

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Differs with Editorial On Events in Poland

Editor, Daily Worker:

I guess one way to break out of isolation and become popular, even land on the front page of the N. Y. Times, is to leap sharply with a critical blast at some action in the Soviet Union. First, for years, we denied ourselves the right to do our own thinking altogether. Now our thinking domes became uncorked and their cascading contents come out with such a rush that it is considerably disturbing, if not even a little frightening.

The Soviet Union should not try to dominate or dictate to any other of its brother countries. This was precisely the position of the 20th Congress, the first practical result of which was the rapprochement with Yugoslavia. But does this mean that other socialist countries should rise up in arms, as it were, to prevent any Russian influence in their affairs?

For the defense of the Socialist structure, in all its parts, the Soviet Union still bears the major, decisive responsibility. No other nation could long exist as a workers' land without the Soviet Union standing mighty guard over its security. In a war the might, and the blood, of the Soviet Union would be decisive, not that of the other countries, including Poland.

But while this is true—while the power of the Soviet Union is necessary as breath to the continued existence of all other Socialist states, a weakening of the Socialist structure in even a small Socialist state tremendously impairs the strength and security of even so powerful a nation as the Soviet Union itself.

Has the Soviet Union a right to be concerned about things that happen in its brother countries, even actively concerned? And is Gomulka right in exonerating "agents provocateurs"—the vast and constantly active network of Project X—in connection with the Poznan riots? Shall we be so eager to clout our friends that we forget our enemies?

In your editorial, HISTORIC DAYS! of Oct. 22 you say, in criticizing Pravda for stating that sections of the Polish press desire to restore capitalism, that "this sounds too much like some of the unjustified criticism, made of Yugoslavia in 1948." Are you sure that the situations are the same? (And the last word about Tito at that time hasn't been said yet, either.)

How do you know what is indeed going on in Poland, whether it is a healthy Socialist democratization or whether some elements with different objectives altogether are operating, to the glee of the whole capitalist world (and to the proper consternation of the Soviet Union?)

Tito is worth unbroken streams of millions to the capitalist world. What he has done could not have been such a wonder-

ful thing for the Socialist camp (even though the extreme high-handedness of the Soviet Union was wrong also).

In Poland's fighting so vehemently and so showily for independence, as it says, from the Soviet Union, might it indeed not have thoughts of veering toward dependence elsewhere? When I say Poland, I don't mean Poland as a whole, but certainly, as is evident, some elements in Poland.

Tito is worth lavish millions to the capitalists and he is worth something to the Socialist camp under present conditions in the world. And Poland might soon be worth millions to the capitalists and it would still be worth something to the Socialist camp under present conditions in the world. But would this constitute Socialist progress, a strengthening of the Socialist camp, as you seem so hastily to suppose?

I wish I could be so sure as the editors of the Daily Worker. I am not.—A. S.

(Ed. Note: As our editorial indicated, the recent events in Poland strengthen rather than weaken its true solidarity with the Soviet Union and other socialist countries. Democratization and independence can only strengthen socialism in Poland.)

Would Concentrate On Weekend Worker

JAMAICA

Editor, Daily Worker:

I want to record my vote in favor of a worth-while weekend paper to take the place of the Daily. I agree with those recent correspondents who point out that "for the same money" (or less) you could have a real newspaper. I for one would look forward to more contributions from non-CP journalists.

One of the elements not mentioned by previous piece-speakers is the fatigue problem, which keeps Daily circulation down. Few of us can get the paper before work each day, and if we could we wouldn't have time to more glance at it. And by the end of the day, who has the energy to concentrate on some of the ponderous writing or some of the vital issues? So we let the papers accumulate during the week and read them at the weekend anyway.

Finally, I believe that a stylish and newsworthy Worker, issued once a week in this time when digging in and regeneration are essential throughout the movement... will vastly aid circulation of the fine mass Daily we can return to when we have won back an audience of large numbers and appetite for what we can offer.

You bet I feel a pang when I think of 32 or nearly 33 years of uninterrupted daily socialist publishing; but I think the tradition is a luxury bankrupting your faithful reader and depriving them of the best they are entitled to.—J. M.