

Speak Your Piece

Movement Is Not For Personal Glory

NEW YORK

Editor, Daily Worker:

Because of the denunciation of Stalinism by Khrushchev there had resulted many contradictions among the socialist movements in some countries, particularly in our own. The consequences have, up to the recent past, been almost disastrous, throwing progressives into several trends of thoughts and behaviors bordering on confusion. These contradictions, some very factional, have not been beneficial to the socialist movement in our nation. As if someone had pushed a button, many started breastbeating themselves and blaming, like robots, almost everything that we had done in the past, not realizing that Mother Nature gave us a mind to use, attached to patience, understanding and common sense.

Certainly many steps we took were wrong, but in spite of persecution by the most powerful capitalist power on earth, we are still here to stay, few in numbers, but yet a solid vanguard.

Many of the militant progressives in our land are experienced, tried, have seen and know poverty first-hand, witnessed the wrecks of villages, towns and cities and have felt the bitter sting of discrimination for years.

There also exist in our movement, book or just theory progressives with little imagination who believe that discipline is mechanical, inflexible, regimented.

Still others, luckily very few, are influenced by our bourgeois

atmosphere and measure sacrifices in terms of future personal benefit. These few, if not properly oriented now will come to constitute the worm in the apple, the bureaucrats of our promising future. The criticism leveled by this scant minority in our movement, instead of friendly and constructive is often petty, uncalled for and seldom in front of the member concerned.

To these I say: Kindly consider that scientific socialism is man's salvation; intrigues are for the bourgeoisie; rejoice when a member does something well; criticize him gracefully though firmly when he misses a step; be not looking for glory or think of the immediate days ahead as a bed of roses (though events may turn out better than we anticipate), and recall that scientific socialism is not the sole struggle of Americans; that this planned struggle, even though having to conform to the American people's standards, is a part of the indivisible world social revolution.

I am looking forward (and to the best of my modest abilities am helping) to the liberation of all humankind, and not to position, personal glory or opportunistic leadership, when the great day arrives for all peoples, including America's, I will rejoice regardless of my station in life.

RAMON ACEVEDO.

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