

# Purges Keep Communist Party Members In Line

J. Edgar Hoover, director of the FBI since 1924, emphasizes that the danger to the United States from master Red plotters is as great as ever. In this week's installment of his book, "Masters of Deceit," Hoover tells what happened to some of the Party officials who were purged because of actual or suspected deviations from the prescribed Party line.

By J. EDGAR HOOVER  
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
INSTALLMENT TWELVE

Once the communists turn on a comrade, the treatment is complete. For example:

Earl Browder, who had been head of the Communist Party for 15 years, was expelled in February, 1946, for "developing factional activity and for betraying the principles of Marxism-Leninism and deserting to the side of the class enemy — American monopoly capital."

In 1945 he had been the leader of communists in the United States. He was now a "renegade," an "enemy" of the foulest descriptions. Many of the books he had written were burned.

**BROWDER'S CRIME** was not disloyalty to the Party but obedience to a policy that, in his opinion, was in the best interests of communism in the United States. Moscow thought otherwise.

He was stripped of Party authority, accused of every conceivable Party crime, by the very subordinates who had been his obedient supporters. He was made a target of vilification for the entire membership.

## No Deviation From Party Line

As stated in previous installments, one early leader, Jay Lovestone, was expelled for espousing "American exceptionalism." By this the communists meant that Lovestone viewed American capitalism as something "exceptional," not obeying the Marxist-Leninist laws, which teach that capitalism, because of internal contradictions, will inevitably decay. Lovestone believed that American capitalism was too strong to follow these Marxist rules.

Benjamin Gitlow, who was Vice-Presidential communist candidate on a "Workers Party" ticket headed by Foster and who served a three-year sentence in New York State for criminal anarchy, was expelled in that same period, when the Communist Party, USA, acting under Communist instructions, conducted its first big "purges."

James P. Cannon, another of those purged in the late 1920's, was expelled for possessing Trotskyite tendencies, a reflection of the CPUSA's adherence to Stalin in the Trotsky-Stalin struggle for power in Russia.

When Sam Donchin, who was an Associate Editor, "Daily Worker," until shifted to leadership position on the Party's Education Commission, was forced out, "The Daily Worker" said, "Donchin was expelled for factionalism, anti-Party activities, hostility to the Party and to the Party leadership, and white chauvinism."

## Ex-Communist Branded A 'Toad'

Once a member breaks with the Party and testifies or makes a public statement, he can expect a merciless campaign of vilification.

On April 10, 1952, the well-

known stage and screen director, Ella Kazan, appeared before the House of Representatives Committee on Un-American Activities in Washington and testified that he had been in the Party for a year and a half in the 1930's and quit because of the regimentation and thought control that had been directed at him. Two days later he took a paid advertisement in the New York "Times" explaining his reasons.

Writing in "The Daily Worker," Samuel Sillen on April 17, 1952, gave Mr. Kazan the full treatment with such vitriolic words as:

"We have seen a lot of holly-crawling in this time of the year, but nothing has quite equaled last week's communist performance by Hollywood director Ella Kazan... Not even in Hitler days did renegade intellectuals stink so low... Kazan is not content with being a toad. He must also be a philosopher of toadism."

Communist discipline, however, is not blind. It is held that individuals should not be expelled impulsively but should be shown the error of their ways.

Only when he is deemed "unimprovable" is a member ousted. For this reason offenders are often compelled to perform special "disciplinary chores" to "earn their way back" that is, to show through hard work, devotion, and acknowledgment of the supremacy of the Party in every respect that they should be readmitted to favor.

In a Northern city in the United States an official in disfavor was placed in charge of arranging a mass meeting. But he had to "prove" himself to the Party leaders, by doing the most menial of the tasks involved — running errands, selling tickets, recruiting ushers — he who used to be a mass-meeting keynote himself.

In Party eyes, a member who has gone through chastisement is a better comrade because of it. He can be reprimanded, criticized, treated in a brutally unfair manner, yet he'll keep on working. Lash him, and he'll clench his teeth tighter. That's the true communist in the Party concept.

Reference was made in a previous installment to the fact that when Earl Browder was deposed from his post as head of the communist movement, a fellow national officer of the Party pro-

# MASTERS OF DECEIT

posed that Browder be given a job scrubbing floors at national headquarters in New York. Browder expressed to a Yonkers club of the Party his willingness to perform such a menial task. But he was expelled from the Party because he was not disposed to "atone" for "developing factional activity."

## Red Party Demands Total Submission

The key point in discipline is acknowledgment of the supremacy of the Party. Hence, one of the fastest ways "back" is to acknowledge it quickly and completely. Browder refused to do this.

