

*Workers of all lands, unite!*

*For a Lasting Peace,  
for a People's Democracy!*

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## **CONTENTS**

<b>STRUGGLE OF THE WORKING CLASS FOR THEIR VITAL INTERESTS</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>IMPROVED FOOD SITUATION IN POLAND</b>	<b>11</b>
<b>WORLD CONGRESS OF CULTURE IN DEFENCE OF PEACE</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>ARREST OF COMMUNISTS IN JAPAN</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>FORTHCOMING VERIFICATION IN THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY</b>	<b>14</b>
<b>CELEBRATIONS IN HONOUR OF RUMANIA'S LIBERATION</b>	<b>18</b>

**TITO CLIQUE DEGENERATES INTO A GANG OF ASSASSINS 19**  
**U.S.S.R. HELPS HUNGARIAN PEOPLE 22**  
**GROWTH OF STRIKE MOVEMENT IN BRITAIN 23**  
**VICTORIES OF FRENCH METAL AND FOOD WORKERS 24**  
**ALL-CHINA TRADES UNION CONGRESS 25**  
**HOUSING CRISES IN FRANCE 26**  
**WHY LIVING STANDARDS IN BRITAIN ARE GOING DOWN. HARRY POLLITT, GENERAL SECRETARY COMMUNIST PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN 28**  
    **PRICES, PROFITS AND WAGES 29**  
    **MARSHALLISATION OF BRITAIN 30**  
    **THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S POLICY 31**  
    Britain's Trade Policy must be Changed 32  
**CONFERENCE OF THE PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST PARTY OF CUBA 35**  
**HUNGER RIOTS IN IRAN 37**  
**PROGRESS OF INDUSTRY AND TRADING IN LIBERATED TERRITORIES NORTH CHINA 39**  
**HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT'S DECISION ON ORGANISING AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES 40**  
**DUTCH REACTION SERVES THE U.S., P. D. GROOT, GENERAL SECRETARY, COMMUNIST PARTY OF HOLLAND 41**  
**THE FRUIT OF BRITISH COLONIAL DOMINATION 46**  
**TO THE INFORMATION BUREAU. LETTER FROM STUDENTS OF BELGRADE UNIVERSITY 47**  
**IMPROVE LEADERSHIP IN PARTY AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATIONS 56**  
**PATHS OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA 57**  
**REAL FACE OF CUBAN REACTIONARIES 60**

**DECLINING LIVING STANDARDS OF AUSTRALIAN WORKERS 61**

**LETTER TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD FROM MAJOR-GENERAL PERO POPIVODA, YUGOSLAV AIR FORCE 62**

**AGRARIAN POLICY OF BULGARIAN WORKERS' PARTY (COMMUNISTS) 65**

**FORMATION AND BUILDING UP OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES 67**

**TASKS OF THE WORKERS' PARTY IN THE COUNTRYSIDE 73**

**BRITISH IMEPRIALISM WAGING COLONIAL WAR IN MALAYA. JACK BERING 77**

**SUCCESS OF COOPERATIVES IN ALBANIA 82**

**ITALIAN WORKING PEOPLE GUARD TRADE UNION UNITY. PIETRO ROSSI 84**

**ANTI-STRIKE POLICE MEASURES IN JAPAN 90**

**HIGHER EDUCATION IN LIBERATED MANCUHURIA 92**

**FAMINE IN INDIA EPIDEMICS FOLLOW 93**

**FUSION OF BULGARIAN SOCIAL-DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND BULGARIAN WORKERS' PARTY (COMMUNISTS) 94**

**PRESS REVIEW. DEVOTE MORE SPACE TO THE LIFE OF PARTY ORGANISATIONS. "Party Worker"—Organ, Central Committee, Communist Party of Czechoslovakia 99**

**INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE IN WARSAW 102**

**PRESS GLEANINGS. SUCCESSES OF RUMANIAN ECONOMY 105**

**MARSHALL PLAN IN ACTION 107**

**PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES OF THE BULGARIAN WORKERS' PARTY (COMMUNISTS) 109**

**EDUCATION WORK IN THE CZECHOSLAVAK  
COMMUNIST PARTY 112  
DISCONTENT WITH LABOUR GOVERNMENT'S  
POLICY 114  
FEUILLETON. THE TURKISH LIARS 115  
ELECTION STRUGGLE AND ONSLAUGHT OF  
REACTION IN U.S. M. MARININ. 118**

## **STRUGGLE OF THE WORKING CLASS FOR THEIR VITAL INTERESTS**

The American imperialists and their servants advertise the notorious “Marshall Plan” as the programme for the economic recovery of Europe, as the panacea for all social ills and conflicts. However, hard facts expose the humbug of Wall Street’s “generous” and “disinterested” aid to the West European countries. Everyday experience shows that U.S. expansionist imperialism, under the guise of aid, is sapping the economic foundations of the European countries, is destroying

their independence and reducing the working people to poverty and despair.

Industrial production is declining sharply in Italy, France, Turkey and other countries due to the baleful influence of the "Marshall Plan". Heavy American exports of wheat, tinned foods and other provisions to these countries are ruining their agriculture. Unemployment and impoverishment are growing. Thus, for instance, Italy which has been bartered by the Gasperi and the Saragats to the American magnate, has some 2,500,000 unemployed. According to the French General Confederation of Labour, the real wage of a worker in France has dropped by 20 cent as a result of increased prices.

The American "European Recovery Programme" will mean a further lowering of living standards for the working class and the people as a whole in the countries of Western Europe. Some bourgeois economists have estimated that in 1950-51, bread consumption in the Marshall countries will be 7 per cent below the pre-war level, which was quite a low figure, meat consumption will be 11 per cent lower, fats 6 per cent.

Such are the fruits of the "aid" given by the American imperialists who bring with them not abundance and plenty, but hunger, unemployment and political and economic enslavement for the West European countries.

This drastic deterioration in the welfare of the working people is accompanied by an onslaught of reaction against the rights of the working class, by the use of draconic, anti-democratic laws and terror against the people. Ordinary people in the capitalist countries and, above all, the working class, are ever more clearly beginning to realise the imperialist, anti-popular essence of the Marshallization of Europe and are fighting resolutely for their rights and interests.

In Great Britain, 1,586,000 working days were lost during the first half of the year due to strike action, that is, 250,000 more working days than for the corresponding period last year.

Among these was the hard-fought two-weeks strike of 20,000 London dockers. In Italy, the agricultural labourers and farm workers are joining the powerful movement of the industrial proletariat on August 21. 3,000,000 agricultural labourers took part in the protest strike against the anti-popular policy of the Government.

A significant feature of the present-day labour movement, apart from its organised and mass character, is its political character. Under pressure of the working class of France, led by the Communist Party, the Marie-Blum-Reynaud Government, which sought emergency powers to bring further pressure to bear on the working people, was forced to resign.

In a number of countries, strikes are taking place in opposition to the ruling of the right-wing Socialist leaders. The London "Sunday Chronicle", recently wrote that matters have come to a pretty pass when workers come out on strike in opposition to the ruling of their leaders.

The alliances which the working class of France, Italy and other countries have formed with the toiling peasantry, progressive intelligentsia and urban middle classes for the purpose of combating traitors in their countries and the foreign imperialists, are expanding and gaining in strength.

The reactionary governments in France, Italy, in the countries of Latin America and in Asia frankly acknowledge their inability to counterpose the growing forces of the working class in their countries, and are having recourse, quite openly, to the political and military aid of the American imperialists.

The obvious inability of the capitalists to put down the movement for national and social liberation by the traditional methods of bourgeois pseudo-democracy, is clear evidence of the new relationship of forces on a world scale, arising from the Second World War, and of the ever-increasing influence and strength of the anti-imperialist, democratic camp.

For the imperialists, the class struggle against the working class is incomparably more difficult now than was the case after World War I. The big danger facing the working class now is that of under-estimating its own strength and of over-estimating the strength of its adversary. The heirs of the German, British, French and other social traitors—the Right Socialists—have degenerated into spies and paid agents of the foreign imperialists. Day by day the workers see more clearly into the treacherous nature of these gentlemen and leave them high and dry in isolation.

As an organised force the working class is on a much higher level than was the case in the pre-war years. At its head are the mass Communist Parties, the tried and tested vanguard of the working class and its leading element. In a majority of the capitalist countries the Communist Parties play a decisive role in the trade unions which number millions of members. The economic and political programmes elaborated by the Communist Parties with a view to the future development of their countries, fully correspond to the vital interests of the people and the backing of the people. The Communist Parties who are now popularising these plans among the working people and who are showing up the “Marshall Plan” are doing the right thing. The growth of the Communist Parties, their ever widening contact with the masses—this shows that the socialist forces are gaining in strength while capitalism is steadily losing ground.

The great and ever increasing might of the USSR—the bastion of the anti-imperialist camp—and the economic and political achievements of the new democracies show the workers of the capitalist countries that they are not alone in their heroic struggle for democracy and socialism, that their fellows who have power in their hands in the other countries, are gaining in strength.

International unity today is an important weapon in the struggle of the working class. Any attempt to weaken this unity is a crime against the international labour movement and represents aid to the imperialist reaction. That is why not only Communists but also all forward-looking workers in the capitalist countries of Europe, America and Asia denounced the treacherous policy of the leaders of the Yugoslav Communist Party who have betrayed the vital interests of the working class and the people as a whole.

Serious battles are ahead of the working class of the capitalist countries. The bourgeoisie and their agents—the Right Socialists and other traitors—will again try to undermine the strength and unity of the democratic movement, to influence certain groups of the working people. Unremitting and ever increasing organisational, political and propaganda work is needed on the part of the Communist Parties to counter the influence of bourgeois ideology on the masses, and to win over increasing sections of workers, peasants and the intelligentsia. This is all the more important since in a number of countries, there are serious shortcomings in the mass political and educational work of the Communists, and since they have as yet not won decisive influence even among the working class in a number of places.

By continually improving their organisational and mobilising role among the masses, the Communist Parties in the capitalist countries will win new successes. By their organisational and educational activities, by Party members setting examples of selfless work, the Communist Parties will preserve and enhance their position as the lead-long element and will be able to guide the working class and its allies to new victories in the battle for work, bread and peace.

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## **IMPROVED FOOD SITUATION IN POLAND**

Harvesting operations in Poland are nearing completion. According to preliminary estimates this year's grain harvest is 30 per cent higher than the amount harvested last year. An additional 800,000 hectares were sown to grain this year. Due to these results, Poland will be able to abolish bread rationing and to lower the price of bread and flour.

Instead of importing grain as was the case last year, Poland anticipates exporting grain.

The output of meat products also shows a substantial increase. Between January and May this year the output was 59 per cent higher than for the corresponding period of 1947.

The people are now enjoying the benefits of the increased supply of meat products.

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## **WORLD CONGRESS OF CULTURE IN DEFENCE OF PEACE**

The World Congress of representatives of Culture opened in Wroclaw (Poland) in the closing week of August. Delegates were present from 46 countries. The Congress heard reports on the following points: 1. Science and culture in the struggle for peace, progress and democracy (A. Fadeyev); 2. Peace and culture (Olaf F. Stapleton); 3. Freedom of national culture (Joseph Kalasinki); 4. International cultural cooperation

(Marcel Prenant). The opening speech was delivered by the writer, Jaroslaw Iwaszkiewicz, Chairman of the Polish-French Organisational Committee. After a brief speech of welcome by Foreign Minister, Modzclewski, A. Fadeyev, head of the Soviet delegation delivered the first report on the agenda. The delegates were impressed by his clear and detailed speech. Millions of ordinary people throughout the world, said Fadeyev, do not want the horrors of war and fascist tyranny. But that is not enough. It is necessary to act. The voice of the forward looking intelligentsia must sound in defence of peace and democracy.

