

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Irreplaceable Source of Truth

Editor, Daily Worker:

I have for some time wanted to write to the Speak Your Piece column, and feel I now must express a few thoughts, especially since the Jefferson School has announced its closing.

The Worker has been for me a continuous and irreplaceable source of truth and new inspiration, and I hope it will grow in circulation. It is devoted to the people's interests, and has no match as daily paper. There are faults too, but first the good points must be brought out—that it is essentially positive-thinking, for peace and better conditions and ultimately for socialism, that it has abundant union news, good educational features in the field of science, literature, politics, culture, etc., and that it gives a valuable spirit of unity with people who are trying to build a peaceful, better world.

It also has human interest without resorting to the usual playing up of murders and such. It is by comparison a clean, healthy paper, no doubt reflecting the respect it has for its readers, plus the integrity of its staff and associates.

I have been in poor health, but if I am able to work for the holidays, I would like to pledge \$5, and wish the best for the future of the Daily Worker, and good health and happy fellowship.—ELEANOR A.

Appeal for Party Unity

Editor, Daily Worker:

The following resolution was adopted at a regular meeting of our club, with all members present voting for it.

"We feel that it would benefit the cause of socialism in our country for those of us in the Communist Party to try to resolve our differences as comrades in a struggle for socialism and against capitalism.

Although there are many differences among us on some of the deepest and most important problems of our time, we have been able to treat each other with respect and close attention. As a result, we've been able to reach some agreements, outline some differences, and create a framework for the future discussion and we hope resolution of issues. We're not imagining

that we'll be able to resolve all our differences, now or even in a couple of years. We're doing our best to bring out and follow our principles as brothers and sisters in a common struggle. And we believe that most rank and file Communists participating in these crisis discussions are doing much the same as we.

One of our common agreements is that the main body of the leadership of the Communist Party, including above all the National Committee, are not discussing like us. We feel that the letters from national leaders we see in the Worker, the articles we read, and speeches we hear are mostly dripping with vitriol.

First the national leadership kept quiet with what we all knew was a phony show of unity. Now they are calling each other all kinds of names.

Are the bureaucratic habits of the past impossible to break? There is growing very grave danger that we will go into these coming conventions with an organization torn apart into warring factions. Under these circumstances the conventions could only result in the forming of several splinter groups, each 'pure' and important.

We call on the leaders of the Communist Party to change their ways, end this disgraceful name-calling, and engage in a principled, hard-hitting discussion. We call on all our comrades not to get caught up in the atmosphere created by our national leadership's methods of argument, and to try to resolve differences as fellow fighters for human decency.

—A Flatbush (Brooklyn) Club

Lauds Editorial On Djilas Trial

Editor, Daily Worker:

I was glad to see Manny Blum pick up the statement of Polish Communist Party leaders to the effect that "freedom would expand as socialism grew . . . but . . . would contract if socialism were threatened."

This after all, was the essence of the 20th Congress, which denied the Stalin thesis that the class struggle grew sharper under socialism, and that therefore socialism meant a narrowing of political freedom. For the 20th Congress recorded that socialism is strong, and that an expansion of freedom was therefore long overdue.

But it seems to me that Blum,

in singling out this Leninist view of socialism and democracy, forgot the first half of the equation and distorted the second half. If he really endorsed this Polish statement, he would not attack Joe Clark for looking toward the day when socialism were still stronger and could afford really free elections (not just the partial liberalization planned by the Poles for their coming elections) as a goal toward which all socialist countries should move.

One could legitimately question just what the limits of freedom are at present. No doubt they differ from country to country. In Poland, because of the complex currents of nationalism, anti-Sovietism and disgust with the recent past, imperialist agents might well find fertile ground for using free elections to overthrow socialism—though personally I doubt it. In the Soviet Union or in China, however, could it be said that socialism has so little support with the masses that a free election open to all parties would result in a victory for the imperialists? If that were the case, one would indeed have to wonder whether the goal of socialism is worth the struggle.

I do not think that socialism is that weak in the Soviet Union or in China. Does Blum? If not, where are his proposals for an expansion of freedom in those countries?

