

Dewey's Imperialist Outlook

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

Too often, pro-Roosevelt debaters in the present election campaign leave the impression that the danger is that should Dewey be elected, the United States, under his leadership, would tend to isolate itself from world problems by shrinking back within its own borders and letting the rest of the world go hang. But this would not at all be the danger. On the contrary, the menace would come from a Dewey policy of aggressive American imperialist expansion, from the United States seeking to seize what advantage it could in the international scene, to the detriment of other nations and, therewith, also finally of itself.



The Republican "isolationist" leaders—the Hoovers, Deweys, Vandenberg, Tafts, Lindberghs, McCormicks, Hearst, etc.—must not be confused with those isolationist masses who naively believe, or did before Pearl Harbor, that America can avoid world conflicts by withdrawing into its own shell and "minding its own business." The "isolationist" leaders in question are hard-boiled imperialists, and their foreign policy is to grab what is to be grabbed, with a special antagonism towards the USSR.

THEIR IMPERIALIST RECORDS

Thus, Hoover is a long-term international adventurer, the center of whose policy is to confront the Soviet Union with a hostile capitalist world led by the United States; Dewey it was who at the Mackinac Island Conference came forward with the idea of an American-British alliance directed against the USSR; Lindbergh, a rabid "isolationist" stated that Canada had no right to enter the war without first securing the United States' consent, he asserted, too, that the American flag should fly from Hudson's Bay to Cape Horn, and he was also one of the most active pro-Hitler, anti-Soviet plotters responsible for bringing about the present war; Hearst has long been a ranting jingoist, poisoning the American people against Great Britain and the USSR and urging collaboration with various fascist powers from time to time; McCormick of Chicago Tribune "isolationism" fame, only recently demanded that the United States "take over" Canada, Australia, and even Scotland and Wales. Almost without exception, the other "isolationist" leaders display similar flamboyant imperialistic tendencies.

For a generation past the Republican "isolationist" leaders, always with the desire of keeping the United States' hands free for im-

perialistic adventures on its own account, have exploited the isolationist sentiments among the masses in order to prevent the participation of this country in joint movements of various countries to keep world peace.

It was thus they kept the United States out of the League of Nations and also out of the World Court. By a similar maneuver, the "isolationist" leaders kept this country from joining the international peace front proposed by the USSR to restrain the fascist aggressor states when these first became a menace.

THEIR PRESENT ROLE

During the present war, too, the "isolationist" Republican leaders tried, but in vain, to prevent the United States from becoming part of the United Nations, grand alliance against the fascist aggressors, their idea being, rather to make a separate peace with Hitler. And now these ultra-imperialistic gentry are trying to utilize what is left of isolationist sentiment among the masses to prevent the United Nations from being built into a genuine world peace organization, as foreseen by the Moscow, Teheran, and Dumbarton Oaks conferences.

The danger from a Dewey administration is not, therefore, that the United States would retire from the world, a blushing violet, into isolation, but that, led by a band of unscrupulous imperialists, it would launch into aggressive economic and political policies that would bring widespread economic chaos and lay the basis for World War III. Mr. Dewey, who will say or do anything in order to be elected President, is very carefully trying to hide his program of American imperialist expansion as he knows that the American people are overwhelmingly in favor of international collaboration — nevertheless he is giving us many indications of the recklessly imperialistic course his administration would take.

DEWEY'S AIMS

Firstly, Dewey manifestly wants a feeble postwar United Nations. What he would like to see is a world organization so weak structurally that one or two disgruntled nations, large or small, could bring the whole thing to a standstill, as they used to do with the old League of Nations. This explains his efforts to cripple the proposed Executive Council of the United Nations by passing a maximum of control to the general assembly of nations. It also explains why Dewey has not affirmatively stated that the American delegation to the United Nations would have full power to act against aggressors. In such a loose organization as Dewey wants, his government would be able freely to carry on its imperialistic maneuvers without serious let or hindrance.

Secondly, in line with this at-

tempt of Dewey to prevent a strong United Nations is his notorious anti-Soviet attitude. This he showed once more by his disgraceful attacks upon the USSR at the Herald Tribune Forum, regarding Romania and Poland. Dewey's Soviet-baiting is a deadly menace not only to future peace, but also to the joint conduct of the war against Germany.

Thirdly, there would be a grave danger to American and world economy from Dewey's imperialistic economic program. This policy is essentially an American lone wolf course in the world markets. This is the significance of the Republican Party clinging to the high tariff policy, of their thinly disguised opposition to Secretary Hull's reciprocal trade agreements, of their opposition to the Bretton Woods financial decisions, and of their obvious intentions (see the writings of Eric Johnston) to seize what they can of the world's foreign trade on the basis of dog-eat-dog competition with other nations.

WOULD STIMULATE REACTION

Fourthly, a Dewey victory would be a serious danger to world democracy. A Dewey administration, playing an actively imperialist game in all corners of the earth, would stimulate reactionary forces everywhere and would enter into collaboration with them. This is the significance of Dewey's recent stunt (Herald Tribune Forum) in giving his support to the reactionary Polish Emigre Government in London. A Dewey administration, representing the victorious union-busters, anti-Semites, red-baiters, Soviet-haters, and native fascists of the United States, and seeking to establish American world domination, would be a poisonous menace to democracy throughout the world.

The danger of a Dewey victory, therefore, would not consist of a naive attempt to isolate the United States from the burning problems of the world. Quite the reverse. The danger would be a reckless imperialist course, seeking American domination, economically and politically at the expense of the rest of the world. Recently Henry Wallace referred to the powerful forces behind Dewey as "international freebooters," and that fits them exactly. Their reckless grab for power could only result in national and international breakdown and prepare the way for a new world war. That is why Dewey must be overwhelmingly defeated on Nov. 7 and the leadership of our Government left in the hands of Roosevelt, who may be relied upon to follow a constructive world policy of collaboration with the rest of the United Nations to win the war, to build a real world peace organization, to strengthen world democracy, and to set practically to work upon the economic reconstruction of the war-torn world.