

the development of mass production. It points out that present-day wage workers carry out the whole function of production, from start to finish, that there are hired heads as well as hired hands. It shows how the rich owners of industry no longer do any useful work, that they have become parasites, drawing incomes without rendering any useful service. It points out that as all those factors become more and more pronounced, particularly through the growing hardships of war and economic depressions, the working class will take organized action to free industry, and itself, from the shackles which Capitalism, through its development, has produced.

Communism as a Movement

Now for a look at world reality. World War I brought Russia to the brink, where hunger and privation were too much for the masses. Rich landowners, as well as owners of industry, were forced out. The masses of workers and peasants took over the nation. They founded a government suitable to their needs, and they have functioned for themselves ever since. They have built a nation second to none, and there isn't a millionaire in all of Russia.

World War II brought privation to many sections of the world. The private owners of devastated industries did not have the means of putting them back into operation. The masses had no choice but to take over and start operating for themselves, in complete disregard of the old property rights.

New laws, and new methods of law enforcement, had to be worked out, all in harmony with the needs of the masses. It was a clear violation of the long established freedoms of the property owners, but it did not issue from the Soviet Union. It sprang from the needs of the masses in each country where it had been done.

Capitalist inability to feed the masses will be the native whip in each nation to spur the movement to its fruition. The working class will not, for long, be retarded in its forward movement by being accused of serving a foreign foe. It will hurl back at the Capitalists the truism that all the institutions, which are today respected and honored, were once branded as being of foreign origin.

The Christian Church, the public school system, the banks, universal suffrage, yes, even Capitalism itself, all grew and came into being in the different nations, and were branded by reactionaries as foreign movements, and foreign importations. Communism is the target today. But the need for Communism presses onward to its adoption, regardless of the outcries of its antagonists.

And, what will Communism mean for the workers? It will bring security and a much higher standard of living. It will abolish poverty, slums and most of the disease that arises therefrom. It will eliminate most crime, now generated by poverty. It will make wars unnecessary and impossible. In a word—Communism will bring about a classless, warless world of peace and plenty.

It is the aim of the Proletarian Party to make the workers aware of this possibility, and necessity, and to organize them, for the task of taking over the nation and running it for the welfare of the vast majority, instead of as it is now run for the benefit of the idle rich.

Those who are in agreement with this aim are invited to join our ranks—to become members of the Proletarian Party of America.

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Is Communism a Foreign Movement?

Among the many slanders which the spokesmen of American capitalism hurl at Communism is the charge that it is a foreign movement, something alien to American life. That Capitalism itself (despite its new Yankee name—"free enterprise") is of foreign origin, they seem to overlook.

The long propounded theory that all good things originate in America, that nothing of importance can come from the outside, has taken hold of the mass mind. The capitalist propagandists of the press, and publicity in general, are aware of this prejudice, and they take full advantage of it.

Now, apart from the falsity of the contention, or rather its half-truth, as many good things have originated in America, that line about Communism being exclusively a foreign movement is as much a distortion as to contend that Americans speak a foreign, a borrowed language. English certainly did not originate here, but it is not regarded as a foreign language.

It could be more truthfully contended that Christianity and many other movements are of foreign origin, and especially its Catholic form, directed from Rome. Therefore, they should be rejected on that score, without further consideration. The Labor Movement, now embracing many millions here, did not originate in America. The Masonic order, and others, were also imported. Practically all sports, with the notable exception of baseball, originated on foreign shores, not to mention many social and political institutions.

However, the idea which the anti-Communist propagandists are trying to put over is that Communism originated in Russia and that, as a world movement, it is now directed in all of its aspects from the Soviet Union, and, therefore, that it is no more than the agency of a foreign government. Let us look into this charge.

To deny that the Soviet government is not favorable to the growth of Communism throughout the world would be just as untrue as to contend that the U. S. government does not favor the strengthening of world Capitalism ("free enterprise"), but to assert that the Communist movement exists simply, or even primarily, to promote the interests of the Soviet Union is utterly false. It is a distortion aimed at taking advantage of prejudices.

Communism existed as a movement before there was any Soviet Union. It did not even commence with Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, a hundred years ago, although they transformed and imparted soundness, and gave direction to it, beginning about 1848. Its original roots sprang from the social-soil of France and Britain before it was promoted by workers of other countries, although Germans, such as Marx and Engels, were its ablest promoters. Russia, where it has been most successful, was late in taking to Communism. But now, Communism is a world movement. It has sprung up wherever Capitalism has grown. Its roots spring from the social-soil of every land, and that would have happened, sooner or later, if the Soviet Union had never existed.

A few short years ago, Fascism was considered the scourge of the world. America, and many other nations, were at war with Fascism. The Soviet Union, the British Empire and the great republic of America were allied in the conflict. It took "blood, sweat and tears" to finish the job, but it had to be done, we were told. There could be no compromise. Unconditional surrender of the Axis Powers was the only way to peace.

"Victory" was achieved. The Axis nations were subdued. The allied powers set out to build a new world on the ruins of the old. World federation and world cooperation were to substitute for strife and bloodshed. All "peace-loving nations" were to go forward in democratic harmony and prosperity. Unemployment and want, as well as war, were to be removed from human experience. Who could be opposed to such noble undertakings?

