**Screenguide for Americans**

P 1 We are unalterably opposed to any political “Industry-code”, to any group agreement or any manner of forbidding any political opinion to anyone by any form of collective force or pressure. There can be no “group-insurance” in the field of ideas. Each man has to do his own thinking.

P 2 Freedom or Slavery, which means Americanism or Totalitarianism.

The basic principle of inalienable individual rights, which is Americanism, can be translated into practical reality only in the form of the economic system of Free Enterprise.

P 5 Don’t permit any disparagement or defamation of personal success. It is the Communists’ intention to make people think that personal success is somehow achieved at the expense of others and that every successful man has hurt somebody by becoming successful.

America is the land of the self-made man. Say so on the screen.

P 7 Don’t excuse depravity. Don’t drool over weaklings as conditioned “victims of circumstances” (or of “background” or of “society”) who “couldn’t help it”. You are actually providing an excuse and an alibi for the worst instincts in the weakest members of your audiences.

Communism preaches the reign of mediocrity, the destruction of all individuality and all personal distinction, the turning of men into “masses”, which means an undivided, undifferentiated, impersonal, average, common herd.

P8 If you preach that it is evil to be different, you teach every particular group of men to hate every other group, every minority, every person, for being different from them; thus you lay the foundation of race hatred.

Don’t preach that all mass action is good, and all individual action is evil. It is true that there are vicious individuals; it is also true that there are vicious groups. Both must be judged by their specific actions- and not treated as an issue of “the one” aginst “the many”, whith the many always right and the one always wrong.

P 9 An independent man is one who stands alone and respects the same right of others, who does not rule nor serve, who neither sacrifices himself nor others.

Rember that America is the country of the pioneer, the non-conformist, the inventor, the innovator. Remember that all the great thinkers, artists, scientists were single, individual, independent men who stood alone, and discovered new directions of achievement- alone.

Don’t let yourself be fooled when the Reds tell you that what they want to destroy are men like Hitler or Mussolini. What they want to destroy are men like Shakspeare, Chopin and Edison.

P 10 Don’t suggest to the audience that the Russian people are free, secure and happy, that life in Russia is just about the same as in any other country- while actually the Russian people live in constant terror under a bloody, monstruous dictatorship.

P 11 The American system, as such, is the best ever devised in history. If some men do not live up to it- let us damn these men, not the system which they betray.

Conclusion

P 12 There is no obligation on you to make political pictures- if you do not wish to take a strong stand. You are free to confine your work to good, honest, non-political movies. But there is a moral obligation on you to present the political ideas of Americanism strongly and honestly- if you undertake pictures with political themes.

They have declared openly and repeatedly that their first obligation is to the Communist Party, that their first duty is to spread Party propaganda, and that theri work in pictures is only a means to an end, the end being the Dictatorship of the Proletariat.

Now a word of warning about the question of free speech. The principle of free speech requires that we do not use police force to forbid the Communists the expression of their ideas- which means that we do not pass laws forbidding them to speak. But the principle of free speech does not require that we furnish the Communists with the means to preach their ideas, and does not imply that we owe them jobs and support to advocate our own destruction at or own expense. The Constitutional guaranty of free speech reads: “Congress shall pass no laws-“. It does not require employers to be suckers.

Let the Communist preach what they wish (so long as it remains mere talking) at the expense of those an in the employ of those who share their ideas. Let them create their own motion picture studios, if they can. But let us put an end tot heir use of our pictures, our studios and our money for the purpose of preaching our exporpriation, enslavement and destruction. Freedom of speech does not imply that it is our duty to provide a knife for the murderer who wants to cut our throat.