

Common Journal

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Dr. Gillis Says Communism A Crusade

The many antagonists of communism think they have done their duty when they have denounced communism. By this time we should have learned that the movement is too strong to be destroyed by denunciation, condemnation, vituperation, excommunication. Select the strongest word in your vocabulary to express opposition. It won't do.

Communism is not to be destroyed by shouting, shrieking, gesturing. No, nor by resolutions passed at conventions. Such resolutions are not worth the time spent on them. Display advertisements in the newspapers, addressed to the people and to Congress are better, only if people and legislators, reading them, get up and do something. Reading is too often a substitute for doing. A paper, indignation, wrath are a kind of sop to conscience. A man may get "all hot and bothered" over something, even to the point of having a brain-storm, but if that's as far as he goes he might better have saved the wear and tear upon his nerves and brain cells.

There is only one way of overcoming communism. It is a religion and we must appeal to it with a more powerful religion. It is a fire and we must fight it with a purer and fiercer fire. We must recognize the fact that Christ came to eat upon the earth.

'But Dear!'



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As We See It By Dan Patrick

You don't have to look far to determine the reasons for the wave of disillusionment sweeping the country.

The war had been over barely a year and yet the high-sounding ideals for which millions of men fought and thousands died seem to have evaporated in thin air.

Diplomatic double talk, especially on Russia's part, has fouled the international scene to such an extent that there is a general feeling that the forthcoming peace conference in Paris will be a peace conference in name only.

The "one world" which Wendell Willkie proclaimed so eloquently in the darkest hours of the war has been split by the victors into a crazy quilt patchwork of "zones" set and quartered by curfews of iron, velvet and other textures.

Here at home, wages and prices are leaping and soaring into a strapping inflationary spiral and some people are beginning to wonder whether the sacrosanct which stood the firm of war can withstand the pitfalls of peace.

His slightest eyes marked by dark glasses, a veteran of World War II is making a nervous St. Ann in Rochester's St. Joseph's Church this week.

He paid with his sight for the victory which is being kicked around at the present moment. His example in praying for divine aid to restore his sight might well be followed by our statesmen who should seek the same kind of aid for the restoration of the principles for which this young man gave his vision.

The young man and his comrades are being told of the huge profits piled up by war contractors at home while the fighting was going on.

What's more they are being treated to the unsavory spectacle of revelations which plainly point to an unholy alliance between some of these war contractors and certain members of Congress, one of whom has been hesitating about appearing before an investigating committee.

This gentleman, Congressman May of Kentucky, chairman of the powerful House Military Affairs Committee, has up to the present time, chosen to hide behind the skirts of congressional immunity. He says he's too busy battling for the taxpayers to answer the very scolding charges which have been made against him.

Yes, there must be nothing more disillusioning to a blind veteran than excessive profiteering by war contractors.

Our erstwhile Soviet allies have some ready-to-serve fodder for their propaganda machines in the disillusioning activities of our fellow countrymen in the south.

The rights of colored citizens to vote in the primaries in certain of our southern states have been twisted into a hollow mockery despite the rulings of the United States Supreme Court.

The results of this policy are reflected in some of the returns thus far. Mississippi has elected upon the nation one Theodore Bilbo, for another six years. Breaching the soviet doctrine of "White Supremacy," Bilbo won the Democratic designation for senator which is tantamount to election in Mississippi. He is a demagogue of the worst order and an enemy of tolerance — not to mention the late lamented "Four Freedoms" speech.

There is a step forward in selecting Eugene Talmadge as nominee for Governor.

All of the progress which this state has made under the leadership of Governor E. B. Tamm appears to have been lost in Talmadge's success. The governor-elect is another advocate of "white supremacy" which translated means out and out intolerance.

Charges already have been made that Talmadge has promised to place a member of the Ku Klux Klan in charge of the State Bureau of Investigation. He is further reported to have pledged that all race problems will be referred to the Klan.

How different that sounds from Aronoff's courageous action in urging legal action to dissolve the Klan.

From Alabama comes news that the Klan is being revived in that state for "an American crusade for white supremacy."

Papers of incorporation have been filed and there is every likelihood that once more, throughout most of the south, hooded terrorists will ride through the night to enforce a law of violence and intolerance.

It is, then, no wonder that there is wide disillusionment among our people today. All the sacrifices they made during the war—blood, sweat, toil and tears—seem to have been in vain.

