

White Collar Union Leader's Communistic Background Bared; Threat to America

By TOM BOGREN

One of the greatest threats to American peace and the conduct of American business will be found in the activities of the United Office and Professional Workers of America. It can now be revealed exclusively that the above-named union is one of the most completely Communist-dominated unions in America.

White collar workers have strengths. White collar workers are at the mercy of fixed masters while labor unions have negotiating rights and can work negotiate an increase in wages.

Members of the depression are tired and simply will not leave this correspondent's mind. There are many points to argue. There are also points to point out.

There is a drive on today, however, to control the white collar workers under a central union that is dominated by one of the most active troopers of Communism—enterprise in this country. Every employer and employee should know about it and its leader.

This union had its beginning in the old Office Workers Union, an affiliate of the Trade Union Unity League. The TUUL was a federation of the Communist Party Unions headed by the leader of the American Communists, William Z. Foster.

When the Office Workers Union was tied up with the old TUUL, Unity League, it was headed by one Lewis Merrill. Today, Lewis Merrill is International President of the United Office and Professional Workers of America.

The TUUL Unity League was abandoned. The Communist Party instructed the affiliated unions to seek admission into the American Federation of Labor. Merrill took his union into the A. F. of L. under the Bookkeepers, Stenographers, and Accountants Union. As their delegate to the various AFL conventions, Merrill consistently voted with the Communists.

When the C.L.O. was organized, Merrill shifted allegiance and formed his present organization within the C.L.O. Another indication has been seen in Mrs. Murray; another intrinsic problem for the hurried assessment of American; another state with whom to draw American workers toward a union run by a follower of totalitarian minded people.

Who is this Merrill?

The pattern of behavior over a long period of years gives evidence that he is a consistent follower of the Communist Party. His Wiliness have justified to his being a member of the Communist Party. His life at the several conventions on non-American activities contains sworn testimony that his union is Communist-controlled. Eight years ago a witness stated that Merrill told him on two different occasions that he was a member of the Communist Party. This has not been proven via the route of party card identification. However, it might be well to see just what he stands for—and what!

The Federal Bureau of Investigation, in a statement dated May 7, 1942, prepared for the Senate Un-American Committee, said:

"In 1936 the Trade Union Educational League became the Trade Union Unity League which began a new program of organizing directly the revolutionary industrial unions controlled directly by the Communist Party. . . . The T. U. U. L. was called openly supported and was dominated by the Communist Party."

So much for an official report by the most respected of government agencies. What of the record?

On February 13, 1937, The Daily Worker carried Merrill's name as a signer of a cable on behalf of Luis Carlos Prestes, Brazilian Communist leader who subsequently been described as the "Red Devil" of the Western Hemisphere. Prestes was also a former member of the executive council of the Communist International. Today he is the active leader of the growing Communist Party in Brazil.

Merrill has contributed not only to the New Masses but also to The Champion, a magazine of The Young Communist League (March 1937, p. 6).

He was one of the faithful group which followed the line of the Communist Party on foreign policy throughout every belief and turn of the past 8 years. In 1937 the Communist Party declared "against war and fascism." It founded the American League Against War and Fascism with what has been described as "an openly socialist program." Merrill contributed to its official organ, FRONT (October 1937, p. 15), as a sponsor of the New York City Conference Against War and Fascism (Daily Worker, Jan. 11, 1937, p. 2) and spoke in New York City in behalf of the American League Against War and Fascism (September 1937, p. 27).

President's Chapel Dedicated

Rio de Janeiro (INC)—His Eminence Jaime Cardinal de Barros Camara, Archbishop of Rio de Janeiro, has blessed the new chapel dedicated to St. Francis of the Immaculate Jesus in Guatemala. Justice official, president of Mexico, president of Brazil,

he has probably been on the battlefield of every anti-Fascist movement to be succeeded by Communists. Affiliated in this country, Merrill, as P. H. reported, left the American League Against War and Fascism, "the first of three organizations established in the

states to war" (Office Worker, June 1940, p. 11).

His activities never wavered from their forward course. He was listed in "The Daily Worker" of Nov. 18, 1942, page 6, as one of the most outstanding editors of the New Masses, a Communist weekly magazine. The Daily Worker, a privately edited

newspaper and speaker

at another New Masses rally held at Manhattan Center on April 12, 1942. Associated with him were Peter V. Gaccione, Comptroller, New York City Councilman, Ruth McKenney, Bruce Minton, and Art Young—all members of the party.

A year later he marched into the International Hotel. He joined a delegation in honor of Georgi Dimitrov, former head of the Communist International (New York Times, December 22, 1943, p. 40). Dimitrov is now head of the Russian puppet government in blood-drenched Bulgaria.

Allied with a number of vicarious second-fronters such as the old court room habitue, Charlie Chaplin, and other such military minded men as Joe Carran and Orson Welles, Merrill received his draft card classifying him 1-A.

He secured deferment on April 30, 1942, as the indispensable head of his union!

His party has record can best be illustrated with a final example: Although he recently hailed the so-called dissolution of the Communist International, he previously repudiated with great scorn a proposal by the rightwing members of the C.I.O. that the Communist Party be dissolved (Daily Worker, June 23, 1943, p. 5).

So much for Lewis Merrill, born on foreign soil as Louis Cohen. He has defended Brazil and Dimitrov of Bulgaria and Moscow.

He is now intent on organizing the office workers of America. These workers have access to the confidential records of American business in key positions. Gradually the complexion of the people in the union would shift. Select members would gradually get the better positions. You can write your own conclusion.

A depression will probably find him with additional followers unless he is revealed now. His union may be an ace in the sleeve of the Communists as they make their supreme bid for the control of the United States and the Sovietization of the Western Hemisphere.

Selma Mission Gift Shower Set by Seneca Falls Guild

Seneca Falls—St. Patrick's Guild and Altar Society will hold its December meeting next Monday evening in the school auditorium. The occasion will also be the Christmas party. Each member is asked to bring a small gift for exchange among the members.

As discussed at the last two meetings, there will also be a gift shower for the Selma Mission conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph at Selma, Alabama for the negro people. The Guild this year is asking each member to bring or send a gift suitable for a child of any age to be forwarded to the Sisters for distribution at their Christmas tree party.

The Mission is carrying on in spite of great odds and the Yuletide festivities are looked forward to by the youngsters who attend the Mission school. Those sending gifts are requested to attach a tag to each package marking the contents, the age of child for whom it is suitable and whether or not the gift is for a boy or girl. Any one who does not anticipate attending the

Christmas Stocking Legend Recalled

There is a legend that on one Christmas night very long ago, Santa Claus climbed to the roof of a poor person's house and dropped a purse of money down the chimney. Instead of falling upon the hearth, the story has it, the purse fell into a stocking that had been hung up to dry.

In this legend we are asked to have the origin of the custom of hanging up a stocking for Christmas gifts.

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