

The Reader Writes

'True Free Enterprise'

TO THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR:

Much is being made of the "capitalistic tinge" being taken on by the Soviet Union in its current recognition of special contributions to production and the value of certain classes to the Soviet society by means of incentive payments—higher standards of living of some classes over other classes. On the other hand we are pictured as moving in their direction as is evidenced by controls, taxation, government operation of business, and the extension of welfare statism.

But it is dangerous to draw any serious conclusions from this respecting liberty, the freedom environment, or economic justice; or conclude that because the Soviet Union moves in a way to reward people according to their contribution to production or importance as a class, thus breaking the Marxist-line of "from each according to ability to each according to need," we are somehow winning something.

12/28/59

This may make the Communist threat only more dangerous. And, in no sense does it disturb the great purpose of communism, the public ownership of the "Implements of Production." We must remember that tyrants, dictators, kings, and queens have long used the "incentive system."

The way to fight communism is to create true freedom. We must stop defending current capitalism or free enterprise as a package deal. After all, what we want is to cleanse our system of its evils; we want a truly free free-enterprise economy, and not to substitute state monopolism and privilege for private monopolism and special-privilege. We need to move toward realization of the great American precept of "equal rights to all and special privileges to none."

Although this will be a shocker-thought to the many progressives and liberals of modern style who seek to substitute social security for social justice, we need to move toward "laissez faire." For this term, whose meaning has been so emasculated and perverted by many intellectuals because they assumed its existence in a society whose results of poverty and its concomitants they did not like is not one of "let dog eat dog" or "the survival of the fittest." Rather it means "Clear the ways and let things alone."

Of course, the system was not "let alone" for the hundred years prior to the New Deal or government control era; it had been interfered with by the special privilege classes, those who sought law-made and law-justified advantages which brought on the conditions which spawned the trend toward collectivism. Had we had true "laissez faire," this never would have happened.

We, the freest people on earth, not understanding the economics of true justice and freedom, permitted the sabotage of free enterprise, allowing the Communists freedom to fight its caricature—its shadow.

NOAH D. ALPER,
President,

Public Revenue Education Council,
St. Louis, Mo.

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