

Our position out here is we have an abundant supply of raw material and can manufacture everything needed in the United States, and do not have to go abroad to get it. We compete in Finland, Sweden, Germany; in fact, we transport right into the countries they do, in competition with them—into France, India, South American, and Buenos Aires. There is no question in my mind, and I think I speak for most everyone in the industry out here, that the situation is not so much what damage is done at the present time, but of the chaotic condition we are facing as our market drops off. We employ, in the two plants I have supervision over, about 200 to 250 men. We have good men; they have been with us for three or four years. They work hard and have the interests of the company at heart. Our market has dropped off to where we are facing a loss and losing money. We put it up to them to reduce wages and did, on the 1st of October, reduce wages 10 per cent for the higher class and 15 per cent on the common labor. The conditions have been about the same with the other mills on this coast. I can not say it is exactly due to the Russian pulpwood situation, because the general market and commodity prices are being affected to a great extent. We do think, I think everyone on the Pacific coast thinks, that the importation of the Russian pulpwood, as well as lumber, is a very serious detriment to our business. The CHAIRMAN. You would not ship any pulpwood to the east coast, would you?

Mr. ROBERG. Oh, yes; we ship there all the time.

The CHAIRMAN. By boat?

Mr. ROBERG. Yes; by boat. We ship 100,000 tons by boat a year.

The CHAIRMAN. To where?

Mr. ROBERG. In New York. We ship that much pulp a year. We have on order now 2,000 tons this month, for export to Portland, Baltimore, Philadelphia—all those eastern ports, and have a sale to the Gilman Paper Co., in Maine, of 5,000 tons right now.

The CHAIRMAN. It all goes by boat through the canal, does it not?

Mr. ROBERG. Yes. Of course, in order to get that back into Ohio, and in there, some of it goes to Baltimore and is back hauled. We haul it up to Sandusky and from there it goes to Baltimore and inland.

The CHAIRMAN. Your testimony is very enlightening, because there was a lot of testimony here this morning to the effect they were not shipping any.

Mr. ROBERG. Is that right? Who testified to that?

The CHAIRMAN. I would not want to give the name, even if I knew it, and I do not know it.

Mr. ROBERG. You must have misunderstood. Shaffer said that and you misunderstood, because he ships pulp there.

The CHAIRMAN. I do not think it was Mr. Shaffer. He said he shipped a good deal to the Middle West.

Mr. ROBERG. I think every company on this coast ships pulp to the Atlantic coast, outside of Spalding.

Mr. NELSON. What is true of pulp and timber is also true of innumerable items. We have the same threat in this country for any number of industries?

Mr. ROBERG. That is right.

Mr. NELSON. From the industrial rehabilitation of Russia?

Mr. ROBERG. Yes.

Mr. NELSON. With the expropriated material and cheap labor?

Mr. ROBERG. There is no question but something has to be done to meet it.

The CHAIRMAN. Thank you very much; we are glad to get the information. Now, is Mr. Fields here?

Mr. FIELDS. Yes.

TESTIMONY OF JOSEPH FIELDS

(The witness was duly sworn by the chairman.)

The CHAIRMAN. Give your full name.

Mr. FIELDS. Joe Fields.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you an American citizen.

Mr. FIELDS. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. Were you born in this country?

Mr. FIELDS. Born in San Francisco.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you connected with the Communist Party?

Mr. FIELDS. I am a member of the Communist Party.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you hold any official position?

Mr. FIELDS. Not in the Communist Party.

The CHAIRMAN. Have you always gone by the name of Fields?

Mr. FIELDS. No.

The CHAIRMAN. What was your other name?

Mr. FIELDS. Joseph E. Freed.

The CHAIRMAN. Did your people come from Russia?

Mr. FIELDS. No; my people are both American citizens.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you hold any position in the Communist Party?

Mr. FIELDS. No.

The CHAIRMAN. Or in the executive committee of the Communist Party or any committee of the Communist Party?

Mr. FIELDS. Not of the Communist Party.

The CHAIRMAN. How long have been a communist?

Mr. FIELDS. I have been a member of the party since April; a member of the Young Communist League since about a year ago.

The CHAIRMAN. How old are you?

Mr. FIELDS. Twenty.

The CHAIRMAN. Were you connected with the Socialist Party before?

Mr. FIELDS. No, I was not.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you connected with the Young Communist League?

Mr. FIELDS. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. In what position?

Mr. FIELDS. Within the Seattle unit I have been assigned to such work as educational work. That is, when we get young people who do not understand what form of government they have, they do not understand the capitalistic nature of the government; when we get young people who do not fully understand the rôle that the government plays in defending the capitalistic system, and do not understand the reason why there are 8,000,000 unemployed workers

in this country, why people are starving, why many of them have their clothes falling off of them in rags, then I do the work of—I have been assigned to the work, within the vicinity of Seattle, to see that these young fellows study and learn.

