

Letters on the 20th Soviet Congress

Following are more letters in the current discussion of American Marxists and the Soviet Union. Letters over 300 words cannot be printed in full.

Explanation

On Rajk Needed

Editor, Daily Worker:

The "clearing," posthumously, of Laszlo Rajk is a profoundly disturbing event.

During and after the trial we were assured that conclusive evidence established his guilt. The accused, in open court, confessed to the crimes charged.

Today we are told, with equal assurance, that the evidence was trumped up.

At this point I do not know, for example, whether Rajk went to Spain connected with Horthy's police, as originally declared; or whether he was really no less a hero than Milton Herndon. Who does?

Three conclusions seem to me inescapable: (1) Evidence must be available; taking anyone's word about political cases, then or now, is out of the question. (2) Capital punishment is absolutely intolerable, in any country. (3) We are all entitled to an explanation of their wretched record in these matters from the Political Bureaus of the Hungarian C.P. and CPSU. At stake is our confidence in them as Marxist leaders.

By the same token we should now hear from the leaders of

the American Communist Party on the subject.

—S. A.

Look to Their Own Ugly House

Editor, Daily Worker:

To preface my remarks on the present Stalin controversy, I want to state that my two heroes have been and are: Abraham Lincoln for his magnificent personality all around and Lenin, for his giant intellect and idealism.

Now, to the gloaters over the "fall" of Stalin: Why don't they look to their own ugly house, before standing in judgment of other people's houses?—especially in their commiseration with the people purged by Stalin. In all history there can hardly be as solemn and inhuman a tragedy as the execution of two supremely courageous and innocent young parents. Robbing tender children of both their parents is a high offense before God, when there is more than the legal "shadow of a doubt" as to these parents' guilt. . . .

Yet our government put Ethel and Julius Rosenberg to death—to strike fear into the hearts of workers who might want to join the Communist Party. The moneyed people now in the seat of our government dread the thought of what a true knowledge of Communism might mean to their dollars. . . .

As to worshipping the wrong hero: Stalin was a superb administrator in a country liter-

ally surrounded by dangerous world-imperialists keenly watching his country's progress. Who could presume to criticize the colossal job he did, and the means that were necessary at times, to utilize.

Think of the "heroes" we have (in terms of their being in high places)—Nixon, of Mundt-Nixon Law fame; Knowland, tearing at the leash to start a world war; Eastland, an open racist and Dulles.

I recall my amazement (due to political naivete, I suppose) at the time that our own would-be little Hitler-McCarthy was carrying on—that President Eisenhower never mentioned him by name. Our President would say: There is behavior of a certain kind in public life which I do not approve, but at the same time he would not embarrass McCarthy by mentioning his name; at the shock I got when the New York Times called Knowland "a man of great courage."

—L. A.

Daily Worker

Published daily except Saturday and Sunday by the Publishers New Press, Inc., 35 E. 12th St., New York 3, N. Y. Telephone ALecouin 4-7654.

Registered as second class matter Oct. 22, 1947, at the post office at New York, N. Y., under the Act of March 3, 1879.

5 mos. 6 mos. 1 year:
Daily Worker city \$4.00 \$7.00 \$12.00

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

(Except Foreign)
Daily Worker & Worker 4.75 8.00 15.00
The Worker 5.00 8.00 15.00