

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

**HIGHLANDER FOLK
SCHOOL**

PART 1 OF 7

FILE NUMBER: 61-7511

Highlander Folk
School

1107 pages

Section 1 of 11 sections

61-7511

Harriman

April 25, 1936.

From: [Redacted]

Tenn.

To: Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Washington Tenn.

Subject; Highlander Folk School, Monteagle Tenn.

Your attention is respectfully called to the communistic activities of The Highlander Folk School of Monteagle Tenn. In a letter of March 8, 1936 you instructed the writer that since there is no Federal statute in regard to such activities that the Bureau was unable to investigate. This is very unfortunate indeed. This school is a hot-bed of communism and anarchy. This is proven by the part taken by its members in the strikes at Harriman Tenn. Daisy Tenn. and at the present at Rockwood Tenn. It is the opinion of the writer that this school should be investigated. If it were possible an agent of the Dept. should be sent there as a student. He would find that a statute was being violated-possibly TREASON.

The writer has no axe to grind, and is asking for nothing. He does not know a single member of the faculty nor the name of a student in this Highlander Folk School. But he knows enough about this institution to know that there is something radically wrong. Also he is a great admirer of The Director of The Federal Bureau of Investigation. He is proud of the records of The Dept. of Justice since J. Edgar Hoover became its head. He approves of the action of The President in not permitting politicians to remove Mr. Hoover as the Director. While Mr. McKellar is an admired friend, the writer is apposed to his attitude in regard to cutting the appropriations for this Dept. Therefore this letter is written in the spirit of a loyal citizen and an ex-soldier. The natives here are a loyal people. But this beloved East Tenn. is being "Honey-combed" with communism and anarchy. And the Highlander Folk School is the hot-bed.

[Redacted]

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RECORDED & INDEXED

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

APR 27 1936

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

TWO [Signature]

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TD
61-751-1

April 26, 1936

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[Redacted]

Harrison, Tennessee.

Dear Sirs

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated April 26, 1936, furnishing additional information relative to the alleged communistic activities being carried on in the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tennessee, indicating that an investigation by this Bureau may disclose that same is a violation of a Federal law.

As you were previously advised, this Bureau is authorized by Statute to conduct investigations in cases where there is a violation of a specific Federal law. In the absence of any such indication, I regret that no action can be taken by this Bureau relative thereto.

I appreciate, however, your interest in furnishing this information to me, as well as your friendly comments as to the accomplishments of this Bureau.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,
Director.

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
cc-Nashville 1 1936
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

[Vertical list of names and initials, mostly illegible]

[Handwritten signature]
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

FILE NO. 61-3

REPORT MADE AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE	DATE WHEN MADE 1-29-40	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 1-19-40	REPORT MADE BY b7c [REDACTED]
TITLE HIGHLAND FOLK SCHOOL, Monteagle, Grady County, Tennessee			CHARACTER OF CASE SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES (COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Copy of speech delivered by JAMES DOMBROWSKI, Chairman, Highland Folk School at Hillsboro Presbyterian Church, November 19, 1939 and at the Chapel, Doctor's Building, Nashville, Tennessee, November 20, 1939, furnished Memphis Office. Additional names listed therein of persons connected with Highland Folk School, on whom N.T. cards submitted.

- P -

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Memphis, Tennessee, dated 11-13-39.

DETAILS: AT NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE

As noted by reference report, the Highland Folk School is alleged to be communistic and the names of all persons mentioned in a series of newspaper articles appearing in the Nashville, Tennessee "Tennessean" newspaper as having some connection with the school have been submitted to the Bureau on Nationalistic Tendency cards.

On January 19, 1940 [REDACTED] who manifested a keen dislike for persons engaged in subversive activities, stated that some one had furnished him a mimeographed copy embodying a summary of a discussion by JAMES DOMBROWSKI, Chairman, Highland Folk School, delivered at the Hillsboro Presbyterian Church on

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THIS DESTROYED 28 APR 1961

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: <i>W.B. Fletcher</i> SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES 61-7511-2 FEB 6 1941 JAN 31 A.M. ONE HARBO
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 3 - Bureau 2 - Louisville 2 - Memphis COPIES DESTROYED 28 APR 24 1961	

November 19, 1939, and in the Chapel, Doctor's Building, Nashville, November 20, 1939, which mimeographed copy he furnished to Agent. The names of persons mentioned in the address have been checked, and it is noted that the following persons were mentioned on whom Nationalistic Tendency cards have not been previously prepared:

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

both of whom are mentioned as officers of the Alumni Association of the Highland Folk School and who are mentioned as persons in possession of the Thanksgiving weekend reports covering the activities of the alumni who were present at the Homecoming at the Highland Folk School. All others are listed as composing the Advisory Committee of the Highland Folk School, namely:

DR. REINHOLD NIEBUHR, Chairman,
Union Theological Seminary;

DR. ARTHUR SWIFT;

MISS MARY VAN KLEECK, Director of Industrial Studies,
Russell Sage Foundation;

DR. GEORGE S. COUNTS of the Teachers College and
President of the American Federation of Teachers;

ROGER BALDWIN, Director,
American Civil Liberties Union;

DR. SHERWOOD EDDY;

MR. FRANZ DANIEL, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of
America;

The Reverend WILLIAM SPOFFORD, Director, Church
League of Industrial Democracy.

Additional copies of the Nationalistic Tendency card have been made covering [REDACTED] b7c [REDACTED], and same are being furnished to the Louisville Division for its information.

Nationalistic Tendency cards on all persons listed above are being submitted to the Bureau.

ENCLOSURES: TO THE BUREAU

Mimeographed copy of a summary of a speech by JAMES DOMBROWSKI, delivered at Nashville, Tennessee November 19 and 20, 1939.

TO THE LOUISVILLE FIELD DIVISION

Three copies of Nationalistic Tendency card on [REDACTED]

- PENDING -

B7C

The Philosophy and Program of the Highlander Folk School. A summary of a discussion by James Dombrowski, Chairman, Highlander Folk School, at the Hillsboro Presbyterian Church, November 19th, and in the Chapel, Doctor's Building, Nashville, Tennessee, November 27th, 1939.

Part I.
Philosophy

1. One important motivation of the majority of those who have been responsible for the Highlander Folk School has been the attempt to relate religious idealism to the social problems of to-day, particularly to relate the social aspirations of religion and of the labor movement.

2. This concern for social justice stands at the heart of the prophetic Hebrew Christian religion as set forth by such men as Bishop Grundwig, the spiritual father of the Danish Folk Schools, Walter Rauschenbusch, Harry F. Ward, Reinhold Niebuhr, and Bishop Francis J. McConnell.

3. The Social Gospel is the term used to designate the type of religious thought expounded by these thinkers. They emphasize the importance of the social factor in the development of character. The salvation of the individual, according to this school of theology, is impossible apart from the salvation of the whole of society.

Part II.
The Problem for Christian Sociology

4. A definition of religion universally acceptable would be most difficult to formulate, said Dr. John Benton in his recent inaugural address as Dean of the School of Religion of Vanderbilt University. But it is agreed generally that religion is present whenever we confront the brute facts of reality with an ideal, or as he put it, whenever we are aware of the tension between what is and what ought to be.

5. The "as is"-Southern workers (that includes most of us) number thirteen million, 42% on farms, 19% in factories, with an income averaging a half of that of the rest of the nation. With a fourth of the population, the south has two-thirds of the tenants. A tenant earns \$73 a year per person, a sharecropper from \$38 to \$73 per person. In 1935 50% of all the women in industry in Tennessee made less than \$12 a week. A survey of the families removed to make way for the Norris dam area showed an average annual cash income per family of \$50. There are five million forgotten people in the southern mountains. Living standards are commensurate with that income. The average annual expenditure per family for meat and vegetables is \$231, in the south it is less than \$150, and in Mississippi it is \$73. One out of five houses in the rural south has no toilet of any kind. The average annual expenditure for the education

61-7511-2

of a southern child is only one-half of the average for the nation; for a Negro child it is only one-ninth. Because of the poll tax political democracy is denied to two-thirds of the population. Economic democracy (collective bargaining) is restricted even more stringently.

6. The world that "ought to be"-These conditions must be examined in the light of government research as to potential living standards if all the idle capital, plants and man-power were put to work. Conservative estimates place the potential income at \$4,500 for every family in the United States. We may now be sure of one disturbing fact-poverty is now entirely voluntary. This fact should haunt every Christian concerned with establishing a just society, every citizen interested in a rational society, and all of us seeking to safeguard democracy. Democracy means freedom, and we are not free until we liberate all of the potential material and spiritual resources of our nation.

Part III.
What can
Labor
Contribute

7. The labor movement, with its labor press, nine million members of unions, and co-operatives, and affiliated bodies is the backbone of the progressive movement seeking to change the present order and to establish a more just and ethical society. Organized labor brings immediate practical gains to those who need it most. These benefits may be summarized:

- a. By raising wages and living standards.
- b. Initiating and enforcing social legislation.
- c. Giving dignity to workers; no longer regarded as mere "hands".
- d. Makes democracy work in the economic field through collective bargaining.
- e. Bringing educational and cultural services to workers.
- f. Giving concrete expression to the religious ideals of service and brotherhood which otherwise find but little practical outlet in the hurly-burly competitive world.

Thus for rational as well as ethical reasons religion needs labor. And a vital concern by religion for the interests of labor would be the best safeguard against a complacent, comfortable middle class dissipating its ethical interests in mere generalities. We need to apply the Social Creed to the Churches.

Part IV.
The Program
of HFS.

A. Resident Program-

(a) Purpose- To provide a cultural and educational center for the training of a native leadership for the southern labor movement.

(b) Program- Two resident terms a year, each lasting six weeks. In the past these have come in the summer and winter. In 1940 the resident terms will be held in the Spring and Fall. This will leave the summer free for week-end institutes for local and international unions.

The students are carefully selected by the educational committees of their unions or co-operatives. There are no formal educational requirements other than the ability to read and write and a desire to serve the labor movement. One or two college students are accepted each term but such students must plan to work full time in the labor movement or in social work. In the Winter Term of 1939 27 students came from ten southern states, from San Antonio to Richmond and represented 9 international unions.

The courses are grouped in two categories: first, the practical "tool" courses in the work of the union, e.g. public speaking, and parliamentary law, trade union problems, journalism, mimeographing, poster making; and secondly, the background and cultural courses such as dramatics, economics, folk dancing and group singing, history and recreational programs.

The methods are a combination of lectures, discussion and work-shop. The material as far as possible is based on the experience of the students. Classes are informal. In the work-shop class students experiment with visual materials, reducing materials from their classes and experience to graphic form in charts, posters, etc. Samples of this material will be seen in the various publications of the class in English and Journalism. (see the publication list of HFS). There is an attempt to relate the material from the various classes, for example, the dramatics group wrote published and produced five plays this summer. The dramatic material was drawn from the students' experience and from their discussions in union problems, economics and work-shop classes.

Special lecturers augment the regular teaching staff during a resident term. About twenty-five or thirty prominent progressive leaders of the south drawn from labor, governmental

and civic groups discuss various aspects of community and labor problems. These discussions with many of the south's leading progressive figures is in itself a liberal education. A complete list of the visiting lecturers during the Summer Term of 1939 was published in the Fall number of the Highlander Fling.

B. Community Program-

(a) Purpose- To preserve and enrich the indigenous cultural traditions of the southern mountains; through democratic and co-operative procedure to seek actively the solution of basic community problems.

(b) The program- is of an informal nature following the procedures of settlement houses and of the Danish Folk Schools. The activities are suggested by the community, limited only by the interests of the group and the skills of the staff. These activities for the most part consist of cultural and recreational groups, e.g., piano lessons, voice culture, group singing, dramatics, marionette and puppet making, library service, hikes and athletics, community newspaper, folk dancing, discussion groups, co-operative projects, nursery school. Not all of these interest groups are maintained simultaneously, but vary according to the resources of the staff.

The co-operative ideal is stressed as the best instrument through which to develop community consciousness, self-reliance, training in democratic methods, and through which the resources of the community may be made to yield the best returns. The nursery school, for example, is a co-operative community project. Eighteen children are enrolled. Parents have contributed through their own initiative and solicitation small sums for the fuel supplies, although all are on relief; young men made the benches and equipment; young girls helped with supervision until NYA aid was secured.

A community discussion group has been meeting continuously for over a year. The problems grow out of the experience of the group. In discussing their own situation they gradually get some understanding and insights into the larger problems of the nation. After an extended study of the philosophy and methods of the co-operative movement, the group is now attempting to raise some working capital for a co-operative. Pummage sales of old clothes are held once a month. The last sale was attended by 50 families from the valley, the surrounding coves and the mountain. In this way clothes are distributed to the needy at slight cost, and gradually the basis for a co-operative is being established.

This discussion group is experimenting with book-making. Simple pamphlets have been made from materials furnished by the group, newspaper clippings, cartoons, etc., which are mounted in pamphlet form and circulated among the membership. The subjects cover Surplus Commodities, Social Security Laws, Wage and Hour Act, the Poll Tax, etc.

C. Extension Program-

(a) Purpose-To assist labor groups within the area served by the school to develop cultural and educational programs.

(b) Program-The services to unions are of a varied nature, consisting of occasional lectures, to a six weeks' institute. Library services are extended to neighboring individuals and groups. Help is given with recreational programs; materials are furnished for dramatic programs and discussion groups.

The School plant is used by local and international unions for week-end institutes, especially during the summer months.

An effort is made to maintain a permanent relationship with our alumni and to assist them to develop within their groups educational and cultural programs. At the Homecoming at Highlander at Thanksgiving week-end reports were made of the activities of the alumni present. (These reports are in the process of being mimeographed and may be had from the officers of the Alumni Association, Mr. Matthew Lynch, 417 $\frac{1}{2}$ Church Street, Nashville, and Mrs. Christine Benson, Gilbertsville, Kv., c/o T. V. A.)

Part V.
Organization
and Personnel

Location-Highlander is located in the community of Summerfield, two miles from Monteagle on the Tracy City Highway. It is 50 miles from Chattanooga, 90 from Nashville, in Grundy County on the Cumberland Plateau.

Property-The original grant of property on which Highlander was located was made by Dr. Lillian S. Johnson, of Memphis, Tenn. Dr Johnson built the large house in 1919 and carried on a program of community education until 1932 when she made it available to Highlander.

Staff-The staff consists of seven full time residents:
William Buttrick, Duke University, teacher of economics,
Secretary;

James Dombrowski, B.Ph., Emory University, B.D., Union Theological Seminary, Ph.D., Columbia University, teacher of history, Chairman;

Myles Horton, B.A., Cumberland University, University of Chicago, International Peoples College, teacher of union problems, Educational Director.

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Zilphia Horton, B.A., M.A., College of the Ozarks, teacher of music and dramatics;
Claudia Lewis, B.A., Reid College, Director of Nursery School;
Mary Lawrence, B.A., Duke University, Community Worker;
Jane Lawson, B.A., Vassar College, Office Secretary.

Advisory Committee; The Chairman is Dr. Reinhold Niebuhr, of Union Theological Seminary; other members are Dr. Arthur Swift, Miss Mary Van Kleeck, Director of Industrial Studies, Russell Sage Foundation; Dr. George S. Counts, of Teachers College and President of the American Federation of Teachers, Roger Baldwin, Director American Civil Liberties Union; Dr. Sherwood Eddy; Mr. Franz Daniel, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America; the Reverend William Spofford, Director Church League of Industrial Democracy.

Finances-The school is financed by contributions from individuals, unions, church groups, student groups. The budget in 1939 was \$10,000. A few of the stronger unions provide scholarships but for the most part the school must provide scholarships of \$100 each for the six weeks' term. Students making \$10 and \$15 a week are not in a position to pay their own way.

Some support has come from the William G. Whitney Foundation and the Christian Social Justice Fund, but most of the money comes from voluntary contributions from individuals. There are 550 individual contributors, most of whom make annual contributions. They include teachers, ministers, business men and workers.

Obviously the school could not manage on such a small budget if the staff received remuneration commensurate with the services rendered. Staff members serve on a maintenance basis.

F-14

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61-7511-2

LANOOGA, TENNESSEE

May 20, 1940.

Mr J. Edgar Hoover,
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr Hoover,

Recently I sent you some clippings about the Highlander Folk School and I am herewith sending you another.

It seems to me that this Gothe should be investigated-- I suggest that he might be "asked" to return to Germany---

Could you not cooperate with Mr Dies in having some trusted young people attend these camps?

We need to clean out our country from within more than we need battle ships.

Best wishes to you and for your work

Most sincerely,

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1 MAY 24 1940

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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GO THE TO DIRECT NEW TYPE CAMP AT MONTEAGLE

Youth Congress Leader Attends Workers' Edu- cation Meet Here

Richard Gothe, one of the leaders of the American Youth Congress, which created such a stir in Washington, D. C., some months ago in denouncing certain phases of Roosevelt's Administration, is in Chattanooga attending the Conference of Workers' Education to be held here Saturday and Sunday.

Gothe said his attendance at this conference is more or less a coincidence, as his real purpose is to arrange for establishment of a "work camp" in Highlander Folk School.

The camp, he said, will be set up in the month of August, and will last for six weeks, and will be attended by 25 young workers and farmers who will work, study and play in this period. He is expected to direct the school.

Gothe said the idea of "work camps" was conceived last year with the establishment of first camp at West Point, N. Y., on the Hudson. He said there are now five such camps in this country, one near Cleveland, Ohio; one in New York State; one in Oregon, and the one to be set up here in Tennessee at Monteagle.

EXPLANATION EXPLAINED

Gothe explained how students are selected for these summer camps. He asserted that the sponsors make talks at different schools and colleges and invite students to participate in these camps, which, he said, are operated somewhat on the same line as similar camps in Scandinavian countries. The idea is also, he pointed out, to 14 camps have been established by the Quaker Friends Service Committee.

Gothe is a native of Germany. He has been in United States on his present trip for two years. He said he knew Hitler, "but they don't get along so well together." In comment on the European situation, Gothe stated it is "too hot yet to tell just what is the situation and it will probably take some time before we can get a clear picture of the situation."

Gothe arrived here Saturday. Myles Horton, educator and director of the Highlander Folk School, here in attendance at the Workers' Education

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

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Sent in by:



Leaders of Workers' Conference



- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

1306

MISS WOODS
 Helen Woods, United States Department of Labor, in charge of wage and hour division in the department, was scheduled to address the conference, but it was announced Saturday that she will not be here. Baldanza is looked upon as one of the youngest union executives in this country. He began his union activities at 17 years, when he joined United Mine Workers in Pennsylvania and has had an active union career ever since that time. Leaving coal field, he worked in Paterson, N. J., dyeing plant from 1927 to 1933, when he became active in forming the Dyer's Federation, a part of United Textile Workers and had remained active in the T. W. U. A.

