FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION

COVER SHEET

SUBJECT: ORSON WELLES
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION

SUBJECT: ORSON WELLES

FILE NUMBER: 100-23438
General Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice

New York, N. Y.  
March 24, 1941

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

DECLASSIFIED BY: D.E.  
DK. 5-27-31

2/2/32

Dear Sir:

I am transmitting, for the Bureau's information and inclusion in its files, confidential reports on Orson Welles and [redacted] which I obtained from confidential sources known to the Bureau.

These reports will be submitted by the Dies Committee in the near future.

Copies of this material are being routed to Mr. Connelley for inclusion in the files relating to national defense matters.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

B. E. ROCKETT  
Special Agent in Charge

Encls:  
Registered Mail  
cc-Mr. Connelley, Encls
Information has been received confidentially to the effect that
the Dies Committee has collected and correlated information concerning
the alleged Communist activities and connections of Orson Welles and
It is reported that Mr. Dies intends to give publicity to the alleged Communist connections of these individuals in the near future.

For your information the Dies Committee has collected data indicating that Orson Welles is associated with the following organizations, which are said to be Communist in character:

Negro Cultural Committee
Foster Parents' Plan for War Children
Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy
Theatre Arts Committee
Motion Picture Artists Committee
The Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo
Workers Bookshop
American Youth Congress
New Vassos
People's Forum
Workers Bookshop Mural Fund
League of American Writers
American Student Union.

The Dies Committee has collected information indicating that
is connected with the following organizations, which are alleged to be affiliated with the Communist Party:

American Peace Crusade
COMM. American Peace Mobilization
Memorandum for Mr. McGuire

Conference on Constitutional Liberties in America
Consumers Union
First Congress of the Mexican and Spanish American Peoples of the United States
Hollywood League for Democratic Action
National Federation for Constitutional Liberties
New Masses
New Theatre.

The Bureau's files contain considerable information concerning the subversive activities of [redacted]. His activities have been known to the Bureau for several years. The Bureau also has information relative to the alleged subversive activities of Orson Welles.

I wanted you to have the benefit of this information in order that you might be kept advised of matters of this kind.

Very truly yours,

J. Edgar Hoover

John Edgar Hoover
Director
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-23-36 BY SPECIFIC COL.

CHANGED TO

DEC 14 1955

Mg
May 5, 1942

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-27-86 BY SP86T310

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: THE FREE COMPANY
George Orson Welles, William Saroyan,
George M. Cohan, thermostat, Anderson,
Archibald MacLeish, Harry Connell,
Stephen Vincent Benet, Maxwell Anderson,
James Boyd, Robert B. Sherwood, Paul
Flint, Green; Sponsors;
INTERNAL SECURITY - C.

Reference is made to the memorandum dated April 30, 1941,
of Mr. Fendick to Mr. Tolson concerning the organization of a group
known as The Free Company consisting of a group of prominent writers
and Hollywood and stage stars which is presenting a series of thirteen
radio plays dealing with Civil Liberties over the Columbia Broadcasting
System. Pursuant to your recent request there is incorporated
herein a summary of all pertinent information available in the files
of the Bureau with respect to The Free Company and all persons known
to be associated therewith.

Under date of March 1, 1941, the Department forwarded to
the Bureau a number of notices announcing that The Free Company was
presenting a series of radio plays dealing with Civil Liberties over
the Columbia Broadcasting System, that these programs are broadcast
every Sunday from 2 to 2:30 P.M. over Station WJSY in Washington,
D.C. The initial announcement of the formation of The Free Company
was contained in an Associated Press release under date of January 25, 1941,
at New York. In this announcement, which appeared in the Washington
Sunday Star of January 26, 1941, James Boyd, novelist, was reported
as stating that a group of American writers and playwrights had formed
The Free Company to prepare dramatic broadcasts as a counter-attack
against foreign propaganda. The announcement continued that "the
effectiveness of hostile propaganda is greater here than generally
thought" and the alleged aims of this group were contained in the
following statement: "So far most effort in this country has been
directed to attacks on that (hostile) propaganda. But the best defense would be positive restatements in moving terms of our own beliefs. This article identified the following individuals as those preparing the nationwide broadcast: Robert E. Sherwood, Orson Welles, and Archibald MacLeish. Other members of the group reportedly are Harry Caudell, William Saroyan, Russell Anderson, Stephen Vincent Benét, Paul Green, Sherwood Anderson (Coxed), George M. Cohen and James Boyd.

Numerous newspaper articles appearing in the Bureau files indicate that the American Legion has seriously concurred itself with the broadcasts of The Free Company and has charged them with being un-American and communistically sponsored. The Legion bitterly objected to Orson Welles’s recent radio script entitled "The Honor of Mayor," which one Legion post in California termed "encouraging radicalism." Spokesmen for the American Legion charged that the broadcasts were subversive in nature and definitely communistic in character although camouflaged by constant reference to democracy and free speech.

In a newspaper column entitled "It’s Here To Stay" by Herb Cen, which appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle on April 15, 1941, the position taken by the American Legion with respect to the broadcasts of The Free Company was bitterly criticized. This columnist describes The Free Company as being a group of leading American playwrights who write original plays without fee and asserts that it has been in the United States Justice Department and that the Columbia Broadcasting Company maintains consistent contact with the Department of Justice on each program. Herb Cen also asserts that James Boyd, who supervises the program, was formerly employed by the Department of Justice to work up a series of programs to fight foreign propaganda. In this column it is contained the statement that the Immigration Bureau and the Federal Bureau of Investigation are cooperating with The Free Company and have "endorsed the series." (94-1-21373) (94-1-20975)

The above data constitute the only information in the files of the Bureau with respect to The Free Company. There is set forth below a summary of information on hand with respect to the above identified sponsors and associates of The Free Company.
GEORGE CECIL WELLES

Welles was born May 6, 1915, at Kenosha, Wisconsin. His New York address is 1450 Broadway. According to the current issue of "Who's Who In America" Welles has been connected with theatrical work since 1931. He acted with the Gate Theatre in Dublin, Ireland, in 1931 and 1932. He has done considerable touring with actors of note and in 1937 founded the Mercury Theatre in New York at which time he became a director and producer. In 1938 he associated himself with the radio entertainment industry and in 1939 became a producer, writer and director for R.K.O. Radio pictures. He is a member of the Actors Equity Association and The American Federation of Radio Artists.

According to items appearing in the Daily Worker issues of June 23, 1938, and July 19, 1938, subject is listed among a group including Earl Browder, William Z. Foster and other prominent individual sponsors of a celebration to honor the 76th birthday of Mother Ella Bloor on July 31. (61-7658-2948#9; 61-7658-69X6)

An item appearing in the December 19, 1938, issue of the Daily Worker contains a statement of Ben Irwin concerning charges of a Dies Committee witness, Miss Hazel Huffman, that the New Theatre League has affiliations with Moscow. Irwin states that the New Theatre League Advisory Council includes Welles. (61-7658-3406X5)

A news item appearing in the New York Times issue of January 17, 1939, states that Welles was among the signers of a petition protesting the dismissal of 1500 employees of the WPA Federal Arts Project. Other signers included Franchot Tone, Sylvia Sidney, Robert Benchley, Fredric March, Lionel Stander and Rockwell Kent. (61-7651-157X9)

On page 730 of volume 1 of the Dies Committee report appears a statement that Welles addressed an audience of the Federal Theatre play "The Cradle Will Rock." (61-7582)

Welles has written stories which were apparently for the movies and that the subject matter was considered too far to the left to be used at the time by the studio. He also states that R.K.O. was reported to have paid Welles approximately $100,000 in 1938 and 1939.
It was ascertained by the New York office in March, 1941, that an investigation had been conducted on Communism in the motion pictures industry and that a number of individual reports were being prepared, apparently by the Dies Committee, giving the evidence collected. An exhibit of the report on Orson Welles as supporting Spanish Benefit Work under the direction of the Communist Party. (100-2213-2)

Made available information which reflected that Welles' name appeared as a member of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties in the active indices of this organization. It appeared that the names in the indices were those of persons interested in social legislation who might participate in a national lobby against legislation objected to by the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties. (100-1170-49)

A news item appearing in the March 29, 1941, issue of The Peoples' World states that "a big Bridges defense committee outside the unions" has established its offices in New York City "for the duration of the trial" with Orson Welles as a moving spirit. (38-915-971)

WILLIAM SAROYAN

Concerning William Saroyan little information is at hand with respect to this person's activities. According to "Who's Who in America" he was born in Fresno, California, August 31, 1905. He was educated in the public schools of Fresno and is unmarried. His occupation is listed as that of author and he has a number of books and plays to his credit. He is listed also as being a contributor to such magazines as "American Mercury," "Esquire," the now defunct "Vanity Fair" and others. His present address is given as San Francisco, California.
Saroyan has been very active in Communist Party circles. Saroyan spoke at a dinner held by the "Committee of Publishers for American Writers in Exile" at the Hotel Commodore in November, 1939, which turned out to be an extreme left wing affair.

Later, more literary figures at the last moment refused to participate in the activities of this group when they learned that it was a Communist front affair. All of the speakers at this meeting were in one way or another known front people for the Communist Party. (61-7506-2006)

GEORGE W. COHAN

The full name of Mr. Cohan is George Michael Cohan and according to "Who's Who In America" he was born July 4, 1878, in Providence, Rhode Island. He has been associated with the stage since he was nine years of age and has become an outstanding success as an actor and comedian. He formerly was married to Ethel Levy, actress, and married again to Agnes Nolan of Boston, Massachusetts. Mr. Cohan belongs to the Friars and the New York Athletic Club.

An examination of the files of the Bureau with respect to Mr. Cohan fails to reflect any derogatory information concerning him nor was a search productive of any indication of his being associated with left wing organizations. Mr. Cohan, however, is listed as a member of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties according to the active indices of this organization. This information was made available by

George W. Cohan is president of the "Catholic Actors Guild of America" with headquarters at the Hotel Astor, New York. This organization is thoroughly reputable according to inquiries made at New York and as a matter of interest the Director was a member of the Advisory Board of this organization under the Chairmanship of Honorable Edward Rulcooney, according to the September, 1938, issue of the publication of the Catholic Actors Guild of America.

(94-3-4-595-1; 94-1-19122-1)
George M. Cohen received a highly prized award offered by
the Penn Athletic Club for outstanding achievement and in February,
1937, this same award was offered to the Director and accepted on
March 4, 1937. (94-1-2372-LX)

SHERWOOD ANDERSON

Sherwood Anderson was born at Camden, Ohio, on February
15, 1876. He received his education in the public schools of Camden,
Ohio, and married Eleanor C. Anderson. Anderson was an author and had
published a considerable amount of books and verse. His latest address
was Farmville, Virginia. In view of Mr. Anderson's death in the spring
of 1941, no additional information is being set forth concerning him
at this time.

ARCHIBALD MACLEISH

Archibald MacLeish was born in Glencoe, Illinois, on May 7,
1892, the son of Andrew and Marthaillard MacLeish. He attended
Hotchkiss School at Lakeville, Connecticut, and received an A. B.
Degree from Yale in 1915 and an L.L. B. Degree from Harvard in 1919.
He received an honorary M. A. Degree from Tufts in 1932 and honorary
Litt. D. Degrees from Wesleyan and Colby in 1938. He married the
He enlisted as a private in the United States Army in June, 1917, and
was discharged with the rank of Captain in February, 1919.

From 1924 to date he has written considerable verse and
poetry. In 1932 he won the Pulitzer Poetry Prize of $1,000 for his
poem entitled "Conquistador." At one time MacLeish was editor of
"Fortune" and in the past has been a frequent contributor to "The Nation."

An anonymous outside source reports that MacLeish in August,
1936, was a sponsor of the League for Southern Labor. In November,
1928, he was one of numerous endorsers of an open letter from the
American Civil Liberties Union to the presidential and vice-presiden-
tial candidates, urging them to make at least one public announcement
on the issues with reference to domestic liberties in the United States.
In January, 1937, he was a member of the National Citizens Committee for
Civil Rights in the automobile industry, sponsored by the American Civil
Liberties Union.
Macleish was a member of a sponsoring committee which hailed the ratification of the draft of a new Soviet constitution by the Congress of Soviets at a meeting held at the Hotel Edison, New York City, on December 5, 1938. On June 4, 1937, he spoke at a meeting sponsored by the American Writers Congress to aid Spain. This meeting, which was held at Carnegie Hall, New York City, also had as speakers Earl Browder, Donald Ogden Stewart, Senator Gerald P. Nye, Congressman John T. Bernard and Ernest Hemingway. A confidential source indicates that the League of American Writers is closely affiliated with the Communist Party.

During the Spanish Civil War, MacLeish was active in support of the Loyalist cause. He commanded the Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy and its work in securing medical aid for the Spanish people. He was a sponsor of the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, a member of the committee sponsoring the American Friends of Spanish Democracy, a sponsor of the Spanish Refugee Relief Campaign, and one of 78 writers who issued a joint appeal for lifting the Spanish embargo.

Macleish sent a congratulatory message to 40 prominent German-American novelists, playwrights and newspapermen, who met on October 7, 1938, to organize the German-American Writers Association. This association, according to a confidential source of information, is Communist controlled.

Macleish was one of 58 editors, publishers, religious leaders and liberals who signed a petition of the American Civil Liberties Union requesting President Roosevelt to personally intervene in preventing the barring of John Strachey from the United States. Strachey, a British Leftist author and lecturer, was detained at Ellis Island, New York, on his arrival from England on October 10, 1938, and was released two weeks later under a $500 bond and injunction to deliver no lectures.

Macleish was scheduled to speak at a Conference for Peace and Democracy at the Copley Methodist Episcopal Church, Boston, Massachusetts, on December 18, 1938. He was one of the directors of History Today, incorporated, which sponsored a motion picture in March, 1939, called "The 400,000,000," which told of China's fight against Japanese aggression.
MacLeish's nomination for the post of librarian of the Library of Congress by President Roosevelt in the spring of 1939 was attacked in Congress by Representative J. Parnell Thomas who opposed MacLeish's nomination by contending MacLeish was one of the leading fellow-travelers of the Communists. Representative Thomas stated that in 1937 the Communist Party set up a united front organization known as the League of American Writers and that MacLeish was one of 23 signers of a "call" to the Congress of 1937 which established this league. Of the 23 signers, he said 12 were well-known Communists and some of the others were equally well known as fellow-travelers. He pointed out that earlier in June, 1939, the League held its annual congress in New York City, where its leading visiting speaker from abroad was one Louis Aragon, editor of a French Communist newspaper. Representative Thomas also stated that MacLeish was a member of such Communist-controlled organizations as the Medical Bureau to Aid Spanish Democracy, the American Youth Congress, and the Motion Picture Artists Spanish Aid. However, MacLeish's nomination was subsequently confirmed by the Senate.

MacLeish was scheduled to address the fourth annual conference of the American Committee for the Protection of the Foreign Born held at the Annapolis Hotel, Washington, D. C., early in March, 1940.

MacLeish resides at 1620 33rd Street, N. W., Washington, D. C.

MARCO CONNELLY

Marco Connelly, a playwright, was born December 15, 1890, at McKeesport, Pennsylvania. According to "Who's Who in America" Marco Connelly, who apparently has written contributions under the nom de plume of Marcus Cock, became a reporter in 1910 for the Pittsburgh Sun and subsequently became a writer and contributor of numerous columns and articles to various magazines. He has written lyrics for several musical comedies. Connelly was listed as being director and treasurer of the Dramatists Guild of Authors' League of America and is an ex-president of Authors' League of America, and is a member of the Institute of Arts and Letters. He has written some outstanding plays, notably "The Green Pastures" which won the Pulitzer award in 1930. His New York address is given as 25 Central Park West, New York, New York.

Marco Connelly is a member of the Authors' League of America, 9 East 33rd Street, New York City, and was president of this organization in 1936 and 1937. As a matter of interest the Authors' League of
America published an organ entitled "Authors' League Bulletin" which concerned itself with opposing what it considered to be repressive and reactionary legislation. (61-7551-34)

In the New York Times book review of May 9, 1937, it was reported that a congress of American writers from all parts of the country planned to meet in New York in June, 1937, to discuss professional problems in relation to national and international events. This congress was sponsored by the "League of American Writers" and the call to the meeting was signed by Marc Connelly, Archibald MacLeish and others. Forwarded information received indicating that this congress was to be run by people close to the Communist Party. (61-7566-430)

According to a news item appearing in the Sunday Worker of January 15, 1939, Connelly wrote an article "on the broad aspects of the Federal Theatre's work" which appeared in the magazine "Tao." (61-7561-254X36, page 5)

On January 15, 1939, Marc Connelly addressed a group attending a dinner of the New York Urban League, according to the Daily Record of January 16, 1939. This news item reported that this meeting was devoted to the discussion of the contribution Negroes as a "minority group in America had to offer in the war against intolerance and the struggle to serve democracy." Other speakers reportedly pleased for national tolerance at this meeting. (61-7563-69X75)

Marc Connelly appeared as a member of the Advisory Board of an organization known as "Films For Democracy," 342 Madison Avenue, New York, New York, on a letterhead prepared and distributed by this group in February, 1939. This letter explained the aims of the organization as being a non-profit group organized for the purpose of producing films to instill a love for democracy and to make the world conscious of "barbarous vandalism and intolerance." Reported at this time that the group "Films For Democracy" was an organization made up of "genuine liberals and radical fellow-travelers." He described the group as being a propaganda vehicle for radicalism. (61-7566-1327)

In September, 1939, Marc Connelly associated himself with an organization known as "The National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners," the name of which organization was subsequently
changed to the "National Committee for People's World," according to information received from Post Office Inspector in Charge M. H. Ackerman, Atlanta, Georgia. Here Connelly's name appears on the letterhead of this organization. (61-7566-1357)

According to a news item appearing in the "People's World" of November 21, 1938, Connelly signed a letter to the President on November 20, 1938, demanding an embargo on Nazi trade.
(100-7688-36; 61-7559-3385X1) (61-7661-246X9)

STEPHEN VINCENT BENET

Mr. Benet was born July 22, 1898, at Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. According to the current issue of Who's Who in America, Benet received his Master and Doctor of Letters Degree at Yale University. He is an author and poet and has written a considerable number of books, the most notable being the book of verse entitled "John Brown's Body," which won the Pulitzer Prize in 1928. In 1933 he was awarded a gold medal by the Roosevelt Memorial Association. He is an Episcopalian and a member of Kolfs Head and the American Academy of Arts and Letters. He is a member of the Elizabethan Club, the Coffee House and the Century Club. He married Rosemary Carr of Chicago on November 26, 1920, and has three children. His mailing address is in care of Brandt and Brandt, 101 Park Avenue, New York, New York.

Concerning Mr. Benet the files of the Bureau contain little information. He was listed as one of the sponsors of a campaign conducted in March, 1938, by the Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade to raise funds for the purpose of rehabilitating Americans who were wounded in the Spanish Civil War. This information appeared in a news item contained in an article in the Daily Worker of March 22, 1938.
(61-7561-27666)

MAXWELL ANDERSON

Maxwell Anderson, who is listed as an author and a playwright in the current Who's Who in America, was born December 15, 1888, at Atlantic, Pennsylvania. Anderson received his Bachelor of Arts Degree at the University of North Dakota and his Masters Degree at Stanford. He taught school in North Dakota and California, and subsequently did newspaper work. He wrote a number of plays and books, many of which were outstanding successes. He wrote, in collaboration with Laurence
Stallings, the play "What Price Glory" in 1924. His home is in New York City.

Maxwell Anderson's play "What Price Glory," which was produced in 1924, was the subject of considerable criticism by those who believed that it ridiculed the United States Service Corps. (43-161-2)

In August, 1937, Mr. and Mrs. Maxwell Anderson were representatives at large at a Spanish Fiesta held on the estate of A. Zukor, New City, New York. On this occasion Mrs. de los Rios, Spanish Ambassador to the United States, spoke. Funds collected at this affair were planned to be given to the distressed children in Spain according to a New York Times article appearing in the August 9, 1937, issue. (61-7666-636)

In the April 9, 1938, issue of the Daily Worker it was reported that Maxwell Anderson had signed a petition sponsored by the American Friends of Spanish Democracy appealing that an end be brought to the then existing arms embargo against Spain. (61-7661-206X)

In May, 1938, Mr. Anderson publicly defended the Loyalist position in Spain and was quoted in the press as so doing. Anderson joined appeals for support of the Spanish Republic in February, 1939, according to the Daily Record of February 4, 1939, and February 7, 1939. (61-7661-201X1; 61-7661-257X16-39)

According to the Daily Worker of November 5, 1938, Maxwell Anderson was reported as being a member of the "Committee to Serve Spain and China." (100-17826-215)

Maxwell Anderson was identified as being a sponsor of the group known as the "Spanish Intellectual Aid" headed by Louis Bromfield according to a release dated April 29, 1939, issued by the Spanish Relief Refugees Campaign, 581 4th Avenue. This latter group conducted a campaign for $1,000,000 for the purpose of aiding 400,000 Spanish refugees in France to establish themselves in Latin American countries. (61-7661-269X6)

According to Post Office Inspector in Charge M. R. Ackerman, Atlanta, Georgia, Maxwell Anderson, in September, 1939, was listed as a member of the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners, the name of which was afterwards changed to the National Committee for Peoples' Rights. (100-1170-49)
He was a national sponsor of the American Rescue Ship Mission which proposed to send Spanish Loyalist refugees from Casa Blanca, French Morocco, to Mexico according to a letterhead of this group dated December 31, 1940. (100-11660-15, page 72)

**JAMES BOYD**

James Boyd who is the only author among persons of this name appearing in the 1940-41 "Who's Who In America" was born in Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, July 2, 1888, and is the son of John Yeoman Boyd and Eleanor Gilmore Boyd. It is not known whether this individual is identical with the person of the same name who is the sponsor of the Free Company.

The above-mentioned Boyd graduated from Hill School, Pottstown, Pennsylvania, in 1906; Princeton University in 1918, and Trinity College, Cambridge University, 1912. He married Katharine Lenon of New York City December 15, 1917, to whom were born three children, James, Daniel Lenon, and Nancy. He served as First Lieutenant in the United States Army in France during the World War, is a member of the Society of Cincinnati and is a member of the Coffee House, a club of New York. He is the author of the following books:

Drums - 1925
Marching On - 1927
Long Hunt - 1930
Roll River - 1935
Bitter Creek - 1939

Boyd's home is given as Southern Pines, North Carolina.

Through the office of the Chief Clerk of the Bureau it was ascertained that a Mr. James Boyd is connected with the Immigration and Naturalization Service of the Department in the capacity of Assistant Director. It was not deemed advisable to pursue additional inquiries concerning this person at the present time. It is not known whether Boyd of the Department is identical with the sponsor of the Free Company.

James W. Boyd, I, who is a member of the Alpha Xi Chapter of the Kappa Alpha Fraternity of Berkeley, California, extended an
invitation to the Director by letter of October 8, 1939, to visit
the Alpha Xi Chapter during a visit of the Director to the West Coast.
No further information on this James Boyd is contained in the Bureau
files. It is not known whether this individual is identical with
James Boyd, sponsor of the Free Company. (62-12188-2148X5)

ROBERT B. SHERWOOD

Robert B. Sherwood, a writer, was born at New Rochelle,
New York, April 4, 1896, and attended Harvard University from 1914 to
1917. In October, 1922, he married Mary Brandon of Indianapolis,
Indiana, to whom one daughter, Mary Jane, was born. In June, 1935,
he married his second wife Madeline Burbank of Fredericksburg, Maryland.
He was dramatic editor of "Vanity Fair" from 1929 to 1920; Associate
Editor of "Life" from 1926 to 1924; Editor of "Life" from 1924 to 1929,
and during the same time was motion picture editor of "Life" and of
the New York Herald. He enlisted in the 42nd Battalion, Black Watch,
Canadian Expeditionary Force, in 1917 and was honorably discharged in
February, 1919. He is a member of the Harvard and Century Clubs of
New York. He was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1936 and 1939. His
address is given as 650 5th Avenue, New York, New York. He is the
author of numerous plays, including:

Waterloo Bridge - 1929
Reunion in Vienna - 1931
The Petrified Forest - 1936
Idiots' Delight - 1936
Abe Lincoln in Illinois - 1938

He is also a contributor of fiction and articles to magazines.

