

MICROSCOPE ON COMMUNISM



This is the first of three articles which Dr. Balinky, assistant professor of economics and specialist in Russian affairs and economics, Rutgers University, the State University of New Jersey, writes out The Jefferson School of Social Science, communist training center in New York City.

The "tidal wave" of student enrollment due to hit American colleges is not likely to reach the Jefferson School of Social Science. The Jefferson School, located at 56 Sixth Avenue in New York City, is the principal training center for American communists and would-be communists.

With the attention that is now being focused on the future of American education, this writer became curious about the present policies and preachings of the Jefferson School. Who attends the Jefferson School? How large are the classes? How are its faculty? What is taught at a communist school? How is it supported?

Existing literature on the subject nets almost nothing in answer to these questions. There was only one way to find out. To get the answers, I attended classes at the Jefferson School.

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system which gives everyone the right to vote, including the most reactionary, the most fascist elements in the nation. That being the case, "Professor" Levine concluded, reactionaries and fascists gain control of the government and use it as an instrument for the exploitation of the working class.

True democracy — a people's "democracy" — according to the "Professor" — exists only in the Soviet orbit. A people's "democracy" does not give everyone the right to vote. That right is granted only to the working class or working class party. In that way fascist, reactionary, bourgeois, deviationist elements are prevented from taking power away from the working class. This, of course, explains why there is only one political party in the USSR and why election results are a 99.2 per cent certainty.

This, then, is the sense in which the Jefferson School can say that it educates its students in the "spirit of democracy." That too is the reason why the communists can claim that "democracy" is practiced in the USSR. What they mean, of course, is people's "democracy."

As I sat in "Professor" Levine's class, the entire atmosphere gave me a feeling of being in a Soviet classroom. There was so much in common. There were the eager but shabbily dressed students.

There was a young man in his middle twenties, with an intelligent, sensitive face, rapidly taking notes. There was a thin, hard-faced woman in her middle fifties nodding assent to every word uttered by the "Professor." There was a tall, heavy-set Negro in his late thirties just sitting back absorbing the gospel. There was a short, heavy-set young man in a leather jacket—the prototype of the working proletariat — shifting about in his seat during the hour and a half long lecture.

There is only one little catch in this freedom to enroll. One segment of the Jefferson School is called the "Institute of Marxist Studies." In a sense the courses offered within this division of the Jefferson School may be called its graduate classes. Here "admission is by interview only." The presumption is that students who are admitted to these "graduate" courses are already schooled in the basic principles of Marxism and have submitted to party discipline.

Unable to qualify on that score, I could not possibly pass the interview given as a condition for entrance into these special classes.

In the sparse literature that exists about the Jefferson School, it is said that there are special classes for party members where they are taught strategy and tactics including the art of organizing strikes, recruiting members into the Party, revolutionary methods and sabotage. Should that be the case, it is no wonder that admission to those special classes is prefaced by the phrase "by interview only."

To quote from the Jefferson School catalog again: "The Jefferson School seeks to educate its students in the spirit of democracy, peace and socialism." I learned the exact meaning of that sentence while attending a class in World Politics offered every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and taught by "Professor" Benjamin Levine. The "Professor" informed me after class that he is also a member of the Daily Worker staff.

"Professor" Levine distinguished between two kinds of democracy: bourgeois democracy and people's "democracy." Bourgeois democracy (the kind we have in the United States) is a political

problem. Any wife will tell you it's bad enough having the usual run-of-the-mill man around the house, but an ex-king, that's something. Just what is there for a fellow like that to do? You can't give him a list and tell him to go down and pick up the groceries. No ex-king can sit over at the laundromat and watch a batch of clothes whirl around. Guess there's nothing left but Cannes and Nice and places like that. It's a tough life.

Suppose many a time Edward wishes he was playing the old Empire circuit. Those were the days! A year's solid booking in Australia, Africa, India and Canada.

(News item) "Returning newspaper correspondent from Europe amazed at amount of goods bought here on time." That chap must have been away for a long, long time. Why cash went out in 1929, and from then on, credit is the American Way of Life.

