

REASONING BY FALSE ANALOGY

By William M. Feigenbaum

Congressman Martin Dies of Texas, according to the Associated Press, is starting a drive for a law to deport 6,000,000 aliens in the United States "as a partial solution to the unemployment problem."

The giant intellect of the Texan delivered itself of the thought that "If there were no aliens in this country we would not have an unemployment problem."

His idea seems to be that six million aliens are holding jobs that keep six million American citizens out of jobs, and if the aliens were sent back to where they came from six million Americans would promptly get to work and the army of jobless would instantly disappear. Mr. Dies appears to believe that the aliens in the country are all mature men and working women, not one of them having wives or children dependent upon them for support. He appears to believe that there are just so many jobs in the country, and the removal of one set of job holders out of the country would automatically leave just that number of jobs open for other people, presumably citizens (and consequently voters).

He does not realize that six million workers represent probably fifteen million people; or that six million aliens cannot include more than two or two and a half million workers. He does not realize that the removal of two million, or six million, or fifteen million people from the American scene would automatically make just that much less work to be done by those who remain; for the aliens and the jobless, and even the derelicts, must somehow be fed and clothed and sheltered; whether on jobs or on relief, on the breadline or by panhandling or in institutions, whether in comfort or in utter misery, the food and clothing and shelter are somehow found for them, and the finding of that food and clothing and shelter makes jobs for whatever workers find jobs. And with the removal of a certain number of persons—citizens, aliens, derelicts, floaters, stow-away or what have you—the

number to be taken care of decently or indecently falls by two million or six million or fifteen million, as the case may be. And with that much less work to be done the number of unemployed among those remaining in the country will automatically remain at the same proportionate level.

Of course Congressman Dies never thought of this, and of course nothing Martin Dies thinks is of the slightest importance, anyway, except that it illustrates one of the greatest failings of our "great" thinkers and statesmen. For aside from the stupidity and cruelty of the Dies proposal there is the fact that Dies (and millions of others like him) reason by the false analogy between a nation and a family, a country of vast extent with unlimited resources and a home of limited space; between problems affecting tens of millions of people, and

those affecting families of four five and six people.

If this fallacy of reasoning by false analogy were confined to Martin Dies it would be as unimportant as the Texas statesman himself, but it happens to be one of the commonest failings of mankind. For hundreds of years the world was misled by the economic fallacy of mercantilism, likewise reasoning by false analogy, a fallacy that caused many wars, including the American revolution. And nations have sought to extend their borders into other lands teeming with people because of the false analogy of their countries with a family outgrowing a small home, or a growing child requiring new clothes.

Thinking straight appears to be the rarest accomplishment of those who have the fate of millions in their charge.

WEIGHED IN THE BALANCE

Never in the history of the world were there so many events of historic importance taking place as at the present time. Never was there such a large percentage of people who have no true conception of what is taking place. History is repeating itself. Nations, mighty empires, have fallen in the race for material gain, at the same time having gone pleasure mad. The aim and end sought did not constitute a valid foundation upon which to erect true civilization. No nation can endure that lacks the necessary qualities of social well-being.

Modern civilization is being weighed in the balance and found wanting just to the extent that millions of people have been victimized by the unjust, un-Christian, unholly, un-Godly, devil-spawned economic system of capitalism. On the other hand a veritable utopia lies just ahead if the people are able to comprehend it and attain it. — W. L. Baldrige.

Unite and Fight!

France, Italy and England have got together to censure Germany for breaking the provisions of the Treaty of Versailles.

Now what we need is somebody to censure them for making the treaty in the first place.

THE CAUSE OF CRIME AND WAR

The capitalist controlled press readily grasps for crime news and plays up the stories in such a manner as to get the general public interested in buying their papers. They play up divorce cases, murder stories, graft etc., without telling their readers the causes for these evil acts and what should be done to abolish them. Thru bombastic propaganda they scream for a larger army and navy to back up the imperialists in their venture of exploitation abroad. But the truth about the causes for war and crime is told by The Milwaukee Leader, a Socialist daily in the following article:

"Why say crime 'and' war? Crime 'is' war against society, and war is a crime.

