

level officials in Washington. Among the first 82 names on a list prepared for John F. Kennedy for staffing his State Department, at least 63 were members of the Council, Republicans and Democrats alike. When he finally made his appointments, both his Secretary of State (Rusk, Democrat) and Treasury (Dillon, Republican) were chosen from Council members; so were seven assistant and under-secretaries of State, four senior members of Defense,....as well as two members of the White House staff

(Schlesinger, Democrat; Bundy, Republican)."

The Committee for Economic Development had five of its trustees in Nixon's cabinet. Three Committee for Economic Development trustees serve in Jimmy Carter's cabinet - Secretary of the Treasury, Secretary of the Navy, and Chairman of the Council of Economic Advisors. Carter also appointed the President of the Conference Board as Chairman of the Federal Reserve System, which controls the nation's banking

system.

Reporter Joseph Kraft observed that these policy groups "play a special part in helping to bridge the gap between the two parties, affording unofficially a measure of continuity when the guard changes in Washington." In other words, these private political clubs, drawing their members from the richest 1% of the population, tell the government what to do and how to do it.

WORKERS' VOICES: William Z. Foster on Capitalist Elections

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William Z. Foster was born in South Philadelphia in 1881. He went to work at the age of ten, laboring in the lumber, farm, construction, chemical and transport industries. When unable to work Foster hoboed, seeing much of the U. S. As a sailor he traveled around the world. Facing harsh exploitation as a worker, Foster turned to the labor movement. He joined the Industrial Workers of the World, and later founded the Syndi-

calist League of North America, a revolutionary trade unionists' group. Foster later joined the Communist Party and became the Party's chairman. A skilled labor organizer and mass leader, Foster was instrumental in leading the packing house organizing drive during World War I and was a key figure in the 1919 steel strike. The following selection is from Pages From a Worker's Life, an autobiographical work.

A TAMMANY ELECTION

It is an old story that Tammany Hall in New York City, similarly to corrupt political machines in scores of other American cities and states, has falsified innumerable elections by wholesale buying of votes, stuffing of ballot boxes, failing to tally opposition ballots and by various other crooked devices. The following episode points its own moral.

A Socialist speaker, a prominent figure locally in the New York Socialist Party, was delivering a speech at a street corner on the lower East Side, during the 1912 elections.

At that time most of the garment workers still lived in this congested slum area, and the Socialist Party had a strong following among them. There was a large crowd, and the speaker made an effective speech. On the edge of the gathering stood the Tam-

many Hall precinct leader, much interested.

When the speaker had concluded and climbed down from his portable platform, the Tammany heeler sidled over to him and said:

"That was a fine speech you made, me boy. I think you'll poll sixteen votes for it on election day."

This made the Socialist a bit wroth and he replied:

"What do you mean, sixteen? This precinct is one of our Party's strongholds. We'll get many times that; we'll carry the precinct."

By now the Tammany man was also hot under the collar and he shouted:

"I told you sixteen votes, didn't I? Well, that settles it. Not a single one more will you get!"

Now, indeed, the Socialist speaker was angry. He reported the matter to the city committee and it was decided to make an extra effort to carry this particular precinct. Accordingly, additional speakers were sent in, many meetings were held and special house-to-house work was done. The workers responded well and as the election took place the Party local leaders were positive they had won the precinct.

But when the detailed election returns were made public, there, sure enough, the Party in the precinct was credited with the famous sixteen votes. And so the thing stood. Nor could all the Party's protests and demands for a recount change matters.