Keen discussion followed on each of the reports. A particularly warm welcome was accorded the democratic Greek and Spanish delegations and the representatives of the colonial peoples. Keynote of the Congress was the struggle of the forward looking people of culture and art against imperialism and for the cause of peace and culture.

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## **ARREST OF COMMUNISTS IN JAPAN**

The Japanese police authorities are arresting Communists throughout the country.

Satodzi Sato, members of the Central Committee of the Party, was arrested in Nigata.

According to Japanese press reports, 17 members of the Communist Party were arrested in Udzina, in the Hiroshima district. The 17 Communists are charged with having "obstructed the police in carrying out their duties".

The press also reports the arrest of four trade union officials, members of the Communist Party, in the Kurisawa mining area. Afterwards, three more Communists were arrested under the familiar charge of “obstructing the police”.

According to the Japanese News Agency, 14 men, including two district officials of the Communist Party were arrested when they tried to prevent the departure of a ship taking strikebreakers to Matsuyama where a strike is in progress.

*(page 1)*

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## **FORTHCOMING VERIFICATION IN THE CZECHOSLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY**

The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is preparing for a membership verification which is to be held from October 1 to December 31 this year. Initiating the check-up, the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Party declared:

The membership verification should be a political school for the entire Party, contributing to each member's education. Above all, it should help each one, as well as the general public, to realise what it means to be a Communist. The more

deeply each member understands the leading role of the Party and its great historical task, the firmer will be his loyalty to the Party, and he will be able to carry out his Communist duty in a still more responsible manner.

The verification will help each Party member to observe the principle that it is the duty of everyone to take an active part in the work of his organisation, to master Marxism-Leninism in order to consciously carry out his obligations and by his high standard of work serve as an example to others. The verification must facilitate the development of criticism and self-criticism and the keen observance of inner Party democracy which has always been and still is a great force of the Party.

The verification should show Communists that the strength of the Party lies in its steady advance, that it is never satisfied with what has been achieved and that to carry out its aim, it always contracts what has been achieved with what still remains to be done.

The Presidium decision specially stresses that the purpose of verification is not to expel large numbers from the Party but to educate the whole membership and to keep the ranks of the Party pure.

By verification, says the decision, we intend to secure better work of the Party organisations and the increased activity of all Party members together with the growth of their political consciousness.

The decision also points out that the check-up calls for a just estimation of each member and that ill-considered, hasty actions may be quite as detrimental to the Party as irresponsible toleration of those who do not deserve to be in the Party.

The decision also declares that it is necessary to verify Party members from the point of view of how they interpret their duties as laid down in the Party rules. It is vital, it says, to verify how a Party member carries out and upholds the policy

of the Party; does he honestly and with self-sacrifice carry out his Party duties.

During the verification the following points will be considered: how a Party member carries out his social duties (in the representative state bodies and in public organisations); whether he uses his position for personal gain; whether he uses dictatorial methods and suppresses criticism.

At the same time, the Party will check how its members carry out their duties to the people's democratic state, how they set examples in fulfilling the economic plan and doing voluntary work. For example, during the verification in the Civil Service, the Party will examine how members are combating bureaucracy; in the rural Communist organisations, it will examine how they carry out their obligations with regard to delivery of agricultural products, how they help their neighbours, how they participate in the agricultural cooperatives and the peasant union and so on.

The decision stresses that it is imperative to purge the Party of all alien elements corrupting Party organisations.

The Party organisations have been given detailed directives for the verification.

*(page 1)*

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## **CELEBRATIONS IN HONOUR OF RUMANIA'S LIBERATION**

On August 22, the working people of Rumania celebrated the fourth anniversary of their liberation by the Soviet Army from the German fascist invaders.

A special meeting was held in Bucharest attended by the members of the Presidium of the National Assembly, members of the Government, representatives of the Army and prominent public figures.

The General Secretary of the Rumanian Workers' Party, **Teohari Georgescu**, spoke on the historical importance of Rumania's Day of Liberation, on the role of the Soviet Union

in the liberation of the people and on the achievements of the people's democracy.

The meeting enthusiastically adopted a letter of greetings to be sent to Generalissimo Stalin.

There was much rejoicing in the capital's streets, squares and parks.

Meetings of workers, peasants and intellectuals were held throughout the country to celebrate the occasion.

*(page 1)*

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## **TITO CLIQUE DEGENERATES INTO A GANG OF ASSASSINS**

The foul murder of the former Chief of the General Staff of the Yugoslav Army, Colonel-General Jovanovic, done recently on the orders of the Tito clique has been received with great indignation by the fraternal Communist Parties and by democratic opinion in all countries. After betraying the cause of Marxism-Leninism and the interests of the working class, Tito, Kardelj, Rankovic, Djilas and the other Yugoslav Communist leaders have resorted to sheer terror against Yugoslav patriots.

The murder of Jovanovic follows closely the pattern of those other acts of terrorism against working class leaders committed lately by international reaction.

Genuine Yugoslav patriots, inside and outside the country, are beginning to realise more and more the meaning of this anti-popular policy of Tito and his clique. The steadily growing wave of protest against this policy has found expression in the indignation with which people greeted the news about the murder of General Jovanovic.

The Communique issued by the "Union of the Democratic Slav Cultural Associations of Rumania" states:

"The Executive Committee of the Union of the Democratic Slav Cultural Associations is highly indignant at the murder of that fine champion of the people's freedom, Colonel-General Jovanovic, former Chief of the General Staff of the Yugoslav Army. This murder is one of many crimes committed by the present leaders of the Yugoslav Party against the finest Communists and sons of the Yugoslav people, against those who consider it their duty to expose the treacherous policy of Tito, Djilas, Kardelj and Rankovic. The murder of General Jovanovic reveals these traitors in their true colours, traitors who have degenerated into a gang of murderers. The Executive Committee of the union will continue to expose these traitors of the Yugoslav people to all the Slav peoples and will fight for peace and progress in the spirit of international solidarity, based on the fraternity of the peoples in the framework of the great anti-imperialist front headed by the Soviet Union".

"Rude Pravo", organ of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia on August 20 published a letter on the Jovanovic shooting from Yugoslav diplomatic personnel, journalists and writers addressed to men of the National Liberation movement of Yugoslavia. The letter reads:

"General Jovanovic, who headed strategic operations of the national liberation struggle, has been killed, S. Zujovic,

Colonel-General of the Yugoslav army, principal organiser of the Serbian rising, member of the General Headquarters of the National Liberation Army, and A. Hebrang, member of the Political Bureau of the Yugoslav Communist Party, leader of the Croat uprising, are prisoners of Rankovic.

“Such is the vengeance wreaked by the present rulers on people who have remained true to the ideas of the national liberation struggle, to the ideas of internationalism, the ideas of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin.

“The traitors to Marxism have resorted to the traditional methods of counter-revolution. The path taken by these traitors is obvious. It is the path which Comrade Stalin, the Bolshevik Party and the Communist movement throughout the world has characterised as a dictatorial, terrorist, Trotskyite path.

“Our path is the only path which can save Yugoslavia and preserve the gains secured by our peoples at the price of such heavy sacrifice and terrorism. This is the path of resolute struggle against those who, obsessed by megiomania and for their own selfish ends are deceiving the people and making a mockery of their sacrifices. In these days so vital for our country, our place is in the ranks of the fighters for a socialist Yugoslavia, for strengthening the fraternal alliance with the Soviet Union, with the people’s democracies and with all the democratic forces of the world. This is the great, sacred task which faces all of us.

“Glory to Jovanovic!” Greetings to S Zujovic, A. Hebrang and all the victims of the terror unleashed by Tito, Jardelj, Rankovic and Djilas.

“Long live the victory of socialism in Yugoslavia!

“Long live the invincible banner of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin!”

Signed:

**Pera Dragila**, former General Secretary of the Yugoslav Embassy in the United States; **Slobodan Jovanovic**, director of

the People's Front organ "Glas", former press attaché of the Yugoslav Embassy in the United States; **Dusan Nikolic**, deputy trade attaché in the same Embassy; **Mijutin Raikovic**, former assistant of the editor-in-chief of the newspaper "Politika"; **Theodor Balk**, writer and Government prize winner. All the above hold the "1941 Spomenitsa"; Decoration (awarded to fighters of the National Liberation movement).

*(page 1)*

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## **U.S.S.R. HELPS HUNGARIAN PEOPLE**

From July 1, 1948 the Soviet Government cut Hungary's reparation payments by half, which is a tremendous help to the Hungarian people in raising their living standards and rehabilitating the country's economy.

At the end of July a new Soviet-Hungarian reparation agreement was signed which will help Hungary considerably to pay the remaining reparation. The agreement drastically lowers the amount of goods to be delivered as reparation, which immediately speeds up the rehabilitation of the country's economy. For example, the Soviet Union cut deliveries of

rolled steel from Hungary by more than 75 per cent and of agricultural products by more than 80 per cent.

*(page 1)*

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## **GROWTH OF STRIKE MOVEMENT IN BRITAIN**

A total of 1,586,000 working days were lost in Britain through industrial disputes during the first half of this year. This figure represents an increase of 250,000 working days compared with the corresponding period for 1947.

More strikes took place in the nationalised mining industry than in any other.

Of the 1,053 stoppages, 646 were in mining and the number of miners who have been on strike this year is more than twice as many as that in any other industrial group.

*(page 1)*

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## **VICTORIES OF FRENCH METAL AND FOOD WORKERS**

The ant-democratic policy of the Schuman Government carried on by the Government of Marie, Blum and Reynaud is being strongly resisted by French workers.

For example since April, iron and steel workers have taken action for their demands 587 times. These actions took various forms, beginning with negotiations between workers' representatives and managements and ending with strikes and the workers occupying the factory premises. These actions

were successful. The iron and steel workers have won wage increases as well as their demand for longer holidays. During the past few weeks food workers have won essential demands at 501 factories.

*(page 1)*

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## **ALL-CHINA TRADES UNION CONGRESS**

Last month for the first time in almost 20 years a Trades Union Congress was held in China. Delegates drawn from all parts of China, both Liberated and Kuomintang areas, and representing 2,830,000 industrial workers were present at the Congress which met in Harshin.

Some of the delegates from the Kuomintang controlled territory braved the hazards of crossing the battle-lines and travelled some 3,000 miles to reach the Congress.

Mr. Chu Hsueh-Fan, President of the Chinese Association of Labour, which has been outlawed by Chang Kai-Shek, took an active part in the Congress which decided to set up an All-China labour Federation.

In a telegram to the Congress the Central Committee of the Chinese Communist Party said: the convening of the Congress signifies that the people's Liberation war is nearing victory.

*(page 1)*

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## **HOUSING CRISES IN FRANCE**

Figures published in the Paris journal "Action" throw light on the acute housing shortage throughout France.

According to the journal a total of 12 million French people are either without homes or living in severely over-crowded conditions.

“Action” states that in the Seine Department alone, thousands of large families are forced to live in houses unfit for habitation. The death-rate among children in the working class districts is eight times higher than in the areas inhabited by representatives of the “two hundred families.”

*(page 1)*

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**WHY LIVING STANDARDS IN BRITAIN  
ARE GOING DOWN. HARRY POLLITT,  
GENERAL SECRETARY COMMUNIST  
PARTY OF GREAT BRITAIN**

After three years of the Labour Government in Britain, the policy followed by the right wing Labour leaders has resorted to a sharply worsened economic situation.

In view of this the efforts of the capitalists and of the right wing Labour leaders to find some relief from their difficulties at the expense of the working class, are being intensified.

