
Terrorism

by Robert M. Buck

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Unsigned article attributed to editor Robert M. Buck.

A reign of terror is being attempted in the United States. The federal administration is sowing the wind for which, of course, the Democratic Party will reap the whirlwind in the next election; but what happens to the Democratic Party is of small moment, the Republican Party is just as bad — no better and no worse.

The Wilson administration, other Democratic groups and leaders, Republican and Democratic Senators, candidates for President, big businessmen, and newspapers bribed with fat advertising contracts, or more directly, and even alleged labor papers of the “old party” type, all are engaged in an attempt to change and slough off settled policies of Americanism, and substitute for them toleration and even popular approval of tyranny. This is attempted by raids (legal and illegal), deportations, jail and penitentiary sentences, framed up evidence to support wild and silly charges, and other iron fisted measures against men and women — for what? For political offenses, things supposed to be uncomprehending in America.

The men who are instituting this reign of terror to frighten citizens so they will not hold or express political opinions that will endanger the grip of Big Business on industry and government, SAY they are doing it to prevent violent revolution in the United States.

That is not what they are trying to prevent. They are REALLY doing it to prevent peace-

ful change in the system which permits exploitation of 90 percent of the 110 million of our population by less than 1 percent of the population.

These men know, as well *The New Majority* knows, as well as the Labor Party knows, and as well as the American Labor Movement knows, that violent revolution does not threaten the United States. That it is as remote from probability as it is undesirable.

Why, then, are they proceeding with their attempted reign of terror?

Because they suspect that the American people are beginning to arouse themselves from their hundred years and more of chloroformed sleep and are beginning to realize that American principles and American institutions can be invoked to topple over — not the government — but the pirates who mismanage industry and government to make themselves fat and rich and to keep the large body of the American people poor and helpless.

What is Americanism?

We are taught in the primary schools that Americanism includes:

Popular Independence.
The Right to Life, Liberty, and the Pursuit of Happiness.
Free Speech, Free Press, and Free Assemblage.
The Right of Asylum.
Equal Opportunity.
Religious and Political Freedom.

Intolerance of Tyranny in Any Form.
Tolerance of the Rights, Principles, and Opinions
of Others.

These are the doctrines on which this nation was founded and it is obvious that, if really effective, they will permit a people to progress in its condition to keep pace with the growth of collective intelligence and initiative.

Skillful and sinister men have monkeyed with the rules of government and politics for the purpose of defeating these doctrines, so that the "Americanism" of Wall Street and its tools in Washington is not according to the foregoing formula. Their pseudo-Americanism is to juggle the forms of democracy to defeat control by the majority and enable the moneyed minority to use the powers of government to protect their misuse of property.

This pseudo-Americanism is the thing they want to substitute in the popular psychology for the sound, if theoretical, Americanism that has been enthroned in the hearts of Americans.

Not all of the men who are instigating this reign of terror have the well-conceived program outlined here. Many of them are little men who are thoroughly frightened, because they see a determination growing among the workers of the United States to deprive them of their opportunity to steal and so are thrashing around in panic, trying unintelligently to strike back and defeat in advance their dethronement.

But the more calculating heads behind this anti-"Red" drive have started to change the American folkways, which would prevent their "cleaning out" all political dissenters at the start and they have begun by an assault on that one of the doctrines of Americanism they think can be destroyed most easily, before beginning on the next — namely, the Right of Asylum.

Of the fundamental American doctrines, there is none more fundamental than this, because it was the need for an asylum to which to flee from political and religious persecution which brought

the settlers who made America to these shores. Ever since the American forefathers founded the colonies which later became these states, the proud boast of Americans was that any person abused in a foreign land could find asylum here where he would be protected from tyranny and persecution and where he would find political and religious freedom.

This doctrine has been kicked in the slats by the Wilson administration. The expression of its attempted destruction and obliteration from the American folkways, is the orgy of wholesale deportations that are now in progress — the driving from our shores formerly hospitable and now inhospitable — of men and women who failed to find Equal Opportunity in other lands and came to America under the impression that they could find it here.

One of the anomalies of the situation is that these very men and women who are now to be deported were brought here (most of them) at the instigation of the very lords of industry who now order them driven forth. They were brought here to furnish cheap labor in the mills and factories and to undermine standards of recompense for labor that American workers were struggling to build up.

It should be understood that the eager little bloodhounds of the Department of Justice do everything in their power to prevent those intended for deportation from having a chance for a fair fight to save themselves.

In the first place, they have no trial in the sense that English freedom understands the term. They are heard by a government bureaucrat, the charges being presented by other government bureaucrats, whose words have more weight with his associate than a host of witnesses for the other side. The hearing is not public. No court gets a chance, unless by writ of habeas corpus; the United States Secretary of Labor being the only one to whom an appeal can be made from the decision of the Commissioner of Immigration.

In the second place the eager little bloodhounds who ferret out and arrest these “foreigners” take advantage of their ignorance of the English language and any other unfortunate detail of their condition to put on the “third degree” and force damaging admissions from them that will expedite the process of deportation.

This is sufficient discussion of the deportation crusade as such. The thing these men are really doing, as stated, is to conduct a huge publicity campaign that will, first, frighten those who disagree with the mishandling of our government by the tools of Wall Street; and, second, to accustom the American mind to the drive against “foreigners” and “Reds” and at the same time build a blind and unreasoning prejudice against them, so that the American will relinquish the Right of Asylum from his formula of Americanism, thus tilling the soil for further drives against American freedom in the psychology of the nation.

In the end it will not succeed. The men who try it will meet the same fate as the men who tried to foist the Alien and Sedition Laws upon the

United States when John Adams was President. It succeeded only in politically destroying President Adams and sending into oblivion the Federalist Party, one of the two big political parties of the country at that time.

But in the meantime, pending the awakening of the people to what this “Red” drive means, how many victims are we going to sit idly by and see broken on the wheel? Where are the organizations of red-blooded men and women who should arise and bid the bloodthirsty terrorists to stop?

When are the labor unions and the clubs and associations of unintimidated and unpurchased folk going to realize that violent revolution is being attempted, but by Wall Street and the Wilson administration and the Republican Party? That these men are trying to change our form of national government, by wiping out (by violence — that is, unlawfully) guarantees contained in our constitution and, more fundamental and diabolical still, to change our national concepts of why we are here and what is our mission in the world?

Edited by Tim Davenport.

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