"The capitalist system is the cause of both crime and war.

"The population of the jails and penitentiaries consists of non-Socialists—Democrats and Republicans. Socialists, being human, have their faults and they sometimes make mistakes,

but they do not violate laws unless it be bad laws. We think we are safe in saying that there is not a single Socialist in the jails and penitentiaries of America unless he was put there for exercising the constitutionally guaranteed right of free speech, or for some other righteous act—in which case society has committed a crime against him instead of him committing a crime against society.

"Socialism, by substituting co-operation for competition, will take away the main cause of crime, and it will gradually disappear, for it is caused mainly by the fierce competition, the strife, the rotten motives, the wars, and the poverty, fostered by capitalism.

"The present capitalist system is also the cause of war. It places the industries and the financial powers in the hands of a few egregiously rich men who seek to dominate the markets and investments of the

world. They come in conflict with the same sort of men from other countries. Each country has a big army and navy to back up these imperialists in their ventures. Such are the things which lead to international complications and to war. Besides, there are the money lenders, the stock gamblers and the munition manufacturers, who are always ready to lead their countries, surreptitiously and by means of lying propaganda, into war, when it suits their purposes to do so.

"By making the industries collective, Socialism will stop imperialism and remove the cause of war. Socialized nations will exchange products with one another, but there will be no occasion to enter into fierce competition for markets and investments. The purchases and sales will be made by the proper economic agencies of the nations themselves, not by private profit-lusting buccaneers."

THE SOCIALIST ROAD TO POWER

By John Powers

No honest Socialist, one who likes to deal with realities rather than with fancies and whose faith in Socialism is maintained by fervid devotion to the ideal in fair weather and in bad, will deny that the years of depression have been years of crisis for Socialism as well as for capitalism.

The Socialist and labor movements are not things apart in the world in which they function and which gave them birth. They inevitably register the effects of the vicissitudes and perturbations through which the world is passing. In some countries they have suffered severe defeats and setbacks, due to historic circumstances for which they were not responsible. In other countries they have been on the defensive. Parallel with the defeats in Germany, for which the Communists were primarily responsible insofar as the weakening of the striking power of the workers was concerned, and in Austria, where the collapse was an inevitable consequence of what happened in Germany, there have been a series of important and encouraging victories in a number of democratic countries, where Socialists are either in control of the government or play an increasingly influential part. Wherever democracy and civil rights have been preserved the Socialist and labor movements are resuming the offensive, although it would be dangerous to succumb to the illusion that the crisis confronting them is over or to ignore the fact that even greater and

more difficult tests may be awaiting them in the near future, in the event of another war.

Because of the unprecedented difficulties with which the Socialist movement throughout the world has had to cope in recent years, dilettante critics, parlor-bolshevik exhibitionists and left wing illusionists, none of whom have to their credit an iota of concrete achievement, like to speak with derision of the alleged failures of democratic Socialism. Soviet Russia, where Stalin has emerged

35TH ANNIVERSARY OF SPRAVEDNOST

Sunday, July 14, the Bohemian Socialist Weekly "Spravednost" will celebrate its 35th anniversary at Pilsen Park. A large program featuring several singing societies, among them Sava of Branch 1 JSF, gymnastics, speeches and other interesting features will be sponsored. A good orchestra will entertain the dance lovers after the program. Gate prices will be given away. The admission is only 40c.

as the unbridled chieftain of a Byzantine Bonapartism, the counter-revolutionary fruition of Communist dictatorship, is always cited by the critics in contrast to the alleged lack of achievement of democratic Socialism.