Industrial production has been rising already since 1948; for 1947 it was 14% above 1948 and for the first four months of 1948 it was 22% above 1946; according to official figures. There is no official figure comparing present with pre-war production, but it is estimated to be somewhat above pre-war—where, however, there were over a million unemployed. Agricultural production is by somewhat higher than pre-war.

Nevertheless, an increasing proportion of total production is for export, is an attempt to meet the “trade gap”. The excess of imports over exports which is still about £10,000,000 a month. As a result of this policy, the quantity of products—both means of production and articles of consumption available for use in Britain—is declining; on the other hand, prices continue to rise, with the result that the purchasing power of the working people is declining.

### ***PRICES, PROFITS AND WAGES***

The official index of retail prices has risen by 10% in the next twelve months. In the experience of the average working class family, prices of what they have to buy have risen far more than this figure; the item of “Food” for example, is supposed to have risen by only 8%, which may be correct for rationed and controlled items of food, but does not in any way reflect the rise in cost of each “luxuries” as vegetables and fruit, the prices of which are not controlled.

The rise in prices is in large part due to deliberate Government actions; for example, the Government has increased the

purchase tax and therefore the selling price, of several articles of household uses; it has withdrawn subsidies, and therefore increased the price of cotton, woollen goods and leather; it has increased the price of coal, electricity and gas, and of railway fares and charges on goods carried by the railways. In addition, the higher cost of imports is reflected in higher prices of manufacturers. But in addition to these factors, there is the shameless profiteering which is evidenced in the continuous rise in the profits in practically every industry.

For example, returns published by 854 companies in the last three months showed total profits (for 1947-48) of £220 millions, an increase of £19 millions over the previous year, and £84 millions over two years ago.

On the other hand, the Government has taken every possible step to prevent wage increases, arguing that any increase in wages would lead to inflation.

The actual increase in prices and profits since that date has shown the working class that this promise was pure deception, and the pressure for increased wages is now rapidly growing. For example, all the trade unions in the engineering and shipbuilding industries have put forward a demand for a 13 shillings a week increase; and a similar demand has been put forward by the Railway Unions.

## ***MARSHALLISATION OF BRITAIN***

In the period immediately following the war, it was generally admitted that most British industries were relatively backward in technique, and moreover, that the absence of the usual repairs and renewals during the war years made necessary a very rapid and extensive overhaul of British industrial equipment. But experience has shown that in fact such an overhaul will not be carried out either by the capitalists or by the Labour Government. In fact, in spite of the obvious needs

of industry in Britain, considerable exports of capital goods are being made to South Africa and to Australia by British monopoly concerns, including the giant imperial Chemical Industries Ltd.

Moreover, large quantities of military equipment and railway and dock material as well as ... equipment are being exported to carry out the Labour Government's plans for developing military, naval and air bases in Africa. In the case of the nationalised coal industry, the amount of new equipment so far provided by the Labour Government is insignificant; and it is clear that no serious reconstruction of other nationalised industries, such as railways and electricity, will be undertaken.

It has also become clear that the so-called "European Recovery Programme" is intended by Unites States monopoly capitalists not to assist British industry, but to restrict it.

This is seen in the vote on Britain's shipbuilding programme, the attack on imperial preference, and the insistence on the maintenance of large armed forces, in order to fulfil reactionary imperialist overseas commitments all over the world.

The tightening United States grip on Britain found expression in the astonishing statement by Sir Stafford Cripps, Chancellor of the Exchequer, on July 25<sup>th</sup> when he announced the creation in the near future of a joint Anglo-American Advisory Council "to improve the productivity of British industry".

According to Cripps, this incredible, departure was decided at a recent meeting with Paul Hoffman, American Economic Cooperation Administrator.

This means that British methods of production will now be brought into line with American methods.

It means that Britain has been reduced to the position in which she must tamely follow every twist and turn of American foreign policy: her foreign trade policies must be adapted in every respect to American policies.

It is obvious in view of this object surrender to the Marshall men that the right wing leaders have abandoned all hope of keeping Britain an independent country.

In short, after three years of the Labour Government, Britain finds herself in the sorry plight of being, in most respects, a United States satellite.

### ***THE COMMUNIST PARTY'S POLICY***

In November 1947, the Communist Party put forward a comprehensive statement of policy to help solve economic difficulties, under the title "Britain's Plan for Prosperity". This plan is the first serious attempt, not only to state the facts of the economic situation in Britain, but what needs to be done.

Only the most complete change of policy can save the British people from further deterioration to their living standards, and offer the hope of saving Britain's independence, while at the same time laying the foundations for the real reconstruction of British industry and agriculture. Such a change in policy, involving inroads on capitalist profits and repudiation of dependence on the United States, will never be carried out by the present right-wing leaders of the Labour Government. The fight for a new policy, therefore, means the mass fight in defence of the workers' living standards, and the development of a new leadership of the Labour movement, prepared to carry through a programme of action on the following lines:

Britain's Resources must be used to the Full: This means in particular all-round development of agriculture, both by enlarging the area under crops and by more intensive cultivation of all land. It means the ending of imperialist military commitments abroad, drastic reduction of the armed forces and of the number of civilians employed on military production. It means the cutting down of labour, plant and raw materials in the industries serving the rich, and their use to

increase the production of necessaries. It means rapid technical improvements in the nationalised industries, to ensure more and cheaper production.

### ***Britain's Trade Policy must be Changed***

The reduction of military commitments abroad and the better use of Britain's productive resources, especially in agriculture, could sharply reduce the trade deficit. The opening up of large-scale trade with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies on the basis of exchanging British machinery and equipment for food, timber, etc., would end dependence on the United States and reduce the prices of American products.

Wages must be increased, Prices and Profits Cut Down: There must be an end to the "wage freezing" policy, the wage demands of the workers must be met without delay, and all social insurance benefits and pensions increased in view of the higher prices after these were fixed. The purchase tax and other indirect taxes must be abolished and taxes on the rich **heralded**. Finance required for capital construction and re-equipment of the nationalised industries, and also for the provision of schools, hospitals, etc. should be provided by a capital levy, and the compulsory loan to the Government of all profits in excess of a limited dividend.

It is obvious that such an economic policy would involve a complete change in foreign policy, an end of subservience to American monopoly capitalism, and a real struggle against the monopolists in Britain.

It is for this reason that the Communist Party is endeavouring to expose to the working class the results of the Labour Government's policy, and to mobilise every section of the workers for the fight against it.

The Communist Party through its agitation and propaganda is ceaselessly endeavouring to rouse the working class and

professional workers to a serious sense of the grim realities both of the present situation and the future perspective.

Through its public meetings and at the factory gates, through its activity inside all local, district and national organisations of the Labour Movement. It seeks to unite and organise the workers to get their representatives and organisations into the struggle to prevent the full effects of the economic crisis being placed on the shoulders of the working people.

In leaflets and pamphlets, through its press organs, by the organisation of local petitions of housewives protesting against the cost of living, and for wage advances to meet the constant rise in the cost of living, the Communist Party stands out as the real defender of the interests of the working people.

These campaigns now begin to meet with an increasing response as the immediate reaction of the engineering workers to their being refused a wage advance so clearly proves.

But it needs to be openly stated that our campaigns meet also with strong resistance from the rightwing social democrats because of the manner in which they now consistently come forward with a line of propaganda which endeavours to deceive the workers that “if they fight to defend their conditions” they are “embarrassing the Labour Government and helping the Tories”. Indeed a point has now been reached in Britain where if there is a single word of criticism directed against the policy of the Labour Government, one is accused of “wanting to bring the Labour Government down”, that “one must be loyal to Labour and not embarrass the Government at such a difficult time as the present”. Against this defeatist and reactionary propaganda the Communist Party is fighting tooth and nail, and trying to prove to the working people that loyalty to false leaders and policies is being disloyal to the real interests of the Labour Movement, and helping to assist the Tories in their preparations to try and win the next General Election.

It is a difficult right, but despite all the obstacles we have to face, the membership of the Communist Party is on offensive, and is strengthened in its right by the knowledge that every day some event or other is proving that its policy is a correct policy, a policy that corresponds to the vital interests of the working people and to the national interests of Britain.

*(page 2)*

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## **CONFERENCE OF THE PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST PARTY OF CUBA**

The Communist, as it is now called, the People's Socialist Party of Cuba will celebrate its 23<sup>rd</sup> anniversary on September 13.

Continuing the line tradition of the Communist Party of Cuba, the People's Socialist Party is bearing high the banner of struggle for the rights of the working people, for national liberation from the yoke of American imperialism.

Encouraged by the U.S. imperialists, Cuban ruling circles have recently launched a persecution campaign against the People's

Socialist Party, the vanguard detachment of the Cuban proletariat. With the help of the American intelligence service they are concerting a false case against the leaders of the People's Socialist Party and nine of the Party's Members of Parliament.

The Party's reply to this reactionary offensive was a large-scale drive to strengthen its ranks, the intensification of inner-Party work and improvement of the members ideological education.

The Party conference held in Santa Clara on August 14, strongly criticised mistakes made in the Party building methods which had seriously affected the Party work for the elections of June 20. The Conference declared that the big campaign to increase membership at the time of the elections had been carried out regardless of the quality of recruits, resulting in a serious lack of ideological and political education and weakened Party discipline.

The resolution, adopted on the report of the Party's General Secretary. Blas Roca demanded that the organisational principles of the Marxist-Leninist Party should be strictly observed. The Conference decided to examine the work of each Party member and to carry out an exchange of Party cards, issuing new ones only to those who strictly observed the Party rules.

The resolution devoted great attention to strengthening the Party branches.

The resolution declared that Party organisations should devote their main attention not so much to the numerical growth of the Party but to the ideological and political education of Party cadres, to the tightening of Party discipline and to ensuring that criticism and self-criticism is exercised in the Party.

*(page 2)*

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## HUNGER RIOTS IN IRAN

Hunger riots are reported from a number of towns in Iran where there has been a sharp fall in the standard of living.

In Karvin where the hunger demonstrations were quelled by the armed force, the situation remains tense.

The "Journal de Teheran" supported an angry demonstration by 6.000 people in .... When no bread was to be had in the town, the demonstrators marched to the municipal authorities and demanded immediate measure to ensure bread supply.

Reports from Bender-Shapur, from a number of towns in Iranian Azerbaijan and from the Mazenderansk and Gorgansk provinces, also speak of discontent among the population due

to food shortages and the high price charged for poor quality bread. The authorities are ... with ...  
The newspaper which appeared in place of the **Dayned** Wazife, recently reported an enormous increase out of all proportion to the requirements of the Army in the numbers of military police. According to the newspaper, this organisation is similar to the Hitler SS formations. The number of military police posts has been increased in the streets and outskirts of the towns, and close collaboration between them and the civil police indicates they will be used against the working people and to wipe out all liberties. The fate of all freedom loving people, the newspaper confirmed, will be in the hands of this newly resurrected body.

*(page 2)*

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## **PROGRESS OF INDUSTRY AND TRADING IN LIBERATED TERRITORIES NORTH CHINA**

A conference devoted to problems of industry and trade was held recently in the liberated territory of North China.

Other matters discussed included relations between public and private enterprise, between labour and capital, industrial and trade taxes, management of public enterprises, wages and workers' living conditions.

The conference stressed the importance of extending both public and private economy in the liberated territories and

urged the public sector to give more help to the private enterprises.

One of the decisions reached provides that private capital and combined public-private capital shall prevail in the entire industry of North China with the exception of the munitions industry, in those branches of industry which cannot be handled by private capital.

The social sector must embrace heavy industry, the munitions and machine-building industries. With regard to light industry the State will, in the main, control the major enterprises on behalf of the people, but without the participation of private capital.

With the aim of improving working class conditions, the conference resolved that each socialised factory must create a special fund for the purpose of insuring workers and for their training, equivalent to 45 per cent of the total wage fund of the enterprise.

