

Magnificent Vista of Negro Freedom and Advancement Outlined in First of Popular Soviet America Series

THE NEGROES IN A SOVIET AMERICA, by James W. Ford and James S. Allen. In a Soviet America Series, No. 1. Workers Library Publishers. 5 cents.

Reviewed by
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WE WELCOME the appearance of this series of pamphlets, with their popularization of the slogan of Soviet Power. Soviet Power, which means full power to the toiling majority of the population, includes not only the proletariat but its allies, hence in the United States the Negro people.

These pamphlets are not written in the utopian spirit of Edward Bellamy's "Looking Backward," but from a realistic, practical standpoint in the spirit of scientific Communism. Marxism-Leninism does not believe in blue prints of the future, but on the basis of the Marxist-Leninist analysis of capitalist society and the eighteen years of the victorious proletarian dictatorship in the Soviet Union, we

Big Price Reduction On Fraenkel's Famous 'Sacco-Vanzetti Case'

"The Sacco-Vanzetti Case" by Osmond K. Fraenkel, the famous International Labor Defense attorney in the Herndon and Scottsboro cases, has now been reduced from \$5.00 to \$1.25 and can be obtained at the Workers Book Shop, 50 East 13th Street, New York City.

The first portion of the book is historical. The second is an exhaustive analysis of all the evidence bearing on the vital topics of the case. And the conclusions reached by the Courts and the Lowell Committee are here considered in the light of all known facts and of the complete record recently published.

Mr. Fraenkel's illuminating book is the most complete, non-technical history of the case of Sacco and Vanzetti yet made available. All mail orders must include 10 cents extra for postage.

can speak today in visible terms of Soviet Power.

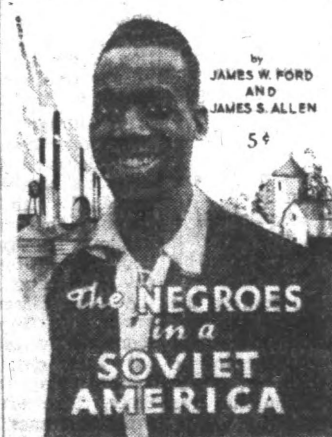
The magnificent vista, sketched in the present pamphlet, of Negro freedom and advancement in a Soviet America is not a utopian dream, but is based on realities. The path to its achievement is pointed by the experience of the formerly oppressed nationalities in the territories now known as the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Under capitalism, Russia was a prison house for numerous nationalities, just as the South is today for the Negro nation. The October Revolution ushered in full national freedom for these peoples.

It not only abolished unemployment and the harassing insecurity which dogs workers in the capitalist countries; it abolished national oppression as well. The October Revolution opened up a new epoch for the world working class and the oppressed peoples. It showed the revolutionary way out of capitalist misery, exploitation and national oppression.

Life and Death Struggle for Negro People

The fight for Soviet Power concerns all sections of the toiling population: the workers, the impoverished farmers, the Negro people, the professionals, small business men, etc., who are suffering from capitalism and have everything to gain under socialism. To the Negro people particularly that fight has the import of a life and death struggle. The bitter experiences of oppressed nationalities and minority groups at the hands of the fascist murderers in Germany, Poland, etc., emblazon a grim warning to the Negro people. They must be in the forefront of the struggle against fascism if they do not want to live in the fascist hell that the Ku Kluxers, the White Crusaders, the Father Coughlins, and the Huey Longs are preparing for them.

Under fascism in the United States, the Negroes would suffer an even worse fate than the Jews in Germany. They would be the chief victims of fascist persecution and murder. Fascist bands, springing up like mushroom growths in the prison atmosphere of the South, al-



ready center their attacks on the Negro people and, significantly, on their allies, the revolutionary white workers of the South. In Germany and Austria, fascism engages in venomous anti-Negro campaigns, banning the appearance of Negro artists, branding the Negro people as "brutish" and "inferior," sterilizing Negro adults and children living in Germany, while fascist Italy cynically and openly undertakes the suppression of the last remaining independent Negro country on the African continent, Ethiopia.

In this pamphlet is raised in its full scope the question of Soviet Power, the question of the unification of all forces of the working class, and of all toilers and the oppressed Negro people. The fundamental differences between capitalism and socialism are clearly pointed out. Capitalism, which is based on private ownership of the social means of production, cannot exist without exploitation of the workers, white and black, and the plundering and oppression of the Negro and colonial peoples. Socialism abolishes exploitation of man by man, and therewith the necessity for suppressing the majority of the population and for oppressing any nationality or race. To exist, capitalism needs must split and divide its victims. Socialism, on the other hand, can be won only through the unification

of all sections of the toiling population and the oppressed nationalities. **Smash State Power of Exploiters**

Soviet Power does not mean an exchange of one set of exploiters for another set as when, for instance, the Democrats succeed the Republicans in power. Nor does it mean the liberation of workers in a white skin and the continued exploitation of workers in a black skin. The oppressed classes seize the capitalist state edifice, not to subject it to mild reforms, but to shatter to bits the exploitive capitalist power, to smash the state power of the exploiters, sweeping it out with all its rubbish of race hatred and prejudice and national animosities, its sinister class policy of "divide and rule." This is clearly brought out in the pamphlet.

The history of the struggles of the Negro people, and their betrayals at the hands of the small top layer of upper-class Negroes, whose class interests coincide with the segregation policies of the white rulers, is traced from the stormy period of the Civil War to the cotton plough-under program and official sanction of jim-crow oppression by the Roosevelt Administration through the differential wages of the N. R. A. codes. The conclusion that capitalism has hindered the economic and social progress of the Negro people is supported by an indisputable array of facts.

Full Right of Self-Determination

While treating the question of Negro liberation on the assumption that the liberated Negro majority in the Southern Black Belt would turn to the Soviet form of government in setting up the new Negro Republic in that territory, Comrades Allen and Ford sharply emphasize the Communist position that the Negro masses themselves should settle the question of federation with the Soviet United States. Their full right of self-determination, even to the extent of separation, would be recognized by a Soviet government in the United States and by the Communist Party. In all spheres of activity and in all sections of a Soviet America, the Negro would enjoy full equality.

But this would be insufficient, it

is pointed out. The backwardness inherited from capitalism with its denial of opportunity to the Negro masses, must be wiped out. This can only be done by adopting the policy of the Soviet Union of affording relatively greater opportunities for advance and progress for the formerly oppressed nationalities than for members of the former oppressing nationality.

The pamphlet is a vital contribution to an understanding of the national question and its relation to the social revolution. It should be in the hands of every Negro and white worker and professional.

Performance of Odets' 'Waiting for Lefty' In Cambridge Tonight

BOSTON.—The New Theatre Players of Boston will present Clifford Odets' drama of the taxi strike, "Waiting for Lefty" tonight at Brattle Hall, Cambridge, Mass.

A previous performance of "Waiting for Lefty" at Brattle Hall early in the spring, sponsored by the N.S.L. chapter of Harvard University, was a sell-out and gave an excellent indication of the permanency and appeal of the "group" in Boston.

Tonight's performance is to be given with the cooperation and unofficial sanction of the faculty and student body of the Harvard Summer School. Under the direction of a member of the faculty of Harvard University, Boston and Cambridge members of the American League Against War and Fascism have posted display cards, distributed leaflets, and sold tickets for tonight's performance.

Banned performances, cancelled bookings, and continual vicious heckling on the part of the City Fathers, and the police force of Boston, have been comparatively harmless in their effect, and have only strengthened the determination and enthusiasm of the workers and students who make up the personnel of the New Theatre Players.