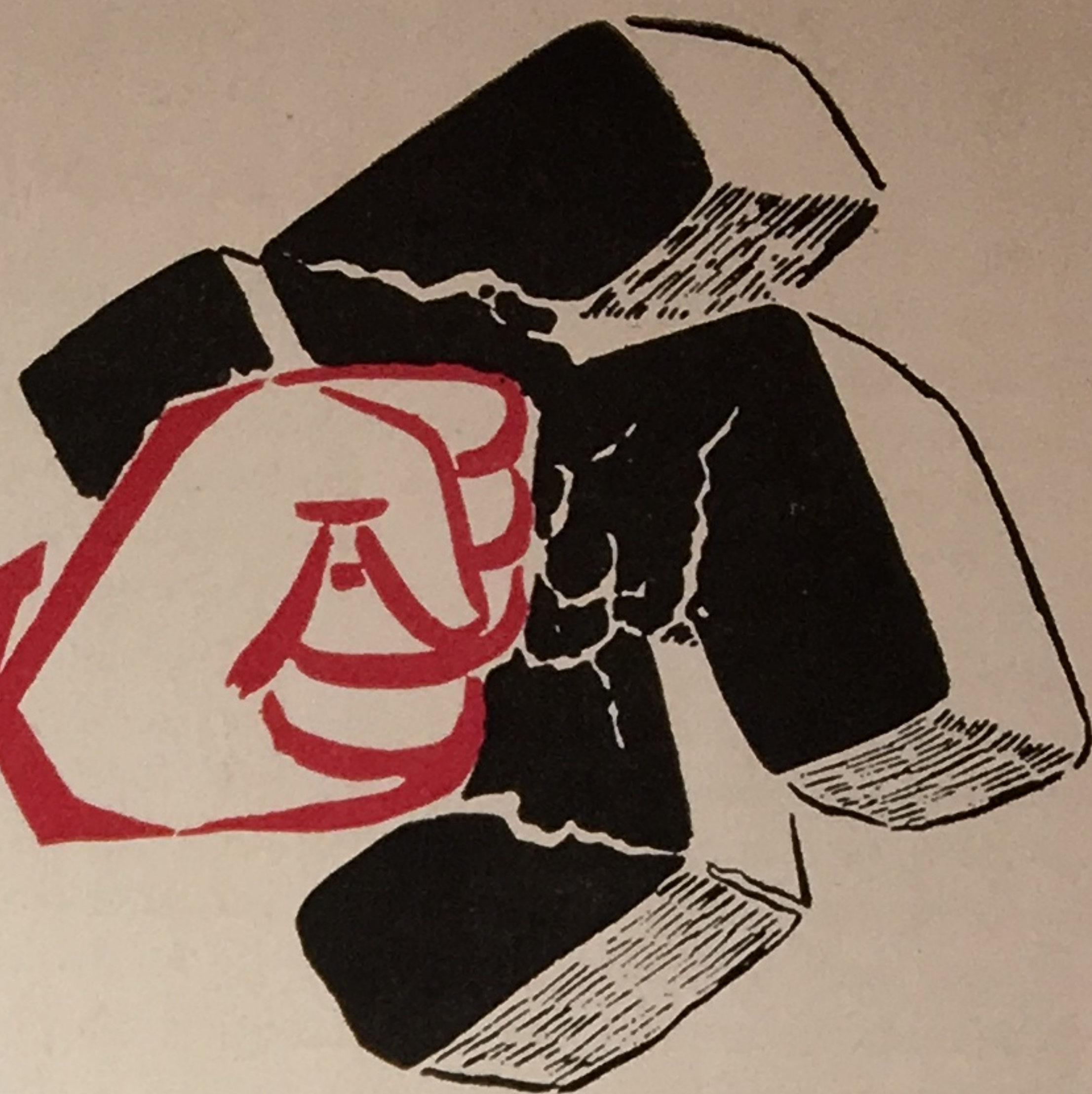


Dedicated to the proposition that Anti-Semitism in any of its forms serves Fascism, is repugnant to the ideals of our democracy, and must be eliminated to safeguard the American way of life.

COUNTERATTACK



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PATTERN FOR ACTION

Both the American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations passed judgment on anti-Semitism in resolutions adopted at their recent annual conventions. The two organizations pointed out the danger to national unity implicit in racial and religious hatred. The resolutions presented to each convention follow in part:

The AFL in New Orleans—

“Whereas, Recent developments indicate the presence in this country of a considerable amount of racial tension, religious bigotry and anti-Semitism, setting Protestant against Catholic, Christian against Jew, native Americans against foreign born citizens, and

“Whereas, Anti-Semitism as used by Hitler and Axis inspired elements to sow dissension and mistrust in their effort to destroy the national unity so necessary to our successful conduct of this war and the conclusion of a firm and just peace, . . . therefore be it

“Resolved, That the 64th annual convention of the American Federation of Labor, held in the city of New Orleans, November, 1944, issue a warning to the American people against the danger of allowing the wave of racialism to rise in this country, and against the evil of discriminating against minorities, no matter who practices the discrimination and against what group it is directed, and be it further . . .

