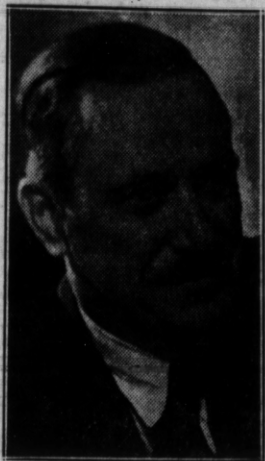


Text of Radio Interview With Browder in Denver

(Special to the Daily Worker)

DENVER, Colo., May 26.—While here on a series of Western speaking engagements, Earl Browder, General Secretary of the Communist Party, U. S. A., was interviewed over radio station KVOD on May 24. The following is the text of the interview, with questions by Harry Green and answers by Browder:



EARL BROWDER

Q.—What evidence can you offer, Mr. Browder, to support the claim of your Party that its program of socialism for the United States would solve the economic and social problems of our country?

A.—The best evidence in the world, facts, performance. There is a great country of 170,000,000 population which is organized on a socialist basis, the Soviet Union. Compare its accomplishments since 1928 with those of the rest of the world, including the United States. The Soviet Union has increased its national income by one thousand per cent, or more than ten times; the rest of the world went backward, the U. S. A. falling down to 40 per cent of 1928, and even after the recoveries effected by President Roosevelt's New Deal policies still remains 25 per cent or more below 1928. This progress of the land of socialism has raised what was the most backward country up to first place in Europe, and second only to the United States in the whole world. That would seem to

be solid evidence of the superiority of the socialist system of production and distribution of wealth over the capitalist system that has been performing very badly in the U. S. and throughout the world.

Q.—But isn't it true that this capitalistic U. S. A. is much richer and more developed economically than the Socialist Soviet Union?

A.—That is true, for the U. S. had 150 years' head-start, but in

the last ten years the Soviet Union caught up half of that, or the equivalent of 75 years of our growth. And if the two countries perform in the next ten years like they did in the last ten, then the Soviet Union will already have caught up with America and will be ready to forge ahead of us.

Q.—You seem rather pessimistic about the United States, and partisan to the system of another country. Do you think Americans can be won over to such views in any large numbers?

A.—No, I am not pessimistic about our country. The American people are certainly better equipped than the Russians in technique and material resources, and could make even more startling progress. Americans are also accustomed to be in the forefront of world progress, and will not be content to mark time or fall behind. Americans are committed to the capitalist system only because it produced results in the past; but when that system stubbornly fails to produce results in the present, and the rival system of socialism produces the greatest results ever seen in history, I am sure the practical mind of America will some day draw the inevitable conclusions. And Americans, who have given so much to the progress of the rest of the world, will never be content with anything but the very best for America, wherever it may first originate. Our progress in the

BROWDER ON SPEAKING TOUR OF FAR WESTERN CITIES

Earl Browder, general secretary of the Communist Party, U.S.A., is on a speaking tour which will take him to at least five cities of the far west.

On Tuesday he spoke at a mass meeting in Denver on "The Issues of 1940." A reactionary attempt to break up this meeting by throwing a stench bomb through a window failed. The audience remained calm and complete order prevailed. He also addressed 1,500 students of Boulder University in a debate with Ward Bannister, local Republican attorney, and was well received by the students. Wednesday evening he spoke here in a radio interview over Station KVOD. Text of this speech is published in adjoining columns.

He was to speak last night in San Francisco. Engagements to follow include Los Angeles, where he will arrive on Monday; Seattle, where he will arrive on June 2 and Spokane, arriving June 5.

He is accompanied by Jack Stachel, executive secretary of the Party.

past was built precisely in drawing upon the best thought and achievements of the whole world. We who have taught so much to the Russians will not be ashamed to also learn something from them. But I must admit that the great majority of Americans are not now ready for socialism, that they are trying to find a progressive and democratic solution to their problems under the present capitalist system.

Q.—It has been charged against your Party, Mr. Browder, that you hope for a collapse of our present system, and that your policies are therefore directed toward defeat-

ing any efforts to restore prosperity and economic recovery under the present system. Is that charge true?

A.—No, there is not the slightest truth in that charge. Any degree of economic recovery under the present system can only be accomplished by increasing the purchasing power of the people, which is the big potential market for American economy, and we are emphatic partisans and supporters of every measure to that end, of everything which will raise the living standards of the people and contribute to social and national security. That is why we have supported most of the poli-

cies of the New Deal, even though we have been highly critical of what we consider its weaknesses, hesitation, and inconsistencies. We know quite well that another great economic catastrophe, such as our country experienced as the result of the Harding-Coolidge-Hoover regimes, would very likely bring down upon us an American version of Hitlerism, rather than an American socialism. It is our opinion that the great majority of progressive and democratic Americans should, first of all, be united to guarantee our country against Hitlerism, rather than divide ourselves up into small groups fighting about differences of opinion about what the future of America is to be. We should work out our future democratically as we go along, solving our immediate problems as best we can.

Q.—You mention what you consider the weaknesses of the New Deal. Perhaps you will point out what you consider the most important such weaknesses, and their cause?

A.—I would single out two major weaknesses. First is the failure to fully give American leadership in organizing world peace, most sharply exhibited in American desertion of the Spanish Republic in violation of our treaty obligations, in violation of international law, and in violation of our own national interests. This weakness seems in the past months to be overcome to some extent. The second is in the program for the farmers, for agriculture, where the problems are not being overcome but grow more difficult. While it must be said that the New Deal has done much more for the

farmers than did the Harding, Coolidge and Hoover Administrations, yet all its farm measures had one fundamental defect—that they were merely improved versions of the same policies that were inaugurated by the Republicans. Hoover, when President, made the first proposals to "plow under every third row" as a measure of crop control, and McNary, Republican Senate leader, is the father in Congress of export subsidies. The New Deal refined and improved the crude Republican measures and proposals, and eliminated some of their worst features. But it did not depart from their basic principles, and despite many promising experiments in a small way, failed to work out its own independent policy for the farmers.

