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Hobeson's visit - continued

"From now on", he told the journalists, "I shall devote myself entirely to the creation of the mass movement which shall prevent another war. I shall sing and talk to the workers, to all who will fight to free men from all forms of slavery. My task is to give my friends courage and force in their fight for peace and progress. With the conditions we have in the world today, I have no more time to entertain alone."

Paul Hobeson carefully spent every moment of his time in Oslo. He sang and spoke five times in addition to his last regular concert. Among those who preserve unforgettable experiences from his visit are the workers of Akers shipyards and of Standard telephone and cable company, the members of the Norwegian-Russian society and of the World Federation of Women for Peace.

Amusements

Paul Hobeson also conferred with representatives of the Norwegian progressive movements. He laid down flowers on the monument to the heroes of the Central Committee of the Norwegian Communist Party who were ~~shot~~ ^{killed} during the occupation; he also put flowers by the memorial for the ~~Russians~~ Red Artists who lost their lives on Norwegian ground.

The mass meeting at Youngstorget was arranged by the "Friheten", the head organ of the Norwegian Communist Party. Paul Hobeson was saluted by its editor, Jørgen Vogt, and by the leader of the communist parliamentary group, Emil Lovlien. A glamorous weather put a cheering frame around the great out-door arrangement. Paul Hobeson promised to come back as "Friheten's" guest to ~~take up where he left~~ ^{take up where he left} ~~continue his universal-minded campaign for peace.~~ ^{his - in his}

fr ROBESON.

BIA
27/5.

(16)

103b

Temple Bar 2151. (Communist Party H.C)

Outgoing. 16.5.49

Desmond BUCKLE rings Nan GREEN, I.B.A. and tells her Maud has just told him what she said about Paul ROBESON's visit. He had a talk with Paul, ~~on the way to Edinburgh~~, and he said he wants to go down to South Wales - to Cardiff, but it can not be in the very near future, as he is soon going back to the United States, and then to Eastern Europe, but he thinks they might be able to get him, when he comes back from Eastern Europe round about July, or may be in the Autumn. Desmond asks if there is an organisation in Cardiff, Paul did not seem to think there was, but he asks, so that he can get the machinery going, and get a big hall etc.

Nan says their suggestion was, that the I.B.A should do it, that is why she approached Maud about it, they are not subject to quite the same bans, as other organisations, and he has got a very great link with them.

Desmond says he will be seeing him, so he will try and get a definite date, he will let her know his movements and so on.

~~215~~

44990

~~I.B.A.
T/S~~

~~16.31.~~

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~~26/11/49~~

CONFIDENTIAL.

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From:—THE CHIEF CONSTABLE,
Sheffield City Police.

To:—Box 500,
PARLIAMENT STREET B,
LONDON, S.W.1.

Our Ref: CID/SB/663/JS.

Your Ref:

Date: 16th May, 1949.

Name: Paul ROBESON.

Please note the following *additional* amended information in respect of the above:

Address:

Employment: American Negro bass singer.
Occupation: employer:
Military service details:
etc.

Personal Details:
(Birthdate N.R.I.C. No.,
etc.)

Political activity:
status, etc.

ENCLOSURE
↓
REC'D
A-44990

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Miscellaneous: ROBESON rendered musical items and made an address, in a pronounced Communist vein, at afternoon & evening meetings of the People's Press Printing Society held in the City Hall (Ovel Hall), Sheffield, on Sunday, 15th May, 1949.

Among others on the platform at these meetings was Peter BLACKMAN, a Negro, stated to be a native of Barbados. He, too, addressed both meetings in a Communist vein.

NOTE:—Information sought for record purposes is:

- (a) Identification data (i.e., name, full christian names; alias(es); address(es); date of birth; N.R.I.C. number; occupation/employer)
- (b) Facts regarding the individual's relationship with a political party (e.g., as a member, active or otherwise; or official; or as an associate, close contact, etc. etc.)

delete as necessary.

103 za

THE COMMUNIST PARTY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

16 King Street, London, W.C.2.

Telephone: TEMple Bar 2151-55

Telegrams: Communal Rand London

Secretary: H. Pollitt

Mick Bennett,
YORKSHIRE.

11th May, 1949.

Dear Mick,

I submitted your letter to-day to the Org. Cttee. and we agreed that I would make an approach to the Daily along the lines that you indicated in your letter with a proposition that something like 15 or 20% should be given to the District.

I got in touch with David Ainley who explained to me that he thought an arrangement had been made about the percentage basis with the District. However, he said that Pat Devine is the comrade who is running it and he is getting in touch with him immediately. He personally said he would favour my proposition, which was 40/40% and 20% for the District, but I am afraid you are going to come up against a problem there, because I understand Robeson is sticking on the African Fund getting 50%. David is agreeable if this is the case to putting the proposition that you get 15/20% of their percentage.

I suggest that you now take the matter up direct with the Daily people (I believe that it is officially the People's Press Printing Society District Committee in Sheffield that is responsible for the thing), knowing that the Centre has agreed to support your proposition and that Ainley is also favourably disposed to it.

All good wishes,

Yours fraternally,

Peter Kerrigan

CENTRAL ORGANIZATION DEPARTMENT.

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The Communist Party,
63, Great George St.,
Leeds, 1.

2971

17 MAY 1949

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