In January, 1924, Sherwood was interviewed by an Agent of the
Bureau at New York City in connection with the case of [Redacted]
a fugitive who had stated prior to his escape from a hospital that he
could be reached by mail addressed to him in care of Sherwood, whose
address was given as Players' Club, 16 Gramercy Place, New York City.
In the interview Sherwood advised that he had never heard of [Redacted]
and stated that he had served in both the American and Canadian Armies
and that he was at the time employed by "Life" and the New York Herald.
The report indicates that Sherwood was a Harvard graduate, married, and resided at 1125 Fifth Avenue. The report notes that he had been apprehended at a time when he was residing at 12 Gramercy Place, an apartment house three doors from the Players' Club at number 16. (62-540-394)

On November 2, 1939, it was reported that Sherwood, together with thirty-five other prominent American authors, had signed his name to a letter directed to President Roosevelt. The letter contained the following:

"We feel that it is deeply immoral for the American people to continue having economic relations with a Government that avowedly uses mass murder to solve its economic problems. We ask you to sever trade relations with Nazi Germany, to declare an embargo on all Nazi German goods."

Remarks of Congressman William P. Lambertson, Kansas, appearing in the Congressional Directory under date of September 5, 1940, entitled "Communism in Entertainment Unions," contain a reference to Sherwood as being one of a group who wrote the Congressman stating that Alan Hewitt was not a Communist. Hewitt was one of the members of the Actors' Unemployment Committee of the Actors' Equity Association, named by Congressman Lambertson as a Communist. (61-7559-11434X, pg. 5)

In August, 1940, Sherwood was reported to be a member of the William Allen White "Committee to Defend America by Aiding the Allies."

In November, 1940, Sherwood was reported to be a member of the board of an organization known as the "Council for Democracy," which was headed by Raymond Gram Swing. The purposes of this council were stated to be the promotion of American democracy. (94-1-1941-7)

A pamphlet advertising a rally of the organization "Union Now!" at New York, New York, on October 4, 1940, lists Sherwood as one of a group of speakers, including among others Clare Boothe, author; Clarence K. Streit, author of the plan "Union Now!" and Kadene Genevieve Tabouis, famous French journalist. The pamphlet describes Sherwood as a playwright. (100-7553-1)
According to the annual report of the "American Civil Liberties Union" for 1940, subject is listed as a member and a biography is set forth. He is there stated to be President of the Dramatists' Guild of America. (61-190, pg. 133)

On March 10, 1941, a former Special Agent of the Bureau advised me that the National Theatre Conference was to approve all plays to be performed in Army camps and that the persons who will pass on the plays are Robert Sherwood and Clifford Odets. Also alleged that Sherwood is a member of the Communist Party. It is noted that also advised that Paul Green, the President of the National Theatre Conference, would be required to work through the office of the Attorney General at Washington, D.C. He further advised that Sherwood, Green and Odets are all connected with the old Chokers Conference held in Moscow, the purpose of which was the discussion of the use of the theater as a means of spreading Communist propaganda throughout the world.

Testimony given before the Dies Committee reflects that the New Theatre School which was organized in 1935 for the purpose of producing plays of a propaganda nature was assisted in its development by Sherwood. The New Theatre School is an offspring of the New Theatre League. It is further reflected in the Dies Committee testimony that the National Council of Freedom From Censorship of the American Civil Liberties Union lists many well-known writers, including Sherwood. (Dies Committee Report, Vol. 1, page 530, 540)

PAUL ELLIOT GREEN

Green is listed as an author and teacher in the current issue of "Who's Who In America." He was born at Lillington, North Carolina, on March 17, 1894. Green graduated from the Eulas Creek Academy of North Carolina and received his B.A. Degree at the University of North Carolina in 1921. He also did graduate work at Cornell University and in 1923 and 1929 was a Guggenheim Fellow. He married Elizabeth Atkinson Lay at Chapel Hill, North Carolina, on July 6, 1922, and has four children. Paul Elliot Green has written a considerable number of novels, plays and short stories. His play "In Abraham's Bosom" was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for the best American play in 1927. He presently holds the post of Professor of Dramatic Art at the University of North Carolina and his home is at Chapel Hill in that State.
From time to time the Bureau has received indications that Paul Elliott Green has Communist inclinations. In December, 1928, his name was listed on the letterhead of the National Committee for Peoples' Rights, an organization formerly known as the National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners. (61-7559-3355X1)

Paul Green, identified as being a faculty member of the University of North Carolina, was believed to be a Communist by [redacted] according to information given by [redacted] to a Bureau Agent in November, 1939. (61-7558-234)

On March 10, 1941, [redacted], a former Special Agent of the Bureau advised me that Paul Green was recently made President of the National Theatre Conference in Washington, D. C., and he advised that all plays which are to be performed in Army camps are to be approved by the National Theatre Conference and that the persons actually approving the plays are to be Robert Sherwood and Clifford Odets. [redacted] stated that both are members of the Communist Party. He also stated that Green would be required to work through the office of the Attorney General at Washington, D. C., and stated that Green is a more ardent Communist than Sherwood and that he, together with Odets and Sherwood, is connected with the old Chekov Conference held in Moscow, the purposes of which have already been mentioned in connection with the data related concerning Robert E. Sherwood.

Respectfully,

P. E. Foxworth
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
WASHINGTON, D.C.

May 13, 1941

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. J. EDgar HooVER,
DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Reference is made to your memorandum to Mr. McAleer dated April 24, 1941 relating to alleged activities and connections of [redacted]. This memorandum has been forwarded to us.

We would appreciate it if you would furnish to us, as of interest in connection with the administration of the Voorhis Act, Public No. 270, 76th Congress, and other federal statutes, such information as you may have concerning the aims and purposes and the activities of the following organizations listed to you in the aforementioned memorandum:

- Negro Cultural Committee
- "Mother's" Plan for War Children
- Medical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy
- United Nations Artistic Committee
- "The Coordinating Committee to Lift the Ægean Stone"
- "The Workers Bookshop"
- "New Masses"
- "People's Forum"
- "Workers Bookshop" "Mural Fund"
- "League of American Writers"
- "American Peace Crusade"
- "Conference on Constitutional Liberties in America"
- "Consumers Union"
- "First Congress of the Mexican and Spanish-American Peoples of the United States"
- "Hollywood League for Democratic Action"
- "Law Theatre"

We are especially interested in the following information with respect to each of the organizations mentioned:

1. The existing and proposed aims and purposes.
(a) Does any one of such organizations advocate the establishment of some new form of government in the United States?

(b) Does any such organization advocate the control by force or overthrow of the Government of the United States or a political subdivision thereof?

(c) Is one of the purposes of any of such organizations the establishment, control, conduct, seizure or overthrow of any foreign government or a subdivision thereof by the use of force or violence or by threats of such?

2. The means by which these aims or purposes are being attained or are to be attained.

3. Whether or not the members of any of such organizations receive instruction in the use of firearms, explosives or other weapons or substitutes therefor, or military or naval science.

4. Whether or not the members of any of such organizations engage in any military or naval maneuvers or activities, or drill or parade in a military or naval character (either with or without arms).

5. Whether any of such organizations solicit or accept financial contributions, loans or support of any kind directly or indirectly from, or is affiliated directly or indirectly with, a foreign government, a political subdivision thereof, or an agent or instrumentality of a foreign government or political subdivision thereof, or a political party, a foreign country or any international political organization.

6. Whether any of the policies of any of such organizations are determined by, or at the suggestion of, or in collaboration with a foreign government or political subdivision thereof, or an agent or instrumentality of a foreign government or political subdivision thereof, or a political party in a foreign country, or an international political organization.

We would like particularly to have the following information:

1. Identity of leaders and members of such organizations or any of the same.

2. Copies of constitutions, charters, by-laws and resolutions of such organizations or any of the same.
3. Identification of assets and liabilities of such organizations or any of the same.

4. Identification of materials and services accepted and used by such organizations or any of the same, together with the sources thereof (movies, news services, etc.).

5. Identification of persons reached by such organizations or any of the same or to whom such organizations aim to make an appeal.

6. Samples of newspapers, pamphlets, periodicals and other printed material emanating from such organizations or any of the same, and the identification of the sources of such material, i.e., where each of such organizations procure the material or contents.

7. Reports of oral statements of members of such organizations or any of the same, at meetings, on the radio, or elsewhere.

8. Complete description of any movies (newscasts, shorts, features) shown or distributed by such organizations or any of the same, or report as to where they may be seen.

9. Copies or description of symbols used by such organizations or any of the same, such as flags, emblems, etc.

We should like to have also such information as you have with respect to the connections of Orson Welles and any of the aforementioned organizations. For the time being a special investigation of any of such organizations or individuals is not requested.

MISS M. C. SMITH
Chief, Special Defense Unit

By

R. Keith Kane
Assistant Chief
All information contained herein is classified.

Date: 5-20-86

100 - 25/439 - 5 6, 7

changed to

100 - 4213522 - 6, 7, 8

Dec 14 1985

[Signature]
July 10, 1941

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREBIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Enclosed herewith are various photographic copies of information furnished to me by a Confidential contact who desired that his name should not be divulged.

This material concerns un-American activities of various individuals throughout the United States and is predominately based on publications from various organizations considered by the contact to be subversive.

There are also included photographic copies of clippings from the Daily Worker of some years back. The entire group of photographs is apparently dedicated to proving that Mr. R. L. B. is a Communist or fellow traveler who has been associated with various Communist Party organizations and attempt to show that this association has not been accidental.

This material is being forwarded to the Bureau for informational purposes.

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

Special Agent in Charge

[Redacted]
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

LOS ANGELES

FILE NO. 100-5440

REPORT MADE AT

DATE WHEN MADE

PERIOD FOR

REVIEWED

REPORT MADE BY

LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

10/21/41

7/12/19, 22,

10/9/41

INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

ORSON WELLES, alias George Orson Welles

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:
Subject born as GEORGE ORSON WELLES at Kenosha, Wisconsin, 5/6/15. He has traveled extensively throughout the world and is an actor, writer, play producer and director, as well as radio broadcaster, of international reputation. He is presently broadcasting at Hollywood, Calif., each Monday night over radio station KNX on a program sponsored by the Lady Esther Cosmetics Co. His office is at 1430 Broadway, New York City, but he maintains his present office and residence address at a bungalow in the R.K.O. Film Studio at Culver City, Calif., where he will produce four pictures. The American Legion and other patriotic organizations caused investigation to be made of ORSON WELLES when he and others formed a committee known as the "Citizens' Committee for HARRY BRIDGES" which was founded at New York. WELLES apparently enjoys military service exemption because of "inverted flat feet". Recent broadcasts of WELLES would not appear subversive in character.

5 Bureau
2 New York (Inf.)
1 San Francisco (Inf.)
1 San Diego (Inf.)
2 Los Angeles
DETAILS:

Information came to the Los Angeles Division Office from the Group Theatre, which advised that the ORSON WELLES Company produced such plays as "Pins and Needles". ORSON WELLES Radio Program was sponsored by the Campbell Soup Company. ORSON WELLES was employed by R.K.O. to produce some pictures. It was under the impression that R.K.O. did not complete any pictures for ORSON WELLES as the subject matter at that time was considered too far "leftist" to be used by the studio. It would be interesting to find out why they never finished any pictures for ORSON WELLES. It is reported that ORSON WELLES and in the past few years received payments from R.K.O. in the neighborhood of $100,000.

Los Angeles Origin Files entitled, INTERNAL SECURITY (R) Los Angeles Files and no further effort will be made to identify him in this report other than to show his past connection with Subject ORSON WELLES. The recent investigation on has failed to show any present connection with ORSON WELLES.
Subject ORSON WELLES is not registered as a voter in Los Angeles County.

The Los Angeles Examiner newspaper of April 27, 1941, with a New York date line of April 28, 1941, reflected the founding of the "Citizens' Committee for HARRY BRIDGES". This article reflects that Subject ORSON WELLES as well as JOHN HENRY HAMOND, JR., and Professor P. 0. MATTHIESSEN had founded this committee. In the article WELLES was listed as a playwright-producer; HAMMOND as a music patron and art critic; and MATTHIESSEN as an English professor at Harvard University. This committee was formed in New York City and the article states that more than 55 persons became sponsors of the committee. The article states that in the letter of invitation from ORSON WELLES and the aforementioned individuals to the sponsors, it is stated, "Mr. BRIDGES is now on trial in a second deportation hearing, the only man in the United States ever to be tried twice in this manner. On the pretext of a new law passed after an exhaustive hearing and acquittal by Dean JAMES M. LANDIS, he is being tried anew on essentially the same charge. - We join in an attempt to inform public opinion as to the realities behind Mr. BRIDGES' second trial, which we consider an attack on all organized labor, on the rights of minorities and a focal point of the entire current attack on civil liberties." The sponsors of this committee are listed in the news article and include: HUGH BO LACY, president of the Washington Commonwealth Federation and president of the American Committee for the Protection of Foreign Born; RUSSELL N. CHASE, chairman of the Cleveland Committee of the American Civil Liberties Union; DONALD OGDEN STEWART; and L. P. STONE, Washington editor of "The Nation".

The Los Angeles Herald Express of May 7, 1941 carried an article under the caption, "Gold Star Mothers Head Hits Radicals". In this article Mrs. MAE RUSHMAN, national president of the American Gold Star Mothers stated that she had listened to a number of the "Free Company" Sunday morning broadcasts starring ORSON WELLES and others and that she is definitely against such programs as they appear subversive. In this article Mrs. J. HENRY CAIN, president of the Americanism Defense League, stated that she heartily endorsed the action taken by the American Legion against some of the plays broadcast recently by the "Free Company - ORSON WELLES group". The article states that definite action condemning such programs was being considered by the American Legion, by the Americanism Defense League, the California State Daughters of the American Colonists, and by the Kennesaw Mountain Chapter of the National Society of Daughters of the Union.

The Los Angeles Herald Express of May 27, 1941 had an article stating that ORSON WELLES' actions were being probed by the American Legion and by the state executives of the American Legion. This article states that the American Legion officials claim this right is based on the fact that WELLES is a leader of a movement opposed to the deportation of HARRY BRIDGES. The article stated that investigation was being made regarding the military service of ORSON WELLES or his exemption from military service. The article states that there has been a nation-wide storm of protest led by the American Legion against the radio broadcasts of the "Free Company" in which WELLES was starred as these plays were considered radical. The article states that the national committee of the American Legion at Indianapolis had taken similar action. The article states that ORSON WELLES, age 25, was due for
classification before Selective Service Board 245 in Westwood, where his order number was 1027. It appeared that a questionnaire had been mailed ORSON WELLES on April 1, 1941, and WELLES did not return the questionnaire until April 30, 1941 as he had been given extended time. The article states when ORSON WELLES appeared before the classification board, he had informed the board that he was willing to serve if passed, but declared that he suffered from "inverted flat feet" and that his "spine was not in good shape either". The article states that after his appearance before the board, ORSON WELLES visited several bone specialists and that the report of these specialists would be made known to the Selective Service Board. This article states that ORSON WELLES sought and obtained permission from the Draft Authorities to make a trip to Mexico.

An article in the "News Week" of August 4, 1941 reflects that Subject ORSON WELLES had announced the week before in Hollywood that he had taken over the Columbia Broadcasting System's Lady Esther Serenade program beginning early in September, 1941 and that this broadcast, a dramatic show, would originate from Hollywood on Mondays at 10:00 to 10:30 P.M., Eastern Daylight Saving Time. This new program will replace the Light Music program of the Lady Esther Company.

On the night of October 6, 1941, at 7:00 P.M., over radio station K.N.Y. at Los Angeles, ORSON WELLES put on his third radio program for the sponsor, "Lady Esther Cosmetics Company". On this particular program, he dramatized a program by NORMAN FOSTER, which had nothing of a subversive character. Radio station K.N.Y. is located at 6121 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, California, telephone Hollywood 1212.

Extensive biographies appear on ORSON WELLES and for the information of the interested offices and the Bureau, some biographical history on ORSON WELLES is being reported herein.

"Who's Who" in America, in the 1940 and 1941 issue states that GEORGE ORSON WELLES, known as ORSON WELLES, is an actor, radio, and theatrical producer and that he was born at Kenosha, Wisconsin, May 6, 1915, the son of RICHARD HEAD and BEATRICE IVES. The education of WELLES included attendance at the Todd Schools, Woodstock, Illinois, from 1927 to 1930. ORSON WELLES married VIRGINIA NICHOLSON in December, 1934 and a divorce was granted in 1940. He has one daughter, CHRISTOPHER. ORSON WELLES was described as an actor with the Gate Theatre in Dublin, Ireland, from 1931 to 1932. He toured with KATHARINE CORNELL in 1933. He directed the Woodstock Festival in 1934. He played the lead in "Panic" in 1935. He directed a Negro "Macbeth" and "Horse Eats Hat" in 1936. He directed "Dr. Faustus" and "The Cradle Will Rock" in 1937. He founded the Mercury Theatre and directed "Julius Caesar" in 1937. He directed and produced "Shoemakers Holiday", "Heartbreak House", and "Doubins Death" in 1938. He directed and was an artist on radio programs since 1938. He made recordings of Shakespeare's plays for the Columbia Recording Company in 1939. He has been a producer, writer, and director for R.K.O. Radio Pictures in 1939 and 1940. He is a member of the Actors Equity League, American Federation of Radio Artists, and was awarded the CLAIRE M. SENNE Award for the foremost achievement in the American Theatre in 1938. He belongs to the Lotus Club in New York. He was the editor of
"Everybody's Shakespeare" with ROGER HILL in 1933 and was editor of the "Mercury Shakespeare" with ROGER HILL in 1939. In "Who's Who", WELLES gave his address as 1430 Broadway, New York City.

The Columbia Broadcasting System, Columbia Square, Hollywood, California, puts out several biographical releases on ORSON WELLES, which further identify him. The release of September 8, 1941 stated that ORSON WELLES would begin a new series of broadcasts Monday, September 15, 1941 and that he starts on the first of four new films for R.K.O. on September 16, 1941. ORSON WELLES also plans new Shakespearean recordings; also to appear as a magician at the California State Fair; to make a lecture tour in the Fall of 1941; and to broadcast for the Defense Program.

The C.B.S. Hollywood release of September 8, 1941 states that ORSON WELLES makes his home, office, and workshop on the studio grounds of R.K.O. at Culver City, California. This release states that he has a bungalow which houses his office and living quarters. This release states that his play "Native Son" was one of the hits of Broadway last season.

The C.B.S. Hollywood, California release of February 11, 1939 reflects that Subject as GEORGE ORSON WELLES was born in Kenosha, Wisconsin, May 6, 1915 and was named after GEORGE B. and a man named ORSON WELLES, both friends of his father. Subject's mother is described as a pianist and composer. Subject's father is described as a manufacturer of automobiles, who turned to the development of a bicycle lantern. The release states that his father objected to Subject ORSON WELLES' desire to be an orchestra leader or a magician and that Subject was sent to BORIS ANISFELD to study painting and cartooning. The release states that the mother of ORSON WELLES died when he was six years of age and that his father took him on a trip abroad, shortly after which Subject's father died. On this occasion a Dr. MAURICE BERNSTEIN was made the legal guardian of ORSON WELLES. He then entered the Todd School at Woodstock, Illinois. At the age of 13, ORSON WELLES was directing the Todd Troupers and arranged a production of "Julius Caesar" and other Shakespearean historical plays.

The C.B.S. release of February 11, 1939 states that in 1931 ORSON WELLES suffered a hay fever attack and that he went to Scotland and Ireland. While abroad he became an actor at the Gate Theatre in Dublin, Ireland, appearing in 40 plays, and made occasional guest appearances at the Abbey Theatre. This release states that he returned to Woodstock, Illinois in 1932 and wrote a few plays in conjunction with ROGER HILL. The release states that being unable to find a backer for these plays, Subject sailed for Africa and while in Morocco he met "The Giaouli", a chieftain he had previously met in Paris. While in a Moroccan retreat, he completed a volume of "Everybody's Shakespeare". The release states that he met and married a Chicago debutant that he met at Woodstock, Illinois, VIRGINIA NICOLSON, that JOHN HOUSEMAN, an ex-grain magnate, invited WELLES to be co-producer of theatre presentations.

Another release of September 8, 1941 of C.B.S., Hollywood, reflects that Subject's father took him to China when he was six years of age. This release reflects that when WELLES was associated with JOHN HOUSEMAN, they produced hit plays at the Federal Theatres in New York.
No further extensive investigation is contemplated by the Los Angeles Division Office on ORSON WELLES, unless he should appear in radical radio broadcasts or articles which could be considered to be of a subversive character.

- CLOSED -
Beverly Hills, Calif.

Jan. 21/43

Edgar Hoover

F.B.I.

Washington, D.C.

Conteen:

[Redacted]

From one who with others is engaged in quiet investigation of subversive actions.

Take it or leave it, that's up to you.

Undermining our relations with American countries at this time should be prevented if American
Order: 100-70038-1 February 12, 1942

Special Agent in Charge
Los Angeles, California

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate attention are copies of a letter dated January 21, 1942, addressed to the Bureau by [redacted].

Please be advised that the communication has not been acknowledged in such as the address given is insufficient.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director

Enclosure

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS FORMERLY
DATE: 5-27-86 SPEEDE CO

[Postmark: FEB 13 1942]
EDGAR HOOVER
FEDERAL BUREAU INVESTIGATION
WASHINGTON, D.C.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE: 30-8-19
BY SPECIAL
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

CONFIDENTIAL

Los Angeles, Calif.

Period for which made

Report made by

Character of case

INTERNAL SECURITY (R)

Synopsis of facts:
Letter received reflecting that the subject was in association with two individuals believed to be alien Italians, in a project in South America. Investigation develops that

Reference: Bureau letter dated February 13, 1942 (100-70088).

Details:
Reference Bureau letter transmitted for appropriate attention, a letter dated January 21, 1942, addressed to the Bureau by with a notation that the letter was not acknowledged in as much time to identify and from the text of the letter he apparently intended to conceal his true identity.

Approved and forwarded

Copies of this report

1 Bureau
1 G-2 San Diego
1 CNI San Diego
1 CNI Los Angeles
1 G-2 Los Angeles
1 San Francisco
1 San Francisco (Inf.)
1 New York (Inf.)
5

Recorded

100-23438-111

10
The letter of

as follows:

Jan. 21/42

"Edgar Hoover
F.B.I.
Washington, D.C.

Gentlemen:

"Orson Wells whose activities and interest in Communist circles and whose American sympathies are nil, one whose record you have in your files, has been cooking up some scheme having to do with Brazil in S. America. He is known to be pro-Russian and paradoxically sympathises with all men of the Hitler type who overthrow organized governments.

"He is associated in this scheme with who lives in This man is a hot head, big word individual who is supposed to represent some newspaper, but hobnobs with alien Italians who is in reality a native of Portugal, married to a Austrian-Hungarian wife who claims to be an American citizen.

"These two men plan to leave in a very few days for Brazil, either by plane or ship.

"They should be investigated at once and possibly prevented from going down there if you find cause for detention.

"Its possible that their intentions are legal but from reports, there is something screwy about the whole set up. Italian parents are claimed by but its known that they are residents of Brazil and are Italians only in claims. They are Portuguese and he gives lessons at times in this language.

"There is no time to waste on this tip.

"From one who with others is engaged in quiet investigation of subversive actions.

"Take it or leave it, thats up to you.

"Undermining our relations with S. American countries at this time should be prevented in advance."
Neither nor are listed as registered voters in Los Angeles County in the current affidavits on file. When reference was made, however, to the precinct book records of voters, precinct 1255, a notation was found that had previously been a registered voter, a housewife, registered Republican.

There were two listed as voters who might be one being.

He declined to state his political affiliation, but changed to Democratic on September 29, 1938.

An undisclosed identity telephone call was placed to and residence, telephone in an effort to ascertain whether is presently in Los Angeles. A woman answered the telephone, indicating that she was the wife of but preferred not to furnish any information by telephone to the inquirer, who used the name of

The 1942 Los Angeles City Directory lists address

There was no and no records on either or

The United States Immigration and Naturalization Service, records, had a record on as of January 2, 1937, he was residing at and that he had written a letter to the Secretary of Labor, Washington, D.C., stating that he had been debarred from entering the United States was again requesting permission for admission to the United States.

There was on record a copy of a hearing before the Board of Special Inquiry.
The records of the Immigration and Naturalization Service reflected that he came to the United States at the port of New York, at the hearing, reflected that he could not re-apply for admission to the United States for a period of one year. The Board, at that point, ruled that he could not re-apply for admission to the United States at that time, but that he was a friend of the record reflected that he had lived there before working there. He worked in the United States, resided for four months with a friend of his, and then worked again in New York City. In the meantime, he entered New York City until he decided to work in New York City.
admission to the United States on February 14, 1931, was granted permission to re-apply for admission to the United States within a year of that date.