Q.—Perhaps you will explain what you consider the central failing of the farm measures of both Republicans and Democrats, and what new principle must be introduced to remedy this?

A.—All the former farm measures passed their greatest benefits to the minority of well-to-do farmers, who needed help the least, reached the middle-strata of farmers only with the crumbs and leavings, and actually helped to drive off the land a large part of the share-croppers and poor tenants. What is first of all required for agriculture is to build up the lower-income farm groups, not the higher-income groups. The lower-income farmers, which include the great majority of individual family farms operated without hired labor, must be provided with a market for their maximum production at prices which cover their costs of production, including an American standard of living for their families. Anything less than this is undermining and destroying American agriculture, one of the key points in national economy as well as of our democratic traditions.

Q.—Do you think it is possible to restore full economic activity when capital is immobilized by lack of confidence in government, caused by government's departure from traditional policies and methods?

A.—This question of "lack of confidence" needs much deeper examination. Apparently big capital, which refuses to invest until it gets Herbert Hoover or a like-minded candidate back in the White House, is not moved by

considerations of profit despite all its talk in that direction. This is proved by the fact that under Hoover, in whom capital has complete confidence, profits suffered a catastrophic collapse, whereas under Roosevelt, in whom capital declares lack of confidence, capital gained tremendous restoration of its profits. In the light of these facts, which are unquestioned, the fold-arms of big capital in the field of investment looks very much like a sit-down strike for political purposes. I wonder what the representatives of this same big capital would say if labor should declare "lack of confidence" in a government which was satisfactory to big capital and proceeded to tie up the national economy and hold it back until a different government, more satisfactory to labor, were established. Is there any doubt that they would cry out about "sedition," "treason," and even "red plots to overthrow our American institutions"? Big capital is treading on very dangerous grounds when it proclaims lack of confidence in the government just because it doesn't like the New Deal policies or Roosevelt's smile.

Q.—Perhaps you can tell us, Mr. Browder, in conclusion of our discussion, when does the Communist Party expect to elect a President and majority of Congress?

A.—Well, certainly not in 1940, and I'm afraid the majority of American people must accumulate a lot more experience before they will be ready to turn to the Communists. In 1940, it is clear, the Presidential election will turn around the issue of whether to continue and develop the New Deal policies, or whether to go back to Hooverism. There is no doubt in my mind that the great majority of the voters want a continued and improved New Deal, and wish nothing more of Hoover. The only question that is not yet clear, is whether this majority will be able to organize its forces and find the united and bold leadership that is necessary to carry it to victory at the polls. That question is the key to present-day political life in our country. We of the Communist Party, because we want above all to see an effective democracy in our country, will guide all our thought, speech and action toward assisting in the unification of the majority of the people and registering its will decisively at the polls in November, 1940.

Navy Starts Salvage Of Sunken Submarine

Miss Miller Sets \$1,160 as Lowest Figure Which Can Support Decent Standard for Working Girls of New York

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age the Squalus as little as possible. The first step toward actual salvage was the descent near midday of a diver to attach a permanent descending line to the Squalus. The line was to be used by divers whose first task was to clear the deck of various fixtures such as antennae that might hamper subsequent work. All naval attaches who were willing to comment at all insisted that any adequate explanation of the disaster would have to wait until experts had examined the submarine at the surface.

Squalus dived. Greenlee said the valve could not have remained open when the signal on the control board indicated it was closed unless electrical trouble caused a wrong signal. Machinist's Mate Alfred G. Prien, who was at the control board when the Squalus plunged, had declared that "I was still looking at the board and could see that all the lights were on and this meant to me that all the valves were closed." Capt. William Amsten, acting commandant of the Navy Yard, disclosed that he had given strict orders to the survivors not to discuss the situation with anyone. The

Amter Dinner Tonight Will Open Campaign

Foster to Speak at Big Testimonial Dinner for C. P. Candidate

The first Manhattan step in the vigorous campaign which has as an ultimate aim the defeat of reaction in the 1940 elections take place tonight, when the drive to elect Israel Amter, New York State chairman of the Communist Party, to the City Council this November, is officially launched. Occasion will be a testimonial dinner to Amter at the Hotel Center, 108 West 43rd St. As fitting the importance of the event, the New York County Committee has contracted for the greatest amount of radio time ever taken by the Communist Party for a

'Lick the Slump,' Slogan Of Right to Work Parley

Alliance Leader Declares WPA Slash Drive Is Aimed Only at Sabotage of New Deal; Preliminary Conference Begins

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directing recreation and similar summer activities. Levrer said, his union learned the following projects are to be scrapped: teaching of homebound children; cumulative pupil records; swimming pools for crippled children; remedial program in vocational high schools; city planning; youth service; forums; neighborhood teachers, and vocational guidance. In addition, he added, drastic reductions are planned on the recreation program, adult education, workers education, teaching of lip

operate for greater efficiency on the projects, but that Edwards methods make such cooperation impossible. "Mr. Paul Edwards may not be a deliberate agent of the Woodrum Committee, but his conduct has indicated that he is arrogant, completely incapable of enlisting the support of his workers, and irresponsible because he has evaded the demands of the workers," Benjamin said. Rep. Burton Woodrum heads the House committee investigating WPA. Mention of Edwards' name evoked loud boos at the meeting. The meeting decided to give full back-