

Hill-Billy Hitlerites

Red Baiting and Jew Baiting

(Ed. Note—This is the second of a series of articles devoted to a study and exposure of the budding Fascist movement known as the Silver Shirts of America.)

It was a popular impression before the Nazis hoisted themselves into the saddle of power that Adolf Hitler was a clown and his supporters a bunch of "nuts". It was said that he had no program, that the storm-troops were ruff-raff, bitter at the world and eager for blood and revenge. There was more than a grain of truth in this belief. Yet there was method in Hitler's madness—and a terrible appeal. Witness the million-headed Fascist monster that rules Germany today.

The secret of Hitler's success with his followers, in part, rested in his ability to invoke real or imaginary foes who were blamed for the grief and worries of society, to promise their heads to crazed, embittered people. Threat and condemnation—this is the Fascist credo. The positive program is a mystery or at best vague promises.

Pelley's Silver Shirts are founded upon a striking emulation of their German prototypes. On one of the pages of their rag, Liberation, (this is a peculiar way of saying, slavery) all of the so-called panaceas "for saving America" are declared—taboo. These include the lightening of the farmers' taxes, the abolition of the presidential electoral college, the repeal of prohibition, the elimination of usury, government ownership of public utilities and... The abolition of the system of production for profit! No! These are only delusions, says the Liberation scribbler, "And those who do not think deeply are led into the pathways of delusive Socialism, if they belong to the 'intellectuals', and into the clutches of anarchistic Communism if they belong to the so-called proletariat."

Well, then, asks the sane worker, what is wrong with the system we live in?

The answer, recounted below, is quite worthy of the lowliest intellect in Mattawan:

"A foreign virus has been instilled into the body of the nation. Within the flesh of the citizenry crawls the viper of materialism.... It is no peculiar fact that the Jews and Jewishness are noted for materialism. Nor is it strange that this gigantic fact should resolve itself into national factors with the Jews at the root and at the bottom of every major corruption and debauchery of our Christian nation and Constitutional form of government!"

In Germany the Jews were accused of having sold the nation's birthright to the Allies. In America the "Depression.... was the result of a vast JEWISH banker's conspiracy." How true to type! The ostensible cause, claimed by the German Hitlerites, for the sweeping ruin of the middle strata of the population was the treaty of Versailles perpetrated by the Jews, and the "foreign yoke" maintained by the Jews. In the United States, according to the Hilly-Billy Hitlerites, 1929 was the Jewish Deluge for the "Gentile" petty bourgeoisie, which is perpetuated by the "Washington Jewish Oligarchy." This is the ancient scape-goat trotted out and spat upon in order to detract attention from the real burning issue—capitalism.

Bluntly stated, here is what the Jew-scalping "Chief" considers the insidious plan of the "traders (Jews) of this Christian form of government."

The Jewish Plot in the Pelley

"We need more Hebrews in the United States to perfect our plans and strategies for the utter despotism of Protocolism over your detested free institutions. So whether you like it or not we are going to bring them in. We will distribute them far and wide over your American nation. We shall see that they are set up as shopkeepers in cities and towns all over the coun-

try, entering into competition with your Gentile shopkeepers who are on the verge of bankruptcy through what we have done to your economic and financial system already, plus our pet NRA scheme for making it costlier for you to do business at all. We will also use them, as they demonstrate individual smartness, to worm and weasel into all your fraternal and social organizations and keep bulldog watch over their activities, to see that nothing starts within them for checkmating our international racial program."

The battle cry for the doomed middle class: Exterminate the Jews and there will be more jobs, professions and business for you!

Great pains are taken to prove that the government is dominated by Jews, that the Federal Reserve and the Treasury is under the thumb of the Judan swarm. Notice all the variety of Jews on the inside track in Washington: "It has gotten to the point that Jews and husbands of Jews, semi-Jews and wives of Jews, Gentile fronts for Jews, statistical Jews, financial Jews, analytical Jews, budget Jews, brain-trust Jews, politics Jews, diplomatic Jews, immigration Jews, Congressional Jews, patronage Jews,

mortgage Jews, assessor Jews, foreign conference Jews, war debt Jews, radio Jews, motion picture Jews, sugar Jews, clothing Jews, packing, industry Jews, railroad Jews, public Jews, Cuban Jews, League of Nations Jews, Colonel-House-brand of Jews, Barney-Baruch Gentle Jews, Washington editor Jews, government clerk Jews, are swarming all over the place...."

