

LUNACY MARCHES ON!

THE prize for upside-down thinking goes to the communist New York *Daily Worker* for a Stockholm dispatch boasting that the heroic Norwegian communists “stay at their posts” in Oslo and cooperate with the Nazi invasion, while others “flee in panic” and “abandon the workers”:

The Social-Democratic leaders, their newspaper editorial staffs, the leading organs of the trade unions and Social-Democratic Youth have left Oslo. Part of them fled in panic. . . . Up to the present time only the communists continue publishing their paper. . . . The *Ny Dag* publishes in full the manifesto the Communist Party has issued at Oslo in which it stressed the main objective of preventing Norway from becoming the battleground between the imperialist powers. The manifesto reminds the people it was England’s violation of Norwegian neutrality that has brought about the present situation. . . . Etc.

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The Moscow *Trud* hails Russia’s tender concern for peace and the sovereignty of weak neighbors:

The Soviet-Finnish peace treaty is vivid proof of the peace-loving policy of the U.S.S.R., its respect for the national independence of small nations, its desire to continue and develop normal trade relations with all countries on a basis of complete equality. . . .

By an amazing coincidence, these bright sentiments of Moscow *Trud*

are shared in New York by the *Daily Worker*:

The signing of the peace treaty between the Soviet Union and Finland is a victory of tremendous importance for the oppressed peoples in the colonies and dependencies, and especially for the Negro peoples, the Harlem section Executive Committee of the Communist Party declared:

“ . . . Negro-hating colonial slave-drivers of London, Paris and Washington reckoned without the proletarian peace policy of the Soviet Union, without the powerful might, the unmatched daring and skill of the Red Army, the international army of the working class and all toilers. This brilliant achievement in the struggle for peace will inspire the Negro masses and the downtrodden of all countries in their struggle for peace and national freedom.”

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Only the blessings of conquest by Germany match the Soviet blessings. Under the title “The Germans Brought Us Real Freedom,” the Berlin *Völkischer Beobachter* quotes the Minister of War of Nazi-dominated Slovakia:

To us the Germans brought, in any case, a much greater and much finer freedom than the French gave to Czechoslovakia. What we did not succeed in obtaining in the 20 years of alleged free conditions, we have obtained already in the one year of our real freedom. Military schools and courses have been established, so that we do not have to worry about well-trained officers’ corps.

Other totalitarian advantages for Slovakia are reported to the Paris *Marianne*:

In a Slovak village a shingle on a barber shop reads: "Here Germans may have their hair cut free of charge." On inquiry, the barber explained that the Germans always pay in paper marks, which are so unpopular that they do not circulate among the native Slovak population. The paper notes offered by the Germans are usually of such denominations that the Slovaks, whose money unit is of much lower value, must give them change in Slovak money, generally used and preferred even in German-dominated Slovakia. Thus by serving the Germans gratis, the Slovaks save money.

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And a further sample of Nazi German civilization is presented proudly by the Danzig *Vorposten*:

The special tribunal, after careful consideration, condemned Max Israel Cohen to death for race defilement. His Aryan companion, Paula Neidhard, with whom he had been living as husband and wife since 1925, was also condemned to one year and six months, three hundred marks fine and five years' loss of civil rights. The sentence of the special tribunal went into effect immediately without possibility of permission of appeal or revision. Cohen was executed.

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An elementary explanation of why they should be happy under Il Duce is offered to simple Italian workers by the learned editors

(Compiled by Stephen Naft)

of the Cremona *Regime Fascista*:

Bolshevism, for example, which believes in redeeming the man-proletarian through collectivistic anonymity and the potentialization of mechanization, only crushes him more atrociously, because it reduces him to the automatic part of a machinery; he is nothing but a lever of the mechanism, having renounced the joy of creating by himself, giving form to the object, conferring his own imprint to the object; he is, in substance, a succubus of the mechanistic myth. Life is therefore submerged by a materialistic "civilization," whose scientific method negates every science that is not in rapport with the causes of matter: thus quality is lost to give way to quantity, the differentiations are cancelled by the affirmation of anti-hierarchic construction and the very aspects of mechanization become dominant mystical entities on the space-time horizon.

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The American political scene is simplified for lucky readers of the *Sunday Worker*, in an appeal for funds to defend Führer Browder:

Earl Browder was convicted for being General Secretary of the Party which stands in the way of the Roosevelt administration's drive toward war and hunger.

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Stop press! A novel of the Soviet writer, G. Olshansky, quoted in the Paris *Poslednaya Novosti* admits:

Beautiful, sunny weather can also be observed in capitalist countries.

► *Concluding part of a study of Harry Bennett published in the last issue.*

THE LITTLE MAN IN HENRY FORD'S BASEMENT

By JOHN McCARTEN

WHEN Harry Bennett assumed command of the Ford Servicemen back in 1919, he was horrified at their ineptitude. There were about 1500 of them and they were uniformly lacking in ingenuity. In attempting to capture the thieves and saboteurs who were then running rampant in the various Ford establishments, they coursed haphazardly around the industrial landscape like a pack of baffled beagles. Bennett began his regime by firing practically all of them. The few that remained he combined with some of his pals from the navy and the sporting world and thus formed the nucleus of his present squad. He organized his department along the lines of an efficient metropolitan police force. He established regular beats for the Servicemen and compelled them to report to headquarters at brief intervals throughout the day. In his outer office he installed a contraption known as a Gamewell Board to record, after the fashion

of a stock ticker, the calls of his operatives from key points all over River Rouge. To check on their effectiveness, he created a vast espionage network, which included hundreds of undercover agents whose identity he kept secret even from his fellow-executives. With spies and provocateurs as numerous at River Rouge as stooges in the Kremlin, the atmosphere of the plant soon became so thick with intrigue that Bennett himself had difficulty deciding who was shadowing whom from day to day.

In his early years at River Rouge, Bennett never had to worry much about his relations with labor. The Ford Company paid higher wages than its competitors, and the proletarians who thronged its gates were almost as docile as sheep. Apart from the American Legion, whose members later supported Bennett in forming such vigilante societies as the Knights of Dearborn and the Liberty Legion, the only organization that made any head-