

# SPEAK YOUR PIECE

## Death "Greatly Exaggerated"

Editor, Daily Worker:

It is with regret that I have read the parting remarks of Joe Clark. But I feel that Clark has lost his perspective of domestic and international events.

It is true we have suffered a political beating in the last 12 years and this has been increased by the 20th Congress, Hungary etc., and the increasing loss of membership due to these events as well as to our own errors within our own party. All this has left people with an "all is lost and wasted" feeling or a "wait and see" attitude. It is my impression that much of Clark's decision is based upon the loss of morale and self-confidence which the party is now going through, as well as his major disagreements with the party in general.

But in spite of our bad situation the world moves on; not backwards, and we too are affected by this forward movement. The victories of Workers' parties in several countries show that in spite of certain effects of the 20th Congress, Hungary, etc., a Marxist-Leninist party can with the correct policy win the influence and favor of the people.

It is also ironic that in the same issue of the D.W. with Clark's resignation, based upon criticisms of Soviet leadership, appeared a large article on the advance of industry and automation in the USSR. The conclusion from such an article is that even under this leadership the Soviets are advancing Socialism and bringing about a higher living standard for their people.

I disagree most strongly with the position taken by Gates, and have fought in club, section, county and state conventions against his policies. But I think his reply to Clark was a good one.

I feel, though, that Gates could have been more critical of Clark. For Clark gives me the impression that the only way for Clark to remain in the party would be for everyone else to switch their views over to his side. And surely anyone who wants the right of dissent should not take such a one sided approach.

It is just as easy to be dogmatic in a minority dissent as it is for those to be dogmatic in the majority position. Hence it is the job of all of us to work for those conditions in which all ideas can be expressed at the proper time and place.

Clark's method of solving his problems is not taking up defense of his concepts and fighting through for them but rather he lowers his banner, throws away his weapons in full retreat on the field of battle. As one who is opposed to Gates policy I do not consider the action of Clark any victory, BUT RATHER A DEFEAT WHICH WE ALL MUST SHARE.

How can Clark, in his letter, refer so warmly to constitutional

democracy, in the party when in a sense he refuses to accept it. Clark is so taken up with his own position on certain questions that he completely neglects the majority of the party and the way they think about these questions. Maybe he thinks the party is made up of "just" rank and filers who don't know very much; this I doubt, but what other impression is to be given when a comrade snubs the party majority and walks out just because they disagree with him.

Take the question e.g. of the Duclos letter. Why shouldn't any Communist have the right to address himself to a foreign party expressing thoughts on the policies within that party. This is one of the elements of internationalism. But there is no rule in the book which says we must accept what a French, Soviet, or British comrade says.

Clark is very upset about this letter whereas he should rally be elated that the ideas of this letter were brought before the N. C. and in a democratic manner a majority decision was come about.

Sometimes people become confused when they speak of thought control in the party. When people are not allowed to speak, that is thought control. But when an idea is expressed, discussed and voted upon (and even if it loses) that is democracy. It is them the responsibility of the losers to accept the rule of the majority.

Unfortunately this is not always the case. We have some comrades who because they have not won over the majority cry "thought control," claim they can no longer work within the party and leave, giving up the fight. We also have people who go to the extreme.

O. H. Leeds in a letter last week, writing with political hysterics and name calling as well as holding back support from OUR paper, wishes to throw all opposition to his ideas out of the party. I fear that if that were the only American Communist. And heaven help us if he could not agree with himself.

**BOTH POSITIONS ARE WRONG. . . .**

I disagree with the policy of Gates, but I have no fear of them. To combat any idea it must be brought out into the open to all the party. It must be given consideration and due respect. But the loser, whoever it be must accept majority decision. If the loser feels that his ideas are still valid, then he should be able to bring them up again under the proper time and place and to make sure that the manner of doing so does not disrupt the political line already accepted and being followed.

It is the personal responsibility of all Marxists to see to it that all thoughts have the right to see light within the proper time and place and it is also our responsibility to pass to it that there

will be always be a proper time and place.

This is the way we must build the party of the future. Leaving the party or demanding that everyone else leave the party is no solution.

Last week the N. Y. Post spoke glibly about our great loss of membership, about the resignation of Joe Clark and about our death. But we already have an answer:

**OUR DEATH IS GREATLY EXAGGERATED!—F. B.**

Sept. 17, 1957.

## Urges More Coverage On Cyprus Struggle

NEW YORK

Editor, Daily Worker:

On Sept. 12 a grand reception took place at the City Hall, where Mayor Wagner welcomed the Ethnarch of Cyprus Archbishop Makarios, while thousands of people gathered to greet him.

I think it is a matter of press principles, if not anything else, that the "Daily Worker" should have assigned a reporter to cover this great reception rally.

