

Dies Committee Adjourns Fake Investigation of Fascist Activities in U. S.

Committee Fails to Call Main Witnesses But Evidence Disclosed is Enough to Show Extent of Fascist Organization

Declaring that his committee will soon ask for a \$50,000 increase in its \$100,000 appropriation so that "we can go into subversive activities more thoroughly," Congressman Dies (Democrat, Texas) adjourned his committee indefinitely on May 25 without calling new witnesses for questioning in his pseudo-investigation of fascist activities in the United States.

The committee may not meet again until August. In questioning witnesses during the week, the Dies committee shifted the center of its interest temporarily from "communism" to fascism. The move was astutely designed to accomplish the following objectives:

1. Without really uncovering the extent and danger of the fascist movement, to gain an aura of impartiality in preparation for a renewed onslaught on working class organizations.
2. To make political capital for the Democrats by linking the Republican Party with the movement for fascism in the United States.
3. To show that the present government is taking care of the problem of fascism, and so head off any move of the masses to meet the fascist danger with actions of their own.

Attention Shifts
That nation-wide attention is shifting somewhat from the war danger back to the internal problems which are more acute than ever after six years of the New Deal, is indicated not only by the Dies committee turning its attention to fascism, but by the wide publicity given by the press to a feature article in the Saturday Evening Post dealing with the minor fascist groups in the United States.

The arrest during the same week of Fritz Kuhn, leader of the German-American Bund, on criminal charges, is significant in this respect, as is the investigation initiated by Army officials into Maj. Gen. George Van Horn Moseley's connections with movements to establish fascism by violence. Main witnesses of the Dies committee were Dudley Pierpont Gilbert of New York City, James Erwin Campbell of Owensboro, Ky., and George Deatherage of St. Albans, W. Va. All advocated a military nationalistic form of government, and all of them were pro-fascist and rabidly anti-Semitic.

Wide Publicity
The Dies committee began its questioning of these men with elaborate maneuvers to gain publicity. It announced deep secrecy for its hearings. It transported witnesses across narrow ledges five stories above ground so that they would not meet one another and would be seen by no one but representatives of the press. It announced it had uncovered a well-organized anti-Semitic campaign which had attracted the attention of Maj. Gen. George Van Horn Moseley. Then it gave long releases to the press and admitted reporters and spectators to its hearings. At the end of the week it adjourned indefinitely without calling the most important witness, Moseley.

The committee centered its investigation upon the anti-Semitic campaign. This campaign, as brought out by the committee's questioning, was organized as follows:
Dudley P. Gilbert, wealthy New Yorker, learned "highly inflammatory details of conversations" in the Harmonic Club of New York through an informer, alleged to be a waiter. He sent statements about these conversations to James E. Campbell, 42-year-old reserve army captain at Owensboro, Ky., who in turn sent them to a select mailing list. Campbell also sent out speeches by Moseley and Father Coughlin. These mailings were financed by Gilbert.
The Dies committee seized the correspondence files of Campbell and found letters from George Deatherage, leader of the Knights of the White

Camella, Felix McWhirter, Indianapolis banker and treasurer of the Republican state organization of Indiana. They also found correspondence between Campbell and John D. M. Hamilton, chairman of the Republican National Committee.
(Continued on Page 3)

Twin City Unions Call for Huge WPA Protest Parade

United Front Meeting, Set for June 2, Is Expected to Be Largest Ever Held in Area

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
MINNEAPOLIS, Minn.—A united front W.P.A. demonstration, the largest of its kind ever attempted, will be held in the Twin Cities on Friday, June 2. At the initiation of two sections of General Drivers Union Local 544, the Federal Workers Section and the Independent Truck Owners Section, a Joint Action Committee has been set up. This Action Committee has worked out all details of the monster demonstration, which will take the form of a motorized parade. At least five thousand W.P.A. and relief workers and truck drivers are expected to participate.
The two Local 544 sections will mass at 257 Plymouth Avenue at 9 a.m. on June 2. The Workers Alliance contingent will fall in line at Eighth and Marshall. Local 544's Independent Truckowners' section will furnish trucks to convey all demonstrators. After marching on the district W.P.A. offices in Minneapolis, the motorized demonstration will proceed to St. Paul, where it will be joined by another large contingent of workers from St. Paul, White Bear, Hastings, Isanti and Anoka, to bear down on the state W.P.A. offices in downtown St. Paul, and thence to the state capitol to Governor Stassen.

