

# SPEAK YOUR PIECE

## Drastic Changes Needed in Daily

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

In the "Our Existence and Future" appeal you ask for straight from the shoulder comment. As a long-time, faithful supporter and worker for the paper, I want to offer some things that I have felt very strongly for the past few years.

I believe that the paper as it stands cannot continue.

I have seen what I am sure is common to all of us—refusal to read or accept the paper not because of fear or security, but because the paper has repelled many progressives and friends and allies by its narrow, dogmatic, mechanical, Soviet-parrotting approach and orientation.

I submit that the FIRST thing we have to decide is whether the Daily Worker is supposed to be a Marxist organ of interpretation for Marxists. If this is what we want, it is obviously ridiculous to think of a daily newspaper of some 7,000 circulation into which hundreds of thousands of dollars continue to be poured down the drain in a law of diminishing returns ratio. If the Daily Worker is intended as the Marxist organ, a weekly edition should be put out—and that's it.

But if the paper is to be a mass organ, a paper with a progressive orientation, a paper that can reach and be welcomed by at least 50,000 to 100,000 readers—then only can we speak in terms of a daily newspaper.

A newspaper must first of all be a newspaper. It must provide news; a broad, full coverage of news. It cannot be a party ideological organ and be a mass paper—not in these times, anyway. It should not be a "labor" paper—the labor movement has its own papers. It should not be a "Negro" paper—the Negro people have their own papers. It cannot skimp on news coverage and then run canned, word-for-word released and resolutions, etc. Editors are supposed to edit, remember.

A newspaper must be run by newspaper men, like a newspaper. It must have attractive layout and make-up; good heads and type, and not look like a goulash. It must present news clearly, simply and in an interesting fashion—and it must exercise a sense of perspective and balance on its choice and presentation of news. It must have good reproduction—and when pictures are used, not slap in the same tired cut of Senator Lehman as he was 20 years ago.

Straight, full, factual reportage is demanded. Reportage and

language understood by the people—not gobbled-gook. And it should learn to tell something in ten or twenty words instead of the usual practice of doing it in 100 or 200 words.

Finally, editorializing belongs in the editorials.

The Worker's editorials, incidentally, are a model for sparse use of words and clarity.

You will say that all this is a tough job, that it will cost money etc., etc. Well, that's all true. But it's a job that has to be done. The paper is the most important face that we can and must present to the American people.

It's a challenge that we have to meet, not only to guarantee the paper's survival—but to make it the organ that it should and must become. If we can't put out a good newspaper then we've got no business at it.—S.

PS: Enclosed find \$10 for the current appeal.

## Changes Opinion And Sends \$50

BRONX, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

I am the person who, at the Thursday night Bronx meeting, proposed the paper be changed to a bi-weekly or weekly. Your arguments and those of others with whom I have spoken have changed my mind. I now agree that the paper is playing a vital role for us today and must be kept a daily to continue to play that role. So, as proof of my change of heart, here is \$50 to keep it going.

Please, just try harder to report news straight and not editorially except in individual columns or on the editorial page.

## ADLAI

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on Friday.

### ANSWERS DEMOS

Lewis L. Strauss, chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission yesterday denounced Democratic campaign criticisms of the Administration's atomic program.

Strauss said there is "no basis of fact" in allegations that the U. S. lag behind other nations in atomic power development unless the government takes over.

"We do not lag behind any other nation," Strauss said. "On the contrary, we stand as the acknowledged world leader in every aspect of nuclear power development, both for national and peaceful uses."

In an address to the New York Board of Trade, Strauss said the U.S. has built a total of 82 nuclear reactors of all types and for all purposes—more than the rest of the world combined.

He said that of 30 reactors plan-

And the language of the people, that would be the most important improvement as far as I am concerned.—F. L.

## Israel Epstein's Article on China

Editor, Daily Worker:

In the midst of all the discussion now going on about the proper perspectives for the Party, I think it is well to look a little more broadly at the experience of other countries and their Communist Parties. Not, of course, for the purpose of copying their methods but possibly to grasp a little more clearly what is meant by "creative Marxism."

One of the most suggestive articles on the application of Marxist principles successfully is to be found in a fine study by Israel Epstein, called "Democracy In China," in the October issue of The New World Review.

I think a reading of Epstein's description would go a long way towards bringing our discussions down to earth.

In the same issue of The New World Review there are a number of particularly enlightening articles—on overcoming the stultification of the Stalin-cult in the USSR, on a recent meeting of European economists in Poland by the distinguished English scholar Maurice Dobb on important developments in Hungary and in East Germany.

The information this handsomely designed and printed magazine provides for 25 cents, is not, I feel, generally appreciated or resorted to by progressive people.

Alexander McMannaway

ned for experimental and civilian atomic power, 18 will provide civilian commercial power for homes and industries. The first of these, he said, will be completed next year at Shippingport, Pa.

Strauss said that six of the 18 plants will be built by industry "without depending on the government for any direct financial subsidy."

Strauss said the government could, "if it chose," build atomic power plants across the nation, but he said such a "crash" program would be a "reckless waste" of money and of the "scarce talent needed to explore areas of richer promise in nuclear power."

He said there is a "serious shortage" of technical manpower, particularly in the field of atomic energy.

He declared industry is prepared "to invest upwards of \$200 million" in the six nuclear power plants planned for commercial use.