

James Ford Answers Padmore's Charges

By JAMES W. FORD

NEW YORK, July 31.—Charges that George Padmore, recently expelled from the Communist party, has by his action placed himself in the ranks of the enemies of the Negro liberation struggle, are contained in a statement made public this week by James W. Ford, outstanding Communist leader.

Ford's statement comes in answer to an "Open Letter" which Padmore recently sent to the Negro press. The statement reviews the reasons for Padmore's expulsion, and accuses him of placing intellectual weapons "in the hands of hundreds of avowed enemies of the Negro people."

Ford was himself the chief founder of the International Trade Union Committee of Negro Workers. He is a member of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, and was candidate for vice-president on the Communist ticket in the 1932 elections. He is now Harlem organizer of the Party.

The Amsterdam News has already given prominent space to the lies and slanders sent out by Padmore, burying in a small space

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at the very end a statement made by Cyril Briggs, a leading Negro Communist.

The statement of Ford follows in full:

George Padmore, who has been expelled from the Communist Party, has sent broadcast a statement which is a bitter attack against our Party and upon its program. This letter Mr. Padmore has placed in the hands of hundreds of avowed enemies of the Party and the Negro people.

Aid to the Enemy

The Communist Party is not surprised at the accusations of Mr. Padmore. We expect calumny and slander from our enemies; it is one of the gauges of the effectiveness of our work. We answer Mr. Padmore's statements, because we know that his attack will be seized on by every enemy of the liberation struggle, will be received with the greatest joy by the white lynchers, the Klansmen, the whole white ruling class, and will be used by them to try to drive the Negro masses away from the Communist Party. What better weapon can the white ruling-class ask, than such a document as this from the hands of Mr. Padmore, slandering and vilifying the organization which they hate and fear because it stands fearlessly for the freedom of the Negro people?

So that the Negro people and the white working-class may know the truth, we repeat once more the reasons for the expulsion of George Padmore from the Communist Party:

1) Padmore was on intimate terms with well-known spies and police agents—within the ranks of the Party and other working-class organizations. Although repeatedly informed of the fact that these associates of his were spies against the workers, he nevertheless refused to break with them.

Helped Imperialism in Liberia

2) Padmore's political views and activities around the question of Liberia were in a direction calculated to further enslave and degrade the already downtrodden Negroes of that country. Instead of being the "last stronghold of Negro freedom," as Mr. Padmore says, Liberia is in actual fact a vassal state of American imperialism. In this rape of Liberia, Harvey Firestone and other American capitalists have found their best allies and servants in the Liberian government officials. The government of Liberia, puppet of Wall Street has been nothing more or less than local policeman, slave-driver, land thief and recruiter of forced labor for American imperialism. Yet Mr. Padmore has taken active part in the so-called American-Liberian Plan of Cooperation, which would give support to this very government, this agent of Wall Street. Mr. Padmore has rejected completely the Communist policy, that Liberia and its native people must be freed in the process of bitter struggle against those native forces which support foreign imperialism and against imperialism.

Rejects Unity of Workers

3) Mr. Padmore has likewise rejected one of the most fundamental principles of Communism—that the white working-class and the oppressed colonial peoples and nations are natural allies in the struggle against the common oppressor, the ruling-class. He claims that white and black can never understand one another. Thus he follows the policy of the ruling-class, to whom the fear of unity between white slave and black slave is one perpetual nightmare. Mr. Padmore accepts, in effect, the idea of the white ruling-class that between black and white there is an inherent and lasting antagonism.

In order to conceal his own desertion, his own treachery, Mr. Padmore charges the Communist Party and the Communist International with desertion of the Negro liberation struggle and treachery to the Negro people. It is possible that the Communist Party can desert the struggle for

of 6,000 share-croppers in the Black Belt and scores of others. Because we work in complete harmony with our white co-workers, with whom we share the leadership of our Party, Mr. Padmore concludes that we are sycophants and Uncle Toms. But who is the Uncle Tom? It is precisely George Padmore, now serving the agents of American slave-rule in Liberia, now placing weapons

the British Foreign Office." Such is Mr. Padmore's egotism, such is his self-glorification, that he believes himself to be the committee! He is removed, therefore the committee is abolished! What is the truth? This committee was founded by militant Negro workers from all countries, and I myself took active part in its work from the beginning. It has never been abolished: on the contrary, it is hard at work today, and its organ, the Negro Worker, is being published as before. What is true is that George Padmore was removed from this committee because he no longer carried out the policy which the committee had set itself. Instead of a line of uncompromising struggle with all imperialism, with all forces that grind down the Negro masses, he passed over to a policy of compromise with imperialism and its agents.



