

Dear Editor

Letters from Readers

Get on the Ball About Labor Issues

CHICAGO.

Dear Editor:

When is the Worker going to really get on the ball on the McClellan Committee and the new all-out drive against labor?

For a while it seemed the Worker and Daily Worker was taking this rotten anti-labor committee at face value—how could that happen? A headline, for example, was along the lines "Murder Threat to Witness' Brother" which is just what the labor busters wanted; the episode referred to, an alleged threatening phone call to the brother of a witness, was a thin, second-hand story, played up by McClellan. Don't we well know how such stories can be faked by a planted phone call, etc? Why didn't we explain such possibilities.

The same goes with respect to the Indiana right to work fight. The Worker is way behind. Tenants' fights and foreign policy are very important but we must have first of all a class position and do the most on those issues most immediately affecting the workers and the labor movement. As a matter of fact, and I'm not trying to expand this thought here, we could correct most of our errors and weaknesses if instead of fooling around with semantics about words and interpretations, we began once and for all to act like a party of the working class.

If we want to appeal to the nation, we must do so through the working class. If we want a na-

number, to see through this whole deal, to be fully equipped with information of a good, sound kind, to help wage an all-out battle in the ranks of labor for clarity, vigilance and action in the face of a sinister and tremendous campaign by the bosses.

Then we need stuff that helps link this up with other circles of the population, exposing the "racket" charge, showing the basic role of labor as a foundation of democracy, etc.

The right to work offense, the McClellan smear attack, the order of UAW to trial for political action, are the issue of the day. They confront the workers with the biggest and most dangerous threat and the greatest responsibility to fight back in many years. Let's get on the ball!

J.

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U. S. Labor Should Root Out Rackets

BRIDGEPORT.

Dear Editor:

I feel that the Worker will miss the boat if they do not speak out more boldly and forthrightly on racketeering in the American trade union movement. The millions of trade unionists in the U. S. hate racketeering, graft, corruption and dictatorship in their unions as well as in their city, state and national government.

While they may not fully understand the dangers involved in the McClellan Senate committee they believe that the committee is legitimately exposing racketeering in the Teamsters' union and they are glad that it is being done. The vote in the steel union was not merely a vote against a high-handed \$2 dues increase but a vote against a "legitimate" racket of a \$50,000 salary of a union president, along with other grievances.

In the Worker of Sunday, March 24, are two major articles and an editorial dealing with the current McClellan committee hearings. The George Morris article on McCarthy, the Detroit article on Hoffa and the editorial all deal with these hearings. Only the George Morris article pays a little attention to racketeering but not nearly enough. The article on Hoffa does not mention even once the question of racketeering and gangsterism in the Teamsters' union but calls the entire thing a "frameup" of Hoffa and an attack on labor. In the editorial only the last paragraph talks about the necessity of labor cleaning house on its own.

It seems to me therefore that the Worker is completely unbalanced in its approach to these hearings in the issue of March 24. I, for one, realize the grave dangers these hearings involve for labor and what they open up to the NAM boys. But I also believe that if it is to move forward U. S. labor must root out the racketeers, gangsters and their secret tie-up to big business and the political machines.

The Worker has a very difficult job to tackle this question in what I consider a correct manner, one that will help advance the legitimate aspirations of millions of unionists for honest democratic unions and at the

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tional anti-monopoly front of the "people" we must concentrate on that part of the "people" which is the working class . . . much more so, by the way, than the left in France and England, etc., for abroad in most countries the working class is organized politically and its job is to win allies in other classes which it is trying to do, but here an even prior task is the development among the workers of consciousness of their own cause and tasks, out of which comes the air of winning other groups in the population.

We need articles showing the role of the union shop, and giving the arguments for it as against the fake cry of "freedom to work." We need articles explaining more clearly the employer basis of racketeering in labor movement, articles emphasizing the aims of the McClellan Committee for a National Right to Work law, putting labor under the anti-monopoly laws, etc., and what this kind of legislation would really mean to the workers. We need articles—yes—even though we've had them before—exposing the records and backgrounds of McClellan, Mundt, Goldwater, McCarthy, et al.

We need to fully equip the readers, even though small in



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same time warn of the dangers
to labor in these hearings.
JACK GOLDRING.

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**Peaceful Road
Always Sought**

LOS ANGELES.

Dear Editor:

I do not as yet have much information about what happened at the Communist Party convention, or what went into the draft resolution or the constitution, but there is one clause in the draft resolution, reportedly adopted by the national convention delegates, which I take very sharp issue with. I quote here from the Feb. 17 Worker in a story written by Lester Rodney. Speaking of the draft resolution he says:

"I went on to say that the CP will have to be bolder in re-examining certain Marxist-Leninist theories which, while valid in a past period, may have become outdated, citing such examples as the now obsolete thesis that war is inevitable under imperialism, and the inevitability of violent revolution, stating that

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the party now recognizes 'the possibility in our country of a peaceful, constitutional transition to socialism.'"

The above underlined portion of the quote is the clause I take issue with. If this is the way it is worded in the resolution, then it is a distortion of the facts. It does not say that Communists have always opposed violence, and that they have always struggled to achieve socialism by peaceful means. It intimates that they have only recently recognized such a possibility and that this is a change from the past, thereby inferring that in the past Communists believed that the only way to achieve socialism was by violent revolution.

I have read many references in recent months about Stalin's thesis of the inevitability of violent revolution. I have yet to see anyone state where in Stalin's writings he made such a statement, or to actually quote out of context.

Neither do I know of any place

where Lenin ever wrote such a thesis. Lenin argued that Communists should always strive to achieve socialism by peaceful means and that armed revolt should be considered only after all other possibilities had been exhausted, and then only if the overwhelming majority of the people supported such a change.

I sincerely hope that Lester Rodney misquoted this part of the resolution and that this is not the final form in which it was adopted. If this is the final draft as it was adopted, then I hope there is some way in which this serious error can be corrected so that it will not leave the false impression that Communist are admitting to one of the biggest lies the capitalist propagandists have been able to invent.

V. B.

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**'Appeal to Reason'
As a Model**

Dear Editor: DAYTON, O.
I thoroughly enjoy Ben Levine's column in The Worker.

Occasionally I bump up against something that I must look up for complete clarification and get just as much "kick" out of this as the line of thought.

Years ago I knew George Burba, deceased in person. In these parts he was tops in the editorial field on Cox's Dayton News. One day he told me that he attributed his success to an earlier day experience writing boys' stories for Youth's Companion.

The average reader, as you know, as about as much comprehension as a 12-year-old boy. Advertising agencies have discovered this, so in the preparation of direct mail, aim at this age of intelligence.

As a whole, I believe The Worker should look up some old "Appeal to Reason" issues. The Appeal had a punch no other radical paper has ever achieved.

Keep up the good work, as in my estimation you are doing a fine job, but there is always room for improvement.

C. W. LARHEIR.