In a MIDWESTERN section of the CPUSA, an organizer was accused of conduct detrimental to the Party.

In a statement read at an executive committee meeting, he admitted his error. He even suggested his own removal as organizer. This attitude was exactly what the Party wanted. The result: public (and mild) reprimand, without suspension or removal from office.

This explains why, in some instances, severe errors receive minor penalties, whereas small mistakes result in expulsion.

On one occasion a member involved in difficulties with his wife repelled "none of your business" to an inquiry about it made by the Party. He was not long in good standing. In Party discipline language he showed no "political capabilities," meaning he was not amenable to discipline.

The Communist Party employs systematic means of creating hatred against an expelled member, or one who quits the Party voluntarily and turns against it. According to its dictates, he must be vilified, blacked, and made to appear the scum of the earth.

These individuals become "spies," "stool pigeons," "rats," "Trotskyites," "renegades," and "legionnaires."

The higher the Party leadership the ousted member has risen, the greater are the efforts to defame him. For example, Robert Wolfe, the Party's onetime organizer of railroad employes in the eastern part of the United States, was ex-

pelled, "The Daily Worker" on March 23, 1951, said, for "various violations of Party discipline, for panic in the face of the fire of class enemy, for acts endangering the Party, for issuing instructions in the name of the Party which were unauthorized and false, for acts of white chauvinism."

## Hate, Key To Red Discipline

A fantastically bitter communist discipline and hatred is aroused. One Party manual, written by a top leader, recommended:

"Mobilize the children and women in the block in the part of town where the stool pigeon lives to make his life miserable; let them picket the store where his wife purchases groceries and other necessities; let the children in the street shout after him or after any member of his family that they are spies, rats, stool pigeons."

"Chalk his home with the slogan: 'Spies! Spies! who lives here is a spy!' Let the children boycott his children or child; organize the children not to talk to his children, etc."

An expelled is not allowed to associate with any member of the Party — even though that member be his own father, mother, wife, or husband. In one case that came to FBI attention, when a woman member was expelled, her husband was instructed to leave her and the children. When he refused, he was expelled.

When there is a likelihood an expelled might become a government witness, then the communists go to work to compile such information as could be used to discourage the witness from testifying for fear of exposure or of being discredited in cross-examination by a communist lawyer.

COMMUNIST DISCIPLINE has a facet often difficult for some non-communists to comprehend. Penalties, expulsions, and exposure may not be enough;

the culprit must pay with his life. The world has been provided with the spectacles in both Russia and the satellites, of "purge" trials which the communists themselves publicized.

There were victims renowned for their devotion, often having spent their entire lives in the movement. Suddenly, within days, their whole position was overturned. They were convicted as trying to destroy what they had labored so long to create. Why?

Communism is cannibalistic. Its servants are periodically offered as sacrifices on the communist altar. If something goes wrong, the trouble lies, in communist eyes, not in the policy decreed by those in highest power, but in its human instruments.

The periodic purge is basic in the communist movement everywhere. Lenin was a firm advocate of purges. He urged: "If we really succeed... in purging our Party from top to bottom, without respect for persons, the gains for the revolution will really be enormous."

William Z. Foster has declared, "Communist parties, in line with Lenin's teachings, also constantly strengthen the fiber of their organization by cleansing their ranks of elements that have become confused, corrupted, worn-out or defeated in the hard and complex struggle to build the forces of socialism."

The ousted member in most instances frees himself from the communist thought-control machine. He is fortunate. The deepest tragedy lies in the conscious and voluntary submission, day after day, of thousands of Party members. I must repeat that these fanatical devotees, giving their all for the Party, represent a real danger to our way of life.



## Churchville Choir Service Noted

IN RECOGNITION of the volunteer efforts of St. Vincent de Paul Church, Churchville, the choir is guest of the Rev. John L. Maxwell, (left) pastor at a dinner in Lorenzo's. Joining in tribute is Rev. John F. Neary, pastor of St. Michael Church, Lyons. Churchville Harvest Queen, Dona Berl is first on right.

## New Village For Refugees

Regenburg — (RNS) — Plans for erecting another village for homeless foreigners in eastern Bavaria were announced here by the Rev. Dominique Pire, a Dominican priest from Belgium, at a conference of church welfare leaders and representatives of secular relief agencies.

The Aid for Homeless Foreigners helps displaced persons and political refugees who cannot be resettled outside Europe. Many of them are too old to emigrate, or are hampered by poor health from receiving immigration permits.

Next week — Communist Party offensive and defensive tactics, legal and illegal, in the United States today.

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