Hosannas are sung for Hitler's persecution of Jews and Communists; epithets are heaped on those who protest the savage deeds in Berlin.... This story is drummed on the ears of the ignorant, bigoted Silver Shirt,—whose brain action must become paralyzed after reading several copies of Liberation—until he thinks that his salvation on heaven and earth, materialistically and spiritually, rests with Pelley's anti-Semitism.

"The issue is sharp—how much longer are we going to permit Baruchism (Baruch M. Baruch, the agent of Russian Communism in America according to the feverish brain of the "Chief") to direct the foreign policy of these Christian and Gentile United States of America? Must we wait for the Red

The Railroad Brotherhoods Constitutions Reek with Gaglaws

Now brother Firemen and Braquemans do you realize what the above laws mean? Do you realize that you can only express yourselves concerning your organization with the permission of your President, Robertson or Whitney, as the case may be? Read the law carefully in your own constitution. Study it, and as you do, ask yourself this question: Who benefits by this law and what can be its aim and purpose?

In defense of these gag-rules the ordinary brotherhood official will try to make us believe that such laws are necessary to protect the membership against their enemies from within the organization. If we were crooks and enemies of the organized railroad workers we would much prefer to operate amongst a gagged membership than in one which enjoyed free and open expression, and we think the ordinary crook will agree with us on this. A company stool pigeon or any other agent of the employer working inside of a labor union who wants to fool and betray the workers in order to benefit himself is certainly protected by such laws as we have quoted above, where the membership can only speak with the permission of one man, the President.

There are a growing number of railroad workers who feel that the worst enemies of the workers inside the unions are the high salaried craft officials who infest the railroad unions in swarms. And these gaglaws have been purposely designed to protect this element from being exposed by the progressive minority in the unions. So you see, brother rails, if the real offenders against your interests in the union are in office, then you are out of luck with such laws in your constitution.

The sole object of all gaglaws, like the ones we have quoted above, is to protect the few who want to profit at the expense of the many. The same is true in the railroad brotherhoods. These gag-rules protect all these unnecessary and useless officials in the railroad unions and prevent the intelligent minority from pointing out to the rank and file how foolish and expensive it is for the railroad workers to be divided into twenty-one separate labor unions. The gag-laws, obligations, secret work, and the censored magazines prevent the progressive minority from explaining to the workers that this divided arrangement is highly detrimental to us but very beneficial to the brotherhood officials and the railroad companies.

As a matter of fact, these gag-laws cost the railroad unions millions of dollars annually in loss of wages and working conditions because of improper organization to get better ones, to say nothing about the huge sums paid out every year in outrageous salaries to a lot of useless and unnecessary officials. It was just such laws as these which enabled the B. of L. E. officials to nearly ruin that organization without being exposed nor expelled. It was only the members, who had sufficient courage and understanding to expose the officials, who suffered expulsion by these laws.

Brother workers, put up an organized campaign both inside and outside of your meetings to get these vicious gaglaws repealed at your next convention. Pass these articles in the Militant around to the railroad workers. Discuss these things wherever you can and thereby help to relegate all gag-laws and their beneficiaries to the political junk heap.

Flag to fly over the White House, and hundreds of our people to be shot down by the American-Jewish Chekka in the streets of Cleveland, Detroit, and Chicago, before we will awaken and arise to a man, smash Jewish Communism in this land of Patrick Henry as Mussolini smashed it in Italy, as Hitler smashed it in Germany?"

As on the European continent, and wherever Fascism has reared its ugly head, it likewise reveals its raison d'être—anti-working class, destroy the revolutionary and labor movement to perpetuate the existence of the cadaver, capitalism. It is highly significant that in all the fuming and raging about Jewish bankers, moneylenders, the writer has not found a single word in the dozens of Silver Shirt magazines he has labored through, aimed at the industrialists, the factory owners, the exploiters, the slave-drivers in the mine and the mill. Naturally, the banker (for whom we have no sympathy whatsoever, and who will be eliminated not by Pelley but by the Communist movement), and especially the Jewish banker is a good mark for the chief. He is thereby committed to nothing definite. He can wriggle out any time his masters clamp down, whining "I mean the Jewish bankers, not a good Gentile firm like J. P. Morgan but his competitors Kuhn, Loeb and Co."

