

A difficult choice

WE WANT to share with you a problem that gravely affects the future—in fact, the very life of this paper.

During the summer we reduced the size of *The Worker* from 16 to 12 pages as a temporary vacation measure. This is the practice of many other publications.

We now find that our financial situation makes it necessary to continue on a 12-page basis indefinitely. In addition, we are part of a crisis that affects both the *Daily Worker* and *The Worker*.

On Wednesday the *Daily Worker* announced it was faced with two hard alternatives.

1. Cutting out the *Daily Worker* and

publishing only *The Worker* as a 16-page weekly.

2. Temporarily retrenching by issuing a four-page *Daily Worker* four days a week and a 12-page weekend *Worker* on Friday.

The editors and management of the *Daily Worker* and *The Worker*, after weeks of deliberation, have chosen the second alternative.

Since the beginning of the year the readers of the *Daily Worker* and *The Worker* have contributed about \$45,000 to keep the papers alive. We are grateful to you all for support which in many individual cases involved real sacrifice.

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The Choice

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But it hasn't been enough. We are still \$55,000 short of the \$100,000 indispensable to keep going on the old basis.

An 80 percent drop in circulation in the last few years—in large part due to cold war repression—a virtual boycott by advertisers and mounting publication costs have further swelled our deficit.

We believe that the great issue of our time—peaceful coexistence, the banning of the H-bomb, the struggle around integration, the fight against soaring living costs, socialism for America—make it imperative to continue both the Daily Worker and The Worker.

By cutting the eight-page Daily Worker to four pages and maintaining The Worker at its present 12 pages, and by affecting other economies, we can reduce our annual deficit from about a quarter of a million to \$125,000. We hope it will be possible in the not distant future to go back to eight pages, five days a week for the Daily Worker and 16 pages for The Worker.

The changes will go into effect on or about Oct. 1.

We are asking all our readers and reader groups to do two things:

1) Make all-out efforts to reach the \$100,000 fund drive goal by the end of the year.

2) Assist in getting at least 1,000 subs for The Worker and 1,000 for the Daily Worker in the next three months.

We are determined to maintain this militant champion of the American working class with its proud record of 33 years of battling for the people's interests. Please let us know your reactions and suggestions. Let's hear from you.

And don't forget: make checks and money orders payable to Committee for a Free Press or Robert W. Dunn and send to P.O. Box 231, Cooper Station, New York 3, N. Y.

mills of those who seek to exploit the 'foreign agent' lie," the statement said.

The NAC affirmed its determination to implement the 16th convention decisions and to "oppose all dogmatist and sectarian tendencies to reverse the line of the convention. We intend to continue our fight to reconstruct our party and win back many who have dropped out, so that our party can play its full role in the fight for peace, security and democracy."

Declaring that "there is room for all in our party who believe in socialism and a socialist America," the statement urged Clark "to reconsider his mistaken views and the harmful action resulting from them."