

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

A Unique Forum

Editor, Daily Worker:

A tribute to the editor and staff of the D.W. You are doing a superb job of democratization. The "Speak Your Piece" is a better means of discussion, initiative and learning than we have ever had in the Communist Party; we used to wait for "directives from above" instead of opening our mouths, or our minds, in difference.

It is inspiring for our future development that we see evidenced through these letters that this is the stuff our members are made of. One has the feeling that there is a great deal of leadership material among the rank and file that has not been explored. It bodes well for the course we finally hammer out as the best road toward Socialism in our country; alongside all the other workers and intellectuals who are interested in bringing it about.

I. N.

Left, Right; Right, Left

SCHENECTADY, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Since the inception of the Communist Party we have corrected our left mistakes by swinging so far to the right that we replaced left mistakes by right ones and vice-versa.

In our attempt to do away with the right opportunism of Browder we fell into the left errors of our recent past. In our attempt to correct the right opportunistic errors of the Browder we fell into the left errors of our recent past. In our attempt to correct the right opportunistic errors of the Browder period in relation to the Negro question we engaged in a leftist internal campaign which resembled a witchhunt.

Today I believe we are about to commit the same error. In order to correct our left errors which arose out of fighting the right errors of Browderism we are about to embark on a grand swing to the right. In all likelihood this will result in a series of right errors and another painful re-valuation in another 10 years or so.

Let us get off the pendulum. In my opinion we have committed left errors in the main in the past 10 years but this does not mean per se that everything we did was left, nor does it mean that a swing to the right is the correct approach.

For instance Shrank and Dennis in their reports say we overestimated the danger of war and do not prove it. The Korean war and McArthur's attempt to use the atomic bomb proves how close to war we were. Dulles' "brink of war" statement is another proof.

Let us correct the errors of the past without wiping out the positive side of our past work. The consistent flip-flops that the party has made, have hurt our prestige more than any other single factor. We will continue to flip-flop as long as we continue this method of work.

Let us get scientific.—H. T.

Workingclass Political Unity

Editor, Daily Worker:

C. Dirba's letter (July 25) ignored the main point of my previous letter—the present polit-

ical split in the American working class.

This political division is very real and has to be reckoned with in considering future developments. Any projected mass party (socialist or farmer-labor) will be successful only to the extent this split is ended.

The American Labor Party in the beginning contained both Communist and Social-Democratic elements. The struggle between these two split the ALP. The progressive Party was short-lived because Social-Democratic workers did not support it. The Liberal Party is the other half of the ALP, but itself isn't getting very far.

Can't we learn from these examples? It is not that it is more important to heal the working class split than to form a mass party of socialism, or vice-versa. But that any mass party will not endure as long as the working class is politically split.

It is not necessary that we all fuse into one organization, which means dissolving our separate parties and groups and repudiating differing political opinions. No, we need contact between Socialists and Communists in the interests of unity of the labor movement. We need combined activity in defense of peace and of the vital interests of the workers.

We need contact with all Socialist and pro-Marxist groups including any and all who have trade union and working-class following.

It is unrealistic to expect these workers to dissolve their existing organizations and repudiate their political ideas for the sake of one all-embracing Socialist Party. But it may be possible to form an alliance with them, an alliance that will permit them (and us) to keep present organizational forms and political ideas.

Such an all-embracing alliance will make for more working-class unity than a mass Socialist party that would exclude many pro-Marxist working-class groups.

ERNA McNEIL

Whose Force?

Whose Violence?

New Bedford, Mass.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Enclosed herewith you will please find \$10 to help carry along the good cause of the fund drive.

In the June 17 letter headed, "Ways to convince a Smith Act Jury," I believe some good points were brought out.

How can you have force and violence without pre-meditated training and physically preparing for it? Let them prove, where and with what we are

going to use force and violence. Well put, but one can add from there to say where are the armies, navies, air-forces, A and H bombs, trained or controlled by the American Communists?

It goes to prove it is not physical force of violence the government objects to but to the realm of wide-spread knowledge and idealism, especially in the political field, now run by a controlled press in the hands of a select few.

George Sokolsky says Red China cannot shoot her way into the UN by way of intervention in Korea and the withholding of hostages, meaning the intervention was aggression, when there were voices threatening to overthrow the Red Chinese government, by force and violence long before she came to the defense of North Korea and herself five months after the war began.

In reading Elizabeth Lawson's article in the July 1 Worker, entitled, Our Declaration: "Vital forces in the Colonial World of 1776, my comment is that in 1776 and for many years before and after the fight for freedom was not against Communism but against imperialism against the right of property before human rights and the common people.

The more I think of the un-American committee calling on defense witnesses to give names of all and sundry the more I think that is subversive. I think it is subversive of the Bill of Rights and Civil Rights. It is reminiscent of guilt before trial, etc.

—N. M.

The Basis Of Unity

Editor, Daily Worker:

Pravda in a recent editorial called for working class unity. This is certainly a necessary condition for the advancement of the peoples struggle for a better life.

Working class unity must be built on the solid foundation on the struggles of the peoples of the world against war, colonialism, exploitation of man by man, an end to all types of discrimination, etc.

Blind allegiance to the Soviet Union will not help achieve unity, although the Soviet Union was the first country of socialism and they have contributed so much to mankind's struggle for a better life.

Serious charges of anti-Semitism have been levelled at the Soviet Union by extremely friendly and reliable sources. We have had nothing but a stony silence in reply.

Working class unity demands an answer, a prompt, complete and factual answer to this and many other serious question.

—I. H.

Tom Jefferson Couldn't

By STEVE MURDOCK

SAN FRANCISCO

Somebody dug up the fact recently it cost Thomas Jefferson \$25 in camp expenditures to get himself reelected to the Virginia assembly in 1771.

In the June primary election here in California a couple of Republican committees from Los Angeles county spent more than a half a million dollars on GOP candidates.

Central Committee and the United Republican Finance Committee of Los Angeles county have on file with Secretary of State Frank Jordan in Sacramento a 57-page document that is, we suspect, a somewhat franker example of this kind of report than one generally sees.

It shows collections totaling \$797,806 and expenditures in the amount of \$585,352—just for the primary campaign.

A big chunk of the half million