

Smash

the

SECRET
WEAPON



CHOPPER

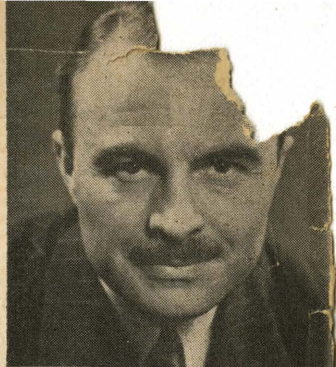
PRICE FIVE CENTS

HOW TO FIGHT THE FIFTH COLUMN

EXCERPTS
from the speeches
and reports
delivered at the
Wartime Inter-
Group Unity
Conference
sponsored by
the New York
City Central
Committee
of the Interna-
tional Workers
Order, Sunday,
January 16, 1944.



WILLIAM WEINER



JOHN E. MIDDLETON



FERDINAND C. SMITH



CLIFFORD T. McAVOY



SOL VAIL

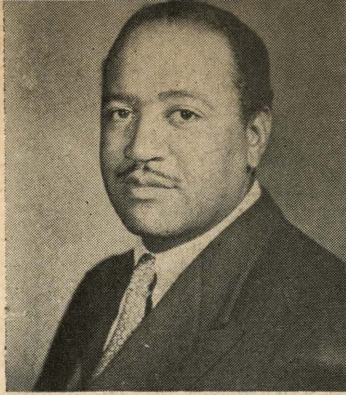


ROY WILKINS

Comments and editing by
MARTHA MILLET

Published in U.S.A.
March, 1944

Prominent persons
who participated in
the panel on unity.



Hon. BENJAMIN J. DAVIS



Hon. PETER V. CACCHIONE



Rev. ADAM CLAYTON POWELL



SHIRLEY GRAHAM

Smash the SECRET WEAPON

CANADIAN TRIBUNE
SUITE 402 - 95 KING STREET EAST
TORONTO, ONTARIO

Issued by CITY CENTRAL COMMITTEE, INTERNATIONAL WORKERS ORDER

FOREWORD

“Those of us who have never thought of the evil of racial conflicts in the most serious terms must today think of it in the most serious terms. We must be prepared to pay whatever price is required, in order to achieve that one thing most necessary in our life and most necessary to our future—UNITY!

“It is necessary to expose and isolate the individuals, the forces, the groups, the institutions which are responsible for disunity. It is necessary to expose the Klan, the Christian Fronters, the anti-Semitic forces.

“We do right when we put forth every possible effort to expose any force which seeks to turn one group against another, which would slander any section of the community, which would bring discredit upon any section of the community.

“Most basic is a definite will to unity. We must go out of our way—particularly the minorities—to establish good working relations with members of other minorities. It is for this reason that I insist, whenever I have the opportunity, upon the absolute necessity of the closest possible working relations between Negroes and members of the Jewish population. I think this is applicable to all other minorities.

“We must do this again and again, to the end that we become what we really are in the final analysis—the MAJORITY.”

Max Yergan

Executive Director,
Council on African Affairs.



HOME is a battlefront

While our armies are busy preparing the big push to plough the Axis under, Hitler has managed to strike deep into the heart of our city.

Did Hitler's bombers sneak through our defenses and rip into our factories and homes? No. But all the same we were caught napping. Hitler scored.

While we scanned the skies for enemy aircraft, Hitler's secret weapon operated right in our midst. That secret weapon has been Fascism's ace in the hole. By that weapon most of the lands and peoples of Europe fell prey to the iron heel. That weapon is aimed to soften us up so that we're too busy hating each other to resist the planting of the iron heel on our soil.

That weapon is RACE HATE and violence. It bears the trademark

MADE IN NAZI-GERMANY

"I don't believe half of this anti-Jew stuff I preach, but you can't talk politics to these people unless you make it simple by bringing in the Jew every time. It's the only language they understand—the language of hate. Hitler made it work and that's what I'm trying to do here."—Joe McWilliams, "native fuehrer."

Here, in unmistakable clarity, is the card Fascism has always gambled on. By playing this card Hitlerism got into the saddle, betraying the German people first, then dividing and riding roughshod over the bleeding peoples of other countries. When these saw—too late—what had happened, how they had been tricked, they were in a much worse position to fight the real enemy. For the boots of the fascists were already on their necks.

HOME is a battlefield

Wherever the fascists have won, it's been because they were able to play off one race against another, one religious group against another, one people against other peoples.

"The propagandas of hate and war always monkey with the buzz-saw of race and nationality, breed and kin, seldom saying, 'When in doubt hold your tongue.'"—Carl Sandburg

To be descended from European parentage, or to be a naturalized citizen of the United States yourself, is as American as apple pie. No one "came" *with* this country except the native Indians who were here to meet the boat when Columbus made his unexpected landing. Wave after wave and rivulet after rivulet of immigration built this great land, the United States; built this giant of a city, New York.

No nation and no city can be mightier than the people within them. The unity of the people is the sum and substance of the greatness of a nation and a city.

