

# SOCIALIST PARTY--FOSTER--AND THE WAR

The Socialist Party, seeking to cover up before the workers its own treacherous activities during the imperialist war—and above all—to conceal the aid which it is at present giving the imperialists by minimizing the war preparations and thus disarming the working class—is endeavoring to besmirch the revolutionary record of William U. Foster, Communist candidate for president.

In the following statement the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. sharply replies to the social-patriotic slanderers and points out the motives for the present attack upon Foster.—(ED. NOTE).

## (Statement by Central Committee, C.P.U.S.A.)

At the present moment the armies of the capitalist world are being gathered together to march against the workers' land, the Soviet Union. Japanese guns are already trained on the Soviet Union. American, French and British and other capitalist diplomats are about to issue the order to fire. The heroic and gloriously successful effort of the revolutionary Soviets to build Socialism are threatened by a desperate effort of the bankrupt capitalist world to save itself by destroying the Soviet Union and by re-subjecting the Russian masses to the slavery of capitalism.

### "GREAT CAMPAIGN OF S. P."

In this situation we are surprised to witness a sudden "great campaign" against social patriotism launched by the Socialist Party of America. At first sight this campaign seems illogical. Since the fateful days of August 1914 the history of the Socialist Parties of the world and of the Socialist Party of America has been one of continuous treachery against the working class; it has been a history of betrayal of the proletarian revolution and of the defense of the capitalist class and the capitalist governments against the working class. It was their social patriotism and chauvinism which led to the Socialist International and its parties being logical props of the capitalist counter-revolution as social fascists. Why then this sudden attack of the American Socialist Party on social patriotism? Does the Socialist Party witness a change of heart? Does it want to break with its past?

If the Socialist Party of America wants to break with its own treacherous social-patriotic past it certainly needs a "great campaign." It needs a "great campaign" to clean itself of the record of leadership of Victor L. Berger who because of his pro-German attitude during the first phases of the world war advocated an imperialist war against Mexico as a possible lightning rod away from American participation in the World War on the side of the allies.

## Regarding Charges Circulated About William Z. Foster, and the Motive

The Socialist Party certainly needs a "great campaign to cleanse itself of the record of its present chairman, Morris Hillquit, who in the Albany ouster proceedings against socialist Assemblymen in 1920, volunteered as an answer to a hypothetical question as to what the American Socialist Party would do in the case of an American war against the Soviet Union, that the American Socialist Party would support American capitalism in a struggle against the Soviet Union.

The Socialist Party needs a "great campaign" to cleanse itself of the record that its present chairman, Morris Hillquit, appeared as counsel for ousted Russian capitalists in an effort to obtain through American capitalist justice, what the revolutionary justice and power of the Russian proletariat had rightfully taken from them. The Socialist Party needs a "great campaign" to cleanse itself of the fact that its chairman, Morris Hillquit, is at the same time a member of a white Russian czarist and American capitalist conspiracy including Hamilton Fish, Matthew Woll, Djemgaroff and others which makes efforts to perfect the capitalist war front against the Soviet Union.

### IN FORE OF ANTI-SOVIET DRIVE.

The Socialist Party needs a "great campaign" to cleanse itself of its record of money contributions to Abramowich and his Menshevik colleagues for the express purpose of instigating acts of counter-revolution and sabotage against the Soviet Union, as uncovered in the Menshevik trial in Moscow.

The Socialist Party needs a "great campaign" to cleanse itself of the record that its presidential candidate, Norman Thomas, has for years tried to cover every one of the treacheries of his party and the Second International with equally treacherous radical phrases.

The Socialist Party needs a "great campaign" to cleanse itself of the record of its support of the bestial murders of the leaders of the German revolutionary proletariat, Karl Liebknecht, Rosa Luxemburg, Leo Jogiches by the socialists Noske and Ebert.

The Socialist Party needs a "great campaign" to cleanse itself of the record of the participation of its presidential candidate, Norman Thomas, in the proceedings of a congressional committee which codified American imperialist policy, in preparation for the coming where Thomas very openly states that he would favor the military concentration of industry under the supervision of the War Department to promote the war—all of this in the name of "socialism."

