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Mr. B. A. Tamm
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurnea
Mr. Pennington
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Mease
Miss Gandy

FAIR ENOUGH

By WESTBROOK PEGLER

NEW YORK, June 13.

MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT'S column on Communists and the Communist movement is to me the most interesting essay she ever wrote and an important political event.

Westbrook Pegler

Mrs. Roosevelt has at last recognized the fact that the American Communists are out to force communism on the United States and acknowledges that recent actions of our Communists have increased the general fear of communism as an international force. Recognizing Russia's right to live under communism, she tactfully suggests that Russia ought to grant us the same right to live under our chosen form of government and proposes "clarification of a situation that may grow until it endangers the peace of the world."

"The sooner we clear up authoritatively this whole situation of Communists outside of the Soviet Union," she wrote, "the better chance we will have for peace in the future."

This is a good statement of the position of all of us who opposed the American Communist movement throughout a long time when Mrs. Roosevelt appeared to sympathize with them. We have never suggested that American missionaries should invade Russia to conspire against the established government and the social and economic system in force there. But we have constantly opposed and exposed the persons and their works who were, so to speak, waging communism in the United States. It would have been better if Mrs. Roosevelt had adopted this position long ago and made herself clear because when two individuals showed up, by considered selection, in position of dangerous power in the original Labor Relations Board, the rest of us naturally thought the intention behind their appointment was to encourage them in their mission to foment a violent class war among us.

MRS. ROOSEVELT'S article was provoked by the recent course of the organized Communists in the United States.

Having suspended their class-war program for the duration of Russia's war with Germany, their New York paper printed a statement amounting to a party decree, written by a French Communist in France, which now terminated that phase of collaboration in our country and resumed the class war.

That is a betrayal of all Americans who are away fighting Japan. The stated purpose of that war is the violent overthrow of our government among others. Mrs. Roosevelt does not acknowledge this fact in so many words but we get the effect when she says, "It frightens us to see any group in our midst proposing to propagandize instead of co-operating where possible and let people think and act for themselves. This might lead to war at home and abroad."

I INTERPRET Mrs. Roosevelt's whole article to be a change of demeanor if not of policy on her part, and from the quality of her piece, which is surprisingly superior to most of her copy, I take the liberty of hoping that it was prepared after the most careful consultation of her political associates.

Not casually would she write a warning to her Communist friends that the new line decreed for American Communists by a French Communist, acting on whose orders we do not know, "might lead to war at home and abroad."

As a sincere suggestion, I would urge that Mrs. Roosevelt take an active part in exposing and discrediting Communists with whom she is better acquainted than most of us and in destroying their old pretense of "liberalism." She is an authority on Communists and communism in our country and, desiring to avert that war, she should be glad to go further.

TOO often lately, propagandists of the New Deal group have lightly tossed at the anti-Communists the evil charge that in fighting communism here they are deliberately and wantonly trying to provoke a war with Russia.

No believer in the American system wants war with Russia, because that war would just about finish off civilization and finally destroy the American form of government.

Soviet Russia could abolish this peril by a flat repudiation of Earl Browder and all the rest of the American Communists and their fellow-travelers. Then those who want to be real friends of Russia could seek that friendship without having to associate with people whom they have long recognized as friends of Russia but enemies of the United States.

That might be the "clarification" which Mrs. Roosevelt desires to end a situation that may "endanger the peace of the world."

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INDEXED

JUN 19 1945

71

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