The old enemies of fallen but new and perhaps more dangerous ones—have arisen.

Waves of Disillusion

This was the same Sidney Hillman who, at the time of his death a year or two ago, was perhaps the most controversial figure in American public life — thanks as much to the intemperate criticism of some of his enemies as to his own acknowledged genius for the dramatic in political action. Hillman made mistakes in his administration of the CIO Political Action Committee, serious mistakes if you will. He probably made commitments and compromises which never should have been made. But one has the feeling that most of the controversy which surrounded his name as the leader of this unprecedented movement was synthetic.

Hillman was not a communist; but he was tagged as a communist by his enemies. He was not a revolutionist, but he was called a revolutionist by his critics. He was not in favor of state socialism, but his enemies repeatedly said that he was.

Hillman's PAC philosophy — just as his economic philosophy in the garment industry — was essentially sound and progressive. It was a philosophy which looked to the general economic welfare of the nation and not merely to the welfare of the CIO. As a matter of fact, his long-range program for national economic reconstruction was strikingly in line with the program of the social architects.

As long ago as 1937 Hillman appeared at the Senate Hearings on the Establishment of a National Economic Council and made the following recommendation: "Now as I view it, in order to meet this emergency we have to find jobs. No one industry can find jobs for the people who are unemployed. Naturally no one employer can do it for all. Any plan of that kind would have to be national in scope, and to have it national in scope there is no existing agency. . . . Now, the instrumentality, as I see it, should be a representative of labor, a representative of the employers and a representative of the government. Any other organization of an economic council will probably lead to fascism."

This is the language of a man who subscribed to the belief that there is in the American tradition and in the American way of life, the language of a man who believed in economic democracy. It is not the language of a communist or a socialist. Rather it is the language of a man who knew that you can't effectively combat communism or socialism unless you have something better to offer.

The American people will greatly remember the contribution which he made to the general economic welfare. They will join with the editors of AMERICA in hoping that "in death he will find a peace he never knew in life — and that his thirst for justice will at last be satisfied."

Yardstick Hillman Tribute

By Rev. Geo. Higgins

Sidney Hillman — God rest him! — will be mourned as much by the employers in the garment industry as by the members of his own union. For Sidney Hillman, with a genius which even some of his bitterest political enemies have graciously acknowledged in their obituaries, did as much for the welfare of the one group as for the welfare of the other.

Hillman was a militant trade unionist (leader, communist propagandist to the contrary notwithstanding), but his militancy was inspired by a passion for the general welfare. He was a shrewd negotiator — certainly one of the shrewdest in the American labor movement — but he always negotiated for the best interests of the industry as a whole and not merely for the selfish and shortsighted advantage of his own constituents.

This is not the biased opinion of an uncritical eulogist. Rather it is the common testimony of the employers with whom he bargained for so many years as president of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America. These men are the first to admit, with a sense of real gratitude, that Hillman did more for them than any other single individual in at least a century of organized industry. He believed sincerely in the wisdom of labor-management cooperation, even to the point of lending money from the union's treasury for the building up of the industry. He recognized instinctively the interdependence of management and labor. He was almost religiously devoted to the common good.

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Her Great Heart

New York — (NC) — The heart "within the frail body of the little nun from Italy" held everlasting mercy, an editorial in The New York Times comments on the canonization of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, first U. S. citizen saint.

"One does not have to be a professing member of the Roman Catholic Church," the editorial says, "to appreciate the significance of the canonization of Mother Cabrini, who now, for the ages, will be known as St. Frances Xavier. Canonization comes only after the most searching inquiry into the life and works of the one proposed for sainthood. One can say of a saint, as we now do of St. Frances Xavier, that she can live a life free from sin and devoted solely to others."

"The Church, of course, does not make a saint. It only formally recognizes what was exemplified in the person. The heart within the frail body of the little nun from Italy, who founded the missionary Sisters of the Sacred Heart and became a citizen of the land of her adoption, the United States, held the everlasting mercy. All who came in contact with her recognized it, as now does the Church in Rome."

The Polish Question

The same government which suppressed the official statement of the Polish Bishops against violence, terrorism and murder, now accuses the Prelate of the Catholic Press Agency comments on reports that the Warsaw government is blaming the Catholic clergy for having spoken out against recent disorders in Poland.

