

EISENHOWER AND THE 4-POWER CONFERENCE

By WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

DURING the past few weeks a number of striking peace moves have been made by the USSR and People's China. Large and small, these have amounted, in sum, to a considerable easing of world tension. All this, of course, is most embarrassing to the Washington war camp, who are never happy unless the world is struggling in a crisis which could lead to the great war that Wall Street wants and is maneuvering to bring about.

Among the peace steps in question may be listed: the practical cease-fire in the Formosa straits, the developing negotiations between the USSR and Germany, Japan and France, the neutralization of Austria, the rapprochement between India and the USSR, the establishment of friendlier relations between the USSR and Yugoslavia, the release of several American prisoners by People's China, the issuance of entry visas by the Soviet Union to a flock of American newsmen, and various other similar steps. And most important has been the development of the proposal to hold a Big Four Conference.

It is highly significant that during this period, while the USSR and People's China have been actively developing their peace policy with important deeds, not a single step in this general direction was taken by the U.S. On the contrary, about all that the warmongers who are running our country have to offer is to announce in the daily press of June 12 that new ways have been found to produce bigger and more devastating hydrogen bombs for less money. For the Eisenhower Administration to take real steps toward peace would be against its working principles, which head for war.

THE ADMINISTRATION, clearly embarrassed by all the current peace moves of the countries of Socialism and peoples democracy has been almost thrown into a panic over the proposition of holding a Big Four conference to ease the world situation. At first, Eisenhower took a flat-footed stand against it, saying that there was no basis for such a meeting. Then, as the conference proposal gained ground, he countered it by stating that, at most it was a project for the distant future and that first a conference of foreign ministers would have to be held "to prepare the ground."

When the Big Four conference demand nevertheless be-



came irresistible, Eisenhower finally agreed to hold such a meeting, stating, however, that little could be expected from it, as about all it could do would be to "test out the sincerity of the Russians." The whole of the warmongering pack went full cry along this line, warning of the "danger" of expecting anything substantial to emerge from the projected four-power conference.

To further this deliberate sabotage, Eisenhower added the asininity that his arduous duties as President, in any event, would make it impossible for him to stay out of the country for more than a few days—obviously not long enough to conduct serious international negotiations.

THE ADMINISTRATION is mortally afraid that the Soviet representatives will come forward at the Big Four conference with drastic proposals for easing world tension, as they probably will. This eventuality is too disturbing for the warmongers to contemplate. It would knock their war plans into a cocked hat. So they are warning the world to be on guard against the "Russians bearing gifts." Eisenhower's hand-picked vice-president, the pro-fascist Nixon, is shouting to the skies (June 12 press) that the American people must beware of the "spectacularly conciliatory moves" that will in all probability be made by the Soviet delegates at the coming Big Four conference.

Never was the bankruptcy of aggressive Wall Street foreign policy more obvious than in the Administration's outrageous attempt to prevent, to limit, and to sabotage the Big Four gathering scheduled for July 18 in Geneva, Switzerland. The world's peoples, of course, observed these disgraceful shenanigans, and in consequence, U.S. diplomatic prestige once again hits the toboggan slide.

THE BIG FOUR conference is of immense importance to the peoples of the world, and not the least to the American people. The workers and other peaceloving masses must see to it that the conference is held, that the U.S. participates fully in it, that the gathering deals adequately with the most urgent questions now plaguing the world, and that it brings forth decisions that will definitely ease, if not eliminate these issues.

The Big Four conference, actively supported by the world peace forces, could go far towards ending the acute international tensions that we have come to call the cold war. The Wall Street warmongers and their Washington agents must not be allowed to sabotage or scuttle this momentous meeting.