Evil cliques have always sought to "divide and rule" our country. But the modern monster, Fascism, has made it a grand strategy.

And in this land of many nationalities, without which there could be no American nation, Hitler seeks to wreak havoc. With so many different groups, the enemy calculates, the soil for dissension should be fertile indeed.

Teheran confronted Hitlerism with Fascism's doom. Now it makes a desperate bid for life on a new soil.

Already South America is honeycombed with "engineers" of Fascism, laying foundations for this transfer. And in our own country we have seen with horror storm-troop attacks on Mexican-Americans in Los Angeles; thuggery against Negroes in Detroit; gangsterism against Jewish adults and children in Boston, and assaults against Jews, particularly on the sidewalks of New York.

"On March 22, 1942, a gang of 12 boys, ranging in age from 14 to 18, who had been roller skating, decided to invade what they call 'Jewtown'—the Amalgamated Clothing Workers Homes at Van Cortlandt Park South in the Bronx—to provoke fights with any Jews they met there.

"They met two Jewish boys, E.H. and M.T., whom they called 'Jew bastards' and began to beat up. One of the Jewish boys sustained a cracked ear drum and a cut lip and the other was given a bloody nose. As the gang left the scene, they saw an elderly couple whom they called 'Jew bastard and kike.'"—Herlands Report

That is one case. One of hundreds of attacks which have been riddling our city just as effectively as if Hitler's bombers were scoring direct hits and his planes strafing our population.

Gangs of young girls go "Jew-hunting." Gangs of young boys prey on other young boys. Gang parades precede organized invasions of neighborhoods where Jewish families live. Young and old are in constant danger of assault and abuse.

Juvenile delinquency? Some try to brush aside the meaning of these outbreaks by calling it that. It always comes with war, they say. Are these children tied up with the fifth column? Ridiculous!—they tell us.

Investigation Commissioner William B. Herlands spent a year and a half studying this question. Here is his conclusion:

"Vandalism and violence are not the root of the problem, they are only the symptoms. They are a sign of undemocratic, un-American thinking. The vandals and offenders have been inspired by the same kind of anti-American and anti-Semitic propaganda used by the Nazis as part of the technique of 'divide and conquer.' Such propaganda originated in Germany and was adopted by such domestic organizations as the Christian Front and the Christian Mobilizers, among others. One of the objectives of such propaganda was to plant the seeds of racial and religious hate. . . . Whether this constitutes 'instigation' or 'inspiration' is at best a matter of definition. We believe that inspiration is but one form of instigation."—Investigation Commissioner William B. Herlands.

We might well ask why these enemy-instigated outbreaks have been allowed to go unpunished, for the most part. We might well demand to know why we cannot, in safety, go about the business of winning the war, in our own city.

AMONG NEW YORK'S "FINEST"

Half a year ago Councilman Peter V. Cacchione asked that question of the Mayor and the City Council and the Police Commissioner. He asked that question when he voiced the demand of the people of Brooklyn that Patrolman Drew, anti-Semite and peddler of Axis material, be thrown off the police force.

Exposed beyond the shadow of a doubt in "Under Cover" by John Roy Carlson, policeman Drew was still permitted to continue on his beat in a predominantly Jewish neighborhood, Brownsville. An anti-Semite "protecting" Jewish children! But the public clamor swelled. And finally the Police Department undertook what it called an "investigation" of Drew.

Drew was completely whitewashed. No account of the hearings or testimony was made to the people, whose taxes pay the salary of Drew and others like him. But the people would not be quieted.

Mayor LaGuardia appointed a three-man committee to review the case. Not one of these three was Jewish. In record time they deliv-

HOME is a battlefield

ered their conclusion—upholding the Police Department whitewash in a statement of 28 words! The people were slapped in the face. The war effort was hit below the belt.

Drew isn't the only fascist on the police force. And Drew and those like him have powerful backing—from the enemy. When we break the Drews, we break the enemy. We get real enforcement of democracy.

WITH LIFE ITSELF

“All true Americans must be prepared to protect with life itself the inalienable rights of all men without regard to race, creed or color.”—President Roosevelt (in a letter to the National Urban League, Sept. 7, 1943)

We must set our house to rights.

Whenever an American lets a fascist crime go unpunished, Hitler laughs. Goebbels chalks one up.

WARTIME UNITY CONFERENCE

That is why the International Workers Order sounded the alarm to the people of New York. It called a conference where troubled parents and representatives of many organizations heard the facts, talked over their experiences, and decided how to stem the tide of Fascism in our city.

A society composed of many national groups, banded together for common advancement, preaching and practising brotherhood and equality, the International Workers Order was singularly fitted to be among the first taking up the cudgels in defense of our city—a city where 7,000,000 people of many national origins live and work with but one thought—to lick Hitler and to stay free!

The purposes of the conference were explained by IWO Vice President and New York Executive Secretary, John E. Middleton.

Our aim, he announced, “is to make known through every channel that we have” who are the guilty ones behind the outbreaks; “to direct the spotlight of public attention on these forces, on these dark corners where these people operate in our city; to expose them to the gaze and study of the people so that the people will know how they work. . . . It's the duty of all people, particularly the people who make up the great labor movement of our city, to help ferret out these enemies . . . and to unite the people against them; expose them, and bring them to justice.”

