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Treasury Name Used To Aid Red Fund Drive

By FREDERICK WOLTMAN,
World-Telegram Staff Writer.

The Communists over the last week have been using the name of the Treasury Department to promote a rally here Sunday which was called for the express purpose of launching a fund-raising drive for the Daily Worker, official Communist organ, it was learned today.

In the Daily Worker, edited by Earl Browder, and elsewhere the Communists have been announcing that the Treasury Department had supplied a "main speaker" for the rally, to talk on Bretton Woods.

In fact, they have been playing up the participation of the "Treasury official," the only speaker announced who is not an old-time Communist party wheelhorse, the others being Mr. Browder, Robert Minor, Louis Budenz, Gilbert Green, etc.

Treasury Aid Explains.

Meanwhile, in Washington today, Randolph Filtus, technical assistant to Secretary of the Treasury Henry Morgenthau Jr. insisted that the Treasury Department had not supplied a speaker but merely had proposed one as a result of a letter sent Mr. Morgenthau by the Worker.

He added that the Treasury had been unaware of the money-raising aspect of the rally and that he was going to call the Daily Worker in New York right away and tell them "we are not furnishing or sponsoring the speaker."

"We don't want to accuse anyone of being inaccurate," Mr. Filtus said, "but naturally we are not going to take part in any fund-raising campaign, whether for the Republicans, Democrats or Communists."

Originally the Treasury had

proposed Arthur C. Bunce, agricultural economist for the Board of Governors, Federal Reserve System. The Worker Tuesday ran the announcement under the headline: "Press Parley to Hear Treasury Official."

Mr. Bunce learned yesterday that he couldn't keep the date, according to Mr. Filtus, so the Treasury gave the Worker the name of seven other possible speakers over the telephone. The one who agreed to substitute was Dr. Mabel Newcomer, economist of Vassar College, who was this government's only woman delegate to the United Nations Monetary and Financial Conference last year.

Speaker To Be Warned.

"I will also call Professor Newcomer," Mr. Filtus said, "and tell her if she goes to the meeting it will be on her own responsibility and not as a representative of the Treasury Department."

"I want to make it plain no one had any authority to say the Treasury was furnishing a 'main speaker.' Neither Mr. Bunce nor Dr. Newcomer would be going at the behest of the Treasury."

The Daily Worker last month announced formation of a Sponsoring Committee of the Daily Worker 1945 Fund Campaign, headed by Rockwell Kent and composed mostly of party stalwarts and open fellow travelers, such as Dr. Bella V. Dodd, Max Bedacht, Rep. A. Clayton Powell Jr., Frederick V. Field, Dr. Harry F. Ward and the Rev. William Howard Melish of the Church of the Holy Trinity, Brooklyn.

Frisco Linked Up.

Then the Communists' strategists decided to link the fund-raising campaign with the momentous issues of the San Francisco Conference and called a "Conference on World Security and the People" at Tom Mooney Hall, 13 Astor Pl., next Sunday.

In an editorial yesterday the Worker said the rally's purpose "is specifically to give impetus to the financial drive. . ." "No less of a contribution to an understanding of issues will be made by Arthur C. Bunce of the Treasury Department. . ." it added.

The Worker's letter to Secretary Morgenthau, said Mr. Filtus, made no mention of fund-raising. "It simply pointed out," he said "that the death of President Roosevelt and the elevation of Mr. Truman to the Presidency made it essential for everyone to pull together."