*(page 2)*

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## **HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT'S DECISION ON ORGANISING AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES**

A decision taken by the Hungarian Council of Ministers defines the aims, nature and conditions under which agricultural cooperatives will be organised.

As stated in the decision, the aim of the agricultural cooperatives is to assist small-holders to farm along planned lines, whether on their own land or on land rented from the cooperative sectors to secure mechanised cultivation and to arrange for produce agreements.

For the purpose of supplying the population, the cooperatives are empowered to open their own shops. The agricultural cooperatives must belong to the All-Hungary Cooperative Union, the activity of the agricultural cooperatives must be continued to the boundaries of the given village.

The minimum number of members necessary for a cooperative is 25 in the towns and 15 landholders in the villages.

A working landholder is regarded as he who tills his own land either alone or with the help of his family, and also he who works for wages for another landholder.

Up to 50 per cent of the total annual income must be ploughed back into the Cooperative. Income derived from the Cooperative can be shared only by those who actively participate in the work.

*(page 2)*

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## **DUTCH REACTION SERVES THE U.S., P. D. GROOT, GENERAL SECRETARY, COMMUNIST PARTY OF HOLLAND**

Closely kept under the wing of their transatlantic “friends”, resorting to blackmail and intimidation, the reactionary circles of Holland managed to gain more members of parliament in the general election of July 7.

It should be noted that the success of the bulwark of Dutch reaction—the Catholic, Liberal and Christian Conservative parties—was considerably aided by the Right Wing Social Democrats of the so-called Labour Party as well as by

Trotskyist rabble sheltered by the labour Party and other splinter groupings.

During the first post-war election in 1946, 4,760,771 people went to the polls. At the last election there were 4,983,738 voters. However, the increased vote does not mean that the people are more politically active. It was due to the electoral machinations of reaction. For example, about 100,000 planters, colonial officials, blackmarketeers and merchants who had fled from Indonesia scared by the scale of the national liberation struggle, were able to vote for the reactionary parties.

Besides this, some 100,000 collaborators and war criminals who had been released from prison after Catholic agitation, also voted. This was how the Dutch reactionaries increased their poll. These were the despicable methods they used in their attempt to strengthen their positions in the election struggle.

Twelve different parties and political groups contested the election with their own lists of candidates, for a total of one hundred deputies.

These parties included the Catholic Party, the labour Party and the Liberal Party, all of which represented the reactionary forces.

In opposition to these was the Communist Party, conducting its campaign in an atmosphere of a fierce anti-Communist witch-hunt performed by the bourgeois parties.

The capitalist press charged the Communist Party with subversive activity. It depicted the Communists as "Russia's fifth column", intimidated certain sections of the people with the Communist bogey, used every method to encourage chauvinism and misrepresented the Communists' policy on the Indonesian question. The capitalist newspapers demanded that the Communist Party should be banned. Catholic and Protestant clergy fiercely denounced the Party and forced Catholic and Protestant electors to vote against it.

The anti-Communist witch-hunt was headed by the Right Social-Democrats. Together with the Catholics and Liberals, these despicable traitors took their orders from the United States to whip up wide-spread war hysteria, intimidating the people with the threat of a third world war and spreading the absurd slander that the Soviet Union was preparing for a military attack on the countries of the so-called “Western democracies”.

The bourgeois parties also surpassed themselves in their attempts to prove that the Marshall Plan was a great benefit generously given by the humanitarian U.S. They created illusions among the electorate that life would return to normal” and defended the imperialist policy of colonial domination in Indonesia.

Reaction had hoped through the elections to deliver a severe blow to the Communist Party, the only genuine leader of all the working people. It tried to smash the countries progressive-democratic forces, and to do this resorted to black-mail, intimidation and pressure.

Under pressure from reaction, the Government gave up even the pretence of maintaining democratic liberties. It forbade the Communist Party to broadcast its electoral programme. In the villages, Catholic priests and functionaries of the so-called Labour Party went from house to house threatening that anyone voting Communist would immediately be sent to a concentration camp.

On the eve of the election, a search was made in the Phillips works where 25,000 are employed. Workers found to possess Communist literature were arrested and dismissed. In the provinces of Brabant and Limburg all Communist election meetings were banned. The so-called catholic Guard and hooligans from the labour Party tore down Communist posters and sabotaged the distribution of the Party’s election address.

“It is worth noting that in these anti-Communist struggle, Dutch reaction ... good use of the ... The .... treachery to the Communist ... Misinforming the working people, the reactionary press tried to prove that the condemnation of the Tito clique’s anti-Party policy made by the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers’ Parties meant a split in the united socialist front.

Acting as a vanguard for the reactionaries in their frantic struggle against the Communists, this Labour Party tried during the election to strengthen its waning influence with the working class that these traitors ... of winning the majority of their electorate, they lost ground in a number of districts. As a result they lost tow seats and, at present, the party has only 27 members of parliament.

Though it had access to the ample ... of native and foreign reaction, the Catholic Party was no more successful. It only managed with great difficulty to keep the 32 seats it had won in the 1945 election. And it was only successful in this because the votes cast for the various splinter groupings were counted in favour of this party.

The Communist Party secured 281,953 votes. It now has eight seats in Parliament instead of 10 as before. After discussing these results, the Central Committee of our Party came to the conclusion that the election work of our organisations had been unsatisfactory. The Central Committee pointed out that our considerable drop in votes in some big industrial areas was the result of the Party’s weak political and organisational work.

The election has shown that the conscious elements of the Dutch people, all the democratic forces of the people, are rallied round the Communist Party. However, in face of reaction’s offensive and consolidation of its forces, the work of Party organisations in the trade unions, among the small farmers and in mass organisations of the working people cannot be considered as satisfactory. Our Party failed to win

over considerable sections of the working people who were deceived by the election propaganda of the Right Social-Democrats, the Catholics and the Liberals and voted for them.

In an open letter to its membership, the Central Committee of the Communist Party strongly criticised the shortcomings of our Party organisations on the basis of the experience of the election struggle. The letter stressed that in view of the war hysteria whipped up by our enemies, the Communist Party had failed to conduct widespread propaganda on the historical role of the Soviet Union in the struggle for a stable peace and for democracy.

We failed to show the working people that, led by the U.S., the imperialist camp which is conducting unprecedented propaganda for a new war is opposed by the anti-imperialist camp, headed by the great Soviet Union. Our Party organisations did not popularise sufficiently the successes of socialist construction in the Soviet Union whose remarkable achievements strengthen world working class confidence in its own strength.

The letter also exposed major mistakes made by a number of our organisations in the struggle to the day-to-day needs of the working people. It pointed out that the Party had not organised any work in the reformist and Catholic trade unions which still influence a large proportion of the Dutch workers.

Critically estimating the work of the Party in the election campaign and analysing the mistakes and shortcomings in our policy and tactics, the Central Committee outlined new tasks in the struggle for peace and democracy.

These were elaborated on the basis of the Resolution of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties on the situation in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia.

The Central Committee expressed its full agreement with the Resolution and considers that serious study of this historic decision is of fundamental importance for all Dutch

Communists. It will enable us to increase the fighting capacity of Party organisations and to make them real leaders of the masses. It will help our Party to rally round its banner all the genuinely democratic, progressive forces to fight for peace and democracy and for the national independence of Holland now menaced by American imperialism.

*(page 2)*

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## **THE FRUIT OF BRITISH COLONIAL DOMINATION**

After the serious disturbances earlier this year in the Gold Coast, West Africa the British Government set up a Commission to enquire into these disturbances.”

The report issued by the Commission says:

“The moral justification for Britain remaining in the Gold Coast lies in this, out of a population of approximately ... millions, barely ten per cent is literate.

Thus, after 100 years of British rule, 50 per cent of the population of the Gold Coast is still illiterate.

At this rate of progress it will take the population of the Gold Coast, ... years to reach the stage of ..., where would ... the ... for the British remaining there.

*(page 2)*

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## TO THE INFORMATION BUREAU. LETTER FROM STUDENTS OF BELGRADE UNIVERSITY

...

This deception of the Party membership was the Rankovic-Hebrang case and others, is a fairly good indication of the ... the Central Committee .. its work and of its attitude to the Party as a whole.

Yugoslav Communists were shocked by the leftist legislation and were surprised by the fact that not only were the masses not prepared for these measures, but that the Party membership knew nothing about them.

Kardelj, in the course of a speech in the S., and the later in the letter to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) written jointly with Tito, on April 13<sup>th</sup> displayed ... ignorance, or to be more exact, criminal conceit when he declared that we were liquidating the last remnants of capitalism.

By its refusal to take part in the meeting of the Information Bureau, the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Party demonstrated the unsoundness of its position, that it had taken the road of nationalism, and that, in this instance, had betrayed the international working class movement.

The very first statement by the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Party reveals the conceit and arrogance. In its view the where Communist Parties should not be informed about the mistakes of the Yugoslav leaders without the consent of the other, it demanded a privileged position for the Yugoslav leadership.

The Yugoslav leaders slandered the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, but until the publication of the Resolution of the Information Bureau, the membership of the Yugoslav Party knew nothing about this.

We have no evidence of the shadowing in which Comrade Yudin and other Soviet citizens were subjected. However, even before that shadowing was practiced because last year when Soviet biologists visited Yugoslavia, they were followed from place to place by a captain belonging to the security organs.

We are not sure whether friends and ... of Neche are working in the Party and in State organs, but hundreds of examples give us grounds for believing this to be so. The fact that former collaborators and stooges of the invader occupy posts in the

Party and in the State organs and enjoy the protection of people in high places.

At any rate, these are the things that are ... to us in the lower ranks of the Party. With the higher Party bodies, we have no contact whatsoever.

The demand of the Yugoslav Central Committee that a Commission be set up to investigate the facts on the spot as nothing more than sheer demagogy. Facts are facts, irrespective of where they are investigated, whether in Moscow, Bucharest or Belgrade, since these facts are known to all from the articles published by our traitors.

The statement that Soviet citizens in Yugoslavia ... agents from among Party members and ... shows that the Yugoslav ... betrayed .... Soviet citizens .... With the actual state of affairs in Yugoslavia ... through the medium of official reports. ... was regarded by the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Party .. the "... of ..."

From the "answer" given to the Bulgarian comrades, it follows that all the Parties are unprincipled and consist of ... and that are ... the leadership of the Yugoslav Party is being persecuted, despite the fact that the Resolution of the Information Bureau make it quite clear that it is Tito, Kardelj, Djilas, Rankovic and other members of the Central Committee are condemned. Reproaches to the affect that the attitude of the ... has nothing in common with honest and comradely discussions and unity ...—there are nothing but demagogy. Tito and the Central Committee of the Yugoslav Party protest to take part in similar discussions of the meeting of the Information Bureau."

It is taking not so much a nationalist as a chauvinist stand, ... the other Parties, the social and political right to condemn our mistakes.

The Party, the country, the people, the F... Tito and the Central Committee are, .... one and the same thing. The Central Committee and Tito should express the will of the membership

and not impose on as their incorrect voices. Instead of our will being carried out, it, as being sc... all the time and then are having recourse to methods typical of the ... capitalist system. The leadership scorns the valiant and glorious past of our Party, they refuse to accept any criticism.

Another demagogic trick is their ... of the nationalities question by nationalism. Everybody knows that they are being criticised for the nationalist stand which that Central Committee has taken in relation to the international working class movement, and not for their role in solving the problem of national minorities.

The nationalism of the Yugoslav Central Committee is also expressed in their attitude toward the Hungarian comrades. It is for these reasons that the Resolution speaks of the nationalism of the Yugoslav leadership and the Yugoslav leaders, distorting the matter, are trying to make out that they were charged with nationalism "after" they had refused to go in .. dock."

