

Foster Tells How Pact Is Aid to Peace

Communist Party Chairman in Chicago Reveals Full Effect of Non-Aggression Pact; Sees Fascist Axis Weakened; Confirms USSR Peace Policy

(Special to the Sunday Worker)

CHICAGO, Aug. 28.—Peace has been advanced and the fascist axis weakened by the Soviet-German non-aggression pact, William Z. Foster, national chairman of the Communist Party, declared yesterday in an exclusive interview with the Daily Record.

Foster, who had been vacationing, arrived here Saturday aboard a Lake steamer.

He will also cooperate in preparations for the Party National Committee meeting and the big mass meeting at

the Stadium Friday night, at which he and other leaders of the Communist Party will speak in celebration of the 20th anniversary of that party here.

"The English and French imperialists," said Foster, "have been following a line of strengthening reaction by surrendering the smaller and weaker nations to the fascist aggressors—Germany, Italy and Japan. Along with this, they have sought above all to sacrifice the Soviet Union to the fascists.

"Hitler agreed with Chamberlain and Daladier, except on one point. The strategy of seizing the

smaller nations agreed with his, but the appeasers could not sell Hitler the idea of deflecting the attack upon the Soviet Union, because he knew that the Soviet Union was too powerful and would defend its borders.

WARNED APPEASERS

"Stalin had repeatedly warned the appeasers that the Soviet Union will not pull their chestnuts out of the fire."

"But how does this pact affect the Soviet peace policy?" Foster was asked.

"The Soviet Union has a genuine peace policy and continues to have that policy—to unite the democratic peoples against the war-making aggressors," he responded. "This is not hindered but advanced by this pact."

To emphasize this point, he continued: "The Soviet Union has so earnestly followed this policy of uniting the democratic peoples for peace, that even after Munich—when the appeasers had unmasked their treacherous policy in betraying Czechoslovakia—the Soviet Union offered the British and French governments a mutual peace pact. This was not done through any reliance on Chamberlain and Daladier, but in the hope that the masses in France and England would bring sufficient pressure to change completely the policy of the appeasers."

"But," he asked, "what did the appeasers do? They only made weak gestures at negotiating for this pact, just enough to seem to give in to the demands of the French and British people and thus confuse them. The appeasers' main objective was still to direct the fascist attack against the Soviet Union.

"Among the many proofs of this, I cite two: 1. The sending of this underling Mr. William Strang to Moscow,

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WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

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which showed the world that the Munichmen did not mean business; 2. The refusal to guarantee the Baltic states against the fascist governments.

"They tried to create a situation whereby the door would be open to squeeze Hitler up through the Baltic states against the Soviet Union. It is now well known that under-cover negotiations were carried on with Hitler toward this end."

"Even in the unlikely event of war," Foster went on, "Chamberlain and Daladier will continue their 'appeasement' policy, and will be prepared to make a settlement and to steer the war against the Soviet Union."

SHOWS WAY

"The Soviet Union could not go along with this policy," continued Foster, "the policy of building up the war menace—the policy which would deflect the attack toward the Soviet Union. It has now shown that the only way for the British and French people to win a genuine peace policy is for them to get rid of Chamberlain and Daladier and to establish real cooperation with the Soviet Union."

As to the pact itself, Foster said: "This pact has only put in words what the Soviet Union had forced in fact by its own power. Hitler has been compelled to say on paper what he had already been made to say in fact. Repeatedly the Communist International had pointed out that the immediate war aims of the axis were in reality being directed against other countries than the Soviet Union, because the latter was too powerful to attack."

"The major achievement for peace in this pact is the weakening of the axis," Foster stated, in answer to that question. "Among other factors, the Japanese government already underscores this fact by the panic into which it has been thrown."

"What about the British labor leaders?" he was asked.

"The conservative British labor leaders have always reflected the attitude of their imperialist masters.

"For years, like the British government, they carried on a propaganda war against the Soviet Union. They refused to admit the Soviet trade unions into the Amsterdam International. Only when Chamberlain wanted to make a gesture at seeking a pact with the USSR did they also make a weak gesture at admitting the Soviet trade unions. If they had really wanted to admit them, they could have done it."

"Did you note that the Chicago Tribune, voice of the fascists here, attacked the Communist Party Sunday and recommended Leon Trotsky to radicals and liberals?"

"This is very significant," answered Foster, "and shows the true role of the Trotskyites as agents of fascism. The Communist Party is standing firm and the turn of events will soon show fully that it is right in this stand. The Communist Party stood practically alone in condemning Munich. All over the world many liberals joined with reactionaries in praising Munich and condemning the Communists then as 'war-mongers.' Now the stench of Munich is in the nostrils of all the world. The liberals will shortly be shame-faced about their vacillation on this latest

event and will begin to pull in their horns.

"This move of the Soviet Union will be seen to be one of the most fundamental and effective moves made in defense of world democracy, world peace and Socialism in the Soviet Union."

"American isolationists," Foster said, finally, "can draw no comfort from the world situation. The only road to peace is by cooperation of the democratic peoples of the world. But this does not mean cooperation on the basis of the appeasement policy of Chamberlain and Daladier. It does mean cooperation on the basis of a real people's policy of stopping aggression and the aggressors."

Bulletins

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direct German-Polish "settlement" after which there would be a five-power conference.

Gayda said that peace appeals to Mussolini must "not ignore the appeals he himself has made so many times—appeals which have formed the basis of his constructive policy." ["Constructive," in Mussolini's language, means "fascist."]

Italy meanwhile continued quiet war preparations.

The official Gazette published a decree banning civil airplanes as well as military craft from flying over Italy, Italian East Africa and the Italian islands in the Aegean. Only exceptions to the ban were commercial planes flying over regular commercial air lanes. Planes used for instruction by the Royal National Air Union and test flights by airplane manufacturing companies.

(By United Press)

Great Britain prepared today to mobilize billions of dollars abroad for the purchase of war materials by banning the sale of British owned foreign securities.

The move aided New York stocks and they closed irregular after an early drop of as much as \$4 a share. Many leaders closed on gains ranging to more than a dollar a share.

British foreign security holdings are estimated around \$5,000,000,000, including \$1,000,000,000 of American origin.

Hitler Puts Germans On Iron Rations

Crowds Jam 5-and-10c
Store in Last Minute
Rush for Goods

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—one and a half pounds per week; Sugar—one fourth pound per week; marmalade—one fourth pound per week; grits or similar cereals—one-third pound per week; coffee or coffee substitute—.14 pound per week. Milk—.26 quart per day; cheese, oil or fat—.13 pound per day; Children under six years may by special permit obtain an additional pint of milk a day;

Expectant and nursing mothers may obtain a special permit for one-third quart more milk a day; toilers may obtain an additional one-third pound of fat per day and one extra pound of meat per week. floor soap is limited to .28 pound per four weeks.

None of these materials may be