The Choicest Inevitable Next to the Jews the choicest invective is saved for Soviet Russia,—murderers, cut-throats, thieves, rapists, and various combinations of these and other bouquets.... Russian Communism, says Pelley, finances American Communism through the Armory and Barney Baruch, die-hard conservative banker, was and is the liaison officer through whom Communism is infiltrated into the United States. The "Chief" gets purple in the face shouting against the Recognition agreement with Russia which he claims in his delirium has tortured and murdered over 1,670,000 persons. "The Chief" does not think that Communism in this country is or would be so much of a menace to civilization (read: capitalism) except that it is directly aided by Roosevelt's closest advisors; and many is the impression given in the official organ that Roosevelt himself might be a good-standing member of the Politburo of the Russian Communist Party....

Pelley is 100% anti-Soviet. So much so that he denounces his fellow jingo, William Randolph Hearst, for raising a hue and cry about the Japanese Yellow Peril. The Silver Shirt declares that Japan has been fighting the battle of civilization against Sovietism—when she plundered Northern China and bombarded Shanghai. A plan is recounted whereby "A ring of steel was to be drawn about Jewish-Soviet Russia, and that ring was to be tightened until the Murder-bund under Stalin was to be strangled from existence. On the East was Japan, on the West was Poland, Germany, and Czechoslovakia,—which latter nation meant, of course, France.

"Japan was to commence the fight for the preservation of constitutional civilization and the continued reign of orderly governments in Manchuria. Hitler was to be lifted into power on the West, and out of this 'lifting' was to grow a formidable antagonism to Communism throughout Continental Europe. Certain equally significant and vital roles, all delineated at the time were to be played by England and Italy." (Liberation, December, 9, 1933). Pelley has all he can do in trying to conceal his chagrin because the brigands assault on the Worker's Fatherland has not yet commenced. And how he rages against the Recognition because it might help Soviet Russia....

Let us conclude on the same note we began this installment. The universal features of Fascism apply even to these United States. The middle class is duped, drugged and deceived but like all addicts it does not realize the damage until morning after....

—GEO. CLARKE.

For the New Party

Open Letter to the A.W.P.

(Continued from page 1)

try a genuinely revolutionary party of the working class whose final goal is the establishment of a classless society. We consider the founding of such a party the central and most important task of every true revolutionist in the United States today. Your declarations assert that you have the same aim in mind. There are grounds, therefore, for assuming that a serious effort can and should be made by the two organizations to unite their forces and energies towards a harmonious accomplishment of the task they have set themselves. Two organizations with the same objective in view would obviously be militating against their own common interests if they were to pursue two different and separate paths towards that objective.

Your declarations speak of the need of a new revolutionary party in this country, organizationally and politically independent both of the reformist Socialist party and the degenerated official "Communist" party. By a revolutionary party—we understand a Communist party—one deserving of that name, and not a bureaucratic caricature—with a fundamental Communist pro-

gram. These are, as you know, those who, in speaking for a new party, have in mind one which seeks to reconcile, or to oscillate between, petty bourgeois socialism, on the one side, and Marxism on the other, that is, social democracy and Communism. Far from dignifying such a party with the name "revolutionary", we would consider it an elementary duty to fight against it in the interests of strengthening a truly revolutionary, or Marxian party. If by a revolutionary party you have in mind a conception that harmonizes with ours, we see absolutely no reason why we should not join hands for the purpose of forming it. Quite the contrary, there is every reason why our efforts in this direction, as well as those of any other group holding similar views, should be exerted in common.

Without in the least holding any narrow prejudices which would result in creating an abortive sect divorced from the life of the masses and their daily struggles and interests, instead of a vigorous, active militant party of the vanguard which has no interests separate and apart from those of the working class as a whole, we nevertheless lay the greatest stress on the question

of the program of the new party. We consider it futile, and even harmful, to proceed with the formation of a new party without having first laid down the solid foundation of a revolutionary Marxian program. It is only on the basis of a program, and the activities of the party which flow from it, that the creation of a new party distinct from the existing ones can be justified in the eyes of the working class. In our declaration, printed in the Militant of September 30, 1933, we outlined our conception of the programmatic basis of the new party.