“Resolved, That the unions affiliated with the American Federation of Labor be urged to wage an unrelenting struggle against the groups responsible for the spreading of the poison of anti-Catholicism, anti-Protestantism, anti-Semitism, anti-Negroism and other forms of racial prejudice, and that the Executive Council give all possible support to the international and local unions in the undertaking and carrying out of an educational program calculated to promote tolerance, understanding, and amity among the various groups comprising the family of American organized labor.”

The CIO in Chicago—

“. . . Anti-Semitism threatens the unity and democracy of the entire American nation and the freedom of all peoples. It violates the American democratic tradition and endangers the great unity of Americans of all classes which is so necessary for the winning of the war and the winning of a lasting, just peace, to which the CIO is dedicated with heart and soul.

“The horrible years of the Hitler terror have taught decent men and women the world over that anti-Semitism is one of the foulest instruments ever devised to enslave and crush nations. This lesson was learned the hard way, through oceans of blood and the dimming of the light of freedom in many parts of the world. We shall never forget that anti-Semitism was one of the key props of the International Nazi conspiracy to conquer freedom everywhere. . . .

“In the light of the evidence provided by the United States government, in the light of the activities of the Gerald L. K. Smiths and the anti-Jewish outbreaks and activities in the past year, we reaffirm with even sharper emphasis, the resolution of the last National Convention of the Congress of Industrial Organizations:

“‘Anti-Semitism is a Hitler weapon aimed to disrupt the war effort. Anti-Semitism is part of the despicable Nazi race theory. Anti-Semitism today is treason to America. . . .’

“We pledge our support for the enactment of a Federal law which would make anti-Semitism a crime, punishable by imprisonment.”

Anti-Semitism entails a threat to every institution of American life. The American Federation of Labor and the Congress of Industrial Organizations, speaking in the name of thirteen million organized workers, have indicated an awareness of that danger and an intention to deal severely with it.

Good Neighbor Note

London, Ontario—The General Council of the United Church of Canada, at a recent meeting, recorded its determined opposition to anti-Semitism. Parts of the report approved by the Council follow:

"We rejoice that when the racial cult of Nazism challenged the Church in Germany, the Confessional Church resisted, protested against the edict that non-Aryans should not be permitted to retain their membership in the company of Christ's elect. We rejoice in the strong stand taken by the Christian Church in this and other lands against anti-Semitism, no matter on how many grounds it might differ from Jewish faith and practice. We hope and pray that the victory over Nazism will also prove to be a victory over racial idolatry and racial arrogance wherever it exists. . . .

