

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Quotes Lenin Against Clark

Editor Daily Worker

I think that Clark should stick to his column and stop trying to give us his version of Marxism upside down.

In his column of June 20 he tells us that "It is the method of Karl Marx—not his conclusions—that is immortal." He asserted also that his discoveries are not "laws" but *tendencies* . . .

The logic of that is that Marx was another edition of Hegel, whose method was also immortal, and the laws of social development is no more than bunk.

Here we have a columnist of a marxist newspaper without the least consideration to the judgment of its readers, denying the basic conclusions of the greatest marxists of all times.

Lenin outlined the essence of Marx's teaching this way:

His theory . . . was the first to transform socialism from a utopia to a science, to fix the firm foundation of this science and to indicate the path along which it is necessary to proceed, while developing this science further and elaborating it in every detail. It laid bare the essence of modern capitalist economy, explaining the manner in which the hire of the laborer, the purchase of the labor power, mask the enslavement of millions of propertiless people by a handful of capitalists, the owners of the land, factories, mines, etc. It showed that the whole trend of modern capitalism is towards the ousting of small production by large, and the creating of conditions which make a socialist system of society possible and inevitable. It taught us to see under the veil of rooted customs, political intrigues, subtle laws and artful doctrines, the class struggle the struggle between all species of propertied classes and the mass of non-possessors, the proletariat, which stands at the head of all propertiless. It made clear the real task of a revolutionary socialist party: it is neither drawing up plans for the reconstruction of society, nor preaching sermons to the capitalists and their hangers-on about improving the lot of the workers, nor making conspiracies, but the organization of the class struggle of the proletariat and the leadership of this struggle, the final aim of which is winning of political power by the proletariat and the organization of a socialist society."

. . . But according to Clark, it seems that all that is not immortal, it has nothing to do with laws of the development of society and the whole thing turns to be, according to him, a mat-

ter strictly of "method" and "tendencies . . ." June 24

MAURICE

Thanks His Well Wishers

DETROIT

Editor, Daily Worker:

Many kind wishes were sent to me from all parts of the U.S.A. during my recent illness. Through the Daily Worker I want to thank all the friends who remembered me with their cards and notes.

Comradely yours,
BILL MCKIE
6/21/57

Mao's Six Principles

Editor, Daily Worker:

Mao Tse-tung in his speech, "The Correct Handling of Contradictions Among the People" as reprinted in the New York Times for June 19, lays down six principles by which one may judge political words and actions. They may be judged right, he says, if they:

1. "Help to unite the people of our various nationalities, and not divide them;
2. Are beneficial, not harmful, to Socialist transformation and Socialist construction;
3. Help to consolidate, not undermine or weaken, the people's democratic dictatorship;
4. Help to consolidate, not undermine or weaken, democratic centralism;
5. Tend to strengthen, not to cast off or weaken, the leadership of the Communist Party;
6. Are beneficial, not harmful, to international Socialist solidarity of the peace-loving peoples of the world."

Would it not be a healthy process if the "political words" of the Daily Worker during the past year and a half were analyzed in the light of these principles?

Many people like myself have continued to support the paper out of deep loyalty and a belief that it was essential for the working class of this country to have an independent voice. Our loyalty to the Daily Worker has been, and continues to be, sorely tested.

If in general the editorial column of the paper has come more and more to concern itself with problems concerning workers in this country, the same cannot be said for what continually is given voice to in the various columns of the paper. I mention but three examples chosen at random in recent weeks: David Platt's criticism of Dr. W. E. B. Du Bois' appearance on Night Beat (specifically his objections to the way in which Dr. Du Bois defended the Kadar government in Hungary); Joe

Clark's essay on "Socialism for our Grandchildren" which ends with a gratuitous attack upon the Soviet Union; and last, Robert Friedman's review on June 19 of Herbert Aptheker's "The Truth About Hungary" in which Friedman's obvious inadequacy in historical scholarship made all the more appalling his dismissal of the book and his crude attack upon the Soviet Union which appears to have been his chief aim in the intellectually poverty-stricken review which he wrote.

Even the deepest rooted loyalty must in the end die if it is too long betrayed.

FAITHFUL READER

June 21

A Letter from Canada's L.P.P.

TORONTO, Canada.

Editor, Daily Worker:

We should like to draw attention to the Daily Worker account of the 6th National Convention of the Labor-Progressive Party which appeared on May 7, and which we were very glad to see.

