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The Dies Committee Carries On

Excerpts from a radio address by

REPRESENTATIVE MARTIN DIES, *Chairman of the Committee.*

To what extent have Naziism, Fascism and Communism succeeded in securing a foothold in the United States?

To what extent are they likely to succeed in the future?

From the information and evidence before me, I am convinced that the Nazi-Fascists and the Communists have made considerable progress in recent years. The Communists have made more progress than the Nazis and Fascists because conditions have been more favorable for class appeals than racial appeals.

The evidence before our Committee indicates very clearly that the Communists have instigated lawlessness and violence in labor struggles and have seized strategic positions in certain labor unions affiliated with the C. I. O. They have organized a number of "front organizations" and have succeeded in securing a large membership. Other organizations which were founded for worthy purposes have been taken over by the Com-

munists, so that directly and indirectly the Communists in the United States are wielding more influence today than ever before in our history, and have become factors that must be reckoned with in our political, social and economic life.

The history of other countries proves that Communism is the forerunner of Fascism and Naziism. Intelligent people will not long endure Communism and, in their disgust and desperation, they invariably turn to Fascism and Naziism. Not being a prophet, I cannot predict what progress these alien "isms" will make in the future, but God forbid that either will succeed. There is but one antidote to the poison of Communism, Naziism and Fascism and that is Americanism.

Every Communist "front organization" has as the essence of its being class hatred. They denounce racial and, sometimes, religious prejudice but do everything in their power to promote class hatred.

A crystallized public sentiment and a sincere patriotism are the most effective weapons we can employ against alien inroads. While I believe in adequate preparedness, it is foolish to talk about spending billions of dollars to resist some physical invasion of this country by foreign troops when there has already occurred, and is occurring every day, an invasion of this country by foreign agents, organizations and alien political, social and economic ideas and philosophies. I am certain that we will not be conquered by foreign troops, but I am not so certain that we will not be conquered by foreign "isms." Rome was conquered by Greek and Oriental philosophy long before she was successfully invaded by foreign troops. What foreign countries are now seeking is not the conquest of America by armies but by ideas.

The President has taken cognizance of our insistence that something be done with reference to foreign spies. This is most encouraging, but the President should not stop there. There are aliens in this country who are more dangerous than spies. In our recent hearings in Detroit we received testimony concerning four or five Communist aliens who are effectively instigating class hatred and widespread lawlessness. These

aliens were arrested by the local police but none of them have been deported. Like Harry Bridges, these aliens are all prominent in labor agitation. The local police informed us that there was ample testimony that they have advocated the overthrow of this Government by force and violence and, this being true, they are deportable. I wish I had the time to tell you about the record of these Communist aliens and what they are now doing. There is no justification for the failure to deport these aliens.

In the next place, the Government can certainly stop Communist activities on Government projects, which are financed by the hard-earned money of loyal and patriotic Americans. The evidence before our Committee shows that Communists have permeated certain Federal agencies such as the WPA, and that the money of patriotic taxpayers is actually financing Communist activity in this country.

Some demagogues would like to congeal us into permanent classes, either racial, social, economic or religious, and then identify themselves as the leaders of the majority classes for their own political or financial aggrandizement. If they ever succeed in freezing our population into permanent classes imbued with hatred and intolerance towards each other, then I say to you that America will suffer the fate of the Roman Republic. We will go the way of all other Republics where lawlessness, violence, hatreds and prejudices made life so intolerable to the average person that he finally accepted the strong arm of a dictator as the lesser of two evils. And mark my word, if we are ever enslaved, whether by Fascists or Communists, the chains will bind the laborer's wrists as tightly as they will those of the industrialist.

It is not alone the Communists or Nazis I fear in this country. They constitute at most only small but effective minorities. It is their fellow travelers who stoutly deny that they are Communists or Fascists but who advocate and promote class, religious or racial hatred that I fear the most.

There is nothing as deceptive and misleading as a label pinned upon a person by himself. The most conservative politi-

cal parties in France have the most radical names. As a matter of fact, the true definition of "liberal" is one who believes in liberty and yet many of those who style themselves "liberals" are the strongest advocates of governmental regimentation and bureaucracy under which every semblance of liberty is lost. The Nazi Party called itself the Liberal Party of Germany. The Communist Party called itself the Liberal Party of Russia, and the Fascists called their party the Liberal Party of Italy. And yet all of these so-called parties destroyed liberty in their respective countries.

Some of the most illiberal or unpatriotic people and organizations in America masquerade under the deceptive title of liberalism or patriotism. What they are seeking to establish is the very antithesis of liberalism or patriotism. The Communist, as well as the Nazi and Fascist, is adept in the art of masquerading under high-sounding titles and lofty purposes. Thus we see the Communists masquerading under such lofty labels as peace, democracy, anti-Fascism, protection of civil rights, defense of labor, etc.

Let me repeat what a great American said many years ago, "Eternal vigilance is the price of liberty." Representative democracy is difficult to achieve and more difficult to retain. The greatest danger that confronts us today is indifference and apathy on the part of many of our people.

In conclusion, it is my sincere hope that this investigation may succeed in awakening the people from their slumber. The tragic fate of democracies in Europe should be a constant reminder to us that only by vigilance and alertness can we retain the priceless boon of constitutional democracy.

If the Dies Committee is to be permitted to finish its task, the forthcoming session of Congress must appropriate sufficient funds for the work.

Write your Congressman, insisting that this be done.

If you count yourself a good citizen, do this, today!