

Comment

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cotton is required in the manufacture of explosives."

Senator Holman is not alone in asking those questions. Millions of Americans would like to know why, in the face of avowed hatred and distrust of dictators, the Administration is coddling godless Soviet Russia.

The answer seems to be that a dictator — regardless of his murderous record, his slaughter of Christians — is not to be irritated or condemned as long as he does not threaten the British Empire.

Business as Usual in British Air Traffic

IN THEIR zeal to sacrifice American defense, American wealth, American liberties and if necessary, American lives, to preserve the British Empire, our administration officials, in some instances, are putting forth greater effort than the British themselves.

Not long ago operators of commercial airlines in the United States were warned that they must not expect to expand their services by securing more transport ships because the nation's airplane factories were already overtaxed with military orders.

Most of the planes in production are destined for Great Britain.

Now, the shortage of British war planes being so acute, one would expect that English facilities for producing them are being utilized to the utmost; especially since those in America are.

It is quite surprising, therefore, to learn that the British have not only failed to curtail commercial airplane production, but actually are building passenger planes to be put into service on new British commercial routes!

While the United States is being asked to throttle our commercial air development to help Britain's war, the Empire itself is expanding its own commercial air services.

Representative John M. Costello of California made the charge in the House of Representatives recently, quoting an English source to corroborate him.

According to Congressman Costello, the magazine *Flight*, a British aviation publication, stated in its issue of November 28, 1940:

"One of the surprising features of the war is, not that British aircraft export should have dwindled but that it should exist at all. In spite of all the difficulties arising out of priority claims of materials for military aircraft, of obtaining export licenses, and last, but not least, of finding the time and the men, General Aircraft Ltd. has persistently pursued the policy that export must, come what may, be kept alive if the country is to remain in a healthy financial condition."

Declaring that Britain is more concerned with strengthening its commercial position after the war than it is with the danger of losing the war, Representative Costello

read an excerpt from another aviation publication which seemingly substantiated his charge.

The December, 1940, issue of the magazine *Aeronautics*, asserted:

"For some time British Airways have been awaiting delivery of eight De Havilland Flamingo machines which they had ordered. The first, named *'King Arthur'*, has now been handed over to them. This aircraft, with the other Flamingos, is to be used abroad on services already in existence and on new routes that have been planned in various parts of the empire."

Thus, while commercial air lines of the United States are threatened with a shortage of planes, as a result of our all-out efforts on behalf of Great Britain, British commercial air lines are expanding.

Furthermore, said Mr. Costello, "in England the small engine manufacturers are still producing for sale small horsepower engines, advertising that the engines 'are available at short notice and your inquiries are invited.'"

"If nothing else it would seem to me that Great Britain should not be using available supplies of aircraft materials for production of pleasure aircraft and commercial ships, as well as the tools and equipment and the manpower so essential to the production of an air force now vitally needed for the defense of that country."

"Whenever you hear the phrase, 'Some of my best friends are Jews, but . . . ' you know that you are going to be let in on a little anti-Semitism," writes Paul Redmond in the *Holy Name Journal*. He adds, "Well, whenever you hear, 'I am not a Communist, but . . . ' you know that the speaker may not be a Communist, but that he will hold the lamp while a Communist cuts up the *Declaration of Independence*!"

Loyalty Legion

COMMITTEES are organizing so rapidly these days that one is slightly bewildered trying to keep up with them and at the same time have a clear understanding of what they are organized for. We sometimes suspect there is a method in the very confusion they generate.

However, a new one has been organized which need not leave any room for doubt as to its objectives. It is called the *President's Loyalty Legion*.

It has been organized, under the laws of the State of Missouri, by Orville S. McPherson, publisher of the *Kansas City Journal*.

According to the United Press, Mr. McPherson gave the objective of the organization as follows:

"We are for all-out aid to Britain because that has become the policy of our Government as a matter of national defense, and further, *if the President takes steps which will involve us in war, we will absolutely support them 100 per cent!*"

At the same time, in New York, a group is planning a similar organization called the *"United Americans."* Among them are Leon M. Birkhead, national director of the *Friends of Democracy*. When the New York group heard of the fine program of Mr. McPherson, they promptly contacted him and prevailed on him to merge his organization with theirs.