However, we feel that the report does not accurately convey the position taken by the convention on the crucial questions with which it was confronted; for example:

1. The Declaration on the Party which the Convention adopted, and which the Daily Worker story mentions, contains the following:

"This Convention completely rejects proposals which have been advanced in our party to dissolve it, or to restrict the part it is called upon to play in the rising movements of the Canadian people."

And further:
"It (the pre-convention discussion) has also produced proposals and ideas which, if accepted, would cause us to retreat before our difficulties and in effect would revise or water down the very Marxist-Leninist principles on which our party was founded and which are its life-blood."

And further:
"The further discussion of Canada's path to socialism, with all its related problems, must now center around the preparation of the party Program. This will give the fullest opportunity for debate within the party, for the strengthening of our creative ability as Marxist-Leninists. We need to draw out of the history and present movements in our country a clearer picture of the socialist prospect, and to apply in Canada those tested universal truths which have been brilliantly demonstrated in the victories of socialism. These are:

- (1) the necessity for working

class rule to lead all nations to socialism;

(2) a working class party in the vanguard of the people's struggle;

(3) the fundamental socialist principles of organization—both of the working class party and of the socialist state—democratic centralism—which means the broadest democracy combined with the ability to act unitedly and decisively;

(4) the greatest principle of international working class solidarity.

"These international principles arise also out of Canadian experience. They are the ideas of an expanding democratic human culture which point the way to communism—a society without coercion.

"There are special features of the struggle of the working people of Canada as with all countries which must be taken fully into account. But in no way is this a denial of the world-wide truths of the working class struggle and the common socialist goal of the world movement of the working people."

2. Almost a third of the story

of our convention summarizes a resolution submitted to the convention by the National Jewish sub-committee. While it is stated correctly that this resolution was referred to the incoming National Committee because of lack of time at the convention, it should be pointed out that the convention did not discuss it and that the National Committee later adopted a substitute resolution instructing the National Executive Committee to set up a committee on this matter. The story gives the impression, because of the relatively lengthy treatment of this question, that it was a major part of the convention's work.

Fraternally yours,
NATIONAL EXEC. COM.
Labor-Progressive Party

(Ed. Note: We are sorry the account in the Daily Worker on the L.P.P. convention was an incomplete one. It was reprinted verbatim from the Canadian progressive Jewish weekly, *Wochenblatt*).

Detroit Business Seeks Cut in Taxes (Its Own)

By WILLIAM ALLAN

DETROIT — The Big Business dominated Detroit Board of Commerce in a public hearing recently before the Common Council sought to blackjack a tax reduction for companies on personal property taxes while proposing taxes on small homeowners like workers get boosted.

The open demand was made by spokesman Willis Hall that unless their taxes are cut, employers will seek low tax areas, leaving the burden of upkeep of cities like Detroit, Hamtramck, Highland Park on the shoulders of average citizens. A total of 163 plants have moved out of Detroit since 1950.

Several weeks ago the Cobo administration boosted the taxes until now its \$24.53 per \$1,000 valuation on homes. But the combined cost of city, county, library, school taxes on Detroiters for the 1957-58 year will be \$46.80 per \$1,000. Now the Board of Commerce wants to increase real estate taxes even more for the average taxpayer, while cutting down taxes of companies. Over 100,000 Detroiters are jobless as this proposal of the Board of Commerce was made to the Common Council, but not a glimmer of sympathy or aid for those 100,000 jobless Detroiters was heard from the fat, sleek, Willis Hall, the Board's spokesman.

Hall, of course, said nothing about how taxes for years have

been steadily sliced downwards for big buildings in the downtown areas, or how no increase in valuation has taken place so that additional taxes could be levied, because of downtown improvements. Valuation of small homes, however, was increased, resulting in higher taxes for many workers.

A spokesman for the UAW Jack Conway, administrative aide to Walter Reuther speaking at the hearing proposed an industrial slum clearance of old plants, whose equipment and setups are outmoded and can't meet modern day methods of production.

He said that these old decrepit plants could be torn down, land cleared and new modern plants built to specifications with the help of city, state and federal aid. He offered \$10,000 as "seed" money from the union to start exploring where to begin and proposed that a citizens redevelopment committee be set up.

Mayor Cobo rejected this proposal, declaring he had a committee set up headed by Joseph Dodge, the banker and other business men and Conway's proposal was "premature". The City Council will probably set up Conway's committee, as this is election year and unemployment grows daily.

Cobo's banker committee was set up months ago but no one has yet what they are doing.