

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Urges Asking Views On A-Bomb Tests

BROOKLYN, N. Y.

Editor, Daily Worker:

In this year of municipal elections and radioactive fallout, New York City's voters have a responsibility for demanding each candidate's views on atomic testing. It should soon be clear that further nuclear testing is as surely a municipal issue as is education, transit or anything affecting the health and safety of the population.

Maintaining the health of eight million people is a tremendous task that falls upon the city authorities. Yet they may find it impossible to secure the health of this and future generations if the Federal government continues its program of H-bomb testing which endangers both milk and water supply.

In an Associated Press dispatch from Washington, dated May 10, it was reported that the Public Health Service was testing radioactivity from milkshed areas supplying New York City, Cincinnati, Sacramento, Salt Lake City and St. Louis. According to the New York Times (May 11), New York City consumes an average of 3,200,000 fluid quarts of milk daily. A spokesman for the Public Health Service stated that tests over the past two years had shown increasing amounts of strontium-90 and cesium-137 in milk.

During the 1956 election campaign, Mayor Wagner, then running for United States Senator, was challenged by his Republican opponent, Jacob Javits, to state his position in regard to Adlai Stevenson's call for "conference or consultation" with other atomic powers. In his endorsement for such action, Wagner said, in part, "I will feel it my obligation to press for greater leadership by the United States in bringing about the universal end to the testing of the H-bomb as a step toward the infinitely more important goal of the universal abolition of all H and atomic bomb use and the universal abolition of war itself."

May I suggest that we recall this excellent statement to the Mayor?

Communists, I believe, have a special responsibility in helping to bring this issue into the homes of New York City's voters. After all, when Mayor Wagner calls not only for the end to H-bombs testing, but for the doing away of both atom bombs and war itself, he's only saying what we were trying to say back in 1950 at the time of the Stockholm Peace Appeal.

It's incumbent upon us not only in terms of making sure it's there for the record, but also as a reminder that "unpopular causes" often soon became very popular and fashionable, to recall to our comrades and friends that what they risked life and limb for not so long ago, have now become things that can be discussed by just about anybody without fear of loss of job or a jail sentence.

This fact should be borne in mind as we discuss and plan activities and program for the coming election campaign so that we will not hesitate to be the pioneer again in raising issues that may not seem to be at first sight "surefire" or "popular" issues that will immediately be seized by the electorate.

WILL FARLEY

7/9/57

Approves Decisions And Asks Questions

NEW YORK.

Editor, Daily Worker:

All reports indicate that the people of the Soviet Union and Communist Parties in many countries approve and support the decisions of the recently held meeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU in regard to the Malenkov-Molotov-Kaganovich group.

They are absolutely right in their approval, because these decisions embody policies to ease the international tensions and improve the life of the people of the Soviet Union. These policies deserve a sympathetic support of all working people throughout the world.

Nevertheless, certain developments accompanying these decisions need some clarification. In his speech, on July 6, to the workers of "Electrosita" factory in Leningrad, Nikita Khrushchev stated that Malenkov was one of the leading organizers of the so-called Leningrad affair. This affair took place in 1949. Why did Khrushchev have to wait eight years before he brought that up? Certainly, if he had something to say in this connection, he could have done so at least after Stalin's death.

Why weren't the views of Malenkov group published? Wouldn't a moral victory have been greater if the people had the opportunity to read the opinions of the oppositionists directly from them? Is it not a fact that during the period of 1924-28, when the Soviet State was weaker, and when the differences with the Trotskyite and Bucharin groups were much more profound, the views of the oppositionists at that time were published in the Soviet press?

The editorial writers of the N.Y. Times are gleefully and busily engaged in mercilessly twisting logic. They assume a grand pose and ask in their editorial of July 6, "May not Molotov along with Stalin have deliberately destroyed the Grand Alliance of World War II" and further, "may not the Soviet Union rather than the 'bourgeois' governments, be responsible for the past 12 years of conflict and anxiety?"

Gentlemen of the Times, the fact is, that it is not the recent Molotov's views that were carried into life, but the decisions of the 20th Congress and the pre-Congress policies. The rapprochement between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia was brought about, the treaty with Austria was concluded, a normalization of relations between the Soviet Union and Japan was established. The supreme fact is that the Soviet Union has consistently pursued a peace policy, including the period under leadership of Stalin, and the Grand Alliance began to be demolished with Churchill's Fulton, Mo. speech, atomic blackmail diplomacy, the Truman Doctrine, formation of military blocs, and the setting up of military bases all over the world.

To the Premier Nehru of India, the meaning of recent events in the Soviet Union is a return to normality and a brighter promise towards easing the international tensions.

We the people of the U.S.A., should urge greater efforts on the part of our government towards banning the atomic tests and disarmament. The Soviet people as a result of recent decisions will move toward greater advances, the N.Y. Times notwithstanding.

—ROBERT FREEDEN

July 10, 1957

Alan Max is on vacation.
His column will resume
shortly.