

What our readers write

'RINGING STATEMENT...'

A NUMBER OF OUR READERS in Africa and elsewhere have commented favourably on the statement 'The Revolutionary Way Out' issued by the Central Committee of the South African Communist Party and published in our last issue.

A reader in *Kumasi, Ghana*, writes:

Your April-June 1963 issue could not be more timely. The South African Communist Party's ringing statement, "The Revolutionary Way Out", offers a statesmanship desperately needed in today's difficult but promising world. Here stands verity, vigour and VICTORY, all presented with that modesty and compassion characteristic of greatness. My spirits rose from line to line.'

The same reader writes about some of the other articles in our last issue. On 'The One-Party State', by B. Pela, she comments that this 'was for me a clarifying document. It tended to answer a good many questions which had been in my mind about this serious matter. I would, however, like to see more discussion of how the function of a working class political party can legitimately be carried on within a progressive one-party state. . . .'

Although she thinks the article 'Right-Wing Labour and Africa', by a special correspondent, was 'important and timely', she believes the author has glossed over the reasons why workers in the imperialist countries are so successfully hoodwinked by the social democrats. 'The workers of the white industrialized world have a rather large "vested interest", in the form of a wage differential, in the continuation of colonialism. . . . Does anyone imagine for one second that, if they were not to such a large degree *sharing* in that "bribery" to which Lenin refers, they would allow right-wing leadership to get away with what it does?'

Another reader writes: 'The statement by the Central Committee of the South African Communist Party in the April issue of THE

AFRICAN COMMUNIST, is of very great importance. I am sending you a donation of money to be used as you see fit to further the cause as presented so ably by the statement.'

'Your Brilliant Periodical'

A reader in *Kano, Northern Nigeria*, writes:

'Permit me to congratulate you on your brilliant periodical. The copy I came across inspired me so much that I feel it my duty to write to you and tell you how much I appreciate your endeavour to cement friendship between us African youth and all our African countries . . . your comrade, in the service of my country.'

An African reader living in *New York, U.S.A.*, writes: 'I have just finished reading a copy of THE AFRICAN COMMUNIST given to me by a friend. *I find the ideas expressed therein to be of immense significance in regard to the African solidarity, that could come about only through socialism.*'

A reader in *Southern Rhodesia* finds the issues 'very interesting reading, and I shall circulate them as widely as possible.'

Other Rhodesian readers have not been so fortunate. One in *Northern Rhodesia* complains 'I have not received even a single copy. All copies have been subjected to customs officers at Salisbury, confiscated . . . I am certain that our country needs Marx very badly. The snag lies in government suppression.' Other Rhodesian readers also complain of interference with their copies of our journal by Welensky's Federation authorities. Fortunately, however, the Federation is nearing its end; not a day too soon!

Another African student in the *United States* writes that THE AFRICAN COMMUNIST is 'definitely inspiring, for the only way that can save Africa and other underdeveloped territories from capitalist exploitation is the Marxist philosophy. From my experience in this part of the world, capitalism is anti-humanity and demoralising.'

All the Way to Peking

THE AFRICAN COMMUNIST certainly finds its way into many corners of the world. From *Peking*, capital of the People's Republic of *China*, Gregorio Goldenberg, correspondent of the Cuban newspaper, *El Mondo*, writes:—

'I have recently made the discovery of the wonderful materials of your magazine. I am very interested in all African problems.'

Your magazine has helped me very much to understand some of the most difficult problems on that subject, and I want to thank you for all this, and for your wonderful contribution to the understanding of African problems.'

From a young reader in *London, England*: 'I consider THE AFRICAN COMMUNIST the leading spearhead in Africa's fight for communism.'

From *Derbyshire*, also in England: 'Best wishes for the future and thank you for keeping your readers so well informed on African affairs.'

From another reader in *New York*: 'Congratulations on a fine publication.'

An African reader at the Sofia State University, *Bulgaria*: 'I am happy because my desire to study in a friendly socialist country has been realised. Here, I shall expand my ideas which were always suppressed by the imperialists in Southern Rhodesia. Everything is O.K. here, except that I still have the language problem which I am sure to overcome in a few months.'

And finally—farthest away of all comes a letter from a reader in faraway *Kanagawa, Japan*: 'I am now striving to get new subscribers for your bulletin. . . . with sincere wishes for your health and good struggle.'

Whether Far or Near

Whether they come from far or near, whether from Africa, Europe, Asia or America, we are always delighted to receive letters from our readers. These letters help us in two ways. They show us which of our articles are most interesting and most appreciated by our readers, and this assists us in planning future issues of our journal.

Secondly, our readers' letters show us that our hard and dangerous struggle of preparing this magazine under the vicious Nazi conditions of South Africa are worth while. We do not ask for or expect any higher reward than this which we get freely and voluntarily from you who read our magazine.

So, keep on writing. We will print what you have to say in this section of our magazine, but we will not print your name unless you want us to do so.