The Debate in the ‘Daily Worker’

The U.S. Communist Party Rocks-and-Roll in the Crisis

By GEOFFrey POST

The American Communist Party, past victim of countless shocks to its nervous system caused by sudden right-angle or swivel turns in the course of the last few years, is probably in its most critical period, perhaps its worst, in reaction to the news of the Russian bureaucracy’s attack on Stalin.

In the past three years, the Daily Worker has started on what is likely to be the most far-reaching and dramatic of all its attacks on Stalin. It has extended its attack to the very core of the Stalinist regime.

Go Slow, He Says

WILLIAM Z. FOSTER

other matters were wrong, and hence, self-defeating. It made it unnecessarily more difficult to advance the cause of the American Communists, a cause that the overwhelming majority of the American people supported.

And, of course, in saying this, Mac says anything for a Stalinist editor, for he has attacked the Russian art of something that is called “socialism.” The whole issue of socialism is being faced with some of the cultural manifestations of socialist realism. The debate is not over what is right or wrong, but over what is the correct approach to it.

And with all this, and even given the enormous overvaluing of individual leaders, and ship, should not fall into the “basket” of ideas and the historical role of the “individual.”

Foster’s interpreters

Foster’s line was taken by R. James Lardner, Jr., in his “Letter to the Editor,” which appeared in the Worker for March 12, 1956. It was also taken up in the “Letter to the Editor” of the Worker on Stalin’s 70th birthday celebration. Foster’s line was taken by Max, in a letter to Lardner, Jr., one of the “Hollins League.”

Alan Max is a member of the Hollins League, and his line on this point is correct, being the view of most of the American Communists, the majority of the American people, and even the majority of the American academic community.

NEW NOTES

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