The CHAIRMAN. Who assigned you to this work?

Mr. FIELDS. The district committee of the league.

The CHAIRMAN. Where are their headquarters?

Mr. FIELDS. In Seattle.

The CHAIRMAN. Who is the head of that?

Mr. FIELDS. I do not know.

The CHAIRMAN. Who assigns you to the position, then?

Mr. FIELDS. There is no individual work. You are given decisions of committee. We are not individuals in the communist organization, we do not take orders from individuals, we take them from committees, and we do not necessarily know the names of the members of these committees.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you know Mr. Walker?

Mr. FIELDS. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. What is his position?

Mr. FIELDS. Mr. Walker is organizer of the Young Communist League, of district No. 12.

The CHAIRMAN. Does he give you your orders?

Mr. FIELDS. He does not; only the district committee. The communist party is not a party of certain individuals; it deals in organizations, talks in organizations, works in strong organizations, and, consequently, its committees must be organized and, when a worker joins the communist party, he is not an individual doing whatever he damn pleases.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you receiving pay for your work?

Mr. FIELDS. I am not.

The CHAIRMAN. Your position, then, is that of lecturer for the Young Communist League, is that right?

Mr. FIELDS. Well, not exactly a lecturer; my whole work is involved in trying to show—not so much to show them, as a sort of lead them the way to find out exactly what things are.

The CHAIRMAN. What is your business?

Mr. FIELDS. I have no business.

The CHAIRMAN. How do you live?

Mr. FIELDS. Well, I have worked at times; that is, I get spasmodic work.

The CHAIRMAN. You receive no pay for this and have no business: Where do you get your income?

Mr. FIELDS. Well, also I work spasmodically, wherever I can get a job. I can not get a permanent job because of the police terror, because of the black list. They tell me we have a democracy; you can believe what you please, but I believe if you try to think at all you do not keep a job. And because of the black list and because of the fact the police department has seemed to be protecting the big interests very well, so well that one of their men can come up and call me by my name and tell me I am summoned, and because there is such a direct relation between the interests and the police department, therefore I can not get a steady job any time I please.

The CHAIRMAN. Do you believe in our present form of government?

Mr. FIELDS. I do not know what you mean by "present form of government." If you mean by "present form of government," a government that is, as I say, defending the interests of the capitalists and beating up workers whenever they try to protest against misery and hunger, then, yes; I am opposed to such a government. I am opposed to all class governments, except where it is absolutely necessary; I am opposed to the dictatorship of the capitalist class, as we have it in the United States.

The CHAIRMAN. You are opposed to our representative form of government?

Mr. FIELDS. I am not opposed to representative form of government; I am very much in favor of representative form of government.

The CHAIRMAN. You are opposed to the American form of government?

Mr. FIELDS. I don't know what you mean by American form of government.

The CHAIRMAN. You know what our Government is in the United States, do you not?

Mr. FIELDS. But your question presumes, when you ask me whether I am opposed to the American form of government—your question can not be answered yes or no because you are presuming the American form of government is a really representative form of government.

The CHAIRMAN. I am not presuming anything; I am presuming it is just what it is. You know exactly what I mean when I ask you if you believe in our present existing American form of government.

Mr. FIELDS. No; I do not know what you mean.

The CHAIRMAN. You do not know what our form of government is, then?

Mr. FIELDS. I believe, at the present time, it is a Government which is supporting the interests of the capitalist class, and no matter what its form I am opposed to any government which is solely for the purpose of upholding the capitalists and keeping down and suppressing workers.

The CHAIRMAN. Then you are opposed to the present form of government?

Mr. FIELDS. That does not necessarily mean in regard to the form.

Mr. NELSON. You say where children do not understand their form of government you supply them certain lines of information?

Mr. FIELDS. Yes. That is the work I have been assigned to. We do not supply them information—

Mr. NELSON. Just a minute. Do you know of any country where men and women are freer and richer and happier than they are in the United States?

Mr. FIELDS. Yes; I do.

Mr. NELSON. Soviet Russia?

Mr. FIELDS. The Soviet Union.

Mr. NELSON. Have you been there?

Mr. FIELDS. I have not.

Mr. NELSON. Do you know what the wages are that are paid in Soviet Russia?

Mr. FIELDS. I have received very good information.

Mr. NELSON. What were they?

Mr. FIELDS. No real wages.

Mr. NELSON. What were they?

Mr. FIELDS. I can not talk in terms of nominal wages.