COLLECTOR'S ITEM
From my salary of last week-end, I find a dollar I did not spend; For the life of me, I can not say, Which installment I forgot to pay.
FREDERIC WALTERS

Fire Destroys Porch Furniture

An early morning fire Sunday destroyed porch furniture at the home of Charles E. Taylor, 949 Carleton road, while he, his wife and two children were away.

Fire Captain H. W. Rosencrans said he had no estimate of property loss. He said the fire possibly was started by a cigarette dropped on the porch of the two-story frame home.

The blaze was extinguished in 30 minutes after the 12:45 a.m. alarm. The blaze blistered paint on the outside walls but did not spread inside the house.

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Playing The Cards

By ALEXANDER SPENCER

The defense in today's hand was poor and declarer made a contract which should have been beaten.

NORTH
♠ A 9 8 3
♥ J 10 5
♦ 10 4 2
♣ K J 9
WEST
♠ 7 4
♥ K 8 2
♦ A K 9 5
♣ A 8 4 3
EAST
♠ K 6
♥ 7 4
♦ Q J 8 7 6 3
♣ Q 10 7
SOUTH
♠ Q J 10 5 2
♥ A Q 9 6 3
♦ - - -
♣ 6 5 2

With neither side vulnerable, the bidding went:

South West North East
1♣ Dble Reddle 2♦
2♥ 3♦ 3♠ pass
4♥ pass 4♠ pass

West led the diamond king which South ruffed. The spade finesse was taken, East took the king and returned a diamond which declarer trumped.

A trump was led to dummy's ace, pulling the last one, and then the jack of hearts was led and finessed to West's king. West persisted with yet another diamond and South trumped again. At that point declarer ran the remaining hearts and discarded two losing clubs from dummy. The contract was thus easily made with the loss of a spade, a heart and a club.

The defense was poor in the light of the bidding. It doesn't always pay to force declarer by making him ruff.

Each hand should be treated as a separate problem in defense, so that occasionally the defenders must gamble in an effort to defeat a contract which otherwise might be made.

When East wins the second trick with the spade king, he should remember that South opened the bidding with a spade, then bid and rebid hearts, showing at least five in each suit. Since South had no diamonds, the only chance to beat the contract was to take two club tricks. East knows that South very likely won't lose more than one heart trick and one spade trick, so clubs offers the only hope.

On that basis, East must return the seven of clubs at the third trick. West takes the ace, continues the suit, and declarer must lose in all two clubs, a heart and a spade.

It isn't easy to lead away from East's club holding up to dummy's tenace; but the player with an analytical mind would do just that and defeat the contract.

We are, of course, speaking of defensive play at rubber bridge, where overtricks are relatively unimportant. In a pairs contest the situation might or might not call for a different defense, depending on various circumstances, such as the standing of the defenders up to a point in the tournament, the number of boards yet to be played, etc.

Dairy Products Need Care; Canned Whole Milk New

By MARY W. ARMSTRONG Home Agent

Milk and some milk products need more than refrigeration to give the most value and satisfaction. Flavor, appearance and food value is influenced by the way most dairy foods are handled at home. This is true even though modern processing, sanitation and refrigeration insure relatively good keeping quality.

In fact, modern ingenuity has brought us fresh whole milk now, sterilized to insure keeping, in tightly sealed tin cans. This new product has an excellent flavor and is entirely different from the better known canned condensed or evaporated milks. But most "fresh" milk is still subject to atmospheric conditions and should be handled with respect.

"Fluid dairy products should be refrigerated as soon as received at 40 degrees and kept not more than three or four days," says Mrs. Irene H. Wolgamot, extension nutrition specialist on our Rutgers University staff. "Because milk absorbs odors from other foods, it should be kept in a tightly closed container. Return unused milk or cream to the refrigerator promptly. And always protect it from strong light, because light destroys one of its valuable vitamins, riboflavin."

Pasteurized milk and cream do not sour naturally. If your hand-dovn family cake or cookie recipe calls for sour milk, use buttermilk or add one tablespoon vinegar or lemon juice to each cup of sweet milk.