Here are some of leaders who are here to participate in the Workers' Education Conference which opened a two-day session in Chattanooga Saturday morning. They are, left to right, John Martin, Southern director, International Ladies Garment Workers' Union; Miss Edna Brown, chairman Workers' Education Committee, of Chattanooga, who is presiding over conference; Lawrence Rogin, educational director, American Federation of Hosiery Workers, Philadelphia; Mrs. Louise Leonard McLaren, director, Southern Summer School, Asheville, N. C., and Edward F. Callaghan, vice-president, American Federation of Hosiery Workers, and Tennessee director, T. W. U. A., Chattanooga.

WORKERS OPEN 2-DAY SESSION ON EDUCATION

Southern Group Takes Up Use of Teaching to Help Build Unions

A group of labor leaders from several Southern states assembled in Chattanooga Saturday for a two-day conference to consider the general theme, "How Workers' Education Can Help Build the Union." Although both the CIO and AFL are participating in this meeting, as well as some independent unions, the visiting delegates are predominantly affiliated with the CIO. George Baldanza, executive vice-president of the Textile Workers' Union of America, headquarters in New York, is one of the outstanding speakers. He was en route to Chattanooga Saturday morning and will banquet Saturday.

John Martin, southern director, International Ladies Garment Workers, was to be the key afternoon speaker. He will give a summary of "Workers' Education Activities" and in this outline the "use of workers' education groups" in building labor organizations. He said Saturday morning that the two summer schools already functioning in the South are doing a good job, but added there was a need for the enlargement of this program.

SCHOOLS PRAISED.

The schools to which Martin referred are the Southern Summer School for Workers, headquarters at Asheville, N. C., and the Highlander Folk School, at Monteagle. The two-day conference here is sponsored by the Chattanooga Workers' Education Committee, of which Miss Edna Brown is chairman, and presiding officer at the conference; Highlander Folk School and Southern Summer School for Workers. It opened with registration of delegates at the International Ladies Garment Workers' Hall on East Eighth Street at 10 a.m. Saturday and will continue through Sunday.

The conference expected to dissolve into discussion groups following Martin's talk at the Saturday afternoon session. Reports of committees will be made at the business session commencing at 10:30 o'clock Sunday morning.

Other union leaders who are here to participate in the conference are Lawrence Rogin, educational director, American Federation of Hosiery Workers, Philadelphia; Mrs. Carolyn Dillard, of Atlanta, Georgia director, Workers Service Program; Ruth Martin, chairman, Knoxville Workers' Education Council; Harold Gibbons, Louisville, Ky., T. W. U. A.; Myles Horton, educational director, Highlander Folk School, Monteagle; Edward F. Callaghan, vice-president, A. F. H. A., and Tennessee director, T. W. U. A., Carl G. Thompson, Jr., field representative, Southern Summer School for Workers, North Carolina; Bill Wolff, dramatics and music director, Southern Summer School for Workers; Mrs. Louise Leonard McLaren, director of Southern Summer School, Asheville, N. C.; Nathan Hightower, dramatics director, I. L. G. W., Chattanooga.

Sent in by:

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b7c [redacted] MFW
61-7511-3

July 8, 1940

b7c [redacted]
Chattanooga, Tennessee

13064

b7c
Dear [redacted]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated May 20, 1940, and its enclosure.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated. You may be assured your letter is being made a matter of official record for appropriate attention.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

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DIRECTOR
JUL 9 1940
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COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
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P. M.
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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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May 21, 1940

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[redacted]

Chattanooga, Tennessee

Dear [redacted]

It is a pleasure indeed to have your letter of May 14, 1940, together with the enclosed clipping and to have your comments concerning my address before the Daughters of the American Revolution.

I want to thank you for sending me your observations and suggestions, and you may be assured that this Bureau will endeavor to perform its duties as effectively and efficiently as possible.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Gurnea
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Jones
- Mr. Mumford
- Mr. Quinn
- Mr. Nease
- Miss Gandy

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
 MAILED
 MAY 21 1940 ★
 FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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July 30, 1940

Special Agent in Charge
Knoxville, Tennessee

Re: MR. _____ DOMBRONSKI
ESPIONAGE

Dear Sir:

For your information, I am transmitting herewith
copies of an anonymous communication dated **May 24, 1940**
received at the Bureau in an envelope postmarked **May 24, 1940**
at **Cowan, Tennessee.**

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ JUL 30 1940 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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[Handwritten signature and initials]

CRIMINAL: Montezuma Tenn. May 24th. 1940

Department of Justice
Washington D. C.
Gentlemen:-

MAY 27 1940

ANONYMOUS COMMUNICATION

RECEIVED BY ENVELOPE ATTACHED

Noting in the paper where you are desirous of registration of Aliens to prevent Sabotage, I am addressing your attention to the "Highlander Folk School" located here, which has been reported to the F.B.I. for investigation already; and was informed of this investigation through an item in our local County Paper just a short time back, and to forestall suspicion, the school manager, A Mr. Miles Horton, collected up a few children of his local patrons and went to Chattanooga the evening of Mrs. Roosevelt's visit there, making it appear that the school was devoted to the education of children.

The actual head of this school is a Mr. "DOMBRONSKI", which name in itself sounds suspicious; Believing any one having something to hide from the public, is not worthy of public consideration, and a menace to the public and community, I wish to state that I have been in the school on several occasions and I never saw a child there as a student, and I have seen and know of adults being there for what they claim to educate them for holding better positions but the general consensus of opinion is that they are taught how to better control their unions and how to cause and carry on strikes.

Believing this to be a starting nest of Communists, and believing it to be due for a thorough investigation, and knowing that this Mr. Dombrowski is now traveling throughout the States especially where there is hopes of causing strife or strikes, thought it to be worthy of note to you.

Should you wish any further information or if I can be of any service in this or any other capacity, serve you, address me as a Member of General Kirby-Smith Post, 1893, Veterans of Foreign Wars, of the U.S. Cowan Tenn.

Respectfully

13000A Citizen.

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7/30/40 Amt Knoxville

[REDACTED] 37c
CUYAHOGA FALLS, OHIO

August 30 1940.

Mr. J. Edger Hoover
F.B.I. Washington
D.C.

Dear Mr. Hoover;

I have just learned of the existence in Tennessee of a school called "Highlander's Falls School", has been in operation for about 18 years, and is reported to teach Communistic doctrine while endeavoring to influence the local elections; in fact they have made themselves quite obnoxious.

RECORDED & INDEXED

This information is passed on to you

only because of the report that certain well known people in Government circles are helping to support the school and are sending Boys to the school.

I am sorry not to be able to give you the exact location of the school but I know your organization will spot the place in a hurry .

May I as just an ordinary American offer to you and your grand organization a hearty word of real appreciation.

Respectfully submitted

b7c

[REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8 BTG/OW
248552

SEP 5 RECD

swv

Ret. ENT/mch
9-10-40

RECORDED

MLD

61-7511-6

September 10, 1940

[Redacted]
Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio

Dear [Redacted]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated August 30, 1940.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8 BTJ/cw
245682

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ SEP 11 1940 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

masper
2/5

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Foxworth _____
- Mr. Nathan _____
- Mr. Quinn _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Coffey _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Jones _____
- Mr. Mumford _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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For your information: LETTER FROM THIRD PARTY

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
61-7511-7

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X
X FOR THIS PAGE X
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hn
61-7511-7

November 4, 1940

RECORDED

L4C
████████████████████
Nashville, Tennessee

L7C
Dear ██████████

I wish to acknowledge your letter received at this Bureau October 24, 1940, and to thank you for your courtesy and interest in writing as you did.

I have noted with interest the information contained in your letter, and if you care to reveal the identity of the informant to whom you make reference, I should be pleased to have him interviewed concerning the subject matter of your letter.

For your information Mr. C. K. Fierstone is Special Agent in Charge of our Knoxville Field Office located at 407 Hamilton National Bank Building, Knoxville, Tennessee, and your cooperation in furnishing any additional data pertaining to the internal security of this country to Mr. Fierstone would indeed be of real assistance.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8 BTJ/d
245,582

cc - Knoxville

(With copies of incoming)

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ NOV 4 1940 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

- Mr. Tolson _____
- Mr. E. A. Tamm _____
- Mr. Clegg _____
- Mr. Glavin _____
- Mr. Ladd _____
- Mr. Nichols _____
- Mr. Rosen _____
- Mr. Tracy _____
- Mr. Carson _____
- Mr. Egan _____
- Mr. Gurnea _____
- Mr. Hendon _____
- Mr. Pennington _____
- Mr. Quinn Tamm _____
- Mr. Nease _____
- Miss Gandy _____

Knoxville, Tennessee
November 5, 1940

Special Agent in Charge
Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto you will find copy of
Bureau letter of November 4, 1940 (61-7511), ad-
dressed to ██████████
██████████ Nashville, Tennessee, together with its
enclosure. This is furnished for completion of
your files.

Very truly yours,

RECEIVED
NOV 13 8 10 AM '40

C. K. FIERSTONE,
Special Agent in Charge.

CKP:AB
Enc.

CC - Bureau

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8 BTG/ck
245862

RECORDED & INDEXED

61-7511-8
NOV 7 1940
FIVE

86
8
67c
Wm. G. ...

Knoxville, Tennessee
November 8, 1940

Special Agent in Charge
Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Sir:

With further reference to my letter of November 5, 1940 transmitting a copy of Bureau letter of the preceding day (61-7511) addressed to ██████████ Nashville, I am herewith forwarding the original of the Bureau's letter on which ██████████ had added a number of comments. A copy of ██████████ notations are not being retained by this office nor is her letter being acknowledged because it would appear that there is nothing specific in her complaint and it seems that possibly she is a bit on the erratic side and with very little encouragement might engage in extensive pointless correspondence. The letter is being forwarded for the completion of your files.

b7c

Very truly yours,

C. K. FIERSTONE
Special Agent in Charge

CKF:PEF

61-12

CC - Bureau ✓

Enclosure

Handwritten notes:
B
gr
C
O. N. Highland - 24
245502

INDEXED *R*

61-7511-8X
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 NOV 12 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
<i>507</i> FIVE

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE *2/24/84* BY *SP8 BTG/ok*
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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For your information: _____

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
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For your information: LETTER FROM THIRD PARTY

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

61-7511-10

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RECORDED

67-7511-10

December 7, 1940

ERM

Nashville, Tennessee

Dear

Receipt is acknowledged of your letter, with enclosure, dated November 7, 1940, and I desire to thank you for your interest in again corresponding with this Bureau.

As I have previously advised, Mr. C. K. Fierstone is Special Agent in Charge of the Knoxville, Tennessee, Field Division, and any data you deem to be of interest to this Bureau can be submitted directly to him.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

cc - Knoxville (with copies of incoming)

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8 BTJ/ck

245632

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

MAILED

★ DEC 7 1940 ★

P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Tolson
E. A. Tamm
Clegg
Glavin
Ladd
Nichols
Rosen
Tracy
Harbo
Mohr
Tele. Rm.
Holloman
Gandy

Wey

Laban

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Knoxville, Tennessee
November 16, 1940

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to Bureau letter of November 4, 1940
(61-7511) addressed to [REDACTED]
Nashville, Tennessee.

As will be noted from my letter of November 8, 1940 to the
Memphis Office, [REDACTED] added a number of extensive comments on
the original of the Bureau's letter to her and transmitted it to me.
Because of the rambling nature of her communication, it was not ack-
nowledged and no copy of it was retained at this office.

Today I am in receipt of a long two-page communication from .
[REDACTED] The communication is on two sheets of paper and is
fully covered on both sides. The first sheet is on the letter head
of [REDACTED] Nashville, while the second is on the
letter head of [REDACTED] Nashville.

While parts of her communication are undecipherable, it ap-
pears that [REDACTED] is dissatisfied with almost everything in the
world, and besides expressing her views on the present world situation,
she gives an extensive genealogical outline of her own ancestry. En-
closed with the letter was a newspaper clipping pertaining to the High-
lander Folk School and the first couple pages of the September issue
of the Reader's Digest, all of which appear to be much ado about noth-
ing in particular.

It appears from the rambling context of [REDACTED] letter
that she is carrying the burdens of the world on her shoulders because
she touches generally on communistic tendencies, religious proclivities,
her own genealogy, the recent election, etcetera, etcetera.

No acknowledgment is being made to [REDACTED] communication
by this office and it is suggested that in the event [REDACTED] further

COPIES DESTROYED

22 Nov 24 1961

Handwritten: 11-22-40 KRM

RECORDED & INDEXED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8 BTG/CA
245585

61-7511-11

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 NOV 18 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

Handwritten: 88 FIVE ONE 3 30

RECEIVED

b7c

b7c

b7c

b7c

b7c

b7c

Director

- 2 -

November 16, 1940

writes the Bureau, that no reply be made because she evidently needs very little encouragement to spend long hours in writing out her worries.

By carbon copy of this letter, [REDACTED] letter is being transmitted to the Memphis Office for inclusion in its files and no copy of it is being retained in this office. *b7c*

Very truly yours,

C. K. Fierstone

C. K. FIERSTONE
Special Agent in Charge

CKF:PBF

cc - Memphis (Enclosure)

- 2 -

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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For your information: LETTER FROM THIRD PARTY

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
7511-12

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Knoxville, Tennessee
December 10, 1940

RECEIVED
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 10 1940
12996

Special Agent in Charge
Memphis, Tennessee

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith will be found copies of Bureau letter (61-7511) dated December 7, 1940, addressed to ██████████ ██████████ Nashville, Tennessee, together with photostatic copies of her most recent epistles to the Director.

b7c

These copies, as were copies of Bureau letter of November 4, 1940, have been apparently inadvertently sent to the Knoxville Office because Nashville is located in the Memphis district, and these copies are being transmitted for the completion of your file in this matter and none have been retained at this office.

Very truly yours,

CKF:PEP

C. K. FIERSTONE
Special Agent in Charge

61-12

cc - Bureau

Enclosures

RECORDED & INDEXED

61-7511-13
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 DEC 12 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
<i>FIVE</i>

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DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8 BTG/CL
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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information: LETTER FROM THIRD PARTY

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:
61-7511-15

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OFF
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

December 6, 1940

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Nathan
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Egan
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Harbo
- Mr. McLaughlin
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Starnes
- Miss Gandy

With reference to the attached, I called Congressman Jones and informed him that I was unable to find any record of anyone in the FBI who talked to the Congressman yesterday with reference to the investigation of the Highlander Folk School. The Congressman stated he called yesterday and talked with a Mr. Holtzer (phonetic). The Congressman advised that this Mr. Holtzer (he stated he was not sure of the name but that it sounded like Holtzer) called him back this morning and informed him that the files on this investigation were confidential. I told the Congressman there is no one in the Bureau by that name. He then said he called the Department of Justice and was connected with someone; that he thought he was talking with the FBI but that he was probably talking with the Department of Justice.

It is possible he was talking with Judge Holtzoff.

I told the Congressman the FBI was not conducting an investigation of the Highlander Folk School of Tennessee.

st

RECORDED
&
INDEXED

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8GTO/CH
245862

61-7511-14	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
4	DEC 17 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
TOLSON	TAMM
NICHOLS	FIVE

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

SJT:MLG

Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

December 6, 1940

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

[redacted] to Congressman Jones of Ohio, called in personally this morning advising that the Congressman had talked with someone in the Bureau yesterday afternoon concerning the investigation of the Highlander Folk School in Tennessee; that the Congressman desired that she, [redacted] personally review this file to ascertain what investigation had been made.

I informed [redacted] that all files in the Bureau are confidential and that any request for files would of necessity have to be made of the Attorney General's Office; however, I informed her further that an inquiry had been made recently with reference to the Highlander Folk School and that a check of the files of this Bureau had failed to reveal that such an investigation had been made.

[redacted] asked many questions concerning the Bureau's jurisdiction in matters concerning schools allegedly communistic and from the questions asked and from her personal appearance, I would judge that [redacted] might be unduly interested in radical activities, probably from a sympathetic standpoint.

I have been unable to find any record of anyone talking with Congressman Jones and there is no record of such a call having been received in the Director's Office.

I will call the Congressman and inform him that this Bureau has not made an investigation of the Highlander Folk School at Mont Eagle, Tennessee.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8 BTG/AL
245532

RECORDED
Respectfully,

S. J. Tracy
S. J. Tracy

61-7511-14
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
DEC 17 1940
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

It will be recalled [redacted] telephoned the other day with reference to the Highland School of either Nashville or Knoxville. I informed [redacted] at that time that the information furnished was insufficient to make a thorough check.

1738

NICHOLS
92

Check from White House Helps Fifth Column in South

What need one do to be branded a traitor to his or her country?

Birmingham, Ala., Oct. 26. "A check from the White House helps support Fifth Column activity in the South."

This charge supported by a photographic reproduction of Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt's check, is printed on the inside front cover of a booklet, "The FIFTH COLUMN in the South," released here today from the Southern headquarters of the Constitutional Educational League. The author, Joseph P. Kamp, Vice-Chairman of the League, also wrote the widely circulated exposé, "The Fifth Column in Washington."

Photographs in the booklet show Mrs. Roosevelt's check for \$100 drawn April 23, 1940, on the Bank of New York payable to the Highlander Folk School, Monteagle, Tenn., in the letter of transmittal on the House stationery addressed to Dr. Dobrowski at the School.

gram is anti-American and anti-God. The ultimate goal is social chaos, the overthrow of the government and the establishment of 'a new social order'."

After presenting much detailed data and many quotations from Communist documents, Mr. Kamp makes the blunt charge that the objective of the Fifth Column is "to 'take over' industry! To 'take over' the South! To 'take over' America."

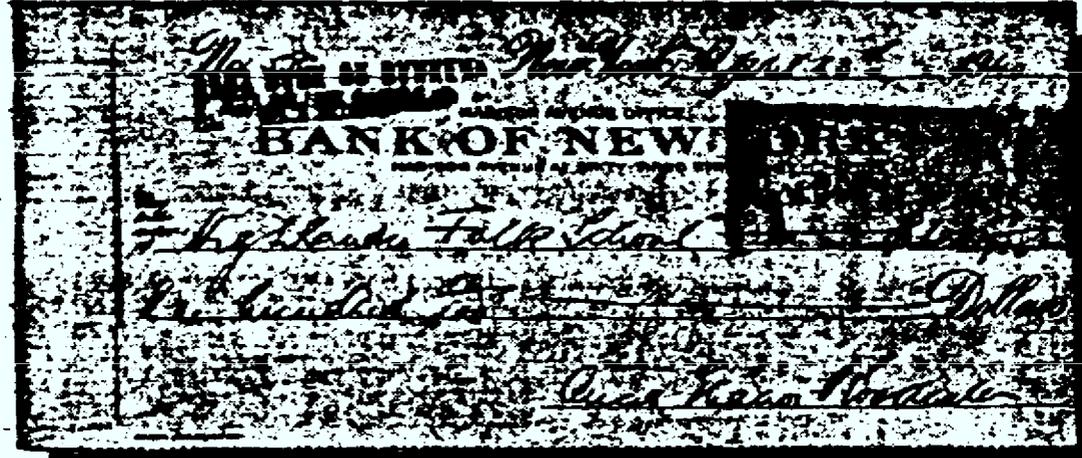
Wittingly or unwittingly, government officials including a governor, labor leaders, churchmen, educators, influential and well-meaning local citizens are being used as a vanguard for the Moscow-inspired Red revolution which already is in an advanced stage in the South, Mr. Kamp says.

