

# The Voyage of Earl Browder

*Reprinted from late editions of Sunday's 'Worker.'*

IT IS not often that the doings of unofficial travelers are considered sufficiently exciting news for the front page of the New York Times. Travelers come and travelers go. Even the glamor girls of our Hollywood fairyland don't rate page one of our august contemporary.

But when Earl Browder Friday hopped the Atlantic Ocean for Stockholm, a tremor of excitement seized the Times whose reporter wrote:

"The projected visit to Russia by Mr. Browder gave rise to speculation that the 'invitation' must have been issued by the Soviet government, that he was welcome there, and that he would bring back with him a new 'party line' to be pursued by the Communist Party of the United States."

It is quite clear from this choice tidbit that the commercial press understands very clearly the conspiratorial motives of the Browder trip and knows quite well how to collaborate with Browder in his activities.

For the essence of the Browder trip is that it is one in a line of provocations intended to reinforce the typically reactionary falsehood that the American Communist Party has organizational connections abroad. It is intended to imply that the decisions of the American Communist Party are not based on an estimate of the social, political and class conditions in the United States, on the needs of the American working class and its progressive allies, but rather on some "line" handed down from abroad.

## The 'Foreign Interest' Lie

The Times, as do all other papers in our country controlled by big capital and devoted to its interests, systematically propagates this falsehood. When the American Communists, for example, fought against the Munich pact, it was the Times which could find no other retort to the logic of our position than to charge us with acting for a foreign interest.

As American Communists defend the welfare of the working class of which they are a part, the exploiters of labor fall back on the same stale accusation that it is a "foreign interest" which dictates the weird Communist notion that the American people can't live on meager wages and would like to find some way of avoiding the capitalist insanities of alternate boom and bust.

The proof of Browder's renegacy from working class policy is to be found in events, in history, in the expansionist and aggressive line now being so ruthlessly pursued by the makers of the nation's foreign policy. Browder tried to persuade the American working people that they could place their faith in Wall Street, that Wall Street trusts had become "progressive" by force of circumstance. He had preached the delusion that after the war, the big corporations of America could be taught the benefits of doubling workers' wages. To the colonial and Latin American peoples he had preached the benign intentions of an American imperialism "forced" to industrialize their lands in alliance with the democratic forces there.

If American class-conscious workers had continued to act under the paralyzing illusions of these anti-working class teachings, they would have been in no position to resist the onslaught of big capital on labor's living standards immediately after the war ended.

If the colonial peoples had been infected with Browder's hymn to Wall Street's benevolent intentions, there would be no anti-imperialist upsurge today throughout the colonial and Latin American countries.

The membership of the Communist Party debated Browder's views and rejected them on the basis of social and political realities in the United States. Browder was expelled by the membership because he would not accept the majority decision and intrigued against the unity of the Party.

The Party membership is today engaged in rousing their fellow-Americans to oppose the economic and political demands of the trusts to which the administration constantly gives way. The Party membership will understand why the capitalist press ballyhoos Browder.

It will redouble its vigilance and cement its unity behind the National Committee and the leadership of William Z. Foster on the basis of Marxist-Leninist science.