Buttermilk and cottage cheese are highly perishable and should be used within a few days for best flavor. Uncreamed dry curd cottage cheese may be frozen successfully in freezer containers or waxed cartons. However, it is not advisable to freeze creamed cottage cheese, as it separates when defrosted.

Both cottage cheese and butter absorb odors from other foods readily and should be kept tightly covered. When butter is properly packaged, it can be successfully frozen and held for six to nine months at zero without losing quality.

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Newsletter

From the desk of REP. HARRISON A. WILLIAMS JR. (Sixth Dist.—Union County)

LOBBYING PRACTICES

A long-needed study of the question of lobbying practices and attempted use of campaign contributions to influence public officials is now getting under way in the Senate. The revelation of an attempted bribe of a Senator on the natural gas bill has touched off this wholesome new concern regarding current campaign practices. The problem is one of great complexity and I look forward to an impartial investigation by the Senate committee.

Basically this springs from the high cost of political campaigning in this era of television and other mass communications media. Conduct of a campaign is a basic ingredient of our democracy. It permits candidates to communicate with the people on their records and positions on specific issues. Yet consider this simple fact—the total cost of a single 30-minute television show on a major New York City station exceeds the limit set by law for the conduct of an entire Congressional campaign. This means that the biggest stations can be used by candidates only for such things as spot announcements, and in places like the New York metropolitan area candidates must depend on other less efficient means of communication.

THE VOLUNTARY APPROACH

Several new proposals for financing campaigns have been suggested. The one which seems to me to have great merit has been advanced by the publisher of the Washington Post, Philip Graham. His proposal is that the Advertising Council conduct a campaign—using such media as press, radio and television networks—to suggest to people the need for contributions to the party or candidate of their choice. Actual solicitation and handling of the funds would be by the political parties themselves, but the Council would publicize the message that making political contributions is as much a duty of enlightened citizens as voting is. Mr. Graham has also suggested that a bi-partisan citizens' committee be established to pass on the content of advertising used in this program. This proposal was made as the result of a Gallup poll that indicated that less than five per cent of the people had ever been asked for political contributions, while over 30 per cent said they would be glad to contribute if asked.

GOVERNMENTAL APPROACH

Senator Neuberger of Oregon has revived the suggestion of former President Theodore Roosevelt that the federal government finance the cost of campaigns, within rigidly prescribed limits. While this plan would help remove the temptation of using contributions to influence decisions, it has the disadvantage of proposing a radical departure from the traditional practice of Americans' stake and participation in politics through contribution to the candidates of their choice. I look forward to the Senate committee's giving very careful scrutiny to as many such proposals as possible. The solution to the problem must be found within the frame-work of the highest traditions of honesty and ethical behavior if we are not to limit public office to the wealthy, who can afford to pay the high costs of campaigning out of their own pockets.

PERSPECTIVE NEEDED

While the Senate study will, we all hope, serve the highest purpose, let's not lose our perspective on the matter. I believe it is an essential part of democracy that people have the right to approach their representatives and state their views on legislation, urging action one way or the other. In fact, citizens' rights to petition their representatives is a constitutional guarantee. When individuals or groups step over the line to threaten or attempt blackmail, they should be subject to legal penalty. It is an interesting sidelight on our election laws that a candidate for office who accepts a bribe can be prosecuted, but the person who offers the bribe can, if he avoids making open threats, avoid any kind of penalty. It is the duty of Congress to face squarely the need to develop realistic, ethical rules for campaign practices but we must be careful not to prevent legitimate expressions of opinion. One role of government and its elected officials in a democracy is to provide the ground rules which permit competing interests and opinions to live together harmoniously. Elected officials must hear all sides of an issue and after impartial examination determine the proper course of action, based on principle and fact.

Since I have been in office I have never been improperly approached. As long as propriety prevails I hope all citizens will present their views to me, and I think it appropriate and necessary that they present these views with all possible vigor. Through this means, representatives frequently acquire facts about the complex problems facing them. It also provides a way to gauge consequences of legislation, which otherwise might go unnoticed.

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