Commonwealth College, at Mona, Arkansas, which a few weeks ago was fined \$2500 on anarchy charges

Tennessee Federation of Labor, has publicly branded it as "Communist."

Further concerning Mrs. Roosevelt, the author writes:
- "I am greatly interested in what you are doing, for it is a most important work," said Mrs. Roosevelt when she met with the students and staff members of Highlander at a supper she tendered her at Chattanooga's West Hotel last April. She was accompanied by Dr. Frank Graham, once a board member of Soviet Russia State University of Moscow Summer School for Training American Students in Communism. Also in the party were Gardner Jackson, former government official lately involved in a plot to smear the Dies Committee and previously exposed as having been a regular contributor to a Communist organization; and

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 DATE 8/24/84 BY SP8 BJA
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Dobrowski, according to the booklet, was arrested in Elizabethton, Tennessee, during the Communist-led textile strikes in 1929, and in 1933 brought Soviet posters from Russia which were held up by the U. S. Customs as "seditious."

Monteagle, Tennessee, Democratic newspaper supporting President Roosevelt for a third term, is one of the many sources quoted to support Mr. Kamp's "indictment." That newspaper investigated Highlander Folk School last year and, according to the Kamp booklet, declared it to be "a center, if not THE center for the spreading of Communism in the thirteen South-

and for displaying the Communist hammer and sickle in place of the American flag, is linked by Mr. Kamp directly with Highlander Folk School. He quotes from a joint advertisement published by the two schools in which they appealed for money, and says Kamp:

"Illustrated with the usual 'sitting baby' pictures, the advertisement features a statement by Vice Presidential Candidate Henry Wallace, who once wrote praise of Lenin, Mussolini and Hitler. The quotation reads:

"I have never seen more any peasantry of Europe poorer so object as that which exists from Argen-

Kathryn Lewis, daughter of John L. Lewis, who recently sided openly with the Communist faction in the New York CIO convention."

A photograph in the booklet shows Mrs. Roosevelt in conference with Dr. Frank Graham and Myles Horton, a University of Chicago graduate and one of the founders of Highlander. Mr. Kamp quotes Horton as saying that the school affords "an opportunity to direct the American revolutionary tradition towards a cooperative society operated by and for the workers." Horton is the present Director of the School, although Mr. Kamp says he spends most of his time as a CIO organizer.

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HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/21/84 BY SP8/MLC
2455/2

Another government official, Aubrey Williams, head of the National Youth Administration is accused of having provided a letter of introduction for "Communist" John Dugoran, National Representative of the Workers Alliance, when he came to Birmingham in 1938 to help promote the Southern Conference for Human Welfare, which, the book's author, was Communist inspired and controlled.

The Williams introduction is quoted as having said in part: "I regard you highly and have found that you know what he is talking

Mrs. Roosevelt asked me to acknowledge receipt of your letter of April 15th, and to send you this check which she is very glad to contribute to the scholarship fund of the Highlander Folk School.

Very sincerely yours,

Eleanor Roosevelt
Secretary to
Mrs. Roosevelt

Mr. James Dombrowski
c/o Highlander Folk School
Monteagle
Tennessee

44-7511-15

January 4, 1941

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

There appeared in The CIO News for December 2, 1940, on Page 8, the following item: "Support Highlander Folk School" -

"The program and aims of the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tenn., were endorsed by the CIO convention, and efforts to discredit and defame the school were condemned as 'an attack on the progressive labor movement of the South.'

"Highlander conducts a year around program of education, recreation and organization. In addition to six weeks' resident terms, it holds institutes, conferences and co-operates with unions in field work. These activities the convention declared, 'have made the school a target for attacks of anti-labor forces.'"

RECORDED

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/24/84 BY JP8 BTJ/CL
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1-7511-16
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
6 JAN 13 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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For your information: _____

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Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Knoxville, Tennessee

April 9, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

During the investigation presently being made of the Highlander Folk School it was necessary to photograph a large number of documents, part of which had to be used immediately in the investigation. Consequently, the photographs were developed and those few needed for immediate investigation were enlarged.

The forty-two negatives which were not needed immediately are being enclosed and the Bureau is requested to furnish this office with two enlarged copies of each. It is not necessary that these be enlarged to their natural size but only need to be enlarged to a size which will permit them to be easily read. When these enlargements are received, the Knoxville office will submit a supplementary report concerning the information on them.

Very truly yours,

C. K. Fierstone

C. K. FIERSTONE,
Special Agent in Charge.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 2/24/84 BY SP8 BTG/Ch
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RECORDED & INDEXED

ENCLOSURE

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61-7511-18

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 APR 11 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
REC. DIV. FIVE

AVB
61-7511-18

REGISTERED MAIL

RECORDED

April 15, 1941

Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
407 Hamilton National Bank
Knoxville, Tennessee

12995

RE: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

As requested in your letter to the Bureau dated April 9, 1941, there are enclosed herewith, two enlarged photographic prints of each and the forty-two negatives of photographs taken in connection with above entitled matter.

Very truly yours,

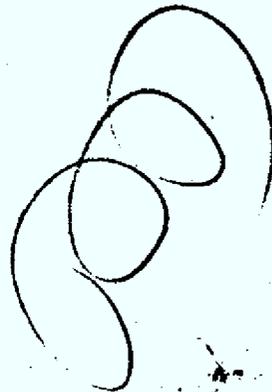
John Edgar Hoover
Director

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F-14



Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Knoxville, Tennessee
April 14, 1941

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL
Monteagle, Tennessee
INTERNAL SECURITY - C

Dear Sir:

Please refer to the letter from Knoxville to the Bureau dated October 6, 1939; letter from the Bureau to Memphis, dated October 13, 1939, and October 30, 1939, Bureau file No. 61-7558, which concerned a report made by [redacted] on this school. It will be noted that the Knoxville Office could not locate a copy of this report at that time and advised that the report appeared to have been made for the American Federation of Labor and to have been forwarded to WILLIAM GREEN, its President. The Bureau in its letter dated October 30, referred to above, advised that no further effort should be made to obtain copies of this report through the American Federation of Labor.

A copy of this report was located by Special Agent [redacted] in the possession of [redacted] Assistant Postmaster at Chattanooga, Tennessee, and another copy was also found by Special Agent [redacted] in the possession of [redacted]. One of these copies is being attached hereto for the Bureau. It will be noted that this report is dated May 8, 1935, and was made by [redacted]. Copies of five affidavits, which were attached to the original of this report, are also being enclosed.

[redacted] was located in Knoxville, Tennessee, where he is employed by the City, and the report was gone over with him to determine if he had any additional information in his possession.

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61-7511-107
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
5 APR 16 1941
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FIVE

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

4-14-41

C. K. FIERSTONE

61-12

b7D
b7D

He advised that the investigation had been made so long ago that he had no recollection of the details of the report, but after reading it advised that he had been very careful to report only facts in this investigation. When questioned regarding the reason for this investigation having been made, [REDACTED] advised that a grant of about \$15,000 had been made by the United States Government to the Highlander Folk School for the installation of printing equipment, but that a report had reached the Governor of the State of Tennessee from some source regarding the communist teaching of the school, and that the Governor had personally requested that this investigation be made before the check was sent to the school. [REDACTED] advised that he personally discussed this matter with the Governor of the State of Tennessee at the date his report was made and that as a result of his belief that the school was definitely communistic, the Governor had refused to grant the money to the school and had blocked the payment of the \$15,000 which had been authorized.

[REDACTED] advised that he knew of no connection of the American Federation of Labor with this investigation and that so far as he knew no copy had been forwarded to the President of the American Federation of Labor, WILLIAM GREEN, at Washington, D. C. This matter is being further reported on in the case entitled above in a report which is now in the process of dictation.

Very truly yours,

C. K. Fierstone
C. K. FIERSTONE
Special Agent in Charge

b7c [REDACTED] PBF

61-12

Enclosures

XXXXXX
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~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This case originated at KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

File No. 61-12

Report made at KNOXVILLE, TENN.	Date made 4-10-41	Period 3/11-15, 17-22, 24, 25/41; 4/1, 4/41.	Report made by [Redacted] <i>b7c</i> AEB
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Title <u>HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL</u>	Character of case INTERNAL SECURITY - C
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SYNOPSIS:

Organization, location and directing personnel set out. Lists of teachers and sponsors obtained. [Redacted] sources of income indicate Communist Party support. Informants Chattanooga show heads of school attended Communist Party meetings. Affidavits and correspondence gathered by C. H. KILBY copied and enclosed show Communist teachings at school.

KIL

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- P -

*PRIOR TO DISSEMINATION SEE
KX let 12-9-55 in 61-7511-
IN WHICH [Redacted] *b7c* 184
REPUDIATES STATEMENT MADE
IN EXHIBIT #4 ENCLOSED WITH THIS
REPORT.*

DETAILS:

Numerous complaints received in the Knoxville Office concerning Communist activities at the Highlander Folk School made it desirable to investigate the school and its personnel.

ENCLOSURE ATTACHED

This report is a result of joint investigation by Special Agent [Redacted] and the writer.

Approved and Forwarded

C. A. Finstone SAC

61-7511-2

Copies:

- 5 Bureau (Enc. Reg) 2 Miami
- 2 Birmingham (Enc) 2 New Orleans
- 2 Boston 3 E. J. CONNELLEY,
- 2 Buffalo New York
- 2 Charlotte 2 Washington Field
- 2 Chicago 4 Knoxville
- 2 Detroit
- 2 Louisville
- 2 Memphis

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The following information on the organization of the Highlander Folk School was obtained from [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and was verified by [REDACTED] and by [REDACTED]

b7D

The Highlander Folk School was organized during 1932 on ground donated by Dr. LILLIAN W. JOHNSON, whose present mail address is 124 East Michigan Avenue, The Palms, DeLand, Florida. MYLES HORTON and JAMES DOMBROWSKI were believed to be the active organizers of the school. The land was donated by Dr. JOHNSON because she believed that it would benefit the local inhabitants and would educate them and improve their working conditions.

A charter was issued to the Highlander Folk School on January 31, 1934 by the State of Tennessee and this charter is recorded with the Tennessee Department of State in Volume O-12, page 146, in the office of the Secretary of State at Nashville, Tennessee. The school was chartered by MILES HORTON, ELIZABETH HAWES, JAMES DOMBROWSKI, RUPERT HAMPTON, and MALCOLM CHISHOLM.

The Highlander Folk School is located in Grundy County, Tennessee, about two miles north of Monteagle, Tennessee, on State Road 56 going toward Tracy City, Tennessee. This section is mountainous and heavily wooded.

Three persons are reported to have been associated with it in a directing capacity almost from the start of the school up to the present time.

MILES HORTON, Director of Education, is the one whose name is most often mentioned as being the leader of the school, and lives on the school grounds with his wife and his father and mother.

b7D

Various affidavits mentioned later in this report as exhibits show that MILES HORTON teaches Communism and has solicited membership in the Young Communists' League from various persons, locally. HORTON is also reported to have been one of the founders of the Commonwealth College at Mena, Arkansas. HORTON is reported to have spent two years in Russia, but it has not been possible to determine even an approximate date.



b7c

JAMES DOMBROWSKI, Secretary of the Highlander Folk School, is the person who signs all of the mail sent out by the school requesting contributions and designates himself on these letters as chairman, without saying what he is chairman of. In a letter addressed by ██████████ ██████████ Athens, Tennessee, ██████████ ██████████ to ██████████ ██████████ Sweetwater, Tennessee, dated November 16, 1940, DOMBROWSKI is reported to have signed a bulletin issued by the Revolutionary Policy Committee of the Socialist Party in 1934 stating they would "make every effort to promote the world revolution and to secure Governmental power for the victorious revolution by arming the workers and by preparing the working class to turn imperialist war into class war." He is also reported to have solicited persons to join the Young Communists' League at the school.

b7c

ELIZABETH DAY HAWES, better known as ZILLA HAWES, has been active as a teacher in the school from its beginning and is reported to have been especially strong in her teaching of Communistic principles and how they can be used in labor agitation. She is married to FRANZ DANIEL and both are listed as being signers with DOMBROWSKI of the bulletin of the Socialist Party's Revolutionary Policy Committee mentioned above under JAMES DOMBROWSKI'S name.

A photograph of the above mentioned letter dated November 16, 1940 written by ██████████ is being enclosed as Exhibit No. 1. ██████████ is in Florida at the present time, too ill to be interviewed, and is not expected to live. A lead is being set out to contact the State Americanization Committee of the American Legion at Nashville to locate the Socialist Party bulletin referred to. The original of ██████████ letter is in possession of ██████████ Tracy City, Tennessee.

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Several other persons are presently living at the school and appear to have some official connection with the school of a more permanent nature than those listed later as teachers.

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[REDACTED] advises that LOUISE H. CONKLING, whose home address is 621 Mississippi Avenue, Signal Mountain, Tennessee, and whose mother, Mrs. FRANK G. CONKLING, runs an antique shop in Red Bank, Tennessee, is employed at the Highlander Folk School and lives there at the present time. [REDACTED] Postmaster at Monteagle, Tennessee, says LOUISE CONKLING is secretary of the school and recently replaced Miss LOUISE GRATHAM DICHLAN, who is presently residing at 233 West Menomonee Street, Chicago, Illinois.

b7c

Miss JANE ALLEN was reported by [REDACTED] to have arrived at the school on about March 15, 1941 and seems to be helping carry on the business of the school, but her exact duties and position are not known. She is believed to be from Flint, Michigan as letters from the school are being addressed to Mr. and Mrs. W. R. ALLEN, 1701 East Hamilton Avenue, Flint, Michigan. Letters addressed to Flint, Michigan did not make their appearance until after Miss ALLEN arrived at the school.

Mr. C. H. KILBY, an employee of the Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company, whose office is at Tracy City, Tennessee, has been extremely interested in getting the Highlander Folk School out of Grundy County because of the trouble they have stirred up there among the WPA employees and the bugwood cutters and this matter has almost reached the point of being an obsession with him. He has organized a committee of local residents of the better class which call themselves the Grundy County Crusaders, whose sole purpose is to combat the Highlander Folk School and its teachings. The antagonism that each of these groups feels for the other has reached such a point that there was danger of open conflict between them during November of 1940 and it was feared for a time that local citizens would burn the Highlander Folk School building. In all contacts in this investigation, the persons interviewed were questioned regarding Mr. KILBY and they were uniformly of the opinion that he is a reputable citizen and that his feeling toward the school is a patriotic desire to rid the county of a subversive influence. Those interviewed were also questioned regarding the possibility of Mr. KILBY'S position with the coal company and the labor troubles which coal companies occasionally have being responsible for his feeling in the matter, but everyone advised they had never heard Mr. KILBY make any remarks against organized labor and in fact believed that he was entirely in favor with it. There was no evidence that the Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company was furnishing any financial aid to Mr. KILBY or requesting that he carry on his activities against the school.

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Mr. KILBY has amassed quite a large quantity of correspondence, leaflets, printed matter and such which the school has distributed and has obtained numerous affidavits from persons who have been in the school as students and from natives who have had some connection with the school. These signed affidavits are being set out as Exhibits Nos. 3 through 20. It will be noted that in almost every instance these affidavits mention the Communist flag being displayed on the platform of the school, teachings of a definite Communist nature, and attempts on the part of several of those connected with the school to get others to join the Young Communist League. Where the Young Communist League is mentioned in these affidavits, the persons identifying the card were shown a Young Communist League Membership Card which has been photographed and is being included with this report to the Bureau as Exhibit No. 24. It was not possible to determine the origin of this card and the names on it are not known in Grundy County. This card is presently in Mr. KILBY'S possession.

Exhibits No. 21 and 22 are included with the affidavits in Mr. KILBY'S file but have not been signed as yet. Mr. KILBY reports that [redacted] is entirely cooperative so copies of these two exhibits are being sent to the Birmingham Office so that they can get a complete statement from [redacted] regarding the teachings and the teachers at the school at the time he attended.

Exhibit No. 23 is a proposed affidavit which covers the details of the article written by JOHN McDOUGAL BURNS, reporter for the Nashville, Tennessean, during his attendance in the school in 1939. Copies of these newspaper articles have previously been furnished to the Bureau and are not being set out again.

Exhibit No. 2 is a report of [redacted] made while he was [redacted] on May 8, 1935, to [redacted] at that time. [redacted] has been interviewed in the Knoxville Field Office concerning this report and he advises that it was made at the request of the Governor of Tennessee because a grant of money about to be made to the Highlander Folk School by the United States Government to finance a printing plant was objected to by American Legion officials. [redacted] said he was definitely of the opinion that the school was Communistic and that as a result of his recommendations, the grant of money to the school was not made.

TEACHERS

In order to indicate the type of persons who have instructed students at the Highlander Folk School, this section of the report will set out the names of those known to have acted as teachers at the school in the past. A descriptive folder put out by the Highlander Folk School for its school year 1936, lists the following teachers:

MILES HORTON,
JAMES DOMBROWSKI,
ELIZABETH DAY HAWES,
RUPERT HAMPTON.

The photostatic copy of the report of [REDACTED] dated May 8, 1935, which is Exhibit No. 2, shows HILDA HUBERT to have been one of the teachers at that time. *b7c*

JOHN McDOUGAL BURNS in his articles in the Nashville, Tennessee in 1939, a report of which is contained in Exhibit No. 23, listed additional instructors as WILLIAM BUTTRICK, Dr. ARTHUR RAPER, STEWART SEACHEM, NLRB, and FRANK COFFEE, of Social Security.

In the unsigned statement of [REDACTED] Exhibit No. 21, the following are listed as teachers at the school: *b7c*

FRANZ DANIEL (husband of ZILLA HAWES),
WALTER PEARSON,
J. WITHERSPOON DODGE (API and Southern
Conference for Human Welfare),
DON MEKEE,
HERBERT WILLIAMS,
R. H. BRAZEL,
CLYDE WILLIAMS.

