

What ILG Workers Think of Dubinsky Anti-Allied Policy

By Rose Wortis

In common with all Americans, members of the Ladies Garment Workers Union follow breathlessly the victorious march of the Red Army in ejecting the fascist invaders from their land. The destruction of manpower and equipment so badly needed by Hitler to meet the coming invasion in Western Europe, they know, will save many American lives and speed victory.

Yet there is something special in the jubilation in the garment center, in the shops where workers celebrate the recapture of every city and town. To thousands of these workers Zhitomir, Proskurov, Tarnopol, Odessa—the numerous towns and villages in the Ukraine and Bessarabia mentioned in the press, are not unknown spots on the map: They are the towns and cities of their birth, associated with memories of youth, of struggle and aspirations for freedom, where families, friends and near and dear ones left behind suffered the agonies of torture and death at the hands of the fascist beasts.

WORKERS JUBILANT

Early morning, before entering the shops, or during the lunch hour, workers gather in the markets and restaurants, carefully scanning maps. The most radical and conservative workers, the young and old religious cloak makers, Socialists and Communists—all are looking, hoping that their home town has been liberated by the Red Army. The most eager are those coming from cities such as Bialystok, Minsk, and Pinsk, formerly under Polish rule, whose people had only begun to feel the real meaning of freedom under the Soviets in 1939. A new hope awakens. Perhaps their own families have survived the fascist terror and soon there may come a voice from the living dead.

During the same period of jubilation in the shops and homes of the garment workers, David Dubinsky, president of the International Ladies Garments Workers Union, from the rostrum of the AFL Forum on Post War Problems, in company with the Soviet-baiter and reactionary Republican labor politician, Matthew Woll, launched an insidious attack against our ally, the Soviet Union; against the foreign policy of our nation as represented by Secretary Hull and President Roosevelt. This attack was launched under cover of allegedly defending the sanctity of the Atlantic Charter and "unilateral action."

Were it not for the knowledge that this speech was delivered by a so-called labor leader at a gathering sponsored by the AFL, one could readily have mistaken this occasion as a gathering of reactionary Republicans who, under the cover of high-sounding, patriotic phrases, are scheming to upset the foreign policies of our nation based on the agreements of Moscow and Teheran, and to oust the present leadership, headed by President Roosevelt from the helm of our nation.

THE WIDENING RIFT

Dubinsky's speech was an expression of the ever-widening gulf between the Social Democrats, the leadership of the ILGWU, and the rank and file of the membership.

At this conference Dubinsky showed his real aim and objective in the present situation—to disrupt the unity of the United Nations. This line was further developed by his Vice - President Luigi Antonini in statements in the press that "President Roosevelt is surrendering Italy to the Bolsheviks."

In January, when our nation enthusiastically acclaimed the agreement of Teheran, the Dubinsky Social Democratic clique jumped on the band wagon. The workers in the industry as well as all other win-the-war forces hoped that this indicated a real change of heart on the part of the Social Democrats, a recognition of the bankruptcy of their anti-Soviet, anti-unity policy. Dubinsky's speech of April 12th showed that support for Teheran was only a maneuver to gain time and find a new stamping ground for his disruptive activities. In this speech, Dubinsky exposed the hypocrisy of so-called support of the policies of Teheran and Moscow and his proclaimed support of President Roosevelt during the recent American Labor Party primaries. It is now clear that this was only demagoguery to mislead his own membership during the union's elections (which he controlled) and to fool Labor Party voters during the primaries (in which, we are glad to say, he failed dismally).

DUBINSKY BLACKMAIL

Dubinsky showed that he is ever ready to join hands with the enemy to make more difficult the task of unity of the nation around President Roosevelt in the crucial elections of 1944. The attack on the national administration has a typical Dubinsky ring. It's a retaliation for the refusal of the administration to be black-mailed into supporting the splitting poli-

cies of the Social Democratic clique in the Labor Party elections. It shows the full depth of the duplicity of these cheap but dangerous politicians.

Let us examine Dubinsky's speech and the policy behind it. Since the birth of the Soviet Union, the inveterate, die-hard Dubinsky, Forward, New Leader, Norman Thomas, Social Democratic clique now strengthened by the Social Democratic refugees, devoted all their efforts to slander and vilify the Soviet Union. Every slogan of the reactionaries and fascists against the Soviet Union, its leaders—first Lenin and later Stalin—became the stock in trade of this gang. Every enemy of the Soviet Union, every traitor, became their hero — Kravitsky, Jan Valtin, and the latest find, Kravchenko—to be paraded in our country, to poison the minds of our people and keep us divided from our natural ally, the Soviet Union.

FOES OF WORLD UNITY

The Social Democrats were the first in our country to adopt as their own Hitler's slogan of "saving the world from the menace of Bolshevism." They greeted the birth of the anti-Comintern pact, Munich, they coined the slogan of Communazi and totalitarianism in their characterization of the Soviet Union. They were the first to swallow Charles Lindbergh's tales about the military weakness of the Soviet Union; they predicted and hoped for its downfall.

Dubinsky and his vice-president, Iddore Nagler, led the fight against world labor unity. Now when their efforts have failed, when the Soviet Union through its contributions to our common struggle has earned the respect and admiration of the entire world, this gang has not submitted to the decision of history but is constantly devising new schemes and new conspiracies to defame our heroic ally to the detriment of our own nation and the world.

Dubinsky's latest attack at the AFL conference, under the new-fangled slogan of the "sanctity of the Atlantic Charter" has no originality. It has only been borrowed from the arsenal of Hitler's friends in America—McCormick, Hearst, Coughlin and their ilk. Cloak and dress makers might well prepare to hear much about the Atlantic Charter in the coming months. This speech may well indicate the line for the coming ILGWU convention.

(To be continued tomorrow.)