

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

Pro-Stalin Still

ROCHESTER, Minn.

Editor, Daily Worker:

Apparently the "Life-Liner" plans have been abandoned so I do not know how I stand on my pledge. But I planned to send you a dollar per month and I intend to keep sending you the dollar each month.

The discussions by the leadership are interesting but I find more interesting the letters from rank and file workers. In spite of what I have read so far I am still pro-Stalin. I believe that he is being made the goat for the failures of the C.C. of the USSR. They need to apply more of that criticism and self-criticism which we are trying out here at home.

Please give us lots of letters from the rank & file and don't be in a hurry to close the discussion period. The paper was never so good as it has been since this discussion started. It should be continuous.—O. C.

Why the Continued Silence by Leaders?

Editor, Daily Worker:

Day after day letters appear in the paper—and articles in the Sunday Worker by what I presume is the state leadership—protesting the silence of individual members of the National Committee. And still, with a few negligible exceptions, the silence continues. Six months after the 20th Congress—two or three months after reports in other papers of major differences!

How can this go on? Is the National leadership deliberately trying, like the three monkeys, to see nothing, hear nothing and say nothing? Is it impossible to write a brief column or so—nothing comprehensive—just to give us an idea of what they are thinking, what questions they are asking, what opinion—only if tentative—they may have on one or two issues? Or enter into frank, direct debate with no punches pulled?

The Daily Worker does some of this. In fact, if it were not for the leadership given by the Daily Worker in the last six months we would be in a far worse crisis than we are today. Agreement isn't even a criterion, although I happen to agree with the main editorial positions taken by the paper on recent events. But I am also grateful for this sign of life.

However, I expect still more from the paper. Why don't the Daily Worker writers get in there and report on these differences—since the last act of our National leadership seems to have been

a unanimous resolution to bite off its tongue. Our columnists should have at least equal freedom to compete with Joseph Lash and Harrison Salisbury. What's more, I feel some of the stories in the other papers were misleading and inaccurate and can only serve to increase confusion, exasperation and apathy. I want an accurate account and there are many who do.

There are too many tremendous things going on in the America of 1956 to be patient with people who apparently don't even try to think about these questions or seal their mouths if they do. And frankly, I'm less concerned with their evaluation of things past and about the Party than of things future and about the country. That goes for all of us. We will never solve our internal problems except in connection with the tremendous questions—positive and negative, local and national—before our land today.

I joined the Party because it promised to grapple with the big and small issues facing America—not to sit blind-folded at a shadow-boxing match about internal problems of that Party. I shall try to continue to do the former in my small way whether the Party does or not.

It's ironic that I'm pretty clear about individual differences in the Republican Parties, but in my own Party (mine, to this point anyway), I have to depend on rumors and guesswork.

—IRATE MEMBER

Asks Printing of CP Constitution

Editor, Daily Worker:

This reader is getting rather bored and disgusted with reading the same old discussion articles albeit by new names. You might just as well substitute one name for another or an old article for a "new" one.

They all say: 1. We were guilty of left sectarianism, bureaucracy, 2. We must take a new, fresh approach if we are to survive. After that it is merely a repetition of these widely accepted statements or the raising of questions on how and why with no possible answers offered.

Well, I for one am going to make a single concrete suggestion. Let The Worker print a special supplement on its centerfold. That supplement being the present Constitution of the Communist Party of the United States, a document very few Communists have ever read or possessed. Then let the paper ask for specific comments and resolutions by clubs, etc., on the

obviously necessary revision of this document.

I, for one, feel that many articles need changing. For example, the one dealing with association with "enemies of the working class," the statement on vanguardism, the articles dealing with the right of minority policy supporters to uphold their policy, etc.

Let's please stop this boring and repetitious restatement of points which the overwhelming majority of members already know and the "solutions" in glittering generalities which don't mean anything at all except that the authors of these articles simply don't know the real solutions!

A Friend.

Reevaluation Of Truman

Editor, Daily Worker:

It's as plain as the hand before your eyes. Just as the 20th Congress broke with the worst features of Stalinism, so the Chicago convention broke with the worst features of Trumanism. And although it is too early yet to tell, it may well be that the break with HST will prove to be just as momentous, as far as our country and the world is concerned, as the break with Old Joe.

