

# COMMUNISTS

*and the*

# NEW DEAL

*By J. B. Matthews*

THERE were a thousand Alger Hisses in the federal government in the New Deal-Fair Deal era.

Scarcely had Franklin D. Roosevelt taken his hand off the Bible at high noon of March 4, 1933, having solemnly sworn to "preserve, protect, and defend the Constitution of the United States," before word went out from Washington that the doors of federal employment were wide open to Communists and Socialists, to say nothing of the hordes of crackpot and fake liberals.

It is literally true that these ideologists of dubious loyalty, if not outright disloyalty, were in many instances circularized with the tidings that Washington thenceforth would be an open city.

What, one may ask, has become of the other nine hundred ninety-nine Hisses? At least two others, Carl Marzani and William W. Remington, were, like Hiss, convicted of perjury. The remaining nine hundred and ninety-seven, whenever exposed or detected, were smarter than Hiss and Remington. They ex-

ercised their constitutional privilege under the Fifth Amendment and refused to incriminate themselves, an escape which was equally open to Hiss and Remington. The latter agents of the Kremlin chose, however, to commit perjury and were caught. They might have gone scot-free, like the Abts, the Witts, the Pressmans, and the rest.

The number "one thousand" is strictly a figure of speech. There were, of course, many more than that number of security risks employed in the federal government during the New Deal-Fair Deal era; and some of them are still holding government jobs in Washington. In the summer of 1940, Martin Dies declared: "There are not less than two thousand outright Communists and Party-liners still holding jobs in the government in Washington." Dies' estimate was conservative.

## *Recognition of the Soviet Union*

AFTER the election of 1932, but before the New Dealers took over Washington the following

March, two things were well known with respect to New Deal plans. One was that the repeal of the Eighteenth Amendment was assured; and the other was that the Soviet Union would be recognized. Shortly after the election, Professor Felix Frankfurter informed friends that recognition was in the bag because, in this matter at least, he had the new administration in his vest pocket.

Recognition of the Soviet Union was tragic error number one of the New Deal.

In a letter dated November 16, 1933, Maxim Litvinoff, Soviet Commissar for Foreign Affairs, addressed the President of the United States with a solemn pledge "to respect scrupulously the indisputable right of the United States to order its own life within its own jurisdiction in its own way and to refrain from interfering in any manner in the internal affairs of the United States, its territories or possessions," and further, "to refrain, and to restrain all persons in government service and all organizations of the Government [that is, of the Soviet Government] or under its direct or indirect control, including organizations in receipt of any financial assistance from it, from any act overt or covert liable in any way whatsoever to injure the tranquillity, prosperity, order or security of the whole or any part of the United States, its territories or possessions." It hardly needs to be said that Litvinoff's pledge has been broken every hour

of every day since it was made almost twenty years ago.

Surely no New Dealer will allege that Litvinoff's pledge was *given* in good faith. Of even greater importance, however, is the fact that it could not have been *received* in good faith by the occupant of the White House. To assume the contrary would be to impute to Franklin D. Roosevelt and all the intelligence agencies of the federal government a *total* ignorance with respect to the nature of the Soviet government, the Communist International, and the Communist Party of the United States.

The Communist Party of the United States was known to be an affiliate of the Communist International. The Communist International was known to have its headquarters in Moscow, and to be under the direct control of the Soviet government. Litvinoff's pledge was, therefore, so much eyewash for the American people. We know from sworn testimony that Litvinoff laughed uproariously immediately after the conclusion of the recognition proceedings. We may safely assume that Roosevelt also had his laugh — his well-known contemptuous laugh.

### *Communists in and out of the White House*

RECOGNITION of the Soviet Union was just the beginning. Thereafter the doors of the White House were thrown open to the American

agents of the International Communist conspiracy.

In the printed hearings of a subcommittee of the Committee on the Judiciary of the United States Senate, there appears a letter from former Congressman John J. O'Connor, dated September 19, 1949. The significance of this letter can hardly be exaggerated. Its disclosures are, to put it mildly, sensational. They reveal that the head of the American Communist Party, Earl Browder, and the President of the United States worked in close, even if clandestine, harmony, over a period of years. The minute details of this conspiratorial cooperation should be pinned down in the record before all the principals have passed from the scene. At present, we have only the bare outlines of the plot, thanks largely to the courage of Howard Rushmore of the New York *Journal-American*.

In his letter, ex-Congressman O'Connor writes: "In fact, during the President's 'purge' of 1938, Browder directed purge operations from the White House, from which he telephoned instructions, from time to time." This statement of fact is sensational in the highest degree.