The critics are welcome to their glorification of the Bonapartism in Soviet Russia. We, however, continue to point with pride and satisfaction to the accomplishments of our comrades in England, Scandinavia, Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, Czechoslovakia, France and Spain, where the Socialist continue to hold aloft the banner of democratic Socialism in the face of a reactionary tide. And our hearts respond with warmth to the heroic battle waged by the Socialist and trade unionists of Germany and Austria against the fascist oppressors of these countries. Everywhere democratic Socialism is resuming the offensive while Bonapartist Bolshevism is sinking deeper and deeper in the mire of its own counter-revolutionary substance.

Democratic Socialism does not build for a day. It builds consistently and persistently for immediate advance and ultimate, enduring victory.

SPOOFING THE SOCIALISTS

Quite a while ago, The Nation, which is a reputable and admirable weekly, had a write-up of the Socialists of Milwaukee. It was a caricature, prepared after consulting with the enemies of the Socialists. It completely failed to catch the spirit of what the Socialists have done and are doing here.

In its issue of June 5, The Nation contains an article about the Socialist party of the United States and its members. It also is a caricature.

A man who is caricatured in a cartoon would find it rather irksome to explain that his nose, ears, eyebrows, arms, legs, etc., do not really look like the caricature. It would be better if he could have his real picture printed.

So it is with this caricature of the Socialists. They sometimes do things which can be laughed at and distorted. So do weekly organs of opinion. No doubt both can take a joke. The smiles at the grotesque distortions having subsided, suppose a true appraisal should be attempted.

—The Milwaukee Leader.

A GOOD REASON FOR HIS WORRIED LOOK



Our Doings Here and There

Comrade Jacob Ambrozich of Moon Run, Pa., reported last week that their two day program celebrating the 30th anniversary of Proletarec has been completed. Carl Pauli from Pittsburgh will be the principal speaker. On another page of this issue is an ad giving the full details about the program. It will be held at Portman's Grove Saturday and Sunday, July 13 and 14.

The next affair of Branch No. 1 JSF is that of singing society "Sava." A Moonlight Picnic at Kogel's Grove will be held on Saturday, August 3. The songsters will be out to entertain their friends and sympathizers with songs, good dance music and refreshments. Plan to be there with your friends. The admission tickets are only 25c.

In Cleveland a joint picnic will be sponsored Sunday, July 21, at Pinta's farm by Branch No. 27 JSF, its English section and singing society Zarja. A cordial invitation is extended to all friends and sympathizers.

The first picnic of Branch No. 35, JSF, in Bearcreek-Red Lodge, Mont., will be held Sunday, July 21, at the Happy Brothers-Park. The comrades plan to make a big day of it and expect a large crowd from nearby towns. The principal speaker will be Comrade James D. Graham, a member of the national executive committee of the Socialist Party.

From Waukegan Comrade John Zavorske reported that the JSF conference of this district will be held early in November. They plan to sponsor a program celebrating the 25th anniversary of the JSF. His letter also contained a \$25 check for the United Socialist Drive which was forwarded to the national office.

Five Chicago comrades have already secured 42 subs for Proletarec in the past 3 weeks. From Detroit Comrade John Zornik sent in 8. Frank Barbic of Cleveland and Anton Zornik of Herminie came with 2 each. In cities like Milwaukee, Detroit, Cleveland, Chicago and Johnstown more of our comrades should shoulder this responsibility of soliciting subscriptions. These districts are entirely too large for any one man to cover. More cooperation is needed and with more comrades working better results will be assured.

What has happened to our Detroit comrades? We seldom hear from them thru these columns anymore. Surely this changeable weather hasn't got the best of them. — John Rak.

Hoopes Voted Ablest Member of Legislature

An almost unanimous verdict that the Socialist Party furnished the outstanding leader and the ablest legislator in the 1935 session, now coming to a close, was shown by a poll of the correspondents reporting on legislative doings.

Twenty-eight newsmen considered their job incomplete without informing the Pennsylvania reading public of their collective opinion of the men they regarded the ablest, or the most industrious, funniest, hand-somest and the one they would most like to see stay at home.