### S. P. GLORIES IN RECORD.

However, search as we may, we cannot find in the "great campaign" of the Socialist Party against social patriotism any effort to cleanse itself of its own treachery and betrayal. The Socialist Party let its record speak for itself. It glories in this record. It glorifies in its membership in the Second International, together with the murderer Noske, together with MacDonald, who, in the name of British imperialism, ordered the mass shooting of Indian revolutionists.

The "great campaign" of the Socialist Party is instead directed against Comrade William Z. Foster. The "campaign" bases itself upon Foster's testimony before the Senate Committee investigating the Steel Strike. The "great campaign" on closer inspection does not direct itself against social patriotism at all but seeks support for its treacherous socialism in a cry of "Stop Thief." James Oneal and other lights of the Socialist Party accuse Foster of an act of social patriotism committed in 1919.

Foster was then the outstanding leader of the strike of 350,000 steel workers. He himself was mainly instrumental in organizing these workers. The strike was in its most critical phase. The steel trust, supported by the A. F. of L. bureaucracy, tried to smash the strike. Its main weapon was an attempt of the government to brand the strike as an attempt to overthrow the government and to denounce Foster as a dangerous Red to the law, order and business of the American ruling class. To serve this purpose the steel trust had reprinted a half million copies of the pamphlet of Foster written in 1912 when he was a syndicalist. The main purpose of the Senate Commission examining Foster was to secure a substantiation of this point.

### FOSTER'S MISTAKE.

Comrade Foster made a great mistake in meeting this situation. He surrendered to the position of the Socialist Party and its leadership on this point. He denied that he was a revolutionist. He denied that he was against the war. He declared instead that he had himself purchased Liberty Bonds and that the Stockyard Workers Union, which he had organized and headed during that period, had carried on a campaign for the sale of Liberty Bonds.

Foster's mistake at the time is the permanent crime of the Socialist Party and of the syndicalists. It is the Socialist Party and the syndicalists who cover their political treacheries against the workers with the excuse that the political struggles, such as the struggle against war, must be

subordinated to the supposed "immediate needs" of the workers. Comrade Foster thought that his first duty was to protect the striking steel workers from the assaults of Attorney-General Palmer's red-baiting Department of Justice.

### BASIS FOR S. P. ATTACK.

But grave though the mistake of Comrade Foster was, he soon made it clear that it was only an error and not a principle with him. He recognized this error and has since then many times condemned it himself. It is precisely because Comrade Foster recognized the seriousness of this error that he is now so persistently fighting against opportunism which breeds such errors and which, if followed as a system, leads inevitably into the camp of the counter-revolutionary Socialist Party. Now the Socialist Party condemns Foster for not having elevated his error into a policy, which latter act would have made of Foster an honored member of the Socialist Party. Instead, Foster recognized his mistake, condemned it, and has since fought against all forms of social patriotism and against the social patriotic Socialist Party. That is why the Socialist Party attacks him.

### FOSTER AS FIGHTING LEADER.

Here we are justified in taking note of the fact that precisely during the period when he made this serious mistake, Foster was also accomplishing the only serious mass organization of workers and conducting the only serious organized mass struggle which took place. Foster organized and led 160,000 packing house workers, gaining them conditions such as they never knew before nor since. He organized 250,000 steel workers and led 350,000 in a three-months strike against the most powerful American monopoly industry. In spite of this opportunist mistake on the war situation, he succeeded in making himself the man most hated and most feared by the American capitalist class. And he gained the experience which led him directly, in the years immediately following, into the Communist Party and into the clear-cut Bolshevik struggle on all fronts of the class war, the struggle against war as well as the daily struggles of all workers on their immediate needs.

For the Socialist Party, with its 18 years international record of social patriotism and betrayal of every struggle of the working class, to attack Comrade Foster on the grounds of social patriotism is indeed a historical joke. Almost every worker who stood firm on the revolutionary line during the war days is today a follower or member of the Communist Party. All of those elements in the Socialist Party who really fought against the war went out of the Socialist Party in the splits of 1919 and 1921 and went with the Communist International. What anti-war traditions were created in the Socialist Party were the achievements of the left wing that founded the Communist Party.