Militant Demands
The demands adopted by the Joint Action Committee call, in part, for:
Bread—Not Bullets
Open the Idle Factories—Let Us Earn a Living.
Reinstate all discharged W.P.A. workers and provide funds immediately to employ all employables continuously at trade union wages.
We insist upon Our Right to Work—Decent Jobs for All.
For a Twenty Billion Program of Housing and Public Works.

Leading Militant of French Fourth Int'l Faces Death for Anti-Militarist Work

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
PARIS, May 24.—Leon Rigaudias, leading militant of the Fourth Internationalist P.O.I. (Internationalist Workers Party) and the J.S.R. (Revolutionary Socialist Youth), was arrested two weeks ago by the French authorities, it was learned here today, for anti-militarist activity among the mobilized troops. The charge against him is of the gravest kind and, if proved, is punishable by death.
Rigaudias is imprisoned in the fortress of Metz under strict army conditions, held incommunicado so that not even his intimate family or his lawyer is permitted to visit him. He

Nazis Join Coughlinites

ST. LOUIS—A German branch of the Union for Social Justice has recently been established in St. Louis, and is now holding regular weekly meetings.
This German branch was organized by the local Nazis, members of the German-American Bund. The chairman of this branch is Albert Mueller, "fuhrer" of the St. Louis Nazis, who has, in the past, presided at many Nazi meetings.
It is possible that the Nazis in other parts of the country are also entering Coughlin's organization.

Coughlin--an Enemy Of Trade Unionism

Father Coughlin poses as a friend of the worker, but he consistently carries out the anti-labor policies of the bosses. His pretended compassion for the underdog is just so much eyewash.

Coughlin favors the abolition of all real trade unions. He plugs for the company union in preference to the authentic trade union.

This is Coughlin's real program, just as it is the program of America's Sixty Ruling families.

For the time being the radio priest is forced, in the usual fascist manner, to conceal his true aims behind high sounding, but deceptive, phrases. For were he to state his aims openly, his support would vanish overnight, and he would cease to be of use to his Big Business backers.

Coughlin's unsavory labor record bears looking into. Back in 1935, before the successful unionization drives in the auto industry, a semi-company union, the Automotive Industrial Workers of America, was set up in the automobile industry. Its greatest strength was in the Chrysler Corporation, but there were branches elsewhere, including a local in the Motor Products Company at Detroit.

This "union" received Father Coughlin's blessing, and was known as a "Coughlin union." It was created, as are company unions generally, to prevent the formation of a real, fighting union, and to force the workers to agree to the bosses' terms.

Blesses a Company Union

But something in the plans of the Coughlins and the Chryslers and the Fords went wrong. The workers decided to strike for better conditions. On November 15, 1935, all the members of the Motor Products Co. local of Coughlin's Automotive Industrial Workers union downed tools. This union comprised the majority of the workers in the plant. Another union represented there—the Mechanics Educational Society of America (an independent union) went out in sympathy with the Coughlin unionists. Not a man reported for work.

Tremendous pressure was exerted by the bosses, the National Metal Trade Association, the A.F.L. bureaucracy, and the police, to break the strike. Squad cars and motorcycle details patrolled the plant gates daily. Other squad cars carried scabs to work. Strikers were harassed and attacked.

Faced with this powerful, unified opposition, the strikers thought they could turn for aid to their "protector," Father Coughlin. A delegation of strikers was sent to call upon the priest to present the strikers' viewpoint and enlist his help.

What did Coughlin do? Coughlin flatly refused to see the strikers' delegation! He refused to intercede with the bosses in behalf of the union he had once sponsored. He refused to utter one word in his radio broadcasts in defense of the strikers and in protest against police intimidation. And with Coughlin's help, the bosses smashed the strike.

More than three years have passed since then. Coughlin's policy today is as much, and more anti-labor, as it was in the Motor Products strike.

Harlan County, Kentucky, is again the arena of a labor conflict. Governor Chandler has called out the National

Plan Demonstration on WPA Cuts for June 26

Plans for a demonstration on June 26 in Washington against the W.P.A. cuts were announced this week in a call signed by a number of W.P.A. and relief workers organizations.
The call, addressed to unions and unemployed organizations, was signed by the Workers Relief and W.P.A. Union of Newark, Unemployed Workers Union of Wilkesbarre, Project Workers Union of Harrisburg,

Lehigh County Unemployed Leagues, Allentown, Pa., the Unemployed and Project Workers Union of New York, the American Workers Committee of Milwaukee, and the Peoples Unemployed League of Milwaukee.
The call also states that, preceding the demonstration, there will be held on June 24-25 a conference "to explore the possibilities of building a militant national organization of unemployed and W.P.A. workers."