Keynoting the conference was a man especially dear to the hearts of the Negro people of New York, a former City Councilman, editor of a fighting Negro weekly newspaper, “People's Voice,” which stands

four-square on the platform of Negro and white unity, Rev. Adam Clayton Powell.

Rev. Powell posed the question: "When our fighting men come back to America, are they going to find a better democracy than they left behind? We have got to give them a *richer democracy*," he thundered. And there is no way of having a richer democracy until we, the people, have a richer relationship, one with another.

The fighting minister described how the hand of Hitler struck at his associate, in the heart of our city.

"I received a letter last summer from the Ku Klux Klan after the Detroit riots. It was not signed and it had no address on it. I published it in my paper, the 'People's Voice.' Soon afterwards, towards the close of the day, two members of the Christian Front went into the office and said to Nancy Davis: 'We're going to get this guy Powell. But if we can't get him, we're going to get that fellow who works with him and writes on his paper—Ben Richardson.'

"We passed them off as a couple of crackpots. But you can't pass these things off nowadays.

"On New Year's Eve, Ben Richardson was walking down Broadway, in the midst of a crowd of people. Suddenly he was hit from behind with a blunt instrument. Reverend Ben Richardson went to the ground with a fractured jaw and concussion of the brain.

"A white Marine and a Negro soldier happened to be in the crowd and were able to get him up off the sidewalk and into the lobby of the Paramount Theatre before he was trampled to death."

FOES in high places

Enemies of the people are censoring recorded evidence of Negro war deeds, Powell charged, to give the impression it's a "lily white" war. He illustrated:

"The beachhead established by our troops in Munda was won by Negro troops, Negro engineers, going in by themselves. And the Army took pictures of that. The film has been cut, edited and ready for distribution for over a month. Through some un-American forces in our nation's capitol, that film has been kept from the theatres of America.

"When Roosevelt and Eisenhower reviewed troops in Africa, they reviewed a group of Negro troops. A special filming of this occasion was ordered by the President. It was ordered to be released to every theatre in America. It was cut to pieces and finally just a portion of it released. And even in some theatres in the north, and in *all* theatres in the south, that portion was completely cut out of the newsreels."

A COMMON DESTINY

"The reason why these un-American forces are fighting so desperately," declared Powell, "whether it's in Mississippi or Washington Heights, is because they see the handwriting on the wall. The day of the domination of the world—the day of the domination of any particular group or race by any other group or race, or nation—has passed, never to come again. Its death knell was at Teheran.

"We live today upon the threshold of a new world. This new world can come true in all of its fruition in this, our lifetime, if we, the people in a solid phalanx think together, move together, act together, irrespective of the age-old barriers which have separated us one from another.

"We must say that the problem of every Negro is the problem of every white man—the problem of every Catholic is the problem of every Protestant—the problem of every Jew is the problem of every gentile. And none of us will be able to go one mite more than we have gone unless we take our black brother, our white brother, our Jewish brother, our Catholic brother with us. It's a common destiny. The one question before us is UNITY."

TEEN-AGE PAWNS

Alice Prentice Barrows, director of activities of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, knows our public schools inside out. Her entire life has been spent in education. Miss Barrows has seen the youthful pawns of the fifth column in action. She has seen the neglect of the school in fighting this menace.

Last year Hillburn, N. Y., suddenly broke into the news. Negro and white children had been attending the same school in perfect harmony. Suddenly "mysterious" forces started a movement among white parents for a Jim Crow school. The attention of the state was riveted on Hillburn.

The Board of Education ruled that the Negro kids had just as much right to attend that school as the white kids. But the "mysterious" forces were strong. And the white parents boycotted the ruling. They withdrew their children and put them in another school, less convenient to reach.

Who was behind this? "Hillburn is a company town," charged Miss Barrows. The town and the factory which made the town were organized by the grandfathers of Mr. Edgar J. Davidson and Mr. John B. Snow, whom John Roy Carlson calls one of the most calculating fascist minds in America.

"A native of Hillburn for 10 years, John B. Snow has been spreading propaganda—anti-Semitic, anti-Negro—and has even distributed pamphlets there; for example, 'Democracy and Mobocracy.' He has urged people to join an America First organization."

Another tracer bullet to the fifth column in Hillburn was this incident, described by Miss Barrows:

"Last summer a troop train went through Hillburn to a point of embarkation. The cars came back and were put on a siding by Hillburn. The next morning those cars were smeared with letters two feet high: 'Soldiers, come back from this war to fight the next war against the Jews.'"

In the city, there are repeated anti-Semitic attacks by school children. The schools aren't discharging their responsibility, said Miss Barrows. There are few after-school programs and playground facili-

ties which would direct the energies of the children into healthy channels. There is little done to educate the children on the nature of the war.