Parenthetically, it may be recalled that Mrs. Earl Browder — long known to government agencies as a Soviet agent in her own right, as well as a Soviet citizen — possessed sufficiently powerful influence to have the White House intervene on her behalf with the American con-

sulate in Montreal, for the purpose of expediting her legal entry into the United States. Prior to that she had been in this country *illegally*. The American consular official in Montreal, who had been assigned to handle Mrs. Browder's case, stated under oath that he "had been given [his] orders not to ask her any embarrassing questions." With respect to Mrs. Browder's visa and admission to the United States, this consular official declared: "Definitely it was unlawful procedure."

Ex-Congressman John J. O'Connor stated that he personally had seen Earl Browder in the White House on several occasions during the period 1933-1939, and added: "The visitors' records might well not show him as a caller, for the reason that he could enter the White House, at any time, and through any door and without any invitation. Such an 'open door policy' toward him [Earl Browder] was often the subject of comment among Democratic congressional, and other leaders, who were obliged to make an appointment, in order to see the President."

**E**ARL BROWDER was not the only Communist Party leader who was received with cordiality at the White House. On one occasion, in the early New Deal years, five nationally prominent leaders of the Communist Party called at the White House to present the President of the United States with a

portrait of himself. On leaving the Executive Mansion, these five enemies of the United States were photographed with Presidential Secretary Marvin H. McIntyre; and the photograph was reproduced in the Communist magazine, *New Order*, official organ of the International Workers Order. The five Communist leaders — William Weiner, Max Bedacht, Peter Shipka, John Middleton, and Joseph R. Brodsky — were all officers of the International Workers Order.

At the very time of William Weiner's visit to the White House, he was financial secretary of the Communist Party of the United States — a fact about which there was no secret. He was, furthermore, a member of the central committee of the Communist Party, the highest governing body of the Kremlin's conspiracy in this country; and, in addition to all this, his real name was Welwel Warzower — *not* William Weiner. Not long after his cordial reception at the White House, Warzower, alias Weiner, was convicted for fraudulently representing himself as an American citizen. Although he was sentenced to a prison term, Warzower was excused from serving his sentence when he pleaded that he had a heart ailment. That was more than thirteen years ago; and Warzower's heart has not yet failed. *He is today Mr. Moneybags of the Communist conspiracy in this country, managing vast business and financial operations of the Com-*

*munist Party.* He has found it just as easy to stay *out* of jail as he did to get *into* the White House.

Accompanying Warzower on this visit to the White House was Max Bedacht, one-time secretary of the Communist Party of the United States, also a member of the Party's central committee at the time of the visit, and formerly the editor of the party's theoretical magazine, *The Communist*. These facts were matters of public knowledge when Bedacht was received at the White House.

JOSEPH R. BRODSKY, another of the White House visitors who called to present a portrait to the President, was a charter member of the Communist Party in this country. More than ten years before Brodsky was received at the Executive Mansion, he had figured in the news as the receiver of funds for international Communist operations. In 1927, the London police made a raid on Soviet House in London. Many of the documents seized in the raid were published under the title, *Documents Illustrating the Hostile Activities of the Soviet Government and the Third International Against Great Britain, Presented to Parliament by Command of His Majesty*. In these published documents, Joseph R. Brodsky was designated as the person in the United States to receive international Communist funds.

On another occasion in the early days of the New Deal, a delegation

of prominent Communists went to the White House to present the President of the United States with "a drafting board, T-square and honorary membership in the union as a 'great social architect.'" The union which made the President one of its honorary members was known at the time to be engaged in Communist espionage. It was the Federation of Architects, Engineers, Chemists and Technicians, at that time an affiliate of the C.I.O., and commonly known as the FAECT. The leader of the delegation was none other than Marcel Scherer, vice-president of the union and long-time leader of Communist underground activities. The FAECT and Scherer were implicated in atomic espionage at the Radiation Laboratory of the University of California in later years; but enough was known of his espionage activities at the time of his cordial reception at 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, Washington, D. C.

The atomic Communist spy, Julius Rosenberg, and the President of the United States were fellow members of the FAECT, the former being an active member and the latter an honorary member.

On yet another occasion, the president of the Workers Alliance, David Lasser, was received by the President of the United States. The executive secretary of the Workers Alliance, Herbert Benjamin, was a well-known Communist Party leader; and it was equally well known that Benjamin administered

the Workers Alliance as an adjunct of the Communist Party.

### *Communist Organizations Greeted*

FOR some years, it was a routine practice for the President of the United States and members of his official family to send cordial greetings to Communist organizations, or to appear in person as speakers for these subversive outfits.

Franklin D. Roosevelt sent his personal greetings to the American Youth Congress, the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born, the National Negro Congress, and the Workers Alliance. These four organizations have been cited as Communist and subversive by the Attorney General of the United States. They were Communist and subversive at the time they received greetings from the White House.