On February 21, 1942, HARRY B. BLEE, Assistant District Director, United States Immigration and Naturalization Service at Los Angeles, wrote the following letter to the Commission at Washington, D. C. concerning:

"Enclosed is re-entry permit number issued on application number on January 30, 1942 and a letter of Motion Picture Section, Inter-American Affairs, 9730 Wilshire Boulevard, Los Angeles. It did not appear at Immigration and Naturalization Los Angeles Office and request emergent status prior to his departure. It gives the address as  

On January 31, 1942, the aforementioned, of the Office of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, telephonically advised a representative of the Los Angeles Division Office that the was contacting Subject ORSON WELLES will probably go to South America with ORSON WELLES furnished information that he is a representative of an official newspaper and was requested to know whether this Office had any information on who was an anonymous letter had been received alleging was a Nazi.

Reporting Agent telephonically recontacted who advised that ORSON WELLES was making a South American picture and that this picture was to be produced by R.K.O.

advised that he had considered recalling from his connection with the picture now being made by ORSON WELLES in South America, but that when he ascertained that as a friend of hesitated as it might create an international situation. He also had no substantiation of the fact that was un-American, but stated that he was perturbed over the anonymous letter that had been received concerning

In November, 1941, reported that DOROTHY COMINGORE, an actress who played opposite ORSON WELLES in the motion picture "CITIZEN KANE", and who is known in true life as MRS. DOUGLAS COLLINS, was connected with different Russian Aid Committees.
however, did not inform, through [cut], of any matters relative to ORSON WELLES.

The office of DAVID HOPKINS is known as the Motion Picture Section, Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, 9730 Wilshire Boulevard. This is also the office of the Council of National Defense, Coordinator of Commercial and Cultural Relations Between the Americas. Inasmuch as the State Department has apparently granted permission through the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs for ORSON WELLES to produce pictures in South America, no further inquiry will be made relative to ORSON WELLES or [cut] at the present time.
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

- [ ] Deleted under exemption(s) B2-B7C-B1D with no segregable material available for release to you.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.
- [ ] Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.
- [ ] Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.
- [ ] Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

For your information:

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Page 7 of 100-26438-11X
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-27-86 DISPETS/CAK

CHANGED TO
102 - 421353 - 3, 3

DEC 15 1985
217
April 16, 1943

RE: GEORGE ORSON WELLES
also known as ORSON WELLES

Personal History

George Orson Welles was born on May 6, 1915, the son of Richard Todd and Beatrice (Kives) Todd, in Kenosha, Wisconsin. His father is stated to have been an inventor, while his mother was a talented musician. From an early date Welles was stated to have moved in a field of talented personalities. He attended Todd High School in Woodstock, Illinois, from 1927 to 1930, where he specialized in art and dramatics. It is stated that at the age of 13 Welles was directing the Todd Troopers in various arrangements of Shakespeare's plays.

Upon graduation from high school, Welles had a desire to go into the theater; however, he was discouraged in this regard by his guardian. (Welles' father died when he was 13 years of age). His guardian in 1931 persuaded him to take a sketching tour through Ireland, while there he identified himself with the Gate Theater in Dublin and appeared in some forty plays. In 1932 he returned to this country, at which time he reportedly went to Woodstock, Illinois, where he engaged in the writing of a few plays which he is stated to have had little success in selling. In 1933 he is reported to have toured this country with Katherine Cornell in "Candida."

In 1934 he played the leading role in "Panic." During the summer of 1935 he participated in the Woodstock Dramatic Festival in which he both acted and directed. In 1936 he directed "Macbeth" with an all-Negro cast, and in the same year he directed "Horse Eats Hat." In 1937 he was associated with the Federal Workers Theater of the U.P.A. and during that time directed "Doctor Faustus" and "The Cradle Will Rock." He also founded the Mercury Theater in that year, its first production being "Julius Caesar." In 1938 he directed and produced "Shoe-blacker's Holiday," "Heart Break House" and "Dublin's Death." In 1939 Welles signed a four-year contract with RKO pictures as a writer, actor, director and producer. In 1940 he went to Hollywood, California, at which time he wrote a few scripts which were rejected. In 1941 Welles wrote, directed, and acted in "Citizen Kane," which has been hailed by many as the "most sensational production of the moving picture industry." This production was violently attacked by the Hearst Syndicate, and the question of its actual release to the public was questionable for many months.

Mr. Tolson
Mr. E. A. Thompson
Mr. Clegg
Mr. Coffey
Mr. Glavin
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Harbo
Mr. Hendon
Mr. McGuire
Mr. Mumford
Mr. Piper
Mr. Quinn Tamm
Mr. Nease
Miss Gandy

187 COPIES DESTROYED 6-29-43
In 1942 Welles went to South America for the RKO pictures with the approval of the Motion Picture Section of the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs, at which time he engaged in a motion picture project, one of the purposes of which was to develop good will between the United States and the various South American countries.

Welles in December, 1934, married Virginia Nicholson, which marriage resulted in a divorce in 1940. There was one child born of this marriage, namely Christopher, a daughter.

Welles presently has an international reputation as an actor, writer, director and producer in the legitimate theater, motion pictures and radio.

(94-3-4-115-3X)

Activities

An article appearing in the *Daily Worker* for May 6, 1938, reflects Welles as a member of the *Negro Cultural Committee*. The committee is stated to have contended production, a review for the benefit of the New York chapter of the National Negro Congress, which organization is a known Communist front group. The *Negro Cultural Committee* was reportedly a group organized by the Communist Party for the purpose of agitating in favor of anti-lynching bills. Many of the other members of this committee were either known Communist Party members or sympathizers.

(100-23438-X)

A *Daily Worker* article in the April 15, 1938, issue reflects that Welles delivered a series of speeches at the Workers Bookshop Symposium for the Workers Bookshop Relief Fund. Some of these speeches carried such titles as "Culture and the People's Front" and "Theater and the People's Front." This bookshop at this time was reported to be under the direct management of the Communist Party in New York City.

(100-23438-X)

The letterhead of the Radical Bureau and North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy in July, 1938, reflects Orson Welles as a member of the Theater Art Committee of this organization. This committee was a reported Communist front organization at that time and has since then changed its name to the United American Spanish Aid Committee and is presently known as the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, both of which are known Communist front organizations.

(100-23438-X)

The name of Orson Welles appears in a pamphlet published by the Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo Against Republican Spain. This group is reported to have been organized at the instigation of the
Communist Party and had as its purpose agitation for the lifting of the embargo so that aid might be given to the Republican or Loyalist armies in Spain during 1938 and 1939. (100-23438-X)

According to articles appearing in the "Daily Worker" for June, 1938 and July, 1938, Welles was listed among a group including Earl Browder and William Z. Foster who sponsored the celebration to honor the 76th birthday of Mother Bloor, to be held on July 31, 1938. Mother Bloor is a known Communist Party member who has been extremely active in the movement since its inception in 1919. (61-7559-2948X9, 61-7567-69X4)

An article appearing in the "Sunday Worker" for December 4, 1938, reflected that Welles appeared in the presentation, "Stars for Spain," which was sponsored by the Writers Arts Committee for the benefit of the Medical Bureau and North American Committees to Aid Spanish Democracy, which organization, as stated above, was a reported Communist front organization. (61-7561-24711)

An article appearing in the New York Times for January 17, 1939, stated that Welles was among the signers of a petition protesting the dismissal of 1500 employees of the WPA Federal Arts Project. (61-7551-15

During the years 1939 and 1940 when Welles was first associated with the RKO pictures, it is reported he was extremely intimate with This same source states that RKO pictures did not produce any of the scripts written by Welles during that period because the subject matter of the same was considered to be too far "leftist" to be used by the studio.

In 1941 information was received reflecting that Welles had appeared on the active indices of the National Federation for Constitutional Liberties, which organization is known to be a Communist front group. (100-1170-49)

Articles appearing in the "Daily Worker" for January 21 and January 23, 1941, reflect that the League of American Writers,
a Communist front group, pledged its support and was definitely behind the production of Orson Welles' picture, "Citizen Kane." (100-23438-x)

An article appearing in the "People's World," the West Coast organ of the Communist Party, for March 29, 1941, reflected that a Harry Bridges Defense Committee outside of the labor unions was being established in New York City with Orson Welles as the moving spirit. (39-915-971)

The Los Angeles Examiner for April 29, 1941, contains an article with a New York date line of April 28, 1941, which reflects the founding of the "Citizens Committee for Harry Bridges." This article reflects that Orson Welles, John Henry Hammond, Jr., and Professor F. O. Matthiessen founded this committee. The article states that more than 65 persons became sponsors of this committee. It is reflected that the letter of invitation from Orson Welles to the sponsors stated, "Mr. Bridges is now on trial in a second deportation hearing, the only man in the United States ever to be tried twice in this matter. On the pretext of a new law passed after an extensive hearing and acquittal by Dean James E. Landis, he is being tried anew on essentially the same charge. "

The name of Orson Welles appeared in the list of signers to the Call for the Fourth National Congress, League of American Writers, which was held in Manhattan Center, New York City, June 6, 7 and 8, 1941. The pamphlet announcing this congress published by the League of American Writers stated that America must be kept out of the European war and that peace must be preserved. As stated above, this group is a known Communist Party front organization. (100-7322-37, p. 12)

The New York Times of October 10, 1941, reflects that the Russian War Relief, Incorporated carried a full-page advertisement of the national fund-raising campaign that it was launching on October 27, 1941. Among the many sponsors listed for this organization was Orson Welles, actor, director and producer. (100-37226-20, p. 20)

A program for the production "Native Son" dated October 13, 1941, reflects that the same was directed by Orson Welles. This production reportedly dramatizes certain alleged discriminations against the Negro. It has been reported that certain lines in the show are
extremely inflammatory in effect and border on being subversive in intent. It is known that members of the cast of this production during its road tour were in contact with known Communist Party members. (100-50294-1 and 2)

On November 10, 1941, a dinner was given in Hollywood, California, under the auspices of the American Committee to Save Refugees, the Exiled Writers' Committee, and the United Spanish Aid Committee. Orson Welles acted as master of ceremonies at this dinner. All of the above groups are either reported or known Communist front organizations. (100-7061-115)

In 1941 Welles, along with other authors and playwrights, organized a group known as "The Free Company," which group presented a series of radio plays on a national radio hookup. This company announced that the purpose of the same was to prepare dramatic broadcasts as a counterattack against foreign propaganda. The American Legion concerned itself with the broadcasts of this company and made charges to the effect that they were un-American and Communistically sponsored. The American Legion particularly objected to a radio skit of Welles entitled "His Honor, the Mayor," which one American Legion Post in California termed as "encouraging radicalism." Other spokesmen for the American Legion charged that the broadcasts by this company were subversive in nature and definitely Communist in aims, although camouflaged by constant reference to democracy and free speech. (100-23438-4)

In January, 1942, the Civil Rights Federation of Detroit, Michigan, was formulating plans for its annual state conference. Among the names suggested as speakers for this conference was Orson Welles. The majority of the persons considered at that time as speakers were either known Communist Party members or Party sympathizers. The Civil Rights Federation of Detroit is known to have direct contact with the Communist Party in the State of Michigan. (61-10149-41)

was impressed with Mr. Welles considered him a very good revolutionist.

On September 2, 1942, the Russian War Relief, Incorporated engaged in a program entitled "Harvest Help" for the benefit of this organization, which performance was held on the Hill Gropper estate,
Groton-on-Hudson. Orson Welles was the guest of honor in connection with this benefit. (100-37226-165)

It is known that the Communist Party was arranging for a rally to be held among the persons suggested as speakers by the Party for this meeting was Orson Welles. The majority of persons being considered in this regard were either Communist Party members or sympathizers.

It is known that the Communist Party was making arrangements for a rally. The name of Orson Welles was suggested at that time as a possible speaker for this meeting.

On October 16, 1942, the Artists' Front to Win the War held a rally at Carnegie Hall in New York City. The speakers at this rally, among others, included Orson Welles. Information has been received reflecting that this rally was at the instigation of the Communist Party and that it was a 100% Communist affair. (100-153338-1 and 2).

An article in the Daily Worker for October 22, 1942, reflects information concerning "The Four Freedoms" rally and drama scheduled for the Golden Gate Ballroom, Lennox Avenue and 142nd Street, Harlem, New York City, on November 15, 1942. This article states that the purpose of the rally was to dramatize in a new and original way the true aspirations of the Negro and the colonial peoples in their fight for freedom. It further stated that the affair was being sponsored jointly by Orson Welles, noted dramatist and producer; the Negro Quarterly, which is headed by Angelo Herndon; Negro Labor Committee and the Negro Labor Victory Committee, which is a known Communist front group in Harlem. (100-135-35-A)

A program having the title "Salute to our Russian Ally" which was distributed in the Shrine Auditorium in Los Angeles, California, on November 8, 1942, on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the founding of the Soviet Republic, among other things, reflected the name of Orson Welles as a member of the Radio Committee. These ceremonies have been reliably reported as having been held under the auspices of the Congress of American Soviet Friendship, which group was organized by the American Council on Soviet Relations, a Communist inspired group. (100-116964-20, p. 7)

It is known that Welles was invited by the National
Union to attend a dance to be held on November 14, 1942, to celebrate the sixth anniversary of the National Maritime Union, the national headquarters of which organization is known to be controlled by the Communist Party. It is also known that Welles agreed that his name might be used in connection with the announcements of this celebration and dance. In this connection it might be noted that the NEU as such has been in existence only since 1937. It is therefore obvious that the celebration of the sixth anniversary was in reality for the Communist-controlled "Rank and File Seamen's Strike Strategy Committee," which came into existence on November 14, 1936, and later became known as the National Maritime Union. (100-120818-285, p. 19; 100-120818-345, p. 14)

On November 30, 1942, a group of figures in the Hollywood motion picture industry staged an invitational forum in the Beverly Hills Hotel, which was actually sponsored by the "Pan-American Security Council." The purpose of the forum was to discuss the trial of the twenty-two Mexican defendants in the Sleepy Lagoon murder case, which was pending at the time in the Los Angeles courts, and to raise money for their defense. Orson Welles acted as chairman of this forum. Welles, as chairman, opened the forum by stating that the most important minority question in the country today is the Negro question but that almost of equal importance is the question of the Mexican minorities, which is of particular interest in Los Angeles and Southern California. The above-mentioned murder case was the reason for the creation of the Citizens Committee to Defend the Mexican Youth in the Sleepy Lagoon Murder Case, which organization is known to be controlled by the Communist Party. Many of the individuals who composed the Pan-American Security Council were also members of the Communist-inspired Citizens Committee to Defend the Mexican Youths. (100-159527-4)
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREBIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-27-86 BY SPEOPLE.

100-23455-17

CHANGED TO
100-491353-4

DEC 15 1985

[Signature]
His eye freezes nature

SUN CLASSIFIED

O RSON WELLES, the phenomenal director, has received his share of bad luck. "That Hayworth was the beginning of a chance," he said of "The Magnificent Ambersons." "It is a skillful man."

Oreon Welles cuts Hula Hawaiian into pieces in Free Mercurian Wonder.

Miss Vivien Leigh, wife of Laurence Olivier, gained 90 pounds in two months, to make up for the "eldest son of the American continent" he should have had. Now, he recently staged an entertaining free curtain for the entertainment. The only news from production was his lack of balance. The only news from "The Magnificent Ambersons."
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Portland, Oregon
December 10, 1943

Personal and Confidential

Director, FBI

Dear Sir:

I thought that you might be interested in information which has recently come to the attention of this office as a result of inquiries made after a report was received that ORSON WELLES was to deliver an address in Portland on the evening of December 17, 1943, under the auspices of the American Free World Association. It was announced in the press that the appearance of WELLES had been announced by Mrs. NAN WOOD HONEYMAN.

You may recall that Mrs. HONEYMAN is a former U. S. Congresswoman from the state of Oregon and is reportedly intimately acquainted with Mrs. ROOSEVELT. During Mrs. ROOSEVELT's visit to the Pacific Northwest last summer she discussed Mrs. HONEYMAN and I am also informed that Mrs. HONEYMAN was one of the bridesmaids at the ROOSEVELT wedding.

A discreet inquiry disclosed that the American Free World Association is a branch or an affiliate of the United Nations Association. More complete and definite information concerning these two organizations is not available in the Portland office at the present time. However, it is known that both of the organizations are under the active sponsorship of Mrs. STUART STRONG, who, in turn, is known to have been connected in the past with a number of extremely liberal groups.

The United Nations Association is reportedly the successor to an old League of Nations group and is endowed by the Carnegie Fund for International Peace.

It is planned that the public appearance of ORSON WELLES

DECLASSIFIED
8-20-86

RECORD
29 DEC 1943

6-26-58

COPIES DESTROYED

Specimen 1943
will be discreetly covered by this office and any further developments of interest will, of course, be reported to the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

R. P. KRAMER
Special Agent in Charge
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice

Portland, Oregon
December 29, 1943

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my letter of December 10, 1943 which set forth that ORSON WELLES was to deliver an address in Portland, Oregon on the evening of December 17, 1943 under the auspices of the American Free World Association.

It has now been ascertained that ORSON WELLES was not available to make this speech in Portland on the above date and cancellation of the facilities of Benson High School Auditorium, where the speech was to have been held, was made on the date prior.

There was no newspaper publicity regarding this cancellation and the reason for same is not known.

Very truly yours,

R. P. KRAMER
Special Agent in Charge

100-3952
MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

Re: Orson Welles
Security Matter - C

states that Orson Welles made a series of radio broadcasts from Mexico around 7:30 or 8:30 p.m. early in the year 1943, in which he openly praised the Communist movement in Mexico. She states that she has now learned that the subject will tour all Latin American countries for the Coordinator of Inter-American Affairs and cites this as another example of the shortsightedness of this country in sending an individual having Communist leanings down to Latin America where he will be coldly received by the majority of the people. She states that all of Welles' scripts can be obtained from the Columbia Broadcasting System.

RECOMMENDATION

It is suggested that this memorandum be routed to the Internal Security Section for appropriate handling.

Respectfully,

[Signature]

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE: 5-20-43 BY: SPB/SPB/C/M

FOR VICTORY
BUY UNITED STATES BONDS & STAMPS

RECORDED & INDEXED 10/1

100-23438-5
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5/27/39

BY ORDER

COL

4/18 Price

All

Federal Bureau of Investigation
U.S. Department of Justice

Western Union

WUI9 NL PD

Nee Haven Conn

John Edgar Hoover

Federal Bureau of Investigation

If you will refer to July the thirteenth 1939n your perhaps will recall me.

At this moment I'm particularly interested in knowing whether or not Orson Wells the actor is a citizen of America any courtesies relative to this question if possible return wire my expense believe me Mr. Hoover I'm very much interested

1939 350 recall
November 3, 1944

Dear [Name],

In response to your telegram of November 1, 1944, I would suggest that you consult the latest issue of "Tho's Tho In America," which shows the birthplace of George Orson Welles as Kenosha, Wisconsin, and which will furnish you with more detailed information.

With best wishes and kind regards,

Sincerely yours,

[Name]
TO: Director, FBI
FROM: SAC, Los Angeles
SUBJECT: RE: ORSON WELLES, VA SECURITY MATTER - C

Reference is made to the report of Special Agent Los Angeles, dated November 3, 1944.

On August 28, 1944, there appeared in HEDDA HOPPER's column an article that the President had called the Subject's wife, RITA HAYWORTH, and explained that ORSON WELLES was doing some special work for him.

Special Agent interviewed HEDDA HOPPER regarding this item and she stated she did not know exactly what the President was having WELLES do but she did know that he was on some kind of mission for the President.

According to the September 22, 1944, issue of the Los Angeles Daily News, the Subject appeared at a rally in Madison Square Garden on September 21, 1944, where he introduced Vice-President WALLACE who made a speech on behalf of the President.
CONFIDENTIAL

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FILE NO. 100-5440

REPORT MADE AT
LOS ANGELES

DAYS WHEN MADE
11-3-44

PERIODS WHICH MATT.
9-13, 14, 15, 20,
25; 10-2-44

REPORT MADE BY

CHARACTER OF CASE
SECURITY MATTER - C

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject resides at Los Angeles, Calif. 
Is independent actor, writer, director and producer. Subject head of Mercury Productions, Inc. Born Wisconsin, attended private high school two years, and later traveled abroad. Became radio actor and writer and subsequently independent producer. Associated with motion picture industry since 1939. Rejected for service in U. S. armed forces. Presently married to actress RITA HAYWORTH. No record of Communist Party membership but subject has consistently followed Communist Party line. Member of American Peace Mobilization, with aliases; active in League of American Writers; originated the "Free Company"; HARRY BRIDGES defendant; member of Sleepy Lagoon Defense Committee; active in Musicians' Congress; an organization formed to combat H.P.A.; active in Free World, and participant in programs to praise Russia.

GIVES INFORMATION SET FORTH.

DESCRIPTION

CLASSIFIED
SP595/24

DECLASSIFIED ON: CONFR-27-9-6

DETAILS:

NAME:
ORSON WELLES, with alias: George Orson Welles

APPROVED AND
FORWARDED

100-23438 + 24

RECORDED
INDEXED

COPY OF THIS REPORT

Bureau
1 ZIO, Los Angeles
1 SID, Los Angeles
3 Los Angeles

1 JAN 6 1945

Classified by: SP595/24
Declassified on: CONFR-27-9-6

Description
LA - 100-5440

RECRUITER:

136 S. Carmelina, Brentwood, Los Angeles, California. Telephone number (unlisted) Arizona 39668.

BUSINESS ADDRESS:


EMPLOYMENT:

The Subject is self-employed as an independent actor, writer, director and producer. The Subject releases his productions through the Mercury Productions, Inc.

CITIZENSHIP:

The Subject is a United States citizen inasmuch as he was born in this country.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Advised the writer that the Subject was born May 6, 1913 in Kenosha, Wisconsin, and according to a release by the Columbia Broadcasting System in Hollywood, the Subject was named after GEORGE B. ELLIS, noted humorist and a friend of the Subject's father, ORSON, but he has always been known as ORSON WELLES.

According to the Subject attended eight years of elementary grammar school in Kenosha, Wisconsin, following which he went to a private high school, the Todd School, in Woodstock, Illinois, where he was enrolled for two years. According to "Who's Who," the Subject's father died when the Subject was six years of age and a Doctor BERNSTEIN became his guardian. The Subject became ill while at the Todd School and was taken abroad by his guardian. Later, according to "Who's Who," he became a member of the Gate Theater in Dublin, Ireland, 1931-32, after which time he returned to Woodstock, Illinois, and began to produce plays. In the following year the Subject appeared on the stage with KATHERINE CORNELL and in 1934 was married to VIRGINIA DERBER. Subject subsequently separated from this wife and went to Africa where he appeared in a few plays and compiled a book known as "Everyone's Shakespeare."

In 1937 he returned to this country and became a radio actor and writer. It was during this period that he made a sensational broadcast and was brought to the attention of the motion picture industry and subsequently was employed by R.C.K.O. Studios and associated with a prominent member of the Northwest Section of the Los Angeles County Communist Party.
During his employment at R.K.O., he also appeared on the radio and was the star of the Lady Esther program. The Subject has independently produced a number of shows, the most prominent of which is "Citizen Kane." The Subject is presently married to RITA HAYWORTH, also known as MARGARITA CANSINO, who is a prominent motion picture actress employed by Columbia Studios.

advised the writer that the Subject is registered with Local Draft Board 245, 1373 Westwood Boulevard, West Los Angeles, California, and added that the Subject had been rejected for "Chronic Kyoiditis and Arizinal Syndrome Arthritis, Bronchial Asthma, high fever and flat feet."

This source advised that the Subject has left the country upon several occasions at the request of the Coordinator of Inner-American Affairs to go on good will tours to Mexico and Brazil. The Subject also spent six months in England making a picture.

This source stated that the Subject was associated with JACKSON LACKER in the Mercury Productions, Inc. It is also known that JACKSON LACKER and RUBEN FRANKE are associated with the Subject in Mercury Productions.

SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES: whose reliability is well established, stated that on June 30, 1944, he carefully examined the records of the Northwest Section of the Los Angeles County Communist Political Association but that he was unable to find any record of WELLES' membership. In this connection it should be pointed out that this office has never been able to establish that WELLES is an actual member of the former Communist Party or the present Communist Political Association; however, an examination of WELLES' activities and his membership in various organizations reflects that he has consistently followed the Communist Party line and has been active in numerous "front" organizations.

It is interesting to note that the Subject is identified with at least three organizations, the purpose of which prior to Russia's entry into the World War was to delay and to deride the National Defense system in this country. This, of course, was prior to Russia's entry into the war and was the program of the Communist Party at that time.

The first of these organizations with which the Subject was associated is known as the American Peace Mobilization with aliases. The Subject was
associated in this organization with a prominent member of the Northwest Section and who according to reliable information first contacted ORSON WELLES in New York. The American Peace Mobilization was an organization dominated by members of the Communist Party and organized to combat the National Defense program.