In Hungary it is hard to deny that the existence of socialism was in question. Still, all we can do is speculate on the possible results of the speedy liberalization undertaken by the Nagy government. The future will never tell us what would have happened had the Soviets not intervened, but we know that thousands upon thousands of Hungarians will never enjoy its fruits.

But even if we grant that actions were leading to a return to capitalism, even if we grant that the use of Soviet troops were necessary to save socialism and peace, does this justify arresting Hungarian officers during negotiations for the Soviet troop withdrawal promised in the declaration of Oct. 30? Does it justify the arrest and deportation of Nagy and his friends who had taken refuge in the Yugoslav embassy? Does it justify the arrest of the leaders of the Budapest workers' council during ne-

gotiations with them? Does it justify duplicity, treachery, frameup and murder?

If these are the "harsh measures" envisaged by Blum in the contraction of freedom when socialism is endangered, then I'm afraid that the Communist morality that led me to join the movement some 16 years ago was a pack of lies. If this be socialism, along with the rest of American workers I would have to say, not for me.

But Blum is wrong—quotations of foreign CP "authorities" to the contrary. This is not socialism or the Leninist defense of it, but a horrible distortion of all that the founders of scientific socialism dreamed of. . . .

Congratulations to the D.W.

on its fine editorial on the Djilas trial. That's the kind of political morality that brought me into the movement in the first place and represents the kind of principles for which I would die.

HANK.

Get Down To Work

Editor, Daily Worker:

Discussion is fine. But let us get down to work in our unions, neighborhood organizations, PTA's and wherever progressive work is needed for the benefit of all.

And imagine getting along without the Daily! Although I may disagree with some of the content, here is \$50.

EAST SIDER.

What to Do About Unemployed? Big Issue Now and at Convention

DETROIT.—A spectre is haunting Solidarity House, UAW headquarters. The spectre is what to do about displacement of workers by automation, speedup and the fact that by mid-December 138,000 Michiganders will still be jobless. Nationally its roughly estimated that over 100,000 members of the UAW are not getting back to work on the 1957 model. Not all the 138,000 Michiganders are auto workers.

Some locals are trying to adjust their setups to meet this growing situation of a consistent block of unemployed workers possibly being a part of the picture.

Emil Mazey, UAW Secretary Treasurer's home local, 212, is faced with the fact that up to 6000 and maybe more local union members won't go back to work, are proposing a central unemployment pool from which workers with highest seniority would be hired to fill open jobs. Management still has to agree. The local is conducting a referendum on it. When there is an opening in the shop the worker with the highest seniority would be hired to fill open jobs. Management still has to agree. The local is conducting a referendum on it. When there is an opening in the shop the worker with the highest seniority will be hired, regardless of what occupation division he or she worked in before they were last laid off.

At Dodge Main plant in Dept. 76, six hundred jobs have been eliminated. And because of auto-

mation, and speedup, less jobs will be the outlook in Trim, Motor Line, Machine shop and Paint. Dodge which formerly had some 30,000 now is around 20,000.

At Ford Rouge a crazy situation exists. People are being laid off temporarily or otherwise in Stamping and Foundry while in other buildings they work six and seven days, as much as 12 hours a day. This plant has dropped from a one time high of around 70,000 after the war to about 40,000 now. With Ford constantly moving work into new plants built with fast tax writeoffs granted by the Cadillac Cabinet, the rolls at Rouge will continue to diminish, no matter what ex-FBI agent John Bugas, head of industrial relations promises.

At Chrysler-Kercheval some 7,000 who worked on the 1956 model have not been called back on the 1957 model. When all of this is added up, that's where the estimate of 100,000 UAWers not getting back to work on the 1957 model comes from.

So far only one proposal came from locals. Carl Stellato, president of Ford Local 600 proposed a national pre-convention meeting to discuss specially this developing crisis and come into the convention with a program. Stellato proposes of course the thirty hour week with 40 hours pay as one answer. From all accounts the specter of consistent unemployment in auto may get bigger and overshadow the coming April, 1957 convention.