

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

A Suggested DW Program

Editor, Daily Worker:

Permit me to express my gratification for the long-standing struggles of your paper to assure a better life for the people of America and my admiration for your steadfast courage in the face of unsurmountable difficulties and personal sacrifice. I feel that the DW is indispensable as a guide and inspiration.

I agree wholeheartedly with the reasoning that not the NAM-led economic capitalist system but the workers socialist state will solve the problems barring a better life for the American people, led by the Communist Party and based on the interests of the workers organized into all-embracing trade unions, and that the prime prerequisite for a democratic socialist economic system is real democratic, political and economic unions of the people.

If that reasoning is correct, then the prime efforts of the DW should be:

a) The complete democratization of the Communist Party and the labor unions, based on the understanding that democracy does not mean simply the right of expression, but the complete liberation from all bonds that bloc the road to socialism.

b) The elimination of fear on the part of the rank and file of the leadership, and the promotion of understanding and initiative in the rank and file.

c) An effort to change the election and other processes in the governing of the Communist Party and the labor unions so that the membership will fully understand and participate actively in the administration.

A simple observation will show that people's religious, social and other institutions and organizations are used to block the road to socialism and promote the continuance of capitalism. It would then be necessary to:

a) Deal seriously with the problems of these organizations, understand the reasons and necessity for their existence to fulfill psychological, social and economic needs of the people partaking in them;

b) Examine the reasoning used by the leaders of these organizations, the background of their establishment and expose to the membership what that background is and how it would help to fulfill their needs.

c) Encourage as fully as possible democratization of these organizations.—A.S.

Good Taste and Good Humor

Editor, Daily Worker:

Jesus Colon's writings in a newspaper of New York have a transparency of life, good taste and good humor. For me, that's the best "fruit drink" from Puerto-Rico. My sincere congratulations for his excellent productions. At the same time, I present you and your good friends my best wishes of a New Year and of a bright future.

I like to be in contact with great thinkers like Colon that are going in our direction or in a parallel way. Scientific socialism is the best spiritual drink that I prefer. Practical Communism and plus national liberty. Not capitalist libertinism, not freedom to hate and fight people's governments, freedom to be aggressor and transgressor.

I do not want dregs or drugs. We need real medicine, realistic measures and alertness against the ill political gamblers of U.S. I can't continue drinking the capitalist vinegar of terrorism directed systematically against us. I have been terrorized many times by brutal and fascist

gamblers which are playing now with their life, our life and the life of many nations.

Right at this occasion nearing a New Year, I am developing a taste for good drinks, strong ideas and strong governments. However, I am not usually a drinker but the weather and occasion force us to drink.

I really like Soviet vodka and Chinese tea, fruit drinks of Puerto Rico and genuine madeira. In other words, a scientific Communism can produce everything and everywhere for everybody—not only for the rich!

Here is why I stand up and greet an honest friend of the people and for the people!

—A Brazilian

P.S. My original New Year's gift for the Red Jesus: A beautiful red box with red cookies and red compliments.

Work Begins At Home

Editor, Daily Worker:

Speak Your Piece has tapped a great reservoir of thinking that before had been sealed off. Believers in socialism are now rediscovering their own souls; speak their own feelings; do their own reasoning. And how good this is.

Yet I think that we should begin to ask ourselves: Are we going to be preoccupied only with events abroad?

Fellow critics, let us not be so blind and easy with ourselves while we are mightily and lustily delivering fast and furious blows upon the heads of others.

Let's organize our muscles and lift up our own share of the weight, and show how smart we are: how well we can do things. Our advice to others would then be much more effective, coming from people who not only talk but who have demonstrable achievements to their own credit.

Let's turn our faces, then, home—not completely, but pretty much, I would say. It might be tougher—no, it WILL be tougher, but work for a better America is our first task.

And, fellows, let me tell you: To the extent that we will do good work in our country (and I don't mean that we won't make mistakes); to the extent that we can curb our government in its devilishly dangerous work of subversion in every Socialist land—the Project Xes, balloons, Radio Free Europe, spies, fascists, saboteurs, and what not; to the extent that we will be able to influence our government to pursue a policy not of Cold War, not of inciting bloody counter-revolution, but of honest, decent, peaceful and fruitful co-existence, to that extent will there be less reason for us to criticize the Soviet Union or any other Socialist country for actions which then, because of our good and effective work, will no longer be necessary.

