By H. W. BENSON

The whole Communist Party is in arms against bureaucracy. Everyone repents the past and pledges to protect inner-party democracy in the future.

The future of democracy in the CP depends not on the good will of leaders, but on the pressure brought to bear by the membership, the soviet democracy that Foster's road leads ultimately back to bureaucracy; no matter because in it, he will man it but because he wants to overcome the party crisis in a certain manner.

What has caused the crisis and what is the outlook? Let us try to answer these questions in the end determine the fate of internal democracy.

Concerning the approach of John Gates, Steve Nelson and their supporters: For them, the party dilemma is not basically in a failure of party policy in a fundamental sense to meet the needs of our time. Rather, it is a sort of emotionalism that must be changed radically if it is to make its contribution to social revolution in the United States.

On this score, carried out consistently, democracy becomes more than a mere preference; it becomes an indispensable instrument.

SEEING DEEPER

In the first place, it would be impossible to discuss the socialization of the means of production without tomorrow without the most thoroughgoing participation of the worker in action in decisions and in debate.

But this is the minor key. For there are other and more important and more serious than that: to make us, now and forever, just as in the past. "Now, however, upon the initiative of the leaders of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Stalin undemocratic cult is being liquidated root and branch." (Political Affairs, September.)

What more do we want? Let us go on to "constructive work" and live through the party's "foolish blunders." Everything could have been easily straightened out by Foster, given a chance to move in the right direction and to acquire a pro-fascist Marxism-Leninist foundations of the party. If "it were desired to liquidate our party no matter what the cost" then this end this than the current discrediting of parties and its leadership by ascribing to them endless "errors," many of which never happened. And "we never known," and "wrong views included bitten attackers against the Soviet Union, our party, and our people."

There is no doubt in Foster's mind where the crisis originates; the cause can be pinpointed exactly: it is the rise of the Gases-Day Worker tendency.

MALICE IN A FOG

As the discussion goes on in the Communist Party, everyone assures everyone else that a "peaceful road to socialism" is possible in the United States; so, by a process of natural selection the question should disappear. Yet it does not. Debate continues; more accurately, two debates: the real debate and the "Foster" debate.

Knowing Foster's methods, we expect him to steer the discussion up a blind alley, not desiring to show his hand.

"As far back as the first Smith Act trials, he posed the possibility of "achieving socialism" in the United States by peaceful means if democracy prevailed in the United States; but world events continued to move. He, however, should have little literature of what others were doing in the same possibility. But we are dealing with a Foster. Where there is no real difference, he is ready with a false substitute.

True, he admits, a peaceful development is possible. But you, you compto to the type of the guns that the peaceful road is inevitable; that's the difference: is it merely possible or is inevitable? And those followed him on his inclusion of an intolerable flow of disinformation with digressions, on overestimation of capitalism, et cetera, all of which is presumably contained, tightly compressed, in this simple textbook.

It is all apparent nonsense; it is an argument concocted out of a real threat, and has the look of a man who, to try to quiet us, and if fog settles in a shadow, if everyoneMongers to the right, the party will continue, on which he prefers to fight.

His talk is more useful to us on the side; for they are not quite clear on what is driving the car, or on how they are able to.