

Announce Formation of United Socialist Forum

Establishment of a forty-member national committee of the American Forum For Socialist Education was announced yesterday by A. J. Muste, well-known pacifist, who will serve as chairman of the group. Secretary of the group is Sidney Lens, author and director of Local 329, AFL, of Chicago.

The statement of purpose declares that American Forum seeks to promote "study and serious untrammelled political discussions among all elements that think of themselves as related to historic socialist and labor traditions, values and objectives . . . however deep and bitter their differences may have been."

Muste emphasized that persons serving on the National Committee do so as individuals and not as delegated representatives of any group. American Forum proceeds on the conviction, said Muste, that "individuals from all tendencies should be involved in the discussion, provided they commit themselves to a free exchange of views in a spirit of inquiry."

He further stated that American Forum is not a membership organization and does not propose to promote united action by various

parties or groups, mergers or new organizations. It "neither promotes nor seeks to inhibit such developments" in which people may wish to engage.

Vice presidents of the Forum are Kermit Eby, professor of economics, University of Chicago; Milton Mayer, author and lecturer, Carmel, Calif.; John T. McManus, managing editor, *National Guardian*, New York; Bayard Rustin, one of the editors of *Liberation* magazine; and Mulford Sibley of the Political Science faculty, University of Minnesota.

Among the 40 members of the Forum's National Committee are two leading members of the Communist Party, Doxey Wilkerson and Albert Blumberg.

The Forum's statement of purpose follows:

"AMERICAN FORUM is organized in order to stimulate study and serious, untrammel-

led discussion of the problems of socialism in the United States.

"There is a growing interest in such discussion among all elements that think of themselves as related to historic socialist and labor traditions, values and objectives — however deep and bitter their differences may have been. Moreover, there are indications that in the ranks of labor, among farmers, in the colleges and among the American people generally there are many who do not accept the status quo and who are developing an interest in political discussions provided a fresh and undogmatic approach is undertaken.

"Those who organize AMERICAN FORUM do so not on the ground that the problems of building a sound and effective American left have been solved

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Forum

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and agreement for action has been reached. Their simple aim is to promote study and especially continuous discussion in a situation where many of the answers are not known and much division, confusion and consequent frustration exist. They believe that all individuals from all elements should be involved in this, provided they commit themselves to a free exchange of views in a spirit of inquiry.

"AMERICAN FORUM" holds that eventual socialist unity requires clarity on fundamental social issues, along with tolerance of differences on other matters and comradely discussion of them within a common forum. It believes, therefore, that all important problems must be frankly and sharply discussed but equally that the discussion should be oriented to the future and not the past and concentrate on discussion of the program of a democratic socialist movement in the U.S. and how such a movement may be brought into being.

"Since it is of the greatest importance that large numbers of people, including youths, be drawn into discussion locally, from labor unions, farm organizations, colleges, churches, etc., AMERICAN FORUM will have as one of its aims the formation, encouragement and assistance of local groups or committees for this purpose. This may include assistance to local groups in setting up forums, etc., and going beyond mere occasional discussion meetings.

"Other purposes will be:

"1) To call attention to the various periodicals and publications of groups whose members are involved in the discussions and encourage people to read them; and to publish bulletins or pamphlets under its own imprint as occasion requires.

"2) To organize regional and national conferences, and by these and other means to contribute not only to intellectual clarification but to the building of a new morale and ethic, a spirit of fair play, labor militancy, determination and hope among the progressive and radical forces in this country."

The other members of the national committee are:

James Aronson, New York City; Joseph Atkins, Baltimore; Michael Baker, Minneapolis; Paul Baran, Palo Alto, Calif.; Stringfellow Barr, New York City; Albert Blumberg, New York City; Carl Braden, Louisville; Derk Bodde, Philadelphia; Harald Charbnaou, Chicago; Bert Cochran, New York City; Jack Cypin, Nassau County, N. Y.; Dorothy Day, New York City.

Dave Dellinger, Glen Gardner, N. J.; Farrell Dobbs, New York City; W. E. B. DuBois, New York City; J. Stuart Innerst, Pasadena; Russell Johnson, Boston; Oliver Loud, Yellow Springs, Ohio; Conrad Lynn, Rockland County, N. Y.; C. H. Mayer, Andes, N. Y.; Clifford McAvoy, New York City; Benjamin McLaurin, New York City; David McReynolds, New York City.

William Neumann, Baltimore; Russell Nixon, New York City; Harvey O'Connor, Winnetka, Ill.

Pilgrimage

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religious groups, human relations Councils and the NAACP were also active. Negro and white churchmen have established an information center for the Pilgrimage to provide detailed answers by telephone to those requesting it. The Newark telephone numbers are BIgelow 8-0133 and 8-9132. Also giving vigorous support to the Pilgrimage are the American Jewish Congress and the Newark Community Center.

PENNSYLVANIA

The Philadelphia committee in charge of the Pilgrimage predicts that 10,000 would go to Washington from that city. Included among those pledging contingents are, the NAACP, Fellowship Commission, Womens International League for Peace and Freedom, American Friends Service Committee, Fellowship of Reconciliation and Americans for Democratic Action.

From Pittsburgh, in the western end of Pennsylvania, leaders have announced that 500 pilgrims will go to Washington.

A special train, "The Freedom Special," will leave Philadelphia's 30th Street Station at 8:30 A.M. May 17, arriving in Washington at 11:02, in time for all to be present at the noon ceremonies at Lincoln Memorial. Pilgrimage co-chairmen in Philadelphia are the Rev. Leon H. Sullivan and Mrs. Evelyn Reynolds.

Mrs. Marion Jordan, Pittsburgh executive secretary of the NAACP, in appealing for pilgrims, said the trek would be "a protest against the silence of the White House concerning the wave of terror and violence now sweeping through the South."

CHESS

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our own Samuel Reshevsky?

Adolph Anderson of Germany, unofficial world champion in the 1850's once said: "Once you get a Knight firmly posted at King 6, you may go to sleep; your game will then play itself."

"Chess Life," official organ of the U.S. Chess Federation, also recommends highly the new book for beginners—"Chess Made Simple" by Milton Hanauer, calling it "far and away the biggest dollar's worth of chess instruction ever printed." It adds that the book "should win thousands of new players, for the high price of most books in this field has unquestionably discouraged learners." Even if you are not a beginner, you will get a lot out of it. And only one dollar.

If you buy this book as a result of our plugging, please write in. Also, if you have begun to play since reading about chess in our paper.

Sam Pollock, Cleveland; Joseph Starobin, New York City; Fritjof Thygeson, Berkeley, Calif.; Charles Walker, Cheyney, Pa.; Doxie Wilkerson, New York City; William Appleman Williams, Eugene, Ore.; H. H. Wilson, Princeton, N. J.; Milton Zaslow, New York City; and Waldo Frank, Truro, Mass.