The second organization with which the Subject was associated is closely following the Communist Party line was the League of American Writers. It is known that the Subject signed a call for the Fourth Congress for the League of American Writers to be held on June 6, 7 and 8, 1941. At the time of this Fourth Congress, a large rally was held in Madison Square Garden in New York City which was openly and obviously an anti-war rally. This Congress adopted a resolution stating that the present war was "A imperialistic war for world markets and not a war to serve democracy".

In this connection it is interesting to note that on June 22, 1941, which is the date of the German invasion of Russia, the President of the American Writers, DASHIELL HAMMET, issued a call "for immediate and necessary in the support of great Britain and the Soviet Union to insure the military defeat of the Fascists".

In 1941 the Subject was engaged in an organization known as the "Free Company" which put on a series of radio programs deriding our National Defense system. This program caused considerable comment and was probed by the American Legion. Following Russia's entry into the war the broadcasts were discontinued.

On April 29, 1944, ORSON WELLES announced to the press that he and two others, a JOHN HENRY RAYMOND, JR. and Professor F. O. KATHEISEN, had organized a Citizens' Committee for HARRY BRIDGES. The purpose of this committee was of course to prevent the deportation of HARRY BRIDGES. In a letter of invitation the certain sponsors, WELLES pointed out that BRIDGES was on trial in a second deportation hearing and that he was the only man in the United States to be tried twice, in this manner. WELLES stated that they wanted to inform public opinion as to the realities behind Mr. BRIDGES' second trial and pointed out he considered it an attack on all organized labor and on the rights of minorities.
In February, 1944, there was organized an emergency council of Hollywood Guilds and Unions, the purpose of which was to combat the Motion Picture Alliance for the preservation of American ideals. On June 28, 1944, this Council held a meeting at the Hollywood Women's Club at which time the Motion Picture Alliance was condemned. There was noted in attendance at this meeting all members of the Northwest Section, Los Angeles County Communist Political Association, and ORSON WELLES and his wife, RITA HAYWORTH, sent a congratulatory telegram to this meeting congratulating them upon their magnificent fight against the Motion Picture Alliance.

According to a July 24, 1944, issue of the "People's World", West Coast Communist publication, the Subject and his wife, RITA HAYWORTH, were commended for their fight against the Motion Picture Alliance.
The Subject has always been identified with programs designed to praise Russia. On November 8, 1943, the Subject appeared in a program at the Shrine Auditorium which was a salute to our Russian Allies, and which was held in celebration of the 25th anniversary of the Revolution in Russia. It was noted that the Subject along with OLIVIA DEHAVILAND was a member of the radio program for this Committee.

WELLES was also listed as a sponsor for the reception of MICHAIL KALATOZOV, Russian film representative, which was held on August 22, 1943, at the Kocambo night club. This reception was sponsored by the Los Angeles Council of American Soviet Friendship, Inc.

later made available to this office a list of the people among those listed was the Subject. It was known that WELLES would make some contribution to a shipment of gifts to Russia.
According to the records of the Subject, he is married to MARGARITA CASTANO HUDSON, aka RITA HAYWORTH, who has been employed by Columbia Studios for the last seven years. This report points out that the Subject was formerly at R.K.O. and 20th Century-Fox Studios and that his income is in excess of $100,000 per year. This report gives considerable background information, all of which is in this report.

An examination of the records of the Subject was made by Special Agent... was negative.

DESCRIPTION:

A description of the Subject as furnished by... is as follows:

- Age: 29
- Birthdate: May 6, 1915
- Birthplace: Kenosha, Wisconsin
- Height: 6' 2"
- Weight: 195 pounds
- Complexion: Light
- Hair: Brown
- Eyes: Brown
- Social Security #: 119-07-5434

A photograph of the Subject has been obtained and an appropriate disposition of it has been made.

-PENDING-
LA - 100-5440

UNDEVELOPED LEADS:

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California, will follow and report Subject's current activities.
The above sources of information are being given temporary symbols in order to further conceal their identity.
Director, FBI

Re: Security Matter – C

Los Angeles, California
November 3, 1944

Dear Sir:

It is recommended that a Security Index card be prepared relative to the individual named below:

Name: Orson Welles

Residence Address: 136 S. Carmelina, Brentwood, Los Angeles, California. Telephone number: (unlisted), Arizona 39668

Business Address: Mercury Productions, Inc., self-employed as independent actor, writer, director, and producer. 427 N. Cahuenga Blvd.

Native Born

Communist

Date of Birth May 6, 1915

Very truly yours,

R. B. Hood
SAC

100-23438-2

100-5440

74 FEB 22 1945
Office Memorandum

TO: Mr. D. M. Led...
FROM: J. C. Strickland
SUBJECT: ORSON WELLES, WA

DATE: November 22, 1944

All information contained herein is unclassified.

Date: 10-8-44 by specto.

An item in Hedda Hopper's column during the election campaign stated the President called Rita Hayworth, wife of Orson Welles, and explained that Welles was doing some special work for him. An agent of the Los Angeles Field Division, who was in a position to make casual inquiry about such an item, asked Hedda Hopper about it and she stated she did not know exactly what the President was having Welles do but she did know that he was on some kind of mission for the President.

Welles has been a consistent follower of the Communist Party line. As a member of the American Peace Mobilization, active in the League of American Writers and the Musicians Congress and a member of the Harry Bridges Defense Committee and the Sleepy Lagoon Defense Committee. As you know, he was prominently featured as a speaker on behalf of President Roosevelt during the recent election campaign.

ACTION: None. This is being brought to your attention merely as a matter of possible interest.

EX-8
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

The Director

Mr. Tolson

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Coffey

Mr. Rosen

Mr. Clegg

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Nichols

Mr. Tracy

Mr. Hendon

Mr. Pennington

Mr. Quinn Tamm

Mr. Nease

Mr. Welch

Miss Gandy

***

SECTION CHIEFS

Mr. Alden

Mr. Buckley

Mr. Burton

Mr. Callan

Mr. Carson

Mr. Cunningham

Mr. Pitch

Miss Stalcup

Miss Conlon

Miss Welch

Mr. Welch

Mr. Glavin

Mr. Ladd

Mr. Noss

Mr. Tamm

Mr. Tamm

Mr. Nease

Mrs. Pennington

Mr. Quin Tamm

Miss Stalcup

Mr. Tamm

Type

Register and forward

See me

Prepare tickler for

Place on record

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED

HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-27-36

DISPETS/CO

EDWARD A. TAMM - 5734
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS

The subject, a newspaper editor named "Free Press," which is issued by the Hollywood Democratic Committee and which reportedly follows the Communist line, has recently been named as the editor of the National Citizens' Political Action Committee (NCPC). This individual has addressed an emergency dinner of American Youth for Democracy, a successor organization of the Young Communist League. The subject is now planning to make several motion pictures on minority problems and is under contract to make a feature picture for producer William Goetz.

Report of Special Agent dated November 3, 1944, at Los Angeles, California.

The subject has recently been named as the editor of a newspaper entitled "Free Press." This informant described the "Free Press" as a propaganda paper which follows the Communist line. The informant explained that the "Free Press" was put out by the Hollywood Democratic Committee and that it was issued at election dates. He stated this paper played a very prominent role in the recent congressional elections.

According to the September 29, 1944, issue of the "People's World," west coast Communist

FORM NO. 1

THESE CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

FILE NO. 100-5840

REPORT MADE AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

DATE WHEN MADE 12-24-44

PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE 12-24-44

REPORT MADE BY

CHARACTER OF CASE

CLASSIFIED SECURITY MATTER - C

DECLASSIFIED ON 10-32-52.

GROSN WELLES, WITH ALIASES:

George Grosn Welles.

Details:

- Advised the writer that the subject has recently been named as the editor of the newspaper entitled "Free Press." This informant described the "Free Press" as a propaganda paper which follows the Communist line. This informant explained that the "Free Press" was put out by the Hollywood Democratic Committee and that it was issued at election dates. He stated this paper played a very prominent role in the recent congressional elections.

- According to the September 29, 1944, issue of the "People's World," west coast Communist
publication, the subject has been named to the National Citizens Political Action Committee as a representative from the state of California. This Political Action Committee was formed by the C.I.O. Political Action Committee and is designed to include and to influence people who are not members of any particular labor organization. According to this article, the members from California were ORSON WELLES, Screen Writer BEN HECHT and Screen Actor EDWARD G. ROBINSON.

On December 1, 1944, the "Salute to Young American Dinner" was held by the AYD at the Hollywood Roosevelt Hotel in Hollywood, at which time ORSON WELLES analyzed the G-I Bill of Rights and strongly condemned the "money interests and money lenders". WELLES stated he felt the lobbyists, the powerful interests in wall street, had corrupted the G-I Bill of Rights and had written it largely to make it appear that this country was interested in providing for the welfare of the returning soldier, but that in reality they had written in provisions which would prevent the returning soldier from securing any real benefits under the act. WELLES concluded his remarks by stating that fascism in the United States was still possible until all the greedy people in this country had been killed.

In the November 10th issue of "Now" magazine which is published in Los Angeles there appeared on the cover a picture of WELLES together with the prominent negro actor REGINALD. In this issue there was an article about WELLES, and it was stated that he would soon begin to make a series of short subjects on minority problems and that he hoped that these would be released for showing in schools throughout the country. It should be pointed out that the magazine "Now" is published semi-monthly in Los Angeles and appears faithfully to carry out the Communist line.

According to the November 20th issue of "Hollywood Reporter", Hollywood trade publication, subject has been signed by Producer WILLIAM COSTZ to star in a picture produced by International Pictures with CLAUDETTE COBÉRT in "Tomorrow is Forever". This article pointed out that COSTZ looked upon the signing of WELLES as one of the most important casting assignments in the history of his company.
L.A. F.D. 10C-5440

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

CONFIDENTIAL

LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California:

Will follow and report subject's activities

CONFIDENTIAL
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☑ Deleted under exemption(s) B1, B2, B7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☑ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Page 4 of 100 - 23438 - 27
Subject and wife, RITA HAYWORTH, soliciting donations for Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee. Informants advise subject will soon produce motion picture shorts on race relations and "The American Negro's Contribution to Music and Letters," which will be shown in public schools throughout the country. Subject recently contacted by HARRY BRIDGES, presumably in effort to secure subject's further cooperation to prevent BRIDGES' deportation. WELLS leaving for Mexico and may go to South America to complete a motion picture. Subject has post-war television contract for $2,000,000.

"To the Spanish Republicans and other anti-Fascist refugees, my wife and I send greetings. Will you join us? Just fill out the enclosed check and mail it to the Joint Anti-Fascist..."
CONFIDENTIAL

"Refugee Committee immediately. Your donation will mean relief and rehabilitation for those first fighters against Fascism. Thank you, and the season's greetings to all of you."

This card was signed by KITA HAYWORTH and ORSON WELLS.

Recently advised the writer that he had talked with [redacted] screen writer and prominent member of the Northwest Section, and he stated [redacted] was very interested in the fact that WELLS is to make a series of motion pictures on race relations. This informant stated that a few days later, he saw [redacted] and at this time [redacted] told him that a Negro whom this informant was unable to otherwise identify, was coming from New York to Los Angeles, and that he had several ideas on motion picture shorts to deal with race relations, and [redacted] expected to get [redacted] and WELLS together, in order that they might coordinate their efforts to make these motion picture shorts.

In this connection, [redacted] made available to this Field Division an announcement which was published by the Los Angeles Council for Civic Unity, which it is known has been heavily infiltrated by the Communists. A portion of this announcement was given over to ORSON WELLS, and read that he is planning a series of motion picture shorts on the contributions of the Negroes to American music and letters. According to this announcement, these shorts will be made in his Hollywood Mercury Theater, and will be shown throughout the country in the public schools. "Doubtless," the article concluded, "they will reflect the WELLS' slates for originality and drama, as well as his penchant for historical accuracy."

[redacted] advised the writer that as far as he was able to ascertain, WELLS was soon leaving for Mexico, and he stated that in this connection [redacted] had asked WELLS recently to speak at the artists' and writers' dinner in New York City, but that WELLS had told [redacted] that he was unable to do this, because he was scheduled to leave for Mexico City some time in February.

In this connection, [redacted] stated that he understood that WELLS was to leave for Mexico City about February 12, 1945, and that from talking with WELLS he was under the impression that perhaps WELLS would continue on to South America, to complete a motion picture that he began in South America about four years ago. This source stated that WELLS had recently completed a contract to appear in television immediately following the end of the European war, which contract was valued at roughly $2,000,000.

This same source stated that recently, while HARRY BRIDGES was in Los Angeles, he had contacted ORSON WELLS. However, this
informant was unable to say why BRIDGES contacted WELLS, but it is presumed, in view of the fact that WELLS at one time organized a committee to prevent the deportation of HARRY BRIDGES, that BRIDGES contacted WELLS in an effort to secure his continued cooperation to prevent his deportation from the United States.
These sources are being given temporary symbols to further conceal their identity.
Special Agent in Charge
Los Angeles, California

February 22, 1945

RE: SECURITY MATTER

Dear Sir:

Please be advised that a security index card has been prepared at the Bureau, captioned as follows:

WELLES, ORSON
136 S. Camelina
Brentwood, Los Angeles, Calif. (Res.)

Mercury Productions, Inc.
437 N. Camden Drive
Beverly Hills, Calif. (Bus.)

The above caption should be checked immediately for accuracy against the information contained in your files, and the Bureau should be informed of any discrepancies. You will prepare without delay a 5 x 3 white card captioned as above and reflecting your investigative case file number for filing in your Confidential Security Index Card File. In the event the above caption is not correct, the card you prepare should be correctly captioned, and the Bureau should be informed of the correct caption.

COMUNICATIONS SECTION

The caption on the card prepared and filed in your Office must be kept current at all times and the Bureau immediately advised of any changes made therein in that connection.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover
Director
February 8, 1949

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-27-46 BY SPS 1700

RE: OSCELA VALLES, ex-
SECURITY INDEX - C
(Your File 12X-2060)

Dear Sir:

A review of the files at the Bureau in connection with this subject has revealed that a report has not been received from your office concerning the subject since the report of Special Agent [redacted] dated 2.15.43 at Los Angeles.

While it is realized that existing instructions do not require that a report be submitted periodically on Security Index card subjects unless the subject is also a top functionary, it is felt that in view of the tense international situation at the present time, a new report should be submitted setting forth the extent of the subject's present activities in connection with the Communist Party and related groups in order that the Bureau will be in possession of current information concerning each one of those subjects who are considered a threat to the internal security.

In submitting the report, the Bureau desires that you incorporate in summary form the information contained in your files not previously reported. Information of substantive nature only should be set forth and repetitious material should be avoided. Where a description of the subject has not been reported, that, too, should be included in the report and also placed on the reverse side of the Security Index card in accordance with the instructions outlined in SAC Letter No. 57, Series 1948, dated April 10, 1948.

In the event the subject's current address is not the same as that which appears on the Security Index card, you should correct the Security Index card and forward Form FD-119 to the Bureau in order that the Security Index card at the Bureau can be corrected.

In order that the Security Index will contain only the names of those individuals who can be considered to be a threat to the internal security of this country, the Bureau desires that you carefully appraise this case and if it appears that the subject, based on his present position and activities or past position and activities, cannot be considered such a threat, then in addition to submitting the report, you should recommend that the Security Index card be canceled.

This matter should receive your immediate attention.

Very truly yours,

J. E. Hoover
Director
TO: Director, Federal Bureau of Investigation  DATE: March 15, 1945
FROM: SAC, Los Angeles
SUBJECT: ORSON WELLES, with alias; SECURITY MATTER - Co.
Bureau File No. 100-23438

On March 5, 1945, there was an item in HEIJA HOPPER's column, "Looking at Hollywood," which appeared in the Los Angeles Times, and in which it is felt that the Bureau may be interested.

This article stated that the prominent producer, ALEXANDER KORDA, was planning to produce a screen play based upon the famous Russian novel "Crime and Punishment" in Russia, and that KORDA would go to Russia as soon as travel conditions permitted. This article stated that ORSON WELLES was scheduled to leave for Russia as soon as he could secure passage for his wife, film actress RITA HAYWORTH.
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Los Angeles 13, California
April 9, 1945

Director, FBI

CONFIDENTIAL

RE: ORSON WELLES, M.E.
SECURITY MATTER (C)
(100-23438)

Dear Sir:

The following information is being furnished you to bring up to date the activities of ORSON WELLES, which it is believed may be of interest at this time because of the United Nations World Security Conference to be held in San Francisco April 25, 1945. For that reason a copy of this letter is being furnished the San Francisco Field Division. A copy is likewise being furnished the New York Office in view of WELLES' connection with subject of an Internal Security (R) Registration Act investigation in which New York is office of origin.
Director

CONFIDENTIAL

April 9, 1945

RE: ORSON WELLES, w.a.
SECURITY MATTER (C)

(9)

(9)

(9)

(9)

knew nothing of this, and to date has been unable to verify the story;

WELLES recently hired a ghost writer from New York City.
April 9, 1945

RE: ORSON WELLES, W.S.  
SECURITY MATTER (C)  

Of possible interest in the information developed that WELLES spends considerable evenings engaged in extra-marital activities with his former Main Street burlesque strip tease artist, who has recently promoted herself to a higher type of night club appearances in this city. Also sometime ago when WELLES appeared in San Diego in connection with a bond tour he took some girl, other than his wife, down from Los Angeles to be with him there.

Both of whom are being investigated by this office in connection with their Communist and Russian propaganda activities. WELLES was also wanted WELLES to go to Sacramento to lobby against a bill which is pending which would prohibit the accessing of members of a union for political activity. This is strictly a PAC program. WELLES told that he would like to appear in Sacramento and lobby against the bill but did not think he would be able to. requested him to go the latter part of this month.

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD  
SAC

100-5410  
cc: 100-23094  
cc: 22916  
cc: New York City  
cc: San Francisco
Federal Bureau of Investigation
United States Department of Justice
Los Angeles 13, California
April 21, 1945

Director, FBI

PERSONAL & CONFIDENTIAL

RE: ORSON WELLES, w.s.
SECURITY MATTER (C)
(100-23)38

DECLASSIFIED 52872/C3L (100-23438)
527-8-6

Dear Sir:

Reference is made to my letter of April 9, 1945 concerning ORSON WELLES. Subsequently additional information concerning WELLES' activities which it is believed may be of interest at this time because of the United Nations World Security Conference convening next week, has been developed.

With reference to WELLES' daily column, most of the material is received from two researchers in the East. WELLES requested that he appear in Sacramento, California on April 12, 1945 at a hearing before the Legislature to discuss a bill pending which would outlaw the taxing of union members in this state for political activity. CECIL B. DeMILLE was to appear at the hearing arguing for the bill. WELLES wanted WELLES to take the opposite side.

Interviewed concerning

WELLES

COPIES DESTROYED 6-26-59
INDEXED 100-29430-31
RECORDERD 11-2
R-3Y

EX-23

5 M.AY 22 1945
Director

April 21, 1945

RE: ORSON WELLES, W.A.
SECURITY MATTER (C)

He has fallen from the good graces of WELLES. He has mishandled WELLES' finances and at the present time WELLES is practically broke. WELLES spends large sums of money recklessly,

In reference to WELLES' finances, he has no money at all.

His wife, RITA-HAYWORTH, is smart, she banks her funds in a separate account. WELLES buys gasoline on the black market.

WELLES has eight employees at his home, including several secretaries. Only other income at the present time is, of course, from his column.

Stated that the total amount received would not even meet the sums paid to his researchers.
Director

April 21, 1945

RE: ORSON WELLES, w.a.
SECURITY MATTER (c)

With reference to WELLES' social activities, the name of a movie actress who recently has been receiving considerable publicity, as another one with whom WELLES has been carrying on an affair.

If the Bureau deems it desirable to maintain close contact with WELLES' activities, I will be glad to be of any possible assistance.

100-5140
cc: 100-23094
cc: 22916
cc: New York City
cc: San Francisco

Very truly yours,

[Signature]

R. B. HOOD
SAC
Federal Bureau of Investigation.
United States Department of Justice
Los Angeles 13, California
April 25, 1945

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

In reply, please refer to file no.________

Director, FBI

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HERIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Re: ORSON WELLES, Wa.
SECURITY MATTER - C
(100-230138)

Dear Si:

DATE 5-21-45 BYSP875/CGT

With further reference to the activities of ORSON WELLES in connection with the World Peace Conference being held in San Francisco, attention is directed to my letters of April 9th, 21st and 24th, 1945.

[Redacted]

A ghost writer for WELLES has been developed but not yet verified is a member of the Communist Party. He has only been in the Los Angeles area for a month, having been hired by WELLES at that time.

Copies destroyed 6-24-45

5-2 Jun 5 1945
Director, FBI

April 25, 1945

Re: ORSON WELLES, wa.
SECURITY MATTER - C

Who is still here in Los Angeles and who apparently is not going to the peace conference, is confining his assistance to WELLES to help WELLES' newspaper column.

It was noted contributed some of the writing material for the Roosevelt Memorial Program held at the Hollywood Bowl Monday night last. Of the six or eight writers who contributed to that program, several were known Communists and others with known liberal leanings.

As previously mentioned WELLES plans to broadcast from San Francisco in connection with the conference.

You will be kept advised of the developments concerning WELLES' activities at the conference and it is suggested that proper coverage of the telephone conversations between WELLES and may reveal information of interest.

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD
SAC

100-5440
cc: 100-23094
cc: 100-58916
cc: New York City
cc: San Francisco

AV/SD
Los Angeles, California
April 24, 1945

PERSONAL AND CONFIDENTIAL

Director, FBI

Re: ORSON WELLES, MGR.
SECURITY MATTER - C
(100-23438)

Dear Sirs:

Reference is made to my letter dated April 21, 1945, setting forth information concerning ORSON WELLES.

There is set forth hereinafter the outline of the "Free World Program for the San Francisco Conference":

1 - FIRST FREE WORLD CONGRESS

On April 18 and 19 in Washington, D.C., the first Free World Congress with participation of official and non-official delegates of the various United Nations. The main purpose of the Congress; mobilization of world people, open for active support of United Nations Conference - prompt and full ratification of the treaty agreed upon in San Francisco and international public support and the fulfillment of the obligations undertaken by each member state of the new World Organization.

2 - FREE WORLD CONFERENCE IN HOLLYWOOD

On April 23 and 24, International Free World Conference in Hollywood and Los Angeles with participation of delegates from the major United Nations in order to discuss the cooperation of Picture Industry and the establishment of a World Organization.

3 - ACTIVITIES IN SAN FRANCISCO

ORSON WELLES will edit a daily news letter beginning with April 25th. It will be in the hands of every 1945 political and technical, at the San Francisco Conference every morning.

ENCL.

[Redaction]
April 24, 1945

Director, F.W.

Re: ORSON WELLES, W.A.

SECURITY MATTER - C

This newsletter will be published in English, French and Spanish. It will counteract every hostile attempt to create a division among the United Nations and will prove to the delegates that the overwhelming majority of the people of the American cities, as well as of the rest of the world, are supporting San Francisco, that they are supporting every step which is necessary to put into effect the Dumbarton Oaks Conference. This newsletter will publish every day a complete survey on the reactions of public opinion of private organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, the C.I.O., the A.F. of L., the League of Women, the Farmers' Union, the foreign policy groups and all other associations interested in the promotion of world organization. The Newsletter will be a militant instrument against the attempts of Isolationism and Fascism to weaken the confidence of the foreign delegates in the readiness of the American people to support the making of the peace as fully as they supported the war. This newsletter is particularly important because unfortunately the daily newspapers in San Francisco, which will be the first contact every morning of the foreign delegates with the American public opinion, will be largely unfree, if not hostile, to the ideas of true world cooperation. Geneva illustrates how much the local reactionary papers such as "Journaux de Geneve", "Tribune", "La Suisse", and others have contributed to the creation of that feeling of defeat which ended in the failure of the League of Nations of World War 2.

Free World has succeeded in obtaining facilities for a permanent Free World House for the duration of the San Francisco Conference. The House is equipped with a library, newspapers and magazines from all countries and has facilities for small meetings and dinners. The Free World House will serve as a social center to all official delegates and representatives of public opinion. Free World is convinced that these personal contacts between government delegates and representatives of public opinion are of utmost importance to the establishment of that mutual confidence which is indispensable to the effective functioning of a world organization. Free World has secured the cooperation of the Women's Division of the Hollywood Free World Association, among whose members are Miss RITA HAYWORTH, Miss JOAN BENNETT, Miss ROSALIND RUSSELL, Mrs. DARYL ZANUCK, Mrs. SOL LEWIS, Mrs. CHARLES BOYER, Mrs. WILLIAM GOETZ, Mrs. SAMUEL COLUMBY and Mrs. JACK WARNER. Each of the members of the Hollywood Women's Division will act as hostess at the different dinners and meetings in the Free World House.
Support of public opinion not only for the general principles but also for the very specific.