Plan Demonstration on WPA Cuts for June 26

will not be tried by a civil court but by a military court martial. The axe of imperialist justice is about to descend with particular force upon Rigaudias because the 4th Internationalists are the only ones carrying on a consistent and aggressive anti-war activity among the workers and the soldiers. The conditions of the latter are abominable, and Rigaudias' agitation against them has infuriated the army martinets. It is significant that the burden of proof of innocence lies with the defendant—the army prosecutor being under no obligation to prove guilt.
The hands of Rigaudias' friends are tied to a large ex-

tent by the fact that a new law in France (two months old) makes even mention of the fact of his arrest a crime of treason (betrayal of military secrets!) punishable by a fine of 3,000 to 30,000 francs and/or 3 months to 3 years of forced labor.
In order to do everything possible to save Rigaudias from a long prison term and possibly execution, funds are urgently needed and an appeal is made to workers everywhere to furnish financial aid.
(The Socialist Appeal will be glad to forward to the proper bodies in France all funds addressed to it by readers for the defense of Rigaudias.)

Seafarer's Union Ties Up 14 East Coast Ships; Tanker Strike Continues

But NMU Leadership Endangers Strike by Policy on "Hot Oil"

By DAVID COWLES

With the tanker strike in its seventh week, the effectiveness of the strike is being weakened by the Curran leadership which refuses to take steps to stop the shipment of "hot oil" by the large oil companies, such as Esso and Standard.

On the Gulf Coast, the N.M.U. crew aboard the F. J. Luckenbach took the stand that "if its flinky to go into a filling station and take on five gallons of gas—then it's flinky to go to a bunker dock and take 1,000 barrels of oil." And they forced the company to stop taking hot oil. The N.M.U. membership under the militant Houston leadership forced the Lykes Brothers Steamship Co. to use only fair oil. (N.M.U. Pilot of May 12, 1939).

The membership of the S.U.P. and the S.I.U. was reported in the official N.M.U. Pilot as giving them whole-hearted cooperation in the fight to stop the hot oil. From Houston came the report that the crew of the West coast ship Lena Luckenbach had come into the N.M.U. hall and announced "they never, under any circumstances, would accept hot bunkers until the N.M.U. had won their demands." And the same report said, "The same kind of solidarity was evidenced in New Orleans, where four S.I.U. ships in a row offered to tie up rather than take on hot oil." (N.M.U. Pilot, May 12, 1939).

One week later the report was printed from Galveston that "A.F.L. Ships Refuse to Take Hot Oil Bunkers" and the "Result was the ship was moved to a fair dock for fuel." (N.M.U. Pilot, May 19, 1939).

Deceive Members

The Curran leadership and Stalinist machine behind it, are however, trying to deceive the membership into believing that the S.I.U. is trying to break the tanker strike. They continue in order to hide the fact that on the all-important East Coast they have refused to take any direct action to stop the move-

Seafarer's International Union Wages Most Thorough Strike Action of Year—Strengthens Cause of Militant Unionism

A fresh breeze of progressive maritime unionism hit the East Coast as the Seafarer's International Union completely tied up the 14 vessels of the Eastern Steamship Company, in what the boss press correctly describes as "the most thorough strike action of this year," on Friday, May 26.

Failing to get their demands for improvement in overtime and hours, and in wage increases of \$10 to \$15 for the deck, engine and stewards departments, the S.I.U., after a strike vote, ordered the 1,000 seamen from the company's vessels and left the ships motionless in ports from Portland, Maine, to Richmond, Virginia. The strike was called at the strategic time when the company's operations were nearing the peak of activity.

Blow at Class-Cooperation

The strike strengthens the organized power of militant, class-struggle unionism and deals a blow at the employer-cooperation unionism of the Curran-Bridges N.M.U. machine.

Realizing that the victory of the progressive S.I.U. on the East Coast would be the beginning of a great wave of organizing on the East Coast, the bankers, railroads, and other plutocrats, some of whom are financially interested in the Eastern S. S. Company, have begun a propaganda offensive to put the S.I.U. on the spot.

The front-page stories in all leading metropolitan dailies reflect their alarm at the appearance of union militants on the Atlantic waterfront affiliated to the same international as the Sailors Union of the Pacific. They have built up a picture of the S.U.P. "invading" the east coast, in order to raise a bogey man before the eyes of the public, the intelligent section of which however, cannot fail but to see the blatant hypocrisy of such propaganda.

What informed person is not aware of the long standing invasion of the shipowners into the living standards not only of east-coast seamen, but of all workers throughout the world? What of the United Fruit Company's "invasion" and domina-

tion of whole Central American countries? They are not opposed to "invading" when they do it. What they oppose is the S.U.P. helping the east coast seamen to invade the swollen profits of the plutocrats who dominate and control not only the Eastern Steamship Co. but the whole economic and political life of the country.