A copy of the Highlander Fling, published by the Highlander Folk School, dated February, 1941, is listed as Exhibit No. 25 and shows the following as instructors or workers in the school in addition to those listed above:



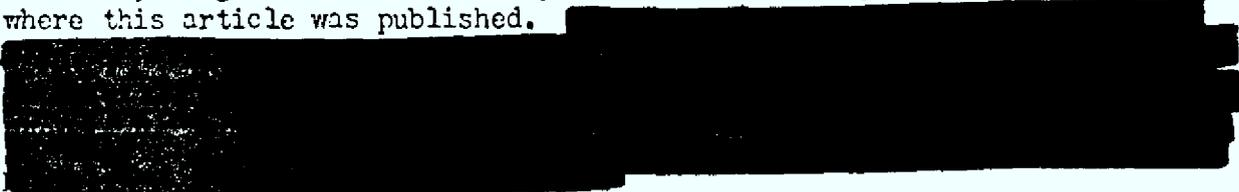
b7c

CLAUDIA LEWIS,
 MARY LAWRENCE,
 ZILPHIA HORTON (wife of MILES HORTON).

This issue of the Highlander Fling also lists an Executive Council which had just been formed to work with directors of the school, formulating programs and policies. This council met at the school December 14th and 15th and arranged a program for 1941. It should be noted that all of those listed have at some time in the past conducted panel discussions during resident terms of the Highlander Folk School:

- BERNARD BORAH, Southern Director, Amalgamated Clothing Workers of America,
- ROY REYNOLDS, President, Printing Pressmen's Union, Chattanooga, Tennessee,
- LUCY RANDOLPH MASON, Public Relations Representative for the C.I.O.,
- EDWARD S. CALLAGHAN, Vice-President and Southern Director, American Federation of Hosiery Workers,
- PAUL R. CHRISTOPHER, Executive Secretary, Tennessee Industrial Union Council,
- GEORGE TITLER, United Mine Workers of America, District 50,
- Dr. ALBERT BARNETT, Professor of Theology, Scarritt College, Nashville, Tennessee,
- MATT LYNCH, American Federation of Hosiery Workers and Chairman of the Highlander Folk School Alumni Association,
- ALTON LAWRENCE, Southern Representative, Labor's Non-Partisan League,
- Dr. GEORGE MAYHEW, Professor of Religion, Vanderbilt University, Nashville, Tennessee,
- JOE DOBBS, Plumbers' Union, A.F. of L., Chattanooga, Tennessee.

LEON WILSON is presently connected with the Highlander Folk School in some capacity as a teacher and lives at the school. The Highlander Fling, Exhibit No. 25, lists an article written by LEON WILSON entitled, "Highlander Folk School, An Informal History." It does not say where this article was published.





b7c

Reverend JOHN B. THOMPSON (A.P.M. and Southern Conference for Human Welfare), is listed as a former instructor at the Highlander Folk School in a letter written by MILES HORTON dated November 5, 1940, which is quoted on page 150 of the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Washington, D. C., February 17, 1941, entitled AMERICAN PEACE MOBILIZATION. On page 151 of the same report a press release of the Highlander Folk School dated October 29, 1940 lists the following instructors:

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- YELVERTON BOWHERD, Regional C.I.O. Director,
- A. HARTWELL, National Representative, Labor Non-Partisan League,
- BERNARD BORAH, Southern Director of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers,
- PAUL CHRISTOPHER, Secretary-Treasurer of the Tennessee State Industrial Union Council,
- ALTON LAWRENCE, Southern Director of Labor's Non-Partisan League,
- WILLIAM LEAVES, Director of the Wage and Hours Division.

Additional persons listed only as speakers are as follows:

- LUCY RANDOLPH MASON, Public Relations Representative for the C.I.O.,
- GEORGE BASS, of the United Rubber Workers,
- ELMER BROWN, President of the New York Local of the Typographical Union,
- VIRGIL CONNER, Editor of the Southern News Almanac (Southern Communist newspaper),
- ORVILLE MASTIN, Cooperative Expert,
- Dr. LILLIAN JOHNSON, Donor of the Highlander Folk School property,
- JOHN SCHULMIG, Southern Representative of the United Retail and Wholesale Employees of America,
- ROY REYNOLDS, President of the Chattahoochee Printing Pressmen's Union,
- JOE GRIDERS, Secretary of the Civil Rights Committee of the Southern Conference for Human Welfare,
- DENNIS NELSON, and
- FRESTON VALIEN, both of Fiske University,
- MARGOT GAYLE, of the Women's Committee on Abolition of Poll Tax.

SPONSORS

The Highlander Folk School has been successful in obtaining the permission of many important persons to use their names as sponsors of the school, itself, or some of its activities. The most important name from the standpoint of publicity which they have secured is that of ELEANOR ROOSEVELT. Exhibit No. 26 is correspondence in the files of Mr. C. H. KILBY. In this exhibit it will be noted there is a report from some unknown person three paragraphs in length on an investigation conducted concerning MALES HORTON. Exhibit No. 25 also contains on the front page a printed copy of a letter directed by ELEANOR ROOSEVELT to the Highlander Folk School. Exhibit No. 27 is a photograph of a mimeographed sheet put out by the Highlander Folk School publicizing Mrs. ROOSEVELT'S support.

Exhibit No. 28 is a photograph taken from a newspaper article which published a photostat of the check and letter which she sent to the Highlander Folk School in 1940. Exhibit No. 27 is being forwarded with all letters sent out by the Highlander Folk School asking for contributions from other persons.

Exhibit No. 29 is a photograph of an announcement sent out by the Washington Committee of the Highlander Folk School about a benefit to be given in Washington, D. C. on December 6, 1940. It will be noted that W. M. ROSS has signed the letter of January 27, 1941 which is attached to this same exhibit and his wife's name appears on the committee. The list of sponsors on this exhibit contains many notable names, indicative of the inactive nature of at least a part of this sponsorship. Exhibit No. 30, which is an exchange of correspondence between [redacted] and Secretary CORDELL HULL, is enclosed. b7c

Exhibit No. 31 is a photograph of a circular put out by the Highlander Folk School concerning the sponsorship of the school by JOHN L. LEWIS.

Exhibit No. 25, previously mentioned, which is the printed copy of the Highlander Fling, under the headline "Highlander Benefit," reports on the Washington Benefit held December 6, 1940 and in addition says that a New York Committee gave a theater benefit on January 22, 1941. A list of the sponsors in both places is given.

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[REDACTED]

MISCELLANEOUS

107
 [REDACTED] University of the South at Sewanee, Tennessee, when questioned regarding [REDACTED] students who had shown an interest in the Highlander Folk School, advised that a [REDACTED] who received his B.A. and Masters Degree from the University of the South [REDACTED] had been curious regarding the courses of instruction at the Highlander Folk School and was believed to have taken the summer course there in 1940. [REDACTED] says he does not believe that [REDACTED] is a Communist and would in all probability give full details of his attendance at the Highlander Folk School. A lead is being set out to interview him.

[REDACTED]

" [REDACTED]

693 [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

[REDACTED]

61-12

4-10-41

It will be noted that three registrations are shown for May 19, 1940 in the names of MYLES HORTON, ZELPHIA HORTON and WILLIAM BUTTRICK. This is the day preceding the meeting of Communists mentioned above and is probably the group from the school which [REDACTED] remembers as being registered at the hotel at about that time. In connection with these registrations it was noted that DOMBROWSKI called telephone number [REDACTED] on January 2, 1941. This is the telephone number of [REDACTED]

ljk

[REDACTED]

ljk
LTD

[REDACTED]

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LTD

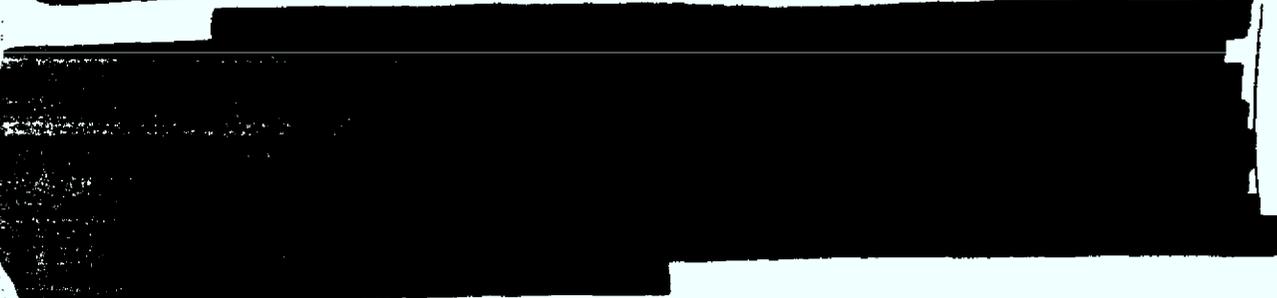
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] requested CHRISTOPHER to pick up a box left at the Park Hotel, Knoxville, by HORTON with the name of the Highlander Folk School on it. This box was examined at the Park Hotel by Special Agent [REDACTED] and [REDACTED] Knoxville Police Department, and was found to contain a number of books, most of which were children's stories, and fiction books of an innocuous nature. Included in the box were a few books of interest because of their radical labor or political character. These are set out as follows:



b7c

- "The Economy of Abundance," by STEWART CHASE. McMillan Company,
- "Makers of Freedom," by SHERWOOD EDDY and KIRBY PAGE. George H. Dorne Co.,
- "The Social Principals of Jesus," by WALTER RAUSCHENBUSCH,
- "There is Confusion," by JESSE REDMONT FAUCET,
- "The Road Ahead, (a primer of Capitalism)," by HARRY W. LAIDLER, Crowell Company,
- "The Causes of War," by ARTHUR PIROTT. McMillan Company,
- "History and Problems of Organized Labor," by FRANK TRACEY CARLTON, ~~PAID~~, C. Heath Company, New York,
- "E. Company," GENE RICHARD BLOCH, Simon & Schuster.
- "Trade Unionism and Labor Problems," by Wm. Z. RIPLEY, Ph.D. Ginn & Company,
- "Christianity and Labor Problems," KIRBY PAGE, etc. Associated Press.



While checking registrations Chattanooga, it was noticed that a large group of persons registered in from New York and that the cards were marked Uphaus. explained that this group came to Chattanooga about once a year and seemed to be some sort of a traveling school. He produced a letter received from this group making reservation at the hotel and it was noted that the name was the Religion and Labor Foundation, 106 Carmel Street, New Haven, Connecticut, WILLARD UPHAUS, Executive Secretary, LEON ROSSER/LAND, Chairman, CHARLES F. McLENNAN, Mid West Secretary. The person who registered in for the group was CHARLES C. WEBBER, Group Leader, 531 West 122nd Street, New York, New York. On July 17, 1940 while this group was registered at Tennessee. The person called at Monteagle could not be determined but stated he had heard some of the group mention going to the Highlander Folk School when they left Chattanooga. Since Mr. WEBBER, who listed himself as Group Leader, gave a New York address, a lead is being set out for New York to check him and the activities of the Foundation.

b7c

For the benefit of the New Orleans Office, the following excerpt from a form letter requesting funds dated March 8, 1941, which was sent out by the Highlander Folk School, is quoted:

"Added to our community program is the activity of the staff in the labor field. Our extension worker, MARY LAWRENCE, is expecting to leave soon for educational work with unions in New Orleans, where a large organizational drive is in progress. A special two weeks' session for union members will open here on May 12."

As an example of the type of literature distributed by the Highlander Folk School, Exhibit No. 32 is being enclosed. It will be noted that mention is made of 8,000 miners in Grundy County who will be affected by an increase in salary of one dollar per day and that the local merchants will benefit in a total amount of \$8,000 per day as a result. The entire population of Grundy County is only 9,717, according to the 1930 census.

B. H. KILBY of the Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company at Tracy City, Tennessee, which is in Grundy County, advises that there are less than 1,000 miners in the entire county.

In Exhibits numbered 3 through 20, numerous references are made to strike activities on the part of MYLES HORTON, WILLIAM BUTTRICK, JAMES DOMBROWSKI and ZILLA HAWES, among the residents of Grundy County. There are two specific instances mentioned in which the activities of these persons from the Highlander Folk School caused strikes which definitely lowered the income of the persons striking.

One of the few industries of Grundy County is the cutting of wood for pulp purposes, which is known as bugwood cutting. Before these bugwood cutters were organized by persons from the Highlander Folk School they were getting a price of \$1.50 per cord for the wood they cut. After the strike the price was dropped to one dollar per cord and the quantities purchased were dropped to such an extent that only about half of these previously employed cutting this wood were again employed for the same purpose.

The other local strike organized by persons from the Highlander Folk School was that of the W.P.A. workers. Approximately eight hundred persons were employed by W.P.A. in Grundy County, working on farm-to-market roads but a definite slowdown of work and a subsequent strike in which sitdown tactics were used so much delayed the work that the W.P.A. was forced to curtail the program and after the strike only 400 persons were re-employed on the road project.

b7c

In Exhibit No. 2 a strike at the Richmond Hosiery Mills at Daisy, Tennessee in 1935 is mentioned in which persons from the school took a leading part in a riot which resulted in one of them being shot. A lead is being set out to obtain more definite information regarding this activity.

In about 1934 or 1935 an attempt was made to organize textile mills in Knoxville, Tennessee, during which several raids were conducted by vigilante committees and a great deal of Communist literature reported to have been destroyed. In discussing this matter with [redacted] of the Knoxville Police Department and [redacted] now with Draft Board No. 2 but who was at that time [redacted] Knoxville, Tennessee, it was determined that no official action was taken at that time but that a strong vigilante committee composed of Legionnaires and other local citizens had raided several different houses and had run the so-called Communists out of town. No arrests were made and no record was maintained of any of the literature found nor of the persons concerned in the agitation. However, both [redacted] and [redacted] remember that FRANZ DANIEL and ZILLA HAWES were the leaders in the agitation and that they were known to be connected with the Highlander Folk School at that time.

[redacted] has made some mention of a strike at a hosiery mill at Rockwood in about 1936 and this is believed to be the same strike mentioned in Exhibit No. 1. From [redacted] report it is believed that FRANZ DANIEL, ZILLA HAWES and MYLES HORTON were the instigators of this strike and that the person picked up with the Communist literature in his possession while on the road to join the Highlander Folk School was named HILBURN. A lead is being set out to check this information at Rockwood.

Due to the number of local contacts made by Mr. C. H. KILBY around Monteagle and Tracy City and the number of affidavits obtained by him from local persons, no additional investigation is being conducted at the present time to further verify the information contained in these affidavits. In the event that it later proves to be necessary, all of these persons mentioned in the affidavits can be located as they are local residents who are classed as natives of this mountainous section and seldom leave their homes.

- PENDING -

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

g7c

61-12

4-10-41

ENCLOSURES:

TO BIRMINGHAM:

Exhibit No. 21, photostatic copy of record of evidence that
can be given by [redacted]
Exhibit No. 22, photostatic copy of unsigned statement of
[redacted]

g7c

TO THE BUREAU:

- Exhibit No. 1, photograph of a letter from [redacted]
Athens, Tennessee, to [redacted], Sweetwater,
Tennessee, dated 11-16-40,
- Exhibit No. 2, photostat of report of [redacted] to
[redacted], dated May 8, 1935.
- Exhibit No. 3, photostat of affidavit of [redacted]
dated November 23, 1940,
- Exhibit No. 4, photostat of affidavit of [redacted] dated
December 16, 1940,
- Exhibit No. 5, photostat of affidavit of [redacted]
dated December 16, 1940,
- Exhibit No. 6, photostat of unsigned statement of [redacted]
[redacted] dated December 2, 1940,
- Exhibit No. 7, photostat of affidavit of [redacted]
dated January 4, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 8, photostat of affidavit of [redacted]
dated January 7, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 9, photostat of affidavit of [redacted]
dated December 21, 1940,
- Exhibit No. 10, photostat of affidavit of [redacted]
dated February 12, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 11, photostat of affidavit of [redacted]
dated January 14, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 12, photostat of affidavit of [redacted]
dated January 3, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 13, photostat of letter from the National
Youth Administration, Nashville, Tennessee, dated August
14, 1939,
- Exhibit No. 14, photostat of affidavit of [redacted] dated
December 18, 1940,
- Exhibit No. 15, photostat of affidavit of [redacted] dated
February 2, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 16, photostat of affidavit of [redacted]
dated December 2, 1940,

g7c

*See AX letter 1-6-56
61-7571-188*

*add
make this
see let 2/10/56
jo 2/21/56*



b7c

C3

- Exhibit No. 17, photostat of affidavit of [REDACTED] December 30, 1940,
- Exhibit No. 18, photostat of affidavit of [REDACTED] dated January 2, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 19, photostat of affidavit [REDACTED] dated December 28, 1940,
- Exhibit No. 20, photostat of affidavit of [REDACTED] dated December 28, 1940,
- Exhibit No. 21, photostat of evidence which can be given by [REDACTED] dated February 22, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 22, unsigned statement of [REDACTED] dated February 24, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 23, photostat of a proposed affidavit covering information given in newspaper articles written by JOHN McDOUGAL BURNS in the Nashville, Tennessean,
- Exhibit No. 24, photograph of Young Communist League card bearing name [REDACTED]
- Exhibit No. 25, copy of the Highlander Fling, Vol. 3, No. 1, February, 1941,
- Exhibit No. 26, photograph of letters written [REDACTED] by ELEANOR ROOSEVELT,
- Exhibit No. 27, photograph of leaflets put out by the Highlander Folk School concerning Mrs. ROOSEVELT'S report,
- Exhibit No. 28, photograph of newspaper article showing check and letter from Mrs. ROOSEVELT in 1940,
- Exhibit No. 29, photograph of program of benefit held by Washington Committee for the Highlander School, and of a letter dated January 27, 1941, signed by [REDACTED]
- Exhibit No. 30, photograph of exchange of correspondence between [REDACTED] and Secretary CORDELL HULL,
- Exhibit No. 31, photograph of leaflet put out by the Highlander Folk School concerning endorsement by JOHN L. LEWIS,
- Exhibit No. 32, original mimeographed leaflet put out by Highlander Folk School concerning increased pay of miners union members.

b7c

b7c

b7c

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL [REDACTED]

61-12

4-10-41

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE BIRMINGHAM OFFICE:

At Birmingham, Alabama, will determine the reliability of the DuBose Publishing Company and, if possible, determine what printing has been done by them for the Highlander Folk School. It should be borne in mind that this DuBose Publishing Company has also done printing for the Southern Conference For Human Welfare and has at least quoted on work in the past for the Southern Worker, the Communist newspaper in the South.

At Huntsville, Alabama, will obtain all possible information from [REDACTED] as outlined in Exhibits Nos. 21 and 22, enclosed. b7c

At Florence, Alabama, will interview [REDACTED] who is employed [REDACTED] to determine if he has attended a session of the Highlander Folk School and, if so, obtain all possible information regarding the courses, teachers, and students. Will also report all connections with the Communist Party of any activity or persons at the school. b7c

THE BOSTON OFFICE:

At Northampton, Massachusetts, will determine the character and activity of the Institute for Labor Studies, who received a check for two dollars from the Highlander Folk School.

