

Speak Your Piece

Feel Gates Made 'Positive Impression'

BOSTON, Mass.

Editor, Daily Worker:

The following resolution was adopted unanimously by the New England District Committee Party at a meeting Dec. 1, 1957:

"On Sunday, November 24th, Comrade John Gates met Granville Hicks in debate on the question, "Has Communism a future in America?" at the Ford Forum in Boston. There was an audience of between 800 and 1000.

"The New England District Committee, several members of which were present at the debate, discussed the import and effect of Comrade Gates' remarks and are unanimously agreed on the following:

"1) Comrade Gates' remarks were well thought out and really effective on the whole.

2) His exposition of the Communist point of view were fully consistent with our National Convention Resolution and in harmony with true internationalism.

"3) Comrade Gates made a visibly positive impression on the audience and our whole party can be proud of the manner in which he represented us.

"4) We urge upon Comrade Gates and the other members of the National Committee the desirability and advisability of further speaking engagements of this type and of greater and increasing contact with the American people."

FOR THE N.E. DIST.
COMMITTEE

B. M. L., Sec'y

Reader Denies

Misrepresenting Gates

NEW YORK

Editor, Daily Worker:

On Dec. 2, the DW carried a letter accusing me of "shockingly misrepresenting" what Gates said in a Boston speech. In the Dec. 9 DW another letter claims that I had overlooked the overall effect of the Gates speech in my letter (Nov. 28) to the DW. The Dec. 9 DW also carries a letter from Gates claiming his speech expressed the vanguard role of the Communist Party, consistent with the resolution of the Communist Party national convention.

The record will show that I did not misrepresent what Gates

said. What I did was to take a stand on a particular portion of the Gates speech which **CONTRADICTS** and **NULLIFIES** other seemingly positive aspects of his speech.

I dealt with that portion of the Gates speech in which he stated that "as an American, I would like to see my own country take the lead and say we will stop the tests first. As a Communist, I would like to see the Soviet Union do it first."

The overall meaning of such a statement, **COMING FROM A LEADER OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY**, is much deeper and more significant than what might have appeared to be the overall effect of the speech. It must be evaluated by its content and not by the applause it aimed for.

It is my opinion that the leadership and the membership of the Communist Party must face up to the shocking fact that a member of the National Committee and the editor of the DW, in the name of the breaking with dogmatism is in fact more and more breaking with an **INDEPENDENT** socialist orientation. This is the meaning of the fact that in Boston Gates called upon the Soviet Union to "do it first," at the very moment when American imperialists announce the flight of Hydrogen Patrols, encircling the borders of the Socialist countries. This is also the meaning of Gates's false separation between being an American and a Communist.

In my letter I stated that "an editor of the DW has the patriotic duty to expose the fact that it is our own ruling class that is fully responsible for the continuation of bomb tests in **BOTH** the U.S.A. and the Soviet Union."

This point is given fresh meaning as the **STARTING POINT** of the fight for peaceful co-existence by the reports in today's papers that the Soviet Union is ready to stop all nuclear explosions as of January 1, 1958, providing Britain and the U.S.A. will do likewise.

In this connection remarks by Gates in Boston form part of a developing pattern coming into open hostile collision with the decisions of the Communist Party national convention.

HARRY MANN