Can we begin to take upon ourselves such a responsibility? —A.S.

Israel Also Asks Peaceful Parleys

Editor, Daily Worker:

The Soviet and Communist policies have always been for peaceful negotiations over outstanding differences between nations. The call for disarmament negotiations, outlawing the atomic bomb, the Geneva talks, North and South Korean unity, Indo-China unity, and the Taiwan and People's Republic of China, have always received merited progressive support.

How come the Soviet Communists are silent and adamant on the overtures of Israel for negotiations with Egypt on Israel's international right to usage of the Suez Canal?

The USSR seems to evade what the Israeli people feel and need—the right to self-determina-

tion and peaceful borders, set by negotiations. As Paul Novick, the editor of the Morning Freiheit, stated, "Israel is here to stay."

A JEWISH COMMUNIST

A Breath Of Fresh Air

Editor, Daily Worker:

After reading Gomulka's article in the December issue of Political Affairs I was very happy. It was really a breath of fresh air—facts, figures, social forces, instead of the "spy and "devil" theory of history.

Foster's idea of a new international Marxist documentary publication is very good, too. I just would add that there must be two conditions if it is to be really effective: (1) It must contain all points of view and (2) it must be allowed to circulate in all countries.

I state these conditions because some countries, and especially the USSR, still don't want to have certain facts and certain opinions circulate freely in the "market place" of Marxism. If the journal were to carry Tito's thinking, or Gomulka's or Gates' I wonder if the USSR would let it in.

It seems to me that Marxism is in a crisis of growth aggravated by errors made. On a world scale the balance of forces has been swinging—heavily toward socialism and peace. This permits certain changes in Marxist governed countries, for example a greater share of the national product devoted to consumption. It permits certain changes in the Marxist movement everywhere—greater freedom of discussion especially. By creating the material base for these wonderful changes in Marxist policy, the changing world makes them imperative. For if the policies do not change with the material base they come into conflict with it actively.

If the workers of Poland or Hungary—or the USSR—see that the times call for higher living standards and more democracy, they will begin to struggle against a "Marxist" leadership that does not see this. Past errors complicate the process of change because it is uncomfortable to have to admit them and politically unstabilizing. But they must be admitted and the changes must be made.

The Soviets have presented an ambiguous front to the world in this matter since the 20th congress. They are trying to control it, admit some things, deny, or ignore or leave unexplained, others. It seems the same applies to changes. Some are made, others not, some you just can't find out about.

I strongly support a general emphasis on domestic issues by the American Left, but I wonder if a serious, polite, detailed critique of the Soviet press and radio during and after the 20th Congress wouldn't help shake up some of the dogmatists here and even perhaps there.—J. H.

DW Circulation A Way To Increase

Editor, Daily Worker:

The Daily Worker is happily experiencing an increase in newsstand circulation, and now, I believe, would be a good time to consider enlarging this increase.

A sizeable section of the Daily's readers read the paper once or twice a week or even a month, except in a controversial period such as the present. I believe this number is large enough to make the actual DW readership 50,000 or more.

A primary way to increase the DW circulation would be to make the DW truly a daily paper for these people.

The Jefferson School is closing but its hundreds of thousands of students over the years should

be an important consideration of the DW.

The DW might run a column that daily printed a paragraph from a Marxist-Leninist classic (preferably beginning with the Communist Manifesto) and followed by an evaluation of the American scene by a leading Marxist scholar.

Then letters from readers could be printing commenting on this analysis.

SAUL GROSS

Bronx CP Action Called Arbitrary

Editor, Daily Worker:

The Bronx County Board of the Communist Party informed its members through a letter in the Daily Worker that it was sending (if it has not already done so) \$100 to the Red Cross for aid to the Hungarian people. The tone of the letter was such that readers might assume the

county membership was in full accord with this act. Such an assumption would be incorrect.

