

FROM



# Behind THE BARS

by the jailed  
Communist Candidates

## Here Is Something "New" About the Soviet Union

By WM. Z. FOSTER

Prisoner No. 52350

(Communist Candidate for Governor of New York State)

The tremendous development of Socialism in the Soviet Union provides a problem for the social fascists which constantly becomes more difficult.

The workers of all countries are beginning to realize the basic meaning of the Russian revolution, that it points the way the world's workers must travel to emancipate. This realization is fatal to the counter-revolutionary plans of the social fascists to sustain decaying capitalism and to lead its war attacks against the Soviet Union. Hence they spare no efforts to keep the workers in the dark as to the real course and significance of the great socialist development now taking place in the Soviet Union.

### Social Fascist "Marxism"

This leads them to repeat not only all the current capitalist propaganda, but also to issue innumerable lying theories under a pretense of a Marxian analysis of the situation. One of their favorite arguments, which they try to make appear with a Marxian foundation, is that the revolution cannot succeed in the Soviet Union because that country is not sufficiently industrialized, that the success of the proletarian revolution presupposes the existence of an already highly industrialized society.

This argument has been repeated innumerable times since the overthrow of the Kerensky regime and the setting up of the Soviet Government in November, 1917. It has become a sort of indisputable point in the anti-Soviet gospel of the social fascists, something "scientific" that is beyond question.

### Soviet Union IS Building Socialism

But the great progress of Socialist construction in the Soviet Union, which cannot be obscured even by the gigantic flood of lying by the capitalists and social-fascists has shattered this menshevik lie. The Russian workers and peasants are building Socialism, the pseudo Marxian arguments of the Socialist lackey of capitalism to the contrary notwithstanding.

So the social-fascists are compelled to make various theoretical handsprings in order to explain this contradiction. To what absurd extremes they are driven is exemplified in an article in "The New Trades" of September 13 by Rheinhold Niebuhr, "Socialist" Party candidate for State Senator. Mr. Niebuhr, just returned from Moscow, gets off his chest the usual slanders about the conditions of the Russian workers, but is compelled to admit that great progress is being made in building the industries.

This he proceeds to explain by reversing the favorite Menshevik argument against the Russian revolution by asserting that its success is because of the very lack of a well established industrial system, but that Communism cannot succeed in highly industrialized countries. He says: "If it works in Russia when there was no industry that does not prove that it will work in America or Europe, where there is a highly developed industry."

### Nonsense!

What nonsense to state that the working class, which in the Soviet Union has proved its ability to build the industrial system almost from the ground up and to operate it with high efficiency, cannot take hold of and operate the highly developed industrial mechanism of the capitalist countries.

Niebuhr's argumentation shows the political bankruptcy of the social-fascists. It indicates how hard put they are to find arguments to bolster up their counter-revolutionary program of reforming capitalism in the face of the growing world capitalist crisis and the world-shaking advance of Socialism in the Soviet Union.

During the present election campaign and in all our work of educating, organizing and leading the masses in struggle we must systematically expose the anti-Soviet lies of such as Niebuhr and inform the workers as to what the Russian revolution actually means. This knowledge will inspire them to fight all the more militantly for their every day struggles. It will show them clearly the revolutionary goal of the working class.

Workers! Defend the Soviet Union! Join the Communist Party! Vote Communist!

(Written at Hart's Island Penitentiary).