THE BUFFALO OFFICE:

At Buffalo, New York, will check on the activities of [REDACTED] b7c

[REDACTED]
He is known to be a member of the Young Communist League. [REDACTED] b7E

THE CHICAGO OFFICE:

At Chicago, Illinois, will check on the occupation and activities of LOUISE GRATHAM DICHTMAN, former secretary of the Highlander Folk School, who recently moved to Chicago [REDACTED] b7E

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL [REDACTED]

61-12

4-10-41

THE DETROIT OFFICE:

At Flint, Michigan, will determine whether [REDACTED], a recent arrival at the Highlander Folk School, is related in any manner to [REDACTED]

If [REDACTED] is determined to be a former resident of Flint, will determine her activities and reputation there. b7c

THE KNOXVILLE OFFICE:

At Tracy City, Tennessee, will re-contact Mr. C. H. KILBY for such new information as he may receive concerning the school.

At Monteagle, Tennessee, will re-contact [REDACTED] for any new information he obtains regarding the school. b7c

At Sewanee, Tennessee, [REDACTED] b7D

At Norris, Tennessee, will re-contact [REDACTED] employed in the Forestry Division of the Tennessee Valley Authority for complete information regarding a trip he made to the Highlander Folk School in connection with his forestry work and also regarding an attempt made by MYLES HORTON or JAMES DOMBROWSKI to make a speech at Norris during 1935 or 1936. b7c

At Chattanooga, Tennessee, will contact [REDACTED] for any new information he is able to obtain regarding LOUISE B. CONKLING, Secretary of the Highlander Folk School. b7c

At Daisy, Tennessee, will contact [REDACTED] Richmond Hosiery Mills, for all information in his possession concerning a strike at his plant during 1935 when the strikers were led by a delegation from the Highlander Folk School. b7c

At Rockwood, Tennessee, will re-contact [REDACTED] the Highway Patrol and from him obtain the names of those local citizens who were on the vigilante committee during the hosiery mill strike in 1935 or in 1936 and from these local citizens will obtain complete details concerning the participation of persons from the Highlander Folk School with this strike b7c

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL [REDACTED]

61-12

4-10-41

and in particular, will determine the name of the person, thought to be MILBURN, who was found with considerable Communist literature on his person connecting him with the Highlander Folk School.

THE LOUISVILLE OFFICE:

At Berea, Kentucky, will determine the character and reputation of [REDACTED] who endorsed a check made out by the Highlander Folk School to KYLES HORTON in the amount of \$29.85 about February 15, 1941. This check was deposited in the [REDACTED]

THE MEMPHIS OFFICE:

At Nashville, Tennessee, will get a certified copy of the charter of the Highlander Folk School from the Secretary of State and will obtain copies of such correspondence as may have been written or received at any time concerning this charter.

At the State American Legion Headquarters, will contact the Americanization Committee to determine whether it has any of the records compiled [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] and apparently head of the Americanization Committee at one time. Particular search should be made for a bulletin of the Revolutionary Policy Committee of the Socialist Party issued in April, 1934 which was signed by JAMES DOLBROWSKI, FRANZ DANIEL and ELIZABETH HAWES. Will obtain any other pertinent information from the American Legion files concerning the Highlander Folk School.

THE MIAMI OFFICE:

At Gainesville, Florida, will determine the present activities of WILLIAM BUTTRICK, Box 2331, University Station, [REDACTED]

b7c

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

[REDACTED]

61-12

4-10-41

THE NEW YORK OFFICE:

At New York, New York,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

[REDACTED] will determine if an account is maintained there under the following names:

b7D

Highlander Folk School,
MYLES HORTON,
JAMES DOMBROWSKI,
ELIZABETH HAWES.

[REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

Will check at 99 Claremont Avenue to determine if a family bearing the last name SCHULTZ lives there or has lived there in the past. Will determine the reputation and activities of the SCHULTZ family which might link them with the Communist Party. Will also determine if C. B. SHULTZ, or E. B. SHULTZ, is related, it being noted that a box of books was recently sent to the Highlander Folk School, one of which bore the name of ANNA L. SCHULTZ at the above address.

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

b7c
[REDACTED]

61-12

4-10-41

Will check the reputation and activities of [REDACTED] who signed himself on the register [REDACTED] Chattanooga, as Group Leader for the Religion and Labor Foundation, 331 West 122nd Street, New York. This group is also known as the Uphaus Group and apparently conducts some kind of a labor school.

b7c
b7D

THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

At Washington, D. C., will determine the reputation and activities of [REDACTED]

b7c
b7D

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REPORT AND LISTED ON PAGES 21, 22

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50078

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

FILE NO. 100-1291

REPORT MADE AT MIAMI, FLORIDA	DATE WHEN MADE 5/13/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/26/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c	RA
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

*DECEASED
1942*

WILLIAM T. BUTTRICK, JR. entered University of Florida, Gainesville, Florida, February 1, 1941 and is presently taking course in Social Science. He is residing in dormitory. No indication of subversive activities there. [REDACTED]

b7E

P

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, Tennessee dated 4/10/41.

b7c

LS:

AT GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

[REDACTED]

b7E

Agent contacted [REDACTED] Superintendent of Mails at the University Station, and she advised that BUTTRICK was known to her and that his mail had not attracted her attention. She advised that he resided in Section "E", Room 225, Fletcher on the University Campus and that he rented Box 2331 on February 29, 1940, which is a very small mail box.

Agent contacted [REDACTED] University of Florida, who furnished the school record on WILLIAM BUTTRICK, JR. which disclosed that he was born at Asheville, North Carolina on August 30, 1910 and that his parents reside at [REDACTED]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/27/84 BY SP8 BT/ab
045582

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>F. J. [REDACTED]</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
	61-7511-121	
COPIES OF THIS REPORT 111e	MAY 15 1941	
COPIES DESTROYED 78 APR 24 1961		

83 Washington Road, Asheville. He gave his home address as Montecagle, Tennessee when he filed his application on January 15, 1941 and stated he attended Asheville, North Carolina High School from 1924 to 1928, City College of Asheville from 1928 to 1930 and Duke University from 1930 to 1931. He entered the University on February 1, 1941 and is majoring in Social Science apparently with a view of getting a degree to work as a teacher. He is single and a Methodist.

FUTTRICK stated in his application that he had been previously employed selling magazines, radios, and real estate; that he had done some writing for the WPA Writers' Project in North Carolina; that he had taught in the NYA Camps in Pennsylvania and had taught at the Highland Folk School.

b7c
b7D

██████████ advised that he believes his college is free of any organized radical element; that he tries to keep a close watch on this situation and occasionally when a disturbing element shows up he is eliminated. He stated that FUTTRICK is unknown to him and he has never had any reports on him, and that no confirmation was made by the school of his teaching activities at the Highland Folk School.

b7c
b7D

Agent interviewed ██████████ Director of Residence, ██████████. He stated that he had never received any unfavorable reports on FUTTRICK; that he had conversed with FUTTRICK on two occasions, once when he first entered the University and applied for the monitorship job for Section "E" where he resides but was not successful in obtaining the position. No reason was given by FUTTRICK in applying for this position, but it carries a \$24 fee per semester, which he believes was the motive. More recently FUTTRICK had contacted him and reserved a room until next February. He stated that he would make a discreet inquiry and advise Agent further on the matter.

b7c
b7D

Subsequently ██████████ advised Agent by telephone that he had contacted Section "E" monitor and also FUTTRICK'S roommate and they reported that he is not inclined to be very sociable; that he has but little to say and is very studious; that he claims to be suffering from a heart ailment and he has not by words or acts indicated any subversive tendencies.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

This case originated at KNOXVILLE, TENN.

File No. 61-12

Report made at KNOXVILLE, TENN.	Date made 6-1-41	Period 5-1, 12, 13, 14 15, 17-41	Report made by [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i> AEB
Title HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL		Character of case INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS:

[REDACTED] *b7E*
Additional information concerning past activities of Highlander Folk School and members of its faculty indicate Communist leanings of school.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/20/84 BY SP8 BTJ/CW
b7c 245502

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], Knoxville, 4-10-41,
Report of Special Agent [REDACTED], Miami, 5-13-41.

DETAILS:

AT MONTEAGLE, TENNESSEE:

b7c
[REDACTED] Postmaster, Monteagle, Tennessee, was contacted on May 13, 1941 and stated that the "spring term for southern workers" (May 12 to May 24) was presently in session at the Folk School. MILES MORTON had called at the [REDACTED] *INDEXED*

Approved and forwarded

E. J. Connelley SAC

61-45-11-23

JUL 1 1941

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JUN 6 1941

FIVE

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Monteagle Post Office and given the following list of students:

BILLY CAVINESS,
SIDNEY PITTEBURG,
JOEL MATTHEWS,
PAUL WINN,
FELIX CAILLET,
GATHA MAE LEE,
HAZEL BEHEMIA,
ALVIN SCHWIZ,
JENNIE SPENCER,
WILLIAM DAVIS.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

announced a "summer workshop for student writers" July 28 to August 9, 1941. Sponsors of the workshop were listed as:

PAUL GREEN,
WILLIAM S. KNICKERBOCKER,
JULIA COLLIER HARRIS,
MILLEN BRAND, and
BABBETTE DEUTSCH.

Teachers were listed as:

CHARLES W. FERGUSON, Associate Editor of the Readers' Digest;
MARY LAPSLEY, Former teacher of writing at Hood College, Maryland;
PHILIP MILHOUS, Student at the University of North Carolina.

Guest speakers were listed as JAMES STILL and HARRY HARRISON
 BROHL.

The cost of the session is given as thirty dollars and there are no scholastic requirements. An invitation was given to trade union workers, college students, "Y" members, church groups and farm organizations. Also included in each of the 1,630 envelopes mentioned above was a press release dated May 1, 1941, announcing a two weeks' session commencing May 12, 1941. The courses are listed as: "Singing, dramatics, discussion of labor problems and history, speeches, reading and recreation." Speakers and special teachers for this session are listed as:

- JOHN T. JONES, Director of Labor Non Partisan League;
- HOLLIS V. REID, Chairman of the Tennessee Commonwealth Federation;
- WILLIAM M. EAVES, Regional Wage and Hour Division;
- FRANK COFFEE, Social Security Board;
- Reverend ELSWORTH SMITH, Southern Cooperative Conference;
- ROBERT L. CRUDEN, Publicity Director, United Rubber Workers;
- PAUL R. CHRISTOPHER, Secretary-Treasurer, Tennessee Industrial Union Council.

Also announced was a "Labor's Non Partisan League Institute," May 17 to 18, under ALTON LAWRENCE, Southern Representative; the Annual Tri State Hosiery Institute, June 7 and 8, announced by EDWARD F. CALLITHAN, Southern Director, American Federation of Hosiery Workers.

An issue of the Highlander Fling, published by the Highlander Folk School, dated April, 1941, contains the following articles of particular interest:

" FORMER STUDENTS ORGANIZING

Here are the current organizing and negotiating activities of Highlander students:

Cecil Pegues, member of the Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers, recently organized the Dixie Metal Products Company of Bessemer, Alabama, a tough job to judge by previous attempts at unionization there. Currently he is negotiating a contract for the new union. Cecil is also business agent for the Wholesale Local of the Birmingham Retail Clerks.

An election was recently held and won by the TWUA at the Louisville Sanitary Wipers Company. Lil Yadon, Highlander 1940, joined Hal Gibbons in the two week organizing that brought on the victory. Lil Yadon is a board member of the TWUA, Local 2.

Ed Blair, who attended Highlander on the Eleanor Roosevelt Scholarship, is organizing for the Amalgamated. At the successful Cluett strike in Atlanta he was in charge of the entertainment on the picket line and in the strike tent.

J. D. Bradford is organizing for the International Cement, Lime, and Gypsum Workers (A. F. of L.) in Knoxville.

Hosiery organizer and President of the Highlander Alumni Association, Matt Lynch is back in Tennessee after several months of activity in Mississippi.

John Pate, TWUA, was one of the contract negotiators at the Mansfield Mills, Lumberton, N. C., which brought wage increases ranging from 5 per cent to 15½ per cent. John's Union has acquired a new hall.

Other Alumni Activity

Billye Bailey's local ILGWU, in Atlanta, now has a hall. Billye is director of the union's educational program, and sends the following details. There are classes for white members and for negro members in union procedure, parliamentary law and public speaking, history of trade unions and the ILGWU, and study of garment manufacture. In the recreation line there are bingo games, bowling teams, and Mr. I. Q.'s, again for white members and colored members. Plans are being made to extend the classes to Griffin, Georgia, where there are other Highlander alumni.

Virginia Swann was elected recording secretary of her Nashville Hosiery Local, lost her job, and is now working at Gastonia.

TENNESSEE COMMONWEALTH FEDERATION ORGANIZED

Accepting the challenge of John B. Thompson, chairman of the Southern Conference For Human Welfare, that "all men are to be judged in their devotion to real democracy by their willingness to defend and extend it in times of emergency," the Tennessee Conference on Democracy meeting in Nashville on Washington's birthday organized the Tennessee Commonwealth Federation.

The purpose of this organization is "to join in common cause all men and women, including those who labor on the farm, in office, mine, mill, or elsewhere, for concerted independent political action."

H. V. Reid, legislative representative of the Railroad Brotherhoods, was made chairman and an executive board was elected from the C.I.O., A.F. of L., the four Railroad Brotherhoods, and liberal groups who had jointly sponsored the conference. Mrs. Ruth Cutler, 1018 Cotton States Bldg., Nashville, is the Federation's Secretary.

By resolution the Federation condemned the "Grundy County Crusaders," pointing out that the Crusaders' attacks on labor people and labor institutions constitute a threat to democracy and national unity.

RECENT ENDORSEMENTS

The United Mine Workers, local 7708 in Grundy County, and the International Mine, Mill and Smelter Workers Union are among the organizations which have recently endorsed Highlander.

SCHEDULE FOR 1941

May 12-24 Two week term for union workers.
June 7 and 8 Institute for American Federation of Hosiery Workers.
June 9-21 Junior Union Camp.
June 30-July 28 Work Camp for America.
July 28-August 9 Writers Workshop.
August 18-September 27 Six week term for union workers. "

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[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Gager Lime Manufacturing Company, Sherwood, Tennessee, who resides at Sewanee, Tennessee, stated that although his company has had considerable labor trouble during the past few years he has not been able to definitely trace any of the trouble as originating at the Highlander Folk School.

[REDACTED] an alumnus of the Highlander Folk School, has been a constant trouble-maker at the Gager Lime Manufacturing Company

[REDACTED] related that several years ago some persons from the Highlander Folk School came to the lime company with a motion picture camera and explained that they were taking pictures concerning workers in East Tennessee. Photographs were taken of employees of the lime company, using the lime company's trash heap as a background. [REDACTED] felt that this was done in order to give an untrue picture of working conditions at the lime company.

[REDACTED], Tennessee, stated that Dr. KNICKERBOCKER and Dr. FLELLING JAMES, members of the faculty at the University of the South previously mentioned in this report, have both agreed to give courses of instruction at the Highlander Folk School this summer. Dr. JAMES has recently held at least three peace meetings attended by five or six students of the University of the South. Recently a committee of Theology students waited on Dr. JAMES and requested that he discontinue his connection with the Highlander Folk School and his peace activities. Dr. JAMES made a very anti-British address at a

meeting of the Women's Auxiliary of the University of the South during the Lenten Season. The University of the South is an Episcopal school and the majority of the persons connected with it are decidedly pro-British, and therefore the members of the Women's Auxiliary were very upset at the tenor of Dr. JAMES' speech.

[REDACTED] stated that Professor THOMAS GOVAN, previously mentioned in this report as being sympathetic toward the Highlander Folk School, is a former classmate of JAMES DOLBROWSKI, Secretary of the Highlander Folk School.

[REDACTED] stated that he has upon several occasions treated JAMES DOLBROWSKI and other persons residing permanently or temporarily at the Highlander Folk School. Although Grundy County is the source of many charity patients at the [REDACTED] DOLBROWSKI or other persons at the Folk School have never brought any local people to the hospital for treatment. Payment for treatment given to persons at the Highlander Folk School is always made by JAMES DOLBROWSKI.

The November 21, 1940 issue of the Sewanee Purple, official organ of the students of the University of the South, reported a speech given by Dr. JAMES DOLBROWSKI before the Pi Gamma Mu Social Science Fraternity. A portion of this article is set out as follows:

"At its meeting on Thursday, November 14, Pi Gamma Mu, Social Science Fraternity, had as its speaker Dr. JAMES DOLBROWSKI, Director of the Highlander Folk School near Monteagle. Dr. DOLBROWSKI holds a Doctorate from Columbia University, is a graduate of the Union Theological Seminary in New York City, and is an author of some note. He has been prominent in labor education for a number of years.

The speaker discussed the religious background of the school. He pointed out that most of the early faculty members were graduates of Union Theological Seminary and that some of the most generous supporters of the school are church organizations and clergymen. He said that he, himself, had entered the labor cause through the religious channel."

AT TRACY CITY, TENNESSEE:

[REDACTED] Lumber Company, Tracy City, stated that he made a delivery of lumber to the Highlander Folk School in 1939. [REDACTED] went into the main building of the school in search of someone to take delivery of the lumber. He noticed charts on the wall of one of the downstairs rooms depicting how to organize a meeting by parliamentary procedure and how to get control of a meeting. He saw no evidence of mountain craft work.

[REDACTED] related that JAMES DOMBROWSKI took motion pictures of the strikers during the W.P.A. strike in Tracy City in January and February of 1939. For these motion pictures, the strikers wore their oldest and most tattered clothing. Girls from the Highlander Folk School made speeches to the W.P.A. strikers as to their rights.

[REDACTED] gave the following information concerning the W.P.A. strike in Grundy County in January and February of 1939:

CHARLES ADAMS, County Road Superintendent, was a former student and sympathizer of the Highlander Folk School. He demanded to be allowed to appoint all W.P.A. foremen on road projects. This the W.P.A. authorities refused to allow him to do. Immediately thereafter, agitation commenced for a strike of the W.P.A. workers. [REDACTED] often saw JAMES DOMBROWSKI and LILES HORTON out on W.P.A. projects talking to the workers. DOMBROWSKI and HORTON would leave when [REDACTED] came within hearing distance. When the strike was called, the W.P.A. workers took over the W.P.A. office at Tracy City and staged a sit-down strike. HORTON and DOMBROWSKI brought girls from the Highlander Folk School to the W.P.A. office where the strike was in progress. These persons from the Highlander Folk School made speeches to the strikers, advising them as to the proper method of conducting the strike, and the girls from the Highlander Folk School danced with the strikers in the W.P.A. office. A great deal of liquor was in evidence at the W.P.A. office during the sit-down strike. [REDACTED] stated that it is his understanding that some of the girls from the Highlander Folk School had sexual relations with some of the strikers. He has no proof of this allegation. [REDACTED] further stated that although at the time of the strike about seventy-five percent of the W.P.A. workers in Grundy County were associated with or sympathizers of the Highlander Folk School, only two or three W.P.A. workers now have anything to do with the Highlander Folk School.

