

# SPEAK YOUR PIECE

## Dissolution Held Evasion

Editor, Daily Worker:

The following resolution was adopted by nine members of the section committee of the Lower East Side, Manhattan:

The articles in the press and "Party Voice" have given stimulating expression to the analysis and proposals of our leaders and members. Especially significant are those that represent the collective thinking of clubs in industry and community.

Here are some thoughts by nine members of the Section Committee of the Lower East Side. Our section operates in a multi-national working class area with a rich history of trade union, women's rights, anti-discrimination and housing struggles. Our batting average includes some home-runs, some fouls, and a few curved balls—to left and right fields! But we do not feel that we have wasted the last 10 or 15 years; we do not feel smug over our achievements, nor are we demoralized because of our errors.

The Party made better citizens, better neighbors, and better internationalists out of us, and we feel strongly that the Party has a place on the American scene today and in the years to come. We were, therefore, surprised to read in the last issue of the "Worker" the conclusion by Mike Russo—after an otherwise thoughtful article—that the Party "publicly proclaim our readiness to dissolve and join with other groups . . . and thus help create prerequisites for united action and a common approach to the task of advancing the cause of socialism in the U.S."

We do not agree with this proposal and with others calling for dissolution now, as steps to a mass party of socialism. Such proposals are an evasion of the job of formulating a correct program to meet the daily and long-range problems of the working class, national minorities, youth, women, etc.

How can we plan for united action with others, if we dis-

solve? What guarantees are there that after one year the various socialist trends will be ready to "talk business"? Suppose it takes two or five years? In the interim, are the combined experience and effectiveness of our thousands of members and those we influence to be evaporated?

In seeking answers to America's future, shall we write off the theoretical and practical achievements of the world Marxist movement, which has led almost a billion people to socialism and gives leadership to other millions in the colonial and capitalist countries?

Revitalization and change are on the order of the day, certainly, but it can best be accomplished by Communists who will strive to master the principles of the scientific socialism of Marx which were further developed by Lenin, Mao and others. This is a difficult, protracted task, not to be solved by the gimmick of dissolution or the wishful merging with non-existent broad socialist forces.

We look forward to the publication by the National Committee of its Draft Statement for the pre-Convention period, and shall have continued discussion in our clubs. In the meantime, we felt it urgent to speak up against any trend to consider dissolution of the Party.

## Negro Americans And Egypt

Editor, Daily Worker:

There can be no gainsaying the fact that the historical events that mark the present day struggles of Negro Americans for equality of opportunity are among the most vital waged by any liberty-loving people anywhere.

We often weigh the efforts of the Asian and African peoples more heavily in the scale of world affairs. Numerically those peoples who have declared for national liberation far outnumber Negro Americans. But in truth the efforts of the black man against the racists in the U. S. A. to attain manhood status and to end the centuries-long

reign of white supremacy as a policy of government in the realm of race relations, has made a mighty impact on the world we live in. The Bandung Asian-African conference posed vital issues concerning colonialism that cannot longer be ignored by America or Europe. . . .

The sympathies of the Negro people of the U. S. A. are with President Nasser and the Egyptian people because the sovereignty of Egypt is at stake. The robbery of the Egyptian people is akin to the robbery of a poor share-cropper in Mississippi bottom lands. Only the scale of the dastardly deeds differ. The moral crisis of the oppressors can stir no pangs of remorse in us regardless of the country from which he hails.

Perhaps there are few Negro Americans equipped to be pilots in the Suez Canal. If that be true, it is also a testimony against our restricted opportunities. But if there be one so equipped, he should find his way into the ranks of those who will rally to aid the cause of a once oppressed people who have come to cry: no farther, an end to the sins which the Fathers have handed down to the sons!

The basic issue here is the right of a people to control their destiny. The Negro in Mississippi can understand that. He has no interests separated from that inalienable right.

Nasser no more resembles Hitler than Eastland the lowly Nazarene. The nationalization of the Suez Canal offers the Egyptian people the chance to put the millions into the economic and cultural development of their country which have been going into the pockets of those with spurs who rode upon their backs.

—WILLIAM L. PATTERSON

## Five Points Deleted

Editor, Daily Worker:

Thank you my dear betters and censors, for printing one (and deleting 4) of the 5 brief points I made in my recent brief letter.—J. J. S.

## A Doctor's Comments

Editor, Daily Worker:

I just wanted to very briefly comment on two items which have appeared in the paper recently. One is a letter by Manny Josephs appearing Wed., Sept. 12 which dealt with the alleged evils of fluoridation of water supplies.

There are, in my opinion, a number of legitimate points raised by that correspondent on nutrition. Nonetheless, extensive scientific investigation of communities which for years have had natural and artificial fluoridation of water have shown that there is no detriment to health and that the decay rate is enormously lower than otherwise.

It is easy to be quite lengthy and detailed on this point, but I think that space is important for political matters in this feature at this time. Interested people can investigate this further themselves.

Another point I would like to comment on is a Federated Press article which appeared dealing with the report of the Genetics Committee of the National Academy of Science on the dangers of radiation. I read this report completely and found that it is undoubtedly factually correct but its conclusions were poorly placed. It appeared to point out that the main danger is from the promiscuous use of dental and medical x-rays for diagnostic and therapeutic means.

It is true that every exposure to the x-ray involves a risk but it is also true that the use of x-rays in medicine and dentistry have certainly saved countless lives, discomfort, loss of tissue, etc.

It is also true that if every man, woman and child in the U.S.A. received the proper number of medical and dental x-rays needed to catch disease in its early stages, the number of exposures would probably rise by more than a hundredfold. There are not enough x-rays taken, it turns out.—A Doctor.

## The Fight On Anti-Semitism

Editor, Daily Worker:

One sentence in the "U. S. COMMUNIST VIEWS ON SOVIET STATEMENT" in the July 26 issue of the Daily Worker has impelled me to put a few thoughts in writing. It is the last sentence in the next to the last paragraph: "We shall continue to work for . . . and for the end of anti-Semitism and racism in our country." In my 25 years in the Party, this is the first time I have seen anti-Semitism and racism equated. They should always have been equated. Even during the Hitler period, with the most murderous extermination of any one people, half the entire Jewish population of the world, anti-Semitism was a "Jewish question for the Jewish section."

Though it is true that the greatest national minority problem in the U.S. is, and should be, around the Negro question, we applied theory incorrectly.

I believe our dogmatic approach was due to our lack of understanding that we must give simultaneous thought and fight to rooting out discrimination against ALL minorities and not just relegate these struggles (except the Negro question) to the particular national group involved.

Where anti-Semitism is concerned, this goes even further. From time immemorial, anti-Semitism has existed wherever there was reaction and the necessity to divide-and-rule. We have been taught that anti-Semitism is one of the indubitable signs of reaction and oppression. To our great misfortune we see that, even under Socialism, there is no automatic guarantee that it is eradicated. Yet, we saw it only as a "Jewish question" and even when, during the Hitler period, some of our national leaders acknowledged it as a problem of the over-all struggle, this was just lip service and never put into action.

I would recommend this as one of the problems for serious discussion at the coming convention.—EDNA.