Our Central Committee believes that the Soviet Union will stand by Yugoslavia since such an attitude is in line with the anti-imperialist policy of the Soviet Union. That is why they have adopted a swaggering air. They look down on the fraternal Communist Parties, slander them, deceive them, and refuse to admit their critics.

Further proof that the Central Committee believes that we ..., ..., can build socialism in Yugoslavia, is the slogan on the .. posters. Workers, the P...’s L... is a contribution to the building of socialism with our own forces.

All the accounts of the Central Committee consists that it regards the Soviet Union exactly the same way as an imperialist state. It would be a bad day indeed for the Yugoslav people if the conception that Soviet Union is identical with imperialist countries were adopted and push into practice since would at once bring Yugoslavia directly to imperialism.

Shameless is the unjust charge levelled at Comrade Rakosi ..., it is alleged, held the view that non-participation by Hungary as the Three Powers Pact represented nationalism whereas adherence to the Pact signified internationalism.

What does this ... but opening the way to every chauvinist element in our mutual relations with Hungary?

The leaders of the Yugoslav Party boast that all organisations of the Party have approved the stand of the Central Committee. But how did they get this approval?

First, through the pressure exercised by the leadership on every member of the Party.

Second, by means of making nationalistic statements among the members of the Party, especially in relation to Bulgaria, Hungary and Czechoslovakia, whose struggle for liberation the Central Committee of the of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia ignores and by shouting that they ignored the struggle of the Yugoslav people.

Third, because the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia covers up and denies its hostility toward the Soviet Union. The leaders of the Party are forever beating their breasts, saying that they fought the enemy for four years, that they love the Soviet Union—said while this is certainly true of the membership and the masses, the same cannot be said for their leaders.

Fourth, because instead of discussing the policy of nationalism, the Central Committee has actually replaced this question by discussing the solution of the national minorities question.

Fifth, because the Party is being educated in the spirit of militarism, directives are not sufficiently popularised and scant attention is devoted to the ideological growth of the Party.

Sixth, by gambling on the fact that the Party consists of fighters who scorn death.

Seventh, by circulating the assurances of the leadership, that the situation is changing, that it is getting better, by saying that

all the charges are based on slander, and that the Communist Party of the Soviet Union will apologise.

In proof of these considerations, ... take the example of a number of Party organisations .. on the University of Belgrade in connection with the Resolution of the Information Bureau and the statement of the Yugoslav's Central Committee.

The procedure at the conference ... Faculty was a ... On the first day a meeting of all the Party members was summoned, ... the purpose of expressing confidence in the Central Committee. Due to the disagreement among the members, the unanimous vote of confidence was not forthcoming. Next day, when the majority of the Party members in the faculty were engaged elsewhere, the secretary of the Party group and members of the University Committee .... together the less than two-thirds of the Party membership and manipulated a vote confidence in the Central Committee.

In the mining Faculty the meeting lasted two hours. One and a half hours were devoted to reading the two texts—the remaining half hours was given over to discussion. However, the ... of the members suggested that the Central committee should have ... the meeting of the Information Bureau, the discussion was stopped.

At this meeting, the resolution seeking approval for the one of the leadership was not put instead, the text of the resolution was circulated among the various brigades. Discussion was continued next day among the brigade of the Polytechnical Faculty in the New Brigade. It began at twelve ... and continued until one o'clock next morning, There was a long and at times heated argument in the course of which the members of the University Party Committee ... so much that the Party members insisted that this fact be recorded in the minutes.

The member of the University Party Committee succeeded in getting approving ... the line of the Yugoslav Central

Committee. But the fact that members turned voting for the Resolution of the Information Bureau became obvious when a unanimous demand came from the meeting that one of the first year students be made leader of the group and secretary of the Party organisation in the faculty, but was banned from becoming secretary because he had not voted for the line of the Central Committee.

In the technological department the reading of a resolution calling for approval of the Central Committee's policy was greeted with silence. A meeting of voices followed saying that while the Central Committee was correct, it was essential that someone should go to Bucharest since it was possible that the Central Committee had made mistakes.

When it became clear that this point of view was likely to prevail, one of the members of the Party bureau took the floor and compelled all present to applaud Tito. In view of the support for the idea of sending somebody to Bucharest, the Party secretary got up and announced that the members of the Party must agree on all points either with the leadership of the Yugoslav Party, or with the Information Bureau that any member who did not agree on all points with the Central Committee could remain behind and address a letter to the Central Committee on the Subject.

It is worth noting that less than two-thirds of the members attended this meeting. Prior to this general meeting, the Party secretary and members of the bureau had met and decided on the main arguments to be submitted.

In the Mechanics department, discussion raged for nine hours and two resolutions were submitted. The earlier part of the discussion showed that most of the Party group in the department disagreed with the line of the Yugoslav leadership. Later on, a member of the University Party Committee, Ivanovic Dragis, arrived just as the resolution was being read. After the reading, Dragis took the floor and storming at the

students, roared. Are you Communists or not? Putting this question to all the members who had supported the stand of the group, Dragis declared that obviously there were enemies of the central Committee among them. Because of his intimidation, Dragis managed to get a vote of confidence in the Central Committee.

One can judge the kind of democracy that prevails in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia from these members who expressed disagreement with the policy of the Central Committee. These lists are retained by the Party Committees and copies sent to the Security organs who are ready to do their part in “correcting and purifying ideas” in the ranks of the Communist Party.

Discussion within the Party is impossible since army officers are conducting explanatory work in all civil organisations, in the Party and in the People’s front from the report on their election of delegates from the First Proletarian Division).

Certainly, pressure, if not dictatorship prevails in the Party.

As for the possibility of mistakes on our part, do not be harsh with us, we are viewing members of the Party.

But we assure you we will do our best to see that the line of the Information Bureau triumphs in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia.

**Group of students of  
Belgrade University  
Belgrade. 17.7.48**

*From the Editorial Board. The Editorial Board considers it inadvisable to publish the names of the signatories to the letter since this would mean their immediate arrest by Rankovic.*

**(page 3)**

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## **IMPROVE LEADERSHIP IN PARTY AGRICULTURAL ORGANISATIONS**

The struggle against clerical reaction and the capitalist elements in the countryside has brought to light weaknesses in the work of the rural organisations of the Hungarian Worker's Party.

Many of them are not working satisfactorily among the peasants and in certain branches, alien and unstable elements have found their way into the leadership. These shortcomings are largely due to poor guidance given to rural branches by the area and regional committees.

Therefore the Central Committee has decided on measures for closer guidance of village organisations. It has directed area and regional committees to take a deeper interest in work in the villages to give them day to day practical help in organising

political work, to instruct Party leaders more thoroughly and so on.

To strengthen the regional Party committees, the Central Committee has decided to increase the number of full-time Party workers. In addition, representatives from factory branches of the Party will be brought onto regional committees.

*(page 3)*

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## **PATHS OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

....

The realisation of these and other principles and measures to strengthen the foundations of nationalised industry and improve labour organisation will be a guarantee that the Five Year Plan will be successfully fulfilled.

One of the goals of the Five Year Plan is the reorganisation of the economic structure of Czechoslovakia and particularly of her industry.

As it can be seen from recent statistics of basic commodity production, Czechoslovakia ranks among the first ten industrial

countries of the world. In mining she holds seventh place, in steel smelting eighth, in automobiles and cotton textiles, ninth. In output per head, Czechoslovakia holds fifth place in these industries. Consequently people's democracy in our country is embarking upon its first Five Year Plan under extremely favourable conditions which make possible a rapid advance toward Socialism.

On the other hand, the existence of a powerful industry in the country makes specific problems. In particular, it is necessary to recognise the national economy structurally.

Czechoslovakia's economic structure developed, ... During the industrial revolution in the second half of the nineteenth century when the country was part of the Austro-Hungary. Therefore the structure of Czechoslovak economy and in particular of industry corresponded not to the needs of the economic development of the bourgeois-democratic republic of Czechoslovakia but to the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. It is understandable therefore that such a structure **does not** correspond to the needs of the **popular** democratic republic.

In developing Czechoslovakia's industry we must no longer ... ourselves on these industries which produced solely for the Austro-Hungarian market ... and countries not on industries which without pre-war competition in the world markets, only because of the starvation wages of the workers ... It is necessary to develop now mainly those industries which meet the demands of our own growing economy as well as the needs of these branches whose products can be successfully exported primarily to the people's democracies. This reflects, above all, for the iron and steel, machine-tool and chemical industries.

The development of these industries is imperative not only from the point of view of foreign trade. It is essential for the equipment of the country's entire industry. ... development of the productive forces and a further increase in the living standard of the people. Inside the country, this will lead to a

greater demand for consumer goods and industrial raw material. Part of this demand will be satisfied by imports from abroad. But it is impossible to import consumer goods and industrial raw materials without exporting certain commodities essential to other countries.

The traditional export industries such as textile, .... and ... will be unable to dispose of all their output, either to the people's democracies planning their economy and industrialising their countries, or to the capitalist countries. These countries with planned economies need, above all, goods, essential for capital construction, such as machinery, machine-tools and so on. The capitalist countries, especially in the period of the growing general crisis of capitalism, cut down imports in general and those of consumer goods in general.

The changed economic structure of Czechoslovakia will not arrest nor even restrict the development of light industry, it will only mean that the development of light industry will considerably exceed that of light industry. The Five Year Plan will ensure that unlike the old days, the development of Czechoslovakia's national economy does not take place as a result of the play of ... economic forces. It will take place through the conscious will of the people who are becoming the masters of their planned economy, which, for the first time in the country's history, is really a people's economy.

The reorganisation ....

*(page 3)*

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## **REAL FACE OF CUBAN REACTIONARIES**

In Cuba as is known, repressive measures against the Communist Party and members of the democratic movement of the working people are being intensified. Special government “organisations” have been formed for the purpose of combating Communism.

What these organisations really are can be seen from the following fact.

A group of members belonging to the ant-Communist organisation in Havana held up one of the city banks in broad daylight and got away with half a million dollars. The ringleader of this gang of bandits, soon under arrest, proved to

be none other than Ernesto **de Ale** leader of one of the anti-Communist organisations.

*(page 3)*

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## **DECLINING LIVING STANDARDS OF AUSTRALIAN WORKERS**

A further fall in the living standards of the working people of Australia as a result of continual prices rises is shown by figures published recently by the Queensland Trades Council. According to these figures, prices of vital commodities soared 21 per cent during the twelve months since May last year, while wages increased by only 5.5 percent. Prices rose as follows: bread 26 per cent; butter 18 percent; meat from 11 to 19 per cent; soup 35 per cent, and so on. At the same time the total profits of American firms increased from £416 million in 1939 to £603 million in 1947.

*(page 3)*

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**LETTER TO THE EDITORIAL BOARD  
FROM MAJOR-GENERAL PERO  
POPIVODA, YUGOSLAV AIR FORCE**

Our Editorial Board has received a letter from a member of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, Major-General Pera Popivoda, Yugoslav Air Force, in which he writes:—

“As a member of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, I ... responsible for the hostile campaign conducted by the leadership of the Yugoslav Party against the fraternal Communist Parties and the Communist front. Up to the very

last minute I believed that war leadership would see its mistakes, accept the criticism and abandon the path of treachery.

“Like every other comrades, I really believed that the Fifth Congress of our Party would settle this question; that is why I supported the line of the Central Committee and of Tito until the Congress. Before the Congress I was aware that these mistakes had been made , but, I considered them to be mistakes which would be rectified. The Congress shattered my illusions.

