

Foster Calls for Return to Party

Woolley Shielded Big Violators, Says Ross

Sensational charges that Regional OPA Director Daniel P. Woolley had attempted to block prosecution of large-scale price and rationing violators and had fought national OPA policy was made yesterday by Paul L. Ross, suspended OPA regional enforcement officer.

Ross was suspended by Woolley over a month ago pending a hearing on formal charges. Following his suspension, Ross said he would prove that it was Woolley who should be dismissed.

In his charges yesterday Ross maintained that Woolley had:

1) Prohibited the filing of suits for price overcharges against the Dairymen's League, monopoly-controlled milk "cooperative" which attempted to smash the milk price ceiling structure. Despite approval of the suit by Thomas I. Emerson, then national enforcement chief, Woolley told Ross he would fire him if he filed the suit. Only after the Senate Agricultural Committee had begun to investigate the situation did Woolley allow Ross to file.

2) Forced a settlement for \$27,474 in damages by the Continental Food Co. (subsidiary of Lipton's Tea Co.) on the basis of the company's offer and over the heads of Ross and the national enforcement deputy administrator, who had insisted upon a minimum settlement of \$50,000. Ross charged that an officer of the company was a personal friend of Woolley's and had recommended his appointment.

3) Interested himself in certain pending cases against leading baking companies and insisted that the cases be discontinued. Ross had to get Washington to suspend Woolley's directive.

4) Had directed the Rationing Division to issue a ration point loan to Dinty Moore's restaurant in New York after it had overdrawn 130,000 points. Woolley countermanded an order to suspend the restaurant as long as the ration account was overdrawn.

5) Had sought Ross' and Washington's agreement to vacate a ration suspension order against a Washington restaurant that had been suspended for the duration because of black market operations.

6) Had prohibited Ross from circulating in the region a comprehensive statement from OPA Director Chester Bowles calling for a vigorous enforcement policy. Woolley sought to have Ross fired for insistence on carrying out Bowles order to circulate the directive. Bowles had to order Woolley to permit circulation.

An announcement that the charges against Woolley had been filed, made by Paul O'Dwyer, Ross' counsel, also carried the fact that

Thomas I. Emerson, who was until recently national enforcement director, had in April formally recommended to Bowles that Woolley be dismissed. Emerson confirmed this in a letter to Ross in which he praised Ross and stated that Woolley's charges against him are "wholly unwarranted and without foundation in fact."

Ross asked Washington OPA offices for a trial before an impartial tribunal instead of a hearing before Woolley, which would be the customary procedure. He pointed to the fact that Woolley is under fire not only from him but from OPA national headquarters. Woolley had been asked to resign a few days ago, but the request was mysteriously withdrawn after it had been announced that he had already resigned.

Pétain Betrayal Cited by Marin

PARIS, July 26 (UP). — Two French pre-war parliamentary leaders said today that Marshal Henri Philippe Pétain betrayed France in her greatest hour of need. They outlined the steps by which they said he and Pierre Laval undermined parliamentary government after the Vichy regime came to power.

Louis Marin, former right wing Democratic Federation deputy and party leader, cried that "Pétain betrayed his trust as he betrayed France in making an armistice" with the Germans in June, 1940.

Jules Jenneney, 72-year-old former Senae President, asserted that Pétain has shown "deplorable weakness" and that he had "failed us" in his conduct of government after June, 1940.

Jeanneney and Marin also attacked the role of Pierre Laval, Pétain's Chief of Government at Vichy.

Armand Gazel, member of the French embassy at Madrid when Pétain was Ambassador to Spain, testified that "Laval seems to have succeeded" in persuading Pétain to work against the French government before the armistice in 1940.

Gazel, who recently was appointed First French Minister to New Zealand, also testified that Pétain refused to help him procure the release of Frenchmen who fought with the International Brigade in the Spanish war against Franco's uprising and later were imprisoned there.

The special national convention of the Communist Political Association opened in New York on Thursday morning with a unanimous recommendation from the National Board of the organization that the Communist Party be promptly reconstituted.

William Z. Foster, member of the secretariat of the CPA, reported this recommendation to the convention on behalf of the National Board in a report critically reviewing the errors of the past 18 months and projecting the main perspectives for the future.



WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

Similar action had been recommended by state conventions throughout the country and was urged by delegates who took the floor following Foster.

