

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Independent Committees

Editor, Daily Worker:

The following brief outline is a fairly acceptable expression, I believe, of the trend of thought among my fellow left-wingers.

Everything economic, political, educational and, in short, peculiarly human, i.e., civilization, points up the need for a thorough-going revolution in man's relations within and to his total environment. Consequently we hold that socialism is not only desirable, but historically necessary, if our country is to be spared eventual stagnation and retrogression and threatening world catastrophe.

We further believe that the main instrument for a social reconstruction which is to reach down and change the very roots and bases of things must be a socialist Farmer-Labor, or, rather, Labor-Farmer Party.

That kind of a party, needless to say, will not spring up spontaneously overnight. It will require time, planning and work. Most likely it will come about as the result of the demands and actions of diverse forces willing to submerge particular likes and dislikes in the interest of the common over-riding need and objective: a united work-a-day party of socialism.

We believe too that such a party can not win over the majority of voters until the workers in the trade unions are ready to accept it as their own, which, as yet, they certainly are not. For obviously, we can have a mass working-class party of socialism only when the workers accept and fight for it, much in the manner they accepted and fought for their unions during the period of unionization of the trustified industries.

Toward this end, therefore, and in order that we may join hands the sooner with like-minded people active in other fields, we propose that independent committees — with no organizational ties to any existing political parties — be established among trade unionists and farmers. These committees would be dedicated to the spreading of political education and organizational preparation for the earliest possible formation on a national scale of a mass Labor-Farmer Party along scientific-socialist lines.

The exact organizational form and paraphernalia necessary for such a committee to function properly the Committee itself would have to decide as it got under way. But it seems to us

that the establishment of a research bureau and a weekly journal should be among the first projects undertaken by the proposed organization.

However, regardless of what particular organizational structure the Committee may adopt, everything pertaining thereto must be under the watchful eye and direction of a board executive committee elected from and by active (not just ex) workers and farmers and with recall and referendum powers lodged securely in the hands of the rank and file. — G.G.R.

Stronger Paper Urged

Editor, Daily Worker:

No one, it seems to me, should permit the question to fall into the formulation: Should the Daily Worker and Worker continue; but, rather, How can their continuance, and growth, be best assured?

The discussion of past errors should not lead to disintegration but to a strengthening of our position. Let us be sure of this: that the stronger our press, and the stronger the Communist Party (since both of these must go together) the more surely will we, with a correct policy, be able to reach out successfully to other sections moving forward among the American people.

Conceive of a strong, properly oriented people's movement in the United States without a dedicated press (without a Communist Party!).

Whether it is a matter of war danger, McCarthyism, civil liberties, united struggle with the Negro people, assaults on our labor movement, or a host of other matters of importance, our press has done ringing work in our country, despite its errors. And, incidentally, I for one can never agree with the premise that the danger of war can be overestimated!

So long as there is the least danger of war, the cry against it must continue. We shall never have time, under present atomic conditions, to agitate against a holocaust once it has begun. So long as peace has not been made secure, **absolutely secure** — and the "A" and "H" bombs are still hanging over our heads — the assumption must be that someone is planning, sometime, somehow (to pull off a sneak war. Therefore, the danger lies in the development of a feeling of security that is unwarranted; in underestimation of the still potent threat of war rather than in its overemphasis.

Parenthetically let me add: the

hunt against a mad beast must not be slackened because, momentarily, he is not attacking.

To return to our press; I think the Daily Worker and Worker are a MUST on our national scene. But how give them the power they deserve? How make them an influential part in the lives of more and more American people? Truly, they must undergo terrific changes.

First of all, they must learn to speak plain English! We must stop being intelligible only to ourselves — and sometimes not even that. We must stop building pyramids of overwhelming and high-sounding words that may warm the souls of those who engineer them, but which provoke in the ordinary worker the rebuking comment: "What the hell is that?"

Marxism is used in a reactionary unless it is used in a form the people can understand! Can't Marxism be spoken in the language of the worker, for whom it is intended?

Furthermore, put a little **lightness** in the papers. Give people a break and don't crush them with unrelieved heaviness! Help them to experience a laugh once in a while! Get someone to write each day a sketch about some human foolishness — with no condition attached that every piece must have a political message.

The test of everything that goes into the papers should be: Will people who read the News, the Mirror, the Journal-American, etc. understand the stuff? If not, rewrite, rewrite. REWRITE!

May we all learn, and prosper.

—A. S.

Daily Paper Held The Greater Need

Editor, Daily Worker:

We feel that the Daily Worker is needed as a daily paper and therefore, if curtailment is necessary, we prefer to have a Daily Worker with a supplement in the Friday issue. We will be sorry to have to see the Sunday Worker go, but we think more people read the Daily.

We would like to suggest that more space be allotted to articles of special interest to workers and not to cover all items that one can read adequately in other daily papers. Unfortunately, people don't only read the Daily Worker.

Our contribution \$19, more to come.

East Side Club
—Hank Forces Section