

# Dear Editor

## Letters from Readers

### What Is the Reason For the Rising Traffic Death Toll?

- Is it the drivers' fault?
- Inadequate roads?
- Over-powerful cars?

The Worker is undertaking to find out, and will present in an article soon some facts and views on the mounting traffic casual-



ties. In the meanwhile, we also want the opinion of those who drive. Send us your views in a letter of 300 words or less.

EDITOR.

### Hesitant Worker Forced to Write

CLEVELAND.

Dear Editor:

As a worker who did not have very much chance to get a technical education I have avoided doing political writing because of the supposition that those who were better equipped technically could do a better job. But I was wrong and from now on I will put my thinking on paper no matter how difficult or painful it is for me from a technical point of view.

Using the Hungarian situation and the statement of some of our leaders, the National Committee and the Daily Worker, I can now understand what Comrade Khrushchev meant when he stated that some Comrades were getting lost in the open fields. The Worker and Daily Worker in making their statement of support to the Nagy Government and criticizing the intervention by the Soviet Union and the use of the Red Army, forgot or ignored many basic facts and made the kind of mistakes that can not be accepted by Communists leaders.

We must constantly remember that the Hungarian Horthy government was a fascist Government supported by clerical fascism; was an ally of Hitler Germany imperialism, and the Hungarian armies along with Hitler's armies attacked the Soviet Union and the Hungarian People did not rebel against it, or did not protest against it either. We should also remember that some of those Hungarian Fascists who are in America brag about the fact that when the Horthy Fascists organization was being liquidated they advised them to go into the Hungarian Communist Party and some of them got up as high as the top leadership. We must also remember that Project X and the Voice of America were organized for the purpose of counter-revolution, and to establish jumping-off bases for attack and war on the Soviet Union.

We must remember that because war is not inevitable, that does not make it impossible, and if the People of the World let their guard down — then war could come, and it can still be an imperialist war against Socialism even though it cannot be successful.

The Comrades who wrote I supported the statement must have known or should have known that from the very moment that the Hungarian Government opened their borders to

those Hungarians who had left the country—thousands of Horthy Fascists began crossing back into the country, and some thousands of them began showing up at every public meeting, and began to raise issues and exploit the just grievances of the workers, and also raise the demand that the Soviet troops be withdrawn from the country, creating the idea that permanent citizens of the country were raising this demand. This paved the way for others to take this demand up also.

It is true that because of the Stalinist mistakes the Hungarian workers had justified grievances, and they were not corrected speedily enough, but the Hungarian workers nor anyone else can be excused for joining in counter-revolutionary action with fascist elements against their own Socialist Government and with imperialist elements against their own Government and Country of Socialism—the Soviet Union.

The Soviet Union was justified in intervening both times in Hungary under the conditions that prevailed there. The Soviet Union cannot and would be very foolish—which they are not, if they allowed a jumping-off base to be established on their border.

—Joe Dougher.

### Corrects Writer On Cost of Stock

Dear Editor:

In the issue of Nov. 25 you have an article about the A. T. & T. (American Telephone and Telegraph Co.). It is full of generalities that the average reader cannot understand.

You have a passage there which reads as follows: "At the offer price of \$100, this brings a nice nine percent return." In the first place, it is not true. With the \$100 you must also have ten "rights" which sold at the market between \$6.50 and \$7. Even at \$6.50 a right, ten "rights" amount to \$65 — that means that one share costs \$165, not \$100, and it is not nine percent, but a  $\frac{1}{2}$  percent more than five percent.

—STEADY READER

### Rome, Nor China Built in a Day

Dear Editor:

Reprints of articles by Hallinan and Bridges in the Sunday Worker have a nostalgic ring to them, as far as this correspondent is concerned. They remind him of the old days in China, and by old days we mean pre 1925. Because if you wanted to say something universally heartfelt among us foreign devils, regardless of our occupation there or our political beliefs, if you wanted to say something at once simple and profound, all you had to say was this:

"Some day China will wake up."

Well, she did wake up finally, much to the surprise of everybody. Because, paradoxically enough, although everybody felt in their bones that she would eventually wake up, they were not prepared either for the suddenness of the awakening or the turn of events following that awakening.

It's the same way about the American labor movement, the so-called 'sleeping giant'. We have looked at it askance now for several decades, snoring peacefully away. Some of us, impatient, have applied to it everything from a hotfoot to smelling salts. "If only it would snap out of it, we said to ourselves, we'd soon get out from under this two-party swindle."

We must take a leaf from the Chinese book and learn to be patient. Rome wasn't built in a day either. Neither Hallinan or

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# LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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Bridges are impressed by two-party pretensions. Calmly and confidently they muster the facts which prove that the American worker is a prisoner in his own house. He has no political home, either in the Democratic or in the Republican camp. They reaffirm what all of us have been saying these many years now, that someday "the American worker will wake up."

So just let's not be caught with our pants down, like so many people were by the turn of events in China, when another 'sleeping giant arose,' in spite of everything in the way of obstacles. Have we forgotten the depression, when workers flocked to the union by the millions, and once there, ran over everything that got in their way?

Anyway the Hallinan and Bridges reprints are worth five bucks of anybody's money. Mine's enclosed.

Yours,  
Have Faith.

## Socialism and Castor Oil

Dear Editor:

When Finland wanted "out" in 1917 the Leninist policy was to give them "out," even though it weakened the Soviets militarily and allowed the Bolsheviks in Finland to be massacred.

When Finland was occupied completely after its alliance with Hitler (like Hungary's) in World War II, the USSR demanded only that Finland not adopt an aggressive policy — and went home. No socialism crammed down anyone's throat. And Finland has not become an imperialist salient. On the contrary, full friendly economic and political relations — inequality have developed. . . .

When do we get and keep socialism? When the people want it, or whenever the opportunity arises to get them to accept it—voluntarily or by force. James Allen and others have over and over implied that force (atom and hydrogen bombs, too, I suppose) is justified to keep "socialism" even where the majority are sure "they don't want it. Marxist geniuses are supposed to know what the people really need and really want, even if the people are unanimously in the streets and out of the factories calling for something entirely indifferent (not yet against socialism in Hungary, but certainly against castor oil socialism and Mr. Kadar). . . .

From now on we must insist that the full truth be known, that people be able to make up their minds freely in the light of the facts, and that when their minds are made up, the majority decision rules, whatever it is. Then if we are right about socialism being the next great inevitable step of history, it will triumph. And if we are wrong, history would sweep us aside anyway, but at least not spit on our name.—J.H.

