

FOSTER ANSWERS DIES ON CONDITIONS OF AMERICAN NEGRO

The Press Suppressed Foster's Militant, Clear Answer to Some Vicious Questions by Mr. Dies' Chief Stoolpigeon

One of the outstanding features of William Z. Foster's slashing and effective attack on the Dies Committee, when he recently testified, was his crushing indictment of capitalist reaction for its ruthless oppression of the Negro people. This testimony was deliberately suppressed by the capitalist press.

When the subversive Mr. Dies shouted his lies about so-called "Communist" atrocities in the Soviet Union, Foster replied:

"Coming from your part of the country, Mr. Dies (Texas), I'd be very careful about accusations against the Communists, considering the way Negroes are treated in the South."

Again Dies asked sarcastically: "Do you think we have feudalism in this country?"

To which Foster replied: "Down in your part of the country it's pretty near that."

FOSTER ANSWER A STOOLPIGEON

This testimony of the noted Communist leader was printed only in the Daily Worker.

We print below other incisive comment of Foster on the rights of Negro people before the Dies Committee, also suppressed by the capitalist newspapers. It is reprinted from the Pittsburgh Courier, one of the largest Negro weeklies. J. B. Matthews who does the questioning here is one of the hired stoolpigeons of the war-mongers and red-baiters, long ago discredited and repudiated as a strikebreaker by the labor and progressive movement. Note the vicious and provocative character of Matthews' questions.

Matthews: This statement is entitled "C. I. Resolution on Negro Question in U.S.A.," and "C. I. stands for "Communist Internationale?"

Mr. Foster: Correct.

Mr. Matthews: Reading one paragraph from this resolution of the Communist Internationale — paragraph 4 it is numbered—we find:

"It is the duty of the Negro workers to organize through the mobilization of the broad masses of the Negro population the struggle of the agricultural laborers and tenant farmers against all forms of semi-feudal oppression.

"On the other hand, it is the duty of the Communist Party of the U. S. A. to mobilize and rally the broad masses of the white workers for active participation in this struggle."

Now, I ask you, Mr. Foster, if this resolution is not one which sets forth in some detail a program touching the Negro population of the United States.

Mr. Foster: Yes.

Mr. Matthews: To be carried out by the Communist Party in the United States; that is what it is, is it not?

Mr. Foster: That is correct.

Mr. Matthews: And was this program here, entitled "A Resolution," a program or resolution of the Communist Internationale, as stated in this title? Apart, now, from the process by which it was arrived at, it is so titled, is it not?

Mr. Foster: Yes.

Mr. Matthews: Why could not or did not the American Communist Party think up its own program and promulgate its own program among the Negroes in its own name? Why must the name of the Communist Internationale be brought in to give authenticity to this program?

Mr. Foster: The fact of the matter is that it was all developed by the American delegates and about all there is "Comintern" about it is the name on it. As far as an explanation of the thing, with regard to the referenc to the Comintern policy, the Comintern all over the world has a settled policy and in its general line advocates the freeing of oppressed nationalities. And I do not think you will find anywhere in the world a nationality so deeply oppressed as the Negroes in America. They are worse off than the Jews under Hitler.

DIES GETS AN ANSWER

Chairman Martin B. Dies, of Texas: Are they worse off than the people of Russia?

Mr. Foster: The people of Russia are doing very nicely, thank you—they are doing very nicely, thank you.

Mr. Matthews: Do you think the Negro population of the United States would like to move to Germany and live under Hitler?

Mr. Foster: Whether they would like to live under Hitler, I am not in position to say; but I certainly know they would like to abolish the jim crow system and the other outrages they are subjected to in the United States, and which is one of the blackest marks on the history of the American people. I know that much.

I say the Negroes in America are worse off than the Jews in Germany, bad off as they are.

Mr. Matthews: In other words, the Negroes in the United States would like to have the same privileges, opportunities and rights that the Jews now have in Germany.

Mr. Foster: You will have to ask the Negroes that, and you can draw such conclusion as you please from it.



WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

NMU Asks FDR Aid for Jobless Seamen

Note Warns of Layoffs Following Repeal of Embargo

(Continued from Page 1)

fore excluded from the protection of such social security legislation.

The memorandum points out, also, that the low wage scales prevalent in the industry make it almost impossible for seamen to save money to tide them over periods of unemployment.

Severance pay is the equivalent of three months wages and subsistence. Subsistence, according to CIO Maritime spokesmen, is usually figured at \$2.50 to \$3.00 a day.

The memorandum, made public by Bjorne Halling, executive secretary of the CIO Maritime committee, is as follows:

"Passage of the Neutrality bill will result in loss of employment by some 8,000 to 10,000 seamen. Congress has authorized the expenditure of millions of dollars for the rebuilding of the American Merchant Marine. The loss of this large number of trained men to the Merchant Marine will be a serious blow to that program.

"Without some provision for a

THE SOV

By Oakley Johnson

[EDITORIAL NOTE: Oakley Johnson, leader of the SOVIET RUSSIA TODAY GROUP in a tour of the Soviet Union the past summer, writes his first-hand impressions of Soviet strength and solidarity. This is his second article.]

When I left the Soviet Union on Aug. 12, after visiting twelve Soviet cities and covering well over three thousand miles from the Baltic to the Black Sea, I found myself, at the very moment when Europe hovered on the brink of war, passing through Poland and Germany, where the conflict was about to break, and arriving in Paris, where more war was being plotted. Naturally, under such conditions, the contrast between Sovietism and Imperialism became vividly sharp and clear. In the month and a half that I spent in Paris, observing the heavy-handed acts of the government and the bewildered, frightened appearance of newly-mobilized soldiers, I could not help recalling the beneficial functioning of the Soviet government and the courageous morale of its Red Army.

That the Soviet Union, which has struggled so persistently for world peace, has vast military strength is not doubted by any tourist who travelled there this summer. I saw thousands of soldiers, strong, active, well-nourished men, who sang spirited Soviet songs as they marched. I talked with Red Army men, asked them questions about the policies of Chamberlain and Hitler and about the anti-imperialist role of the Soviet Union in international affairs. I found that these Red Army men who could sing could also think: in fact that they were expected to think, for they studied the problems of their country, knew why they should fight, if they must fight, and—judging from their pride in socialist construction—had something to fight for. The camaraderie of officers and men, which functions for the Red Army man as a living proof of the democracy in which he lives, was observable in every Mos-