JAMES W. FORD

against the Party in the hands of Klansmen and lynchers!

How low Mr. Padmore has fallen, is shown when he makes in his "Open Letter" the vile threat to bring legal action against Comrade Huiswoud, another Negro Communist, for having written an article against him. He, who once had pretensions to be a Communist, would go into the courts of the white rulers; he would ask that they vindicate him; he would bring his case into the tribunals of the oppressors; he would run whining to the slave-drivers and ask that they be the "impartial arbiters" of this dispute! Can submission to the ruling class go further than this?

Padmore Distorts Facts

Mr. Padmore distorts facts in the most shameful manner. He says that the Communist International abolished the International Trade Union Committee of Negro Workers, "in order not to offend

Negro liberation, as Mr. Padmore charges? The fact is that the Communist Party can grow and conquer—and every true Communist knows this—only if it gives the most complete support to the liberation of the Negroes, for full equality, is of the very texture and fabric of our Communist program. The cause of the emancipation of the Negroes from their special oppression, is inextricably bound up with the cause of the emancipation of the working-class. With Stalin, we say: "For the revolution in the western world, the path to victory lies by way of a revolutionary alliance with the struggle of the colonial and dependent nationalities to throw off the yoke of imperialism."

Who Is the Uncle Tom?

Mr. Padmore charges that I and other leading Negro Communists are Uncle Toms. Mr. Padmore simply cannot conceive of an organization in which, in contradiction to every accepted rule of capitalist society, Negroes and whites are on a plane of complete equality. The Communist Party is indeed proud of such leaders as Harry Haywood, William L. Patterson, Otto Huiswoud, Nzula of South Africa, Angelo Herndon, Al Murphy, who is the leader



WHAT TO EXPECT IN THE NEXT WAR

HEALTH COLUMN

By DR. REUBEN S. YOUNG

Answers and Questions

Mr. Samuel Johnson, New York City

1) What is the value of mouth washes, sprays, etc., in preventing diseases of the mouth, nose and throat? 2) Does swimming have any harmful effect on diseased sinus?

ANSWERS

Question 1.



Antiseptic mouth washes such as permanganate of potash, potassium chlorate, etc., have the effect of lessening the activity of the superficial germs and in killing some of them, but as most of the germs are to be found embedded in the tissues, hence in many cases the effect is not good. Combined with hot water the effect is, however, increased not so much by the drug used, but by the action of the heat which attracts more blood to the area made hot, thus with an increased amount of blood, there is also an increased activity of the white blood cells of the blood whose function is to destroy invading germs and organism (phagocytic action); the destruction of the germs in the deeper tissues is carried on by the white cells while the superficial germs are killed by the antiseptic.

Nasal douches and sprays used indiscriminately are apt to be injurious rather than beneficial in that they tend to force infection into the ears and sinuses. They should not be used more than is prescribed by the physician that is two or three times a day.

2. On Swimming.

Some authorities believe that swimming should be avoided, especially during the acute stages of sinusitis. Sea water and the disinfecting chlorine in swimming pools tend in some cases to further irritation of the inflamed mucous membrane of the sinuses. Diving should be strictly avoided as the pressure of the water may force some of the infectious matter in the tube leading to the ear, thus causing a middle ear disease known as "Otitis Media."

George Padmore has now chosen.

The Negro Tilters Will Judge

Mr. Padmore says that the Negroes of the world will be his judges. That is true. The Communist Party is willing to trust the judgement of the Negro toilers. We know what this judgement will be, for in increasing numbers, the world over, the oppressed Negro masses are joining the ranks of the Communist Parties, and putting their hope of freedom in its leadership and its program. The thin voice of a handful of misleaders, white and black, piping lies and slanders against the Communist Party, will be drowned out in the order of the march of the Negro masses and oppressed peoples, of the working-class of all races, towards the final goal of freedom.

Communist Party Needs No Defense

The Communist Party needs no defense as the champion of the oppressed Negro people. Its deeds speak for it. The very hatred of our enemies, the vilification we receive from the white imperialists, the lynchers, the Klansmen—this is the finest criterion of the effectiveness of our work. The lynch-rulers see in us their worst enemies; we ask for not better recognition.

It is no accident that it is precisely at this time that Mr. Padmore, along with a number of other white and Negro misleaders, frankly deserts the program of full equality by struggle, and for the revolutionary overthrow of imperialism. The struggle grows sharper; the masses grow more determined and the oppressors more desperate; the fight draws closer to its climax, and the combatants now range themselves, decisively and unmistakably, on one side or on the other. Either they take uncompromising struggle for their path and complete equality for their goal, or they align themselves on the side of the oppressors and go down the shameful path of compromise and betrayal. This path of compromise and betrayal