

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Reevaluation For Ex-Members

LOS ANGELES

Editor, Daily Worker:

It is well that the U. S. Communist Party has invited both party members and others to join in a public discussion of the party's policies, tactics, methods and program. However in addition to just articles and letters, participation in actual discussion by party and non-party people must be worked out locally.

This letter is the result of a discussion by 10 former C.P. members including some who were expelled. We strongly feel that of prime importance is the party's immediate attention to the many thousands who have been expelled or dropped out of the party.

While it has been mentioned in passing that incorrect expulsions had taken place during the Browder period and after Duclos, it is not generally known that amongst these were a whole New York branch, a whole San Francisco branch, numerous others in Los Angeles, San Diego, Denver, Philadelphia and many other cities, as well as throughout Canada. In addition, thousands dropped out because they were in agreement with those expelled and could no longer function in the party.

Regardless of the labels attached, we feel that the expelled people took a principled position and were ousted only because they differed. Since no real discussion or evaluation of their position ever took place, it is the duty of the C.P. to recognize and take immediate steps to correct this situation. Unless this does take place, all the talk of democracy, collective thinking and leadership, re-evaluation can only be but mere words.

The thousands who left the party, for whatever reasons, can be the important factor in helping to collectively formulate party policy, tactics, methods and program. First things must come first—unless something is done in this direction, we feel that the party cannot be sincere

and will not function as the vanguard of the working class.

—B. G.

Enthusiasm And Restraint

NEW YORK

Editor, Daily Worker:

The letter signed by "Enthusiastic" about the forum of A. J. Muste, Norman Thomas, Dr. DuBois and Eugene Dennis seemed to me to be inconsistent.

"Enthusiastic" was enthusiastic over Dennis' restraint. That is all to the good. But I gather from his criticism of the Daily Worker report of that event that he did not think the Daily Worker reporter should write with the restraint that he finds so admirable in Dennis.

If "Enthusiastic" agrees it is a fine thing (and it surely is) to encourage such forums, he ought to agree that the best way to encourage them is to give equal treatment to all speakers, and not write as if speakers of other views are on the stage only to be a background to a Communist's "restraint."

—BEN LEVINE

Realities of Class Struggle

Editor, Daily Worker:

Max Weiss says that after a "titanic struggle" we will have a coalition majority which will pull the "sharpest claws" of the imperialists, and when socialism is established these imperialists will be "automatically restricted."

This is a comforting dream that is not based on fact.

Class struggle in our country has been and is brutal and bloody. Union men die today in the struggle against the corporations; militants are framed up, beaten and fired; speedup kills and maims thousands of workers each year; automation means joblessness and slow death for many workers and their kids.

The working-class taking power is a matter of police, National Guard, courts, FBI, company guards, stoolies, vigilantes, KKK, American Legion, White Citizens Councils, political machines, racketeers, gamblers, pimps, etc., etc., as well as congressional elections and the de-

velopment of the anti-monopoly coalition. In short, the realities of class struggle.

We don't and never have advocated violence, but we must not delude ourselves that the imperialists who dropped napalm on Korean children will not be ready to shed blood to prevent a worker-led government from taking power.

A working-class party, rooted in the shops and basic industries would not speculate on the future in such a way as to obscure the sharpness of the class struggle in our country today.

—H. F.

Not the Socialism We Dreamed of

Editor, Daily Worker:

I wish to differ with a section of the page one editorial, "The Khrushchev Speech" of June 6. (Please note I don't say the "formulation," either. For years we've been intent on "formulating," and now I think we've out-formulated ourselves. If we can't speak so that what we mean comes out, then let's don't take refuge in its being an "incorrect formulation.")

You said that the evils bared "created a peril for socialism." In my opinion the evils summed up spell something which was not socialism. It isn't the socialism we've dreamed of and worked for all these years. It isn't the socialism which still holds forth the gleaming dream, the magnificent hops for the future of the US. It isn't the socialism we still can and are determined to achieve.

Don't you think we better make this clear if we want to have a part on it when American workers, sick of seeing the increase in paychecks lag behind the increase of cost of living in times of prosperity, sick of losing homes and jobs when something happens to the economy beyond their control, decide to control it?—V. G.

Thanks for Aid in Pension Victory

Editor, Daily Worker:

I wish to thank you and the readers of the Daily Worker and the Worker for your help in winning back our old-age pension payments. The many protests of

your readers were of great assistance in winning this victory.

Even though the victory is as yet not complete and the basic issue of Social Security rights for Communists is still awaiting decision, I feel that the groundwork has been laid to ensure the benefits of the Social Security law for all Americans, regardless of their political beliefs.

REBECCA MINDEL

Intimidation of Summer Resorts

Editor, Daily Worker:

A little over a year ago, the N.Y. State Legislature created a special committee to investigate the use of funds by philanthropic organizations. Some members of the committee, decided to move on to richer and more lucrative fields.

Thus, in the middle of last summer, the committee initiated public hearings on resorts and camps. The timing of the investigation was a dead give-away: proving clearly that the committee was not intent on sober and judicious legislative inquiry, but rather on inflaming public passion and doing injury to camps and resorts not in their liking.

It is most noteworthy that every camp mentioned by the committee is inter-racial, an apt commentary on the political tendencies of the guiding spirits.

Thus the committee, following the accepted McCarthyite procedure, took upon itself the right to become inquisitor, prosecutor and judge.

A few days ago this committee issued its report, and made the startling revelation that proof of guilt had been established by the fact that witnesses appearing before the committee refused to agree they were subversive and refused to answer "loaded" questions whose only purpose was to create the impression of guilt!

Having failed to achieve its aim, the committee rushed through the state legislature a bill requiring all motels, hotels, camps and resorts to keep a register of their guests. The bill itself is meaningless. Every responsible hotel, resort and camp keeps a roster of its guests, so as to send them literature and

brochures, hold re-union affairs, etc.

The Committee, in effect, has confessed it has no proof of its idiotic allegations, no basis of taking any action, no authority to interfere in the operation of resorts, camps and hotels. In the absence of either proof or authority, it publishes its slanderous, witchhunting report just before the summer vacation period with the sole intent of intimidating people from going to these resorts.

I do not believe people will permit themselves to be frightened by this shabby, irresponsible performance of political demagogues, whose only aim is cheap publicity to cover their lack of principle.—M.G.

Which Writings Were Repudiated?

Editor, Daily Worker:

Good for James Allen! The Max Weiss line not only "disorients" the entire Left, it dis-solves it.

According to the Daily Worker of May 29, 1956, Dennis made an "off-hand" reply to Norman Thomas at the Carnegie Hall meeting to the effect that "the writings referred to by Thomas had all been repudiated by the Party or rendered obsolete by history."

It would be good if Dennis were to let some of the rest of us know just what writings have been repudiated. Judging from the various statements which have been appearing in the press, I should conclude that the whole basic theory of Marxism is being junked. Fantasy as a guide to action is the very antithesis of the scientific method.

This is a sicklier right opportunism than Browderism ever was. Before we fall into that blind alley again may I suggest that people read and digest the whole of Lenin's "The Proletarian Revolution and Renegade Kautsky" and not just the excerpt quoted by Max Weiss. It will shed much-needed light.

—CAROL