

SPEAK YOUR PIECE

How Old Are the Others?

Editor, Daily Worker:

In his column Roscoe Drummond, N. Y. Herald-Tribune, March 3, wrote: "Perhaps the most significant fact about the Communist Party of the U. S. today today is that its leadership is getting older and older. . . . Apart from two or three young Negroes, there wasn't a delegate at the New York convention under forty. Of the twenty new members of the party executive, the average age is 45."

It would be well appreciated that Mr. Drummond informs his readers about the age of the most prominent and influential men within the Republican and Democratic parties. How many of them are under forty? What is the average age of the majority and of the minority leaders in Congress; of the chairman and members of each of the numerous committees in both houses: In a word, can Mr. Drummond truthfully maintain that the leadership of the two governing parties is getting younger.

To honestly answer these questions require a high degree of journalistic integrity. Mr. Drummond is not going to provide them, one can be sure.

W. E. R.

MARCH 4, 1957

Cites Former Magil Article

Editor, Daily Worker:

I think A. B. Magil's letter re Browder's TV interview might have probed a trifle deeper into the matter had he frankly stated that besides labeling Browder an "agent of imperialism" he also was the author of a piece in New Masses which sought to show the progressive role of the cartels and monopolies! I was in Los Angeles at the time of its appearance and recall the confusing effect this article has on many people within and outside of the Party.

Magil's apology for the international pirates of finance and his theoretical buttressing of Browder's views on the question was at least as grave a mistake as his impulsive label of "agent of imperialism" on Browder. While Browder certainly didn't become such an "agent" he never to my knowledge has repudiated his notions on "progressive capitalism" and that, after all, was the essence of our quarrel with him.

I think that Magil, while he was on the subject, and in a self-critical frame of mind, might have recalled for us his own contribution to a theory and

policy which is even more flagrantly false today than at the time it was first promulgated.

S. B.

March 2, 1947

Patient Progress

Editor, Daily Worker:

I am amazed, time and time again, in reading the "Speak Your Piece" page, at the apparent inability of many contributors to see what is to me an obvious full-in-the-face, never hidden fact. This is, that American public opinion is controlled, overwhelmingly in its immediate pressures, and to a lesser, but still the greatest degree, for the near future at least, by those corrupt and vicious forces who have billions to spend to protect their investments in the malignances of the status quo.

Peculiarly, these same contributors are among those who support the position that our present "isolation" is caused by our past inability to recognize the facts of the American way of life.

Let me say right here that I am among those who recognize

the great importance of the left press and activity for present progress and for helping, in the future, form majority public opinion. But, because of the immense power of those billions, it is and will remain, until there is a major change in American life, a minority voice, a minority activity.

Until that major change comes, it is the most outright kind of self-deception for us to believe that any kind of maneuver, manipulation, tactic, or what have you, is going to change that situation to an appreciable degree. "Coming closer to what the American people know and believe" will only cause the "billions" that are manipulating public opinion to bring greater pressure toward their corrupt interests.

Let us take pride, strength, and confidence in the historic importance of what we are doing and not be impatient to bring about a birth whose seed is planted and which, with thoughtful cultivation, will come in its time.

SAUL GROSS
Feb. 28, 1957

JEWISH CLUBS BACK PLAN OF MRS. FDR ON MID EAST

The first annual conference of the New York City Committee of Jewish Clubs, held last Sunday and attended by 58 delegates and guests from English-speaking Clubs, called upon the government to "pursue a policy such as recommended by Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt" to solve the crisis in the Middle East.

Mrs. Roosevelt's recommendations were that the U.S. and the Soviet Union join in an agreement for a hands-off policy toward the Middle East; that each nation agree to bar the sale of arms to

Middle East countries and promise not to attempt to exert military and political pressure on them; and that the two nations agree to channel all economic aid through the U.N.

The 12 organizations represented at the conference warned that Middle East peace is not possible unless "the great powers work together through the U.N. to assure negotiations between Israel and her Arab neighbors."

The Conference also urged President Eisenhower to answer the call of the Negro leaders who requested that he speak in the South for the implementation of the Supreme Court decision on desegregation and for an end to the terror against Negroes. The clubs also supported the present efforts to desegregate schools in New York City.

New Output Cut In Steel Seen

The rate of steel operation is scheduled to drop further this week to a level below 95 percent of capacity, the Iron & Steel Institute said yesterday. This is a decline of 1.1 percent from a week before.

The operating level has been declining by a small percentage steadily from week to week in the past two months from a year-end level near 100 percent of rated capacity.

While the drop is not yet significant, it is taken as an indication that the pressure for steel due to a shortage in some shops created by last year's month-long strike is over.

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