FIL

— Between the Lines

Think It Over, Mrs. Roosevelt

by Joseph Starobin

MRS. ELEANOR ROOSEVELT has entered into the current discussion about the policies of the American Communists. I am referring to her syndicated column last Saturday, and an echo of that column in Monday's Scripps-Howard press.

We must welcome Mrs Roosevelt's desire to have her say on what the Communists are thinking and doing. The issues are of general public concern. The Communists have nothing to hide—either with respect to their achievements or with respect to their mistakes.

All progressive circles are therefore watching our behavior, and are taking part in our debate in various ways. This is as it should be. It reflects the basic truth that American Communists are an integral force in the American nation, and the day is past when national issues can be discussed and decided without hearing out and reckoning with American Communist views.

INDEXED

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