Lynching and Strike Violence

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

DURING the last few weeks two shocking events have happened in the American class struggle. Of these the first was the lynching of the 14-year-old Negro boy, Emmett Till, in Mississippi, and the second was the strike of the workmen of the Climax Steel Corporation in Indiana, an anti-strike-breaking shooting through the plant windows at the demonstrating marchers with guns brandished by the company.

The link that binds these two expressions of aggressive re-action is that they both represent a common tendency for a sharpening of the class struggle in this period. They were both foreshadowed not so long ago, when savage lynchings of Negroes in the South were a daily occurrence and when company strike-breaking with guns was common. The link is in the steadily mounting dangers of serious struggle being discerned by the workers.

The big thing that took place a few months ago was the climate of war. The climate of war was the lifting of the war threat from the world, at least momentarily, by Stalin's leaders, facing an armed world, and putting it to the workers that they could no longer brandish the threat of invasion to the workers of the world's peoples. So they had to sharpen the class struggle.

SOME BUSINESS publicities and assorted politicians have been much concerned recently lest the "spirit of Geneva" predominate our country into what they call "labor opposition." What they mean is that we are starting a serious illness campaign, warning us to "be aware of Russian smilies," for the purpose of preventing, if they can, any agreement being reached when the Big Four Foreign Ministers return to Geneva Oct. 27.

What they prefer, seems, is the spirit of the cash register, with our dollars clinking into the coffers of the armament manufacturers. Thus Defense Secretary Charles Wilson announces that our standing army shall remain at the same high level, but shall be cut to the astronomical size of $35 billion—or a little higher.

Latter Wilson will say that because of the arms expenditure, we shall have more hospitals, roads and schools, or tax cuts for working-class families!

The fact is that the spirit of Geneva has contributed far more to our "security" than any dollar, for the Soviet Union has reduced the size of its army by 650,000, signed a peace treaty with Austria, and withdrawn from million-dollar bases.

And it is widely agreed by the American people that the time is ripe for Big Four settlements through negotiation, because the world is making its top-heavy arms budget not only an unnecessary burden but out of tune with the times.

A group of 100 notables, including the conservative industrialist Ernest T. Weir, have written President Eisenhower urging him to guarantee that the "spirit of Geneva" shall continue during the coming term of the Government. These are mostly officials of the National Conservatives and others of the former administration.

There is a good example for all of us to follow.

FLOOD NO. 2

IT IS IRONICAL that at about the same time the disastrous flood struck Connecticut, a Smith Act trial was beginning in New Haven of the very people who had been urging through the courts among the severest possible punishment for communists.

The Communist Party of Connecticut, in making public its program during the first disaster more than a month ago, emphasized the need of a repressive federal law and a national defense force to prevent such a catastrophe. Now it is being tried in the courts, the same courts which have been urged by the communists to prevent such a catastrophe.

The second flood, estimated to have brought a half billion dollars of damage, has not opened the Federal purse-string any wider.

The program of the Communists and of labor in general is that it is our duty to meet the needs of the people, not be leveled at the "trickle-down" theorists in Washington.

EXPENSIVE GLOOM

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SMITH ACT REVIEW

(Continued from Page 1)

Mccarran Internal Security Act

Significantly, on the very day that the Court agreed to review the California case, it also agreed to accept, as part of the review proceedings of the McCarran Act, the opinion of the court in the brief submitted by 900 prominent Americans.

By this action, the Court was acknowledging that the Smith Act is not a concern only of the Communists and those groups on the Attorney General's List, but of American in all walks of life.

In July, in a joint statement, Ehrlichman and Douglas that the Smith Act was illegal in the first place, or with Judge Hastie that the act, even if legal, is being illegally applied to the Communists, certainly the fact of the Georgia conference and the prospects for peace have impressed many with the need for the court taking a new look at the "false security," and present danger theory under today's conditions.

The Court should vote the McCarran Act and throw out all the cases which are being continued, but are in irregularity from start to finish. At the same time, Attorney General Brownell should be called on to halt all pending "anti-communist" trials and McCarran hearings until the Court acts. In particular, he should be urged to hold up the shameful deportation which Mr. Brownell made as a result of the Smith Act, and the moment, his Smith Act term ends on October 23.

When the people speak out, Mr. Brownell will listen. This is the time for the people speaking out more than ever before.

Violated the law of the office. Also, any "bustness and practices" in the machinery could effectively annul any, so that the commission on the other hand the new law are not.

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