The members of our club, at a meeting held on Thursday, Dec. 13, were not angered by the contribution itself—although we as a club are not in favor of such action—but as to how the county board arrived at the conclusion that the membership would be in concord with this philanthropic act. Our opinions were never solicited for this act which was undertaken in our behalf.

For many long months we have been reading about and discussing the evils of bureaucracy, which incidentally was one of the causes of the Hungarian governments' debacle. Now the Bronx county board by acting so arbitrarily—this is not the first occasion—has proved its own incompetence in the fight against bureaucracy.

A WEST BRONX CLUB

Autotown Alley

DETROIT.

BECAUSE of the danger of split away into the dual union Society of Skilled Workers, the UAW leadership granted the Detroit Skilled Trades Council a program it had been fighting for for a long time, at the Chicago Skilled Trades Conference. There was over 900 delegates present in Chicago. You can't fool with that.

DODGE Local and DeSota membership turned down proposals for a new seniority system based on plant-wide seniority—the workers voted to keep division and departmental. The UAW leadership is worried because workers with 20 years seniority can be idle while green hands who don't know about unions can be left in the plants.

THE MICHIGAN Republican Party faces a two-base smack that can ruin it politically. If the Democrats and labor can tie up the anti-Negro leaflet signed by the White Citizens Council and sent through mails to GOP operations; and if a leading County Republican whose name they know can be tied to the anti-Negro leaflet, then the GOP is in real trouble. And if the Bohn Grand Jury comes in with subpoenas then watch developments. This is why the "political" editors of the three Detroit newspapers are being discreetly quiet on the issue. No stories for almost five days after the first news break.

WATCH for another symposium on where the American Left in the labor movement might be going, with prominent speakers to come up soon. The labor guys want one like the last one where Winter, Muste, Dr. Henry Hitt Crane, Lens, Cochrane, Schactman participated. Labor speakers to predominate.

ELECTION of delegates to UAW convention, Atlantic City, April 7 through April 12 of 1957, must be held prior to March 22, 1957, since the credentials must be in the hands of Emil Mazey, secretary treasurer, no later than that date. Resolutions, grievances, and constitutional changes must also be in Mazey's hands not later than March 15.

NATIONAL GM conference of UAW will be held in Detroit, Thursday and Friday, Jan. 10 and 11 of 1957. New Sub-Councils will be set up, not along lines of geographical basis but on functional.

ARE THE Ohio UAWers burning up. While the rest of the union who are unemployed were collecting \$4 million in supplementary unemployment benefits between June and November of 1956, UAW members in Ohio got not a penny. Reason, no okay by the Ohio Legislature to allow the \$600,000 waiting Ohio UAWers to be attached onto unemployment compensation checks.

AUTO production for 1956 will be 26.7 percent below the production of 1955, if company estimates are correct. This represents a drop from 7,950,000 cars to 5,830,000. Two other years, 1953 and 1950 also exceeded the expected figures for 1956.

"SOAPY" Williams board of strategy in Lansing really did not consult labor leaders on the recently appointed six judgeships. This is a sore point with particularly CIO, who felt that without their effort in the recent 1956 elections, Williams would never have gotten a 350,000 majority.

Most CIO leaders consider that Williams is seeking to appease the County Dem. leaders of Wayne, as there has been a factional battle between Williams and them for years. If he wants to get backing to run against U. S. Senator Potter in 1957, Williams figures he better heal this County-State breach—that's why two of Gerald O'Brien's assistant prosecutors were among the six appointed.

U. S. SEN. POTTER has hired a Madison Avenue huckster to handle his 1958 buildup—that's why he came out for abolishing Rule 22. Watch how "liberal" he gets before 1958 when he has to face "Soapy" Williams for the Senate post.

HOW much help will Flint UAW regional director Carter get in battling that Bay City Grand Jury, seeking to pin a bunch of indictments on UAW men for allegedly spending union money for elections?

UAW got a serious setback in Windsor politics by the results of the last city elections. Something wrong in Windsor when a great labor town like that reflects an administration that used mounted police against workers in recent strike. Time for someone to start checking there, there is a dead hand somewhere.