

THE 'LIBERAL' DEMOCRATS AND THE COMMUNIST BAN

Humphrey's McCarthyite Move Hurts Demo Electoral Prospects

BY WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

SENATOR HUMPHREY, a smart aleck from Minnesota, thought he was doing a super-clever thing last week in trying to drive Congress to outlaw the Communist Party, with ferocious penalties for membership in the Party. As it turned out, however, even the reactionary Eisenhower Administration and Congress could not stomach the full measure of Humphrey's fascist attack upon the Bill of Rights.

There was the fantastic spectacle of a so-called Liberal Democrat out-McCarthying McCarthy. The Democratic Party will pay dearly for this mad adventure.



In this situation, one of the main things Humphrey had in mind was to sew up the November elections for the Democrats by making it appear that the latter are more ardent red-baiters than even the Republicans. But this contemptible maneuver will surely boomerang. It is the height of folly to assume that the American people, who are already greatly alarmed at the growth of fascism, will warm up to the men and policies guilty of the outrageous Humphrey's pro-fascist proceedings in the Congress.

This super-Red-baiting is akin to the stupid and reactionary policy of Humphrey, Douglas, and other Democratic leaders in pressing for ever-greater military appropriations and in criticising the Administration for a "too soft" international policy against the Soviet Union and People's

China.

This is another sure-fire recipe for the election defeat of the Democrats. All they have to do is to let the people get the idea that they are the war party and their election prospects are sunk.

Humphrey, with his wild Congressional red-baiting, played into the hands of the fascists and Republican reactionaries, and his super-militarism and aggressive foreign policy will elect these elements in November, if the workers are unwise enough to support it.

SENATOR HUMPHREY believes, too, that by outlawing the Communist Party and savagely persecuting its members, he and his fascist allies can destroy the Party. But he also has a lot to learn on this score. Practically all the most important Communist Parties in the world have experienced long periods of illegality at the hands of fascist and other reactionary governments. But instead of destroying them, such persecutions steeled them and strengthened their bonds with the people.

It is silly to think that the Communist Party of the United States can be broken up by outlawing it. The Communist Party will be a power in the land when the Humphreys and their bourgeois parties have long since been relegated to political nothingness.

Another goal Humphrey and his fascist pals in Congress had in mind with their drunken spree of Red-baiting in Congress was to show the world just how tough the United States could get with the Communists. But just the reverse effect was

achieved. The scandalous affair shocked and disgusted democratic opinion around the world, and not the least in this country.

Senator Humphrey has made a major contribution to the growing fear throughout the world that the United States is a warlike government and that it is rapidly travelling the road to fascism.

THE CHAOS in Congress, irritated by Humphrey's fascist move to outlaw the Communist Party was one of the most disgraceful congressional episodes in the entire history of the United States. It made Congress the laughing stock of the world.

It is one more example of the irrationality and insanity of United States policy-making in trying to drive ahead with a war program in a world that is more and more determined upon maintaining and consolidating peace.

Organized labor must realize that what happened last week in Congress was a vicious attack upon the entire labor movement, both in the assault upon the Communist Party, and in that made directly upon the trade unions. It calls for a broad united front to save the threatened Bill of Rights.

At its peril will labor follow the political leadership of the Humphreys, who have shown clearly how easily they can pal up with McCarthy, Mundt, McCarran, Jenner, and Company and even outdo them in pro-fascist policies. All the more need then for the workers to study carefully the Election Program of the Communist Party and to apply it effectively in the coming election.