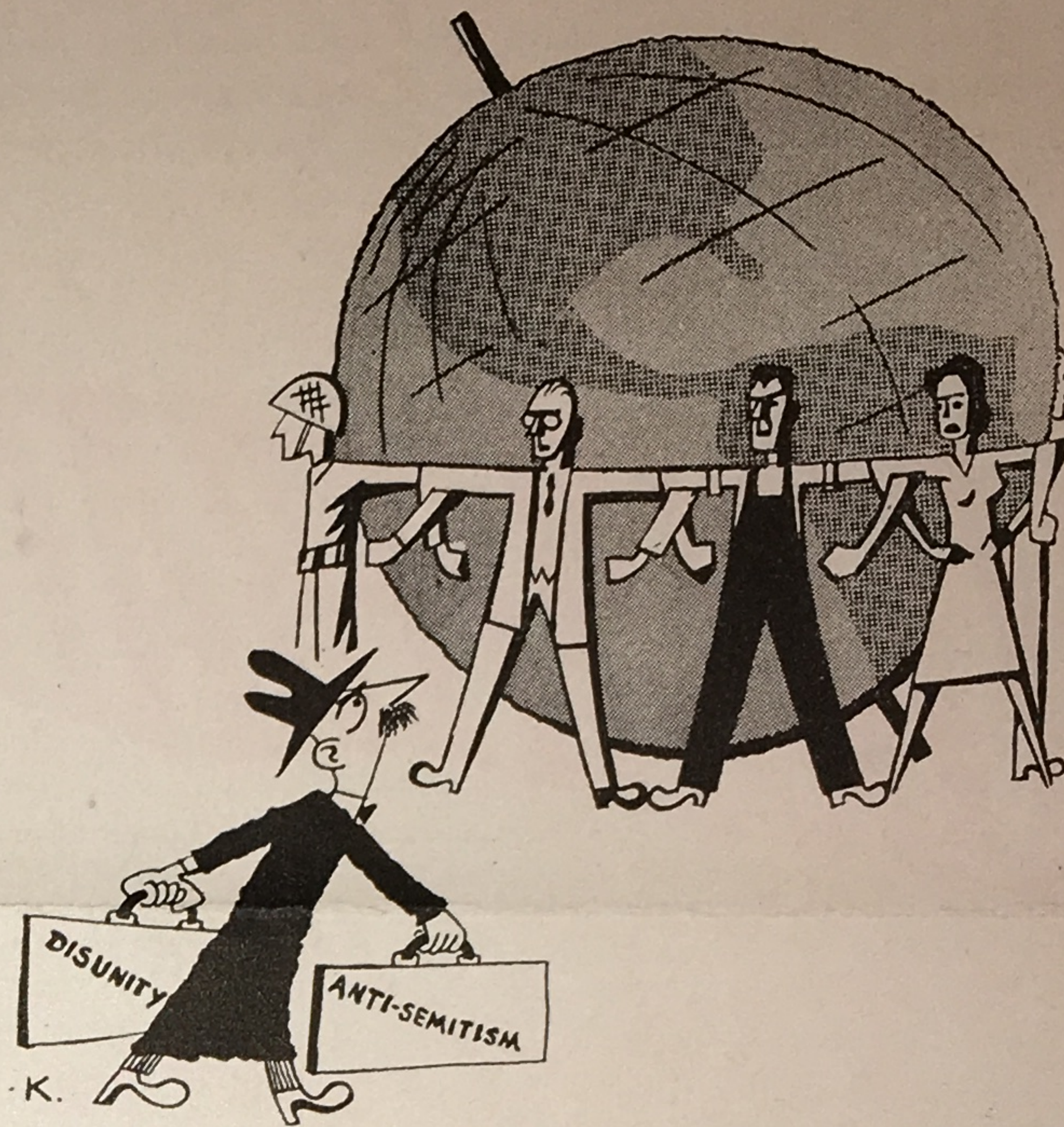
"We also lament every display of discrimination . . . and we pledge ourselves to work for the unity of all the races resident in Canada on a basis of mutual and reciprocal respect, without which our dreams for a more perfect Dominion are vain. In particular, we deplore the bitter spirit of anti-Semitism which is manifest in different parts of Canada and the exclusiveness and prejudice too often displayed toward non-Anglo-Saxon Canadians."

We, Too

New Orleans—Canadian and British labor joined hands in a pledge to fight any postwar re-emergence of racial and religious bigotry. A. R. Johnstone of the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada and John Brown of the British Trade Union Congress, fraternal delegates to the American Federation of Labor convention, had this to say:

Mr. Johnstone: ". . . The organized labor movement of Canada as represented by the Trades and Labor Congress of Canada embraces membership of every race, color and creed. We are proud of our membership and will continue to guard zealously their every right as Canadian citizens. Organized labor in Canada will remain watchful against the introduction or organization of pro-fascist groups or societies which might attempt to return under ultra-patriotic names or with programs that will advocate anti-Semitism or any other racial discrimination. I think the world has had its experience of this sort of thing. Canada is not backward. We will deal with this firmly, I believe, if required to do so."

Mr. Brown: "The British Trade Union Movement definitely sets its face against any division on the basis of either race or religion, and as far as fascism is concerned, will do its utmost to defeat any attempt to establish such a system of government. . . . British trade unionists will fight vigorously and will condemn the establishment or use of any veteran organizations or groups for the purpose of Jew-baiting or discrimination in any economic or industrial affairs. We would doom any such attempt with bell, book, and candle."



For the Common Good

Atlantic City—Emphasizing that "the Jewish people look to the United Nations for the establishment of a new international democratic order based on the Four Freedoms and the Atlantic Charter," the War Emergency Conference of the World Jewish Congress adopted a resolution calling for an international bill of rights. The resolution also urged the adoption and promulgation of national laws and other appropriate international legal instruments declaring anti-Semitism and similar acts of incitement to racial and religious hatred and discrimination, violations of criminal laws and public policy.

Attention: Germans

London—The fourth proclamation issued to the German people in the name of General Eisenhower was broadcast by Allied transmitters and reported by the OWI. A part of the text follows:

"For more than ten years you have been existing under a regime that made unjust discrimination against innocent people into a system of law. Such laws are abhorrent to every sense of justice. They will not be tolerated by the Military Government.