The Jackass is the symbol of the democratic party. Under Truman, for the first time in the long and honorable history of the Democratic party this symbolic Jackass became a horrible national reality. And all the more—so because Truman hailed from Missouri, the recognized homeland of the jackass itself. Missouri was always noted for its mules. And Truman had about as much in common with Jefferson as Stalin did with Lenin.

Does anybody imagine that Truman, on the fatal eve of his departure for the Chicago convention, had any idea of the political shellacking in store for him there? Then they don't know Truman. He went there with the idea that he was the Kingpin and the maker of Kings and he acted just like Stalin would have acted had Old Joe been in attendance at the 20th Congress. Only... and fortunately for the rest of us, his so-called strategy just didn't pan out.

There has been for some time now a general suspicion, even on the part of Trumans most fanatical admirers that he's a political Has-been. These people, now watching him lick his wounded conceit, try to comfort him by tall talk about "his place in history." "You are assured of a place in history," they say, in low and sugary tones,

as they stroke the flanks of this Missouri mule. They had better look out; they don't know the character of the mule; he's quite capable of doing to them just what he did to the people of Hiroshima and Korea... exterminating them.

So let us rejoice that reason has, at long last prevailed, in the democratic councils in the Long House, just as it has in the Kremlin beyond the rising sun across the seas. It's in the air; you can hear them talking in

the subways, parks, streets and places of work. The sparks struck at Cachigo have set their imaginations on fire and if the flame spreads only God alone can save the desperate GOPers from a humiliating defeat. The Democratic Party has won a tremendous victory over itself. The question now raised, and one of immense significance to us, is whether or not this victory can be realized by the people as a whole at the polls in November. —M.H.

Autotown Alley

DETROIT

WE SUPPOSE you noticed that Kit Clardy got beaten for Republican nomination for Congress in Flint, Lansing area.

SA WMAYOR COBO'S picture in the morning horror sheet some of us read and he was "washing dishes." A 13-year-old girl pointed out to us that there was no dishes in the sink and she thought it was a crude attempt to "humanize" Arizona Al.

COBO WANTS TO KNOW what's wrong with a man like him heading up a \$440,000 real estate project in Tucson, Ariz., with a partner Charles Oakman, former City Councilman. Oakman led the fight in City Council some years ago to ban the Daily Worker and Michigan Worker from newsstands. Oakman also called for using cops to bust the Garage Mechanics strike in 1948. What we would like to know, how did Cobo get the \$440,000. He says he got it selling his share in a cleaning firm. We wonder who did the cleaning and where?

LOUIS MIRIANA, president of Detroit's City Council smirks when friends call him "Mayor." He is running like mad for Mayor of Detroit, even though Cobo refuses to resign, Cobo draws his salary while campaigning for Governor on the GOP ticket all day. Lots of Labor heads favor Ed Connor. This city needs a conference of citizens to decide what to do about City Hall, Mayor and Council members for 1957 elections.

BIG QUESTION, will Mayor Cobo get the chance as he has in the past to greet the Labor Day marchers and speak before the main speaker as in previous years?

OFFICIAL UNEMPLOYMENT figures at press time from the Michigan Unemployment Security Commission up to July 15, 1956, show 228,000 in State idle, 142,000 in Detroit. In July, 10,300 workers exhausted their unemployment compensation of 26 weeks. Up to July 1, some 47,068 from Jan. 1 had exhausted their compensation.

GOP CONVENTION, Grand Rapids, Sept. 1. Dem convention, Grand Rapids, Aug. 31. GOP may uncork a strategy of running a Negro for state office, could be Charles Roxborough, III. Also its almost settled that Jack Thorpe, State AFL leader will be asked to run on the GOP state ticket with Cobo. Add into that Clarence Reid, former Lt. Governor, close friend of many AFLers for Lt. Gov. and Don Leonard, defeated candidate and you have a ticket that makes it no shoo-in for the Dems.

AT GRAND RAPIDS, will the Dems come to a full appreciation of Negro representation and place a Negro on their state ticket, and a labor person? All Dem precinct delegates to this convention are new, hundreds of them from organized labor's ranks. Seems they and their constituents should have a say in this too.

GENERAL MOTORS will plead "Nolo Contendere" which means they won't contest the suit the government is bringing against them for creating a monopoly in the bus business. This doesn't mean they plead "Guilty" but it also doesn't mean they plead "Not Guilty." It's legal butter issue on a hot skillet.