“The Congress took the path of betrayal. Instead of ... at imperialism and the class enemy, it attacked the Information Bureau and fraternal Communist Parties, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Comrade Stalin. Bowing to the will of the traitorous leadership practically all the speakers slandered the Information Bureau, the fraternal Parties and especially the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

“Our leaders have estranged themselves from the people and from the Party masses. They have grown conceited and become inaccessible. Rarely has any member of our leadership visited a mine, a factory, a village or a military unit where the mass of people could see and hear them and where they themselves would hear what were the desire of the people.

“They have been nowhere except for a few demagogic excursions among the youth railway and to the site of the New Belgrade . Inside the Party, the dictator Rankovic and his machine have become intolerable. The State security organs are repressing on a mass scale all honest Communists and those who express the slightest disagreement with the anti-Marxist line of the Communist Party leadership. The present regime in the Party is a classic police regime where the fate of everyone depends on the will and ... of Rankovic.

The writer of the letter express the treachery of individual leaders. “Djilas” he writes, “is trying to confuse our Party members by using demagogy, lying propaganda and

misinformation. He is a typical smug bourgeois intellectual. This person never was and certainly is not now, an individual worthy of a leading position in our Party or our State. The fact that he deserted and was “absent” for a whole month during the Fifth Offensive, clearly indicates, his cowardice and treachery at a time when Yugoslavia’s finest sons were sacrificing their lives.

“We Communists of Yugoslavia and the glorious Yugoslav Army,” continues General Popivoda, must boldly combat the nationalist, anti-Party and anti-Soviet policy of the leaders of the Yugoslav Party. We must force them to abandon the path of treachery, to purge the Party and state apparatus of traitors, spies, dictators and provocateurs and once again take the path of internationalism, return to the family of fraternal Communist parties and advance along the path of proletarian solidarity.”

Should the present leadership of the Party continue to pursue an anti-Marxist policy, he says, “forces will rise from the ranks of our Party and from the people which will form a leadership capable of guiding the Party and the country along the true road of international proletarian solidarity and which, together with the fraternal parties headed by the Communist party of the Soviet union, will lead our country to socialism.

*(page 3)*

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## **AGRARIAN POLICY OF BULGARIAN WORKERS' PARTY (COMMUNISTS)**

Before the country was liberated from fascism, Bulgaria's agriculture was small-scale, scattered and primitive.

According to the 1931 census, the cultivated area comprised 4,368,429 hectares distributed among 884,869 house-holds and divided into 11,826,158 plots. On an average each household owned 4.9 hectares scattered in 17 different places. After 1934, the division and sub-division of land continued and by 1944 there were as many as 1,100,000 different cultivators.

Our agriculture has no technical equipment whatsoever. Until now wooden ploughs and similar out-of-date instruments are used. The agricultural areas are greatly overpopulated. On an average there are 116 people to the square kilometre of cultivated land. There are about 1,000,000 spare hands in agriculture.

The overthrow of the fascist dictatorship and the big changes this brought about have considerably affected agriculture. On the initiative of our Party, the Fatherland Front Government carried out an agrarian reform, smashing the remnants of the capitalist landowners. Landholding was limited to 20 hectares. The land reform took 45,000 hectares of land from 2,450 big landowners and 120,000 hectares belonging to monasteries and other owners. Altogether 165,000 hectares of land were taken over. Out of these some 120,000 hectares were distributed among landless peasants with small holdings. The rest was given to cooperatives and cattle-breeding farms, to local government organisations, state farms, institutions and other organisations.

However, the agrarian reform was somewhat restricted. It did not do away with land hunger. It did not solve the question of the surplus of agricultural labour, which can only be done by the intensive development of an industry capable of absorbing the countryside's surplus manpower. Under the Two Year Plan the ranks of our working class will have increased by 100,000 at the end of this year. The Five Year plan will still further increase the working class of Bulgaria.

## ***FORMATION AND BUILDING UP OF AGRICULTURAL COOPERATIVES***

Another important side of our Party's policy in the countryside is the formation of agricultural producers' cooperatives.

After the people's victory over fascism, hundreds of these cooperatives developed throughout the country. In some places entire villages joined the cooperatives. Our Party guided this spontaneous peasant movement toward cooperation. On its suggestion, special legislation was introduced concerning producers' cooperatives which laid a foundation for the further development and strengthening of this historical movement, transforming peasant life in Bulgaria. So far there are these cooperatives in 675 villages, with 65,000 members and 210,000 hectares of land. By the end of this year the number of cooperative farms should reach 800. Each household in the cooperative possesses on an average 3.5 hectares of land while a middle peasant has on an average 4.2 hectares. This shows that so far the cooperators are only comparatively poor peasants.

Membership of a producers' cooperative is quite voluntary. Everyone who joins must work in it for no less than three years after which he can leave if he so desires. Admission and expulsion of members take place at a general meeting. Anyone joining the cooperative must pool his land, livestock and equipment. By law the cooperator retains the right to his land but livestock and equipment become common property.

The scattered strips of the cooperators are exchanged for unified single plots by land distribution brigades.

At the farm work is carried out by the cooperators and their families. They form production brigades and groups which are assigned to the care of certain fields, livestock and equipment.

They are paid on the basis of given rates for each work day unit. In some cooperatives, individual payment by results and progressive payment have been introduced. Ninety per cent of the farms have their own plans for production and finance. The net income is distributed in the following way: 10 per cent of the income to the indivisible fund, 20 to 40 per cent for wages.

The general meeting decides how much shall be accorded to rent and what shall be the wage rates.

The spontaneous nature of the first producers' agricultural cooperatives, the mistakes and lack of experience of cooperative leaders resulted in considerable discontent and internal struggle inside the young cooperative organisations. The three years of drought and the wrecking activities of the class enemy encouraged vacillation among the cooperators. A fierce struggle for and against the cooperatives started throughout the country.

However, thanks to the vigorous and timely measures taken by our Party, to intensify explanatory work and to strengthen the new cooperatives organisationally, they were built up and developed. In 197 we organised courses to train bookkeepers and leaders for the cooperatives. New regulations were introduced inside the cooperatives and work organised along new lines. Payment on the basis of work day units was made the common rule. Corrupt and reactionary elements were weeded out. All this resulted in tightening discipline and in a general organisational strengthening.

The output of the peasants united in producers' cooperatives was 15-20 per cent above that of individual peasants. For example, they doubled their head of sheep. This year alone, 100 new farms of horned cattle have been set up. Hog-breeding is rapidly developing. Cultivation of fodder and vegetables is being extended and intensification methods and advanced agronomy are being introduced.

To make use of the off seasons when cooperators are often idle, and thus raise the income, the farms are starting cart-building, smithing, brick production, lime burning and so on. So far, 273 such workshops have been organised in 177 labour cooperatives.

Through the labour enthusiasm of their members and the large-scale introduction of scientific methods, many

cooperatives have been extremely successful. For example, the Mirozev cooperative in the Novo-Pazarsk region harvested 4,500 kilograms of maize per hectare and the Gorno-Selo cooperative in the Kazanlyslrsk region 30,000 kilograms of potatoes per hectare.

In the village of Ryzevo Konare the cooperative adopted new cultivation methods on a large scale and were able to produce two crops a year. When the members of these cooperatives had been individual peasants their income was 20,000,000 leva. Now it is 73,000,000 leva.

Today many peasants have seen for themselves the advantages of producers' cooperatives over individual households. We have reached a turning point in the development of the cooperatives. New members have started to come in. In some places the whole village has formed a cooperative (for instance, Grozden in the Karnobatsk region, Belaniza in the Radomir region, Goriza and others.)

Another recent development is that groups of peasants have combined to cultivate their land jointly. These groups use tractors to do the vital work of deep ploughing, sowing and breaking virgin soil. The rest of the work, such as tending and harvesting of the crops is done by each peasant separately on his own land. Since this form of work has proved more advantageous to them, the peasants are taking an increasing interest in it.

Taking advantage of this interest, our Party is advising the peasants to do other field work together, thus making such simple forms of joint cultivation a stepping stone to the formation of cooperatives.

The Workers' Party explains to the peasant that the creation of producers' cooperatives is the way of developing our countryside toward socialism. Certainly, producers' cooperatives are not as yet socialist forms of agriculture, since

the land is still privately owned and there are still internal class contradictions.

To eliminate these contradictions and to create really socialist forms of agriculture, it is necessary to abolish private ownership and its subsidiary, rent; to do away with hired labour and to forbid buying and selling of land, among other things. These measures can only be carried out after long preparation and in the necessary economic and political conditions.

Seventy-one state machine-tractor stations have been set up throughout the country to provide for the needs of the producers' cooperatives. In order to get the machines for these stations and also to reduce the influence of the kulaks over the poor and medium peasants, almost all large agricultural equipment has been compulsorily bought at low prices from the kulaks. This was decided upon by the People's Assembly on the suggestion of our Party. It was a severe blow to the capitalist elements in the countryside and facilitated the creation of agricultural cooperatives.

Our Party has carried out a number of other measures to encourage the formation of small and medium households into cooperatives and to restrict and oust the kulak elements.

For example, when industry was nationalised, several thousand mills, oil mills and combing machines belonging to the kulaks were nationalised and

handed over to the local people's councils. Progressive income tax was introduced, poor peasants were completely excluded from paying the tax at the expense of the kulaks.

New legislation has been brought in concerning state grain deliveries. Peasants owning less than 0.9 hectares of land under crops were excluded from making grain deliveries, the main burden of which was placed on the kulaks.

As more pressure is put on the kulaks, the class struggle in the countryside is intensifying and taking sharper forms. The movement of poor peasants for a further restriction of land

ownership is steadily gaining momentum. The poor peasants and some of the middle peasants are ever more resolutely joining the cooperatives while the kulaks are waging a malicious struggle against these organisations.

In many places hostile elements are firing the ricks of the cooperatives, smashing threshing machines and so on. Often kulaks manage to become members of cooperative farms and penetrate the land workers' union, the Fatherland Front organisations and even some of our Party organisations in an attempt to undermine them and to seize the leadership.

It is obvious that large-scale combining of poor and medium peasants into cooperatives is impossible unless kulak sabotage is smashed.

Labour producers' cooperatives in Bulgaria's countryside are not independent organisations; they are affiliated to the organisation of united rural cooperatives.

Before September 1914, separate credit and consumer cooperatives, cooperative banks, lumber cooperatives and so on existed in our villages. After the victory over fascism all these cooperatives united into one organisation. At present 3,000 villages have such cooperatives with a total of 634,404 members. Apart from agricultural cooperatives, the united cooperatives include 800 cattle-breeding farms, 1,222 dairy enterprises, a number of production enterprises, such as bakeries, agricultural drying-rooms, incubators, shops, as well as resthomes and so on. The united cooperatives have influenced the whole life of the countryside. They buy 50 per cent of the peasants' grain products (the remaining 50 per cent being bought directly by the State), 90 per cent of dairy products. 100 per cent of the vegetables, 100 per cent of the eggs, almost the whole output of wool as well as providing the country side with 73 per cent of industrial goods. The united cooperatives are the most important factor in reorganising our countryside along socialist lines.

Our people's State is doing everything to encourage the formation of cooperatives. It supplies the farms with seeds, fertilizers, pedigree cattle and machines. In 1946, state capital investments in producers' agricultural cooperatives reached 500 million leva, in 1947, 1,100 million leva. Under the new Five Year Plan these capital investments will leap to 15,000 million leva. As peasant cooperation continues to grow, agricultural cooperatives will occupy 30 per cent of all the cultivated land by the end of the Five Year Plan.

To help the producers' agricultural cooperatives and to ensure a state basis in agriculture, 100 state farms covering 100,000 hectares are being set up.

After September 1944, a kind of trade union organisation was formed in the countryside known as the General Land Workers' Union. This organisation with 1,000,000 members concerns itself with such questions as educating the peasants and raising their cultural level, organising their emulation campaigns and mutual assistance, widely explaining the successes of cooperative farms and agronomy, securing pensions for old people in the countryside. At present nearly 249,000 peasant men and 353,000 peasant women are receiving pensions, on which the Government annually spends about 5,000 million leva.