Foster said that it was necessary to break with the "chronic tallism" which developed under the leadership of Earl Browder in the CPA and which resulted in "hiding the Party's face and avoidance of mass struggle."

"The Party must recover its political initiative and Communist boldness—even though reactionary members of the Truman administration, of the AFL executive council and the NAM may not like it," Foster said.

As the two big problems ahead, Foster cited the need for developing the broadest and most active kind of movement for increased wages "within the framework of the wartime no-strike pledge" and the "still bigger test" of the 1946 congressional elections which will be marked by a reactionary drive to grab control of Congress.

HITS PRESS DISTORTIONS

Indicating his awareness of attempts in reactionary newspapers to distort the Communist position of supporting the war to defeat Japanese imperialism, Foster condemned as a "false conception" the notion that Communists should "denounce the war against Japan as imperialist."

While devoting much of his report to the revisionism promoted by Browder, Foster warned against the "sectarian voice," who, he said, urged that the Communists give up the no-strike pledge and abandon the fight for 80,000,000 jobs.

Foster declared that "left policies of this character would be no less disastrous to us than Browder's right revisionism."

The national CPA convention climaxed a series of state conventions in New York, Ohio, Illinois, Wisconsin, Michigan, Maryland, Oregon, California, Missouri, Pennsylvania, Washington, Colorado and other states.

Presiding officers of the Convention included Arnold Johnson, Ohio leader of the CPA, Josh Lawrence, Negro maritime worker of New York, and Herb Phillips, Chicago packing house worker.

Today's morning session will be devoted to a discussion of the proposed new constitution recreating the Communist Party. This will be followed by a series of panel discussions in the afternoon on the problems of veterans, Negroes, youth and farmers.

Tonight, state delegations will meet to nominate a national committee and new national officers. Tomorrow's session will be concerned with the nomination and election of a new national leadership for the organization.

ODT LIMITATIONS

There are 93 delegates at the convention which was severely limited in size by the regulations of the Office of Defense Transportation. The majority of the delegates from outside New York are shop workers. About 20 percent of the delegates are Negroes, and about 10 percent are veterans of the present war.

Committees set up included presiding, rules, resolutions, constitution, credentials and publicity committees.

Foster in his report, which followed immediately the organization of the convention, was devoted largely to a discussion of the revisionist policies of Browder which, he said, were devoted to fastening "a system of right-wing bourgeois liberalism upon our Party; a liberalism so conservative that on many questions it put us far to the right of Roosevelt, of the liberal press

Pepper Warns Of Charter Reservations

Daily Worker Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON, July 26. — Sen. Claude Pepper (D-Fla.) highlighted the debate on the San Francisco charter today with his attack on isolationism and his praise of the unity of the Soviet Union.

"We have turned our back on isolationism," said Pepper. "Any man in public life who embraces it is doomed to political destruction."

Pepper lauded the Soviet Union as a land, which had taken many peoples, as the United States had done, and welded them together.

"Look at Russia where the people of all languages, dialects and races have been united into one great people," said the Florida Senator.

"Look at this great land 6,000 to 8,000 miles in length, where the people from Western Russia to the Pacific, from the Arctic Circle to the Persian Gulf, are bound together victoriously.

"This great people today is taking a big part in world conferences, and in world collaboration. Think of the significance of this world unity."

With pointed reference to the isolationists who are voting for the charter with the intention to break world unity later, Pepper warned the Senate today that the security organization cannot be built "by Americans with tongue in cheek"

"We have the power," he added slowly, "to wreck this league as we wrecked the last one."

Labor Victory Thrills Seamen

By NAT LOW

A loud, long-drawn "WOW" was the response of New York trade unionists yesterday to the sweeping victory of the Labor Party in the British elections.

In the hiring hall of the National Maritime Union, seamen were all smiles as they scanned the headlines of the afternoon papers.

"This means the end of fascism in Spain and Greece and a tough stand on Argentina. It means a tremendous change in world history," said Patrolman Arthur Holman, a big, stocky guy.

SEES CHANGE

Carl Dille, second cook, said, "I feel the working man will get a break now and England's policies towards other countries, particularly Greece, Spain and Portugal will be changed for the better."

Charles White, Political Action di-

rector for the port of New York said, "In one word, Hurrah! The elections are only the beginning of a new era in world history."

Tony Lucia, patrolman who is leaving to become the port agent in Charleston, S. C., said, "Greatest thing ever happened. But I want to see what Attlee will do with Spain, Greece, Argentina. . . . It will make the local American fascists like Bilbo, Rankin and others beware. The people of the world are on the march."