Existing and new obligations, such as Bretton Woods, Atlantic City, Warm Springs, etc., is indispensable.

Support of public opinion not only for the general principles but also for existing and new obligations such as Bretton Woods, Atlantic City, Warm Springs, etc., is indispensable. This support can only come if public opinion understands their impact on the daily life of every citizen of the United Nations. To that effect, Free World will hold at regular intervals mid-week meetings with technicians on specific aspects. On Sunday there will be a large popular meeting at which American and international commentators, together with leading representatives of the various delegations, will present clearly and dramatically the major results achieved during the week. In order to acquaint the nation as a whole with these meetings there will be a special nationwide broadcast: FREE WORLD REPORTS, presenting commentators and columnists from America and abroad who will sum up the results of the preceding week and will give a preview of the major problems to come before the conference in the following week. ORSON WELLES will act as moderator of these broadcasts. We will also broadcast in Spanish and Portuguese to Latin America. In view of the fact that Fascist Spain and the Portuguese dictatorship are being used by Germany as propaganda outlets to Latin America against the San Francisco conference, we have applied to the O.W.I. for special broadcasting facilities to those two countries.

SPEAKERS: Free World has asked the various national delegations to designate one or two speakers who would be available at different intervals during the conference to address American forums, meetings and seminars all over the country and to make special records for school and remote areas.

The San Francisco conference is without doubt the major political event of our time. All those who are not engaged in direct fighting or war work must give the fullest amount of their time to facilitate a successful conclusion of the United Nations.
With this letter there is being forwarded to the Bureau a page from a Serbian newspaper, printed and circulated in New York. The issue of this newspaper, which is not identifiable, is dated April 3rd and was forwarded to:

The article in this paper with reference to POTICH was written by one NIFKO MARKOVIC. The said article is entitled "Redichites Plan to Throw Monkey Wrench at San Francisco", and states that a group of Serbian chauvinists from the so-called Serbian National Defense are preparing to leave for San Francisco on March 25th. It continues that the leader of this group is CONSTANTIN POTICH, former Ambassador.

It further states that at one time this group, consisting of MIHAILO DUCHICH, businessman from Gary, Indiana, LOUIS CHRISTOPHER and Bishop DIJAXISTJE brought forth as their leader the notorious MILAN STOJANOVIC, who is known today to the whole democratic world as a Fascist and traitor of Yugoslavia. Following this POTICH (cousin of MILAN MEDICH, the quisling) and his fifth-column organization came out in defense of MECHAN.

Continuing "This fifth-column activity of Ambassador POTICH forced the Yugoslav Government to remove him from that diplomatic position and declare him a traitor of Yugoslavia, and now, this same CONSTANTIN POTICH is preparing to go with his group to San Francisco to represent the Serbian people and DRAZHA MIHAJLOVIC, to prove to the American delegation that the 'Yugoslav delegation does not represent all of Yugoslavia,' and 'how Roosevelt, Churchill and Stalin have sold and betrayed the Serbian people.'"
Director, FBI

Re: OSS/ON WELLES, wa.
SECURITY PAPER - C

April 24, 1945

The article continued that PUTICH can continue his fifth-column activities only due to the aid he received from the Anti-Roosevelt camp, from Senator WHEELER, Representative O'KONSKI and similar opponents of the Crimea Conference and her decisions.

the Daily Free World Newsletter in San Francisco
WELLES, of course, is posing as the editor,
but will actually have little or nothing to do with what is said.

it appeared that WELLES was unwittingly the tool of
people who had Communist leanings.

Should any further information be developed through
along these lines which appear to be of interest, you will be imme-

dially advised.

Very truly yours,

R. B. HOOD
SAC

100-5140
cc: 100-23050
cc: 100-22916
cc: New York City
cc: San Francisco

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-29-36 BY SPECIFIED

Dec. (1)
Subject signed as director and actor in forthcoming International production. Will open new radio program on 9-16-45. Subject's column, which informant disclosed is ghost written by Communist, continues to appear in several eastern papers. Subject spent considerable time at the United Nations Conference and appeared in San Francisco with JOHN HOWARD LAWSON where both spoke under the auspices of the Free World Society. Subject named as national sponsor of JAFRC and appointed to Advisory Council of the Los Angeles Russian-American Club. Subject addressed recent Communist-sponsored anti-SMITH meeting.

Details:

It was ascertained that the Subject has finished a picture entitled "Tomorrow is Forever," and according to the August 7, 1945, issue of "Variety," WELLES will direct as well as appear in a new international production. This article describes the picture as a yet untitled post-war psychological melodrama, and it is scheduled to begin

REFERENCE: Bureau file 100-23438

DECLASSIFY ON: 9-7-45

DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES

COPY OF THIS REPORT

15 - Bureau
1 - SID, Los Angeles
1 - ZIO, Los Angeles
3 - Los Angeles
production sometime this month. The Subject's radio program entitled "This Is My Best," in which he appeared as a narrator, has gone off the air and, according to recent announcements in the trade papers, the Subject is starting a new radio show on September 16, 1945. It is reported that this program will be a running commentary on current news, books, the theater, and political personalities. This broadcast will originate in Hollywood.

The Subject's column "ORSON WELLES' Almanac" continues to appear in several eastern papers. [Redacted] has pointed out that this column is ghost written by [Redacted] who was hired originally by WELLES to write the radio program "This Is My Best," and when this program went off the air, started to ghost write WELLES' newspaper column.

The Subject spent considerable time at the United Nations Conference in San Francisco where he conducted an informal radio program each Sunday night which was given over to a round-table discussion of current events. While in San Francisco the Subject appeared on the same platform with JOHN HAYARD LAWSON, leader of the Communist movement in the motion picture industry, where each spoke on the United Nations Conference under the Free World auspices. It is understood that JOHN HAYARD, former Los Angeles newspaper man, assisted WELLES at the United Nations Conference and is presently employed by him as a ghost writer.

While in San Francisco WELLES appeared at the California Labor School, which has been described by reliable informants as being dominated by the Communists, where he gave his impressions of the United Nations Conference. A reception was given for WELLES by the California Labor School on May 27, 1945, which was prominently advertised in the "Daily World," West Coast Communist publication.

Returning to Los Angeles WELLES gave his impressions of the United Nations Conference here on May 31, 1945, under the sponsorship of the National Citizens Political Action Committees. Speaking before the Los Angeles Chapter of the National Citizens Political Action Committee WELLES, according to the "California Eagle" of June 7, 1945, plead for a better understanding between the United States and Russia. WELLES stated that Americans should realize that we had a good deal to learn from Russia and that Russia had something to learn from us, and that by continued cooperation between this country and Russia we would establish world peace. WELLES further stated that the problems of anti-Semitism, various anti-negro practices, and other forms of bigotry still had to be crushed, and he identified himself as a loyal fighter in behalf of the
According to a recent official announcement of the Spanish Refugee Appeal of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, ORSON WELLES is named as a national sponsor. It is noted that several known Communists are also included as national sponsors, and the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee has been described by reliable informants as perhaps the foremost Communist-front organisation in the United States. The Subject has recently been appointed to the Advisory Council of the Russian-American Club, and as a member of this Council will be called upon from time to time to pass on certain questions of policy arising in the Los Angeles branch of the Russian-American Club.
LA 100-5440

UNDEVELOPED LEADS?

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Will follow and report the subject's activities.

CONFIDENTIAL

JAN 25 1969

X
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Delete under exemption(s) __B1-B2-B7C-B7D__ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

☐ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

☐ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

page 60 of 100-234-38-34
On August 8, 1945, X stated that he had attended a conference that day with Y and Z.

According to this informant, the recent death of Senator Hiram Johnson has renewed the activities of the HIC and during the course of this conference the question was raised by [redacted] whether the HIC would support [redacted], editor of the "Los Angeles Daily News," for the governorship. [redacted] stated he thought they should not get themselves involved in a position where they were pushed for candidacy and added that he felt that their energies should be directed along the senatorial candidacy of Colonel Carlson. [redacted] readily agreed to this and added that she had heard something which she felt was quite interesting. She stated that [redacted] had promised [redacted] that [redacted] would be the next senatorial candidate from California.

[redacted] stated he had talked to [redacted] about this some months ago, at which time [redacted] assured him he would do nothing to oppose Carlson's senatorial ambition (as much as [redacted] felt that Carlson would be far the better candidate."

[Redacted] Confidential

[Redacted] 8-1-45

[Redacted] Classified

[Redacted] Sep 26 1945

[Redacted] Federal Bureau of Investigation

[Redacted] U.S. Department of Justice
**FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION**

**Form No. 1**

**THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT:** LOS ANGELES

**CONFIDENTIAL**

**FILE NO.:** 100-5440

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REPORT MADE AT</th>
<th>DATE WHEN MADE</th>
<th>PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE</th>
<th>REPORT MADE BY</th>
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<td>10/29/45</td>
<td>9/31, 10/21, 10/25/45</td>
<td></td>
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**CHARACTER OF CASE:** SECURITY MATTER - C

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

Subject presently directing and co-starring with EDWARD G. ROBINSON and LORETTA YOUNG in "The Stranger." Subject appeared at Inter-Racial Choral Festival with [redacted] who is a Communist. Subject named a sponsor of an auction to aid film strikers. Identified as member of Motion Picture Strike Relief Fund.

- **P-

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau File Number 100-23438.

**DETAILS:**

According to the October 1, 1945 issue of "Variety", Hollywood trade publication, the subject is presently directing and co-starring with EDWARD G. ROBINSON and LORETTA YOUNG in a screen play entitled, "The Stranger." This film will be released by RKO this coming spring.

On September 27, 1945 the subject appeared at the Hollywood Bowl in the Inter-Racial Choral Festival with [redacted] where a "united Los Angeles demanded jobs for all." It should be noted that [redacted] is a Communist and that this affair was sponsored in part by [redacted] who has been identified on several Communist front programs.

**APPROVED AND FORWARDED:**

[Redacted]

**DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES**

**RECORDING INDEXED**

**COPIES OF THIS REPORT**

5 - Bureau
1 - ZIO Los Angeles
1 - SID Los Angeles
3 - Los Angeles
This program also urged the immediate passage of a permanent National FEPC as well as the passage of a State FEPC. The program urged those attending to call upon the Los Angeles City Council to pass an ordinance preventing racial and religious discrimination and called upon all citizens of Los Angeles to stand united in answer to the Fascist threat of "divide and conquer".

The subject and his wife, film star RITA HAYWORTH, were given prominent attention in the October 17, 1945 issue of the "Daily World", West Coast Communist publication, which issue announced that they were two of a number of prominent sponsors of an art auction which would be held October 21, 1945 for the benefit of the motion picture workers who were then on strike.

It will be recalled that when the present jurisdictional dispute in the motion picture industry started on March 12, 1945 the Communists demanded that it be ended at once and stated that there was no justification for such a strike. Later, however, in the latter part of July 1945 following the change of the Communist Political Association back to the Communist Party, the Communists vigorously supported this strike. It is noted that among other sponsors of this auction to help Hollywood film strikers are ______________, leader of the Communist movement in the motion picture industry; ______________, a Communist and screen writer; ______________, a Communist attorney; ______________, a Communist actor; ______________, a Communist musician; ______________, a Communist actress; ______________, a Communist screen writer; and ______________, who is also a Communist screen writer.

The subject has also been identified as a member of the Motion Picture Strike Relief Fund, a majority of the members of which are Communists.

PENDING
L. A. 100-5040

UNDEVELOPED LEADS

THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION

At Los Angeles, California

Will follow and report subject's activities.
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:
Subject will organize own company and will
become independent producer. Subject to
direct New York musical comedy.

DETAILS:
According to an announcement in a recent issue of the
"Hollywood Reporter," the Subject, following the completion
of his international production "The Stranger," will form his own company
under the name of Orson Welles Productions and will become an independent
producer. It is understood that the Subject is now in New York City where
he has scheduled rehearsals of a Broadway musical comedy entitled "Around
the World in Eighty Days."
On December 6, 1945, local papers carried a story that RITA HAYWORTH, motion picture actress, had separated from the Subject and would soon seek a divorce, and she stated at that time that a joint statement would be issued by then soon. One newspaper account states that she married NELLES on September 7, 1943, and they have one child. The differences between Subject and his wife were attributed to the Subject's "temperament."
THE LOS ANGELES FIELD DIVISION
AT LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA

Will follow and report Communist activities.
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☑ Deleted under exemption(s) _____ B1 _____ with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

☐ Documents originated with another Government agency(ies). These documents were referred to that agency(ies) for review and direct response to you.

☐ Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

☐ For your information:

☑ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Page 4 of 100-23438-37
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1
THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT LOS ANGELES
FILE NO. 100-544

REPORT MADE AT
LOS ANGELES
1/20, 2/13/46

REPORT MADE BY

CHARACTER OF CASE
SECURITY MATTER - C

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE
5-22-46

SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:

Subject in New York for indefinite stay.

REFERENCE:
Bureau file 100-23438.
Report of Special Agent Los Angeles, 12/26/45.

DETAILS:

According to a recent issue of the "Hollywood Reporter," the
subject, since leaving his wife, film actress RITA HAYWORTH, has gone to
New York for an indefinite stay, where he will produce and direct a musical
comedy. This information was verified under pretext, and although the writer
contacted sources available to this office he was unable to learn of any
recent subversive activities in which the subject might be engaged.

- CLOSED -

COPIES DESTROYED 6-26-46

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FORWARDED

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COPY IN FILE

FEB 20 1948

EX-48
Record of Telephone Call or Visitor

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREBIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

Date: December 2, 1947

Hour: 6:05 PM

REMARKS

desired to call to the Bureau's attention the fact that Mr. Cren fell to Italy about ten days ago, just previous to the Communist up-roar in Italy. She states that Mr. Fell is one of the biggest communists in Hollywood, and that the Bureau should investigate him. She was thanked for calling.

Files are being checked.

Mr. Cren
Mr. Tamm
Mr. E. C. A. Clegg
Mr. Glazier
Mr. Ladd
Mr. Nichols
Mr. Rosen
Mr. Tracy
Mr. Carson
Mr. Egan
Mr. Gurney
Mr. Herro
Mr. Jones
Mr. Mohr
Mr. Pennington
Tele. Room
Mr. Nease
Miss Holmes
Miss Carr

RECEIVED

Recd. ED. 5/18 1947

EX-109

DOB.

EX-109

34 Ul. 4. 1947

DOB.

DOB.

DOB.
TRANSITION FROM THE FRENCH

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREBIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATES: 22-8-6

(Outlined in crayon) In fact, if this photograph should come to the attention of a member of the State Department, WELLES will undoubtedly be brought before a court in charge of prosecuting actors suspected of Un-American activities and perhaps even excluded from Hollywood definitely.

MGM
6/21/49

RECORDED - 34

100-23438-40
TO: Director, FBI
FROM: L.R. BOC, Los Angeles
SUBJECT: ORSON WELLES, wa., George Orson Welles
SECURITY MATTER - C
(Bureau file 100-337852)

Rerep of SM dated August 3, 1949, at Los Angeles, five copies of which are herewith enclosed.

In view of the fact that WELLES has never been placed as a member of the Communist Party by confidential informants of this office, and inasmuch as he has been in Italy these past two years making motion pictures, the Bureau is requested to give consideration to the advisability of cancellation of his Security Index Card.
WELLES has spent past two years in Italy, making motion pictures, and is presently making a picture in Casablanca, North Africa. Never identified as CP member, but has permitted use of his name and has been active in CP front organizations. Literary and motion picture assistants identified as CP members.

REFERENCE: Bureau file 100-337852.

DETAILS: At Los Angeles, California;

RESIDENCE: Classified by 5/8/71.
Declassify on: 02/10/77.

Los Angeles daily newspapers and theatrical trade magazines state WELLES has been in Italy for the past two years engaged in making motion pictures. Advised that WELLES is presently engaged in making a motion picture in Casablanca, North Africa, where his address is care of Cachet, Hotel Shetek, Casablanca.

EMPLOYMENT: As stated above, WELLES lives in Italy. The theatrical daily "Variety", in its edition of March 4, 1949, stated that WELLES' production company, Mercury Productions, had been notified by Nassour Studios to vacate quarters which had been rented to the Mercury Productions. The paper stated that March 4, 1949 was the deadline by which the Mercury Productions must be off the movie lot. WELLES' company, Mercury Productions, was asked to...

APPROVED AND FORWARDED BY SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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COPIES DESTROYED

100-23438-41

RECORDED 1/13/49

INDEXED 105

F 1
Informant stated that in his opinion WELLES had never been a regular member of the Communist Party, although he had joined a number of front organizations which fostered Communist Party aims and had done a great deal of work for these organizations by personally addressing meetings convened by these groups, and by permitting the use of his name in the publicity releases of these organizations. Informant further stated that WELLES had been "black listed" financially through the employment by who, if they were not actual card-holding Communist Party members, would constantly proclaim the virtues of Communism.

Informant was of the belief that this money eventually went into the coffers of the Communist Party, although he said he had no proof this was so.

Informant was of the belief that WELLES did not even begin to know the goings on taking place among his employees. Informant added that WELLES is badly off financially at the present time, and stated facetiously that WELLES had been making pictures over in Italy these past two years in order to finance a trip home to the United States.

In March and April of 1946 advised a writer and Communist Party member, was engaged in ghost writing a series of radio broadcasts produced by ORSON WELLES.
The California Eagle, in its edition of March 7, 1946, contained an appeal by ORSON WELLES who called upon all Americans to defeat, by generous support to the Bay Fund Campaign of the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief, the after effects of the barbarous "Marita Plan", Nazi blueprint for murder by which the Germans aimed at nothing less than the total extermination of the people of Yugoslavia. It should be noted that this organization is among those listed by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The Daily People's World, on page five of its edition of May 8, 1946, stated that fifteen crates of costumes had been donated to the American Committee for Yugoslav Relief for shipment to the National Theatre in Belgrade. Among the sponsors of this committee was screen notable ORSON WELLES.

The Los Angeles Examiner, in its edition of March 11, 1946, under the by-line of DAVID SENTIER, stated that ORSON WELLES was one of the members of fourteen Communist front organizations and was currently supporting the Independent Citizens' Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions.

On November 22, 1946 advised by letter dated May 13, 1946 the Pennsylvania Regional Chapter of the ICCASP announced that its chapter, in association with the Philadelphia Citizens Political Action Committee, was staging a big "Answer to Reaction" meeting at the Academy of Music, May 26, 1946. Principal speakers were to include ORSON WELLES.

On April 10, 1946 advised that "The Independent", the monthly journal of opinion of ICCASP, listed ORSON WELLES among its contributors.

ORSON WELLES' name was also listed as a member of the Executive Council of Hollywood Independent Citizens Committee of the Arts, Sciences and Professions, appearing on the letterhead of this organization as of June, 1946, distributed for public consumption.

On October 17, 1946, advised that ORSON WELLES was one of several speakers who spoke at the FEPC at a mass rally held at the Second Baptist Church on October 17, 1946. Informant stated that LENA HORNE, CARLTON J. MOSS, CLARENCE JUSE, HELEN BAHAGAN, DOUGLAS, Rev. CLAYTON HUSSLE and Rev. J. RAYMOND HENDERSON, were the other speakers.
Informant stated that all of these speakers were loud in protest against rabble-rousers and race baiters who started trouble among Negro people. Informant stated that the most fiery speaker was WELLES who recounted the racial clashes since the wars and spoke of the anticipated unseating of Senator BILBO. WELLES reiterated the threat to hound the officer responsible for the blinding of the Negro veteran in South Carolina. It should be noted, however, that the California Eagle, in its edition of October 17, 1946 contained an article and picture captioned, "Fighting for FEPC Proposition". The newspaper stated CARLTON ROSS read the dynamic report sent by ORSON WELLES who was unable to be present. It should be noted also that the FEPC Bill was strongly backed by the Communist Party and its front organizations in the Los Angeles area, and that the bill itself was defeated in the November 1946 elections held in California.

On October 30, 1946, [redacted] advised at a meeting of 150 to 200 persons held at the 28th Street YMCA in Los Angeles on the night of October 23, 1946, that telegrams endorsing the FEPC were read from EDGAR PERGEN, HELEN GARAGAN DOUGLAS, ORSON WELLES and three or four other prominent persons in the motion picture colony.

The Daily Worker, east coast Communist Party newspaper, in its edition of December 30, 1946, carried an article that ORSON WELLES had been nominated to serve as vice chairman of the Progressive Citizens of America.

[Redacted] on March 1, 1947 advised that ICCASP had been dissolved on December 29, 1946. On that same date ICCASP and the National Citizens Political Action Committee were combined to form the Progressive Citizens of America. ORSON WELLES was listed as vice chairman for the national offices on the letterhead of the Political Action Committee, 954 South La Brea, Los Angeles 36, California, as of February 1947.
It should be noted that the American Russian Institute of Southern California at Los Angeles has been declared by the Attorney General as one of those organizations coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

March 12, 1947, advised that the Los Angeles Division of the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee was attempting to secure the services of ORSON WELLES and his wife, RITA HAYWORTH, to prepare and transcribe for radio a script which would aid the committee's cause. Informant stated that functionaries of the JAFRC felt that, inasmuch as WELLES' wife was an honorary vice-president of that organization, and since WELLES supported the organization's aims, they expected little trouble would be met in securing their aid.

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee is among those organizations listed by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

The Committee for the First Amendment announced on October 28, 1947, according to the Daily People's World of October 29, 1947, that ORSON WELLES was one among 339 motion picture industry celebrities who have protested the investigation of the motion picture industry by the House Committee on un-American Activities in Washington, D.C.

On December 4, 1947, advised SA that while he has no proof that ORSON WELLES is a member of the Communist Party, he does know that WELLES, in meetings of the Screen Directors Guild, has acted in concert with members whom informant believes are Communist Party members, and voted as a group with these members. Informant stated
ORSON WELLES was a member of the Communist Party as evidenced by his actions and associates.

Informant stated, however, that these men stated they had no actual proof that would substantiate their belief.

Advised the New York Office that ORSON WELLES was a left wing adherent of the Council of Actors' Equity.

On February 27, 1948 advised SA that ORSON WELLES name appeared on a list of the Advisory Committee of the Visual Education League, 167 South Normandie Avenue, Los Angeles.

On August 21, 1943 advised SA that the name ORSON WELLES, 427 North Canon Drive, Beverly Hills, California, appeared on the correspondence of the American Youth for Democracy. Informant stated that he knew that the AYD had asked ORSON WELLES to act as a sponsor in its Jobs Conference held sometime in the past, but he did not know that WELLES was a member or had contributed to the sustainer fund of the American Youth for Democracy. The American Youth for Democracy is one of the organizations listed by the Attorney General as coming within the purview of Executive Order 9835.

Special Employee advised that he had checked the records and found no record of ORSON WELLES.

CLOSED
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

☑ Deleted under exemption(s) B1-B2, B7C, B7D with no segregable material available for release to you.

☐ Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

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Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Page Ref. 100-23438-41
SAC, SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

ORSON WELLES, WASH.
George Orson Welles
SECURITY MATTER - C
Your file 100-5440

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-20-49 DENTAL

September 23, 1949

In accordance with your recommendation, the Security Index Card relative to the captioned individual has been cancelled and you are authorized to place your copy thereof in the investigative case file.
SAC, Los Angeles

Director, FBI

OSWALD WELLES, Jr
SECURITY MATTER - C

Your file #100-5142
Bureau file #100-22438

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED

DATE 5-27-56

B2C

Reop of SAC dated August 3, 1949, at Los Angeles.

Referenced report contains only information pertaining to subject's activities in CP matters during 1946 and 1947 and further reflects that Welles has been in Italy for the past two years.

In view of the above facts, the Security Index card maintained for Welles at the Bureau is being cancelled and you are instructed to similarly cancel the card maintained in your office.

In the event subject again becomes active in CP matters upon his return to the United States, consideration should be given by you to reactivate his Security Index card.

By G. Fenn

DE-INDEXED
DATE: 6/19/59
20

RECORDED 20

CABLES SECTION:
MAILED 8
SEP 26 1949 P.M.
100-23438-42
70 SEP 27 1949

FBI

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO:    DIRECTOR FBI

FROM:  SAC BOSTON (100-C)

DATE:  1/12/71

SUBJECT: COQUIELLAS

DECLASSIFIED  5/28/73  537-88

This is being furnished for the information of the Bureau and Officers receiving copies of this letter.

CC:

NEW YORK
LOS ANGELES

G. I. R. - 7

SECURITY INFORMATION CONFOIDENTIAL

RECORDED  101
INDEXED  101

100-23438-43
Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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Pages contain information furnished by another Government agency(ies). You will be advised by the FBI as to the releasability of this information following our consultation with the other agency(ies).

Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):

__________________________________________________________________________

☐ For your information:

__________________________________________________________________________

☐ The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

Not recorded, mail dated 35-54
Date: March 25, 1954

To: Director
Central Intelligence Agency
2430 E Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C.

Attention: Deputy Director, Plans

From: John Edgar Hoover, Director
Federal Bureau of Investigation

Subject: Espionage - R
Classified by multiple sources
Declassify on: OADR 2-17-84

Bracketed information has been declassified:
CIA Letter 11-21-86

For your information, an informant of known reliability advised us on March 30, 1945, that Orson Welles was arranging to set up a "Free World House" in San Francisco, California, to be run during the United Nations World Security Conference which was held in San Francisco during April, 1945.
Attached for your information are reports concerning Orson Welles dated October 21, 1941, April 18, 1942, November 3, 1944, December 14, 1944, February 3, 1945, September 12, 1945, October 29, 1945, December 25, 1945, and August 3, 1949.

We would appreciate receiving any additional information coming to your attention concerning the activities of Orson Welles.

Attachment
ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED
HEREIN IS CONFIDENTIAL
DATE: 5-27-86
100 - 23438 - 44
CHANGED TO
100 - 42135 - 5

DEC 15 1955

[Signature]
ORSON WELLES
Born: 1915
Kenosha, Wisconsin

Transmitted herewith are seven FBI investigative reports in the case entitled "Orson Welles, alias George
Organ-Welles; Internal Security - A" concerning the subject of your name check request.

The Fourth Report of the California Committee on
Un-American Activities to the 1948 California Legislature
reflects the following information concerning Orson Welles:

This report refers to Orson Welles as a member of
the Advisory Council of the Theatre Arts Committee of the
Actors Laboratory Theatre, which this report refers to as
a "Red front."

This report refers to the American Committee for
Protection of Foreign Born as a Communist front and reflects
Orson Welles as being affiliated with it in one capacity or
another.

American Committee for Yugoslav Relief is described
in this report as a Communist front group organized to support
the dictatorship of the Soviet puppet, Tito. Orson Welles
is listed by this Committee as a sponsor of the American
Committee for Yugoslav Relief.

This report lists the name of Orson Welles as
among those who have been affiliated with or who have given
support to the American Youth Congress. This report reflects
that the American Youth Congress was launched during August
1934, and for about seven years it was one of the most
influential front organizations everywhere in the 

Encllosures (7)

INDEX 1942-12588-1047 FEB 23 1956

Orig. and one to ARMY
Reg. rec'd. 2-2-56

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR
ADD. DISSEMINATION.
American Communist Party. This report continues that Orson Welles was one of the sponsors of the Dinner-Forum held at the Hotel Biltmore, New York City, in October, 1941, under the joint auspices of the American Committee to Save Refugees, Exiled Writers Committee of the League of American Writers, and the United Spanish Aid Committee. This report reflects that the League of American Writers is a Communist front and lists Orson Welles as among those who have been affiliated with this League.

For further information concerning the subject of your name check request you are referred to the files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities.

The foregoing information is furnished to you as a result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is furnished for your use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.
Mr. Welles, however, was the subject of a security-type investigation conducted by the FBI during the late 1940s based upon his name appearing in connection with the activities of Communist Party front organizations. Although Welles had never been identified as a Communist Party member, many of his associates and assistants were identified as such. (100-23438)

The central files of the FBI, including the records of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning the captioned individuals based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

NOTE: Per request of Miss Jane Dannenhauer, Staff Assistant (Security), The White House.

ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED
DATE 5-29-86 BY SP101104L
247.842

EX-101
REC-86
100-23438-46

4 JUL 14 1976

FLO, 3/71, TELET, 1976
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION

SUBJECT: ORSON WELLES

FILE NUMBER: 100-23438-X (EBF)
One of the most active members of the Hollywood community
who has been engaged in the support of various communist enterprises
is Orson Welles. His associations with Communist Party organizations
have apparently not been accidental or innocent. They are as follows:

EXHIBIT No. 2—NEGRO CULTURAL COMMITTEE. This exhibit is a
photostatic copy of an article from the Daily Worker (Communist Party
newspaper) for May 6, 1938 (Page 7). The Negro Cultural Committee
was one of the fly-by-night front organizations set up by the Communist
Party for the purpose of agitating in favor of the Anti-Lynching
bill. Orson Welles appears as a member of this committee. The other
members of the Negro Cultural Committee, together with their records of
associations with Communist front organizations, are as follows:

Weber: National Negro Congress, Daily Worker, Ben Leider Memorial
Fund, Theatre Arts Committee, American League for Peace and Democracy,
Film for Democracy, and Film Advocates for Democracy;

Aldrich: Artists' Union;

Asch: Socialist Party (Louis House Meeting), National Negro
Congress, Workers Alliance, Workers Bookshop, Morning Freiheit, Daily
Worker, Workers School, and American League for Peace and Democracy;

Flamm: National Negro Congress, New Masses;

Hull: National Negro Congress, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln
Brigade;

Langston Hughes: American League for Peace and Democracy, American
League for Peace Mobilization, Negro Playwrights Company, International Workers
Order, New Theatre League, New Masses, International Labor Defense,
Communist Party, and American League Against War and Fascism, League of
American Writers, Workers School, Daily Worker, Midwest Daily Record,
North American Committee to Aid Spanish Democracy, National Writers
Congress, National Committee for the Defense of Political Prisoners,
Sunday Worker, League of Workers Theaters, Film and Photo League,
Workers Dance League, Soviet Russia Today, National Emergency Conference
for Democratic Rights, the Workers Monthly, Friends of the Soviet
Union, Friends of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade, National Committee
for People's Rights, League of Professional Groups for Foster and Ford,
New Pioneer, Champion, Non-Partisan Committee for the Re-Election of
Congressman Vito Marcantonio, Open letter for Closer Cooperation with
the Soviet Union, Statement by Americans Progressives on the Moscow
Trials, New Dance League, Conference on Pan American Democracy, Con-
gress of American Revolutionary Writers, Committee of Professional
Groups for Brower and Ford, Workers Library Publishers, and the
Workers Cultural Federation,

Edward Steiner: National Negro Congress, and a supporter of Simon Ger-
son;

LaFollette: Theatre Arts Committee;

The foregoing members of the Negro Cultural Committee, together with
their communist affiliations, have been listed in order to show how
completely communist was the organization with which Orson Welles was
associated.

**EXHIBIT #76** 
**FOSTER PARENTS PLAN FOR BAR LOWEN:** This
organization, of which Orson Welles was a sponsor, was one of the more
respectable fronts set up by the communists. Other well-known fellow
travelers whose names appear on this exhibit include George Seldes, 
Lillian Hellman, and Dorothy Parker.

**EXHIBIT #26** 
**AMERICAN BUREAU AND NORTH AMERICAN COMMITTEE TO
AND SPANISH DEMOCRACY.** The second page of this exhibit lists the name
of Orson Welles as a sponsor of this organization. The Dies Committee
has found the organization to be a front for the Communist Party.
EXHIBIT #76 — THEATRE ARTS COMMITTEE. A completely communist controlled organization.

EXHIBIT #77 — MOTION PICTURE ARTISTS COMMITTEE. Also a communist front organization of which Orson Welles was a member. See second page of the exhibit.

EXHIBIT #78 — THE DEPLORABLE Condition TO LIFT THE BAN. The second page of this exhibit is taken from a booklet published by this organization and lists the name of Orson Welles. The organization was found by the Dies Committee to be a front for the Communist Party. Note the names of Harry C. Ward and Amy Frey Eischen, as well as other prominent communist fellow travelers, among the signers of this document.

EXHIBIT #79 — PACT. This is one of the oldest Communist Party organizations still in existence. Note at the bottom of the exhibit that a play was about to produce a play by Orson Welles. Orson Welles is listed in this exhibit as one of the supporters of the organization.

EXHIBIT #80 — WORKERS BOOKSHOP. This institution is under the direct management of the Communist Party. The name of Orson Welles appears in this exhibit as a speaker on a program given for the benefit of the Workers Bookshop.

EXHIBIT #81 — AMERICAN YOUTH CONGRESS. This, too, is one of the organizations found unanimously by the Dies Committee to be a front for the Communist Party. Orson Welles appears in this exhibit as a sponsor for the organization.

EXHIBIT #82 — NEW MASSES. This publication is one of the organs of the Communist Party. This exhibit gives the name of Orson Welles as the master of ceremonies at a concert given for the benefit of New Masses.

EXHIBIT #83 — NEW MASSES. In this exhibit, the New Masses thanks Orson Welles for his contribution to its concert.

EXHIBIT #84 — PEOPLE'S PERRY. A communist forum at which Orson Welles was listed as a speaker.
EXHIBIT #56 — WORKERS BOOKSHOP UNION FUND. This exhibit shows Orson Welles contributing his services to another strictly Communist Party enterprise. Appearing on the program with him were such well-known communists as...

EXHIBIT #56 — WORKERS BOOKSHOP UNION FUND. This exhibit is a photostatic copy of the speech which Orson Welles delivered on the occasion described above. In the course of his speech, Orson Welles declared that "we cannot get along without the people's front." It is not to be supposed that Welles was unfamiliar with the fact that the "people's front" was a movement initiated by and conducted for the Communist Party.

EXHIBIT #57 — LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS. In this exhibit, it is stated that the League of American Writers (pronounced by the unanimous vote of the Dies Committee to be a Communist Party organization) is getting behind the production of Orson Welles' picture, "Citizen Kane." This exhibit is taken from the Daily Worker for January 22, 1941, page 7.

EXHIBIT #58 — LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS. Again in this exhibit, taken from the Daily Worker for January 23, 1941, page 1, it appears that the League of American Writers has pledged its support to the Orson Welles' film, "Citizen Kane."

EXHIBIT #59 — AMERICAN STUDENT UNION. This organization was found unanimously by the Dies Committee to be a Communist Party front. Orson Welles appears in this exhibit as a supporter of the organization.

EXHIBIT #60 — THEATER AND COMMITTEE. Orson Welles is here listed along with numerous communists and fellow travelers, as a member of this communist front organization.

- 4 -
EXHIBITS 51-55 inclusive. These exhibits are simply a few of the thousands of examples of the continuous fight which the Communist and its front organizations have waged against William Randolph Hearst for the past decade and more. The documentary evidence proves that the most intensive and extensive campaign which the Communist Party has conducted throughout its entire history has been its anti-Hearst campaign.

Orson Welles' film, "Citizen Kane," was inspired by his close associations with communists over a period of years—associations which the foregoing exhibits show could not have been accidental. In fact, the word "inspired" is much too mild to express the source of Welles' idea for the production of the picture. It is well known that the Communist Party utilizes every such contact as Welles for the purpose of furthering its campaigns. The evidence before us leads inevitably to the conclusion that the film, "Citizen Kane," is nothing more than an extension of the Communist Party's campaign to smear one of its most effective and consistent opponents in the United States.
NEGRO ARTISTS TO PRESENT
SOCIETY REVUE SUNDAY NIGHT

COLORFUL PROGRAM WILL INCLUDE NEW BALLET,
"FLAMINGO," BY DANCE UNIT, AND SKETCHES
OF FAMOUS NEGRO LEADERS.

COURTESY FROM THE SHOES, SHOE AND LEATHER MANUFACTURERS
SOCIETY, will participate in the musical satire on the
musical arts,Lookout Hill, Rhytten.

"The Romance of the Night," scheduled for present-
ance by the Negro Cultural Committee, 63rd St. and Nega-
will be one of the highlights of the revue.

ANN SOKOLOWS

ROBERTUS

Dots 3 Dashes

Romance
Theatre Arts Comm. Proves Equity Accusations False

To the Editor of Theatre Arts:

We have just learned from theatre sources that the alleged Equity conspiracy has been discredited by the Theatre Arts Council (TAC). The TAC wants the American public to know that the Equity conspiracy is not true.

The TAC's investigation shows that Equity is not a threat to the American public. It is an organization that is helping to keep the American public safe and secure.

Please accept this letter as a sign of our appreciation for the work that TAC is doing to keep the American public safe.

Sincerely,

[Signature]

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Entertainment Press, Inc.
117 West 46th Street, N.Y.C.

Checks payable to Theatre Arts

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For Theatre Arts
TAC
A magazine of theater, film, radio, music, dance.

THE COVER FOR TAC this month centered around a musical production presented by the Detroit Civic Light Opera Company. The production, with over two thousand parts, was well attended and will continue to run into the Christmas season. The show, a musical comedy, is entitled "All In The Family." Attendees of the show are urged to attend the Detroit Civic Light Opera Company's next production, "The Music Man," which opens on January 3rd at the Detroit Opera House.

* * *

John Henry Hammond, Jr., in his capacity as the cultural editor of TAC, has recently been appointed to a new post as the director of the New York City Opera. Hammond, who has served as the cultural editor of TAC for several years, is well known for his work in the field of opera and has been instrumental in bringing new, innovative productions to the stage. His appointment to this position is seen as a significant development for both the New York City Opera and TAC as a whole.

* * *

The January 1939 edition of TAC includes articles on the following events:

- A New York Production
- A Los Angeles Production
- A Chicago Production
- A Boston Production
- A Philadelphia Production
- A Washington Production

* * *

TAC is a publication of the National Association of Theatre Editors, Inc.
Mantle, Clifford Odets, Dorothy Parkes, Mrs. Elmer Rau, Mrs. Robert J. Shernoff, Herman Shumlin, Bella and Samuel Spewack, Richard Waring, Jr., and Olman Wells as committee men to the Children's Aid Society, which has been called to have some

Broadway plans for a benefit for Spanish

children on the same night on January

Other work for Spanish and Chinese

orphanages includes the Baby Beatty Col-

league which is being organized by Mrs.

White at the Theatre Arts Committee

March details soon.

Governor Herbert H. Lehman is a

member of the committee for the Christ-

mas Children Aid Campaign. Others on

flats.

Herbert Barnett, Spencer Ginn, Col.

Benjamin Clark, Col. Frank Knox, Mrs.

Charles Poore, Helen Hayes, Lawrence

Tibbett, Paul Muni, John Haviv

Holmes, Robert Mainwaring, J. C., Frank

Morgan, Stanislaus Hara, Mrs. A. V.

Kaltenborn, Dorothy Thompson, Hen-

rik Van Loon, Selma Klingen, Frank

Craige, Newbold Morris, Samuel Gold-

win, Jack Brown, Eamon Farrell, Ben-

lee Goodson, Van Wray, Rabo-

bou, Einert M. Vaise, Frank Garmier, Louis Mijnheer, Vera Zoro,

Cora Grant, Herman Shumlin, Walter Wagner, John Garfield, Martin

Dreyfus, Tom Finkle, Dorothy

Peters, John Wray, agency war, Henry

Van Veen, Maria Tarras, Dorothea

puma, Loxton Stander, Rockwell Kent,

Irwin Thalmann, Mark Rubinstein. Led

Erikson, Margot Gilmour, Margi

Stevenson, Hewwood Brown and Hugh

Johnston, Needlework committee, at the

Theatre Arts Committee dinner, the

Children's Aid Campaign, and Vice-

H. Groome, are its treasurers.

while, TAC had excellent support

for its national benefit on Retur-

nue, C. H. E. H. U. and in part

For the moment, the military man

are in the saddle and we are likely to

come back to their spirit in the past an

realities. The newspaper are full of,

their place, and full of partial whose

of their symptoms, hounded to

shreds, old folk, driven from their

home, to camp in winter fields.

whether we forget that such home-

who is the way we are not full of s

We cannot be back and not

for it to collapse. But it is time we

spit and against the wall, since with

and blood, and belong to their

victims, we are helping to undermine

the spirit of all in the world.

And Raymond Massey. In man

of the earth, whereon the Fates

saw and in the accompanying local

annual general congress are we not

called to speak again with old

and an official ritual. They are not

allowed to receive the memorial

of their hearts at Christmas time.

The are not allowed to help the con-

went armies of the winter. Yet self

imposed, forbidden. Christmas is also

forbidden. Even intelligence is forbid-

London is not enough to prevent human nature

itself to be prohibited.

Against such madness we must do

what we can. And we can be a

merry, J. A. H. W. W. is being able to construe the joy of

Christmas, etc. with speeches and

the services of music.

MICHELSON: New Theatricals, in

sum, are nicely filling the big box office

of the Theatre Royal. New York

presenting Theatricals was one performance of The, " Lone

in the Snow," and two performances of the "Hill Road" coupled with Aladdin with Mary

Hartney in the title role. The New

School, because of the response in their

program, The Carol symphony will be

repeated Sunday and Wednesday.

IN THE HOLLYWOOD of the script, A. H. Miller, and the

stage. As a result of its success, "The

Film Guild" was formed, some of its

members being John Weller, John

Garfield, Tom Mesinger, J. J. Borden,

Frank and Donald Herzberg, Marion

Hillard, Hollister Arthur and Louis

McMurtry.

THE PRINTING OF THE play and

music of "Peter Pan," by A. N. T. C. H.

New York premiere, according to

The chamberlain's Report, is an exception

to the usual pace, and when it is

a to us in the city we are to

continue in the city, the author, etc.

These include the celebration of Christmas this year and Michael Living and

dance. Alice Baldwin and Kenneth

Benson.

The film in Carolshin is directed by

Herbert Kline is now being shown in

New York, together with its director.

It is scheduled for its world premiere

within a few weeks. It seems that TAC

published these photographs of the film in its Carolshin on the cover

(November), and not unfavourable

is was of correction.

The feature of the Parade Plan has re-

printed in a brochure from the Chamber of Ashcliff and the "TAC's Nation-

lar issues, while the new literature pamphlet

by an Smith. Editor, reporter, David

Wells, The Outlaw, now is. TAC.
These Americans Say:

"LIFT THE EMBARGO AGAINST REPUBLICAN SPAIN"
CLERGYMEN. (Continued)
Rev. Worth Tippy
Rev. Harry F. Ward
Rev. Luther Weigle
Rabbis Stephen S. Wise
Rabbi Milton Steinberg

DOCTORS OF MEDICINE
Leo Eloeiser
Haven Emerson
Joseph Erlanger
Thomas M. French
Harry Goldblatt
Evarts A. Graham
Andrew C. Ivy
Reuben L. Kahn
Samuel J. Kopernitz
Carl H. Lembert
Phoebus A. Levine
Samuel A. Levine
Leo Leib

SOCIAL WORKERS
Helen M. Harris
Joel Hunter
Elsie Voorhees Jones
Dr. Paul Kellogg
Jacoba Kepes
Dr. John A. Kingbury
Dr. Eduard Lindeman
Owen R. Lovejoy
Dr. Solomon Lowenstein

AND AMONG OTHERS
Edward L. Irsche
Mrs. H. V. Kaltreborn
Joseph P. Lash
Emil Lengyel
Burgess Meredith
Philip Merivale
Marion Miller
Oscar E. Maurer
Paul Muni
Marion Edward Park
Mrs. Edgerton Parsons

Sydney Maslen
Edith Belle Ott
Mildred Parks
Bertha C. Reynolds
Mary K. Sankovich
Linton B. Swift
Mary Van Kleeck
Lillian Wald

Mrs. Lena Madison Phillips
Helenita Rodolfo
Sylvia Sidore
Katherine Tarrill
Mrs. Harrison Thomas
Paul H. Todd
Harold G. Urey
Sigmund Van Veen

Men Yerger
Art Young
ANALYSIS OF THE 1939 SURVEY OF AMERICAN OPINION ON SPAIN
BY THE AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC OPINION.

FEBRUARY 1937
Pro-Loyalist 85%
Pro-Franco 35%

TODAY
Pro-Loyalist 76%
Pro-Franco 24%

A separate tabulation, based on religious affiliation, revealed the following:

PROTESTANTS
Pro-Loyalist 85%
Pro-Franco 17%

CATHOLICS
Pro-Loyalist 42%
Pro-Franco 58%

Thus out of 10 Catholics, 4 favor Franco, 3 favor neither side, and 3 favor the Loyalists. A majority of Catholics do not favor Franco. To continue the embargo, which all admit favors Franco, is therefore to permit American policy toward Spain to be determined by a small articulate pressure group, representing a very small fraction of effective voting population.

This material has been compiled and published by The Coordinating Committee to Lift the Embargo, Rev. Herman P. Reissig, Secretary, Room 201, 381 Fourth Avenue, New York City, through whom all statements made therein can be verified.
Welles Accuses Trotskyists of Forging Name to Meeting Call

Orson Welles well-known Broadway, radio actor and producer of the Mercury Theatre's hit play, "The Great Gatsby," is now in New York where he is directing the play, "The Great Gatsby," at the Mercury Theatre. He has also announced that a new play, "The Great Gatsby," will be produced by the Mercury Theatre. The play is scheduled to open on September 15, 1937.

Welles further stated that he had been asked by several of his friends who are members of the American Legion Service Department to speak at their meeting on September 15. The meeting will be held at the Edison Theatre, 324 West 46th Street, at 8:00 p.m. on Monday, September 15. The play will be presented by the Mercury Theatre, with the proceeds from the sale of tickets going to the American Legion Service Department.

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Mrs. Roosevelt
Honor Guest at
Youth Dinner

To Dedicate "In Memoriam"

By CARLYLE P. ROSS

Mrs. Roosevelt will be
t the guest of honor at the American
Youth Congress dinner at the May
for Men Boys Home.

At the dinner Mrs. Roosevelt will
dedicate the American Youth Con-
ducership, an award to fur
ther the practice of leadership
community among young people.

The award itself honors a person,
chosen as the outstanding leader
of a national organization, a
member who has rendered an
outstanding public service to
the advancement of American
Youth.

Mrs. John E. Ballaghworth,
Chairman of the National YC
Committee of the Republican
Party, will be the guest speaker.

Other speakers include: \((\text{Text cut off})\)

COMMITTEE OF PATRONS

The committee of patrons for the
dinner is as follows:

Chairman: J. J. Ballaghworth,
American Youth Congress
Executive Director

Members:

- John E. Ballaghworth
- J. J. Ballaghworth
- Mrs. John E. Ballaghworth
- Sister Alice Chase
- Mrs. John E. Ballaghworth
- Sister Alice Chase
- J. J. Ballaghworth
- Mrs. John E. Ballaghworth
- Sister Alice Chase
- J. J. Ballaghworth
- Mrs. John E. Ballaghworth
- Sister Alice Chase

Others on the committee:

- Dr. W. E. Burroughs
- Mrs. Ralph Burroughs
- Mrs. Ralph Burroughs
- Mrs. Ralph Burroughs
- Mrs. Ralph Burroughs
- Mrs. Ralph Burroughs
- Mrs. Ralph Burroughs

BEST COPY AVAILABLE
New Masses Concert

Orson Welles will present each number.

Radio Music
MARC BLIZZARD'S "The Get the Time," entire company.
Mr. Blizard at the piano.

Revival Music
ELIOT J. ROYES GEORGE, "A General Rule," David A.
"A. R. Scherman" and "Barnes" Joe. Signed, Italian, French.
Mr. R. Hott at the piano.

Church Music
LUDWIG ENGEL'S music from "Moses in the Desert" and "I Thaw the Cripples.
VIRGIL THOMSON'S "Christmas Eve" Music.
Louis Engel Singers. Mr. Engel and Mr. Thomas conducting.

High School Opera
"Excerpts from AARON COPLAND'S "Rodeo," "Brother," and "The Lark.""
"Ballets" by Berg, Stravinsky, and Prokofiev. Signed, Italian, French.
Mr. R. Hott at the piano.

Theater Music
BY, HANS EIDLER
"Moritat." Barrymore, baritone. Mr. Blizard at the piano.

Pretoria Music
VIRGIL THOMSON'S "Piano Concerto." Mr. Thomson at the piano.

Opera Music
Mr. R. Hott at the piano.

Music for the Dance
Mr. North at the piano.

Militant Music
EARL ROBINSON'S "The Lincolns." Mr. Robinson conducting.

Chart: Freeman Avery series production.

Sunday Evening, February 8

46th Street Theatre
228 West Forty-sixth Street, New York City.
Tickets at box. New Masses, 11 East Forty-sixth Street, New York City.
10 East Forty-sixth Street, Commodore Hotel, New York City.
For reservations call "Little 1-0011." New York, 8-1199.
All shows Revolving, $1.50, $2.00, $3.00.
A limited number of second and third shows available.
WAITING FOR THE VERDICT

WE ARE waiting for the verdict. It is to be life or death for the New Masses.

Waiting is a terrifying experience. The first letters with contributions have been few, and slow to come in. But those that have arrived have given us the idea: they are the last sentence of one letter:

"Suspension of the New Masses is unthinkable."