A firm alliance between the working people of town and countryside has been established under the leadership of our Party. The working class is giving valuable assistance to the peasants. Almost every Sunday thousands of voluntary labour, machine-repairing and cultural brigades go to the countryside to help with the harvest, to repair equipment and to organise cultural work. Also the cooperation and mutual assistance of the two greatest organisations of working people has been effected—of the General Confederation of Labour and of the General Land Workers' Union.

## ***TASKS OF THE WORKERS' PARTY IN THE COUNTRYSIDE***

The most important task which now faces the Bulgarian Workers' Party in the sphere of agriculture is to develop the peasant cooperatives still further. The Party realises only too well that the people's power and the whole construction of our country cannot base itself on two different foundations on largescale industry and on small, scattered, individual peasant households. The Party sees the solution as the reorganisation of agriculture along cooperative lines. In this the Workers' Party is guided by the rich experience of the Soviet Union in collective farming and by the great historic successes of the Soviet collective farm peasantry. We realise that our country has only taken the first steps in socialist reorganisation of the countryside and that in the future we must create a higher form of producers' cooperatives and socialise the means of production.

The Workers' Party is conducting large-scale educational work among the peasantry, explaining the enormous advantages of collective farming. It is vigorously fighting for the creation of material conditions under which the peasantry can be set on the path of socialism. The nationalisation and concentration of industry, the development of a machine-building industry and especially of agricultural engineering are of paramount importance to the success of this historic task.

Before the overthrow of the fascist dictatorship, the agricultural machinery industry was extremely weak in our country. Many plants only produced small agricultural equipment. Now, however, the Fatherland Front Government is building three big plants for threshing-machines, sowing-machines, harvesters and ploughs. Since these plants cannot yet produce tractors, we shall have to import these from the Soviet Union and other countries.

How quickly agricultural cooperatives develop depends on other factors, such as the electrification of the country and improved cultivation methods. The building of the big Rociza, Georgi Dimitrov, Vasili Kolarov and Pasarel hydro-electric stations and the equipping of an electric grid system will make it possible to use the Danube and subterranean waters for irrigating thousands of acres of land.

This will create favourable conditions for mechanising agriculture and thus speed up the development of cooperatives in the countryside.

The Party's policy of peasant cooperation also indicates further measures to restrict the kulak elements which will inevitably result in their greater resistance and in the intensification of the class struggle in the countryside. The Party realises this and is preparing to win absolute victory in this struggle.

It is quite clear that the liquidation of the kulaks as a class is a difficult task calling for serious and long preparatory work. This was not realised and is still not realised by the present Yugoslav leaders whose anti-Marxist and anti-Party policy was condemned by the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties.

The statement of the leaders of the Yugoslav Communist Party to the effect that the days of the capitalist elements and the kulaks as a class in Yugoslavia are numbered cannot be taken seriously. The kulak still remains the main producer of the marketable surplus of grain in Yugoslavia. Producers' cooperatives in Yugoslavia own merely 2 per cent of the entire crop area and produce less than one-twentieth of the marketable grain.

The attempt to eliminate the kulaks at a time when the social sector of the country's economy is still unable to replace them is an adventure which would deprive the working people of food and would deprive industry of raw materials. Every honest Communist, every sensible person, fully realises that it

is impossible to eliminate capitalism in the countryside by some acrobatic feat. This calls for a vigorous and persistent struggle against kulak elements, for the reorganisation of peasant farming along socialist lines as the most important precondition for the liquidation of capitalism in the countryside.

Such were the conclusions made in the light of the Information Bureau resolution by the Sixteenth Plenum of the Central Committee of our Party held on July 12 and 13 this year. The plenum pointed out that our Party had always taken a serious approach to the fraternal advice given by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. This had made it possible for the Party to avoid major policy mistakes, particularly in regard to agriculture.

The line of the Workers' party had been correct. The main shortcoming in carrying out this line was the underestimation of the inevitable sharpening of the class struggle in the transition period from capitalism to socialism, the overestimation of the forces of reaction and the underestimation of the forces of the working class and the working people. All this, on the one hand, to a certain extent blunted the vigilance of the Party and of the working people. On the other hand it hampered the realisation of the policy to stimulate the development of agricultural production by providing peasants with the right to use as they pleased the surplus products remaining after they had fulfilled their deliveries to the state.

The correct policy of our Party has won it great influence in the countryside. The Workers' Party has 4,919 rural Party organisations with a total of 205,000. the great importance of the tasks before us demand that we tirelessly strengthen our rural Party organisations as the vanguard of the poor and medium peasants in their struggle against the kulaks so that we can go forward to socialist construction of the countryside.

Today, when the leading role of our Party among the working people is not questioned by anyone, the strengthening of the Party's rural branches will be of great importance for building up the People's Republic. The successes of our Party in the countryside provide a serious basis for further, more extensive and speedier reorganisation of agriculture along cooperative lines, along the path toward socialism.

*(page 4)*

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## **BRITISH IMEPRIALISM WAGING COLONIAL WAR IN MALAYA. JACK BERING**

Malaya, the land of rubber and tin, is the scene of British imperialism's latest colonial war.

Arms and troops rushed to Singapore from Britain, Australia, the Middle east and Hong Kong are being used against the people. The former British police force in Palestine, together with its chief, Inspector General are among the reinforcements sent by Britain.

British Malaya has a population of slightly over four millions. It is the world's greatest source of tin and natural rubber. Rubber growing, tin-mining and smelting constitute the basis of Malaya' economy. Secondary products are rice, coconuts, tapioca, sugar and pepper.

The 300,000 strong Pan Malayan Federation of Trade Unions affiliated to WFTU, has been outlawed, and a number of its

leaders, including Tan Kan, president of the Johore Rubber Workers Union, shot dead by the police and military. Other proscribed organisations include the People's Anti-Japanese ex Servicemen's Association and the New Democratic Youth League.

British planes are dropping leaflets all over the country, threatening the death penalty to anyone supporting the outlawed democratic organisations.

The banning of the popular organisations, and the wiping out of all democratic liberties, as well as the scale of the British land and air military operations explode the propaganda myth of the BBC and the British press that in Malaya, Britain has to do not with a mass movement but with isolated acts of banditry. This language is taken from the lexicon of Goebbels and Company who always denounced the partisans as "bandits".

While the British press and radio slander the Malayan democrats, Mr. Creech Jones, Minister for Colonies, was forced to admit in the House of Commons on July 8 that the struggle in Malaya is a mass struggle. "We are witnessing in Malaya today", said Mr. Jones, "a conflict not unlike that which is going on in China. The same kind of interests are involved as in China". In other words, the Labour Colonial Minister confirmed that British imperialism and its "socialist" government are waging a colonial war against the Malay people.

Reporting recently to the Legislative Council, the British Commander-in-Chief in Malaya, General Boucher, used for the first time such phrases as the "Liberation Army" and the "Liberation Area".

In an interview with a United Press Correspondent, General Boucher admitted that operations against the Malay people would probably require fifteen months.

Like all the colonial wars of British imperialism, the war against the national Liberation movement in Malaya is a war of incredible brutality.

The burning of huts is designed to render the people homeless and by depriving them of rice—their staple food—to starve them into surrender.

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Malaya has long been an El Dorado for the City of London. Last year alone, Malayan rubber earned for the City the huge sum of 260 million dollars. According to some estimates, British investments in Malay rubber plantations are in the region of £200 million.

Along with the great, impersonal exchange banks of the City, there are old established firms engaged in the rubber trade like the Quaker family of Harrison and Crossfield with a capital of £2,500,000. The directors of Harrison's sit on the boards of 56 companies connected with rubber plantations. Harrisons also act as manager for about 50 plantations with a combined capital of £11,500,000.

Gold flowed in a steady stream from the sweat, blood and toil of the Malay people into the coffers of the Tory families and bankers of Britain.

But Malay meant considerably more to British imperialism than a source of fabulous profits. Its strategic significance was immense.

The United States, the world's greatest consumer of both rubber and tin possessed neither sources of natural rubber nor tin deposits.

The production of natural rubber and tin were exclusive British monopolies. The International Rubber Regulation Committee which fixed price and quotas was a British dominated body. The prices were dictated by the British interests in the same arbitrary way.

So long as the monopolies held, Britain could count on a steady flow of dollars. The Americans, contrary to the alleged generosity of the Marshall men, respected this Rubber was, and remains, one of the touchiest points in Anglo-American rivalry. Determined to break the British rubber monopoly at all costs, the Americans invested heavily in the construction of synthetic rubber plants. Something like 800 million dollars were invested in the venture. By 1946 synthetic production in the United States was nearing the million-ton mark, and about 75 per cent of the rubber consumed by American industry was produced in the synthetic plants.

This consumption of home-manufactured rubber was in sharp contrast to pre-war days when the British monopoly supplied nine tenths of America's needs.

The history of Britain's pre-war world monopoly of tin mining and tin smelting has much in common with her former monopoly of rubber.

Two giant firms, the British Tin Investment Corporation, whose combined capital is counted in millions of pounds, run this tin empire in Malaya. Although the U.S. has no tin deposits, her great canning and automobile industries consumed nearly fifty per cent of the total pre-war world output of tin, most of which came from Malaya.

At the beginning of the present century, the Americans had their first try at breaking the British tin monopoly. They established a smelting works at San Francisco with the intention of processing tin ores imported from the Far East. But since the ore deposits were mainly located within the precincts of the British empire, the British monopolies promptly imposed a prohibitive export duty on tin ores and by doing so they killed the first attempt by American imperialism to break loose from the grip of its British rival.

World War Two gave the Americans the opportunity they had long been awaiting. When the Japanese imperialists overran

Malaya and cut the western world off from its tin supplies, the U.S. Government financed the construction of a large smelting works at Longhorn, Texas. After the war the Americans, by means of political pressure, secured the abolition of the Malayan tin export duty. The imperialist roles had changed. Instead of the British monopoly dictating its prices to the Americans, the Americans now had the decisive voice in price fixing. The Texas works smelted 30,000 tons of ore during 1947. This year's surplus will be considerably higher because as a result of political machinations in Siam, the Americans are now shipping tin ores direct from that country to the Texas works.

Due to these developments in the spheres of rubber and tin, the monopoly of two vital raw materials held by British imperialism for the best part of half a century has been broken by their American rivals. In these, as in other spheres, American imperialism has triumphed over British imperialism. Britain's dollar earning capacity has been severely curtailed. While Britain is forced to pay inflated prices for her purchases in the United States, the Americans are dictating their own price for rubber and tin imported from the British Empire. The price of natural rubber slumped by one-third last year.

These are the grim realities behind the bloody events now taking place in Malaya. Beaten by their American rivals, the British imperialists are trying to maintain their profits by attacking the living standards of the Malay people.

During the Japanese occupation, the best elements of the people of Malaya, unlike the planters, waged a valiant underground struggle against the enemy. In this struggle, which was headed by the Communist Party, the people learnt the value of organisation. Now in the post-war years, the urgent need for economic betterment has merged with the struggle for liberty and national independence. Having helped to drive out the Japanese imperialists, the people of Malaya are trying to rid

themselves of the yoke of British imperialism. The “Socialist” Government of the Attlee and Bevin, having joined the united front of planter, banker and colonial gauletter, is waging a large-scale colonial war against the people of Malaya.

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## **SUCCESS OF COOPERATIVES IN ALBANIA**

The Cooperative movement is making big strides forward in Albania. The Cooperatives are growing in numbers and are extending the range of their activities. Compared with the 445 Cooperatives registered in December of last year are now 592 with a membership of 127,000. The number of artisan Cooperatives has increased from 80 to 104. Instead of the 21 Cooperative farms there are now 30.

