

# SPEAK YOUR PIECE

## A Collective Editorial Policy?

Editor, Daily Worker:

According to John Gates in the Daily Worker for July 24 the editorial policy of the Worker is determined collectively. This is heartening information and recent issues bear witness to the fact. However Gates then proceeds to indicate a policy towards individual members of the staff of the paper that puzzles me profoundly.

As a longtime reader of the New York Times I have grown to treasure its unfailing singleness of news presentation—its foreign editor is always at one with its editor-in-chief, and so on through every department. The result is an interpretation of world and national news that is consistent, intelligible, and a most useful insight into the political viewpoint of the middle-class.

But now we are told that the situation on the Daily Worker is quite different: its foreign editor, if you please, has his own interpretation of the news which may differ completely from the views collectively arrived at in the editorial column.

I am both puzzled and bewildered. Surely the Daily Worker is the newspaper of a class and has aims and purposes and an understanding of the world as consistent (indeed, I have always thought infinitely more consistent) as that of the middle class.

I think Gates owes it to the readers of the Daily Worker to go further into this extraordinary development in working class disunity.

—PUZZLED READER.

## Congratulates John Gates

BROOKLYN.

Editor, Daily Worker:

I congratulate John Gates for his article of July 22 in the Daily Worker and for his direction in the labor movement for socialism in the United States.

John Gates, yours and only your way is the correct way, the right Leninism which will lead us to success in America.

Lenin said once that the road to socialism is through democracy. We all know that just as socialism cannot be imported

from one country to another, so also with policy. The policy has to fit the situation in any country. That's why there have to be as many ways to socialism as there are capitalist countries in the world.

Keep up your true Leninism.  
—L. B.

## We're Thanked For Cooperation

Editor, Daily Worker:

In the name of the Joint Self Defense Committee, I want to express to you our warm thanks and appreciation for your enthusiastic participation in our Carnegie Hall meeting and your contribution to its huge success.

The excellent coverage in the Daily Worker played a large role in the success of the meeting and your personal help and advice in the writing of the releases was a real contribution to the meeting.

Your usual enthusiastic cooperation is so welcome!

—PAULINE ROYCE.

## Doctor's Business

Editor, Daily Worker:

Veiling his "moment of truth" in prudent anonymity, Dr. "J. H." wrote in a letter which appeared in your correspondence column of the 19th: "Every man in business has the right to make as much out of it as he can. Disease is a doctor's business. He lives by disease and has to earn a living. The public are his customers. . . ."

By his own admission J. H. regards disease as the physician's stock in trade. By the logic of this viewpoint does he view with misgiving, as being in restraint of trade, the giant steps taken by medical science towards the control or elimination of many diseases?

His concept of the meaning and purpose of his profession is not only revolting, but its application in defense of the \$1,500 fee demanded by the doctor, who ministered to the boy in the well, makes no sense. Surely J. H.

knew that there was a concerted protest from medical circles against such an exaction levied against a middle-class family—not habitues of the Stork Club or race track! Albeit conservative and probably bitter opponents of any trend to socialized medicine, nevertheless these doctors rose to the occasion when their colleague in a spirit of uninhibited free enterprise attempted to exchange the dignified caduceus—emblematic of his profession—for the piratical skull and crossbones!

I realize that doctors donate their services to clinics and outpatient departments. But this is not without its quid pro quo, since in treating these many patients the physician improves his diagnostic skill. Doctors have a just grievance over the well-to-do who "whine" over a just fee. But in our present society to expect a fee, even for a trivial service, in direct ratio to income—payment in accordance with ability to pay! A thoroughly subversive ideal!

Conscientious physicians must be in the grip of an unenviable dichotomy. The majority emotionally support the American Medical Association's passionate rejection of socialized medicine or the slightest move in that direction. But intellectually they are on the horns of a sharpening dilemma. The phenomenal growth of medical science, the manner in which its body of knowledge has proliferated into many exacting specialties, and pari passu, the invention of delicate and costly instruments for accurate diagnoses and treatment has equipped medicine for the mastery of disease and its prevention. But only under socialism can these potentials be fully realized.

Over many years' experience, I have nothing but praise for the kindness and understanding, in relation to financial matters, of any doctor who has treated me or my family. In this respect therefore I am convinced that J. H. is the unhappy exception, not the rule.

MURIEL I. SYMINGTON

## Mexico Quake Toll is 67

MEXICO CITY, July 30.—A series of aftershocks ceased today and Mexico City rapidly returned to normal.

edge of any American being killed or seriously injured in the quake. The only American casualty listed was Mrs. Sarah Dorfman of Brooklyn, N. Y., who suffered cuts on