Although not in the strict sense a member of the President's official family, Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt has been a politically active New Dealer from the beginning. Her name carried the prestige of the White House. It is, therefore, relevant to point out that her name has been used in one way or another (as speaker, sponsor, officer, donor, etc.) in support of the following Communist enterprises: All-Harlem Youth Conference; American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born; American Committee for Yugoslav Relief; American Communications Association; American League for Peace and Democracy;

American Relief for Greek Democracy; American Student Union; American Youth Congress; Daughters of the American Depression; End Jim Crow in Baseball Committee; Indusco; Jewish Black Book Committee; League of Women Shoppers; Motion Picture Artists' Committee; National Citizens Emergency Relief Committee; National Committee to Abolish the Poll Tax; National Conference on Civil Liberties; National Council of American-Soviet Friendship; National Negro Congress; National Right-to-Work Congress; National Women's Unemployment Conference; Oklahoma Committee to Defend Political Prisoners; People's Front for Peace; Physicians' Forum; *Protestant Digest*; Southern Conference for Human Welfare; Southern Negro Youth Congress; *Soviet Russia Today*; United American Spanish Aid Committee; United States Arrangements Committee of the World Youth Conference; Washington Bookshop; Workers Alliance; and World Youth Congress. These thirty-three do not exhaust the list.

Writing of Mrs. Franklin D. Roosevelt's White House guests, Michael Reilly, in his book entitled *Reilly of the White House*, says: "She often brought in somebody or other that everybody knew was unacceptable on security grounds."

**I**N AN article in *Liberty* magazine, Mrs. Roosevelt herself made the following remarkable observation:

"The Communist Party leaders are giving youth training; they will help them to live while they volunteer as workers in something which they believe is going to help other young people."

Following the lead of the White House, New Deal cabinet officers greeted, spoke for, wrote for, endorsed, sponsored, or otherwise aided more Communist enterprises than were ever heard of by most Americans.

The assistance which the New Deal official family rendered the Communist movement was not only of the kind already indicated; it consisted also of incessant efforts to stymie or ridicule the investigation and exposure of the Communist conspiracy in this country. In pursuance of this firm policy of denouncing and hindering in every way possible the exposure of Communists, New Deal cabinet officers and the White House itself did not hesitate to indulge in outright lying. For example, on page 117 of his book entitled *The Fear of Freedom*, Francis Biddle, former Attorney General and currently the head of Americans for Democratic Action, states that the Committee on Un-American Activities "attacked" Shirley Temple. Biddle must know that that is a lie out of whole cloth.

The Roosevelts (F.D.R. branch) are still trying to discredit the investigations and exposures of the Communist conspiracy. Witness the malicious and demagogic attack of

Franklin D. Roosevelt, Jr., upon Harold Velde. Like father, like son! Like mother, like son!

*Was the New Deal an Accomplice?*

ON MANY SIDES, we find the determination of New Deal-Fair Deal writers to edit history in the interests of the reputation of their chief godling, their crudely obvious aim being to exculpate Franklin D. Roosevelt and his regime from any complicity in the entrenchment of Communism at home or the conquests of Communism abroad.

Among the tens of thousands of politicians and pedagogues who were suckled at the teats of New Deal-Fair Deal patronage, there are hundreds who have already written or will attempt to write the American history of 1933-1952 without regard for the record.

One may dismiss these redacting antics of politicians like Samuel I. Rosenman, or those of the little itinerant historians like Richard H. Rovere and Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., all of whom are among the more recent performers.

On the other hand, one may not lightly ignore the writings of Reinhold Niebuhr, whose reputation as a philosopher of history is truly great, no matter how undeserved. (See Niebuhr's *The Irony of American History*, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1952.)

Admitting that other writers employ "the subjective element in historical judgments," Niebuhr is ap-

parently unaware that his own patterns of history have been more subjectively than factually determined. This philosopher-theologian of Union Theological Seminary has been trying to hang all human history on his own little left-wing ideological hatrack ever since he began to titillate Y. W. C. A. conventions with his unintelligible and meaningless dialectics twenty-five years ago.

In *The Irony of American History*, Niebuhr has the sanctimonious gall to accuse an unnamed "politician" — probably Senator McCarthy — of doing violence to historical facts by stating recently "that the vast increase in the number of Communist-dominated peoples (an increase which was made particularly impressive by the addition of millions of Chinese to the total) was evidence of the complicity of the 'New Deal' in the spread of Communism." To the great majority of Americans who have read any appreciable part of the testimony concerning the Institute of Pacific Relations before the subcommittee of the Senate Internal Security Committee (the McCarran Committee), the unnamed "politician" whom Niebuhr accuses of a capricious conclusion was stating an established and damning fact about the New Deal.