### FOSTER—FIGHTER AGAINST OPPORTUNISM AND IMPERIALIST WAR.

Comrade Foster has for years been one of the foremost fighters against opportunism and social patriotism. The fact that he himself at one time succumbed to the opportunist tradition created by the Socialist Party, makes him all the more keenly aware of its poisonous nature and the necessity to fight it to the death.

In 1919 and 1920, when the Socialist Party thought that Foster's mistake was leading him into their ranks, they praised him most highly precisely because of this mistake. Today the Socialist Party tries to make demagogic use of Foster's mistake in order to prevent the workers from repudiating the Socialist Party of Hillquit, Oneal, Thomas & Co., which bases all of its activities and its program upon precisely that opportunism and social patriotism.

But while Foster made a mistake which he quickly corrected and against which he is today an outstanding fighter, the Socialist Party leaders, consciously and systematically over a period of eighteen years, have developed social patriotism and opportunism into an art. The present attacks against Foster are not a struggle against social patriotism, but rather an integral part of the preparation of the Socialist Party for the new imperialist war. It is their contribution to American imperialism, to disorganize the workers and prevent them from struggling for defense of the Soviet Union and against the imperialist war, in which U. S. imperialism is preparing to play a leading role.

### WORKERS WILL ANSWER—NOV. 8.

In the election campaign the only possible means of developing the mass struggle against war is participation in the struggle organized and led by the Communist Party and to vote for Foster and Ford on Nov. 8.

CENTRAL COMMITTEE,  
COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U. S. A.

## "STICK TO EACH STEEL MILL 'TIL IT'S UNIONIZED"

Convention Delegates, Forming New Union, Outline Tactics

PITTSBURGH, Pa., Aug. 15.—The national convention which founded the Steel and Metal Workers' Industrial Union met Saturday, yesterday and today in the same hall in which police and United Mine Workers' thugs attacked in a series of bloody frays the convention which founded the National Miners' Union in 1928. The miners re-organized themselves

white delegate, F. Keith of Birmingham, Ala., who had ridden the freights 900 miles, in company with a colored comrade, to attend the convention. He called for a vigorous stand for Negro equality, and proposed a resolution calling on the governor of Alabama to free the Scottsboro boys. "I believe that when this matter of Negro equality is put up right, it's just what the white Southern workers are looking for," said this worker.

Nearly all of the delegates who are working are on part time, and their fear of losing their jobs to the unemployed was singled out by National Secretary Meloon of the Metal Workers' Industrial League in his report as a reason for conducting work jointly among the employed, the unemployed and the partly employed, second only to the need for winning immediate relief.

More Lay-Offs.

## Bosses Olympic Barred Muse, Negro Actor, From The Olympic Village

Manager Declared "No Negro Entertainer Will Be Allowed Inside"

Negro Athletes Humiliated at Games; Workers Athletic Meet in Sharp Contrast

LOS ANGELES, Calif., Aug. 15.—It became known today that Clarence Muse, well-known Negro actor, was denied admittance to the Olympic Village, which was built up here in connection with the bosses' Olympic Games.

Muse, who is the star of the Bill Sharples troupe of radio entertainers, was barred because of his color by the entertainment organization of the American Olympic committee. Nor-

## CALL FOR UNITY OF JOBLESS AND VETS IN FIGHT

To Elect Delegates to National Conference In Cleveland

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all veterans' groups within the Trade Union Unity League, Unemployed Councils and mass organizations of the working class, as well as to veterans belonging to A. F. of L. locals. The call stresses the fact that veterans are invited to the conference, regardless of political and organiza-

## Worker Eats Less to Send Contribution to Save the "Daily" Fund

A New York worker has sent the following letter to the "Daily" along with a contribution of \$1 for the \$40,000 Save the "Daily" drive.

"Dear comrades:

I am sending \$1 to the \$40,000 Save the 'Daily' drive to help prevent our paper from suspending. From now on I am going to cut down on all expenses, including eating, so that I can continue to contribute to the 'Daily.' I call on all class-conscious workers everywhere to strain every effort to help keep the Daily Worker alive.

Comradely Yours,

L. J., 137 W. 95th St., N. Y. C.

Workers, sacrifices such as this will keep the Daily Worker the chief or-