

Morgan, Thomas and the Block-Fakers

By I. AMTER

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Norman Thomas, the socialfascist skypilot, whining and crying that the capitalist press has misquoted his radio speech, has sent a letter to the New York Times. Thomas, who now is one of the chief exponents of block-aid and fakery, states:

"To that extent I hope that the block-aid plan will raise funds (to keep all relief work from stopping while more fundamental things are done!), and in raising the funds block-aiders will avoid the dangers to which I called attention in my speech—the dangers of misdirected zeal on the part of workers."

Is this not an open appeal to the workers not to resort to demonstrations and actions that will force the government to provide relief and insurance? Is this not an appeal to the block fakers not to provoke the unemployed starving workers, but to be diplomatic, to make promises, to give them a food check one week and then let it pass by, as they are doing today?

Thomas and the socialfascists have no intention of fighting—on the contrary, they are the shock troops in the struggle against the unemployed and employed. They talk about "the immediate need of socialism for direct relief, for public works, etc." They talk about "general strike" in Germany, as a means only of sabotaging and breaking all strikes. It is a lie to say that direct relief cannot be obtained except through socialism. The "socialism" of the socialist party is given as an excuse for no struggle, for sabotaging struggle. To project the need of socialism as the immediate need is to state that the struggle for relief is useless—to take the side of the capitalists.

Thomas decorates his whining letter with the words:

"the only possible compensation for the misery of the present crisis is that out of it may come strength which is required to effect a new sort of world."

This is speaking the language of Mary Pickford, who told the so-called incorrigibles in prison that they were "fortunate" in being able to learn from their destitution. It is speaking the language of the skypilots of "reward in the sky bye and bye." It is the language of the socialfascists, who are trying to keep the workers from struggle TODAY for unemployment relief and insurance—and this language and this position brand the socialist party as openly socialfascist in action.

The more Norman Thomas talks, the more openly he exposes the socialist party. This must certainly be a lesson for the workers still in the ranks of the socialist party. It clearly shows not only the path but also the role of the socialfascists. It is not a question of "purging" the ranks of the socialist party. Both Hillquit, the counterrevolutionist, and Norman Thomas, are real socialfascists. Their method is different—but the function is the same. The socialist party, some of whose members are talking about "more revolutionary" programs, discloses its role in all the struggles of the workers. Workers who want to STRUGGLE for unemployment relief and insurance, which can be obtained TODAY, against wage cuts, which can be prevented TODAY, who want to struggle against the imperialist war and for the defense of the Chinese masses and the Soviet Union, which must be conducted TODAY—these workers cannot, as sincere workers, remain in the ranks of the socialist party. They must declare themselves and join the ranks of the COMMUNIST PARTY, the Party which fights TODAY, and by its very fight is forcing the socialist party to manifest its real position as ally of Morgan and finance capital in the struggle against the working class.