Darlington Hoopes, Reading Socialist, was voted the "ablest all-around man among the 250 legislators in the House.

Hoopes, informed of the distinction conferred upon him, said, "the compliment really belongs to my party."

SEARCHLIGHT

By DONALD J. LOTRICH

What was probably the best meeting ever held by our Unemployed Club was held last Friday night at the headquarters. The usual business session lasted exactly one hour and a half and then we heard two out of town speakers, one from Streator, Ill. and the other from Staunton, Ill. Both speakers presented splendid illustrations of how our present economic system works. They analyzed the reasons and explained what must be done to alter the present damnable setup. The most effective piece of propaganda, however, were the moving pictures which were shown accompanied by explanations and suitable remarks by the Educational Director of the Illinois Workers Alliance. The pictures left deep impressions on some 65 members and visitors. They showed how well rich people treat their race horses, cows, etc. contrasted with the slums and shacks in which poor people must live. They also showed the wasted energies of our present public works projects. These were actually funny, the seriously to be condemned. Six new members were initiated. Once again we call attention of our comrades of the possibilities of this unemployed group.

the people in this country. For, by adopting unemployment insurance laws, that is exactly what they admit.

Socialists will not be satisfied with these inadequate laws. What we want and must have is a uniform Federal law because the situation is a national one with which the various separate states cannot cope. So the cry for insurance is slowly getting the ears of people who are out of work as well as those who still work. And we Socialists do have a certain amount of satisfaction in seeing this subject treated, even if all too lightly, in the various state legislatures.

Italy is bound to go to war. Mussolini says nothing can stop them. Maybe he is right. Why, with the half-baked politicians and statesmen running the governments of the various countries and their fears of hurting the pride of Mussolini's Italians may be nothing much can be done. One thing is certain, however, that Mussolini would never make his warlike pronouncements were the rest of the nations agreed that Mussolini has no right to Ethiopia. If they would stand by England's economic boycott Italy would soon cool off her uprising fever.

Reports are current that there is great unrest in Italy. Mussolini wants to outdo that with the clamor of war, gain new possessions with raw materials and levy a tax on the poor Abyssinians.

Rumblings are heard from France that the fascists are coming. Rumblings are heard in Spain that a new civil war is unavoidable. Rumblings are heard in Austria that the Hapsburgs want to return to rule the people. It's strife, — constant strife, for the workers. And a few constantly continue to feast on the work of the many. We are living in a rapid era. The workers may yet learn that they have nothing to lose in organization. That they have everything to gain.

THE FAKE OPEN SHOP

By James H. Maurer

The open shop drive, in its final analysis, means, really anarchy and chaos. Based on the philosophy of individualism, it assumes that every worker is free to compete in the same way as a combine or a trust. In other words, it is based upon the idea that a worker, standing alone, has an equal opportunity to secure as good a bargain for his labor power as, for example, the United States Steel combine has for its manufactured products.

What a ridiculous absurdity to make this assumption!

Fancy the individual workmen standing at the gate of the employment office of a large corporation, with hundreds of others like him, seeking the same job, attempting to bargain for the highest wages for his labor power, and then compare his pitiful position as against the all powerful and dominating position of the United States Steel trust, the meat packing combination, the Stan-

dard Oil Co., and the Morgan group of bankers!

It was for the purpose of helping the individual workman in his struggle for an existence and in his efforts to improve his social and economic position that the trade union movement came into existence. The worker, realizing his helplessness as against the all-powerful corporations of wealth, aligned himself with his fellow workers, so that, collectively, they could protect their interests in the same way as the employers.

ONION FIELDS

Frances Perkins, United States secretary of labor, has stated that "a study made after the strike in the onion fields in Ohio showed 18 per cent of the workers were under the age of 16, and 10 per cent under 14. In some factories a large proportion of labor supply is made up of children under 16 years of age."