CABBIE EXCITED

A slender Negro seaman, Jim Mallory, chairman of the NMU picket committee, said, "This is a momentous upsurge of the laboring people. It means the people are determined to make a people's world after a people's war. . . . It means freedom for the colonial peoples all over the world."

In the cab going over to Tom Mooney Hall, the cabbie, too, was excited. "I guess the people over there know what they want more than we do. . . . I wish the American people would wake up like that."

At the hall, a tall, good-looking soldier was browsing around the bookshop. He turned out to be a former member of Local 65, who has been in the Army four and a half years and overseas for three years. Sgt. Jack Klempner, who is being discharged with 105 points and has seen five different invasions, said, "When I was in England five weeks ago we knew it. The people were determined to set up a new government. They had been taking a bad beating from their government for a long time. The elections will be repeated all over Europe—for the whole continent is going to the left—towards people's governments."

Foster Hails Tory Defeat

The British Labor Party victory is "an event of considerable world importance," said William Z. Foster, the national leader of American Communists, yesterday.

"The perspectives outlined at Teheran, Yalta and San Francisco now has all the better prospects of being fulfilled," Foster declared. "The Tory defeat will greatly encourage the democratic governments in Europe, and no doubt will have repercussions in the United States as well."

"The things that workers everywhere are fighting for and the general program of postwar reconstruction will be advanced."

and of the main sections of the labor movement."

Foster declared that despite mistakes "our Party may well be proud of its record during the war" and that "the full destructive force of Browder's revisionism would have been felt" in the postwar period.

Pointing to a decline in attendance in branch meetings and to a dropping off of the percentage of trade unionists in the CPA, Foster said that Browder's policies "were fast bringing our Party into a major internal crisis."

Foster called for a continued and intensified ideological struggle against Browder's policies within the CPA and for retraining members of the organizations "in the fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism."

CALLS FOR DEMOCRACY

He urged the reintroduction of "Leninist democratic-centralism" in the organization, and pointed out that under Browder there had been "super-centralism in fact, but very little democracy."

Refreshing of the organization's leadership to give far greater representation to leaders from the trade unions and the mass organizations and workers from the shops was proposed by Foster.

"Trade unionists and war veterans especially must be brought into the leadership, both nationally and in the districts," Foster said.

While not underestimating the mistakes of the entire leadership of the CPA, Foster warned against "reckless declamation of the Party leadership."

Browder was present at the Convention and was expected to speak at tonight's session, but had not yet done so as this edition went to press.

BROWDER REJECTED

Discussion from the floor shows those participating unanimously reject Browder's position on placing reliance on American big business to realize the perspective of international cooperation and full employment.

There was vigorous discussion on the policies of the Communists in carrying on activity among the Negro people.

Herbert Newton, Negro delegate from New York, said that organizational looseness which developed under Browder's leadership had resulted in relaxation of vigilance against members who still entertained anti-Negro prejudice.

Benjamin Davis, Jr., New York City Councilman, declared the dissolution of the Communist Party in the south showed "the enormous crime of the old line."

SOUTH STUDIED

Davis called for reconstitution of the Communist Party in the south, and for a careful study of basic

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Foster Convention Keynote Hits Browder's Revisionism

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Communist policy on this whole question.

Davis suggested as essentials of a Communist program in the south, agrarian reform, elimination of discrimination against Negroes, unity of Negro and white workers and reconstitution of the Communist Party.

While there was substantial sentiment for estimating the Negro problem in the south as a national question, Ray Thompson of California expressed the view that the Negro people "want integration in the national life, not self-determination."

UNIONISTS SPEAK

Trade unionists who addressed the convention included Dave Davis of the United Electrical Workers in Philadelphia, and Nat Ganley, a local leader of the United Auto Workers in Detroit.

There was general sentiment among trade unionists who took

the floor that utopian ideas on postwar collaboration with business had injured the position of the Communists in the labor movement and had played into the hands of Trotskyite elements and those supporting the policies of John L. Lewis.

Truman Addresses GIs

FRANKFURT, July 26 (UP).—President Truman told American troops here today that the war was fought "so that we can live, think and act as we like."

Mr. Truman took the day off from the Big Three sessions at Potsdam to come to Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower's headquarters here. He was greeted by Eisenhower when he arrived.