of the company was Eric Bernay, who was a witness this week before the House committee. Bernay was mentioned in the very first issue of Counterattack, dated May 16, 1947. He used to be advertising manager of Communist Party's New Masses weekly. Some time ago he withdrew from Keynote Recordings. He still owns a record shop, called the "Music Room", which he established long ago. Both Keynote Recordings and the Music Room have emphasized records made by party-liners. Music Room has advertised in Daily Worker and sold tickets to meetings of fronts.

JOHN HAMMOND, MILLIONAIRE FELLOW-TRAVELER, succeeded Bernay last year as Pres of Keynote Recordings and later sold its assets to Mercury Records Corp, of which he's V-P. Hammond is son of John Henry Hammond, corporation lawyer, once member of big law firm of Cadwallader, Wickersham & Taft, later chairman of Bangor & Aroostook RR, and honorary chairman of Natl Industrial Conference Board. The son, John Hammond, is a hot jazz enthusiast, and used to be in charge of the hot jazz department of Columbia Recording Corp. He has been a patron of musicians, especially Negroes...and many of these have been drawn into Communist circles.

Hammond is an angel of "The Protestant", a Communist magazine which isn't backed by any religious denomination. He's chairman of Protestant Associates, who raise money for the magazine.

He joined three other angels several years ago in organizing Trade Union Service, Inc, which prints union newspapers and other material for unions that are Communist-controlled or that may be drawn into the Communist orbit. The three other millionaires are Frederick Vanderbilt Field, Communist Party member and former Sec'y of the Institute of Pacific Relations, Corliss Lamont, and Richard Storrs Childs.

Hammond was the original angel of "Cafe Society", a cafe that soon acquired a national reputation and became a Communist rendezvous. The man he staked was Barney Josephson, Communist Party member and brother of Leon Josephson, important Communist International agent now serving a prison term for contempt of Congress. Hammond was also the angel of "Down Beat", a swing magazine that has often plugged the party line among swing musicians.

It all interlocks...all of it, from espionage to swing. The millionaire angels who inherited their money and are trying to soothe a guilt feeling by financing various Stalinoid activities...the business men like Eric Bernay, who were open Communists in their youth but have now receded into the background, only to be brought to the front of the stage once in a while to explain such a thing as giving a cover job to Arthur Adams...the party leaders like Steve Nelson, who used Communist Party members on the West Coast to do liaison and other work in connection with atomic energy spying...all of these persons and their efforts interlock. All of this adds up to the Communist Fifth Column...which we've got to crush.

STRUGGLE AGAINST COMMUNISTS IN CIO REACHES ANOTHER PEAK. For one thing, Philip Murray has made new gains in his efforts to end Communist control of state and city CIO councils. He has just knocked the party boys out of control in Detroit by an unexpectedly tough crackdown at the CIO Council convention there. Now anti-Communists are in full charge. This means, essentially, that Walter Reuther is running the show. And Murray is on the point of lifting charter of Greater NY CIO Council and enabling anti-Communists to take charge there. The one big spot of resistance to Murray is California, where Harry Bridges still runs the most important councils.

Several large party-line locals of CIO Retail, Wholesale & Dept Store Union have seceded, because parent union insisted they file non-Communist affidavits. Now the question is whether they'll remain independent, or join some other CIO union, or even join some AFL union that's willing to take them in. If the Communists establish a third labor federation, in opposition to CIO and AFL, as they've been wanting to do, of course these rebellious locals will join the new set-up. Main reason why party hesitates to establish the new federation is its fear that it won't be able to carry along most of the members of its top union, United Electrical Workers.

WHEN PRESIDENT TRUMAN AND HARLOW SHAPLEY MET ON THE SAME PLATFORM, at centennial meeting of American Assn for Advancement of Science, it was an interesting occasion in more ways than one. Truman's speech was largely, in effect, an attack on House Committee on Un-American Activities. Thus it was a political speech. Prof Shapley, director of Harvard Observatory, made a speech as retiring president of the association. His speech contained some veiled attacks on Truman's foreign policy...and it implied that Stalin is justified in refusing to permit U N inspection of atomic energy plants.

Shapley's politics are much, much different from Truman's, even though the two men both oppose the House Comm on Un-American Activities.

A dozen Communist fronts supported by Shapley were listed in Counterattack Oct 17 '47. Those were only a sample. Shapley has supported others and is the top officer of some of them. He makes rousing speeches at meetings of fronts, attacking American policies. But in scientific meetings he merely hints at his political position.

Don't believe the reports that Shapley has privately admitted that for years he has been a secret member of Communist Party. Shapley hasn't admitted it.

