

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Warns Of Swing To Right

Editor, Daily Worker:

Statements from sections of our leadership concerning the Constitutional transformation to Socialism carry the suspicious odor of Browderism.

Such a path can lead only to dissolution.

Is it not possible for a leadership guilty of Left Sectarianism, through self-criticism to adjust itself to a Marxist line without swinging to the other extreme of Right Revisionism?

If not, this leadership should step down quickly without dragging the party through another Browder Period.

PETE

Main Prop Of Our Economy

Editor, Daily Worker:

On May 31, Sylvia F. Porter, N. Y. Post financial commentator characterized as "nonsense" and "distortion" what she said overheard from "two obviously Wall Street brokers" declaring that if because of the Russian disarmament drive the U. S. "cuts defense spending business then will be in for the hardest bump since the war." She proceeds with "a serious attempt to stress the facts, smash the fables."

Yet off-hand one can cite dozens of items from the public record that tell a story worth thinking about. These for instance:

"The Congress reconvenes at a time of great emergency. The end of the war came more swiftly than most of us anticipated. Widespread cutbacks in war orders followed promptly. This has led to a national feeling of uneasiness."—Former President Truman, Sept. 6, 1945.

The Journal of Commerce, March 23, 1948, wrote, "Only an improved international situation can dim the business outlook."

"As long as there is danger of war and as long as the nation's budget for defense is maintained at a high peace-time level, there is little chance of a serious recession"—Herald-Tribune May 3, 1948.

"Pretty much everyone liked the economic consequences of the 10 percent war. . . . Businessmen found profits bigger than ever; workers found wage increases easily forthcoming; employment was high; farmers prospered." Thus the magazine Business Week, Dec. 9, 1950, summed up the circumstances which stayed off depression.

"It has now been accepted in Wall Street as a fact that the future of the Studebaker-Packard

Corp. rest on a huge Air Force defense contract."—Ralph Hendershot, financial editor, World-Telegram & Sun, June 1, 1956.

Why deny it? Militarization and armaments more and more become the main prop of the economy but not without gobbling up the national wealth.

SEMPER ALL'ERTA

Socialism In America

CHICAGO

Editor, Daily Worker:

I heartily endorse Max Gordon's (May 28) analysis of a peaceful approach to Socialism in the U. S.—except, of course, his general background viewpoint of a collection of socialisms.

This subject has two parts, wherein there is a vast difference. Here we deal with Socialism in the U. S., the fourtenth of world Capitalism, and not Communism. While there is not any doubt that the U. S. will soon be encircled by a collection of socialist nations which will weaken Capitalism considerably, we here have to deal with socializing America, as every country has its home problems.

As I understand it, the U. S. has the largest "mid-class" in the world and, during the 30's depression, the working class was only "one-third of a nation." How about the other third or more? They will have to go through a new experience and to them it will be something unforeseen. Ere there can be a peaceful approach to Socialism in this country, there must arise the largest and best educated proletariat in the world. A process of elimination is now going on rapidly, and as is also the well-known ever widening gulf between the workers and the giant world corporations.

"Man gets his thoughts from the way he makes his living." And if he makes a poor living or times in a rich nation? There you no living as compared with prior have the essence of "thought control" and a possible parliamentary victory.

GEORGE ALLEN

Paper Shows More Vitality

Editor, Daily Worker:

Tom Dombrowski was one of the sweetest and finest people whom I've had the pleasure of knowing within progressive ranks. He was indeed a people's leader who commanded deep respect among the Polish-American population of Detroit. In his life, his work and his able scholarship, he fulfilled Howard Fast's definition of a Marxist, being first of all a humanist. It was a deep shock to learn of

his death when I turned on the radio for the newcast, this morning.

I believe that he and our other Polish-American friend were killed in a planned political assassination. Now on the discussion I have wanted Alan Max and Abner Berry to know that I support, in general, the positions that you have taken as against those of the hold-tight, let's-keep-being-the-Vicars-of-Bray stand of what I must call, for want of a better term, our own Old Guard.

The Daily Worker is playing a distinguished role in mobilizing American Marxists for the changes that must be made, regardless of the struggle that may be involved and of how many old leaders with grass on their pants who may have to be replaced. I do not expect too much of the December convention because I think it will be completely "controlled" from the time that the gavel pounds for convening to the minute that it bangs out an adjournment.

Yet the new forces that the Daily Worker has helped crystallize and set in motion will continue to operate—since dialectics are not suspended by maneuverings. "What we believe in" does wait "latent forever" as Whitman said—and the flow of change and growth forever continues.

