

Communist Leader's Latest A Volume for the Millions

This is the first of a series of six articles on Earl Browder's new book, *Teheran*, by editors of the *Daily Worker*. Joseph Starobin's second article follows tomorrow, after which George Morris, labor editor, and Max Gordon, political editor, will discuss features of Browder's analysis in the light of current political issues.

By JOSEPH STAROBIN

For a great many readers of this paper, it might appear at first thought that there can be very little new in Earl Browder's new book on Teheran. We have been listening, it would seem, to these very ideas since the truly historic National Committee meeting of the now-dissolved Communist Party last January.

Of course, this fact alone—that many *Daily Worker* readers are familiar with Browder's ideas—would only mean that it is a book for those millions who do not read our paper.

Yet what struck me in reading the first few chapters was the really fresh and new insights that Browder provides. The book does not rewrite his previous speeches; more than that, it has condensed and so re-distilled the fundamental ideas of the Communist analysis that every thought has a unique and new formulation. It is like the kaleidoscope which refracts the light in new ways and combinations with each turn of the hand.

EXCITING BOOK

But I was aware that the merit and magnetic excitement of this book lie in more than just familiar things said in new, different ways.

The fact is that in writing this book, Browder is clearly rethinking, redefining his basic analysis. He is re-examining the Teheran accord. In so doing Browder finds new aspects, a new depth and richness in its immense perspectives.

The freshness results therefore from the vibrancy of a man who is thinking things through deeply. It is stimulating because it brings us into contact with a living example of creative thought directed toward creative action on behalf of the people and the nation—in a word, Marxist thought.

Browder writes in this book with a special fire and pride. If I may say so, he is proud of his analysis. He is excited about it. And the reader feels with him the tremendous excitement which arises from having discovered so soon after it happened the fundamental change of relations which the Anglo-Soviet-American coalition has undergone as a result of the Moscow and Teheran agreements.

THE MAGIC OF TEHERAN

I mean the changes from a military alliance, which until December, 1943, failed to produce a common military policy to a coalition based on a common military and political perspective for an indefinite period. What

was until the beginning of this year a loose alliance became a grouping of the most powerful nations in the world united on military and political policy for the entire postwar period. That is why so much more has happened in this half year since Teheran than in the previous two and a half years since June, 1941. All the problems which seemed so far from solution—in Europe especially, and the second front in particular—begin to solve themselves in a brief time.

This can only mean, says Browder, that something very fundamental happened at Teheran. An agreement, an agreed-upon, common policy, arising from large areas of common interest among the two diverse sections of the democratic world, the socialist and the capitalist.

A BRILLIANT SPOTLIGHT

It is this sense of discovery of something fundamental (not really discovery but valid analysis) which gives the first chapters of this book their unusual force and intellectual power. You cannot fail to be impressed with this forcefulness of Browder's thinking, the ruthlessness of his logic and therefore the fresh light that he throws on all sorts of questions.

Take the problem of why international cartels must disappear in postwar Europe on which so much has been written. Or take the distinctions between "Kuomintang" China and "Communist-led" China on which so little is known.

Browder tackles these matters in a very few sentences but always from basic propositions. These cartels will be dissolved at their European source by the rising forces of democracy because "only the new democratic Europe is capable of buying and selling on the world market and paying its bills in a fashion and on a scale necessary to fit, with America, into a single world order."

LOGIC ON CHINA

He applies the same thought to China, and finds in a few striking words that the necessities of American capitalism demand the defeat of landlordism, an end to usury, an end to parasitic growths upon Chinese economy which is exactly what Communist-led China stands for.

Putting things this way, puts them so essentially, so basically, and so definitely on the broad ground of American interest. No one else in so short a space and so early in this war has achieved such clarity.

And here is my final point by way of introducing this series by *Daily Worker* editors on Browder's new book.

That is, the tremendous drama and irony of the fact that it should have been Browder who first saw the new perspectives for America in a new world, put them between these two covers, and is getting millions of Americans to act upon them.

BREAKING DOWN BOGIES

So much of the book is concerned with breaking down anti-Communist prejudice as a condition for the realization of America's true world role. The job is still such a difficult one. Yet if men could only read and think about the fact that it had to be an American Communist who showed the way to America's future, and if men could act sensibly and fairly on this fact, how much easier everything would be, how much nobler the atmosphere of American political life!

A fine cartoon in this paper by Fred Ellis came to my mind. I think it was the day after Browder came out of his "enforced vacation" in Atlanta, a period which already dims in our minds. It showed Browder at the helm, like the captain of a ship facing a long voyage toward a sure port.

There was a smile of immense confidence on the man's countenance, as Ellis conceived it. You get that feeling, and share it in this book. It is not just an intellectual or political experience, but in the best sense of the word—an emotional one.

A firm hand on the helm, a sure chart, a destination that will be surely reached—this is what inspires you ir after laying down these pages. Not you as an individual, but as part of a great movement, of which Browder stands as the foremost leader.

So much for general ideas. In a succeeding piece, I should like to discuss the aggrieved issues confronting us in Latin America, from the viewpoint of some premises in Browder's book.