Children who commit outrages, said Miss Barrows, "should be punished—but more than that—it is perfectly possible to make them as much against this kind of thing, which is injuring their country, as they are for it now. Why isn't this being done in the public schools? It must be either that the principals are scared, or that there are—and there are—fascists among the school people too."

We need a federal law to make it a crime to attack anybody because of race, religion or place of origin. But above all we must remember "that the schools do really belong to the people . . . if we expect the administration to do what we want it to do, we must bring pressure." Join organizations, urged Miss Barrows. "Go to the public schools and ask the principal to see that a talk is made in the auditorium saying that this thing is working—telling exactly what the fifth column is doing, and that they're hurting their country in doing this. And ask the principal to punish the offenders and keep it up until it is done."

The public schools were founded by labor and belong to the people, was the point Miss Barrows hammered home. Parents and labor must organize now "to see that in the textbooks of the public schools and in their teachings there is adequate presentation of labor's problems and of the evil of discrimination.

"Start right now to stop this vile use of our children for Fascism!"

THE LINK SHOWS UP

Roy Wilkins, editor of "The Crisis," organ of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, recalled the bloody riots instigated by the National Workers League in Detroit in 1942. They were out to stop the Negro families, war workers, from moving into the Sojourner Truth housing project. After much dilly-dallying, two officials of the NWL were indicted—but nothing further.

When the gruesome attack was launched on Detroit Negroes in 1943, elements of the NWL were found to be among the thugs. Now the two NWL officials are under indictment "*for conspiring with officials of the German Reich.*"

"There we have the clearest connection, the most definite link of operations," said Wilkins, "against the Negro people by collaborationists or employees of the German Reich."

It is clear, concluded Wilkins, that in combatting these conspirators "we on the home front are fighting as important a battle as our men in the foxholes and trenches and on the high seas of the world."

HUSH policy won't work

From Boston, where anti-Semitic outrages were first spotlighted, Sol Vail, IWO organizer for New England, brought hard-learned lessons. The crimes went on for three years, uncontested. They occurred daily. "They only came to light in dramatic form," said Mr. Vail, "because an IWO member went around for about two years collecting affidavits from people who had been attacked, and whose sons and daughters had been attacked."

The police were giving helpful advice to the vandals, and convicting the victims!

And disunity in Jewish ranks, manifested by a hush-hush policy, was encouraging bolder measures by the gangs. It was encouraging the authorities in their sit-back-and-take-no-notice attitude.

Judge Walsh had the gall to pronounce four Jewish boys guilty, themselves victims of attack. That seemed to be a go-ahead signal to the fifth column.

"A Jewish cemetery was desecrated. A meeting in a temple, addressed by a Jewish judge, was stoned. The homes of rabbis and synagogues were painted with swastikas. Francis P. Moran, the head of the Christian Front, who said he had dissolved the organization, called together his followers at the time when he was being inducted into the Army, and said to them, 'as soon as the war is over and I'm released, we will start our activities all over again.'"

The Christian Front, under the name of the Friends of Father Coughlin, called a testimonial banquet in his honor!

"Such slanderous material as 'The First American,' 'The Jewish National Anthem,' 'Praise the Lord and Draft Another Christian,' etc., has been passed out in the Boston Navy Yard, in the Naval Torpedo Station of Newport, Rhode Island, the Naval Air Base of Quan-

sett, Rhode Island, the Walsh-Kaiser Shipyard in Providence, the Traffic Control Division of the Boston Army Base, the Boston District Court, the Watertown Arsenal, City Hall, Bethlehem Fall River Shipyard, and other such places.

"The attacks against the Jews are being used in the Boston shipyards to stop people from buying war bonds. They are being used to keep people from giving blood to the Red Cross blood bank. They're being used to turn people against President Roosevelt."

New York must profit by the lesson that disunity or inaction is a green light to the invaders in our midst.

THE ACID TEST

Not one anti-Semitic incident must be taken lying down, declared New York City Councilman Peter V. Cacchione.

He told of the disgraceful occurrence in Queens, in a school bus "where for several weeks the Jewish children had to sit together in the back end of the bus; the gentile children being segregated from them in the front end of the bus.

"They have that in the south, where they make the Negroes sit in the back end of the bus. Well, we don't want what's down below the Mason-Dixon line to take place here in New York City," said the fighting Councilman. Then he put the question:

"Where did the children get these ideas? If the schools were carrying their responsibilities during the war, we wouldn't have this situation. But out of over 800 schools in New York City, only 76 have their athletic fields open after school. Children don't have a place to play.

"The schools should be the central rallying ground for teaching the children the kind of a war this is—what fascism really is—to break down all these ideas of Hitler, this poison that has entered the mind of these children.

"They go home and they read anti-Negro and anti-Semitic literature! There are 50,000 copies of Father Curran's 'Tablet' going into homes in Brooklyn," disclosed Cacchione. "There never was a more scurrilous anti-Semitic sheet printed as a newspaper in the U. S. What can you expect of the children when they see that paper lying around and they read it?"

The handling of the Drew case was denounced by Councilman Cacchione. Since last August when he introduced a resolution calling for action against the fascist policeman the only result has been exoneration.

