

STOP NIXON!

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

THE OCCUPANCY of the office of vice-president by the reactionary Richard Nixon, a standing menace under any conditions has suddenly become a real threat to American democracy through the severe illness of President Eisenhower. This is because Nixon and his friends are now trying to edge him into the White House, either by taking over Eisenhower's job now, or by laying the ground-work for his getting it in the elections of 1956.



One of the most dangerous aspects of the situation lies in the fact that President Eisenhower himself has taken Nixon under his wing, has been systematically cultivating his prestige, and was apparently carefully grooming him to take over as his successor.

For the sinister Nixon to become President of the United States could be a real disaster to the American people, and the united democratic forces of this country should leave no stone unturned to prevent it.

Vice-President Nixon is of the extreme right in American political life. He belongs to the general camp which contains the most virulent anti-laborites, Negro-haters, red-baiters, anti-Semites, warmongers, and fascists. Save for tactical differences, his political line does not depart greatly from that of Senator McCarthy.

Nixon has especially distinguished himself in the ranks of the cultivators of anti-red hysteria, one of his big achievements being the Alger Hiss frame-up. He is an outstanding figure in the attack upon the Bill of Rights, two of the most noteworthy results of which were the barbaric execution of the Rosenbergs and the wholesale kangarooing of Communist leaders to jail.

Nixon enjoys the support of the worst enemies of labor, the diehard proponents of the "right-to-work" laws and the Taft-Hartley Act.

He stood in the front ranks of the "War Now" crowd, seeking to block the cease-fire agreements in Korea and Indo-China and striving to transform these conflicts into a great Asian atomic war.

At present, characteristically, he is a leader in the move to "put the brakes" on the people's peace hopes after Geneva.

The issue, of course, far transcends merely the accession of this or that individual to the presidency. Behind Nixon stand the most reactionary and politically dangerous forces in this country. Nixon was originally given the nomination for vice-president on the Republican ticket in order to appease these ultra-reactionaries. Now the question is whether, by the contemplated elevation of Nixon to the presidency, the most reac-

tionary political forces in this country shall be strengthened by allowing them to grab hold of the very powerful instrument of the presidency itself. Nixon is the darling not only of the more outspoken professionally pro-fascist elements in this country but also of powerful sections of monopoly capital.

Skillfully the supporters of Nixon are now maneuvering to get him into the White House by hook and crook. Of course, in the event of the death of the President, the presidency would devolve automatically upon Nixon. But the latter's supporters are not depending solely upon this uncertain prospect. They are trying to move Nixon towards the biggest job in the nation by urging, through the press and otherwise, either the resignation of the President or the delegation of his presidential powers to the ambitious vice-president. As their long-run policy, are they are trying to get things so organized that either they will induce the sick President Eisenhower to run for a second term, with the prospect of his later giving over his position to the Vice-President, or to fix things up so that Nixon will be able to run away with the Republican nomination for President next year, very possibly with the help and blessing of Eisenhower.

ORGANIZED LABOR, the Negro people, the working farmers, and other democratic forces in this country cannot ignore these dangerous maneuverings upon the part of Nixon and his powerful and reactionary backers. Involved in the situation is everything that the masses are fighting for to advance the cause of peace and democracy.

Consequently, it is of the greatest importance that they take up the cudgels militantly against Nixon's attempt to catapult himself to the head of the American government. The workers and their allies should let it be known in the most categorical manner that they will not stand for Nixon and his program of ultra-reaction. They should take the most active steps against all attempts to make Nixon President, either through the resignation of President Eisenhower or the delegation of his Presidential powers. And they should let it be known to the powers-that-be in the Republican Party that if they dare to place this sinister figure at the head of their national ticket for November, 1956 they will be inviting a first class political disaster.

THE PRESENT is one of those critical moments in the national life when the labor movement and its political allies are called upon to give real leadership to the people as a whole. Great issues are at stake, and the democratic voice of the people must be heard decisively. Prior to the President's heart attack, the workers and other democratic forces were developing a strong line of opposition to the Eisenhower Administration, mostly upon domestic issues. The coming to the fore of Nixon imperatively requires that this opposition be sharply stepped up, in the fields of both domestic and foreign policy. In Nixon the workers and other democratic forces in this country face a representative of their most malignant political enemies and they should act accordingly, by defeating him and everything he stands for.

Senate Hearings On Religious Freedom Put Off

WASHINGTON, Oct. 2.—Postponement of hearings on the religious freedom clause of the First