

This Is Time When the Left Needs Its Press

AN OLD and dear friend asks us whether, in the light of the exposures of the weaknesses of Soviet socialism and our own U.S. Marxist movement, we who have devoted ourselves to this movement do not feel our lives have been wasted.

We do not hesitate to answer with an emphatic NO.

Let us hasten to add there is much we do regret; mistakes which made our modest contri-

With July 1 upon us, the Emergency Committee for a Free Press has raised only \$65,000 of the \$100,000 required to keep The Worker going. We're in very serious financial shape. Send your contributions at once to Emergency Committee for a Free Press, Room 301, 575 6th Avenue, New York City. Robert W. Dunn, Treasurer.

bution to the progress of the workingclass of our nation less effective than they might have been; failure to exercise bold and independent judgment which would have avoided many of these mistakes, and much else along these lines.

Let us add, too, that we are not shaken in the conviction that our country needs a Marxist movement now no less than before; one that as part of the workingclass will assist in its struggles for a better life, and will continue to educate and agitate for a socialist America.

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WE'RE trying to profit from a study of our errors in order to contribute, as far as we are able, to reshaping this movement so that it may be a more effective, more powerful, broader instrument. That's why we've turned several of our pages over to the Communist Party for the conduct of a free-wheeling debate.

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The Left Needs Its Press

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And that's why the Daily Worker has for the past several months been conducting such debate among its readers.

We feel we have much to contribute to reshaping our movement in these fateful months of "agonizing reappraisal." But we must confess that we're seriously concerned about our ability to continue publishing because of the logjam in the \$100,000 fund campaign conducted under the auspices of the Emergency Committee for a Fre Press. Unless the Committee can raise \$5,000 a week for the next eight weeks, we're in critical trouble.

The question as to whether we feel we've wasted our lives implies that socialism in the USSR is a failure; and that the American Communist movement, because of its false attitudes toward Soviet socialism and its doctrinaire views generally, has been a bust. We accept neither proposition.

We believe that human society has entered upon its new era, socialism, and that this is a higher stage of civilization than capitalism, one that will advance mankind materially, spiritually, culturally. It is still in its infancy, but with all of its terrible fumbling and errors, it has had a vast progressive impact not alone on the people in socialist lands but on all humanity, including our own country. It has wrested two-thirds of humanity from the grip of imperialism, and has forced even our own ruling circles to grant concessions both to people abroad and the people at home.

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WE BELIEVE its impact and strength would have been greater had it speeded the development of legal and political institutions which would guarantee full socialist democracy, as projected in the Soviet constitution. This might have prevented the brutalities revealed in the Khrushchev report. The development of these institutions is

an historic process, and still has a long way to go in the socialist lands. We believe it historically inevitable that they will undergo it. While maintaining our fraternal and sympathetic attitude toward these lands, we do not intend to resume, meanwhile, our former role as apologists.

As regards our own movement, all we have said in the past about the part played by Marxists in helping to organize the American workingclass, to win jobless pay and social security, to develop the struggle for Negro equality, to win peace and defeat repression, remains true. We disagree with the Philadelphian who last week wrote that the American Left played no part in the anti-McCarthy struggle. We know from direct experience it did play an honorable part in this struggle.

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BUT HERE, too, we recognize that our contributions would have been far greater had we not dogmatically and mechanically applied to our country and times Marxist-Leninist views which were conditional upon time and place. We erected barriers between ourselves and the workers of our land by our doctrinaire positions and practices. This will not be lived down easily.

Much more can be said on the subject than we have space for here. We want only to add here that our ability to assist in correcting the errors of the past and in building a more effective movement depends to a large extent to which we are read by progressive workers. And in recent months, through our role is no less important than in the past, circulation efforts have collapsed, and circulation has declined. Along with the discussions, and as part of them, we feel these efforts need to be revived, and the circulation trend reversed.

Here is how we stand in relation to goals that should have been attained in April:

THE WORKER

COUNTY	(Subs)			(Bundle)			NEWSTAND Sales for
	Goal	Achieved	Percent	Goal	Achieved	Percent	
Upstate	300	134	45	400	150	40	Week ending
Manhattan	2200	1883	86	300	173	35	June 3
Bronx	1200	1927	88	300	10	3	2025
Brooklyn	2000	1787	80	2000	627	31	
Queens	1000	913	91	300	208	70	
Total	6500	750	78	800	353	50	June 10 2800
New Jersey	750	5744	88	3500	1216	36	

DAILY WORKER

COUNTY	(Subs)		(Bundle)		NEWSTAND Sales for
	Goal	Achieved	Goal	Achieved	
Upstate	120	80	87	22	Week ending
Manhattan	266	64	22	8	June 3
Bronx	95	95	8	2	2022
Brooklyn	365	96	2	16	Week ending
Queens	208	104	16	107	June 10
Total	1064	80	107	341	3241
New Jersey	180	82	80		