The Herlands report, Cacchione insisted, must be made public. "There are at least several hundred Christian Fronters on the police

force," he said, and the people are entitled to demand and get the facts.

"Drew," he made clear, "is the acid test! We aren't going to break through and begin to make headway in this fight as long as Drew can remain on the police force. A confirmed anti-Semite is receiving his pay from the taxpayers of New York City! We've got to carry out the fight and oust Drew!"

And what's the key to putting up this fight? "The first thing we must do is to achieve UNITY. Unity of all people, all colors and all nationalities. For the Jewish people, one of the main jobs is to achieve unity of their own people. You can't get unity with other people," the Councilman warned, "if you aren't united yourself."

COMMUNITY IN DEED

How one community, maligned in the press as a "hotbed of crime," put the skids under divisive forces, was vividly illustrated by Miss Shirley Graham, director of the Open Door Community Center of Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant area.

Two miles square, populated by 112,000 people, two-thirds of them Negroes, Bedford-Stuyvesant has been able to build a living example of inter-racial unity.

Miss Graham explained how "Reverend Thomas Harten came to me and said: 'My church burned down, but instead of putting our money into another church, I see the need here in this section for a community center. Our boys and girls are running the streets. They have no place to go. We are facing some very serious problems, and I feel that it is more important at this time to serve the people here through a community center than to have them come here and hear me preach.'

"I was completely taken over by the idea of this kind of down-to-earth sermon," continued Miss Graham. "Ten thousand dollars was raised from the people of the Bedford-Stuyvesant community for the building—and it was the Negro people who did this themselves.

"We decided on certain things: To serve the community as a whole, regardless of race, color or creed. To act as a clearing house for the people so that all might advance and share equally in the responsibilities and opportunities of citizenship."

More than 1,000 persons have joined in Open Door activities. Instead of running wild in the streets where they can fall prey to subversive influences, the youth of the community are flocking to the Open Door and spending lively, wholesome, constructive hours.

Among those who have made inter-racial unity in Bedford-Stuyvesant a going thing, points out Miss Graham, "we have Negroes,

Jewish girls and boys, Polish people, people from Brooklyn College, high school teachers—Catholics and Protestants.”

STANDING UP TO IT

Once you realize the alarming character of “hate” outbreaks, said Ferdinand C. Smith, secretary-treasurer of the National Maritime Union (CIO), you’ve taken the first step to guaranteeing the fruits of victory.

During his recent tour of the West Coast, at a meeting in Seattle, Mr. Smith related, “A rabbi got up and said that in 1933 the Social Democrats of Berlin, of which he was a member, were asking the question ‘how can we work jointly together, regardless of which organization we belong to?’

“‘The leader of the Social Democratic Party,’ this rabbi said ‘assured them that Hindenburg said Hitler could not come to power, and if he did come to power he would not last six weeks.’ Well, we know what did happen in Germany,’ the rabbi grimly concluded.

“Hitler ‘lasted’ because the organizations hadn’t been sufficiently alarmed to get together; because the people hadn’t united.”

A gathering in San Pedro, Smith reported, faced the problem of Ku Klux Klan activity against the occupation of housing units by Negro shipbuilding workers. “I warned them that something had to be done to counteract the KKK activities. These people were so burned up that a city-wide committee was organized that day for a mass meeting of the Negro and white people for whom these housing units were built.

“They served warning on the Ku Klux Klan. The police department participated in that measure. I want to tell you that before I left that area the war workers occupied the housing units.”

IT DELIVERS THE GOODS

The National Maritime Union, of which Mr. Smith is an outstanding leader, has never stopped hitting away at discrimination. “Probably the most dramatic campaign waged,” said Smith, “resulted in putting the first Negro captain aboard an American ship. I am referring to Capt. Hugh Mulzac, who took command of the Booker T. Washington.” Smith outlined the step by step, unflagging fight put up by the crews of NMU-contract vessels, and by NMU headquarters in cooperation with the Negro Labor Victory Committee and other groups.

“That ship, with a mixed crew of Negro and white NMU seamen,” declared Smith, “has been doing a magnificent job delivering war supplies to the fighting fronts and there has been not one iota of ra-

cial discord." What's more, Smith revealed, "following swiftly on the heels of the appointment of Capt. Hugh Mulzac, two more Negroes, Capt. Richardson and Godfrey, received appointments to command Liberty ships."

A striking case where unity is reaping dividends, Mr. Smith described, is "in the South—where it supposedly couldn't be done. Six thousand five hundred Negroes and white are employed in Jeffersonville Boat and Machine Co. in Jeffersonville, Ind. This is a shipyard built by the Navy at a cost of \$4,000,000. It turns out five invasion barges a month. The NMU contract in this yard contains a clause barring discrimination because of color."

At another shipyard, which cost the Navy more than twice as much, and employs twice the number of employees, fewer barges are turned out than at the smaller yard in Jeffersonville. That's because at Jeffersonville "men are trained to fill the jobs regardless of race or color."