What does the august philosopher-theologian, Reinhold Niebuhr himself, have to say by way of an historical interpretation of the Com-



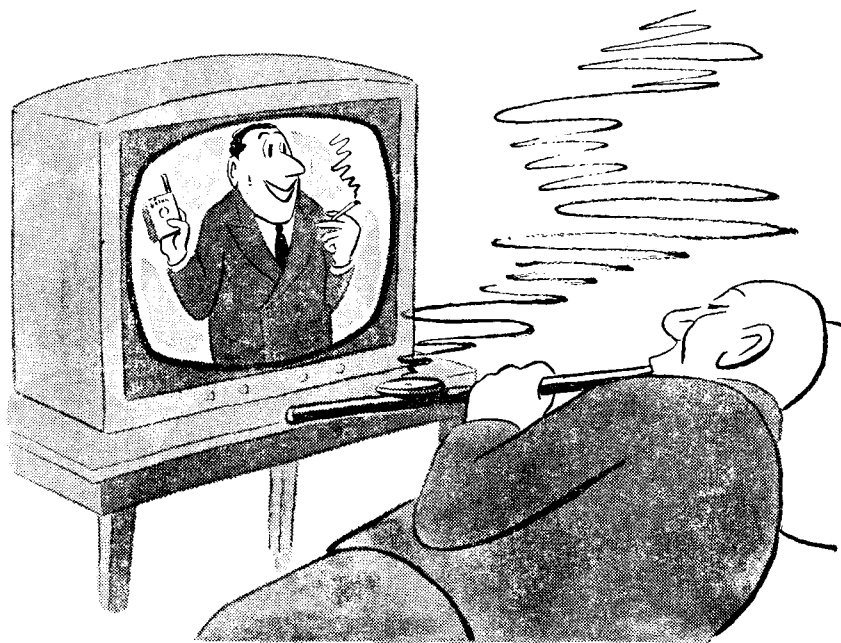
munist conquest of China? "Certainly," writes Niebuhr, "the Communist revolution in China gained its success because the previous regime [meaning that of Chiang Kai-shek] could not establish tolerable justice and order." That is not only the official Kremlin falsification of history; it is also the mendacious interpretation in which Socialists and Americans for Democratic Action (ADA'ers) like Niebuhr join the gangsters of Moscow in their redaction of history for the purpose

of hiding from posterity the New Deal's shameful betrayal of hundreds of millions of human beings.

Niebuhr's lofty pretensions of scholarship are only a mask for his crude propaganda. No wonder he is *Time's* darling theologian!

Slowly, but surely, fact-ferreting congressional probers and fact-respecting historians are piecing together the story of the treachery of the New Deal as an accomplice in the successes of Communism here and elsewhere all over the world.

*(This is the first in a series of three articles on Communists and the New Deal)*



O'Brian

"For a lighter, more satisfying smoke with no 'morning after' effects, try Blotto cigarettes!"



*By James Andrew Mayer*

# The Woman Who Counts Your Money

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MRS. MARGARET C. RUSSELL is a pleasant-faced, gray-haired woman with just a trace of soft Virginia inflection in her speech, and she holds one of the most unusual and most responsible jobs in the U. S. Civil Service.

She is responsible for the counting of, and the accounting for, approximately 45 million dollars in currency daily. She counts more money than any other person in the world.

Mrs. Russell is assistant superintendent of the Surface Printing Division, in charge of the Currency Overprinting Section, Bureau of Printing and Engraving.

Every day attendants wheel into Mrs. Russell's section trays loaded with large sheets of freshly engraved banknotes from the Engraving Division. Each sheet contains 12 to 18 notes. Treasury notes, Federal Reserve notes and silver certificates. One-dollar bills, five-dollar bills, tens, twenties and on up to occasional runs of bills in the denomination of \$100,000 (the large bills do not go into general circulation, but are used by banks for deposit in the Federal Reserve). As the notes arrive in Mrs. Russell's section, they are not "live" currency. They have

been engraved on both sides, but the serial numbers, secretary's signature, and the seal have not yet been stamped on.

Each batch of sheets is counted by hand, recorded and receipted for. The sheets are then fed into an elaborate press which stamps on the serial numbers, signatures and seal, cuts the sheets into individual bills, and automatically counts them. And out roll by the thousands the loveliest works of the printer's art that mortal man can behold — fresh, crisp, brand-new paper currency. Millions of dollars an hour!

The bills that pour forth from Mrs. Russell's presses are what they call at the Bureau "live" currency. During the split seconds that they speed around the revolving cylinders they are transformed from relatively worthless sheets of paper to money that is freely negotiable every place in the civilized — and even the uncivilized — world.

THE bills are automatically stacked in piles of 100 as they come from the presses, and then they are again subjected to a hand count. Often bills will stick together as they go through the presses and the hand