The *President's Loyalty Legion* has now been dissolved into the *United Americans* with the following backers:

William Allan Neilson, president emeritus of Smith College;

James M. Landis, dean of the Harvard University Law school, who gave the notorious Communist Harry Bridges a clean bill of health when the latter was tried on the West Coast — despite the fact that the Justice Department had placed in the hands of the Attorney General a 25,000 word brief proving that Bridges is a Communist;

William Green, president of the American Federation of Labor;

Luigi Antonini, New York state chairman of the American Labor Party;

Dr. Clarence R. Decker, president of the University of Kansas;

Dr. Henry Sloane Coffin, president of the Union Theological Seminary, and Dr. L. M. Birkhead, national director of the *Friends of Democracy*.

Mr. McPherson is to be national chairman of *"United Americans."*

At a New York meeting, the group said they were committed to the following program:

"Support of the Administration's aid-to-Britain program and any other emergency measures attending it for the duration of the world crisis; subordinate purely partisan bickering; improve America's national defense; enlighten public opinion on the aims, methods and significance of the dictators' assault on civilization, and oppose all forces which are misleading American public opinion."

According to a story in the *New York Herald Tribune*, "Mr. McPherson said that a keystone of his policy was to give President Roosevelt a blank check in handling foreign affairs, and that he was ready to follow the President in anything, even into the war, if the President and Congress decided that step was necessary.

"Rather than follow misguided, self-appointed leaders who were misleading the people, Mr. McPherson said *America must follow the leadership of the 'big six'* — President Roosevelt; Cordell Hull, Secretary of State; Frank Knox, Secretary of Navy; Henry L. Stimson, Secretary of War; William Knudsen, Director General of the Office of Production Management; and Wendell L. Willkie, leader of the Republican Party.

"Mr. McPherson said the work of *United Americans* would combat the work of the *America First Committee*, headed by General Robert E. Wood and the *No Foreign War Committee*, headed by Verne Marshall, but he did not attach unpatriotic motives to any groups or individuals on the opposite side.

"Mr. McPherson said the *United Americans* had the blessing of the *Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies* (William Allen White, editor of the *Emporia Gazette*, formerly headed this Committee) and planned to supplement and assist the work of that group by enrolling a larger and more 'rank-and-file' membership."

So thus we have another Committee. It looks like Mr. McPherson is a little ahead of public opinion in his originally publicized objective to "support war 100 per cent." Therefore, a committee to persuade the rank and file to the war spirit seemed to be in order.

You Should Know About Cartels

What's Behind This Trust-Busting Crusade?

EVERY true American is wholeheartedly in favor of American defense.

Both industry and labor on the whole are more than willing to do their full share.

And the spirit and will of the American people are ready again to give our all for the defense of this country.

But let the powers behind the scenes take notice: *The American people will never again permit themselves to be betrayed and take it!*

Our public has been shocked to learn that strategic metals — absolutely essential to the construction of airplanes, tanks, artillery, precision instruments — were under the monopolistic control of international cartels, or associations, which in turn are dominated by a small *clique* of international financiers, hitherto all-powerful.

To be sure, informed students knew, from Congressional investigations and other sources, that the makers of munitions, instruments of death and destruction equally necessary for defense as well as for offense, were allied throughout the world. They safeguarded their properties, they skyrocketed prices when periodic wars so demanded, and they kept basic patents so secret that outsiders could not even enter the field.

Not only was the great American public shocked, but some of the highest officials of Government, into whose hands we have entrusted our defense program, were startled to find these basic metals in the control of a handful of private financiers.

In 1917, a similar situation existed, but the astute Bernard Baruch, who knew the ins and outs of the world metal cartels, was successful in forcing them to meet the requirements of the Government.

In England, also, civil servants found with a bewildering shock this unbelievable control over the basic war materials.

However, since 1917, through the '20s and '30s, these cartels grew and increased their stranglehold under a series of American administrations not unfriendly to trusts and monopolies. During this period, American trusts and holding companies allied themselves with the foreign cartels who offered them quick, huge, and easy profits.

A case in point is that of General Electric Corporation, associated with International General Electric Company, a wholly owned subsidiary which handles its foreign engineering, manufacturing and selling activities as well as its foreign investments. International G. E. also represents other American concerns in the electrical trade and has investments in Holland, Belgium, France and other European countries.