THE RIGHT TO WORK

"If you take away a man's job, if you prevent him from working, you prevent him from living," declared Clifford T. McAvoy, Legislative Representative of the CIO of New York who spoke on the need for the people to stand behind President Roosevelt's Committee on Fair Employment Practice.

"It has been a horrible, unspeakable tradition in some sections of American society to deprive certain Americans, because of their color, because of their creed or origin, of the right to work, of the right to compete for a job equally with all others of equal ability.

"A committee headed by Representative Howard Smith of Virginia has started a series of hearings in order to smear the President's FEPC, to undermine its positive work for democracy, and if possible, to drive it out of existence."

A bill, entitled H.R. 1732, introduced by Congressman Marcantonio, would give the FEPC independent statutory authority similar to the authority of the OPA and the Federal Housing Administration.

Urging the passage of this bill Mr. McAvoy pointed out that it would "give the Committee on Fair Employment Practice complete authority not only to recommend that an order be carried out, but to have the legal power to see that it is carried out by putting the case in the hands of the federal attorney and starting a prosecution because of failure to obey a federal law. The work of the Committee on Fair Employment Practice is absolutely basic to the continuation of a genuine democracy . . . it is a basic thing that every citizen of the United States have complete equality of job opportunity, regardless of race, color or creed."

NEW

against old

Councilman Benjamin J. Davis, Jr., nailed race violence as “desperate outbreaks brought forward by fascist fifth column forces who are on the way out. They are striving, like Joshua, to halt the sun, to prevent the wheels of progress from moving forward.” But, said Mr. Davis, “I think that there is in America today a greater hope of eliminating the scourge of racism than ever before.

“It is important for us to see this new trend,” he emphasized, “this desire for equality and freedom for all citizens which is beginning to grow in our midst.”

Characterizing anti-Semitism as “a means of dividing the American people and the labor movement,” Mr. Davis told how it is directed against *the whole people*, for, as we have witnessed, “in Hitler Germany, where anti-Semitism reached its greatest heights, not only were the Jews proscribed, but a much larger section than the Jewish people were proscribed.

“We must regard anti-Semitism as something akin to cannibalism—the worst features of Fascism and barbarism. We cannot afford to have any truck with it or to yield one inch on it, or to think along any lines which will give any comfort to anti-Semites. Else, all of us are injured,” said Davis.

“We must pledge within ourselves to extirpate this thing from New York City and from the country, realizing that the responsibility of its complete abolition is not alone that of the Jewish people, but of all Americans who have begun to recognize the perspective of peace and equality and freedom which was given us in the Teheran conference. It is the responsibility of all who look forward to democracy and equality for all Americans, irrespective of their race, color, creed or political affiliation.”

Mr. Davis pledged that he and other win-the-war members of the City Council would do their utmost "to give effect to every type of bill and law which will guarantee to the people of New York complete equality and which will eliminate racism—whether it is against the Negro people, the Jewish people or any other minority. That," said Davis, "can be done in the course of this war, on the basis of carrying out the Teheran decisions—and with your help."

ALL ARE ROBBED

Those who sow race hate and conflict take something away not only from the group being persecuted, but from the entire community, said Dr. Max Yergan, executive director of the National Council on African Affairs. "Not only are there four million Negroes in the south who are disfranchised," Dr. Yergan illustrated, "but some six million whites are also deprived of the right to vote.

"Not only is there a social and economic lag among Negroes in the southern states; there are similar lags among the white population there. The cultural level for both Negro and white is low. And the democratic status of that whole section of the country is below the other sections of the country."

Dr. Yergan continued: "We are faced with an overall purpose on the part of those behind persecution—namely, that of losing the war. Their purpose is to make possible some sort of negotiated peace; to divide and discredit those governmental forces which are responsible for the successful prosecution of the war."

They are bent, he declared, on "taking from the war that quality of the *people's* war, which can result in a great people's victory, and a great victory for democracy.

"Because of the absolute necessity of arriving at the conclusion which was laid down at Teheran—of complete victory over Fascism, we are called upon to come to grips with this evil in our life today."

TO WIN THE PEACE

Teheran frustrated Hitler's last hope of "staving off unconditional surrender by splitting the United Nations," said IWO President William Weiner in a summation speech. Yet this is no time for over-confidence, warned the fraternal leader.

"Let us never forget for a moment that it will do us little good to win the war and lose the peace. And that is now the objective of the treacherous fifth column in the United States—to disrupt national unity, to turn one American group against another, to plunge the country into the hell of Fascism. For the truth of the matter is that these attacks against Negroes, Mexicans, Jews and other minority groups,

constitute the enemy's invasion of the United States. They make up Hitler's counter-second front on the soil of the United States.

"It is Hitler's last card in his desperate game to stave off defeat, to bring into power in the United States the appeasers and defeatists who want to negotiate peace with Fascism. A negotiated peace would not only save Hitler from the justice that awaits him and every one of his bloody henchmen; it would also mean a super-Munich favorable to reaction everywhere.

"In fighting this enemy invasion, we are fighting to win the war. In seeking to smash the dissemination of racial hatred at its source, we are fighting to realize the principles of Moscow and Teheran, and all that they signify for humanity, and for the American people.