On this score, we are obliged to state that your position is not entirely clear to us. Without any intention of anticipating in this communication the imperatively necessary preliminary and comradely discussions on this matter which we propose, we cannot, nevertheless, refrain from declaring that in many respects your position on the program for the new party appears to us to be marked by an ambiguity which can only weaken the new party before it is fairly launched.

However, it is precisely because we believe that there is still an adequate opportunity to submit such questions to an objective discussion, in which neither side attempts mechanically and arbitrarily to impose its standpoint upon the other, that we are addressing our proposals to your Committee. Assembled and united on a sound and lasting foundation, the various revolutionary groups in this country which aim at forming a new party, would constitute a serious and substantial force. Unnecessary divided and apart from one another, their efforts might prove detrimental to the movement for a new party. We need hardly emphasize to you how urgent is the need for such a party in the ranks of the American working class, how valuable a factor is time and how little we can afford to lose any. In view, therefore, of all that has been stated above, we present for your consideration the following proposals:

1. To select a committee from your organization to meet a similar body from our ranks for a preliminary discussion of our relations, for the purpose of determining the extent to which joint action for the formation of the new party is possible.

2. As a next step, to make those arrangements which are considered necessary for the broadest and most democratic discussion by the membership of both organizations of their respective views. As an indication of what we have in mind, we would mention at this point the exchange of representatives of the membership meetings of the two bodies; the convening of joint membership discussion meetings; the publication of an internal bulletin for which we are jointly responsible and in which discussion articles on programmatic and practical problems of the proposed party may be published; etc., etc.

3. To invite other groups having a similar objective to participate in these arrangements and discussions.

4. In order that this period shall not be confined merely to discussions to the detriment of the practical work which must be carried on at all times in the class struggle, we propose that immediately, without waiting until complete agreement is reached on every disputable point, the closest collaboration should be established between the two organizations in those fields in which a sufficiently common view already exists. We have in mind specifically the great possibilities for joint work of the two organizations in (a) work in the trade unions; (b) the struggle against anti-labor persecutions, the manifestations of Fascism which are already visible in this country, and for the defense of class war victims; (c) work among the unemployed millions. Cooperation in these fields would not only be fruitful in itself, but would actually facilitate the discussion on undecided questions of program.

While we consider that these proposals are necessary preliminary steps in the work of forming a new revolutionary party in this country on a firm and healthy foundation, we are of course prepared to consider any alternative or supplementary proposals which your Committee may find it appropriate to present to us. We are animated in our views and our actions by a desire to consolidate the efforts of all those who are striving in a common direction.

Fraternally yours, National Committee of the Communist League of America (Opposition) ARNE SWABECK, Secretary.

the phase of that nascent thing, social-democratic reformism, and to pass direct from the domination of capitalist ideas to the clear-sighted revolutionary struggle for Communism? —MAG.

Six Hundred Hotel Workers Start Strike Wave in Waldorf Astoria

(Continued from page 1)

Astoria. And as the negotiations between the union officials and the management of the Waldorf Astoria for the reinstatement of the discharged worker took place—each worker understood more and more clearly that this act on the part of Boomer was a direct provocation.

The bosses of course thought to choose their own time and place and manner of "dealing" with the union—to deal it a death blow after a series of maneuvers, at one stroke. The choice of time—has been more or less their own; but the workers in no ambiguous manner have declared that they will not be segregated in isolated individual struggles—there is a common goal and theirs is a common battle in this industry where monopoly capital stands completely revealed in its most brutal and reactionary form.

The struggle that will unfold in the next few days will embrace tens of thousands of workers. In all the large hotels and restaurants in New York, if bands play at dinner time, or lunch or breakfast it will be to empty tables and empty floors, as was the case in the Waldorf Astoria.

Workers Act As One Man

The spirit and action of the Waldorf Astoria workers is not an isolated or an episodic manifestation—it embodies the spirit and the actions of the overwhelming majority of the workers in the industry. If the bosses had any illusions on the score, they were and will be rapidly dissipated.

