

CAUGHT!

Socialist Sheet Steals Foster's Speech Substitutes "Socialist" for Communist

"American Freeman," Backing Thomas and Maurer, Lifts Foster's Acceptance Speech Made in Chicago, in Brazen Attempt to Disguise Anti-Workingclass "Socialist" Position

The American Freeman

Devoted to Social Justice and Industrial Sanity
Deman-Julius Publications, Girard, Kansas

Photostatic copy of masthead of "American Freeman" for June 11, which lifted Communist speech and published as its own.

'American Freeman' Edited by E. Haldemann-Julius, Journalistic Racketeer and Socialist Candidate for U.S. Senate from State of Kansas

FOSTER'S ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

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SOCIALIST "AMERICAN FREEMAN"

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FOSTER'S ACCEPTANCE SPEECH

The Communist Party calls upon the workers to organize for militant struggles now against hunger and war. It calls upon them to prepare for the overthrow of the capitalist system and building of Socialism (Applause). As against the capitalist way out of the crisis through mass starvation and war, the Communist Party proposes the revolutionary way out of the crisis through class struggle, the overthrow of capitalism and the establishment of a workers' and farmers' government! (Applause).

The Communist Party does not, under capitalism, limit itself simply to the propagation of revolutionary slogans and to organization for final revolutionary struggle. On the contrary, it enters into the everyday struggles of the workers. The Party which proposes the overthrow of capital and the building of a new world, must also know how to lead the workers here and now in mass struggle to relieve their burning grievances. While capitalism lasts the Communist Party fights militantly to bring every possible concession from the exploiters. At the same time it utilizes these daily struggles to awaken the class consciousness of the masses, to organize them economically and politically and to prepare them for their final revolutionary goal.

The Communist Party warns the masses of toilers of the war slaughter that the American government, Japan and other imperialists, behind a hypocritical mask of pacifist intentions, are organizing against the Soviet Union. This war is already in its first stage and may break into a conflagration at any moment.

The Communist Party condemns the growing wave of terrorism being directed against the workers to suppress their struggles against starvation. This is marked by the wave of lynching of Negroes in the South, the shooting down of unemployed workers in Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, etc., the arresting and jailing of militant workers all over the country, the deportations of revolutionary strike leaders and other foreign born workers, the reign of terror in Kentucky.

The Communist Party is the Party of the Negro, it is the Party of all the oppressed. It fights for the unity of the toiling Negro masses and the white workers. Without such unity the revolution will be impossible.

But in the election campaign the Communist Party also especially stimulates the struggles of the workers in every direction. It takes its election campaign to the shops, to the factories, to the bread lines, to the flop houses, to the farms. It organizes the workers to strike and demonstrate for their demands, as well as to vote for them. It utilizes the election campaign to build the revolutionary unions and Unemployed Councils, and to bring them into active struggle against the capitalists. Its aim is to turn the defensive struggle of the workers into a counter-offensive against the capitalists.

It will be noted that this Socialist Party paper deliberately omits the part dealing with revolutionary unions and unemployed councils. In all cases where concrete proposals for action occur in Foster's speech the plagiarists carefully cut them out.

In election campaigns the Communist Party does not confine itself to canvassing for votes. It is important to build a strong Communist vote, in order to organize and measure the sentiment of the masses, and elect representatives to the capitalist government, not in the illusion the workers can peacefully capture the government, but to enable them the better to expose the capitalist government, to bring concessions from the employers, and to bring the communist program forcefully before the masses.

The words underlined in the pamphlet containing Foster's speech are left out in the quotation the socialist paper used. The reason is plain. The socialists want workers to believe that they need not struggle to wrest power from the capitalist bandits, but that the capitalists will voluntarily turn over power to the working class.

The Communist Party is the leader in the struggle for unemployment insurance and will mobilize ever greater masses of workers for struggle until the capitalist masters of America are compelled to grant unemployment insurance to the starving millions in this country.

When four years ago the Communist Party nominated national candidates in the elections we were in the midst of the so-called "Coolidge prosperity." Hoover was hypocritically campaigning with promises of perpetual prosperity and the end of all poverty. The new capitalism was to turn the workers into capitalists, and to wipe out all class lines.

SOCIALIST "AMERICAN FREEMAN"

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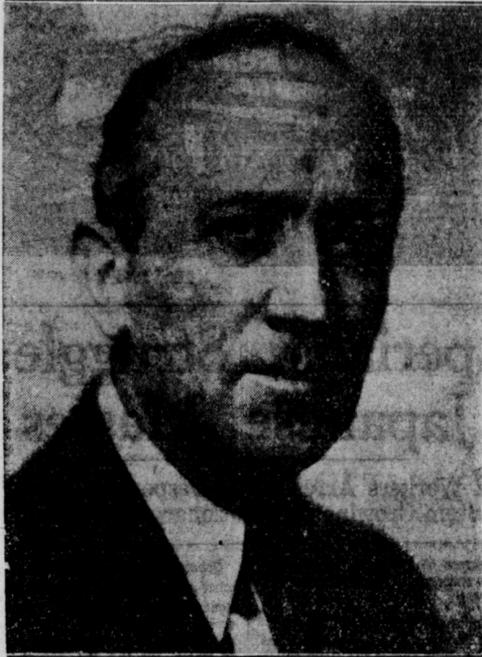
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WILLIAM Z. FOSTER



Wm. Z. Foster, (above) Communist candidate for President, parts of whose revolutionary acceptance speech in Chicago was lifted by the "American Freeman" in order to mislead radicalized workers and farmers and to win votes for Thomas and Maurer.



