

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Lincoln Day Should Be National Holiday

Editor, Daily Worker:

On observing Washington's birthday, who is rightly called the "father of his country" it came to my mind that the celebration of Lincoln's birthday is not properly marked.

Everyone will agree that "Honest Abe" is about equal in greatness to Washington. However, I wonder why there is such neglect and carelessness in honoring Abe Lincoln. Mail is delivered on that day as though it were not a national holiday.

While schools are closed many unions do not include Lincoln's birthday in contracts as a paid holiday. We celebrate it as if to get it over with. Many of us forget that Lincoln was a martyr for the unity and freedom of our country. He was only 56 when murdered.

There is special shame that Lincoln's birthday is completely ignored down south as if they were still a confederacy. The emancipation of the Negroes down there was only carried out 50 percent as of today. Can't these Southern politicians forgive Abe Lincoln even for that much?

In my opinion a new bill is necessary in the House and Senate to re-introduce and re-establish Lincoln's birthday as a national holiday to be observed in all 48 states and possessions of the U.S.A. I. L. DRUCKER
Feb. 21.

Relations to Other Socialist Trends

East New York.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Mingled feelings of relief and regret were shared by the delegates to the National Convention as it closed its historic sessions. On the one hand, there was relief in the fact of unity of the Party; on the other hand, there was the general regret that the bold turn heralded by the vibrant pre-convention discussion was not consummated. This great anticipation, this greater promise of a new course remained unfulfilled.

It is our task—now—to take up the challenge, accept the torch from the convention delegates and stride on to gain ground on the road that the preconvention discussion charted.

In all humility, the writer chooses one phase of our problems and urges the party membership and leadership to begin to grapple with it. It is in the sphere of fraternal relations with

other American Socialist tendencies. . . .

Necessary to the implementation of such a policy are the following steps:

1) Sponsor joint forums and debate on a program for socialist regroupment and unity.

2) Provide adequate space in the Daily Worker, Political Affairs, Mainstream for presentation of the viewpoints of representative Socialist tendencies.

3) Accept paid advertisement featuring social educational functions of other Left movements."

In addition to this fraternal collaboration in the exchange of "ideas"—it is proposed that we initiate steps to realize joint activity around basic questions on fronting the socialist and general democratic movement.

Necessary to the implementation of such a policy is the establishment of City, State, and National Socialist Political Action Committees as clearing houses for planning and launching joint activity under a representative Socialist leadership. Some of the immediate projects to consider would be (in N. Y.):

1) Planning the foundation of a NEW New York City Labor School (to replace the defunct Jefferson School) staffed by a Board of Directors drawn from all Socialist tendencies, parties and publications.

2) Sponsoring a United Socialist May Day Celebration under joint leadership, the character of which could be determined in complete harmony.

3) Launch an energetic campaign for Labor support for our Negro Freedom fighters.

4) Initiate a united socialist drive to enlist mass support to aid the Smith Act and Witch-hunt Victims.

5) Explore possibilities of an all-out campaign for new trial in Sobell Case.

6) Spearhead movement for democratic integrated housing

and bigger better integrated schools.

7) Launch a Statewide and National Ballot for Americans on the Eisenhower Doctrine.

I appeal to the editors of my paper and the National Leadership of my Party—and more to my comrades to make known their feelings on my appeal for concrete implementation of the Party's undeniable will to survive and thrive on the American working class arena.

Feb. 20. L. DEATY

Corrects Previous Letter

Editor, Daily Worker:

There is only one way to interpret the Aaron Kramer reference in A.S.' letter of Feb. 21: namely, that this poet, like Fast and Steuben, "also went to the Times" and invited a page-one reporter to give him a political interview.

If this clear implication is a fact, then A.S. (or the Worker itself, which published the charge without comment or investigation) is obligated to tell us in what issue and on what page of the Times such an interview appeared.

If, on the other hand, A. S. is referring to nothing more than an extremely personal, ambiguously-worded lyric of bereavement which was published last summer, without fanfare or comment, in the regular daily space set aside for poetry—then he or she perpetrated a nasty and dangerous bit of character-assassination, and owes a prompt apology to Kramer as well as to the readers of this newspaper.

So far as I know, the one clearly political statement by Kramer published in the past year was a poem denouncing the murder of Itzik Feffer and Peretz Markish. This poem appeared last November, not in the Times, but in Jewish Life.

S. L.
Feb. 24.

Poland to Exhibit At Trade Fair Here April 14-27

WARSAW—Products of 10 Polish export enterprises will be shown at the forthcoming U.S. World Trade Fair at the Coliseum in New York City—April 14-27.

According to the Polish Chamber of Foreign Trade, the U.S. will participate in Poland's XXVI International Poznan Fair on an official basis for the first time.

Firms from 26 nations have to date made known their intention of joining in the Poznan trade event June 9-23, including Austria, Bel-

gium, Finland, the German Democratic Republic, the German Federal Republic, Gt. Britain, Morocco, Norway, the Soviet Union, Sweden, the U.S. and Yugoslavia.

As compared with exhibits in 12 countries during 1956, Poland will have commercial displays in 21 nations this year.

COTY COMING HERE

WASHINGTON, Feb. 26.—The White House announced today that Rene Coty, president of France, will pay a State visit to Washington in June.