Dramatic Pamphlet on the Witch Hunt Against Dr. DuBois

AGENTS OF PEACE, by Albert E. Kahn, Hour Publishers, 1951, 5 cents.

By Doxey A. Wilkerson

AGENTS OF PEACE is the dramatic and moving story of how a small group of writers, churchmen, small businessmen and trade unionists founded the Peace Information Center in April 1950 to publish theretofore suppressed information about the peace sentiment which was stirring millions of people into action in our country and throughout the world. It is the story of how distribution of their bi-weekly Peacegram, several leaflets, and the World (Stockholm) Peace Appeal against stomic warfare soon catapulted them into the very heart of the supreme political struggle of our time.

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IT IS THE STORY of how the war-bound rulers of America, scared out of their spats by more than 2,000,000 United States signatures to the World Peace Appeal, launched a frantic propaganda campaign to brand advocacy of peace as a "crime," and ended by indicting Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois and his associates in the Peace Information Center as "foreign agents."

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It is also the story of how thousands of American citizens, shocked at these false and unjust indictments, cried out in sharp protest and rallied to defend the right to speak for peace.

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"Numerous civic, religious, professional, labor and Negro organizations, and scores of outstanding public figures, sharply decried the persecution of the former leaders of the Peace Information Center and called for the immediate withdrawal of the indictment. . . . From every section of the American Negro community came fiery denunciations of the Government's action against Dr. Du Bois and the monstrous indignity of his arraignment in Washington."

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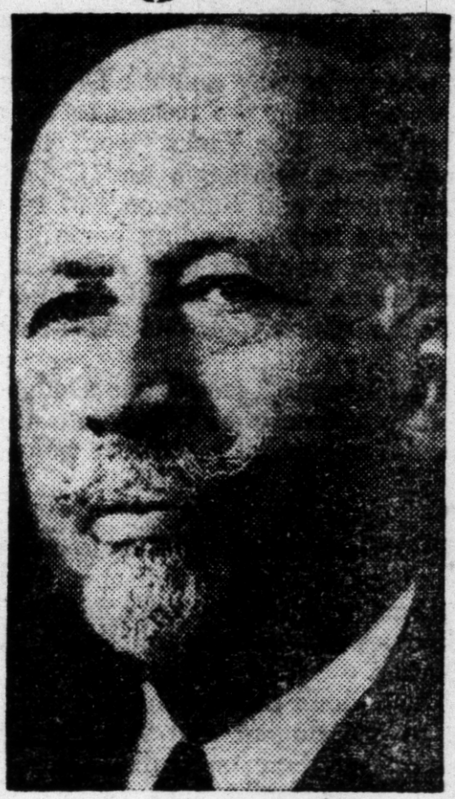
NOW FACING TRIAL and possible five-year prison sentences and $10,000 fines are: **Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois,** 83-year-old world renowned scholar, poet, diplomat, fighter for Negro rights and colonial freedom; **Mrs. Elizabeth Moos,** well known educator and first executive secretary of the Peace Information Center; **Abbott Simon,** subsequent executive director, a veteran of World War II who has played a leading role in peace organizations since the war; **Kyrle Elkin,** a public-spirited businessman who had been the Center's treasurer; and **Sylvia Soloff,** a young woman indicted merely because she had been employed at the Center as a clerical worker.



DR. W. E. B. DuBOIS

But it is not merely these five citizens and their organization that the Truman-Acheson Administration is trying to silence; the Peace Information Center was dissolved by decision of its executive board in October 1950, fully four months before its personnel was indicted.

These prosecutions are aimed at the entire peace movement of our country. They were designed to teach all peace-loving Americans a lesson; namely, "that advocacy of peace had become a crime in the United States and that those who spoke out against war were 'foreign agents'."

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And that is why the active defense of Dr. Du Bois and his associates is an urgent responsibility for every citizen and organization who hates war and cherishes his democratic right to speak out for peace.

The trial of the P.I.C. defendants was originally set for April 2, then postponed to May 14, and then—in response to growing mass pressure and skillful legal defense—postponed again to October 2. It should be dropped all together; and it will be if full and effective use is made of Albert E. Kahn's very excellent little pamphlet, Agents of Peace.

Here is the story and interpretation of the whole case, simply and movingly told, in a 16-page, pocket-size pamphlet. It should be put in the hands of scores of thousands of Americans who want peace. It can serve as a powerful instrument in the growing campaign to quash these phony "foreign agent" indictments and to defend the right to speak for peace.

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(**NOTE:** Copies of the 5c pamphlet, **Agents of Peace,** can be obtained from the National Committee to Defend Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois and Associates in the Peace Information Center, 16-18 W. 29 St., New York, N. Y.—Feature Editor.)

YOUNG TALENT PUT ON A STIRRING SHOW FOR PEACE

YOUNG New Yorkers saw an exciting preview last Friday night of the Youth Festival and Field Day that will be held at the Chicago Peace Congress this coming weekend.

Several hundred young men and women were treated to a three-hour performance put on at the Yugoslav-American Hall auditorium by many young singers, dancers and actors, who will make up part of the Chicago Festival program. It was one of the best shows of this city's young talent (Negro and white) to be put on in years.

Together with the top notch presentation a week earlier sponsored by the American Women for Peace, the program was a fine example of the new breeze of healthy progressive cultural activity blowing through the peace movement.

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Purim story of Haymen, Esther and Mordecai and the fight against the remilitarization of Western Germany, that really put the audience in the aisles.

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PEGGY MUIR, a young Negro singer, who presented songs by Hayden, Schubert Mendelssohn and Puccini, received prolonged applause for her fine performance, as did the folksinging team of Frank Lopez and Shirley Prince which presented a program of Hebrew, Puerto Rican and Calypso (written by Frank Lopez) workers' songs.

The program opened with the dramatic reading, by a young Negro actor, Charles Riley, of Langston Hughes' stirring poem, Let Americ Be America Again.

A group of Yugoslav-American youth put on a number of Serbian and Croatian folk dances, that