"The Military Government will strike down and abolish any Nazi-made laws that discriminate against and penalize any person or group on the ground of religion, race, nationality, language or political opinion. . . .

"Not only the laws but also the agencies and the many devices that the Nazis have created to carry out their policies of unjust discrimination on the grounds of race or religion, or nationality or political opinion, will be wiped out."

Round-Up

Los Angeles—Continuing his anti-Semitic tirades (COUNTERATTACK, Nov. 15), Rev. Robert P. Shuler, in the November issue of his publication THE METHODIST CHALLENGE, declared: "We are a drunken nation, thanks to the liquor that Franklin D. Roosevelt let loose upon us. . . . Jewish control of industry and trade and finance, that will smoulder and burn and finally burst into flame, sweeping like a conflagration that may make the terrors of Europe look sick, roots back in the New Deal."

The issue, apparently a publication of the Trinity Methodist Church of Los Angeles, states in a boxed editorial, "This is not a church publication."

Washington—Herman Max Schwinn, one time chief fuehrer of the German-American Bund for the eleven western states of America, and currently a defendant in the mass sedition trial, has turned to the Muse of Poetry for further inspiration in Nazi propaganda. From the jail where he is serving a sentence for counselling Bund members to evade military service, Schwinn has delivered himself of a poem "To Columbia." An excerpt follows:

*But when in Europe's war torn lands
Began a Liberation
Some deemed it cunning, their affair,
To agitate your nation.
With money, falsehood, knavery
That ancient cursed clan
Usurped the power of your land
To use it in their plan.*

Schwinn's American citizenship has been revoked.

Benton Harbor, Michigan—The Fascist movement in America has been driven underground by the war, but the movement is making its postwar plans too, according to Homer Maertz, Chicago Silver Shirter. In an interview with CHICAGO SUN correspondent William I. Flanagan, Maertz declared: "America's greatest crisis is coming after the war. On one side will be the 'rightists'—big business, anti-Semites and nationalists. On the other will be the 'leftists'—internationalists, Semites and their friends. You may call us pro-Nazi or pro-Fascist now, but after the war there will be no Nazis or Fascists. The line of demarcation will be between rightists and leftists, and there will be no in-betweens."

Maertz defined his anti-Semitism: "I am first a nationalist. All Semites are internationalists; hence I hate them. But it's nothing personal."

For Meritorious Service

New York—Nobel Prizes have been awarded to two Jewish scientists in recognition of their work in physics. Dr. Isidore Rabi of Columbia University received the 1944 physics award for his research in the resonance method of registering the magnetic moments of atomic particles. To Dr. Otto Stern, a refugee from Germany now with the Carnegie Institute of Technology in Pittsburgh, went the 1943 physics prize for development of the molecular ray method of detecting the magnetic momentum of protons.

Precedent

New York—Proposed legislation for a State Commission to deal with racial and religious discrimination in employment (COUNTERATTACK, Dec. 1) was weighed carefully by New York's citizens in a series of seven public hearings held throughout the State. More than 150 organizations, religious, civic, racial, fraternal and labor, sent representatives to present their views.

At the hearing in New York City, Chairman Irving M. Ives, New York State Commission Against Discrimination, declared that "the most important thing the commission has done, or can do, is to propose by statute, for the first time in history, to make the right of employment a civil right, regardless of race, creed, color or religion."

Charles Evans Hughes, Jr., chairman of the Mayor's Committee on Unity, applauding the purposes behind the legislation, suggested that if such legislation were enacted, it was important that the equality of enforcement command respect. Louis Hollander, president of the State CIO, proposed that the legislation be amended to outlaw discrimination in housing, education, restaurant and hotel accommodations as well as in employment.

Testimony at earlier hearings in Buffalo, Rochester, Syracuse and Albany had brought additional suggestions to the Commission's attention. Charles B. Sears, former member of the State Court of Appeals and Chairman of the Buffalo Mayor's Committee on Community Relations, expressed the view that the draft lacked necessary strength and that enforcement procedure provisions were too complex. Mr. Sears indicated further that legislation to bar discrimination in fields other than employment is also needed.

To New York's legislature will be given the opportunity, in the words of Assemblyman Ives, "to make history."