672 [REDACTED]

177 [REDACTED] stated that about three years ago he was in an old cemetery across the road from the Highlander Folk School, searching for the date on a tombstone. A group of students at the Highlander Folk School were having some sort of a drill in the Folk School ground. A whistle would blow and they would shout and shove each other around, then when the whistle blew again, they would cease their activity. It was [REDACTED] opinion that they were practicing picket-line activity. When the students had finished this drill, they sat down and sang songs. One of the songs was to the tune of "The Old Gray Mare She Ain't What She Used to Be," and some of the words which [REDACTED] overheard were: "Old man ROOSEVELT ain't what he used to be." Another song which was sung at that time was "Whose afraid of the big bad cop," sung to the tune of "Whose Afraid of the Big Bad Wolf."

100 [REDACTED] stated that upon two occasions several years ago he was shot at from ambush. He can think of no reason for this other than his active opposition to the Highlander Folk School.

100 [REDACTED] stated that the Chattanooga Times, a daily newspaper, has been partial to the Highlander Folk School, and that Mrs. W. W. JONES, local correspondent of the Chattanooga Times, has complained to [REDACTED] that local circulation has fallen off because of this.

177 [REDACTED] stated that when the bakery workers were out on strike in the summer of 1937, RALPH TEFFERTELLER came down from the Folk School and agitated among the strikers and had meetings with them. TEFFERTELLER contacted [REDACTED] and purported to be a representative of the strikers. When [REDACTED] pointed out that the strikers had violated their existing contract with [REDACTED] by walking out without giving him notice, TEFFERTELLER said that "The contract was just a scrap of paper." [REDACTED] stated that his employees, who are members of an A.F. of L. Union, have since gone on record as opposing the Highlander Folk School.

177 [REDACTED] related that several years ago a small cyclone blew the roofs off of several houses at Laager, Tennessee, in Grundy County. [REDACTED] who is the local representative of the Red Cross, appealed to the Red Cross for aid for the victims of the cyclone. A representative of the National Red Cross came to Tracy City and, in company with [REDACTED], went to Laager, where the cost of repairing the damaged houses was estimated. All the victims, numbering about twelve, seemed very pleased that they were to receive assistance from the Red Cross, but on the following day when the Red Cross representative and [REDACTED] returned to Laager in order to have the victims sign certain forms, [REDACTED]

██████████ and two others refused to sign, whereupon the Red Cross representative became angry and tore up the papers. That night, ██████████ came to ██████████ and stated that he had reconsidered and wished to accept the amount allotted to him. ██████████ stated that the reason he had refused to sign was that JAMES DOMBROWSKI and KYLES HORTON had come to Laager and had advised him to refuse to accept the amount proffered by the Red Cross inasmuch as it was insufficient. ██████████ advised that the Red Cross later paid ██████████ and the two others the original amount.

██████████ stated that ██████████ is a friend of DOMBROWSKI and HORTON and a supporter of the Highlander Folk School. At a recent county American Legion convention, ██████████ opposed a motion condemning subversive activities. These facts should be borne in mind in connection with any investigation at the Tracy City Post Office.

Mr. C. H. KILBY, an employee of the Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company, gave the following additional information concerning past activities of the Highlander Folk School:

In 1938, DOLPH VAUGHN, then business agent of Highlander Folk School, made a trip around the county and told all persons on relief to come to relief headquarters at Tracy City on the following day. The relief headquarters had worked out a system whereby those on relief were assigned a particular day of the week on which to come to the office, thus simplifying distribution of supplies. The arrival of all persons on relief on the same day created a jam at the relief headquarters. DOLPH VAUGHN was there in the crowd and when questioned by the relief agent as to why he had told all the persons on relief to come to the office on the same day, he stated loudly, "The supplies are here, give them to them."

KILEY stated that W. H. MARLOWE, a local man who has been associated closely with the Highlander Folk School, ran as an elector for EARL BROWDER, Communist candidate for President, in the 1936 elections.

KILEY stated that the United Mine Workers' Union at Tracy City, Local 5881, went on record sometime ago as condemning the Highlander Folk School for its activities. LATT BUNCH, International Representative of the U.M.W., demanded upon several occasions that Local 5881 rescind their condemnation of the Highlander Folk School. This the union refused to do. On January 31, 1941 LATT BUNCH appeared before Local 5881 and stated that he was instructed by the International to inform Local 5881 that they must endorse the Highlander Folk School or BUNCH would be forced to take up their charter. On that date Local 5881 endorsed the Highlander Folk School.

KILBY stated that LYLES HORTON returned from a trip to New York City on May 10, 1941 and at that time was driving a 1941 black Chevrolet Sedan, 1941 New York license #7-W-7463. KILBY stated that several months ago he met a man in a tavern at Monteagle who was somewhat under the influence of liquor. This man stated that he was the son of Dr. FLEMMING JAMES, Dean of the Theology School at the University of the South, Sewanee, Tennessee. According to this man, Dr. JAMES was a regular contributor to the Highlander Folk School before coming to Sewanee. This man stated that he is a teacher in a school in Arkansas. He defended both Commonwealth College in Arkansas and the Highlander Folk School, stating that they were labor schools and not Communistic.

Mr. KILBY, as head of the Grundy County Crusaders, is continuing his efforts against the Highlander Folk School. He recently made a talk before the State Convention of the Junior Order of American Mechanics, branding the Highlander Folk School as a Communist school, and presenting the affidavits and evidence which he has in his possession to substantiate his claim. KILBY is conferring with state officials with a view to initiating proceedings to cancel the charter of the Highlander Folk School.

AT DAISY, TENNESSEE:

It was learned at Daisy, Tennessee that the Richmond Hosiery Mills closed their plant there about 1936. [REDACTED] of the Richmond Hosiery Mills, whom a lead was set out to interview, is now located at the main plant of the Richmond Hosiery Mills at Rossville, Georgia. A lead is being set out to interview [REDACTED] at Rossville.

AT ROCKWOOD, TENNESSEE:

Assistant Chief ED TAYLOR of the Tennessee Highway Patrol was interviewed at Rockwood, Tennessee and stated that [REDACTED] whom a lead was set out to interview, has been transferred from Rockwood to the western part of Tennessee. Chief TAYLOR stated, however, that [REDACTED] at Rockwood, had complete information concerning the activities of persons from Highlander Folk School in connection with the strike at Rockwood.

[REDACTED], Rockwood, Tennessee, stated that during the strike at the Rockwood Hosiery Mills in May, 1936, LYLES HORTON, MILBURN BURNSTED, MATT LYNCH, ZILLA HARRIS and HIRSH DANIEL came to Rockwood to lead the strike. These persons set up a headquarters separate from the union headquarters and endeavored to take over the strike. In this strike they were not successful because of the action of the local authorities, who ran them out of town. [REDACTED] related that one day

during the strike, he sighted [REDACTED] driving an automobile in Rockwood and took out after him in an attempt to arrest him. [REDACTED] was driving a car with Virginia license plates on it and had been seen frequently with LYLES HORTON for several days preceding this incident. [REDACTED] followed [REDACTED] car out into the country where he succeeded in stopping [REDACTED] and arresting him. The back seat of [REDACTED] car was completely filled with literature. [REDACTED] remembers that some of this literature contained the following statement: "Down with the American flag, up with the Red flag." Other parts of this literature advocated equal rights for negroes, marriage between whites and negroes, the adoption of Communism in this country, and free love. [REDACTED] stated that he kept some of this literature for a long time but believes that it has all been destroyed. However, he will search his records in an effort to find some of this. [REDACTED] stated at the time of his arrest that he was on his way to the Highlander Folk School to deliver a series of lectures. [REDACTED] later learned that upon his release, [REDACTED] went to the Highlander Folk School and remained there for about two weeks.

[REDACTED] stated that persons from the Highlander Folk School had been present at a large number of strikes in the West Tennessee area. He listed these places as: the strike at the Rayon Plant at Elizabethton, Tennessee, a strike at Kingsport, Tennessee, a strike at the Richmond Hosiery Mills at Rossville, Georgia, a strike at the Richmond Hosiery Mills at Soddy, Tennessee, a strike at the Richmond Hosiery Mills at Melville, Tennessee, the above-mentioned strike at the Rockwood Hosiery Mills at Rockwood, Tennessee, and a strike at the Harriman Hosiery Mills at Harriman, Tennessee.

AT CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE:

[REDACTED] stated that he has been unsuccessful in an effort to obtain additional information concerning LOUISE B. CONKLING, presently secretary of the Highlander Folk School. [REDACTED] stated that although he is well acquainted with [REDACTED] and that she has no radical tendencies, he cannot vouch for LOUISE CONKLING because she has been away from home attending schools throughout the country for a number of years. [REDACTED] stated that he would contact the resident agents' office in Chattanooga if he learns anything additional on the subject. No undeveloped lead is being set out to re-interview [REDACTED]

HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

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[REDACTED] stated that DOMBROWSKI came to Norris in the spring of 1940 and stayed at the home of E. B. SHULTZ. DOMBROWSKI showed motion pictures to the Young Peoples' Meeting at the Norris Religious Fellowship (community church at Norris). Reverend COWAN, the pastor of the Norris Religious Fellowship, and E. B. SHULTZ worked hard to get the Norris Religious Fellowship to give fifty dollars to the Highlander Folk School. This was done in 1940 but because of the opposition of American Legion members and others, no donation will be made to the Folk School by the Fellowship this year. [REDACTED] had no other firsthand information concerning the Highlander Folk School.

- PENDING -

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

Each office will check the names of persons within their field division against their files and report briefly any Communist or subversive activities on the part of such persons.

THE BIRMINGHAM OFFICE:

*At Birmingham, Alabama, will determine the reliability of the DuBose Publishing Company and, if possible, determine what printing has been done by them for the Highlander Folk School. It should be borne in mind that this DuBose Publishing Company has also done printing for the Southern Conference for Human Welfare and has at least quoted on work in the past for the Southern Worker, the Communist newspaper in the South.

*At Florence, Alabama, will interview [redacted] who is employed [redacted] to determine if he has attended a session of the Highlander Folk School, and, if so, obtain all possible information regarding the courses, teachers, and students. Will also report all connections with the Communist Party of any activity or persons at the school.

*At Huntsville, Alabama, will obtain all possible information from [redacted] as outlined in reference report of Agent [redacted]

THE BOSTON OFFICE:

*At Northampton, Massachusetts, will determine the character and activity of the Institute for Labor Studies, who received a check for two dollars from the Highlander Folk School.

THE BUFFALO OFFICE:

*At Buffalo, New York, will check on the activities of [redacted]

[redacted] is known to be a member of the Young Communist League.

THE CHICAGO OFFICE:

*At Chicago, Illinois, will check on the occupation and activities of LOUISE GRATHAM DICHEMAN, former secretary of the Highlander Folk School, who recently moved to Chicago, [REDACTED]

THE DETROIT OFFICE:

*At Flint, Michigan, will determine whether [REDACTED] a recent arrival at the Highlander Folk School, is related in any manner to [REDACTED]. If [REDACTED] is determined to be a former resident of Flint, will determine her activities and reputation there.

THE KNOXVILLE OFFICE:

At Tracy City, Tennessee, will re-contact Mr. C. H. KILBY for such new information as he may receive concerning the school.

At Monteagle, Tennessee, will re-contact [REDACTED] for any new information he obtains regarding the school.

At Chattanooga, Tennessee, will contact [REDACTED] Richmond Hosiery Mills, Rossville, Georgia, for all information in his possession concerning a strike at the Daisy, Tennessee plant of the Richmond Hosiery Mills in 1935, when the strikers were led by a delegation from the Highlander Folk School.

THE LOUISVILLE OFFICE:

*At Berea, Kentucky, [REDACTED]

THE MEMPHIS OFFICE:

*At Nashville, Tennessee, will get a certified copy of the charter of the Highlander Folk School from the Secretary of State and will obtain copies of such correspondence as may have been written or received at any time concerning this charter.

*At the State American Legion headquarters, will contact the Americanization Committee to determine whether it has any of the records compiled [REDACTED]

Particular search should be made for a bulletin of the Revolutionary Policy Committee of the Socialist Party issued in April, 1934 which was signed by JAMES DOLEROWSKI, FRANZ DANIEL and ELIZABETH HAWES. Will obtain any other pertinent information from the American Legion files concerning the Highlander Folk School.

THE MIAMI OFFICE:

*At Gainesville, Florida, [REDACTED]

THE NEW YORK OFFICE:

*At New York, New York, will determine whether the League For American Writers has any Communist connections, [REDACTED]

*Will determine the reputation and activities of [REDACTED]

*Will determine the purpose and backers of the Robert Marshall Foundation, [REDACTED]

*Will determine the reputation and activity of [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

Highlander Folk School,
MYLES HORTON,
JAMES DOMBROWSKI,
ELIZABETH HAWES.

*Will determine the reputation and activity of [REDACTED]

*Will check at 99 Claremont Avenue to determine if a family bearing the last name SCHULTZ lives there or has lived there in the past. Will determine the reputation and activities of the SCHULTZ family which might link them with the Communist party. Will also determine if C. B. SHULTZ, or E. B. SHULTZ, is related, it being noted that a box of books was recently sent to the Highlander Folk School, one of which bore the name of ANNA L. SCHULTZ at the above address.

*Will check the reputation and activities of [REDACTED] who signed himself on the register [REDACTED] Chattanooga, as Group Leader for the Religion and Labor Foundation, 351 West 122nd Street, New York. This group is also known as the Uphaus Group and apparently conducts some kind of a labor school.

Will determine the reputation and activity of the Co-operative Distributors, Inc. and of [REDACTED]

Will determine the reputation and activity of the 241 East 22nd Street Corporation, 31 Union Square, West, [REDACTED]

b7c [REDACTED]
HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

61-12

b7d [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
THE WASHINGTON FIELD OFFICE:

*at Washington, D. C., will determine the reputation and activities of [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

b7d [REDACTED]
Will, from the Bureau of Immigration and Naturalization, determine the date and port of entry, the date and place of naturalization, the date and place of birth, and the nationalistic origin of JAMES DOLEBROWSKI. DOLEBROWSKI was reportedly born in Russia, but nothing definite in this regard has been learned. It may be noted that DOLEBROWSKI was a resident of New York City before coming to the Highlander Folk School.

of their activities.

It is disturbing to us
to know our identity
has been exposed
allowed to prosper - We
are in danger of losing
our freedom by increasing
these administrative demands
to operate in an unwise
fashioning you are
making. It can be of
service to my country
I am yours truly,
The Honorable
[Redacted]

RECEIVED
DIVISION

Enc

Enc
Page 4 to

F. B. I.

Wading DATE 2/27/84 BY SP-1
9/1/82

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

P. O.

Dear Sir: Please have been

many rumors concerning
the release literature
of the High School & R School
during connection with
the Commission program
being target as main
subject - I am sending
these people individuals
do not reveal also that
is target name - Please
keep the people in that
action others themselves
as being suspicious

EX-3

RECORDED 61-7511-24
vea

June 23, 1941

b7c

[REDACTED]

12994

Harrisburg, Pennsylvania

b7c

Dear [REDACTED]

I wish to acknowledge receipt of your letter dated June 4, 1941, with its enclosure.

Your courtesy and interest in bringing this information to my attention are indeed appreciated, and you may be assured your letter will receive appropriate consideration.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/27/84 BY SP8BTO/cj
245562

Tolson _____
A. Tamm _____
Ladd _____
Nichols _____
Belmont _____
Clegg _____
Glavin _____
Harbo _____
Rosen _____
Tracy _____
Egan _____
Gurnea _____
Mohr _____
Tele. Room _____
Holloman _____

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F-14

COMMUNICATIONS SECTION
MAILED
★ JUN 23 1941 ★
P. M.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Highlander Folk School

by JANE LAWSON

Editors' Note:—This year the Highlander Folk School was made a beneficiary of the Vassar Drive. The interest of Vassar in Highlander dates from 1893, when Dr. William Wyckof Johnson, Instructor of History at the college, encouraged the school's founders and gave them the original building. Many Vassar graduates have been connected with Highlander, including among others Elizabeth Day Hawes, '29 (Mrs. F. Daniel), Mrs. Ruby T. Norris, '29, and Rosanne G. Walker, '38. Jane Lawson, '39, author of the article, is at present a secretary at the school.

“**I**NFORM, inspire, and demonstrate”—here is a platform for an educational institution. Highlander Folk School, situated in the Cumberland Mountains in a rural community that has the dubious distinction of being the poorest in the South, does all three in its complex, varied, and exciting work. During two resident sessions of six weeks each, workers and farmers from southern unions and coöperatives gain new insight into the world in which they make their living. Through an extension program, thousands of rural and industrial workers within a radius of two hundred miles

receive the educational services of classes, meetings, and recreational activities. Highlander's own homework is its service to the community, the circulation of its library, its nursery school and its friendship for the neighbor folk. Informing, inspiring, and demonstrating are continuous and ever-growing processes in one or another of these fields of usefulness.

Highlander isn't much to look at. We call ourselves a school, but there are no school buildings: only a simple frame farm building with a vine-covered stone porch, a gate that closes with a rock weight looped on a chain,

oaks and dogwoods and one hazelnut tree in the yard, and a cornfield at our back, beyond the well-house and the blacksmith shed. There are Hoboken, the cow, whose bell keeps track of no time at all, and chickens, and two sturdy dogs. The surrounding country is beautiful. The Tennessee mountains are all the campus there is, and the curriculum is likely to include picnics at Eagle's cliff, swimming at Deerlick Falls, and bonfires and sunsets on the bluff. One might wonder what sort of a school there could be in this quiet spot.

