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Dies Broadens His Dragnet

• Amidst his usual violent incitements to war and reactionary gangsterism, Rep. Dies, at Madison Square Garden, broadened out even further the dragnet which he has laid for every democratic American.

Everything progressive became a "foreign influence." The glittering example of what he considers a "foreign influence" trying to "undermine the government" is: "The advocacy of the Marxian principle that the government has the duty to support the people."

The reactionary meaning of that cannot be missed.

If American families refuse to starve quietly and submissively, they fight against cuts in relief and WPA—they're subject to a "foreign influence."

If the people fight for decent and adequate schools for their children from the government (as in New York, now)—they're subject to a "foreign influence."

If the Chrysler workers fight for a living wage they're subject to a "foreign influence."

The real purpose of Dies' new formula is to scrap the Bill of Rights and to smooth the path for this country to enter the imperialist war. He referred to "the testimony of Browder, Foster, Weiner, Trachtenberg and Bedacht" before his Committee to justify his lie that the Communist Party is "under the control of Russia." By his own words, they're against America entering "the war on the side of France and England." That is, outlaw the Communists because they are for peace, because they want to keep this country out of war—and still worse for Dies, because the American people are increasingly listening to them.

The people are listening less and less to Dies. His meeting was sponsored by a sinister aggregation of Wall Street financiers. It got a big build-up from the war-mongering press, and its purpose was to boost his campaign for another Congressional appropriation. But hardly 7,000 turned up in the audience—showing that the people don't want the Dies gang to go on. Rebuked also were the reactionary sponsors of the meeting and such speakers as the fascist-minded witch-hunters, Merwin K. Hart, Jeremiah Cross and Borough President Harvey. This meeting revealed more than ever that the scrapping of the Dies Committee is an integral part of the fight for the social needs of the people, for civil rights, and for peace.