It is unthinkable to us, too, and yet it is a very real danger. We have to think about it and plan against it. We must make the New Masses safe not only in the immediate emergency but for a year to come. With a deficit of $30,000 a week and none, and no angel to underwrite this deficit, we need a $20,000 fund. Our past resource is our readers.

We are now on a week-to-week basis. The response this week decides that the magazine lives another week.

The general verdict, whether we will receive the $20,000 fund, is what we are waiting for. Upon it depends the hopes of all those to whom the suspension of the New Masses would be a genuine danger—upon whom the suspension of the New Masses is "unthinkable."

If you have been waiting to make your contribution, wait no longer. It does the magazine good to stretch this campaign out.

Our readers must give the verdict. It is a verdict that can only be made with money. If you have given as much as you can afford, why not hold a party to raise funds for the New Masses? We will cooperate fully.

But whatever contribution you can NOW to the New Masses 31 East 27th Street, New York.

We are waiting for your verdict.

THIS WEEK

February 15, 1916

The Hop on Sycamore by Bruce Morton

Helen S. Seabrook's Choice by Edith Lewis

Editorial Comment

The Age of the Colossus by George Harrar

"Jesus Fights the Bureaucracy by Robert Redfield

Frederick Douglass, Forgotten Leader by Millard Sheets

In Barcelona as Dusk by Bruce Morton

The Four Minutes, Ode A Poem by H. L. Mencken

Reader's Forum

BOOK REVIEWS

Arms of Sunset by Tania A. Taitson

Triangular Flight by John Oakey

Yoknapatawpha by Edith Berry Byrne

A Biography of Jones by Richard H. Rorer

Bench Review

SHORTS AND SHORTS

Shadow and Substance on Broadway by Nathaniel Bercholz

Music in a Barroom by E. D. Durrell

Two Colours for Small Commen by Elizabeth Noble

Three Dimensional Film by Sidney Kaufman

Divers for Japan and China by O. H. Buxton

FORUMS AND BROADCASTS

ART WORK


Two weeks' notice is required for change of address. Notification must be given thirty days in advance of change or the old address will go to the new.

We reserve the right to refuse to print articles which are libellous or obscene.

Let your contributions be mailed to the New Masses, 31 East 27th Street, New York.
WOMEN!

Reduce!

"DON'T PUT IT OFF—TAKE IT OFF!"

INDIVIDUAL EXERCISE—BADMINTON—
PING-PONG—SWEDISH MASSAGE—
ELECTRIC CABINET—SUSTAIN LAMPS—
DANCE EUCHARIST
Prices: $10—$25

REDUCE—BUILD UP—KEEP FIT!
GOODWIN'S GYMNASIUM
1457 W. way at 43rd St. Wisconsin 7-4298

"AFTER THE BALL IS OVER"
all New York will talk about the
5th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL
COSTUME and
MASQUARADE BALL
A V FIVE CENTRAL COMMITTEE of the
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S ORDER
Saturday, March 19th
in the
ROYAL WINDSOR
30th and 31st St. & Columbus Ave.

250 Prize—TWO BANDS—
MUSIC ENSMORING

Tickets are
of 80 Fifth Ave. or Local Branches
In Advance $2.50
At Door $3.00

FIRST SYMPOSIUM
THE CULTURE of the
PEOPLE'S FRONT

D. Granville
& E. Z. Lamb
& A. Z. Lamb
& A. Z. Lamb

HOTEL CENTER
20th St. and 16th Ave.

THREE ANNUAL
WRITERS BALL
AND REUNION

SAVOY

SATURDAY—MARCH 5th

TENS OF THOUSANDS
TELL US HOW MANY AND WE DO THE REST

CENTRAL HOTEL
106 WEST 42nd STREET
New York City

WE WELCOME ALL UNAFFECTED BY DISCRIMINATION

The story of the First World War was, in many minds, a tale of two nations. The Allies and the Central Powers. But the war was not just about military might. It was a war of ideas, of cultures, of ideologies. And the Savoy, with its elegant ballroom, was a place where these ideas collided and influenced each other.

The Savoy was the place to be for the literati of the time. The writers and artists, the intellectuals and the celebrities, all gathered there to debate and discuss the issues of the day. And in the midst of this, the Savoy Ball was held, a celebration of the culture of the people's front.

The Savoy was more than just a place to dance. It was a symbol of the power of the people, of their ability to come together and form a united front against the forces of darkness. And the writer's ball was a part of that. A place where the writers could come together and share their ideas, their visions, their dreams.

The Savoy was a place of light in a world of darkness. And the writers ball was a part of that. A place where the writers could come together and share their ideas, their visions, their dreams.
LET'S END THIS DRIVE!

When did the response to our danger signal last week have provided sufficient funds to keep the week's issue of New Masses? It is too early to predict another such event. However, we are not discouraged. Our sales have been good, and we are working hard to meet the needs of our subscribers. The campaign is far from over, and we are counting on your support to make it a success.

But the danger is not over. In fact, the situation is only getting worse, and we need your help more than ever. We are facing a difficult period, and we need your financial support to keep the magazine alive. The campaign is far from over, and we are counting on your support to make it a success.

Today's New Masses is needed more than ever. It is the only voice for the working class in the United States. It is the only voice for the struggles of the oppressed and exploited. It is the only voice for the fight for a better world. We need your support to keep it alive.

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Theatre and the People’s Front

Youthful Director and Actor Of Mercury Theatre Discusses The Role of Audiences

This is the third in a series of articles on “Theatres and the People’s Front,” based on speeches delivered at the Workers Educational Institute for the moral and cultural improvement of the working classes.

By Owen Welles

The real problem with which we are faced today is life and one is very much tempted in the theatre to try to divert people from life and the main currents—political, cultural, moral and spiritual. The great majority of plays on Broadway today are escapists, dealing with failure and death. The temptation of the real world is strong and, if we let it, we shall lose the people. It is necessary to adapt our method to the modern audience, to make them understand and care about the problems of today. We must not be afraid to tackle the big questions, but we must do it in a way that is acceptable to the audience. The key to success is in the playwright and the director. We must try to bring the two together.

The thing which is important to us is the thing which is really threatening the whole of our art. We are not the only ones who are interested in art, but the influences of people who are working in art must be understood. The thing which is important is the thing which is real.

In Russia in the old days, when Muratov was producing some of his greatest scenes, he every 11 minutes during the course of the evening had an announcement made to the audience about what was happening in the streets and in the nation. I considered this disconcerting, but I thought the people were interested in it and wanted to give them the information. But I knew how good plays were to be because we were in the theatre and the people were there.

MOVIE REVIEW

Another Jungle Pot-Boiler

A scene from “Julius Caesar.” Flying Mercury Theatre production. Shakespeare’s drama in modern dress caused a good deal of stir when first presented this season on Broadway. Owen Welles, as Brutus, is on the extreme left.

CURRENT MAGAZINES

Please subscribe to The New Masses, a new magazine of high quality and progressive character. The New Masses is published weekly and is available at any news stand. Write for a sample copy.

The New Masses, a new progressive magazine, is published weekly and is available at any news stand. Write for a sample copy.

Equire is the new magazine of fashion and good living. It is published monthly and is available at any news stand. Write for a sample copy.

KKE brings you the best in art, music, literature, and culture. It is published bi-weekly and is available at any news stand. Write for a sample copy.

KKE brings you the best in art, music, literature, and culture. It is published bi-weekly and is available at any news stand. Write for a sample copy.
News, Views, Gossip From Filmland Capital

By Charles Glean

HOLLYWOOD.—Last week, huddled around a table in a Hollywood night spot, the Brown Derby, three screen writers, John Lee Mahin, James Kevin McGuigan, and Howard Emmett Rogers, were discussing "problems." With them in this discussion was a man by the name of G. Allison Philips. Philips is a professional anti-Semite and fascist, who makes his living by writing and publishing his views in the picture industry.

The subject of their discussion was the current Western picture "Cimarron" and the smear. "Cimarron" in Hollywood means William Randolph Hearst because he is the real-life prototype of "Cimarron." Because Philips likes the idea of "Cimarron," the main point of attack will be on the "人と" how Jewish influence is being thwarted by the power of the Hearst group of companies.

The organization of the Brown Derby is very much a move toward political action. It was held in the midst of the meeting on the radio program. It was all very serious and very much an indication of a growing and influential group of men trying to shape the industry of our nation, the film industry.

Fashion for Fascism

"Or: Design for Democracy?"

Fashion for Fascism

The League of American Writers, founded last fall, is the organization of American writers who are trying to shape the industry of our nation, the film industry. The League is not political in the sense that it is a political group, but it is a group of people who believe that art is a form of political action. The League is committed to stand for the rights of all people and for democracy and peace.

But we... culture and history and American culture and history and American... don't belong just to the League of American Writers. They belong to all the American people. And the American people belong to the League of American Writers. The thing we need to remember is that if we're going to fight fascism, if we're going to make America democratic, we must get to work.
New Mamas' Offers
Free Subs at Quiz
On Thursday Night

The New Mamas announces that...
Hollywood Writers Say 'No' to War Maneuvers

By Charles Glea

HOLLYWOOD.—The Hollywood chapter of the League of American Writers voted today to a campaign to keep America out of war and to protect the democratic rights of the people of America.

Keynote of the meeting was set by chairman Donald Ogden Stewart who said in opening the meeting, "We feel the attacks on democracy are real and serious. We are determined to keep democracy alive and well in this country."

The League's goal is to bring together writers and authors who are against the war and with the democratic process.

Stewart said, "We must have a program for the League."

The League's program is as follows:

1. To promote democracy and the ideals of the League.
2. To promote the rights of writers and artists.
3. To promote American culture and education.
4. To fight for a free press and a free speech.
5. To fight for a universal and educational program.
6. To fight for a universal and educational program.
7. To fight for a universal and educational program.
8. To promote the ideals of the League.

The League's program is designed to bring together writers and artists who are against the war and with the democratic process.
YCL 9's OPEN SEASON

Hitler, Mussolini and Hirohito
WON'T BE at the
AMERICAN STUDENT PEACE BALL

Friday
April 29th
Mecca Temple

HEAR

SEE

DANCE

subscription
75c

Special Present by Sesame, American Workers and Peace Movement

Ticket

Opening
Tonight!

Politics and Art

50c

Mexico

nt movie

TODAY - NEW SCHOOL
to be held at the Western Reit

[Text continues on page]
Ring up the Curtain!

Robert Benchley, Mats Blomstein, Harold Clurman, Miguel Covarrubias, Jack Benny, Constance Cummings, Paul Draper, Angna Enters, Lief Erickson, Frances Farago, Frances Farmer, Benny Goodman, Ted Harris, Teddy Hart, Lillian Hellman, Rex Ingram, Arthur Kober, Phil Leach, John Howard Lawson, Donald Ogden Stewart, Hiram Sherman, Herman Shumlin, Sylvia Sidney, Lee Simonson, Irwin Shaw, Paul Strand, Orson Welles

and 900 others joined the Theatre Arts Committee

"Ring up the curtain," they suggested. "We want to know what's going on behind the scenes. We want to express our views to all who may hear; to learn what our audiences have to say. We want to read about all art, not only our own: theatre, film, dance, radio, music. We want

TAC magazine

TAC will raise that curtain!

Topical and popular, it will be the liveliest magazine in the entertainment arts. It will review current attractions, carry feature articles, special interviews.

Subscribe to TAC

Join The Theatre Arts Committee

Divisions: Theatre, Music, Radio, Dance, Film, Audience
FRIDAY
DECEMBER 8
6:00 P.M. AND MIDNIGHT

ANTI-HEARST RALLY
ERNEST B. PUGH, Regional Director C.I.O.
WILLIAM L. PATTERSON — "Hearst Charges Us With
Contempt of Court"
LETTISH WORKERS CHORUS —
FIRST CHOICE OF BARGAINS —
DANCING — GAMES — ATTRACTIONS — ENTERTAINMENT
BAR COMPLETE CABARET RESTAURANT

SATURDAY
DECEMBER 9
11:00 A.M. AND MIDNIGHT

150th Anniversary of Bill of Rights
CONGRESSMAN ADOPH J. SABATH —
FULL CHORUS — Folk Dances of Many Nationalities
WORKERS SONGS — Communism singing. "Solidarity Forever," etc.
SONNY VALE and his ILP Troubadours
XMAS GIFTS GALORE — Special fun making attractions
BAR COMPLETE CABARET RESTAURANT

SUNDAY
DECEMBER 10
1:00 P.M. AND MIDNIGHT

NIGHT OF ALL NATIONS
RAJNI PATEL —
Secretary of Indian Petroleum Workers Federation — Talks on
"Meaning of Current Events in India."
UKRAINIAN MANDOLIN ORCHESTRA — Songs of the people
MERCHANDISE FROM ALL NATIONS
AUCTION AT 11:30 P.M. — All goods must go!
BAR COMPLETE CABARET RESTAURANT

Admission 10c with this booklet.
March 15, 1927

Mr. Frank Spencer
154 West Washington St.
Room 606
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Frank Spencer:

During the first month or so, our staff completely taken up by the Western Section Legislative Conference in Washington, we were unable to keep up with the anti-Hoover work. No report of your attempt to organize a Peoples Committee Against Hoover has come to my attention. I would like very much to know what success if any you have had.

We realize, of course, that other issues are more pressing at the moment, but we do not feel that anti-Hoover work can be neglected completely. That is one of the reasons we have organized the National Peoples Committee Against Hoover, and have gotten up some material, samples of which I am enclosing.

We need to locate more attention to Hoover and his work among the American people in the interest of making the American people a majority for action should it be necessary. A quick distribution of the material we have issued is essential wherever there are Hoover groups. I would very much appreciate your attention to this matter as soon as possible and your writing me your initial order for material.

Sincerely yours,

Sam Marion

NATIONAL PEOPLES COMMITTEE AGAINST HEARS
of the American League Against War and Fascism
244 Fourth Avenue, Room 701, New York, N. Y.
WELL, OR HEARS "S SAKE!

The Cast: Tom Jefferson, Tony Hart, and a Stooge.
The Plot: Hearst raises the reb score, as only he can

By BUDD SCHULBERG
Illustrated By Seges

A WORLD GET-TOGETHER

By JAMES LERNER

The Cast: Tom Jefferson, Tony Hart, and a Stooge.
The Plot: Hearst raises the reb score, as only he can

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A WORLD GET-TOGETHER

By JAMES LERNER

The first group to establish an international council of all races for peace was that of the Farm Congress held in the summer of 1933. Out of that grew the Youth Section of the American League Against War and Fascism, among other kindred groups in many other countries. It has been necessary to improve the organizational structure of this international youth movement, and an International Conference was held in Brussels, Belgium early this spring for that purpose. The credentials

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THIS U. S. OF OURS

This is the first of a series of jaunts through this, our country—from farm to factory, from mine-pit to prairie, to see its resources, and points of interest and send their children to reform institutions as tramps because they are not at the school, to which they are refused admission. The D. A. R. rises to the occasion to suggest deportation for these native sons and daughters. At Annapolis, it is good to know, a hundred students volunteered to tutor these unlucky kids pending their appeal to the courts.

But that is only one side of New England. Industrial New England is meeting the times, and this section of the country has seen some pitched battles in recent months. Clothing, textile and munitions workers know well the picket line. The Vermont marble strike is the tradition of New England, 1936 style.

Industry, however, faces setbacks unless an organized front is presented. This seems difficult due to the heavy migration southward of the owners in search of cheaper labor which has taken place during the last ten years. True, a return movement has started, but the horde of skilled operators outnumber by far the possibilities of employment. Having been starving for years, they must make an organized stand for fair wages.

Spring In New England

New England, governed by self-interested politicians, buffeted by nature and man alike, stands at the crossroads. Yet let our people unite and our lives will take on the bright tone of a New England Spring. For spring in England is a joy to anyone who lives through the long winter.

Now the River is back in its course; the perverts are keeping the night alive with their song; leaves garland the stately elms on the highways and the whole earth seems moving, stretching in the warmth of the sun, just returned for another summer which will be all too short. Only the factories retain the gray cast of winter.
HOW TO SMASH HEARST

A Professor of Sociology at the University of Wisconsin offers some advice on how to catch public enemy number 1

By PROF. EDWARD A. ROSS

Illustrated by Gropper

HEARST, with his twenty-seven newspapers, his thirteen magazines, his broadcasting stations and his film studios is a greater menace to the lovers of American institutions than any other man in the country. In the last three years it has become evident that he has an understanding with European Fascist leaders and is using his vast publicity apparatus to build up a racket against those who stand up for American democracy.

The time has come to fight back. Everyone ought to be so interested in the anti-Fascist struggle that he can tell his President and his Congressmen how to stop this Fascist and his famous Hearst operations.

1. State committees should be formed to get together data about Hearst, showing his record as newspaper proprietor, editor, property owner and taxpayer. Cuts should be made of the numerous crude and vulgar cartoons which have appeared in his papers. The whole should be incorporated into a small book which should be gotten into the hands of everyone who will take a hand in the fight on Hearst.

2. In larger cities local anti-Fascist committees should be formed to show up Hearst in the face to face. This must be done in every city until every citizen will be ashamed to see with a Hearst paper.

3. Volunteers with a skillful pen should keep up a contribution of letters to non-Hearst newspapers calling attention to Hearst's crookedness in his news and editorial columns.

4. School teachers should make the exposing of Hearst "a labor of love." There is not a community in the land which would not apply the high school teacher who announces a public address entitled "The Truth About W. R. Hearst and the Hearst Newspapers" for which college faculty members and students who can afford to support Hearst should bring Hearst papers into the classroom and point out their news items and advertisements.

5. Everyone could well afford to extend a sermon on Hearst, showing what a menace he is to the best in American life and particularly to our democratic institutions.
LET THEM LIVE---Paul de Kruif
THE KILLER TYPE---Tom Dean
WE'RE NOT LOST---Gil Green
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION

SUBJECT: ORSON WELLES

FILE NUMBER: 100-23438-8 (EBF)
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SHOWING

(Production of "Native Son")

On March 25, 1937, Orson Welles began to present "Native Son" openair at the John Theatre in New York City. The play is based upon Richard Wright's novel of the same name. The exhibits clearly indicate the connections to the making of the production of this play. The following quotes are from the materials that show direct inferences of "Native Son" with those of the Communist Party.

EXHIBIT 47 - "EXHIBIT 47 - "This exhibit shows the interest of the League of American Writers in furthering the propagandistic novel of Richard Wright shortly after the appearance of Wright's novel, the Communist front organizations began to agitate for the filming of "Native Son.""

EXHIBIT 48 - "Richard Wright's novel, "Native Son," was pure propaganda for the Communist Party. This exhibit is the first in a series which follows, all of which show the tie between Wright and the Communist Party. The exhibit is taken from the Daily Worker, June 12, 1938, p. 1. In the box at the right of the exhibit, it is stated that Wright is a former member of the Daily Worker staff, having been in charge of the Daily Worker Harlem Bureau."

EXHIBIT 49 - "This exhibit is a photographic copy of a copy of the New Masses for December 27, 1938. It shows that Richard Wright was also on the staff of this publication of the Communist Party. He is here listed as a contributor, editor of the New Masses.

EXHIBIT 50 - "The exhibit shows Richard Wright as a member of the New Masses Defense Committee. The exhibit is taken from the Daily Worker, February 20, 1940, p. 4."
Should the Novel "Native Son" Be Made Into a Motion Picture?

A Symposium by Screenwriters and Others

Speakers Invited:
LESTER COLE
JESS KIMBROUGH
JOHN HOWARD LAWSON
LOREN MILLER

ALLEN RIVKIN
PAUL ROBESON
ROBERT ROSEN
DORE SCHARY
DONALD OGDEN STEWART

Chairman: DONALD OGDEN STEWART

FLORENTINE ROOM • ROOSEVELT HOTEL

TUESDAY, MAY 29, 1940 • 11:30 A.M.

Enrollment: LEAGUE OF AMERICAN WRITERS SCHOOL

EXHIBIT #96

A past and current announcement
Why the Eyes of the People Turn to the Ring
For the Title Bout at Yankee Stadium Tonight

By Richard Wright

At 10 o'clock tonight Joe Louis, America's second Negro World's Heavyweight Champion, will climb through the ropes in the Yankee Stadium to the tune of a million dollar gate and 80,000 fight fans and for 15 rounds will try to lay the ghost of Max Schmeling, his challenger, and retain his crown as King of Fivers.

Knocked out by the German challenger two years ago in the same ring, Joe Louis says that he will end the fight by a knockout in two rounds. Statements issued by Max Schmeling indicate that he is just as confident of victory.

PRESS SLURS ABILITY

Joe's defeat at the hands of Schmeling two years ago marred one of the most brilliant and dazzling careers in the history of boxing. Perhaps the defeat of no fighter in American history came with such a shock to the public. Due to quarrels among promoters, Louis was given a chance at the title last year, and snatched it from the aging Braddock in Chicago in a bout of thrilling fighting.

Despite the fact that Joe has defeated many men who beat Schmeling, many quarters, and particularly the Nazi press in America and Germany, has referred to him as the "weak-chinned champion." Aggressively the Nazi press has sought to symbolize Joe's defeat as a proof of alleged "Negro inferiority." (Continued on Page 2)

Richard Wright Will Report Louis Fight
For the Daily Worker

Richard Wright, distinguished young Negro writer, is author of "Uncle Tom's Children," winner of the Story Magazine award for the most outstanding novel; a WPA writer.

Richard Wright, whose work is familiar to Daily Worker readers, is a former member of the Daily Worker staff, having been in charge of the Daily Worker, Harlem Bureau.

The Daily Worker will publish reports of the Louis-Schmeling fight season exclusively for the paper by Wright.
Labor Looks to 1940

Beginning with the New Year, Labor's Non-Partisan League, heretofore limited to union members, will expand its membership to include anyone generally sympathetic to its aims and willing to become active in its behalf. With this broadening of membership will come a structural strengthening. Headquarters and field staffs will be expanded in all states, in congressional, county, and municipal areas. Large-scale membership campaigns will be held throughout the country, with particular emphasis on key states such as New York, Ohio, Illinois, Michigan, and Wisconsin. This is the substance of a statement made by John L. Lewis in Washington last week.

In the middle of 1939, a league convention will be held with representatives from the trade unions, league units, and all affiliated progressive organizations. The broad program outlined in John L. Lewis' statement will then be augmented by more specific proposals, including, probably, nominations for candidates whom the league will support in the next year's election.

Finally, the league convention will authorize delegates to work within the structure of the Democratic Party and to use their influence to assure the nomination by the Democratic Party of candidates for President and Vice President whose policies will coincide with the progressive aims of the league.

These proposals, if made effective, will provide the progressive forces with the basic machinery for the 1940 campaign. Lewis spoke for labor, but not alone to labor. His proposals, in effect, were an invitation to the middle class to all progressive sectors of the population, to join labor in its coming struggle for the maintenance of the New Deal.

Faith in China

Two steps taken by the Roosevelt administration during the last few days to throw its support more actively into the cause of China in its struggle with Japan. The government's Export-Import Bank has authorized $25,000,000 in credits to China for the purchase of American agricultural and manufactured products, and the Treasury Department has decided to continue the arrangement whereby China is able to borrow dollar credits against its gold reserves in this country. Both these measures, which are really disguised forms of government loans, have political significance far beyond the economic assistance they will provide. They are the country's answer to Japan's flouting of the Open Door and its public announcement that it regards the Nine-Power Treaty as a dead letter. And they express the sentiment of the vast majority of the American people.

By these acts the Roosevelt administration also affirms its belief in the Chinese government's stability and its ability to beat back the invaders. Recent events in China certainly justify this attitude. Less than two months after the fall of Canton and Hankow, the Japanese found themselves harassed on every side by a mobile foe that threatens every position that they have taken. The United front of the Kuomintang and the Communist Party has been strengthened and
There Was Once a Man

Av. Lincoln, Masses

Editor Tells G-Men

Notables Here to Stage Sharp Protest Meeting
Touted in Campaign to Block Roosevelt's Efforts to Cog Anti-War Movement

CHICAGO (Continued from Page 1)

On Saturday, Nov. 16, the WALTERS, the family of the late Walter P. Reuther, will present their annual Thanksgiving dinner to the needy and homeless at the Walter P. Reuther Community Center in Detroit. The dinner will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at 16800 Chippewa St. in Detroit. The Reuthers are well known for their work in the labor movement and have been active in the community for many years. They are also known for their support of the Wounded Knee movement.

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Officers of the American Peace Mobilization

CHICAGO, Sept. 2.--These are the permanent officers elected today to lead the American Peace Mobilization:

The Rev. John B. Thompson, Norman, Okla., Chairman.

Vice-Chairman: Reid Robinson, president of the Mines Mill and Smelter Workers, CIO.

Paul Robeson, famed Negro baritone.

Vito Marcantonio, progressive ALP Congressman.

Jack McMichael, chairman of the American Youth Congress.