"Our species of man is now at one of its critical epochs," said Shapley in his speech. "Does it survive the crisis, through the use of intelligence and the submersion of avarice, or does it join the fossil biological failures of the past?" Notice that statement about "avarice". It is avarice that's causing this world crisis, according to Shapley. In other words, the greed for profits. In other words, American Big Business, Wall Street. That's the reason we may get into a war with Stalin Russia.

Shapley says nothing of the Kremlin's greed for POWER, as a cause of war. You don't hear him urge "the submersion of the power lust". Oh, no, that would be pointing a finger at Moscow...which is what Shapley never does.

HEAD OF UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO IS DRAWN INTO SHAPLEY'S NEW FRONT. On June 18 Counterattack told you about the Natl Council of Arts, Sciences & Professions. Harlow Shapley is chairman of this front. Now it has organized a "Commission for Academic Freedom".

Purpose is to protect Communist professors & instructors. Immediate stimulus for this new "commission" is situation in Washington State, where similar front had already been established. Canwell Committee on Un-American Activities recently investigated what the Communists had been doing in the state university. Several Communist professors refused to answer questions, so contempt proceedings were started against them. Meanwhile Communist Party in Washington State set up a front to protect them...and this front appealed to Shapley's Natl Council of Arts etc for help...so the "council" has created another front: the "Commission for Academic Freedom".

Chancellor Robt M Hutchins of University of Chicago is a sponsor of this new front. Hutchins has carefully avoided a lot of other Communist transmission belts which many college heads have fallen for. But he has definitely fallen for one this time. Friends of University of Chicago should give Hutchins a few facts about the new front he's supporting.

Its secretary is Dr Clyde R Miller, who lately lost his post as associate professor of education at Teachers College, Columbia University, after being on leave of absence since 1943 (Counterattack May 14, p 3). Miller charged that his dismissal was a violation of academic freedom. He has long been a supporter of Communist fronts, including Natl Council of

American-Soviet Friendship, People's Institute of Applied Religion, and Methodist Federation for Social Action.

Shall Communist professors have a free hand to promote the work of Stalin's Fifth Column? This question will be asked more & more often, as conditions in colleges are investigated. Harlow Shapley and Clyde Miller and their "Commission for Academic Freedom" will try to sell the American people the idea that any interference with Communist professors is tyranny.

COMMUNISTS ARE PLANNING A "CONGRESS OF INTELLECTUALS" HERE. Last month Moscow ran one of its international front meetings in Wroclaw, Poland (formerly Breslau, Germany). It called itself the "World Congress of Intellectuals". Purpose: to smear America and to line up intellectuals and would-be intellectuals in many countries in behalf of Stalin.

U S had 30 delegates there. Nearly all were Communists and fellow-travelers. A few non-Communist Americans, who got in by a sort of fluke, objected to the smearing of the U S, but they were quickly overridden.

O John Rogge, lawyer, was chairman of American delegation. Some newspapers have given the mistaken impression that Rogge made an anti-Communist speech. He didn't. He only spoke generalities, largely about the separate cultures of U S and Russia, which would be developed independently.

Rogge "provided real leadership for our group," says Communist Albert E Kahn in praise, adding "it was a great pleasure" to work with him.

The Communist "congress of intellectuals" appointed four Americans as members of an "international committee in defense of peace"...that is, to propagandize for Stalin Russia and to denounce the U S as a warmonger.

Who are these four chosen Americans?

(1) Jo Davidson, famous sculptor. Former chairman of big reactionary front, Progressive Citizens of America. Now honorary chairman of Natl Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions.

(2) Harlow Shapley, the old reliable. Chairman of Natl Council of Arts, Sciences and Professions.

(3) Howard Fast, writer of propaganda novels, who no longer denies he's a Communist Party member. Fast is one of 11 directors of Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee who received jail terms for contempt of Congress.

(4) Albert E Kahn, Communist Party member and now a candidate of "Progressive" or (Commugressive) Party for Congress. High officer of Communist Party's fraternal insurance society, International Workers Order. Kahn is to be named by Elizabeth Bentley in another phase of the Congressional investigation (Counterattack Aug 27, p 2).

And now the Communists are planning a big front meeting here, like the one they lately held in Wroclaw (or Breslau). Yes, nothing less than an American "Congress of Intellectuals" (hand-picked, of course). Purpose: to give impression that the intellectual world is against American policy and favors submission to Moscow. It will take some months at least for Natl Council of Arts, Sciences & Professions to arrange this hoax. Will it succeed? That largely depends on whether your newspapers tell truth about it.

Yours faithfully,

September 17, 1948

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