

## SOCIALIST FORUM

ALL SOCIALIST-MINDED people, we believe, will welcome the formation of the American Forum for Socialist Education. This forum, under the chairmanship of the Rev. A. J. Muste, is led by a 40-member national committee composed of individuals of diverse socialist thinking.

The formation of the Forum is especially welcome at this time when there is a revival of interest in socialism in America. This revival not only reflects a process of reappraisal and discussion by many confirmed socialists but also a new interest in the subject in an era of profound political and economic change.

The national committee of the Forum, in addition to many educators and churchmen, include several trade union and Negro leaders.

The committee also includes two leading Communists, Doxey Wilkerson and Albert E. Blumberg. The inclusion of Communists is in our opinion a significant contribution to restoring a climate of opinion in which ideas of socialism can be fully and freely discussed in our country.

The statement of purpose of the Forum makes clear that what is being organized here is not a new political membership organization but a forum which seeks to promote "study and serious untrammelled political discussions among all elements that think of themselves as related to historic socialist and labor traditions, values and objectives . . . however deep and bitter their differences may have been."

The Rev. Muste points out that the Forum, of which he is chairman, "neither promotes nor seeks to inhibit" united action by various parties or groups, or mergers or new organizations. What it does seek to promote is "study and especially continuous discussion in a situation where many of the answers are not known and much division, confusion and consequent frustration exist."

The position of the Communists with regard to a development of this kind was set forth in the resolution adopted overwhelmingly at their recent national convention. In discussing the question of an eventual united socialist movement, the resolution pointed out that "the attainment of unity among socialist-minded forces lies along the path of common struggle on the broadest issues facing the American people, in the course of which ideological and tactical questions will become clarified and common bonds be forged."

It lies along the path of extending the process of frank exchange and discussion that has been taking place during the past year and ensuring that our party at all levels increasingly participates in this process."

The Daily Worker agrees with this view and is happy if it has made a modest contribution in the past year toward a freer exchange of ideas. We wish the Forum well and will do whatever we can to promote its stated objectives.