"Those agents of Hitler who attack the Jews are after bigger game. Their aim is nothing less than the enslavement of the entire American people as the prelude to fascist conquest of the world. The defense of the rights of the Jew to live as a human being is consequently the defense of the cause of freedom for all humanity," stated Mr. Weiner.

BAROMETER OF LIBERTY

"As we turn the pages of the story of mankind we find that the fate of the Jews serves as a barometer of the degree of liberty enjoyed by the people of any given country.

"Where liberty was fought for and won, there the Jews received equal rights along with everybody else. England, as she emerged from feudalism, signaled the victory of the democratic revolution over tyrant kings by inviting Jews to come to her shores to work and live. In the French Revolution, the walls of the ghettos came tumbling down along with the whole rotten structure of feudalism and its denial of the rights of man. And in our own American Revolution Jews fought and died alongside non-Jews, and the political emancipation of the Jews was part of the fight for freedom of the United States from the bondage of tyranny.

"The whole struggle of the modern world for democracy, for the rights of the common man, has running throughout its various stages a bright thread representing the recognition of the inalienable right of the Jew to live as a human being.

"It is also no accident that where democracy was unable to triumph, there anti-Semitism flourished and ran rampant. Germany is perhaps the classic example of this truth. Democracy there was never able to destroy the roots of feudalism. Those roots were concealed and kept alive in the corrupt and arrogant alliance of the Prussian Junkers, the powerful and reactionary landlords, the chauvinistic intellectual aris-

ocracy, and the caste-like cliques of militarists—an alliance originally spawned in the ruling classes of feudal Germany from the 11th to the 16th centuries.

“In the rotten soil of these feudal remnants, anti-Semitism was nourished and cultivated into a social and political plague. It became one of the contaminated cores in the fascist cancer which finally destroyed the German Republic and brought the German people to the terrible fate which confronts them today. Because anti-Semitism was never wiped out in Germany, fertile ground was prepared for the spread of the inhuman doctrines and practices of Hitlerism.

“Not only anti-Semitism, but persecution of all minorities,” said Weiner, “is a cardinal point in the fascist platform . . . but I have emphasized the role of the Jew because he is the oldest minority people.

“Put a Jew-baiter on a pin and you will see the creature is more than a Jew-baiter. He is also a red-baiter, a Negro-baiter, a liberal-baiter, a baiter of everything that is progressive and forward-looking. The Jew-baiter may start baiting Jews, but he will wind up spewing his hate and wielding his bludgeon against all the people.

MAINSRING TO UNITY

“You cannot ignore Jew-baiting, because it will spread until it poisons and kills all democratic institutions. To ignore Jew-baiting is to put the whole country in dire peril, is to invite disaster, is to encourage the victory of American Fascism.

“CIO President Philip Murray, in a recent letter to the Jewish Labor Committee declared: ‘American labor was the first to recognize that the attack on the Jews was the forerunner of a similar assault on labor, religion and ultimately against mankind itself.’

“To that declaration of war against Jew-baiters and Negro-baiters, red-baiters and labor-baiters,” said Weiner, “let us give all our allegiance and our best fighting abilities.

“Let us build a mighty movement to defeat and annihilate the enemy invasion of our land.

“We can take heart for our task when we see that in the Soviet Union this question has been solved once and for all. There is no anti-Semitism there; there is no persecution of any minority group. As the most progressive country in the world, the Soviet Union abolished and rooted out anti-Semitism and race hatred. And the fruits of that success are shown by the greatest UNITY the world has ever seen.

“Let similar unity be our goal. Let us guarantee victory by destroying the poison of race hatred—now and forever!”

RESOLVED

that:

Out of this IWO-initiated conference, as out of many meeting halls throughout the country, the people poured to bring the full import of the battle to their organizations—to their neighbors—to muster their personal and collective energies to make sure that New York City—that the United States—will not fall to the enemy.

They know—you know—that to the secret weapon of Hitler there can be only one answer: UNITE! EDUCATE! LEGISLATE! And keep at it until the last Drew and the last McWilliams have met the fate of all traitors.

Make the adopted program of this conference your clarion call.

1. We urge President Roosevelt, the Department of Justice, Mayor La Guardia and our City's law-enforcement authorities to investigate and to expose the evident *organizational and ideological connections* between the various fascist-minded groups and individuals involved in acts of discrimination and violence against Negroes, Jews and minority groups of various national origins; to expose them, to bring them to justice and to prevent them from publishing and distributing fascist propaganda which incites anti-Semitism, hatred of Negroes and distrust of Americans of Italian, Slav, Chinese and other origins.

2. As citizens of the great City of New York, we have a right—yes, a duty—to demand of our city government that this government's many departments, agencies and institutions be shining examples of applied democracy; that the staff of these public organs be purged of those who do not adhere fully to the American credo of freedom and equal justice for all, regardless of race, creed or national origin. We demand that all employees of our city be vigilant in the discharge of their duties so that all law-abiding residents of New York City shall share equally in the benefits and safeguards which our public institutions afford.