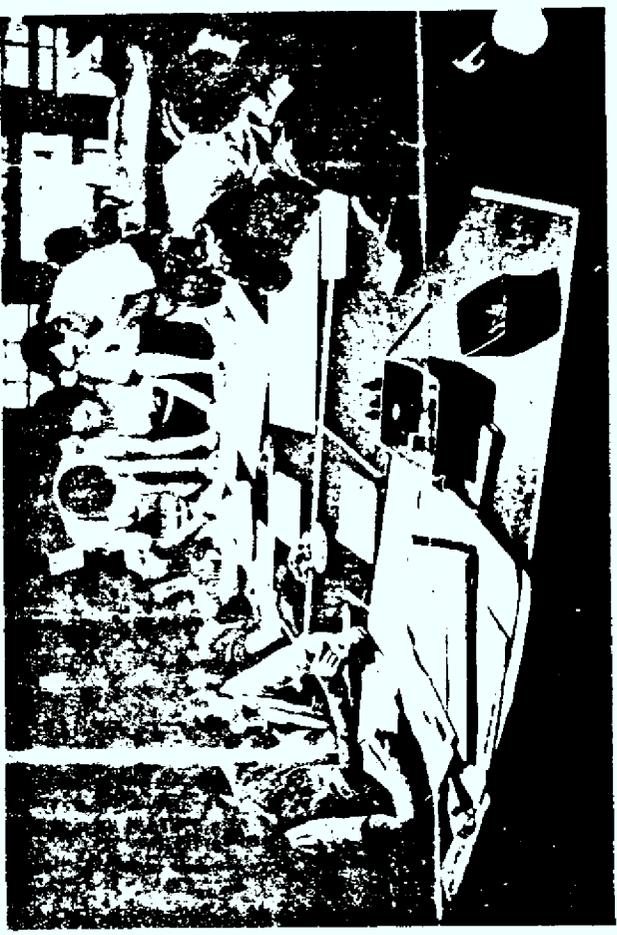
Highlander's work is exciting, in the same way that the idea of our own country and our people, still growing into democratic ways, is exciting. Highlander is a part of that growth. The labor movement is no place for "movie" emotions; its excitement doesn't mean mountain moonshiners holding shotguns over quaint little vine-covered stills, with corn-cobs about, and other literary accessories. There is an excitement that comes from seeing hope in the very strongest part of our country, its great mass of working people. It is their strength that may yet see us safely through a period of such crises as face us in today's headlines. If their strength is not to be warped to work for an hysterical Coughlin or any other Führer, they must be equipped with knowledge of their world.

There is hope in the people who pass through Highlander—not that they would put it in such general terms. They come to learn specific, immediate things concerned with building their organizations. Men and women here find out about the world they have been working too hard to investigate, working too long hours for too low pay. Some of the students have not gone past the second grade;

the average have had seven years of schooling. Their unions have made them want to ask a lot of questions, and they want to find out how to build those unions, as their contribution to democratic living. They come to help solve that number one problem, the South, for themselves and for the rest of us.

Students are the most important part of any school, from Vassar's "community of scholars" to a southern labor school. The program here is built around the resident students. Last term there were unusually few, only seventeen (usually about twenty-eight attend), representing seven international unions, an independent artists' union, two colleges, and the Young Women's Christian Association. Only those endorsed by their union or coöperative or other organization are accepted as regular students. This assures that they will have a sphere of action to put their education to work in. Highlander students go back to the labor movement as responsible, informed people, active union members, officers and organizers, members of educational and cultural committees, teachers in labor schools, leaders of coöperatives, farm organizations and community life.

In many ways the classes themselves are unique. They are composed of adults who have learned a good deal from first hand experience of what they are studying. Union Problems class, for instance, is one to which the students bring as textbooks themselves and their everyday difficulties. Economics class, usually called "how we make our living," takes up day to day problems and gives them a broader interpretation. The school offers no pat solutions, no ready-made doctrines to answer the difficult questions discussed, since they



There is reason to suspect that the school may be right up with the rest of the county in which the voters are more active than in any other county in the state. The school has a record of two dollars in surplus for the year, and a record of two dollars in surplus for the year. The school has a record of two dollars in surplus for the year, and a record of two dollars in surplus for the year. The school has a record of two dollars in surplus for the year, and a record of two dollars in surplus for the year.

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are not such as admit of an easy, complete solution even in theory. Rather, the students, by pooling their experiences, learn techniques of dealing with situations as they come up; when their jobs or their rights of organization are threatened they will know how to deal with the problem in a way that may make a future solution possible.

The staff is active in the field of labor, as members of the American Federation of Teachers and as writers, speakers and organizers. They bring this activity to their work together with their college background of Union Theological Seminary, Duke University, Vassar, Emory, Chicago, College of the Ozarks, and Reed.

Informality characterizes the work, though there is a definite plan of work to be covered. The school community is much more closely knit than a college because the students and staff share in the work of maintaining the farm and running the household. The

most valuable of the school's community activities. Parents are drawn together by it, and the children learn there to be cooperative as their parents learned to cooperate in unions. The school relies on its native sticks and stones, orange crates and acorns, for equipment, and a teacher who came from the Bank Street Schools is director, janitor, parent-worker, cook and school bus-driver, all in one. She is helped by two local girls on NYA to whom she is giving a course in Nursery School education.

Behind all these seemingly scattered and separate activities is always discernible the basic purpose of the school. Its educational policy is to prepare students to deal more intelligently as workers and citizens with

the whole economic structure of society

that in the unions at once possible and necessary.

There are courses in which the students learn by doing, through projects. The Journalism class give training in letter writing, writing for labor papers, and putting out mimeographed shop papers. Parliamentary Procedure teaches the student how to run a businesslike meeting. Singing goes on most of the time, for fun and to learn new songs that may be taken back to the local union meetings.

The library, built up mostly by gifts of friends, has over six thousand books and pamphlets and labor papers, which the students can, and do, explore. Being built up in this way, though, it has many gaps, and one of the needs of the school is to receive more publications such as the Monthly Labor Review, and to enlarge its list of recent books.

A flexible relationship between student and teacher and the easy adaptability of its members are two of Highlander's assets. The work outlined is done, and usually a lot more, but without strain. Because of the respect and esteem which the school has in the southern labor movement, the leaders of the unions, experts in the field, are glad to lend us their assistance. Southern directors and representatives of eighteen different unions, and representatives of the NLRB, the Wage and Hour Board, and the National Youth Administration, as well as other state and federal agencies, come as guests, lecturers, friends and question-answers.

In spite of Highlander's location on a mountain - top thirty miles from Chattanooga, the nearest city, it is a meeting place for progressive thought in the south and a center for travellers — writers seeking material, artists with proletarian interests, educators,

students and ministers, teachers, students, and others, as well as workers in the labor movement. An analysis of the guest book would be interesting: of the five hundred or more guests this year, there have been people of every occupation, from missionaries and social workers and chemists to a man who measures the distances of pigeon flights. The labor leaders who come here to talk to our staff and to each other discuss new contracts or organizing plans and join in our singing and square dances; any one who is on hand will help us mend the roof and pick beans. All have a common interest in and sympathy with the educational work going on here. In this connection it is interesting to know the development of the school's philosophy, which explains our mountain-side location and how we have become a center.

Perched on a plateau, Highlander finds the south beating a path up the mountain to its door. But it began rather quietly, and kept going only with a good deal of struggle. That struggle, of course, is not by any means over, nor will it be soon. Supported by voluntary contributions, the school has no money for salaries or other luxuries. Myles Horton, who founded Highlander — it was a hard, precarious beginning more than a "founding" — felt keenly the need of his own section of the country for some help in self-construction. "Education" of the formal kind he saw was too glib an answer to the actual poverty and hardship that the people faced. A purposive education such as he had seen in the Danish Folk Schools was needed, an education which would help them to understand why their lives were impoverished and how they could improve them. The slow progress of industrial-

ization among the people in the mountain regions and the mill towns served to preserve for them some strength; they were not ready to accept demoralizing conditions with resignation, as did the workers in many northern regions. They wanted to keep on fighting for the American ideal of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Myles Horton felt that here was an opportunity to direct the American tradition towards a sound and brotherly basis of democratic living. In Summerfield, Tennessee, he found his opportunity when Dr. Lillian Johnson, an enlightened woman who sympathized with his enthusiasm and purpose, gave him her farm to start out on.

It was not his desire to create another institution but to find a natural approach to education. His first classes were the informal discussions of the folk around the school who came naturally to ask its help. As the school grew, it found that it could help working people most effectively by helping them in the organizations they were building for themselves, and therefore the regular courses are now primarily for union people and for the training of union leaders.

Grundy County was a good place in which to start. It is one of the most tempting sociological laboratories one could find; it is one of the richest human neighborhoods one could live and work in, and one of the poorest, most "depressed" areas in the country. Eighty per cent of the county's population are on relief.* The people are rural workers, but there is none of the atmosphere of the Happy Farmer busting about in a new Ford tractor, while his wife boils the three chickens in the pot.†

In the past the main employment was mining and lumbering. There was

plenty of game. But now the mines are worked out and the forests are cut and there is not even any hunting to speak of. The soil is so thin and sandy that erosion makes gardening and farming thankless. Everybody can't take everybody else's washing, and no one wants quaint pottery and hand-etched knickknacks. The people pick quilts because they need them, and cane chairs because that's the way they get chairs. Shoes, school books, clothing, housing, food, are at an unbelievable minimum for a family. The thousand families a relief must get along with the services of a doctor at all. There is a tragic waste of life from tuberculosis, malnutrition, measles and diphtheria.

At the time the Folk School began in 1932, the people had almost hit bottom. They had been blacklisted and their unions had broken down; but they had beaten their coöperative. Even on WPA jobs, men were cheated by a corrupt administration which falsified job classifications. Young people who had left the mountains hunt for work in Akron or Detroit came back home when they began to starve in the cities. But they were a tough-fibred people. In our growth of their feeling of unrest and unrest was the formation of new strong unions, locals of the Workers Alliance and of the Hod Carriers and Common Laborers. The fact that they built up their unions when, in many cases where the unions were fought, endangered and still endangers their security is an index to their character. The unions turned to political action to break up bad administration their jobs, and defeated the coal company's strangle-hold on the community. In 1938, Labor's Political Conference of Grundy County was formed a mass meeting of 250 people. They

A Good School Under Fire

ONE OF our favorite educational institutions in the whole United States is the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee. Highlander is a labor school; its chief purpose is to take promising trade-union members and equip them better to help their organizations fight for improved conditions for the working man. No student is taken unless he is endorsed by a local union. No distinction is made between AFL and CIO, both of which cooperate with the school.

In addition to this primary purpose, the school has two others. It attempts to aid the people of the little community where it is located; it conducts a nursery school for people nearby and has sponsored several cooperative undertakings for them. It also has an extension division which does field work of several kinds in cities near and far.

The direct support of labor is indicated by representation on its executive council. This body includes a vice-president and another representative of the American Federation of Hosiery Workers; the Southern director of the Amalgamated Clothing Workers; the president of the Chattanooga Printing Pressmen, and a local secretary from the United Mine Workers. Among many labor groups supporting the school is the Nashville Trades and Labor Council, AFL.

The school has friends in other quarters than the organized labor movement. Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt is keenly interested and maintains a scholarship there. The benefit this month in the national capital is sponsored by a Justice of the Supreme Court, members of the Cabinet and of Congress, a former governor, administrators of leading federal agencies, two members of the National Defense Advisory Commission and other prominent persons. Mr. J. W. Studebaker, United States Commissioner of Education, wrote the committee on arrangements: "Although I am asked every week to lend my name for the sponsorship of many undertakings and naturally find it necessary to decline, I am willing to be one of the sponsors of your benefit."

Why do we go into such detail about the support the Highlander Folk School receives? Because there has been a long continued, vicious campaign in Tennessee to destroy this institution. Most of the newspapers of the entire surrounding territory have repeatedly lied about the school, on such a scale that the falsification cannot be attributed to an innocent misunderstanding. The charges have been that the school was "communist," that it was misleading the young people, and so on. Dr. James Dombrowski, director of the school, has denied all these charges and has indicated his willingness, if it could be proved that the school is un-American or is detrimental to the community and to the people it serves, to put an end to its work. Nobody has ever brought forward even a fragment of evidence that the charges are true.

Who is behind the attempt to destroy the Highlander Folk School? First of all, it is reactionary employers throughout the entire South, men who object to the school because it trains people to become successful leaders of strong trade unions. Locally, there is reason to believe that the Tennessee Consolidated Coal Company has had a good deal to do with the attack. This company has for years dominated Grundy County. In 1938, for the first time, a group of county officials were elected who were not subservient to the coal company, and the school faculty was active during the campaign in support of these candidates.

A few weeks ago, feeling was stirred up to such a pitch that a vigilante group calling themselves the Grundy County Crusaders planned to march against the school. If this had been done, blood would certainly have been shed. At the last minute, the vigilante leaders were persuaded instead to confer with the school officials. As a result of this five-hour conference, the tension was relieved somewhat. But there is danger that it will rise again; there are plenty of people in Tennessee who don't want a school that prepares efficient spokesmen for labor, and will stoop to almost anything to destroy it.

Equipped With An Oak Tree

Instead of considering her environment in a mountain community as a handicap this teacher investigates its possibilities and makes use of them in developing further that ingeniousness which probably will always be important to the existence of these people. Miss Lewis teaches in the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee, and is the author of "Deep As a Giant" published in the March 1938 issue of CHILDHOOD EDUCATION.

I SAW Joedy, a little boy of five in ragged overalls and bare feet, stoop down and pick up from the ground a forked leafy twig that had fallen from the oak tree above us. In a twinkling he placed the twig on his neck so that the luxuriant leaves clustered over his head and down his back. Was it Joedy or a horse standing before me? Without a word the transformation had taken place. As soon as the boy was encased in his glorious mane he began to stamp his feet, even his face took on a horsey expression, and he was off, galloping across the field.

All of the children were playing horse in some fashion. Earlier that morning we had been over to pick carrots in our school garden. On the way back we had to go through a field of old brittle cornstalks. So, naturally, when we reached the end of the field, every child was astride a cornstalk horse. These broke very easily, but were substantial enough for a morning of fun, and the supply was endless.

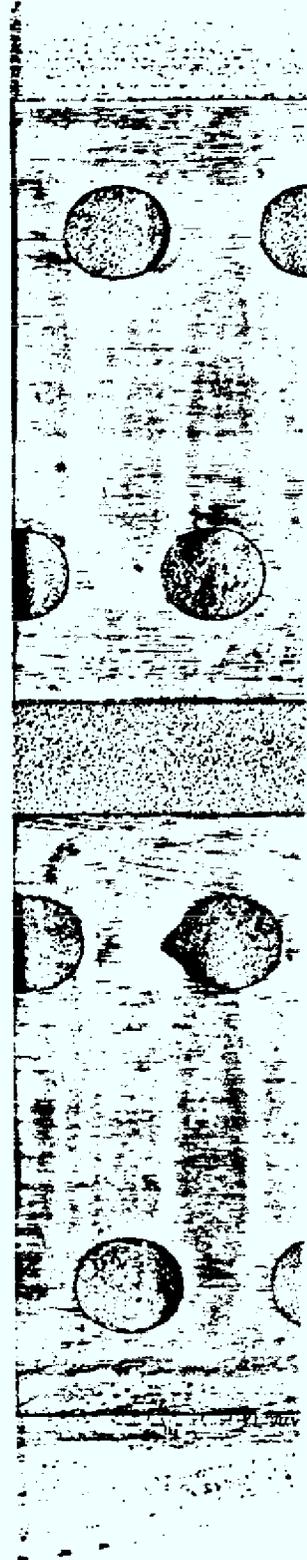
More permanent was the tree horse in the grove at the corner of the school yard.

This was just a low branch with a fine resilient bounce. A piece of burlap thrown over it for a saddle and presto! this was a horse, too.

It is a lucky thing, I have often thought, that here in the southern mountains it is warm enough to have our school outdoors six or seven months out of the year. It is lucky, too, that we are in a rural community where we have plenty of cornstalks and trees and spacious fields. For there is practically no money for this little community nursery school operated with the help of the Highlander Folk School at Monteagle, Tennessee. And even if there were money, I question whether or not it should be spent on expensive, ideal nursery school equipment. Should Billy be given a little wooden Kraft cheese box to break up when his own father painstakingly makes novel cigarette cases out of these very boxes, in the hope of earning a little money to support his family of six? Should I even give the children those bright net bags that oranges come in, when some families are glad to have them to tack over their windows as screens? I did furnish small scraps of good cloth for doll dresses until some of the mothers, visiting one day, saw the nice broadcloth pieces and remarked that they would make such pretty collars and cuffs for children's dresses.

We Look for Things to Use

The story of this Summerfield Nursery School, situated in one of the most poverty-stricken areas in our country, has been the story of the search for adequate play equipment in what grew around us, or in what could be secured at no cost.



It has not been too difficult search, because to a child a cornstalk is seldom just a cornstalk. More often than not it has been a child rather than myself, the teacher, who has discovered the uses of grass and acorns and odds and ends. It was Carl who picked up some old pieces of tin and asked me to tie them around his neck so that they would jingle like a cow bell. It was Grant who, after building a barn of blocks indoors one day, skipped out into the yard for a moment, returning with small bundles of dried grass for hay. It was Willie Mae who first went gathering weeds for "greens" to cook in her playhouse, and who made "tea" with oak leaves. Nor should I omit to mention that it was a father who brought us a doll made of the tops of coca cola bottles strung together on wires. Some of these mountain people are very ingenious—are forced to become so. I wonder if the experience these nursery school children are having in using what is in their environment, in making something out of nothing, may help to foster this ingenuity.

What are some of the other "nothings" that can be used? The grocery stores in the town two miles away have given us a generous supply of orange crates for playing house and barn and train. Before we had these, we found that an old bench turned upside down made a fine train. And for a house the little girls were quite satisfied to outline a little area with sticks, then fill it with tables and stools that were really little stumps, and dishes that were old mason jar lids, too bent for real use. Tin cans (with the tops cut out carefully) have always been fine for pails and pitchers. A coffee can with a stick placed through a hole punched in the lid is, of course, a churn.

There are plenty of things to "cook" besides leaves. What about pretty little white pebbles? What about toadstools and berries, and those fruits called "mock

oranges" in our part of the country, which look very appetizing but are not actually edible. And acorns—

Acorns need a chapter by themselves. We have used them as children in many city schools use boxes of colored cubes, as coal to haul around in small trucks, or if you have an apple truck, acorns can be the apples. They can be potatoes, ice, or meat—anything you need for your truck. We keep great boxes full of them on our shelves. Shiny brown, smooth to touch, the children love them. Outdoors in the early spring we "plant" hundreds of baby oaks, and all year long set our tables with acorn cups.

I even made toy chickens out of acorns for the children, by driving two small sticks in for legs and one for a tail (which lends support and enables the "chicken" to stand.) Then, too, acorns can be used for all kinds of counting games. Why, anyone could start a school under an oak tree!

We made potato toys, too; the potato hogs were especially effective. The little sixteen-year-old mountain girl, Dorothy, who was my volunteer assistant for months, brought in one day a whole family of cornstalk dolls she had made, including a cornstalk horse. These proved to be not durable enough for children of preschool age, but I should think they would have great possibilities for children a little older.

We Paint and Make Music

Dorothy also brought us some "orange paint" one day to supplement our small supply of watercolors. "Did you really make this, Dorothy?" I asked.