In the Waldorf Astoria the workers moved and acted as one man. Leaving a picket line at the hotel, they came in a body to the headquarters of the union. There was no hysteria. The workers knew what they were doing; they were completely confident that the organization they had helped so well to build would act only as they had acted. This compact body of 600 workers was a living embodiment of the tremendous power of the workers in the industry as a whole. And at their meeting, no voice other than the voice of the working class was heard.

The capitalist papers will not report this meeting. They will not report how organizer A. Caldwell

led the meeting to order, and how the secretary of the union, B. J. Field, concisely and briefly reported to the men on the situation and the inevitable course ahead, nor will there be a word regarding J. P. Cannon's address to the workers. These are items of no interest to the editors.

There is no "news interest" to them in the minor detail such as the inability of worker Gilles to finish his few words of comradely greeting to his fellow workers for their genuine working class action that evening. Worker Gilles choked—not because he is not used to speaking, not because he was overcome with emotion, but because there are no words that are suitable to express that which can be expressed only in actions. And the behavior of worker Gilles and his fellows was and will be a million times more eloquent than any speeches, or articles. One had only to be present at this meeting to understand immediately that this was a body of organized workers part and parcel of the larger army of thousands that is swinging and will swing into a solid front against the bosses in the industry.

The workers have their organization. It speaks and acts only with them and for them. It is prepared. The workers in the hotel and restaurant industry will write another page into the history of working class struggle under the banner of the Amalgamated Hotel and Restaurant Workers Union—a page which no worker will be ashamed of.

THE MAGAZINES

The January issue of The American Mercury is now on sale on newsstands and in bookstores. Under the editorship of Henry Hazlitt the "magazine with the arsenal green covers" as Upton Sinclair dubbed it, is taking on a more serious character.

In the January issue this is analyzed principally by two articles: one by Trotsky—How Long Can Hitler Stay?; and John Strachey's—Against An American Third Party. Trotsky's article is a polemic against the Stalinist thesis that "the Fascists are Caliphs for an hour" as the official organ of the Comintern put it. Basing himself on a Marxist analysis of the class forces at work in the present situation in Germany, Trotsky both demonstrates the falsity of the Stalinist estimation and gives a prognosis of the defeat of the Nazi monster.

Strachey's article is an attempt to apply the lessons of the political history of the British labor movement to the United States. His strong points are his strictures of the failure of the British Labor Party to advance the interests of the workers. The forces which made for this outcome, Strachey admonishes, deserve close study by "those Americans who are today supporting the attempt to set up a gradualist third party".

In conclusion he poses the question of whether "It is not just possible that by far the best feature of the present American situation, from the point of view of the workers, is precisely that there exists no social-democratic third party in America....?" "Is it not possible for the American masses to leap over a whole historical phase,

INTERNATIONAL WORKERS SCHOOL (Winter Term)

The International Workers School is about to enter its third year of Marxist education for the revolutionary workers of New York City. It has issued its announcement of courses for the Winter of 1934 which extends from January 29th to April 2nd. The following classes are listed:

- 1. FUNDAMENTALS OF COMMUNISM Martin Abern (Based on the "Communist Manifesto") Wednesdays—8 p. m. to 10 p. m.—Beginning January 31st.
  - 2. THE YOUTH MOVEMENT Joseph Carter Mondays—8 p. m. to 10 p. m. — Beginning January 29th.
  - 3. SURVEY OF AMERICAN TRADE UNION STRATEGY AND TACTICS Arne Swaback Wednesdays—8 p. m. to 10 p. m.—Beginning January 31st.
  - 4. ELEMENTARY ENGLISH FOR FOREIGN SPEAKING WORKERS S. Blake Fridays—8 p. m. to 9:30 p. m.—Beginning February 2nd
  - 5. THE HISTORY OF THE RUSSIAN BOLSHEVIK PARTY J. Wright Fridays—8 p. m. to 10 p. m.—Beginning February 2nd.
- REGISTRATION: The registration fee for each course is \$1.50. Arrangements can be made for payments at convenient intervals. Individual sessions are 20 cents each. Those workers wishing to register for one or more courses can do so either by mail or by coming to the office of the International Workers School, 126 E. 16th St., N. Y. C. The office is open for the registering of prospective students all day long and every evening. Registrants can secure complete outlines for the courses at ten cents per copy.

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— THE MILITANT

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