Report to Congress

Washington—Senator Dennis Chavez (D., N. M.) summarized the testimony before recent Senate Education and Labor Committee hearings. He called for the establishment of a permanent federal Fair Employment Practices Committee with enforcement powers. The agency, Senator Chavez indicated, is needed in order to:

"Promote in peace the same national harmony and efficiency we have achieved in war;

"Prevent in the postwar readjustment period the fears and injustices which led to mob violence and race riots in years following World War I;

"Remove a serious obstacle to friendly relations with certain of the United Nations who have long been sensitive to treatment accorded people of similar origin in this country; . . .

"And finally, to confound our enemies who hope by dividing us class by class, race by race, group by group, to vitiate the coming victory and lay the basis for World War III."

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Washington—The sudden death on November 30 of Chief Justice Edward C. Eicher of the Federal District Court halted, for the time being, the trial of 26 alleged seditionists. The case was formally declared a mistrial, the decision as to future procedure resting with the Attorney General. The original indictments are not affected.

In the eight months that the trial has been running, an estimated 500 motions for a mistrial or a directed verdict for the defendants have been made. Seven defense lawyers have been fined a total of \$1220 for misconduct in court. One defendant had to be severed from the trial because of obstreperous court conduct. Of the 29 defendants, nine, already serving sentence on other sedition charges, were brought to court sessions from the district jail. They include: George Sylvester Viereck; William Dudley Pelley, Silver Shirt leader; Gerhard Wilhelm Kunze, German-American Bund leader; Robert Noble and Ellis O. Jones, organizers of the Friends of Progress; Frank K. Ferenz; Herman Max Schwinn and August Klapprott, German-American Bund officials; and Hans Diebel, interned as an enemy alien.

The trial of the alleged seditionists, charged with a campaign to overthrow the U. S. government and set up a Nazi state, by means, chiefly, of demoralizing the American armed forces, began on April 17, 1944. Included in the indictment were Adolf Hitler and his deputies as co-conspirators. In an opening statement of the Government's case, Special Prosecutor O. John Rogge disclosed that the prosecution was prepared to show that at least two of the defendants received direct financial reward from the Nazis for their labors and that the others all knew that they were serving Adolf Hitler. "To bring about this Nazi revolution," stated Prosecutor Rogge, "the defendants intended to and did use the same methods that the Nazis had already successfully used in Germany. They engaged in a systematic propaganda campaign inciting people to hatred of our present form of government and to hatred of certain groups and classes; and they tried to interfere with the loyalty of members of our armed forces to our present form of government."

Mr. Rogge declared further: "The Nazi conspirators and the defendants considered anti-Semitic propaganda in all countries an almost indispensable part of the worldwide Nazi movement. By attacking the Jews, the Nazi conspirators and the defendants hoped to destroy the feeling for law and order of the whole world. . . . The 29 defendants in this case joined the worldwide Nazi conspiracy. They studied, elaborated on, intended to follow, and in fact, did follow, the Nazi technique for overthrowing a democratic, representative form of government."

Dr. Emanuel Chapman, chairman of the Executive Board, National Committee to Combat Anti-Semitism, to Mr. Francis Biddle, Attorney General of the United States:

"We have viewed with alarm the fact that the 26 persons indicted for treason have used their trial as an open forum for anti-Semitic and other seditious propaganda. For eight months these fascists have used every opportunity both in and out of court to further the plot for which they stand trial.

"Prosecutor O. John Rogge in his opening to the jury at the beginning of the trial clearly showed that these people are as guilty of treason today as Benedict Arnold was in his day. You would be remiss in your duty if a new trial was not immediately commenced. And we would be derelict in ours if we did not urge you in the interest of our democracy and of the tradition upon which our country is founded to commence a new trial. We would all be derelict in our duty to the men and women in our armed forces if we did not go ahead with a new trial and defend at home what they are giving their blood and lives for on the field of battle. . . .

"The Committee for which I speak, the membership of which is non-sectarian and represents a cross section of the great American people, is dedicated to the proposition that anti-Semitism in any of its forms serves fascism and must be eliminated to safeguard the American way of life. All the defendants used anti-Semitism as Hitler used it, not merely against the Jews, but against every individual.

"We urge that the time and money spent by our country in the past eight months in prosecuting these dangerous criminals should not be wasted. We demand a new trial be started at once and that the defendants be brought to the bar of justice as historic examples to the world that those who would betray our beloved country pay the price for their iniquity. Just as in the liberated countries the nazi fascist criminals are standing trial and paying for their crimes, so in our country we must make these criminals pay before we have our black day. We must learn from the lessons of the world. We must act now."

--- Peace on Earth — Good Will To Men ---

COUNTERATTACK, here, at home, is helping to preserve these sentiments, by exposing the dangers of anti-Semitism. What better way for you to share the Christmas holiday, than to send a gift subscription of COUNTERATTACK to your friends. The cost is one dollar.

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