Brazen Attitude

The next act of the bosses and their press, performed with an air of injured innocence, is to say that they really, really, cannot afford to pay the increases demanded. The implication is that the seamen ought to be, you know, "more considerate." This is an utterly brazen attitude. Just how much consideration is the company showing when it lays the men off during the slow season? Perhaps the men can afford to take the wage losses?

Their last act however is guaranteed to bring the house down, especially if it should happen to be a seamen's audience. To live to see shipowners weeping about the "lack of democracy" in the S.I.U. is to have lived to some purpose. It might be suggested to the company-union-loving shipowners that, should they turn the millions of dollars they spend annually to smash unions through the employment of scabs, thugs, stool-pigeons, and other such democracy-lovers, toward increases in wages, installation of a four-watch system, and improvement of their filthy food menus for the seamen, their crocodile tears might, perhaps, begin to affect us.

The facts are: Two out of three departments voted strike, therefore, the deck and black-gang men were called out. The Eastern Steamship Company thereupon cooperated by firing the steward's dept. (Very considerate.) They are therefore, locked out.

What the shipowners are really afraid of is just that democracy that does exist in the S.I.U. They know that it is a guarantee that their stooges will not be able to bore from within for very long. They know that it means rank and file control of the union, which means that the seamen will fight for what the seamen think is worth fighting for, and not for what the shipowners might think they should not fight for.

It is that democracy which was a principal factor in making a small group of 6,000 seamen (S.U.P.) such a mighty force on the West Coast, ready and able to challenge the government itself. That is what the shipowners are really afraid of. And they better be, because the membership of the S.U.P. and the S.I.U. are determined to keep their union democratic, seamen's style.

The class-struggle unionism of the S.U.P. is now on the East Coast, with a great future before it. Having the assured cooperation of the longshoremen and the teamsters, the strike should be a success. The S.I.U. is demonstrating the kind of real unity that brings shop-owners to their knees.

WAR NOTE

WASHINGTON, D. C.—The U. S. Army is about to start the most feverish recruiting campaign since the World War. To line up the suckers—who will be first to get shot, bayoneted, blown apart, or gassed, "high-pressure salesmanship" will be used, says Major Gilbert, in charge.

Slow Response of Branches Is Peril to Twice-a-Week Appeal

First returns from the emergency call to branches for the payment of delinquent bundle order accounts to save the Twice-a-Week Appeal came in during the past week.

The results so far are coming in too slowly to ease the situation. As a matter of fact the crisis has deepened and unless the branches show more speed and action, we are soon coming to a blow-up. There are no two ways about it. Our reserve fund is exhausted. Either the branches must pay their bundle order bills—and pay them right now!—or we can't have the Twice-a-Week Appeal.

The following branches are setting the pace and the example:

Quakertown—sent in \$4.50 to pay their bill up to date.

Lynn, Mass.—Paid \$4.00—up to date.

Worcester, Mass.—Paid \$4.80—up to date.

Berkeley Yipsels—\$4.50—almost up to date.

Cleveland sent in \$10.00 on account and promises to clean up the back bill as quickly as possible.

Los Angeles is paying cash for each bundle, plus \$6.00 weekly on their delinquent bill.

From Newark, organizer George Breitman writes: "We decided last night to divert half the proceeds of a social affair scheduled for this coming Saturday evening as part payment on our Appeal bundle account, and to do the same thing in the near future, in the hope that by the end of next month, by the

time of the convention, we shall have liquidated our account. We are taking other steps to build up the circulation of the paper here; comrade Stanley will notice a rise in the amount of subs we are sending in this week; we shall continue to get renewal subs wherever possible; we are going to contact our entire party contact list personally within one month in an attempt to get more new subs; we are now going out onto the streets of the city, into the heart of the city, at least once a week. The Appeal noted that last Saturday we did good work in disposing of the Appeal at the city's busiest corners. This is a turn for the better in Newark, and it is only the beginning. The rest of the summer I am positive will see us increasing our bundle order for sure."

From Boston, literature director, John Taber writes: "Boston owes only for the last six issues. I just received the bill and will send comrade Stanley a money order to pay for it in full."

The following branches are the outstanding hold-outs who have thus far not responded to the emergency call: Philadelphia, Chicago, Toledo, Akron.

Get busy comrades! Bundle order accounts must be paid right now or the Twice-a-Week Appeal is going down. Branches which are back in their bills must find the ways and means to pay them by emergency action. Other branches must make special efforts to pay a few issues in advance to help us over this desperate emergency.