Last August, General Electric Company was indicted by the United States Government for its trade agreements with the German Krupp Armament Company for an alleged monopoly in tungsten carbide. The companies were charged specifically with dividing up markets, controlling pro-

duction, crushing competition, and fixing excessive prices. The price of the material, which was as low as \$48 a pound before the agreement, was catapulted as high as \$453 per pound.

Added to this sordid picture is an Associated Press item of February 1st stating that:

"Tungsten is used to alloy steel for high-speed cutting tools and armor-piercing bullets. The United States Navy has arranged to turn over its reserve stock of tungsten to the steel industry, it was learned today, to overcome a temporary shortage of the mineral which caused some plants to face the possibility of stopping work on defense contracts almost immediately."

Here is the United States Navy being obliged to give up its own meagre supply of this precious metal to the steel industry in order that defense contracts may not be stopped — because the steel industry cannot buy it or get delivery at once.

But you haven't heard anything yet.

The *New York Times* of February 11, 1941, carried the story that "The entire holdings of International General Electric Company, amounting to \$10-million face value for participating debentures of Siemens & Halske, A. G., the largest electrical manufacturing concern in the world outside of the United States, were sold a few months ago to a private individual for cash, in United States dollars, at a price in excess of face value, it was disclosed today.

"In Wall Street, where the transaction aroused marked interest in view of other sales of large American investments in German or German-controlled countries in the last few months, the opinion was expressed that the unidentified individual was acting for the Reich government and the corporation, with the intention of repatriating the securities, which represented 40 to 50 per cent of the entire Siemens and Halske debt."

The international financiers, knowing that a shortage of the material and exorbitant prices would force Government action, quietly transfer the ownership to a private individual acting for the Nazi government.

Trust-busting Thurman Arnold, the assistant Attorney-General, will need to get up earlier than the proverbial morning crow if he thinks he can shake the big stick at these international cartel boys and scare them. They are beyond fear, because they are above governments. They make the rules!

The pity of it is that Mr. Arnold is trying to do a good job but is awfully handicapped, first by a lack of adequate personnel — there are only some 200 attorneys assisting him. He recently stated that at least 31 industries producing vital war materials were awaiting investigation because the anti-trust division, which he heads, does not have facilities to deal with them.

Another handicap that confronts Mr.

Arnold is that when he gets too close to some real information and traces it, he finds that persons high in the Government itself become implicated in the picture. You can't very well "crack down" on the investments of your official business superiors.

Senator Wheeler, many believe, made a definite contribution to this situation when he said (Feb. 7th) that "if the President is so anxious to find out who is aiding Germany," he support an investigation of German interests in American defense industries.

Readers of SOCIAL JUSTICE, at least, have some idea of what Father Coughlin had in mind when, from time to time, he would excoriate the "international bankers." Although our dime-a-line propagandists would have us believe the species to be a myth of myths.

You see, too, why Father Coughlin's comments and exposures of these vicious controls *did not meet the approval of certain influential persons.*

The financial cartels of the world are the real "fifth columns" in every country. They have been the Nazis' most efficient weapon in economic, military and espionage warfare.

Honest business men and industrial leaders — most of them wholly unaware of the ramifications of international finance — are "taking the rap" in the trust-busting activities.

Why is honest business penalized for the secret connivings of the international financiers?

Mr. David Lawrence in the *United States News* is authority for stating that the United States Government has indicted 858 corporations and 84 labor unions, "for alleged monopolistic practices."

Keen-minded observers are beginning to suspect that this anti-trust crusade is actually being used for the control and ultimate socialization of American business and industry.

A case in point was the recent indictment of the Aluminum Company of America in connection with a cartel agreement with the so-called German Dye Trust, of which I. G. Farbenindustrie is the biggest. The issue was over magnesium, another essential in our defense program. It seems that back in 1928, the cartel boys thought magnesium should be under their control. The Aluminum Company of America, a Mellon-controlled industry, was to have free reign in the American market and the German Dye Trust in the rest of the world.

When the Attorney-General's office put through the indictment recently, the Aluminum Company of America pleaded not guilty, but immediately purchased outright for "several million dollars," the financial interests of the General Aniline & Film Company, a German subsidiary of the cartel operating in the United States despite the cartel agreement, in order to break the bottleneck of magnesium production.

Now wouldn't the Aluminum Company be in a pretty spot if the Government decided that such a strategic material was not being produced fast enough and took over that industry?

The international cartel boys are in the clear. They got their "several millions."