

Dear Editor

Letters from Readers

The views expressed in the letters printed below do not necessarily reflect our own. However we are glad to present their opinions and invite others to write to this column.

Communist Party at Crossroads

Dear Editor:

The critical situation in eastern Europe, in particular the bloodshed in Hungary, has brought the American Communist Party to the crossroads. The position it takes on these events will make or break it as a Marxist-Leninist party with a future. Already the membership is quitting it in droves thanks to the leadership's failure to take advantage of the dumping of Stalinism. Further incompetence and display of insensitivity in the advent of the eastern Europe crisis will be the final blow.

And yet the Party could do much good in this situation. Among all the contemporary American Left groups, the Communist Party, U.S.A. is the only one with a voice that the U. S. ruling class or the Soviet party will listen to. The C.P. should use this authority to speak out boldly in favor of the Hungarian workers and students victimized by the vice made by the reactionary underground and the bureaucrats and opportunists of the Communist government plus undue Soviet domination.

Such sharp criticism of foreign Communist governments could possibly help the party members hit with the Smith Act, for such a stand, if announced loudly enough, could possibly sway favorably jury members and judges in the cases coming up, and would definitely have some effect on some sections of presently hostile public opinion.

Although I used to consider the C.P. as an almost holy institution, the party of (if he had lived) Joe Hill, of Big Bill Haywood, John Reed and Charles Ruthenberg, sustained and built by such illustrious figures as Ben

delay a Western attack, for it is not arms or size that counts in today's type of wars (as Indochina showed) but morale and support of the people.

G.L.

Reads The Worker For Information

POCOHONTAS, Ark.

Hello Everybody!

It's time again to send in wampum for the best paper or magazine published, I think, for information. I don't read the Worker to be able to criticize, but for information, and do I get it!

Again I'm doing it—picking cotton, or trying to—and again my fingers are so sore I can hardly hold a pencil. My nails are pulling away from the flesh. "I'll surely put some tape on another day. . . . We've picked cotton earlier this year than in other years that I recall since October, 1947, the first I picked.

I'm sending ten dollars. Take out the subscription price, and the remainder for whatever is needed. I still have to drag my cotton. Two crippled shoulders won't allow me to load it on my shoulder.

Such times the Party is having. Of course, we in the USA did not have the conditions of serfdom that the USSR had when the CP was established. As I understand, the CP is expected to be the vanguard of labor, and that the vanguard pushed labor ahead to the extent that the vanguard got behind so far that it is having a hard time catching up. It really became the cart instead of the horse. . . .

Was over town Saturday, intending to send this in, and forgot to take the address, and was afraid to try guessing for fear this hard-earned ten dollars would go astray.

This is a small city town of 4,000. This is the 100th year. I'm taking this day off to see an old parade of anything a hundred years or so old. . . .

I was born February, 1884, and I want to see—like the bear that went over the mountain to see what he could see. I don't have enough for to be called a bear, and I don't have to go over a mountain. The Creator gave me eyes to see, and plenty to see, and I intend to do my best to see all that there is. . . . I'm in the Post Office now.

Have seen an old oaken bucket made up by the Chamber of Commerce. Everything, even the owl on the house was made up of slabs of trees; even the privy was made up of bark slabs, and the frame around the well, and a fox and a possum. . . . Of course it helps to take the mind off world conditions. . . .

Now maybe you folks have enough of Pocahontas. . . . I wonder how you get along and put this magazine out? I know it must be hard and not very heartening. . . . It's time now for the parade, I hear the bands, two of them. . . .

So long,

Mrs. Hightower (Rob F. Hall called me).

Not Every Worker Has Television

NEW YORK CITY

Perhaps you don't know that I have read the Daily and Sunday Worker since its inception. What I'm about to say is—are you convinced that every worker has a television?

Saturday and Sunday I look in our paper to see what I can find in the radio program. To my amazement I found only a TV program. Yes, comrades, this is a criticism. Please take this note into consideration.

JEAN COLLIER.



Davis, William Z. Foster, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and John Gates and carrying on the glorious tradition of Douai, Weydemeyer, Douglass, Sylvis and Debs, I can now see the other side of the coin.

It is also the party, that, through its policy of accepting the line as laid down in Moscow instead of asserting its own independence, of allowing the correct policy of defense of the young Soviet Republic to lead to sentimental, wishful justifications for Soviet wrongs, worshiping Stalin (and even after the 20th Congress continuing to cringe in awe before the Soviet leadership) produced myriads of anti-Marxist renegades and informers, not to mention the rival factions, the Trotskyite groups, Musteites and so forth.

The Communist Party now has to redeem its names and place itself in the forefront of humanity against all forms of injustice everywhere. I am not telling you what to write. But I am suggesting the spirit that is needed.

I close now in the hopes that one of these mornings when I enter the factory and pick up the dawn paper I will be greeted by headlines that the U. S. Communist Party has demanded that Russia pay for the damage in Budapest and withdraw, from the other eastern Europe countries, also, since Soviet troops are needed only in East Germany and Poland to protect communications. Native East European armies ought to be enough to