

F.D.R. GIVES WAR DEFY TO JAPAN

Who Is Coughlin, What Is His Program, How Did He Rise?

By JOSEPH HANSEN
INSTALLMENT V

Father Coughlin, Speculator and Stockholder

When Coughlin was supporting Roosevelt and the New Deal during the honeymoon first term, he pronounced a series of discourses over the air on the silver question. The burden of these speeches was, briefly, that to save the forgotten man, increase world trade, give everybody a job, and "thaw out money," it was necessary only to raise the price of silver.

"The restoration of silver to its proper value is of Christian concern. I send you a call for the mobilization of all Christianity against the god of gold." (Quoted in the Churchman, June, 1939.)

Eventually Roosevelt did raise the price of silver. And then Secretary of the Treasury, Morgenthau revealed in April 1934 that the largest holder of silver futures in the state of Michigan was one Amy Collins, secretary to Father Coughlin.

She held 500,000 ounces, costing 40 cents an ounce at the time of purchase, but purchased at 10 per cent margin, or \$20,000. Every time silver went up 1 cent it meant \$5,000 profit for the holder of the 500,000 ounces.

On an investment of \$20,000, Coughlin made 500 PER CENT PROFIT.

It was this revelation of his silver speculations which turned Coughlin so savagely against Secretary of the Treasury Morgenthau. Even the Bund since then curses Morgenthau regularly in its ritual. Not long afterward, Coughlin switched his support from President Roosevelt to William Lenke.

In 1935 the Detroit Free Press revealed in a series of articles that in 1929 and 1930 Father Coughlin had speculated in stock of the Kelsey-Hayes Wheel Co. and the Packard Motor Car Co., that in one transaction alone he paid as much as \$30,110.89 for Kelsey-Hayes stock and lost nearly \$14,000 in another venture. The Free Press also revealed that Coughlin manipulated three bank accounts, one in the name of C. E. Coughlin, one in the name of the Radio League of the Little Flower, and a third in the name of Ste. Therese of the Child Jesus Parish, and that he used these funds for speculative purposes.

Father Coughlin's interest in the stock of certain automobile companies sheds an intensely illuminating light on his early ventures into the labor field.

Father Coughlin, Labor Hater

Besides having his printing done in a non-union shop, Father Coughlin constructed his million dollar Shrine of the Little Flower by hiring an open-shop contractor who paid his men 25 to 40 per cent below trade union rates. In this way Coughlin showed what he means by a "living annual wage"!

As a result, the A.F. of L. at its 1934 convention at San Francisco unanimously adopted a resolution condemning Coughlin for his anti-labor policies.

Father Coughlin favors the company union:

"Had the motor manufacturers been in the least intelligent, they would have helped to organize a friendly and efficient union years ago." (Eight Lectures, p. 125.)

Father Coughlin is opposed to strikes (exactly the way Hitler and Mussolini are opposed to strikes!):

"The National Union for Social Justice contends that strikes and lockouts are absolutely unnecessary." (Sermon, December 2, 1934.)

In 1935 a semi-company union, the Automotive Industrial Workers of America, was organized. It was known as the "Coughlin union" because of the blessing Coughlin gave it.

It was organized in order to prevent the formation of a real fighting union which would gain better conditions, better wages, and shorter hours for the workers.

But the "Coughlin union" despite its blessing, decided to strike against the intolerable conditions in the Motor Products Co. and downed tools on November 15, 1935.

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OFFICIALS PUT W.P.A. SLASH INTO EFFECT

Postcard Campaign
Futile—Only Action
Will Bring Results

(Special to the Socialist Appeal)
WASHINGTON, June 22

—With an order to suspend all activity in connection with new W.P.A. public building projects, Colonel F. C. Harrington, W.P.A. administrator, has begun to put into effect the intensified drive of President Roosevelt and Congress against relief and the W.P.A.

The postcard campaign of certain organizations protesting the slash of relief appropriations has not had the slightest effect in stopping the drive of the New Deal Administration. If anything, it has emboldened and encouraged the attack. Roosevelt and his henchmen in Congress feeling that the postcard campaign will succeed in dissipating the anger of those affected by the cuts and prevent them from taking militant action.

Harrington's Order which was telegraphed to all State administrators on June 17 is as follows:

"In view of provisions of Section 12 of Appropriation Bill, as passed by the House today, until further notice no public building construction will be started which was not approved by the President prior to June 14."

The entire W.P.A. construction program was so drastically curtailed by the provisions of the last slash appropriation that it amounts to complete elimination of this phase of the former relief program. The bill as passed in the House fixes the cost of building activity by the W.P.A. to structures costing not more than \$40,000 if non-

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Peace and Democracy!



Practical Struggle Against War To Feature Party Convention

By car, train, freight and thumb, delegates to the great anti-war convention of the Socialist Workers Party are already heading into New York. The anti-war convention, to be held July 1 to 4, will be formally opened by a large public anti-war meeting in Irving Plaza

at which militant front line fighters in the struggle against war and fascism will speak. The business sessions of the convention will open at 10 A.M. on Friday, July 1 and will continue through Monday, July 4.

Interviewed by the Socialist Appeal, James P. Cannon declared, "The big trek for the anti-war convention is under way. Credentials have already come in from delegates as far apart as Seattle, Houston, Texas and San Francisco. There's really going to be a national representation and the convention will present a picture of a nationwide organization."

"The pre-convention discussion has been conducted on a free and democratic basis throughout the Party, in the internal bulletins, in the Socialist Appeal and at membership meetings. The discussion has revealed almost complete unanimity on all fundamental political questions."