Theodore Dreiser, novelist.

Katherine Terrell, executive secretary of the Institute for Pacific Relations, and

Frederie Field, secretary of the same organization.

The following were elected to the National Council of American Peace Mobilization. Twenty more are to be selected:

Professor Walter Rautenstrauch, Columbia University.

Howard Bay,

Maurice Blitzstein,

Donald Ogden Stewart,

Harry Van Arsdale, business agent Local 8, Electrical Workers, AFL.

James Carey, President of the United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers.

Hugh Delury, Washington Commonwealth Federation.

Herbert Ribberman,

Joseph Cadden, Executive Secretary, American Youth Congress.

Dr. Walter Neff,

George Marshall, National Federation for Constitutional Liberties.

Elmer Felhaber, secretary Labor's Non-Partisan League, Ohio.

John H. Davis, Secretary of The National Negro Congress.

Harvey O'Connor, author "Mellon's Mollons."

Morris Watson,

Rev. Owen Knox,

Leonard Goldman,

Gerald Harris, Sr., of the Alabama Farmers Union.

Carl Swanson, Executive Board, United Auto Workers.

Grace Mayspeake, President of the Ohio Townsend Movement.


Donald Henderson, President of the United Cannery.
Leading Artists,
Educators Support
Soviet Trial Verdict

Nearly 185 prominent American artists, writers, composers, editors, teachers, college professors, and
Broadway figures yesterday issued a statement in support of the verdict of the recent Moscow trials of
the Trotskyite-Bucharistian traitors.

The list includes: Arthur Arsent, author of One-Third of the Nation; J.B. Knowl, University of Kansas;
Burr S. Sturgis, president, College Teachers' Union; Morris
Caminsky, leading player in
"Golden Boy"; Robert Cook, chief
and art editor of New Yorker;
Harold Churman, dramatic director; Muriel Colby, editor, Massachusetts
Guide Book; Jack Conroy, novelist;
Malcolm Cowley, writer and an
editor of New Republic and others.

Entitled "A Statement by American Progressives on Moscow Trials," the announcement declares
that the signatories consider the trials "have by sheer weight of evidence established the clear presumption
that the guilt of the defendants."

Bringing the fight against fascism in the United States with the necessity for protecting the American
progressive and labor movement against Trotskyite undermining, the signers of the statement conclude:

"The measures taken by the Soviet Union to preserve and extend
its gains and its strength therefore find their echo here, where we
are watching the future of the American people on the preservation
of progressive democracy and the vindication of our efforts to
prevent the fascists from estranging the rights of the people. American leaders must not permit
themselves to be misled on these questions. The decision, not final, may show its recognition of the guilt of
the Soviet Union in the interna

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Daily Worker
April 28, 1938, p. 1

101
PRESIDENT'S REPORT
Continued from preceding page

fusión, who is left to carry on the fight for real "liberty" and "democracy," and "cultural freedom"? You have seen how these very same words have been used by Martin Dies and others in an effort to destroy all liberal and progressive thought in our country. You have seen the word "Communist" applied, not to the comparatively insignificant number of members of that party in America, but to all progressives who dare to oppose the "return to normalcy." You have also seen—and I hope with some amusement—the scramble to get on this "Americanism" bandwagon. It has been a little sickening, too, to observe a great many people whom you considered fairly intelligent and fairly liberal, suddenly discover that the addition of the words "and Russia" to any statement seems to guarantee them membership on the right side—just as any trouble should come up later. It is little like the War of the Roses, in which the main concern seems to be the obvious intransigence in the lapel of the yellow and not the red rose. One is almost tempted to get out a conversational guidebook for our visiting delegates, so that the correct conversations, for example, "In the Restaurant," should read: "I should like a cheese sandwich on rye, but I am against all wars," or, "No, thank you. I wouldn't like another cup of coffee or stim." It is exactly as though the Angel Gabriel, or whatever angel it happened to be, were now going around marking the houses, and all those who said they were against Russia too got a nice little plus mark and a pat on the head from General McAdoo. I don't suppose that I need remind you that this old splitting tactic of attempting to break up the unity of the progressive forces of any country is one of our chief dangers. The writer who permits himself to be fooled by this all in doctrine is in exactly the same position as the man at the race track who places a bet on all of the horses. That man is what is known as the bookmaker's delight. And the writer who does not see that by spreading confusion in his own ranks he is playing right into the hands of his and of democracy's worst enemies is in dire to the very principles which in all times have set the writer apart as a guide and a prophet.

A man whose job depends upon pleasing his boss can possibly be excused for wanting to hop onto the all-in bandwagon. But it is my main contention on this subject that the writer, as the guardian and the preserver of truth, is being disloyal to his sacred trust when he lets his economic interests lead him into an expediency—even when that expediency masquerades itself as service to his country. Somebody once said, I think it was Browning:—"If sold roots, what do?" Well, the writers are the soul of our civilization, and if the writers can't see beyond their selfishness and their prejudices and their daily bread and butter into the truths which are at the basis of the present struggle, then—and then only—do I fear for the continuation of "cultural freedom." By that time all freedom will have gone—and with it all culture. And we shall be living, God help us, in a fascist world.

We were all of us disgusted with Munich, and we all of us are disillusioned with appeasements. Sometimes, however, I wonder if our enemies against Mr. Chamberlain's actions were not just a little hysterical. Not that Chamberlain wasn't a traitor to us and all democracy, but that we were making of him a pawn for our own personal ambitions toward everyday appeasement. Somewhere down inside each of us is our own personal Munich—or place where we give in because we are tired or because we don't want to be made uncomfortable or because we just plain don't want a fight. That is the danger point for every writer. For it is just in that personal Munich that he needs a member of the Committee for Cultural Freedom or some other exponent of appeasement. And it is there that he ceases to fight, although he still proclaims himself a liberal who hates Hitler as much as anyone. Well, you can't stop fighting Hitler, even though some of the leading educators and intellectuals in this country would like to divert your attention to the interesting fact that envy is the basis of a democracy, or the much less dangerous fight against the "Reds." And if the message of my hopes and aspirations for this Congress and the League can be summed up, it would be to urge that we take heed of the warning "Return to Munich—very pleasant," and pull out the throttle full speed ahead on the main road to real service to democracy and the world of tomorrow.

The New National Board

The new board includes the officers listed in the masthead on page 6, and the following: Nora Bennett, Alice Bennett, Irma Black, Dorothy Brower, Sterling Brown, Harry Carlsen, Lester Cohen, Norman Conklin, George Dangerfield, Martha Doherty, Marjorie Fischer, Henry Hart, Lilian Helfman, Oliver La Farge, Edwin Lasker, Albert Maltz, Joseph North, Dawn Powell, W. L. River, Ralph Roeder, Philip Stevenson, Isabel Schrier, Genevieve Taggard, Jean Starr Unterman, Richard Wright.

Call for Congress of American Revolutionary Writers on May 1

Congress to Discuss Participation of Writers in Struggle Against War, Preservation of Civil Liberties, and Destruction of Fascist Tendencies

The capitalist system crumbles so rapidly before our eyes that whereas ten years ago scarcely more than a handful of writers were sufficiently Varsighted and courageous to denounce the revolutionary revolution, today hundreds of periodicals, newspapers, and other journals are doing so. It is, therefore, necessary and urgent that we create out of the destruction of capitalism and the establishment of a workers' government.

We are faced with two kinds of problems. First, the problems of the world peace movement. The dangers of war and fascism are everywhere apparent: we can see the steady march of the nations towards war and the transformation of sporadic violence into organized fascist terror.

The question is: how can we function most successfully against this twin menace?

In the second place, there are the problems peculiar to us as writers, the problems of preventing war, and the question of what can be done to bring our minds and our hearts into line with the revolutionary cause. A new Renaissance is upon the world; for every writer there is the opportunity to proclaim both the new way of life and the revolutionary way to attain it. Revolutionary writers are combating the Fascist terror.

Many revolutionary writers live in virtual isolation, lacking opportunities to discuss vital problems with their fellows. Others are absorbed in the revolutionary cause that they have few opportunities for close examination and analysis. Never have the writers of the new movement come together for a fundamental discussion.

We propose, therefore, that a Congress of American revolutionary writers be held in New York City on May 1, 1936; that this Congress shall be invited all writers who have achieved prominence in their respective fields; who have clearly demonstrated their devotion to the revolutionary cause; who do not need to be convinced of the desirability of capitalism and the inevitability of revolution. Subsequently, we will seek to influence and join our side those writers not yet so convinced.

The Congress will be devoted to the discussion of all phases of a writer's participation in the struggle against war, the preservation of civil liberties, and the destruction of fascist tendencies everywhere. It will develop the possibilities for wider dissemination of literature and the improvement of the revolutionary press, as well as the relations between revolutionary writers and bourgeois publishers and editors. It will provide technical discussion of the techniques of propaganda and of the relations between the writer and creator, and will develop our ranks.

We believe that such a Congress should create the League of American Writers, affiliated with the International Union of Revolutionary Writers. In European countries, the J. U. W. W. is the vanguard of literature and political action. In France, for example, led by such men as Henri Barbusse, Romain Rolland, Andre Malraux, Andre Bonfils, and Louis Aragon, is in the forefront of the magnificent first of the world's writers to rise against Fascism.

The program for the League of American Writers would be evolved at this Congress. It must be on the following: fighting against imperialism, war, and fascism; defending the Soviet Union against capitalist aggression; for the development and strengthening of the revolutionary labor movement; against white chauvinism; against all forms of Negro discrimination or persecution and against the persecution of minority groups and of the foreign-born; solidarity with colonial people in their struggles for freedom; against the influence of bourgeois ideas in American literature; against the imprisonment of revolutionary writers and artists, as well as other class-war prisoners throughout the world.

By its very nature our organization would not occupy the time and energy of its members in administrative tasks. Instead, it will bring, through collective discussion, the most effective ways in which, as writers, we can function in the revolutionary cause.

The undersigned have already responded to this call.

The Daily Worker
January 18, 1936, p. 5
Negro Leaders Protest Attacks Against Communist Candidates

A group of distinguished Negroes, including Paul Robeson, Richard Wright, and Arthur Robeson, wrote to President Roosevelt expressing their views.

"Negroes are beginning to feel the effects of the attack on their civil liberties. We cannot help but feel that the present situation is one of grave concern. The attack on Negroes is an attack on the principles of democracy. We cannot permit this to continue."

The statement was signed by:
- Paul Robeson
- Richard Wright
- Arthur Robeson

"We are deeply disturbed by the recent developments in the South and by the attacks on Negro leaders. We believe that these attacks are motivated by a desire to suppress the agitation for civil rights."

The statement was signed by:
- Walter White
- Roy Wilkins
- A. Philip Randolph

"We are deeply concerned about the recent developments in the South and by the attacks on Negro leaders. We believe that these attacks are motivated by a desire to suppress the agitation for civil rights."

The statement was signed by:
- Bayard Rustin
- A. Philip Randolph
- Martin Luther King Jr.

"We are deeply concerned about the recent developments in the South and by the attacks on Negro leaders. We believe that these attacks are motivated by a desire to suppress the agitation for civil rights."

The statement was signed by:
- Bayard Rustin
- A. Philip Randolph
- Martin Luther King Jr.
RICHARD WRIGHT'S STATEMENT
SUPPORTING BROWDER, FORD

By Richard Wright

Trouble lies ahead for all of us, especially for the Negro. The Negro must think clearly, act quickly and unite to work off discrimination. Aliens are being hounded. The man of Wall Street is working to war. This is the time they have no glib phrases. They do not even a need for sand in the eyes of the people by defining the objectives of the war. Never was the sympathy of a people so great as now, held ruthless, they talk that we must fight or else. As the days run, Congress acts on reactionary laws to repress and entice those who dare question or protest. Today, even more than in the first World War, is the time for fearless, bright leadership to protect the fundamental interests of the Negro people. That leadership is to be found only in the Communist movement.

JAMES W. FORD

I believe that the Negro people need a leader in the front ranks of the struggle for freedom. Today is James W. Ford a Communist vice-presidential candidate. He has been a leader in the struggle against British and German imperialism, and those same regular Jim Crow practices all Negroes suffer. He speaks out for African children and for Ethiopia. He was a towering figure in America, calling upon Negroes and whites to save this last independent nation of African blood and culture.

Today he is a member of the Executive Committee of the International, a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party. He is one of the two members of the Political Bureau of the American Communist Party. He is a key figure in the world struggle for the defense of the Negro people.

As a standard-bearer for the Negro people, Ford has a background varied and rich in military experience. He was born in the Deep South and began life as an Alabama steelworker. He attended Fisk University and graduated with a B.A. degree. Later he was a postgraduate student at the University of Chicago. As a veteran of the last war, he not only led Negro troops in battle against the Imperialist German Army, but fought the officials of the Imperialist American Expeditionary Force for their discriminations against Negro troops.

After the war, Ford clerked in the Chicago Post Office and participated in the organizing of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters.

INTERNATIONAL EXPERIENCE

"Ford, together with William Z. Foster, was a leading figure in the old Trade Union Unity League. On the international labor front he has worked in Austria, in Moscow, and he added the Loyalist cause of Spain. He has done much work for African children and for Ethiopia. He was a towering figure in America, calling upon Negroes and whites to save this last independent nation of African blood and culture."

"Today he is a member of the Executive Committee of the International, a member of the National Committee of the Communist Party. He is one of the two members of the Political Bureau of the American Communist Party. He is a key figure in the world struggle for the defense of the Negro people."

ACHIEVEMENT FOR PEOPLE

"That Ford should be a candidate for Vice-President of the United States is an achievement for the Negro people. An achievement recognized and supported by the Communist Party of America. It demonstrates profoundly the importance the Communist Party attaches to the fight for the equality of the Negro people."

"Ford's candidacy symbolizes the high, proletarian character of the leadership of the Communist Party. Of all the contemporary political parties in the United States, the party, not even the Ku Klux Klan, possesses the audacity to take such a four square stand for Negro rights."

"The banner for the fight for social justice in America today is being carried not only in the hands of Negro and white workers, Ford's candidacy is a symbol of that unshakable solidarity. It is a distinction of which the Negroes of America may well be proud."

"During the army days ahead, the Negro people must have men of Ford's caliber in the forefront of the struggle for freedom. A vote for Browder and Ford will assure the prominence in the struggle for Negro liberation. It will contribute to the war-mongers to listen to them when they speak for us. All Negro intellectuals, doctors, lawyers, teachers, writers, artists must realize that a vote for Browder and Ford is a vote in defense of themselves in a war of freedom and a vote in defense of all they hope to gain in American life."
writing until he had repaired the
lacunary gap in his journeys
about the world. At this point there
rose the gratifying suggestion that,
since this review was not
merely something of an amateur chin
hand but also had the pleasure of
having met the Eastern First Lady,
It might be of value if Mr. Behren
and he traveled to Chungking to
ter this number.

Since the odds are that he will
remain alone, I came to the conclusion
that the temptation to set down a
few notes for Mr. Behren any-
way. The idea for the play is such
a splendid one that I would cer-
tainly like to give it any encour-
agement I can command. And let me say
at the outset, that if anything writ-
then here sounds sentimental, that
is certainly more to the writer.
The first fact that faces any play
written about China by a soci-
etical is that it may be too deeply
concerned with the color, the pic-
ture, the picturesque, and the de-
corative
pre

In a way, the surface of Oriental life pos-
escence for us an exotic air, the play-
wright is in grave danger of ex-
pressing what he sees by indulging
in an orgy of picturesque. Mr. Beh-
ren would be on less peril from
this temptation than from dra-

In the stage direction, the pitiful is always there
and should be constantly warned against.

The Playbill

By Joseph Pihodna

This Department's statistician finds Two Seasons
Almost Square Of As Far As Numbers Are Concerned: 65 Plays to 02

A THE vernal equinox spruce Gilbert and Sullivan revivals
proach and numerical tables magic shows, one-act panto shows
are being scrutinized, this de- and one-man shows. Presently, indica-
ment's statistician turns from them are that this season will be

Plays of the Week

Wednesday Night

"NATIVE SON," a dramatization of the Paul Green novel
by Richard Wright and the author, opens at the St. James
Theater under the banner of Orson Welles and John
Huston. The cast includes Charles Lee, Anne Burr,
Evelyn Ellis, Paul Micca, Philip Berton and Joseph Pihodna. Mr. Welles
and the director for the stage are by James Mason.

Thursday Night

"MY FAIR LADY," by Arthur Jarrett and Marcel Klauber,
opens at the Hudson Theater, a production of Albert Lewis
and Max Siegel. The cast includes Betty Furness, Celeste
Holm, Herbert Yule, Russell Harty, Olof Hefled, Mary
Sargent, Thomas Coley and Alfred Lattner. Mr. Lewis
and the director for the stage are by Watson Barlett.

Benefit Tonight

THE ACTORS' FUND OF AMERICA will be aided by a perfor-
mance of "Pal Joey" at the Ethel Barrymore Theater.

Orson Welles

The other day I went around
to interview Orson Welles,
whose production of "Native
Son" is due to open Wednesday night
at the St. James Theater. At the
time of the interview, however,
rehearsals were being held in the
Guild Theater, and as I slipped
along to my appointment, I conjured
up pictures of Welles as the inspired
director, lashing the cast through
their parts and giving nobody a
moment's rest until perfection was
achieved. I even thought of slipping
in one of the minor parts for that
afternoon, so as to be able to
write a piece on "How It Feels To Be
Directed by Orson Welles." This was
such a fascinating thought that I
walked three blocks past the theater
and into a snowdrift.

When I finally arrived, there was
nobody at the stage door, so I
walked in and grooped my way up
stairs to the stage, expecting all the
while to hear the booming voice
of the director and the whispers of
some player who'd slipped up in a
line. Instead, the stage was com-
Negro Artists to Present Social Revue Sunday Night

Colorful Program Will Include New Ballet, "Filibuster," by Dance Unit, and Sketches of Famous Negro Leaders

Comes from the shops, offices and schools, more than 60 dancers will participate in the musical satire on the moralistic Anti-Lynching Bill filibuster.

"The Bourbon Got the Blues," scheduled for presentation by the Negro Cultural Committee, May 8th, at Mecca Temple, for the benefit of the New York Chapter of the National Negro Congress. (nn)

"Filibuster," a ballet under the direction of Anna Sokolow, will portray the reactionary tendencies of certain blacks in Congress and the subsequent reaction of the people.

Dramatic sketches, designed to give the first usage of the Negro people against oppression and exploitation, will be presented by present Negro artists. Among these will be Mr. B. Frank Wilson who will do a sketch from the life of Booker T. Washington and Mr. Ingram, Jr., who will offer a sketch on Frederick Douglass. Eleven Negroes are featured in the sketches.

Anna Sokolow, who has directed the production, Perry Watkins is the actor by Edward B. The masks for the Kuklux

The program, in the advancement of the cultural development of the Negro people, in America, is composed of Mr. Howard, Mr. Wells, John E. Lewis, Anna Sokolow, Frank Wilson, James Hall, Langston Hughes, Larry Jackson, Gladys Romeo and John Velasco. Velasco is production manager.

ANNA SOKOLOV

MADAM JEBB

Romoace

Daily Worker,
May 6, 1935, p. 7
Artef in Fund Drive

Artef Cooperative Soc. Group Celebrates Ten Years of Theatre

For many weeks now delighted crowds have been making their way to the little playhouse over on West 12th St., where the Artef players are giving the hilarious adaptation of "The Man Who Was Thursday." The play is a production of the current season and is a hit with audiences. The Artef group has been active in New York and elsewhere since its establishment. Their productions have been held in various locations throughout the city. The Artef Theatre has been a staple of the theatre world since its inception. The group is currently seeking financial support to continue its operations.

Price News

Active

The group is already on and many leading theatrical personalities, realizing the importance of giving all possible aid to the Artef, have gladly contributed to the drive. Among them are Pedro Amaro, Charles B. Good, and Miss Ethel Lawrence. The drive is being conducted in cooperation with other groups and organizations.

Please for the drive are rapidly gaining momentum. The money raised will be used to maintain the theatre and to continue its production of plays. The group is seeking financial support to ensure the continued production of its plays.

The group's productions of "The Man Who Was Thursday" have been well received, and a new play by Mimi Groot is to be presented next season. The Artef Theatre is located at 123 W. 12th St.

Daily Worker
January 21, 1938, p. 9
Artef Presents
Fine Production
Of Gorki Play

DOSTIGAYEV, a drama in three acts by Maxim Gorki, translated by L. Feinberg; presented by the Artef Theatre, directed by Benno Schneider.

Reviewed by
LEON ALEXANDER

With "Recruits" the Artef showed what it could do with a play that required semi-styled acting and direction. Given now a drama of psychological realism, they have created a production that is aware of every conflicting mood, every subtle motivation of character. At the same time, under the direction of Benno Schneider, they have fashioned an acting company that is sound in none in its individual and ensemble playing.

"Dostigayev" is not so much the drama of the onrushing revolution as of the moral and cultural disintegration of a class. However, though it plays but little part in the physical action of the play, the revolution is always present in the minds and in the heartbeats of the characters, an inescapable, bittering torrent before which the world of Dostigayev, the industrialist, is crumbling.

The play takes place in a provincial town of White Russia: the time begins with July, 1917. The collapse of the provisional Kerensky government has begun; the revolutionary stream is rising. The shadow of the coming November is already upon Dostigayev and his class.

It is at such times that the muddle of a man and of a class comes forth: in Ryabinin, the Bolshevik determined will, quiet certainty, faith and resolution; among the bourgeoisie, the Knyazhnikov, the Trotsky, the Lenin, the Ilovaiskaya, the hysteric, the self-centered, the futile and rampant brutality: the face of the sacrificial beast which the Soviet Union crushed, and which the rest of the world allowed to breed. Dostigayev, however, is intelligent and shrewd. He has nothing but contempt for the members of his own class; he realizes the strength of the Bolsheviks; he wants to compromise with them, to find a "modus vivendi" with the onrushing revolution. It is his fate that the Revolution will not compromise with him, will not be fooled by his liberal pretenses. Ryabinin, whom Dostigayev installs in calling, half-ragingly, half-respectfully: "Comrade Ryabinin," orders the arrest of the industrialist. And as the last curtain falls, Dostigayev, cowed, his subtle arguments useless, faces the New Russia—a left Red Guard, good humored, sure in his strength and in his peasant common sense.

As I have already stated, the production is an artistic triumph for the Artef. It is the first play that I have seen this season in which I find an unwavering unity of conception that extends from the written word to the acting, to the direction, to the settings. The whole is cast in one integrated mood, bearing clearly the mark of a man of culture as well as of a man of the theatre. Under the direction of Benno Schneider, the Artef is the first of our revolutionary drama companies that have at finished article quality.
The director of "One of Us" is Alan Mitchell. Bob Marshall portrays William Foster, and Bob Fried, who has served in this capacity in four Garden pageants, will act as stage manager. Around a nucleus of professionals, a little group of furriers, caterers, workers, men, some of whom have appeared in all seven of these presentations, will bring to life the story of "One of Us." For four weeks, they have been working late at night in order to make this play in honor of the Communist leaders powerful and effective. To their contribution will be added that of the American People's Church, which will sing a new version of Casey Jones, prepared by Earl Robinson in honor of Foster's birthday. The appearance of the beloved Negro singer and leader Paul Robeson is an additional tribute.

"Under Socialism," Pearl Miller believes, "pageants will become one of the highest and most popular forms of dramatic art. They have already played a major role in influencing the form of plays like "The Big House" and "The American Way."

By making vivid and personal the deepest desires and aspirations of the people for socialism, they play an important role in bringing the day nearer when that socialism will exist here for us." - LA.

Charlotte Adlam and John McGoogan. Randolph Carter is playing the play. The script has been designed by Peggy Clark.

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Orson Welles, producer-director of "Citizen Kane" announced Thursday evening that he would sue RKO to force release of the film, after the company had cancelled a premiere scheduled simultaneously in Hollywood and New York.

According to Welles, at a meeting, the contract for "Citizen Kane" provides that the film must be released within three months of the delivery date and that Welles had the right to take over the film if RKO refuses distribution. He said further that Welles had refused to sell the film to Welles, who had backing to purchase it.

Meanwhile the Hearst papers, apparently convinced that the film, despite denial by its director, is something to do with their notorious owner, have made no mention of "Citizen Kane." They have also made no mention of "The Big House." The stage version of Richard Wright's novel which is scheduled for Broadway opening Wednesday under Orson Welles' direction.

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Producers of "Nice Girl" sessions to extend friendship between England and America have formed two different sections for the film in which Dame Quiller-Couch stars in the American version the latter replaces the film with the song "Thank You America," but in the version intended for British distribution she also película "There Will Always Be an England."

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Daily Worker, March 16, 1941, p. 7.