What the Communist Party of the U. S. A. Fights For!

The Communist Party of the U.S.A. in the election campaign puts forth the following main demands in its struggle against the bosses' offensive and for a Workers' and Farmers' government:

1. Unemployment and Social Insurance at the expense of the state and employers.
2. Against Hoover's wage-cutting policy.
3. Emergency relief for the poor farmers without restrictions by the government and banks; exemption of poor farmers from taxes, and no forced collection of rents or debts.
4. Equal rights for the Negroes and self-determination for the Black Belt.
5. Against capitalist terror; against all forms of suppression of the political rights of workers.
6. Against imperialist war; for the defense of the Chinese people and of the Soviet Union.

The Communist Party wages a militant struggle for these demands. In this struggle it calls for a broad united front of workers, including workingclass members of the Socialist Party, A. F. of L. unions, organized and unorganized workers, together with Communist and revolutionary workers.

Thus, while the socialist officials and their organs are making demagogic poses, the Communist Party calls for militant struggle!

The present situation completely justifies the position of the Communist Party and belies the promises of the capitalists and their American Federation of Labor and Socialist tools. The capitalist system is in the deepest crisis of its career, both in the United States and all over the world. Production is at 50 per cent of normal, and constantly declines.

While the great masses starve, the mills and factories remain shut down in a criminally absurd crisis of over-production. Fifteen million workers walk the streets unemployed, and ten millions more work only part-time. Wage cuts in every industry have reduced wages to starvation levels. During the past two years the living standard of the American working class has been cut at least 60 per cent. The income of the farmers has been cut from \$12,000,000,000 in 1929 to \$7,000,000,000 in 1931. The farmers, like the workers, are starving, and are being stripped of their meager possessions.

Of course this socialist publication, "The American Freeman," carefully omits the words "the American Federation of Labor and their SOCIALIST tools." Nor do they quote from that section of Comrade Foster's speech on page 18 wherein he correctly designates the Socialist Party as the third party of capitalism. The Girard, Kansas, socialist publication is silent on that part of the speech wherein the Socialist Party leaders of the United States are compared to the socialists in Germany who are helping the capitalists establish a fascist regime. Does anyone need an answer to the question why the "American Freeman" did not print that part of the speech of the Communist presidential candidate which said: "The Socialist Party is an enemy of the working class. It is a part of the capitalist exploitation machinery."?

In the election campaign the Progressives—the Pinchots, LaGuardias, LaFollettes, Murrays, etc., will make a demagogic show of opposition to the Hoover government for vote-catching purposes. But they have supported every basic policy of that government. They are the representatives of the smaller capitalists and the rich farmers. Their policy is to wheedle from the capitalists concessions for these middle elements at the expense of the working class and poor farmers. The measure of their pretended friendship for the workers is the Groves Law of Wisconsin, under whose miserable provisions, misnamed unemployment insurance, no provision whatever is made for the vast masses now unemployed, and only for the dim future are the present employed promised insurance on a basis less than now prevails in many charity relief systems.

The Hoover Republican government, the instrument of the dictatorship of big capital, has refused to establish a system of unemployment insurance, and has forced the workers down into a starvation charity relief system of a few cents a day. It has helped the employers all over the country to cut wages, despite its hypocritical promises not to. It has instituted the infamous starvation stagger system. It has supported the growing reign of terror against the Negro masses. It has inaugurated a monstrous deportation campaign against the foreign born workers. With police, gunmen and troops it meets every move of the workers to strike or demonstrate for relief.

It doubly exploits the colonial and semi-colonial peoples of Latin America, China, etc. The Hoover government has handed billions of dollars to the great banks and railroads. It is spending billions more to prepare murderous war. But for the hungry workers it has nothing but the iron fist. In all this program of mass starvation and terrorism, the Hoover Republican government has had the full support of the Democratic Party. And now these two capitalist parties, in order better to crush the workers with fascist violence and to prepare for war, are organizing a super-party alliance.

The nationalistic and imperialistic character of the "American Freeman" gang is seen in its deliberate omission of the double-exploitation imposed upon the colonial and semi-colonial peoples.

What Is Behind This Rank Political Swindle?

THE Socialist Party platform, the speeches of Norman Thomas, Morris Hillquit and others are all directed toward helping the capitalist class out of their crisis at the expense of the workers. The Socialist Party platform has nothing in common with the revolutionary program and policies of the fighting Communist Party. On the contrary!

What is the basis for such a deception as practiced by "The American Freeman"? The answer to this question is found, significantly enough, in the very program of the Communist Party which the Kansas socialists attempted to distort. Analyzing the policies of the socialists at the present time, the Communist Election program warned specifically against it in the following words:

"The Socialist Party and its 'left' ally, the Muste group, especially has tried in the past and tries now to break up the workers fight for the program put forward by the Communists, by urging forward its own substitute of 'something just as good,' by making its fake program look as much as possible 'like the Communists,' by talking revolutionary, by arguing for a choice of the lesser evil, by putting themselves for as 'the same thing only more practical.'"

While rendering service to the general capitalist program nationally, the Socialist demagogues, faced with the revolutionary mood of the workers in specific sections of the country, resort to more brazen forms of political trickery—of which the above expose is a striking example. Other examples are the setting up of bog-influenced "Citizens' Unemployed Councils" in Seattle and Tacoma and Workers' Unemployed Committees in Chicago and other cities.

One central fact emerges: Underneath all these radical phrases and militant poses are seen the day-to-day deeds of the Socialist Party—betrayals of the workers everywhere.