"Yes'm, I made it from a root that grows on the side of the mountain. I don't know the name of it. People use it to stain wood, and it makes a right pretty stain."

This became the children's favorite paint—until the pokeberry season. Then



their social and economic problems.

Josephine Roche, in the *Alumnae Magazine* for October, says that "Only as the men and women of labor acquire a secure status as citizens of industry can they effectively meet their responsibilities and exercise their rights as citizens of a self-governing democracy." As a labor school, and as an adjunct to the progressive movement in the south, Highlander is training leaders who will bring about that industrial democracy so fundamental to the health of the whole nation. The

school believes that the object of education is action; it advocates that decisions reached by serious study and discussion be acted upon. We are interested in working people primarily, because they are the largest, neediest vital group in our population. They are the majority. Labor unions have become their most effective means of cooperative action. Highlander Folk School undertakes to serve the labor movement with education, that will inform, inspire, and demonstrate, in democratic action.

* Study made by a local public welfare official in 1938.

† In the 1930 census, most of the population of 9,719 are classified as rural non-farming. The WPA wages last year were \$25 a month; this meant less than a nickel a meal for each member of a family of six, provided every cent went for food. The average family saw less than \$150 in cash in a year.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

N.Y. FILE NO. **100-9450 AL**

REPORT MADE AT NEW YORK, N. Y.	DATE WHEN MADE 6-6-41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/9, 10, 12/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

EDWIN B. SCHULTZ, formerly of 99 Claremont Street, presently residing at 19 South La Salle Street, Chicago, Ill.; N. Y. files reveal that Charles Webber represented the Methodist Federation for Social Service at the Third Congress of the American League against war and facism that met in Cleveland, Ohio, 1/3-5/36. Highlander Folk School, Robert Marshall Foundation, **ETHEL CLYDE**, **OSCAR APPEL** and **JOHN HAMMOND**, [REDACTED] **b7c**

- P -
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE **2/2/84** BY **SP8 BTJ/...**
24552

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, 4-10-41. **b7c**

DETAILS:

The reference report requested that a check be made to determine the character and reputation of the **SCHULTZ** family, who resided at 99 Claremont Street. This address is known as McGuffers Hall, a dormitory that accommodates married couples and single girls who are in attendance at Union Theological Seminary, which is located within one block of the dormitory, namely, Broadway at 120th Street. It was learned through the superintendant and janitor of the dormitory that no one by the name of **SCHULTZ** was residing at the above address at the present time, and to the best of their knowledge there had been no one by the name of **SCHULTZ** during the past three years, which is the time that each have been employed in their respective positions.

SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE <i>J. J. Donagan</i>	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES	
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100-9450.

The writer made inquiry at the registrar's office at Union Theological Seminary, Broadway at 120th Street, where a record of all students is maintained. The records reflected that EDWIN B. SCHULTZ left the college in 1931, partially graduating therefrom, and he and his wife, ANNA L. SCHULTZ, resided at 99 Claremont Street while he was in attendance at the university. The forwarding address given on the record is 19 South La Salle Street, Chicago, Illinois, and all mail such as school literature had been forwarded to this address, which apparently reached him as none had been returned.

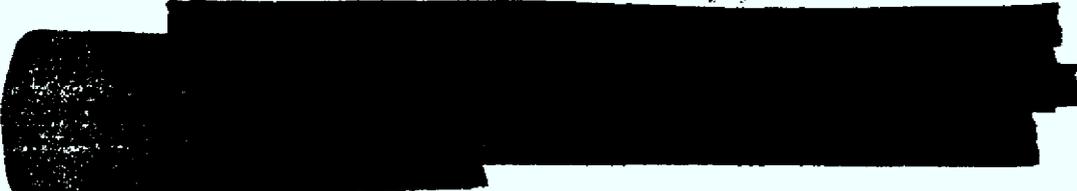
Undeveloped leads were set out in reference report to check the character and reputation of various individuals who maintained bank accounts at various banks in New York City, who had made contributions to the Highlander Folk School. The file indices of the New York Field Division did not reveal that there had ever been any extensive investigation of any of the individuals mentioned in the reference report, but all the information in the New York files will be referred to in this report.

FD



A memorandum dated April 23, 1937, New York file number 61-506, reflected that Mrs. CLYDE participated in the student strike against war which was staged throughout the United States April 22, 1937. The name of Mrs. ETHEL CLYDE is listed as one of the nineteen members of the Advisory Board of the American Student Union.

FD



100-9450.

LD
[REDACTED]

JERRY O'CONNEL
RAPHAEL ZON
GORDON JACKSON
GEORGE MARSHALL
HEBER BLANKENBORN.

No address was given as to where the Foundation might be located. It is presumed that GEORGE MARSHALL is connected in some capacity with the Foundation.

LD
[REDACTED]

LD
[REDACTED]

P E N D I N G

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER
DIRECTOR

Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Washington, D. C.

- Mr. Tolson
- Mr. E. A. Tamm
- Mr. Clegg
- Mr. Foxworth
- Mr. Glavin
- Mr. Ladd
- Mr. Nichols
- Mr. Rosen
- Mr. Carson
- Mr. Grayson
- Mr. Quinn Tamm
- Mr. Hendon
- Mr. Coffey
- Mr. Harbo
- Tele. Room
- Mr. Nease
- Mr. Tracy
- Miss Gandy

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June 6, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

In connection with the Director's address at Sewanee on June 9, I believe it might be well for him to be acquainted with the nature of the Highlander Folk School and a memorandum concerning same is attached.

This school is very well known in that Section of Tennessee and is heartily condemned because of its Communistic affiliations by all of the good citizens. It is probable that someone may mention this school to the Director and expect him to have some knowledge of it.

Respectfully,

R. C. Hendon
R. C. Hendon

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61-7511-2571
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
1 AUG 13 1941
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
TOLSON
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MEMORANDUM

June 6, 1941

RE: HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL

In view of numerous complaints received in the Knoxville Office of the Bureau concerning Communist activities at the Highlander Folk School, an investigation is now being made by that Office concerning the School and its personnel.

It has been learned that the School was organized during 1932 on ground donated by Dr. Lillian W. Johnson, who presently lives in DeLand, Florida. Miles Horton and James Dombrowski are believed to have been the active organizers of the School. Dr. Johnson donated the land because she believed the School would benefit the local inhabitants.

The Highlander Folk School is a labor institution and received its charter from the State of Tennessee on January 31, 1934. The School was chartered by Miles Horton, Elizabeth Hawes, James Dombrowski, Rupert Hampton and Malcolm Chisholm.

The School is located in Grundy County, Tennessee, about two miles north of Monteagle, Tennessee, on State Road 56 going toward Tracy City, Tennessee. This section of the State of Tennessee is mountainous and heavily wooded. Monteagle, Tennessee, is from three to five miles northeast of Sewanee, which means that the Highlander Folk School is approximately seven miles from Sewanee.

Miles Horton, Director of Education at the Highlander Folk School, is the one whose name is most often mentioned as being the leader of the School.

During the course of the Bureau's investigation, various affidavits were obtained showing that Miles Horton teaches Communism and has solicited membership in the Young Communists' League from various local persons.

James Dombrowski, Secretary of the Highlander Folk School, signs all the mail emanating from the institution.

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1 AUG 18 1941

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

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DATE 2/22/81 BY SP2/MLK

17C
a letter addressed by [redacted] Athens, Tennessee, [redacted] to [redacted] Sweetwater, Tennessee, dated November 16, 1940, it is stated that Dombrowski reportedly signed a bulletin issued by the Revolutionary Policy Committee of the Socialist Party in 1934 stating they would "make every effort to promote the world revolution and to secure Governmental power for the victorious revolution by arming the workers and by preparing the working class to turn imperialist war into class war."

Elizabeth Day Hawes, better known as Zilla Hawes, has been active as a teacher at the School from its beginning and is reported to have been especially strong in her teaching of Communistic principles and how they can be used in labor agitation. The reports in the Bureau's files indicate that the residents of Grundy County are on the whole very much opposed to the School. It appears that the officials of the School have caused considerable agitation among the WPA workers and other laborers in the County.

The Highlander Folk School has been successful in obtaining the permission of many important persons to use their names as sponsors of the School, itself, or some of its activities. The most important name from the standpoint of publicity is that of Eleanor Roosevelt. Sponsorship of John L. Lewis and others have also been obtained.

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In a letter dated January 4, 1941, to the Editor of the Reader's Digest, James Dombrowski mentioned the opposition to his School by "the Grundy County Crusaders." He pointed out that the battle with the Crusaders was absorbing much of the time and resources of the School and it was necessary to secure the support of new friends if they were to carry on. He pointed out that their danger reflected the mounting danger to organized labor.

[redacted] reported that when a Citizens' Committee of Grundy County threatened to burn the School in November, 1940, the School put all of its Communist literature and other matter which it did not wish to be found on the property in a large paper box and one [redacted] an admitted Communist, hauled the box from the School and hid it in the home of one Rosenthal in Chattanooga. Rosenthal is a known Communist and is reported to be the individual maintaining the records of the Communist Party for Chattanooga.

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. 100-2167

REPORT MADE AT WASHINGTON, D. C.	DATE WHEN MADE 6/13/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 5/21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] is Secretary to [REDACTED] of United Mine Workers of America. [REDACTED] reported to be in office of **JOHN L. LEWIS.** [REDACTED] b7c

- RUC - ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 2/27/84 BY SP8 BTG/02

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] made at Knoxville, Tennessee, dated April 10, 1941.

DETAILS:

AT WASHINGTON, D. C.

[REDACTED]

APPROVED AND FORWARDED: *[Signature]*
SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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61-7511-213

JUL 10 1941

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION
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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **100-1407**

REPORT MADE AT PITTSBURGH, PA.	DATE WHEN MADE 6/16/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/12/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i>
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

b7c
SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: [REDACTED] has no record in this office as being involved in Communistic or other subversive activities.

- R U C - *b7c*

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, Tennessee, June 1, 1941.

DETAILS: **AT PITTSBURGH, PENNSYLVANIA**

The files of the Pittsburgh Office failed to reflect that [REDACTED] is involved in Communistic activities. His name has never appeared in the investigations of Communistic groups.

It is not desirable to open an individual internal security case [REDACTED] and nothing further will, therefore, be done in this case unless the name of [REDACTED] shows up during investigation of Communist groups. *b7c*

JUN 21 1941
FBI - PITTSBURGH

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THIS REPORT DESTROYED REFERRED UPON COMPLETION TO THE OFFICE OF ORIGIN

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENN.**

NH FILE NO. 100-1303 **2B**

REPORT MADE AT NEW HAVEN, CONN.	DATE WHEN MADE 6/24/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/11/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i>
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

No record in New Haven files of [REDACTED] *b7c*
[REDACTED] or [REDACTED] being con-
nected with any Communistic groups.

b7c - R U C -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, Tenn., dated June 1, 1941.

DETAILS:

A check of the indexes of the New Haven Field Division reflects that there is no record on file of either [REDACTED] Piatt Island, Nearwater Lane, Noroton, Conn., or [REDACTED] Darien, Conn., as being connected with any Communist groups.

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JUL 15 1941

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **100-417**

REPORT MADE AT HUNTINGTON, W.VA.	DATE WHEN MADE 6-21-41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6-18-41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY (C)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

b7E

[REDACTED] HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL to U. M. W., Charleston, West Virginia, determined to be address of District 50, Chemical Division, United Mine Workers of America.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

- RUC -

DATE *2/27/84* BY *SP8 BTJ/*

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, Tennessee, June 1, 1941.

DETAILS: AT HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

b7E

[REDACTED]
the HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL to U. M. W., 217 Capitol Street, Charleston, W. Va. Offices were requested to furnish any information contained in their files on Communist or subversive activities.

An examination of the telephone directory for the State of West Virginia reflected that the United Mine Workers of America, District #50, Chemical Division, were listed as having offices in the Fleetwood Hotel, Charleston, West Virginia. A further check reflected that the Fleetwood Hotel is located at 217 Capitol Street, [REDACTED]

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **100-1453**

REPORT MADE AT Indianapolis, Ind.	DATE WHEN MADE 7/8/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/24/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL		CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] is known to the Indianapolis Field Division to have been CIO leader of the International Harvester Company strike at Richmond, Indiana, during March, 1941.

**ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED**

DATE 2/27/84 BY SP5 BTJ/cb
245532

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent [REDACTED] Knoxville, Tennessee, 6/1/41.

DETAILS:

AT INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA.

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

in Indianapolis file entitled "International Harvester Company, Richmond, Indiana, Employees Strike (2/18/41)". It will be recalled that the plant employed about 1300 persons and that the strike was more or less an echo of the strike at larger International Harvester Plants in Chicago and elsewhere. The strike was called by the

JUL 10 1941
F. B. I.
INDIANAPOLIS DIVISION
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- 2 Indianapolis

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CH-6

b7c
Farm Equipment Workers Organization Committee of the CIO. [REDACTED]
[REDACTED] CIO Union at the International Plant
in Richmond, Indiana. The strike lasted from approximately February
17, to the 28th, 1941, at which latter time the employees agreed to
return pending outcome of a hearing before a federal mediation board.
A number of arrests were made during a free for all fight while the strike
was in progress. The files of the Indianapolis Field Division contain
no history of [REDACTED] and no information to indicate that he
may be connected with any Communistic organization.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Memphis, Tennessee**

Level. FILE NO. **61-42**

REPORT MADE AT Louisville, Kentucky	DATE WHEN MADE 7/10/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 4/27; 7/9/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE HIGHLAND FOLK SCHOOL, ^oMonteagle, Grundy County, Tennessee			CHARACTER OF CASE SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES (COMMUNIST ACTIVITIES)

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Investigation relative to **[REDACTED] b7c**
 Gilbertsville, Kentucky, fails to reveal that she
 is an active member of the Communist Party.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED] b7c** 1/29/40, Memphis, Tennessee.

DETAILS:

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

[REDACTED] b7c b7D

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UNDEVELOPED LEADS

LOUISVILLE FIELD DIVISION:

lrc
Will cover the leads as set out in the report of Special Agent [REDACTED] dated June 1, 1941, at Knoxville, Tennessee, entitled "HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL. INTERNAL SECURITY - C".

PENDING

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

Miami FILE NO. **100-1291**

REPORT MADE AT MIAMI, FLORIDA	DATE WHEN MADE 7/14/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/24/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] *b7c*

- RUC -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED] Miami, Florida, May 13, 1941** *b7c*

DETAILS:

AT GAINESVILLE, FLORIDA

b7c
[REDACTED]

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245582

Since there is no additional investigation to be conducted in the territory of the Miami Field Division at this time, this case is being

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE**

FILE NO. **100-5801.**

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES, CALIF.	DATE WHEN MADE 7/14/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7/10/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c MRK
--	----------------------------------	---	--

TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL	CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - R
--	---

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] b7c is a social worker for the National Youth Administration and is said to be very liberal in her views.

- RUC -

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245582

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** Knoxville, 6-1-41.

DETAILS: AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA:

[REDACTED]

b7c
[REDACTED]

b7D
[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT

KNOXVILLE, TENNESSEE

FILE NO. 100-839

REPORT MADE AT OKLAHOMA CITY	DATE WHEN MADE 7-15-41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7-1-41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] <i>b7c</i> BH
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

American Guardian newspaper is published by the Leader Press which is owned by OSCAR AMERINGER, who is well known in Communist circles. He has been identified with the Communist Party for many years and publishes a good deal of Communistic propoganda. Indices reflect no record of **[REDACTED]** *b7c*

-RUC-

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** Knoxville, Tennessee, 6-1-41. *b7c*

DETAILS:

AT OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA

The indices of the Oklahoma City Field Division have been checked and there is no record of **[REDACTED]** *b7c*

The American Guardian, a newspaper published by the Leader Press which is owned by OSCAR AMERINGER, is located at 17 West 3rd Street, Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. **[REDACTED]**

Information in this file is to the effect that OSCAR AMERINGER is the President of the Leader Press, his wife, FRIEDA, is Vice President, and his son, SEIGFRIED, is also active in the company.

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AMERINGER is known to be active in Communist affairs in this city and an old-time Socialist.

b7D

[REDACTED]

OSCAR AMERINGER was on the Sponsor Committee for the following organizations: Mobilization for Peace, Student Conference for Constitutional Rights and Southwest Writers' Conference. In December, 1940, he spoke before the Oklahoma Youth Legislature Unincorporated on Peace. On January 7, 1941, a publication put out by the Oklahoma Committee to Defend Political Prisoners carried an article by OSCAR AMERINGER against book burning. This was a satiric article and mentioned prominently the trials of several Communists in Oklahoma County on charges of Criminal Syndicalism. The editor of this publication is the wife of one of those who has been sentenced to ten years on Criminal Syndicalism charges and she, herself, has recently been sentenced to ten years on the same charge. AMERINGER's Leader Press has printed a number of Communistic articles, pamphlets and booklets. He once wrote a book with a forward by Carl Sandberg and in December, 1940, charged that the New Deal was leading us into war.

b7D

[REDACTED] advised that AMERINGER was one of the leading Communists in Oklahoma City and had been connected with the Communist Party for many years.

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FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Knoxville, Tenn.**

FILE NO. **100-5801**

REPORT MADE AT Los Angeles, California	DATE WHEN MADE 7-8-41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 7-2-41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c	BY HY
TITLE HIGHLANDER FOLK SCHOOL			CHARACTER OF CASE INTERNAL SECURITY - C	

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

[REDACTED] *b7c*
 is the wife of a Lockheed Aircraft employee. Nothing detrimental concerning her.

- P -

REFERENCE:

Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** dated at Knoxville, Tenn., 6-1-41. *b7c*

12991

DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

P E N D I N G

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CH-2

UNDEVELOPED LEAD:

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION:

b7c
At Los Angeles, California, will report the identity
of [REDACTED]

12992

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **Knoxville, Tennessee**

FILE NO. 100-1449

REPORT MADE AT St. Louis, Missouri	DATE WHEN MADE 7/23/41	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 6/24/41	REPORT MADE BY [REDACTED] b7c AM
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TITLE: **HIGHLANDER POLK SCHOOL** INTERNAL SECURITY - G
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 DATE **2/2/84** BY **SP8 BTJ/OK**
12989

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS: **[REDACTED]** Waitresses and Miscellaneous Hotel Workers, St. Louis, Missouri, reported the **[REDACTED]** Restaurant, St. Louis, to the St. Louis Office because the individuals connected therewith were allegedly pro-Nazi, and St. Louis Office files contain no information she is engaged in Communistic or subversive activities.

RUC

REFERENCE: Report of Special Agent **[REDACTED]** Knoxville, Tennessee, June 1, 1941.

DETAILS:

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

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