How much more elan and vitality the paper has shown since the addition of the Speak Your Piece column. How much stronger our position would have been during the dark period from which we are emerging had the opinions and creative capacities of our own people been understood and respected by the leadership.—H. H.

Catholic Magazine

On Cyprus Issue

Editor, Daily Worker:

Eden is without "a leg to stand on," on the Cyprus issue, according to an article in the May issue of "Columbia: The Largest Catholic Magazine in the World."

The article is by Andrew Boyle, a staff member of the British Broadcasting Corporation. The policy of the British Government is said by Boyle to be denounced with "an amazing unanimity of view" among British Conservatives, Communists, Liberals, Socialists, and "people who subscribe to no party funds."

Boyle questions that there was any sound reason, either strategic or political, for imposing a permanent military occupation on Cyprus when the British withdrew from the Suez Canal Zone in December, 1954.

He also points out that the Cypriots have been for 1,500 years "a people proudly conscious of their Greek origins," that their "sense of community with Greece was already strong in Aristotle's day," and that St. Paul and Barnabas had found them speaking the same tongue and worshipping the same gods as the Greeks on the Asia Minor mainland.

"Columbia," published in New Haven by the Knights of Columbus, is fanatically anti-Communist, and the article projects that "one can safely" attribute the "emergence of fanaticism in its most cold-blooded form" to "Cypriot Reds."

An editorial in the same issue attacks the April meeting of the American Association of University Professors for voting censure of institutions for "alleged" violations of academic freedom in firings of faculty members. It endorses the sentiments of a protesting member that the vote of censure was "tyrannous" and "a badge of torture."—W.R.

Role of The Daily Worker

Editor, Daily Worker:

Many thoughtful letters have appeared evaluating the past policies of the Communist Party and the Daily Worker, but none as yet have spoken of the role of the paper in this new period.

Let me begin by endorsing the continuation of Speak Your Piece, which I believe to be the most provocative and enlightening feature of the Daily, largely because in it are raised basic questions that would not otherwise see print.

But the main point remains what and how the Daily Worker, as the lone eastern socialist daily, can help in reaching the new organizational and ideological formulations that we in the Left expect. The direction of my own thinking is best shown by outlining two statements.

1. The DW was once the organ of the CP. Today, it is run by an independent Marxist group. Would it not be more in character with the present situation on the Left, if other socialist groupings were permitted to express themselves through the paper, thereby broadening the contact and discussion within the Left, and anchoring the paper with even larger groups of readers?

2. Speak Your Piece is not the only new addition to the DW. Lately, we have read the John Gates—James Allen—Max Weiss controversies, the Anna Strong article, and other polemics around the many questions agitating us all. Perhaps in this pe-

riod when the Left is seeking ideological clarity, the DW should devote more space to debate and polemics and less to news. Much of the news gotten from the DW can be obtained elsewhere.

Were the DW to develop along lines of partisan journalistic honesty, perhaps it can become the paper of American revolt, the outlet to which honest men turn when disgusted by the corruption and duplicity of our over-commercialized society. This would at least require that it deal with all the news and report phenomena as they are and not as we would wish it. It would require that oppositional viewpoints be fairly presented.

An example of what should be avoided was the recent two articles comment that Joe Clark made to J. F. Stone's conclusions about the Soviet Union and western Communist Parties. At no time did Clark raise or attempt to answer the many questions that Stone asked concerning the still murky developments around the 20th Congress. Further, Stone urged the independent Left not to collaborate with the western Communists because they "remain Russian puppets" and "will jump back through the hoops as soon as they get new orders." The silence of the editors of the DW after the last secret purge in Azerbaijan is not encouraging to those independent Leftists who nevertheless believe Stone to be wrong.

GIOVANNI FALCK.

Dissent in Communist Party

ALBANY, N.Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

The Max Weiss article on civil liberties was in the main very good. But if we are to convince the American people that we are the rightful continuers of American democratic traditions we should start applying these traditions to the Communist Party. We should practice with ourselves what we preach to the populace.

The right of dissent is a good example. Its application in the Communist Party is very limited. We allow dissent prior to adoption of policy but denied it, in practice, afterwards. Adopted policy became a closed subject, a dogma, beyond the pale of criticism and it took a Duclos article or a 20th congress to make it possible to reopen discussion on accepted policy and practices.

We should find ways to apply the right to dissent in a more liberal manner. For example: allowing active dissent after adoption of policy; allowing the correctness of majority or minority views to be determined at the scene of the dispute.—C.D.