

# Mrs. Roosevelt's Second Thoughts on CPA Discussion

By ADAM LAPIN

It is rather unusual for a person of Mrs. Roosevelt's prominence to admit of inaccuracy in writing about the Communist movement; most of the time anything goes in newspaper articles and speeches on this subject.

Mrs. Roosevelt has, however, found it necessary to clarify her position on the discussion of policy now going on in the Communist Political Association.

In a column on June 9, Mrs. Roosevelt said that the "French Communist leader and the American Communists who encourage a policy of world revolution have done the peace of peace of the world harm." Apparently her information was based on the distorted stories in the New York World-Telegram in which her column is printed. And it seems she was not



too happy about the praise her column received from Westbrook Peg-baiters.

## READS RESOLUTION

Mrs. Roosevelt revised this judgment in a subsequent column which appeared June 22. Now she said that she had read the draft resolution of the CPA and found that "as a document, it is excellent."

But she insisted that it is impossible to trust the Communists, that she herself had experienced their "deception." She said that for years Communists "taught the philosophy of the lie."

It is a fact of some importance that Mrs. Roosevelt thinks the CPA resolution is "excellent." Here certainly is evidence, despite newspaper stories to the contrary, that the Communists are not repudiating united action with all those who want to work for lasting peace and full employment. Here is an indication that cooperation between the Communists and other groups is possible—because there are common immediate objectives.

But the difficulty raised by Mrs. Roosevelt cannot be glossed over because it is based on misinformation and prejudice which is so widespread. It is hard to say just what Mrs. Roosevelt has in mind when she discusses "deception." Presumably she means that some Communists do not disclose their identity or even deny they are Communists.

## ARE RESTRICTED

Now the Communists are, of course, not a secret or a conspiratorial group. But it is true that some Communists, who would like nothing better than to carry on activity publicly and openly, do find it necessary to keep their affiliation to themselves.

They find it necessary because of

family and job considerations. They find it necessary because American public life is still poisoned by the Dies type of anti-Communist prejudice, because the Communist movement does not yet enjoy full status as a legitimate political organization.

This is a problem which Communists themselves must help solve by fighting stubbornly for the recognition of their movement, by refusing to succumb to a semi-legal status. But if people like Mrs. Roosevelt are concerned about this problem, they cannot shrug off their own responsibilities.

For example, Mrs. Roosevelt is hardly being consistent when she demands that Communists function openly—and then says that Communists, while permitted to earn a living, should be subjected to certain discrimination and should be kept out of positions of leadership.

This particular problem cannot be viewed in isolation. Mrs. Roosevelt might consider the fact that tens of thousands of active Communists have made profound personal sacrifices. She might recall the thousands of young Communists who gave their lives to fight fascism in Spain. Was this part of the philosophy of the lie? She might pause on the record of thousands of Communists in the Army.

Or she might think about the nature of the discussion now going on in the Communist movement. Is there any effort here to deceive anyone? What other American organization would discuss its record and its mistakes so publicly and democratically?

Mrs. Roosevelt thought at first that the subject of discussion was a program of world revolution. She suggests now that she was mistaken—but does not indicate the actual scope of the discussion.

No one has even raised the question of whether Communists should cooperate with other groups to work

In all categories high and dry. The America of the postwar is finding the ways of demanding, not as the war, but far more. But we shall find that the potential technicians are not earlier schooling and that they are the impossibility of taking that much to pay for it; and finally by wiping disgraceful discrimination against Negroes and against women.

News C

## Storm Move

A tropical hurricane moved north-eastward in the ATLANTIC yesterday and the Weather Bureau said it may move inland at Cape Fear, N. C. Some 5,000 persons on Wrightsville Beach were evacuated to Wilmington, N. C., and housed in hotels and U. S. O. clubs as a precautionary move.

Two musicians who admitted they advised a brother horn-tooter to smoke marihuana and act a bit eccentric when he took his draft examination yesterday were ordered in Pittsburgh to be held for removal to Baltimore to face charges of conspiracy to evade the draft. James F. Barnes, 21, of Arlington, Va., and Fred G. Wilson, 20, of Washington, told a U. S. commissioner that they advised CHARLES R. RIEDEL, 18, of Baltimore, to try to dupe army doctors when he was called up for

the pressing needs of the American people. The problem is how the Communists can contribute most effectively toward achieving the aspirations of the people for peace and jobs.

## WHY SELF-CRITICISM?

If the Communists are now criticizing themselves, it is because they did not sufficiently hold up their end of the coalition. For example, we are not happy about the fact that we criticized Henry Wallace, instead of supporting him, when he warned of the dangers of cartels and monopolies.

Communists are today more than ever devoted to striving for an extension and deepening of American democracy. Even Mrs. Roosevelt is compelled to acknowledge this in her own way when she finds nothing in the draft resolution of the CPA to which she can take exception.

## GROPPERGRAM



The whine of the German shells is followed by the whine of the German generals.

If Gropper can use your original gas stams, care Daily Worker, 50 E. 13 St.