

Doubletalk Made a Fine Art

(This is the second in a series of articles on the role of David Dubinsky.)

By Rose Wortis

David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garment Workers' Union, borrows weapons from the arsenal of Hitler's friends in America to promote his anti-Soviet projects but he doesn't dare brandish those weapons openly. He dresses up his attack in phrases such as the Atlantic Charter so that the average worker may not readily see through his tactics. As a matter of fact, he is even now compelled to reckon with the pro-Soviet sentiment of the membership and is developing a double policy.

On the one hand, he is undertaking a drive for clothing for the Soviet Union, on the other hand he spearheads the attack against the Soviet Union and attempts to undermine support for the foreign policies of President Roosevelt and Secretary Hull in company with the Republican clique of the AFL, Hutcheson, Matthew Woll and John L. Lewis (for whose admission into the AFL he continues to fight).

NICE PHRASES

The January issues of *Justice*, official organ of the ILGWU, editorially greeted the Teheran conference in the following words:

"Teheran dramatizes the world's hunger for understanding among leaders which is the requisite for understanding amongst people. . . . The Teheran conference did more than sharpen the sword of war. It built the first scaffold for world peace."

But in his speech delivered at the recent AFL Post-War conference Dubinsky suddenly discovers that " . . . the announcement issued after the Teheran conference said almost nothing about the organization of peace after the war." Doesn't this sudden turn - about remind one of all anti-Teheran forces?

FEAR SOVIET ADVANCE

After the Moscow conference, Justice hailed Secretary Hull in a special telegram adopted at the General Executive Board meeting then in session. But when Secretary Hull, to the satisfaction of even his most severe critics in the win-the-war camp, had clarified the practical application of the Atlantic Charter and the decisions of Moscow and Teheran and greatly strengthened the unity of the United Nations throughout the world, Dubinsky and Woll, "the ardent champions" of the Atlantic Charter, are disturbed. Dubinsky feels that Hull's speech does not " . . . contain enough insurance that our own disinterested policy as a member of the United Nations can prevail against facts accomplished today." The Berlin radio quotes Hearst's Daily Mirror with approval for making the same criticism of Hull for alleged "sinking" the Atlantic Charter.

The real basis for Dubinsky's disappointment with Moscow and Teheran, with Secretary Hull's statement on foreign policy, is revealed in the latter part of his speech. The sweeping offensive of the Red Army brings consternation to Mr. Dubinsky and his defeatist friends, who denounce these victories as a policy of "spheres of influence," "gigantic empires absorbing small nations."

Dubinsky's heart is breaking for poor little Rumania which has to lose Bessarabia, stolen from the Soviet Union after the last war. His heart bleeds for poor Finland, which as the *New Leader* says, is asked by the terrible Bolsheviks to break its written word to its ally, Hitler, and intern the fascist hordes so that they can no longer murder and pillage.

BACKS POLE GOVT

"There will be no room for democracy, no room for liberty, no room for national freedom" if this policy continues, he laments, if his friends, the reactionary landlords and pro-fascist, anti-Semitic Polish government-in-exile cannot continue the brand of democracy which kept millions of Polish workers under a regime of murder and terror and subjected millions of Jews to humiliating, Hitlerite, anti-Semitic persecution.

"Poland is a case in point," says Dubinsky. "Poland is the testing ground. Poland was the first of the United Nations to face the Nazi aggression. She fought bravely against the Nazis more than four and one-half years ago and she is still fighting bravely today both on the battle field and in the underground."

Yes, this is true of the real Poland—the Polish people as personified by the Kosciuszko Division heading the Red Army in the liberation of their native land. It is true of the Polish guerrillas aiding the Red Army in enemy territory, the Polish underground which is cooperating with the Red Army.

But it is not true of the pro-fascist government which ran away and left the people to the mercy of Hitler, nor of the present government-in-exile.

It is well known that the government-in-exile during the crucial days of Stalingrad withdrew its armies from the Soviet Union, refusing to join forces with the Red Army for the battle which held the whole Allied cause and the future of mankind in balance.

EXPOSED TO WORLD

The anti-Soviet and pro-Hitler sympathies of the Polish government are known throughout the world. For was it not these pro-fascist generals and landlords who, together with Hitler's agents, concocted the infamous frame up in connection with the Katyn massacre?

The Polish government-in-exile has aroused the indignation of the civilized world by its anti-Semitic policies and practices as revealed in the recent dispatches

in the New York Times from Iran as well as in the camps in Mexico. Only last week, 600 Jewish soldiers in the Polish Army appealed to the British Parliament and Secretary Anthony Eden to be transferred because they could no longer endure the anti-Semitism and discrimination to which they were subjected. When these incidents were called to the attention of General Sosnowski, he whitewashed his staff, and denounced the so-called deserters, 30 of whom are now to be court martialed. On April 19 the newspaper *PM* quoted a Member of Parliament who interviewed some Jewish soldiers in the Polish Army. He state:

"Now they say, these bullying Polish sergeants or non-commissioned officers, 'we cannot do anything in this country, because Churchill, as we all know, is in the pay of the Jews; but you wait until we get you on the continent of Europe. The moment we get you there, at the second front, then every Pole has two bullets—the first for a Jew and the second for a German!'"

Dubinsky says he " . . . holds no brief for the former government of Poland." But the present government he says " . . . is composed of a majority of sincere democrats many of them well known labor leaders."

PRO-FASCIST LEADERS

Let us see who these "sincere democrats and labor leaders" are. They are the direct descendants and inheritors of the former government. President Vladislav Rackiewicz, holds office through the Constitution of April, 1935, which was never accepted or ratified by the Polish people. Gen. Sosnowski has openly asserted that the Polish-Soviet treaty was nonsense since the USSR was going to be defeated in the war. Two members of the Polish Christian Labor Party, a bitterly anti-Semitic clerical fascist outfit, are in the Cabinet. The rest of the Cabinet is made up of so-called Socialists and Peasant leaders of the same type as Tanner and Baron Mannerheim of Finland and the executed spies, Alter and Ehrlich.

"The Poles and only the Poles must decide the personnel of their guiding and ruling administration," says Dubinsky. We may be sure that when the Polish people have their chance, the present Polish government-in-exile will be sent to join their colleagues of the former government. Mr. Dubinsky is very solicitous of the rights of the self-appointed Polish landlords and pro-fascists. But how about the millions of Ukrainians and White Russians whom the Polish reactionaries forcibly annexed in the last war in defiance of the Allied Council and ruthlessly oppressed and exploited until they were liberated by the Red Army in 1939 and re-united with their homeland?

(To be continued tomorrow.)