

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Disagrees With Signer

GARY, Ind.

Editor, Daily Worker:

So far I have written nothing about the Hungarian situation as so many others were saying all that, it seems, needs to be said. But a letter in the Jan. 22 issue, signed by Herbert Signer, "got my goat." Signer writes to tell us . . . "American Communists . . . cannot take a serious step towards re-establishing a new basis for socialism in the labor movement today (no matter what else is done on domestic issues and policies) if they condone or justify the Soviet actions in Hungary."

The writer of this letter, who is a worker in a steel mill and a member of the USW, must disagree. There was no hysteria, no sharp reaction to the Hungarian events among the workers. It is true, that for most workers this was a confirmation of what they had always been led to believe about the USSR, but not new, not startling, not the cause of any qualitative change in their thinking. The misleaders of labor, who grasp at every straw to discredit socialism and class struggle policies, of course tried to use Hungary to serve their ends. In the Gary area, for instance, in the largest steel local in the world, there was a meet-

ing which raised particular hell about the unjustified dues increase levied by the last USW convention. In trying to stave off local union action by the 1,100 or better members there, the sub-district director, one Orville Kinsaid, started to rave about "look what is happening in Hungary." The answer came from many workers who hollered out "We're talking about the dues, not Hungary."

Signer talks about "labor solidarity, when he chooses to demand that the American labor movement, and particularly the left within it, align themselves with those who would throw continued obstacles in the path of restoring some balance, some equilibrium into the Hungarian situation, so that workers can once again produce livelihood for their families. Is not the demand of international working-class solidarity now for all support to the Hungarian government in its efforts to democratize Hungary, while restoring its economy and preventing the recurrence of attempts at coups which, whatever the intentions of the participants, can only lead to the restoration of capitalism. There are, it seems, many interpretations of working-class solidarity.

Calumet Area Steelworker
Jan. 24, 1957

Urges Fight For Negro Rights

PITTSBURGH

Editor, Daily Worker:

I am a housewife and a member of a neighborhood club of the Communist Party. I joined time I had no previous knowledge of the party in the thirties at which edge of the way the party conducted struggles in behalf of the working class and the Negro people and I'm sure it was so generally. This was a source of much strength for the organization and progress as whole.

That situation does not exist today. To help correct it I wish to make the following suggestions:

1. In spite of the prevailing conditions I think the Negro people still have some respect for the party.

2. The Negro people are demonstrating throughout the country their ability to give outstanding leadership to struggles for their emancipation.

3. This ability demonstrated by Negroes is important for the C.P. Negroes must be prominent in the national leadership including top posts.

I hope the coming convention of the C.P. in February will recognize these suggestions.

P.R.T.
Jan. 22, 1957