The agency points out that in the joint statement, issued after their meeting in Czestochowa on May 22 to 24, the Polish Bishops condemned internal disorders in Poland and called upon "all who are responsible, regardless of their motives, to remember God's commandments and to desist from further violence, which brings misfortune to their shattered faithfulness." This statement was suppressed by the censor of the United States, and appeared only in the foreign press after being smuggled out of Poland.

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Germany's Fate Seen Bored with a Red Europe

(Excerpt from Otto Steneger's article in the Catholic Herald, London.)

More and more intelligent observers everywhere are recognizing the truth that Europe's future will be decided in Germany, together with the fate of Germany itself. This is inevitable because of the military and political weakness of the continental countries of Western Europe.

The Russian newspaper leading Swiss paper, recently published an article, "Fog of war over Germany," in which the writer says: "The fact is that the Anglo-Saxon-Russian struggle is now being fought on German soil — Russians as well as British using the deadly enemy of yesterday, air-warfare against the former ally — this fact is undeniable. Consequently this is being fought into a race for the German people's favour." While the widely-read Russian weekly, the *Pravda*, speaks even more plainly. In an article, "Germany Becomes Power of Fate," it says: "Germany and Austria have become power political factors which must be considered. The Russians appear to have been the first to accept the consequences of this conclusion. They are showing themselves everywhere to be completely aware of the German position and the role of the population in other words, with the German Communists. Thus, the German Communists have become, at least virtually, already Russia's allies. But the Russians are not content with these allies; they try to sponsor everywhere, including Western Germany, Communist movements whose ultimate aim will most likely be to create a German mass party with the aim of turning Germany into Russia's most powerful ally."

With these sentences the editor of the *Pravda*, Karl von Scharnhorst, has clearly analyzed the aim of Russian policy. Should the Russians succeed in achieving it — and after the Communist defeats in Western Europe they will work toward this end with increased zeal — then Germany's fate will have decided that of Europe.

Fundamentally the German people, because of the Christian character of the Communists, and because of the Russian character and aims, is a destination by Russia, a country being given to it. Doubtless proof of this has been given by all elections hitherto held, producing — without exception — an almost complete majority of all votes against Moscow.

Revolving political conditions on this semi-socialist of the German people. The latter's political attitude is not only a result of the political aims of the German people, but also of the political aims of the German people.

WASHINGTON European Study Trip—II

By TOM ROGERS

WASHINGTON — Last week we dwelt at length on the first part of the sensational and ignored report of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

If you write to your Congressman or Senator you may obtain as many copies as you wish!

The report mentioned that in Russia it is a choice of guns or butter — and you must not ask for butter. The dictator of the Kremlin and his ruthless, faceless puppets have turned the energy and the resources of a great people to satanic and immoral ends. Dispassionately the report reveals facts — and in the bargain, it is well edited.

Russia was the last step for some members of the Committee. But Mrs. Bolton of Ohio and Mr. Mundt continued on after the others returned to Washington.

Iran was next. Here they brought to light an unusual fact, one of the few of its kind in American history. And one that clears up a great deal of doubtful clouds on the Iranian situation.

"Our Committee found a situation in Iran which it considers disturbing: American Army officers in that country have recently been assigned by the War Department in Iran under a new 2-year contract, whereby, while drawing their salaries from the United States Government, they are actually to direct the troop movements and activities of the uniformed police corps in that country. We doubt the wisdom and 'neighborliness' of this policy."

The signers of this report, Mrs. Bolton and Mr. Mundt are far from appeasing Russia. But this correspondent agrees with them: either put our men on the payroll of the foreign government — as we did with our air corps training men in Argentina — or don't put them on at all. A. C. Millspaugh and Colonel Norman Schwarzkopf did great work in Iran — but as private citizens on the payroll of the Iranian government.

The Committee report wisely points out: If we could do this in Iran, what is to prevent Russia from spending full-time military instructors and 'observers' to Mexico?

The Arabian leg of the trip seemed to hold great significance in view of the current Palestine crisis.

The whole problem in Arabia as seen through the practical and pragmatic eyes of that shrewd leader the Saudi King is not in races or religions — but how much will you pay us for our oil. His relations with the United States and Great Britain have been most friendly. Despite his man-of-the-quest appearance, he is fully in touch with world affairs.

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