

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Michigan Is Burned Up

Editor, Daily Worker:

Michigan is mad. Mad as hell. Mad that the fakers and phonies in Washington in government can tell a Negro leader like Ben Davis, he can't come to speak at a Labor Press Bazaar here to help save our paper.

"Oh yes, Mr. Davis, you can travel, but you can't speak" say the lackeys of the McCarthyites. They talk about freedom behind "The Iron and Bamboo Curtain." What about this night-shirt curtain of theirs, that denies a leader of the Negro people, a former publisher of our papers, the right to help save them from attacks by Tricky Dick and Brownell and the General who because he has a Gettysburg address wants people to think he is a second Lincoln. Lincoln never gagged anyone, General, so who are you to tell a man he can travel across our great land but don't dare speak what he thinks?

Yeh, we are mad out here. They are flooding the Negro ghettos here with four-page flyers telling how they fight in the Cadillac Cabinet for Negro rights. And here is a great Negro leader, Ben Davis, who wants to speak to folks out here about keeping a workers' newspaper going and they tell him he can't speak.

Let every reader of this paper join in this fight to take the gag off Ben Davis. Let's show we're mad. Let's get that flock of protests, beefs, wires, resolutions, letters, pouring in to the man with the Gettysburg address.—MICHIGANDER.

Will Stay Home

GREENSBORO, N. C.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Nothing can be farther from the truth than to say as you did in a front page editorial on Oct. 12, "that the great political issues of our time—peace and civil rights and the material welfare of the worker and farmer—are being fought out within and between the major parties." The only important issue between them is who will win and receive the salaries and honor of serving Wall Street.

Whither Ike or Adlai gets in the big problem on the international scale will be carrying out the Truman Doctrine . . . Containment of Communism and this will be true of any president from here on out . . . i.e. as long as American imperialism exist. On the national scale it will be keeping the people within the bounds of law and order, by

maintaining as large employment as possible, through large expenditures, military, road building, etc. etc.

To advise workers and liberals to vote for a capitalist political party, especially at this time, historically, is most misleading and certainly no credit to the DW. True Marxist and progressives will not vote for either candidate, but will register their protest by staying home.—J. L.

School and Paper Are Precious

Editor, Daily Worker:

Last night I attended my regular class in the Jefferson School. We had only about five students in the class. This is very distressing. I know a good number of classes have been closed down for lack of students.

Here we have a wonderful school. Instructors that are the finest people, not just in book knowledge, but as unselfish human beings. I would hate to see anything happen to OUR school, for it is truly OUR school. Now the Daily Worker came up with a very serious appeal to those of us who love and respect it, for what it stands.

How about an appeal for the Jefferson School, which is the school of socialist teaching in the same way that the Daily is the paper of socialist thinking.

We, in the left progressive movement, have gone into criticisms and criticisms, ripping this and attacking that—the CP leadership needs to change, the DW needs to change—lots of things are wrong with the Party—with the Daily, etc., etc.—and those of us who were doing this very much and are continuing to now—gave no heed (or very little) to the Daily's cry for help. I know this for a fact, because I put this question to a group of avid critics.

We, rank and file, people have raised our voices. Our opinions were listened to and studied. They are wanted, we know.

How about some self-criticism. Why are we so sorely neglecting what we should love and cherish.

I know of no bourgeois college or institution that can offer us a Dr. Howard Selsam and his co-workers in the school. A great man, with a great mind and a deep simplicity and love of the common person (and so with the other teachers there.) It took me years of struggle to learn to see him and love him and the school and so we have to fight to bring this understanding to others, to keep our wonderful Jefferson School alive, just as we fight for our precious Daily Worker.

—F. F.