Mr. Makarios, since his arrival in our city, has been busy with

press conferences and one TV interview. The bourgeois press has given to the public Mr. Makarios' statements the way it fits their purpose. The Daily Worker should realize that it owes to its readers coverage of the activities of Mr. Makarios in this country as elsewhere.

Mr. Makarios today represents the fighting spirit of the Cyprus people for self-determination. All Greeks from Cyprus — 82 percent of the population of 500,000 — are united against British oppression.

Since his return from exile, Archbishop Makarios on several occasions has pointed out that the fight in Cyprus is a people's fight, and linked with no party.

Readers and supporters of the Daily Worker, and I should say among them a good number of Cypriots, are wondering, why is it that the Daily keeps silent. Is it because of insufficient reporters or negligence?

On June 2 Art Shields gave readers a good story on the Cyprus struggle for self-determination. The response everywhere was tremendous, not only among the Greeks and Cypriots but also among others. It was reading material not found in any other

press in this country. It was something extra for Americans as it revealed the stakes of American capital in Cyprus, and its exploiting interests, as well as the bloody hand of American imperialism in the domestic life of Cyprus.

As a matter of record only last week Bishop Anthimos, of Kitium Larnace, Cyprus, now acting Ethnarch in the absence of Mr. Makarios, speaking to 6,000 Cypriots, pointed out that the Cyprus fight for liberation against all enemies, whether British Turks or Americans.

An ardent supporter of the Daily Worker

CYROS LEFKOS

9/16/57

(NOTE — The Daily Worker editorially has repeatedly expressed its support to the heroic struggle of the Cypriote people for independence. Failure to cover particular events is due to no policy reason but simply to our woeful manpower shortage. Even within our limitations we will try to keep abreast of the great developments noted by our reader. We're grateful for his criticisms and his support. — Editors.)

## Car Model Changes Bring Rise in Jobless

DETROIT. — The "Big One" is here. That's what auto workers call model changeover layoffs. It comes on top of 225,000 already idle workers in Michigan and at least that may idle auto workers nationally.

Ford, General Motors, Chrysler assembly plants are closed and will be for several weeks. In many of the shops it will be only the high seniority workers who will start back the next several weeks.

For probationary workers and those with little seniority it may be closer to December before they return and then its a season job for 5-6 months again before layoffs hit.

The layoffs come as 800,000 unsold 1957 cars are still in the showrooms as of Sept. 1. Up and down the new car rows, all you need to drive a new car away is a good credit card, no down payments because its dealers' profits slashed to the bone and 42 months to pay. The orders from the factories is "clear the decks" for the 1958 that's coming in a month.

The factory owners don't care, they long ago got their C.O.D. for the 1957 cars from the dealers, because that's how they do business.

The 1958 model is going to have a price increase tagged on it for sure, Henry Ford II already has said so and the other profit hungry members of the industry are not going to lag behind.

Little talked of is the news that

## Chicago Vote Is Asked On Freedom Ballot

CHICAGO. — The Coordinating Council for Citizens' Rights is sponsoring a ballot for freedom. It is aimed to put the people on record in behalf of equal rights for all people in the city.

The Ballot for Freedom, which can be obtained from the Coordinating Council at 4527 South Dearborn, calls on the people to vote for the following propositions.

"Protection of the rights of all Chicagoans, regardless of race, to use all parks, beaches and public facilities.

"Instruction to the Chicago Police to protect all people, regardless of race, from mob violence.

"The dismissal of all police who refuse to carry out these instructions.

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"THE establishment of a minimum of \$1,000 fine and six months in jail for all persons caught inciting a riot or engaging in mob violence.

since last January, 7,000 workers every month exhausted their 26 weeks of unemployment compensation checks. Close to 50,000 have done so since January last.

These are the auto workers mostly who have lost out permanently because of automation, decentralization, runaway shop, speedup and for whom no job any longer exists. Gov. Williams of Michigan estimates that over the last several years 140,000 workers are in this category and the '58 model will see more.

High up in the discussions of these workers are the shorter work

"The establishment of an equally integrated anti-riot police division that will be trained by the Commissioner of Police and Commission on Human Relations.

"An official investigation by the city of Chicago of the South Deering Association and any and all such groups which aid and defend mobsters.

"The appointment of more Negro police captains and lieutenants.

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"THE removal of the basic cause of race hatred by official protection of the right of all Chicagoans to live where they please, regardless of race."

The ballot concludes by stating, "we ask Mayor Daley to promote this program as the official policy of the city of Chicago, and to make it known to all Chicagoans through personal television appearance."

Chicagoans are asked to mail the ballot to the Mayor's Office at the City Hall.

week with no cut in take home pay, because these workers see that proposal along with many others as helping to create jobs.

Meanwhile Michigan's unemployment will be around a quarter of a million and more from now till early December.