Mr. NELSON. Well, we had before us the highest authority of the Amtorg, Mr. Bogdanov, and I understand the wages in Russia are about 40 rubles a month, and the Russian ruble has depreciated from 60 cents to 17 cents.

Mr. FIELDS. You are talking about it. Do you know?

Mr. NELSON. Have you been to Russia?

Mr. FIELDS. I have not.

Mr. NELSON. Do you know the conditions under which the people are living?

Mr. FIELDS. I have very good information.

Mr. NELSON. Do you know what they get? Do you know what they give to workers?

Mr. FIELDS. Yes.

Mr. NELSON. How do you know?

Mr. FIELDS. I know because I read what is said; I study. I do not accept opinions.

Mr. NELSON. Do you think in Russia there is any representative government to-day?

Mr. FIELDS. There is a representative government as far as the workers of Russia are concerned; yes.

The CHAIRMAN. You believe that?

Mr. FIELDS. I do.

Mr. NELSON. Now, the textbooks you furnish these children, to set them right as to the principles of their own government, include, for instance, the "Communist Manifesto," by Karl Marx?

Mr. FIELDS. It includes the "Communist Manifesto," by Karl Marx, but I would not want you to assume that it only is that.

Mr. NELSON. Oh, no. I can tell you what it includes. It includes the "The A B C's of Communism," by Bucharin; the "Elements of Political Education," by Svetlov and Bernikov; "Communist Manifesto," by Karl Marx; "Communist Nucleus," by M. Jenks; "Value, Price, and Profit," by Karl Marx; "Wage, Labor, and Capital," by Karl Marx; "Program of the Young Communist Internationale"; "Imperialism," by Lenin; and "The State and the Revolution," by Lenin, does it not?

Mr. FIELDS. That is a small part of what we give them; that is not all inclusive.

Mr. NELSON. I can not take the whole curriculum, but those are the books you start with, are they not?

Mr. FIELDS. Not necessarily.

Mr. NELSON. If you do not want to say so, here is your own paper which says that.

Mr. FIELDS. The paper does not necessarily tell the whole story.

Mr. NELSON. All right. You are familiar with the "Communist Manifesto," are you not?

Mr. FIELDS. I am.

Mr. NELSON. And you place that in the hands of these young children?

Mr. FIELDS. I do—not I myself, but the party places it.

Mr. NELSON. And that "Communist Manifesto" urges the abolition of all ordered government, except that of the soviet system, does it not?

Mr. FIELDS. It does not.

Mr. NELSON. It advises the abolition of private property?

Mr. FIELDS. Have you read the complete "Communist Manifesto"?

Mr. NELSON. Well, does it, or does it not? Do not you know what the "Communist Manifesto" says?

Mr. FIELDS. I certainly do.

Mr. NELSON. Who wrote it?

Mr. FIELDS. Karl Marx.

Mr. NELSON. Who helped him?

Mr. FIELDS. Frederick Ingalls.

Mr. NELSON. When did he write it?

Mr. FIELDS. In 1848.

Mr. NELSON. What does it abolish?

Mr. FIELDS. It certainly does—

Mr. NELSON. What does it abolish?

Mr. FIELDS. Private property.

Mr. NELSON. What else?

Mr. FIELDS. The capitalist dictatorship.

Mr. NELSON. What else?

Mr. FIELDS. Those are the main things it abolishes.

Mr. NELSON. Maybe so, in your mind. In the first place, it abolishes private property?

Mr. FIELDS. Yes.

Mr. NELSON. It abolishes religion?

Mr. FIELDS. It enlightens the workers as to what religion is.

Mr. NELSON. Doesn't it say it abolishes religion?

Mr. FIELDS. It does not.

Mr. NELSON. Does it not abolish the family?

Mr. FIELDS. It does not.

Mr. NELSON. Does it not abolish marriage?

Mr. FIELDS. It does not.

Mr. NELSON. Does it not abolish the right to property in land?

Mr. FIELDS. It abolishes private property.

Mr. NELSON. Does it not abolish patriotism?

Mr. FIELDS. It does not.

Mr. NELSON. Does it not abolish all countries and nationalities?

Mr. FIELDS. It does.

Mr. NELSON. That is the way you start them off?

Mr. FIELDS. That is not the way we start them. How many times have I tried to tell you it is not an all-inclusive list?

Mr. BACHMANN. Are you a student of the University of Washington?

Mr. FIELDS. I have been.

Mr. BACHMANN. You are not now?

Mr. FIELDS. No; graduated.

Mr. BACHMANN. When did you graduate?

Mr. FIELDS. 1925—in 1929; pardon me, I was thinking of high school.

Mr. BACHMANN. What are you seeking to accomplish through your organization of the Young Pioneers?