Organization Convention
"The party is unanimous in its position on war and on virtually all other important political questions. The anti-war convention will devote itself primarily to the practical organization of the party's irremovable struggle against war, the question that dominates all others. From all indications, one is pretty safe in saying that it will be pre-eminently an organization convention. For the first time in our history the convention will be able to concentrate almost entirely on the practical questions of organiz-

ing Party work and planning its improvement and extension. The spirit of the party is confident and optimistic, as befits the only party that seriously conducts a struggle against war and fascism and aims to win."

Militant Urges I.L.G.W. to Form Labor Defense Guards

Harry Milton, Trade Unionist and Veteran
of Spanish Civil War, Proposes Action

NEW YORK.—Harry Milton, prominent and active member of Local 66, International Ladies Garment Workers Union, and a recently returned veteran of the Spanish Civil War in which he fought with the 29th (Lenin) Division of the Loyalist Army against the Fascists, has presented to the Executive Board of his Union, with a copy to International President David Dubinsky, a resolution urging immediate action on the building of a company of Anti-Fascist Union Guards in each and every local of the I.L.G.W.U.

Identical resolutions have been sent to other locals of the American Federation of Labor and the C.I.O.

There is a strong and growing sentiment among the members of the I.L.G.W.U. in favor of the building of such Anti-fascist Union Guards because

of the invasion of the needle trades area by Coughlin fascists selling Social Justice which spews its poisonous message of anti-unionism, religious intolerance and racial bigotry. They are particularly disturbed by the recent attempt of the fascists to break up the street meeting of the American Labor Party at which Michael Quill, president of the Transport Workers Union, spoke.

Among the hundreds of thousands of members of the I.L.G.W.U. in New York are thousands of ex-service men, hundreds of returned Spanish War Veterans and thousands of experienced veterans of scores of strikes and battles.

They are determined to exercise and preserve their democratic rights and above all their trade unions for themselves and for all anti-fascists and they are becoming more and more

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Powers in Tangle Over China Loot

Tientsin Blockade Continues—Anglo-Soviet
Negotiations Stymied as British Envoy to
Kremlin Makes Small Progress

An American admiral defies a Japanese ultimatum. Stiffly-worded American notes are delivered in Tokyo. Cordell Hull fills the press with statements about American "rights" and "interests" in China. At Singapore the French and British Far Eastern naval staffs meet and receive with joy these evidences that their friend Roosevelt is preparing to carry out his appointed task of chief constable for Wall Street in the Pacific.

PAINTERS ROUT STALINISTS IN PRIMARY POLLS

Progressives Expect
Election Victory After
Primary Sweep

Progressive forces in the Painters' Union are working at high gear in preparation for the coming district elections on Saturday, June 24th, at the Lexington Avenue and 26th Street armory.

Organized into the Inter-local Conference of Progressive Painters' Clubs of District Council No. 9, the Progressives have waged a courageous union fight for two years against the notorious Stalinist wrecking crew headed by the Thirteenth Street Commissar, L. Weinstock.

Two weeks ago the Progressives realized the fruits of their two years' battle for progressive unionism. They made a clean sweep in the Local primary elections and convinced the whole union movement that the New York painters had gotten wise to the Stalinist demagogues and were determined to be rid of them at all costs.

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All this is a prelude to a call to this country to intervene to save the hoarded swags of the British, French — and American — robbers from the Japanese hijackers. It is a fresh step toward what Roosevelt and Wall Street understand to be the inevitable clash between American and Japanese imperialism for domination of China and the entire Pacific area.

Yankee Role
For make no mistake about it: the British are being made the main targets of Japan's latest drive against its rivals in China but everyone understands that in the showdown it will take the premier role. It is Yankee imperialism that will do the fighting—not for "poor" China but for the right to displace the Japanese as oppressors-in-chief of the Chinese people. That is what the present crisis portends, even though the British are for the moment in the hot spot.

Confident that its axis partners, Germany and Italy, will keep Britain busily engaged in Europe, the Japanese are meanwhile continuing their systematic offensive against the entrenched strongholds of their rivals in the foreign concessions. The Tientsin blockade continues. Proud Britons, used to kicking the Chinese around like animals, are being made to eat some of their own dirt. It's a real atrocity story when you read that subjects of His Majesty are being made to stand in line with Chinese coolies! The only trouble with this is that they are being forced to do so by their Japanese rival gangsters and not by the aroused wrath of the Chinese people.

Simultaneously, the Japanese moved in on Swatow, one of the last two ports still not under their direct control on the South China coast. Japanese army and navy forces landed there Wednesday morning and soon took possession of the port.

At anchor there were the American destroyer Pillsbury and the British destroyer Thanet. The Japanese demanded their departure and it was this demand that Admiral Yarnell rebuffed. If necessary, he said in effect, the whole navy would be used to protect the 40 Americans in the city! And he proceeded to order additional warships to the scene.

This, of course, is the sort of stuff heroes are made of—in Tientsin the Japanese might make the British take their pants down, but Yarnell will keep old glory flying over Swatow! What he is actually doing, in effect, is to serve notice on the Japanese that they cannot

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Mass Meeting IRVING PLAZA Friday, June 30, 8 p. m.

Irving Place at 15th Street, N. Y. C. Admission 25c

Greet the Opening of the Anti-War Convention of the Socialist Workers Party!

Chairman: James P. Cannon; Reporter for the Political Committee: Max Shachtman; Speakers: V. R. Dunne of Minneapolis, Genora Johnson of Flint, Glen Trimble of San Francisco, George Clarke of Detroit, Reuben Plaskett of Newark, Nathan Gould, National Secretary Y.P.S.L.

Hear the Internationalist Position on War