

U. S. and Britain Appear to Be Wooing Russia While Dies' Activity Hints Crack-Down

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WASHINGTON, Nov. 29.—The current diplomatic mystery here is what is really behind the talks now going on between Washington and Moscow.

On the surface, it looks as if Washington and London are trying to work out some joint plan of appeasement by concessions to Russia, in one form or another, to keep her

neutral or near neutral if nothing more.

Underneath, however, are conflicting currents. Evidence in the hands of Attorney General Robert H. Jackson and the Dies Committee, concerning subversive activities in this country, seem to point in an entirely contrary direction.

In recent weeks Soviet Russia has been permitted to charter American vessels and ship something like

500,000 barrels of oil to Vladivostok when oil is worth its weight in gold to the warring nations of Europe.

She is also allowed to purchase and ship machine tools at a time when the United States and England are way behind on tools needed for their own national defense.

On the other hand, there seems clear evidence that, given the well-known tie-up of Communists everywhere with the Third Internationale

and the Kremlin, the Soviet Union has violated the pledge it solemnly gave at Washington in 1933 in return for recognition.

This question, therefore, arises: Is Russia in for another verbal spanking such as was administered by the State Department over similar violations two or three years ago, or is she to be "appeased," despite all that is going on, in the hope she will return the favor?

Chamberlain's understanding with Hitler proved worthless, any understanding with Stalin now would turn out to be without value.

Meanwhile, dovetailing revelations by the Department of Justice and the Dies Committee tend to complicate the situation. Attorney General Jackson announced that the California strike which held up national-defense work precious days was led and prolonged by Com-

munists, while Chairman Dies released a torrent of evidence to show that the Communists plan:

1. To organize strikes in defense industries and stop war materials for either foreign or domestic use.

2. To infiltrate with secret agents into the armed forces in order to break down morale and incite enlisted men to disobedience and re-

3. To discourage response to calls for enlistment in the army and to the selective draft.

4. To take action looking to the conversion of the war—if it comes—into civil war.

If these charges against the Communists hold up, relations between Washington and Moscow will hardly be improved, to say the least.



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