

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Resolution by A Brooklyn Group

Editor, Daily Worker:

We urge you to print the following letter, which is a copy of one sent to Party Voice, since this can be done sooner than P. V. can do it.

Editor, Party Voice:

A quorum of the section committee of East New York (Brooklyn) voted to make corrections in the letter submitted from here and printed in the P. V. issue No. 8, Dec., 1956.

First, we must state that the letter was mailed to you before the section committee was able to approve it.

Second, this was an inaccurate statement. The facts are as follows:

The only vote taken, concerning the discussion on the statement, "The Soviet Union refused to behave in accordance with the myth of 'Soviet aggression', and instead the socialist countries directed all their efforts toward preventing war and achieving peaceful coexistence" (Draft Resolution) was, to recommend deletion of the word "all" from the statement. This was based mainly on the errors in policy admitted to by Soviet leaders. There was one dissenting vote, that of our S. O.

The tone of the discussion in general was more positive than the letter indicated. The many contributions of the Soviet Union in the fight for peace were pointed up along with the mistakes (such as Yugoslavia) which, as the letter states, were mentioned by individuals.

The section committee meeting referred to was not fully attended. About one half of the s. c. was represented.

We did not state that the Soviet Union "gave grist to the mill of the war advocates". This was the impression of one individual.

We should also like to propose to Party Voice that all communications and articles printed be dated as to the time they are written. In view of the rapid changes taking place today we feel this is essential.

E.N.Y. SEC. COMMITTEE

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The Practice of "Plunging In"

Editor, Daily Worker:

Much that is in the amendment to the Draft Resolution I agree with. I am agreed that we keep the same name and form and let changes in approach and an end to leftism be started first. I think we should immediately discuss ways of holding all sorts of forums and discussions with other existing socialist organizations and they will discuss with us if we approach them honestly, without intention to take over, regardless of what our name is.

I agree that difference existing among us "need to be resolved by further experience". I believe more in resolving by experience than resolving by discussion.

Stop worrying so much about the use of "invective". Human beings are not so fragile that they fall apart by strong language. When folks have been pentup for years it clears the air to use some good strong language.

Hurrah for dropping the term "monolithic unity."

Now for my main gripe: This sentence: "Even in these next weeks as our discussion draws to a close we need also to plunge into the developing fight for Negro rights. . . ." I propose that we substitute the term "participate." If we "plunge in" we have learned little from the many months taken out of activity—and for many party members these have months of doing absolutely nothing but discuss and discuss. We have been identified with "plunging in" tactics too

long.

Other organizations which have been working on the matter of Rule 22, reduction of taxes, Walter-McCarran revision, social legislation — ploddingly, slowly, you will say, lamely, haltingly—have been working, at least, consistently. The Negroes in the South have been walking slowly and consistently while we have been debating quickly and passionately.

What happens to consistency when you plunge in? It gets disrupted. When in the past Communists have gone into campaign others have been unable to keep up with them on a 24-hour-a-day basis. When we "plunge in" we just as quickly "plunge" out. You remember political campaigns — our comrades do not return from the country until after Labor Day. Then they need a few weeks of "orientation." They do not get into full steam until October. Then they "plunge" and work at fever heat. This work fools no one! We have maintained that our work is consistent, 365 days in the year. The DW should get a dollar for every time this has not been so!

In these columns on Dec. 31, a West Side Club complains that its county leadership proposes to take action (what matter what the issue?) in their name without consulting them. Which means that it takes a long time to learn.

Whatever activity our members engage in, those most devoted know they are in activity for the duration. Our work, to be of value, must be CONSISTENT. Therefore, we must avoid "plunging in", which means we want to make up for lost time; be sure other people recognize these tactics for what they are, and don't like them.

Let us eliminate the concept of "plunging in."

A FRIEND OF THE DW