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# EARL BROWDER REMAINS THE HEROIC LEADER OF THE PEOPLE

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**I**T IS true that the Supreme Court, in its august dignity and sublime hypocrisy, has approved the four-year sentence against Earl Browder.

It is true that he is to be taken to a prison cell to start serving that term, torn away from the people's movement of which he is the leader.

It is true that the Communist Party, the working class, and the authentic progressive forces of the country have suffered a profound blow in being deprived of the personal and direct leadership from day to day of their best spokesman.

But who has lost most in this ordeal?

The Supreme Court and the whole judiciary have lost, as the long run will show. For it had to stoop to the cheap device of using a trivial technicality in order to "get" the man who had been marked for political persecution by the whole War Party.

Everyone knows that Earl Browder was convicted and sentenced because of his position and the position of the Party which he leads on the war. It is an admission of

bankruptcy and defeat that the war leaders could not meet him on his own high political grounds. They had to use a petty subterfuge, and in doing so they exposed the real class nature of the judiciary and of the war itself.

The warmongers have lost. The neat and intricate filigree with which they adorn the imperialist war, the pretty designs knit out of words about democracy and civilization and freedom with which they dress up their own imperialist ambitions, are worn away as if by a potent acid.

The people will prove to be the gainers. From this sentence they will learn to understand better the real nature of the ruling class and its prostitution of the people's democracy. From this sentence they will understand better the war aims and the colossal imperialist ambitions of the rulers of America.

This sentence has already sent an alarm out among the people; for it shows to them vividly how rapidly Roosevelt is preparing to send the fleet into battle and to dispatch a new A.E.F.

Earl Browder in jail is a burning indictment of the "leaders" who have betrayed the people.

Earl Browder in jail is a vindication of the true fight which he leads, the fight for peace, security and socialism.

Earl Browder in jail is a reaffirmation of the principle of proletarian internationalism, of solidarity with the peoples of the world in their enduring struggle against war and imperialism. For even the passport technicality upon which the sentence was based arose out of Browder's activities in support of the Chinese people in their struggle for independence.

Earl Browder in jail is a reaffirmation of the love and support of the Soviet Union among the peoples of the world, of their great faith in this first land of socialism.

Earl Browder in jail is a vindication of all that is noblest in the great American tradition. The tradition of Jefferson, Tom Paine, Lincoln, John Brown, Eugene Debs has never been in the hands of the jailers. Today it is in the hands of Earl Browder, the prisoner.

Earl Browder in jail is a challenge to all that is best in America. It is a challenge to wipe out this shame upon the land. It is a chal-

lenge to the working people to take their fate into their own hands.

"The doddering old gentlemen who represent a doddering old system," said Browder in one of his farewell speeches, "may be able to start the war, but the masses—and above all the young people—will put an end to the war and with it the system which brought it about."

That is profoundly true. The masses whom Browder inspired with his insight and his vision will make it a reality.

For, what Earl Browder stands for is as big as the world. And there is no jailer, no matter how powerful, who can imprison the world.

We take up the challenge. Our ranks have been strengthened by the many who have lost their illusions as the result of the persecution of Comrade Browder. Our ranks will be further strengthened by a staunch fight for a people's government and a people's peace. The workers of America and their Communist vanguard will grow stronger in the fight to obtain the immediate and unconditional release of Comrade Browder.

Earl Browder remains the heroic leader of the people. With him the people will be victorious.