The nations that set out to achieve this millennium did not get far before new troubles developed. Somehow, workable plans were hard to find and harder to agree upon. The war devastated nations could not at once be given prosperity and full production. People within those nations could not agree on what to do. The victorious nations could not agree on plans for those that had been defeated. The two most powerful nations in the new alliance could find no basis for joint action. The U. S. A. and the U. S. S. R. drifted from disagreement to disagreement. The American public was given new directives, a new basis, upon which to build its opinion.

These new instructions have been running something like this: America has become a powerful nation, but with power also goes responsibility. So, America must watch over the just needs of other and weaker countries. America must see that no foreign rule, no totalitarian form of government, is imposed upon any nation against its will. These new precepts also give warning of dangers. The Soviet Union has turned into a real monster. The Soviet system of government is more dictatorial, more totalitarian than Fascism had ever been.

And, they continue, the Soviet Union is not satisfied just to oppress the people within its vast territory. It wants to extend its rule to occupied nations. And, that is not all. The agents of the Soviet "bureaucracy" are penetrating into American and British occupied territory, and even into the self-governing nations of Europe, Asia and America. Communism is spreading at an alarming pace, and it spreads at the command of Joseph Stalin, and the rest of the Soviet bureaucrats.

A new "war" had to be started on Communism. To begin with, it will just be a "cold war," one to be fought with dollars and goods, rather than bullets. But, bullets are not excluded. For Greece as well as China, military supplies have been issued and military advice furnished. For the western nations of Europe, now receiving Marshall Plan aid, there is talk of extending new "Lend-Lease" military equipment. And while they are doing their "good deeds" in the rest of the world, America is not forgotten.

Labor unions became too strong, according to the same source of information. A Taft-Hartley Law had to be passed to check this "menace" to American freedom, and more laws are under consideration to curb the Communist party and other left-wing groups that do not fully subscribe to the official pattern of American and world freedom.

The whole issue, the whole drive against Communism, is being conducted not only on the theory that it is bad, and undesirable, but also on the flimsy ground that it is a Soviet plot, that the Communists are foreign agents, serving as fifth-columnists for the Soviet Government. In short, if Communism should get the upper hand anywhere it would only mean that Joseph Stalin and his cohorts would have an additional piece of territory added to their domain.

Communism Grows From Capitalism

It is not to be wondered at that Communism is being fought. The few people who consider themselves the best usually have the best of everything. They, also, usually have abundance. They have

everything to sell, from automobiles to lubricants, from soap to liver pills.

Now, it so happens that those who have things for sale, also have a system of getting their merchandise produced. In production, they use hands, not their own, of course (and this is something we should pay attention to), but the hands of others. **Our** hands are put to the task. **We**, the workers, are hired to do the job.

Much flows from this arrangement. First of all, it provides a fine income for those who own the means of production. In most cases they pocket this income, without working. It gives them, not only abundance of goods but also much freedom. The right to stand upon one's own property, and draw a huge income without working, is one of America's most cherished freedoms. To most capitalists, if this freedom should be lost, it means the loss of everything. To the men of money, life would not be worth living if the cherished "six per cent" should disappear.

Therefore, it means that those who have things to sell, also, must "sell" their ideas. They must "sell" the masses on the contention that what is good for the few leading citizens is good for all. This requires a bit of cunning. They cannot just tell us, straight out, that the more we sweat, and the more profit **they** make, the better it is for the nation. Workers would question the logic of such statements. So they work up learned and eloquent statements about "our great nation"—"our great institutions"—"our hard-won freedoms"—"our democracy"—"our Constitution," etc. The implication being that in the "our" are included not only the idle rich but also the working poor. From then on, it becomes only logical that if all of us have so much which is great and wonderful, then all of us should stand shoulder to shoulder defending it.

Now, what is there that will work for the destruction of this "wonderful" arrangement? Its biggest foe is Communism. The theory of Communism lays bare that the profits of Capital come out of the labor of the workers. It goes into detail and shows that the present system, Capitalism, is developing the means of its own destruction. It shows how wealth, and particularly control over wealth production, concentrates into fewer and fewer hands. It shows how Capital over-expands, to the point where the products cannot be sold, where unemployment and want spring from overproduction. It shows how Capitalists and Capitalist nations expand their business into each other's territory, causing disputes and wars over markets, raw materials and places for investments.

The theory of Communism also goes into politics and shows how a particular economic system of wealth production and distribution surrounds itself with a political protector, the State, or government. It shows how early societies, built by the use of chattel slaves, had governments, carrying out the common affairs of the slave-owners. It shows how, later, feudal societies had governments giving protection to the exploitation of the serfs and peasants on the soil. It shows how Capitalist nations, with their boasted democracies, also have governments functioning for the common interest and protection of the Capitalists.

Thus, today, the property owners have legal protection, more elaborate and complete than the slave owners and feudal lords of former periods ever had, and this in spite of the contention that everybody participates in modern governments, and 80 per cent of those participating have no property whatever in the means of wealth production.

Finally, the theory of Communism draws from the observation of economic and political history the conclusion that the now developed working class has grown to its present numerical strength through