3. As an immediate step toward carrying through the intent of the foregoing paragraph in a specific case involving an employee of a city department, we petition the Mayor to act at once to have Patrolman James L. Drew *ousted forthwith from the police force* and that we inform our neighbors of the Drew case and ask them to join us in the petition for his removal.

4. We ask the teachers and those responsible for the administration of the public and private schools and colleges of New York City to study and adopt the "Springfield Plan" or similar educational programs for students and faculty so that our schools shall become intellectual arsenals of democracy in the fight to end prejudices and discrimination against minorities.

5. We shall work untiringly in the communities where we reside to further united action on the part of our neighborhood churches, synagogues, fraternal societies, labor organizations, settlement houses, parent-teacher groups, and other civic associations, to carry through thorough-going educational campaigns to eliminate prejudice and discrimination in our communities.

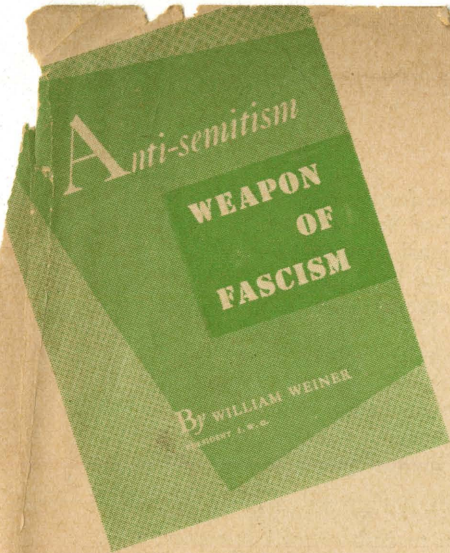
6. We pledge to mobilize our organizations and neighbors to support the passage of federal, state and city legislation to curb racial intolerance, discrimination and violence against any group of Americans.

We hereby endorse and obligate ourselves to help secure wide public support for the passage of the ANTI-POLL TAX BILL, H.R. 7; the DICKSTEIN BILL and the LYNCH RESOLUTION prohibiting the circulation through the U.S. mails of anti-Semitic and other race-hate literature; the STEINGUT-WICKS BILL which will ban the circulation of race-hate literature in New York State; the SHARKEY and CACCHIONE resolutions in the City Council for the re-opening of the Drew Case; H.R. 1732 which would make permanent and give official enforcement powers to the Fair Employment Practices Committee; CITY COUNCIL LOCAL LAW No. 7 to ban Jim Crow from the Metropolitan housing project, "Stuyvesant Town," and any other legislation introduced in any legislative body that will help to eliminate the fifth column from our nation and will promote the unity of our people against our fascist enemies.

7. We further endorse the Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill for the expansion of our federal social security system as a measure which will strengthen the home front during wartime, fortify our men on the battlefronts with the knowledge that their post-war security is being buttressed and as one of many necessary safeguards against a breakdown of orderly and peaceful post-war developments.

8. We endorse the Green-Lucas Bill which will provide for federal mailing and supervision of ballots to our soldiers for the 1944 elections as the only method that will guarantee the vote to our fighters overseas. Proposals for state supervision are smoke screens to prevent a thoroughly democratic election and buttress the Poll-Tax and other restrictive electoral measures. We urge immediate letters and delegations to Congressmen and Senators to guarantee the passage of the Green-Lucas Bill.

9. Recognizing, as we must, that the central issue in the forthcoming elections of 1944 is UNITY—unity of the American people for the prosecution of the war to a complete victory over the Nazi-Fascist Axis and understanding that the only path along which we can travel to reach this victory and a stable and enduring peace is the path charted by Roosevelt, Stalin and Churchill at Teheran, we shall test all candidates for public office according to their deeds and pledges to support without reservation the principles enumerated at Teheran and their readiness to fight for all measures necessary to carry out the decisions of Teheran at home and in complete unity with all our Allies of the United Nations.



Act for Unity!

Get This Timely Pamphlet

By **WILLIAM WEINER**
President of the IWO

SECOND EDITION NOW READY!

2c PER COPY

Write to: IWO, N. Y. District, 80 Fifth Ave., 16th Floor, N. Y. 11, N. Y.

FOR INFORMATION ON SOCIAL SECURITY

The Wagner-Murray-Dingell Bill (S. 1161) proposes to extend our present Social Security laws and make them nation-wide. It introduces many new health and protective features and covers a wider section of the population, including servicemen and women.

We have available the following material on this important Bill:

1. IWO Information and Activities Kit, 10¢ each.
2. Two films on Social Security and one on Health.
3. A speech by Senator Wagner.
4. Several language pamphlets.
5. Radio skits and transcriptions.
6. A visual-education chart.
7. Factual material for speakers.
8. A quiz for use at meetings.

SEND FOR THIS TIMELY MATERIAL

----- *USE THIS COUPON* -----

Educational Service Dept., 12th Floor
International Workers Order
80 Fifth Avenue, New York 11, N. Y.

Please send me the following material on Social Security:

Indicate by number:

NAME

ADDRESS

ORGANIZATION