Mr. FIELDS. I do not belong to the Young Pioneers.

Mr. BACHMANN. The Young Communist League?

Mr. FIELDS. I am not seeking any personal gains for myself; that is, having saw the rottenness and misery and poverty—

Mr. BACHMANN. You said all that before; I do not want to repeat that in the record. What are you seeking to accomplish?

Mr. FIELDS. But this is part of my answer.

Mr. BACHMANN. I want to know what you, yourself, and the party you belong to are seeking to accomplish in the United States?

Mr. FIELDS. The Communist Party is seeking to accomplish in the United States the removal of the workers from hunger, misery, and poverty that exists under the capitalistic dictatorship; it seeks to establish—we seek to establish—a society for all classes.

Mr. BACHMANN. How are you going to accomplish it?

Mr. FIELDS. We are going to accomplish it through the organization of the workers.

Mr. BACHMANN. In what way?

Mr. FIELDS. Well, there are various types of organizations of the workers. In the first place, we urge the workers to organize in the economic field.

Mr. BACHMANN. Stop right there: After you get them organized, how are you going to accomplish it?

Mr. FIELDS. After we get the people organized, we attempt to get them organized in various fields.

Mr. BACHMANN. After you get them organized, how are you going to accomplish your purpose?

Mr. FIELDS. Well, there are various means. When we get the working class behind us, or, rather, we, of course, ourselves, can not do anything; we are scientific; that is, we do not set up a dogmatic program, which we say to the workers, "Now, you accept this program"; rather we follow the trend of history and we know that under certain circumstances the workers are going to protest against the hunger and the misery and poverty—

Mr. BACHMANN. Is it not a fact that what you are seeking to accomplish is to take over the government we have in the United States and substitute in its place the Soviet form of government; is not that the fact? Now, you can answer that yes or no.

Mr. FIELDS. We want the workers to have a workers' and farmers' government.

Mr. BACHMANN. Is it not a fact you are seeking to substitute the Soviet form of government in this country for our present form of government, whatever it may be?

Mr. FIELDS. We are seeking to have a workers' and farmers' government instead of a capitalistic government.

Mr. BACHMANN. And, to establish that in the place of the present government?

Mr. FIELDS. What do you mean by "in place of the present government"? Whenever the Democratic Party comes in, don't you have a complete change of government? You have different men.

Mr. BACHMANN. You understand what I mean by that. I said you are seeking to establish the Soviet form of government. We do not have the Soviet form of government, whether it be the Democratic Party in power or the Republican Party in power.

Mr. FIELDS. Perfectly true.

Mr. BACHMANN. You know I am not talking about that; now answer my question. I said you are seeking to substitute here, in this country, the Soviet form of government in place of the present government; is not that the fact?

Mr. FIELDS. If by "soviet government" you mean a government controlled by the working class, which think of the interests of the working class, yes.

Mr. BACHMANN. Well, you could have answered that before without any trouble, could you not?

Mr. FIELDS. Not until I get your meaning clear.

Mr. BACHMANN. To what extent are you going to substitute the workers' government for the present form of government? Are you going to use force and violence, if necessary, to bring that about?

Mr. FIELDS. No; we do not believe in violence. As I said before, we believe in a scientific approach to these subjects; that is, we do not believe in clubbing people and beating them into senselessness.

Mr. ESLICK. You say your father and mother were born in the United States?

Mr. FIELDS. No; they were not born in the United States.

Mr. ESLICK. What nationality are they?

Mr. FIELDS. My father is a naturalized citizen of Italian descent; my mother is a naturalized citizen of Armenian descent, and I was born in this country.

The CHAIRMAN. Is Mr. Laurie here?

Mr. LAURIE. Yes.

TESTIMONY OF JOHN LAURIE

(The witness was duly sworn by the chairman.)

The CHAIRMAN. What is your full name?

Mr. LAURIE. John Laurie.

The CHAIRMAN. Are you a member of the Communist Party?

Mr. LAURIE. Yes.

The CHAIRMAN. You are an American citizen?

Mr. LAURIE. No; I am a naturalized citizen.

The CHAIRMAN. Well, you are an American citizen?

Mr. LAURIE. I am an American citizen; yes.

The CHAIRMAN. When were you naturalized?

Mr. LAURIE. Oh, about six years ago.

The CHAIRMAN. From what country do you come?

Mr. LAURIE. Scotland.

The CHAIRMAN. Where were you naturalized?

Mr. LAURIE. In the city of Seattle?

The CHAIRMAN. You have lived here ever since?

Mr. LAURIE. I have lived here 22 years.

The CHAIRMAN. When did you join the Communist Party?