*(page 4)*

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## **ITALIAN WORKING PEOPLE GUARD TRADE UNION UNITY. PIETRO ROSSI**

Until now Italian trade union unity has been based on the so-called Rome agreement signed in 1944 by representatives of the three main trade union trends; Communist, Socialist and catholic, the latter led by de Gasperi's Christian Democratic Party.

The agreement expressed the desire of the broad mass of Italian working people for unity. They resolutely repelled attempts of American "advisers" and the bankrupt trade union bosses of the pre-fascist period to erect a system of contacting trade union centres. They set up instead a united general Confederation of Labour.

Even in 1945 the Confederation had over five million members. It quickly gained considerable influence in the country's political and economic life. Factory and office workers and peasants organised in the Confederation won important gains from their employers. For example, the introduction of a sliding wage scale automatically rising when the cost of living rose: the fact that summary dismissals were

forbidden; revision of land-tenure agreements; Government and employers recognition of trade union rights.

The capitalists and landlords who were forced to make such concessions whenever they were faced by this united, militant trade union body realised that the Confederation's greatest strength lay in its unity, in the fact that it combined in one organisation—factory, office and agricultural workers and share-croppers, regardless of their political and religious convictions.

Attempts to split the Confederation and the unions affiliated to it started soon after it had been created.

The American imperialists set to work using their American federation of Labour agents of the Antonini type. The direct preparations for the split were headed by trade union leaders from the Christian-Democratic Party and from the Saragat Party.

But in spite of these attempts, the Confederation continued to increase its membership and by this summer had a total of seven million members. During numerous class battles, it considerably increased its strength, bringing into the struggle and into its ranks new sections of workers from town and countryside.

At the trade union elections of spring 1947, the majority of votes was cast for those who supported unity:—for the Communists 2,613,000 votes and for the Socialists 1,038,000. The Christian Democrats and the Saragat men only polled 710,000. The National Trade Union Congress convened in July last year confirmed the principle of unity. Communists and Socialists received over 80 per cent of the seats on the leading bodies of the Confederation which the congress elected. The election showed that the Christian Democratic Party had only a very slight influence among the Saragat men—the “dollar Socialists”—had a following of less than two percent.

After the formation in June 1947 of the first anti-popular, pro-American Government under de Gasperi, the struggle between the splitters and the unity supporters in the Italian trade unions became much sharper and broader.

Pretending that “minority rights had been violated”, the splitters started a hysteria campaign with the aim of being able to strike-break with impunity, of subjecting all trade union activities to police control, of sabotaging Article 9 of the Confederation’s statutes which lays down the trade union role in the struggle in defence of freedom and democracy.

The Vatican and the Christian Democratic Party have set up a wide network of A.C.L.I. (Christian Associations of Italian Workers) under the guidance of the Church and the employers, which has been charged with the main strike-breaking and splitting activities.

The election victory of the de Gasperi Party on April 18, 1948, encouraged Italian reaction. The employers and big landlords welcomed it as the signal for a general offensive against workers’ wages and rights, and against their organisations. The leaders of the Christian Democratic Party started a crusade for an “April 18 in the trade unions”, that is for seizing the Confederation leadership. Minister of Police, Seelba, demanded that the trade unions “adjust themselves to the new political situation”, that they should unconditionally submit to the will of the reactionary de Gasperi Government.

The many powerful actions of the united trade unions against the economic enslavement of the country by American capital and the refusal of the Confederation to support the Marshall Plan, infuriated the America imperialists. Their agents in Italy were ordered to split the Confederation at all costs and to create a strike-breaking organisation along the lines of the French “Force Ouvriere.”

This was set up last spring. It was called the “Trade Union Alliance” and was joined by Christian Democrats, Saragat men

and Republicans. But it soon became obvious that the entire Italian working people boycotted this handful of strike-breakers and at this year's trade union elections they once again expressed their confidence in the Communists and Socialists.

The tremendous scope of the general strike on July 14 and 15 and the complete failure of all the Christian Democrat and Saragat followers, to smash it, brought the "Trade Union Alliance" to the verge of bankruptcy and sharpened the struggle in the leadership of the Confederation.

The July general strike created a new political situation in the country. It demonstrated to Italian reaction and the American imperialists that the General Confederation of Labour is a force capable of thwarting their plans of colonising Italy and of turning her into an American military base.

The de Gasperi Government cannot bank on success for its anti-labour laws without first of all splitting, or at least without weakening the united front of the working people led by the General Confederation of Labour.

The Christian Democrats and Saragats got ready to split the Confederation: the line of attack assigned to the Christian Democrats was an onslaught against the Left majority in the unions and to secure the breakaway of the Catholic workers, while the Saragats would support them with propaganda and, simultaneously operate through the "centre" elements in the Socialist Party.

It is now possible to say that this attempt miscarried. The "third force" (Saragats and Republicans) have for the time being at any rate, dropped their old disrupter allies, and are reluctant to follow them out of the Confederation. What happened was that the disrupters overestimated their strength. The ordinary trade union members regarded them as supporters of de Gasperi's reactionary policy, of the anti-national "Fanfani Plan" which

provides for compulsory deductions from wages. This led to their isolation.

The Executive Committee of the Confederation denounced the handful of Christian Democrat strike-breakers and disrupters and expelled them. This measure was unanimously acclaimed by the rank and file of the unions. It served as a signal for the expulsion of the strike-breakers and the stooges of the factory owners from the union branches and committees. In the Fiat works, for example, the workers expelled from the union the Christian Democrat provocateur Arrighi; in Rome they expelled Santini, chief of the Christian Association of Italian Workers.

This action on the part of the rank and file of the unions in clearing out the disrupters, confirmed how correct and timely was the decision of the Communist-Socialist majority in the leadership of the General confederation of Labour. At the same time it opened the eyes of quite a few Socialist leaders to the dangers involved in adopting a "centrist" attitude and in toying with the Saragats. It is worth noting that the disruptive activities of Pastore and his friends caused bitter indignation among the Catholic trade unionists who openly denounced their leaders and remained loyal to the confederation. This caused confusion among the splitters. The wrangling which took place at the last meeting of the Christian Democrat trade union leaders, where Pastore's activity was severely criticised, indicates that the forming of yellow unions in Italy is not just as easy as all that.

Now, after its failure to split the General Confederation of labour, reaction is placing great hope on Government interference and on support from abroad. The arrest of thousands of active trade unionists, the infiltration of police spies and provocateurs into trade union positions, the refusal of Ministers to confer with the Confederation, unless the splitters are allowed to take part—these are the new methods with

which reaction is waging its onslaught against trade union unity.

At the request of the disrupters the authorities have placed a sequester on Confederation and Chamber of Labour funds. In addition to an anti-strike law, the Government is preparing a whole series of “trade union laws”, similar to the Taft-Hartley anti-labour laws in the United States.

These developments constitute a serious danger to the Italian working class movement, for which unity and a militant spirit are the basic conditions for success in the forthcoming stubborn battles to secure a revision of wage rates, against unemployment, against the high cost of living, and above all, against the anti-working class policy of the Government.

The results of the recent trade union elections, the mid-July strike of 8 million workers and the protest strike by 3 million agricultural labourers on August 21—these testify to the consolidation of the working people of Italy, and they show, in addition, that these elements who earlier went with the Christian Democrat leaders, have not deserted their class brothers and are marching forward with them in the ranks of the General Confederation of Labour.

The struggles ahead will reinforce this unity, and the General Confederation of Labour, having rid itself of American and Italian reaction, will fulfil with honour its task of safeguarding the rights and democratic liberties of the working people of Italy.

*(page 5)*

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## **ANTI-STRIKE POLICE MEASURES IN JAPAN**

Increased repressive measures against the democratic movement are the order of the day in Japan.

Recent arrests include the Chairman of the strike committee at the state railway depot in Matsuyama and nine other workers. The men were charged with “violating” the recent government order prohibiting strikes by state employees.

One hundred armed police raided the hostel where the railway workers had gathered to declare a strike in protest against the government order. The police were given instructions to arrest all “conspirators” who advocated strike action and who refused to comply with the government’s return to work order.

The slightest sign of solidarity on the part of the workers serves as a signal for police reprisals. In the event of workers employed by private firms coming out on strike in support of their fellows in the government enterprises or even advocating strike action by employees in the public service, they can be charged with having participated in violating a government order. Police chief Saito has announced that the police will act

resolutely in order to prevent any further extension of the strikes.

The trade unions are likewise being subjected to reprisals. The authorities have warned members of state employees unions that if they continue to act against the Government and to cooperate with private enterprise unions, if they disregard the instructions of the authorities and police, they too will be arrested and held “responsible”.

It is the intention of the authorities to prohibit a number of trade unions and to restrict severely the work of others.

These reprisals are designed to break the fighting spirit of the Japanese workers, to stampede them and to disorganise the growing democratic movement. However, the onslaught of reaction is being countered by resolute action on the part of the champions of democracy. Notwithstanding the brutal repressions, the emancipation movement is growing and gaining strength.

*(page 5)*

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## HIGHER EDUCATION IN LIBERATED MANCUHURIA

A large number of higher educational establishments are due to begin work in the liberated territory of Manchuria.

Over a thousand students will be enrolled in the recently opened electro-technical engineering and mining faculties.

Six hundred students have registered respectively for the Chinese Medical College, and for the first Technical College in Harbin. The Harbin Industrial University, Communications School, and other establishments likewise report heavy enrolment.

*(page 5)*

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## **FAMINE IN INDIA EPIDEMICS FOLLOW**

Famine is stalking India, and in its wake, epidemics of small-pox and cholera. The Communist Party of India puts the blame directly on the Nehru Government.

The Government removed controls on food prices, which then immediately soared out of reach of working people's pockets.

***(page 5)***

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## **FUSION OF BULGARIAN SOCIAL- DEMOCRATIC PARTY AND BULGARIAN WORKERS' PARTY (COMMUNISTS)**

A special meeting held in Sofia on August 11<sup>th</sup>, officially announced the fusion of the Workers' Social-Democratic Party of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian Workers' Party (Communists). The meeting was addressed by Petko Bolgaranov on behalf of the Social-Democratic Party and by Vylko Chervenkov for the Workers' Party. The speeches were relayed throughout the country by the radio network.

In his speech, Comrade Bolgaranov said that the fusion of the two parties would be a contribution to the great cause of the glorious teachers of the proletariat, Marx and Engels, which had been realised by the modern leaders of the working class—Lenin and Stalin. Lenin and Stalin created a party of a new type. This party became a model on the basis of which militant, working class Communist Parties were formed throughout the

world. These parties are heading the struggle of the masses for freedom, independence, peace and democracy. The success of this struggle is guaranteed by the existence of the Soviet Union, the most powerful bulwark of the working class of the world.

The greatest crime of the Right Social-Democratic leaders in Bulgaria and abroad is their hostile attitude toward the Soviet Union. We must vigorously condemn this crime. The victory of the Soviet Army over the Hitler hordes brought freedom to the peoples and opened up to them the path to progress and socialism.

The decisive element in the socialist reconstruction of the people's democracies is, undoubtedly, the working class headed by the Communist Party.

The Social-Democratic Party of Bulgaria has committed many mistakes and crimes against the working class. We must honestly admit this. All of us must be absolutely clear on the point that the Right Socialists in the West and in Bulgaria are enemies of the working class. This demands from us an uncompromising struggle against them.

We are now joining a party of a higher type. For us this is a great honour. At the same time this obliges us to deepen our knowledge of the brilliant teachings of Marxism-Leninism, consciously to accept and consistently apply the principles of democratic centralism and to observe Party discipline. Before the working class, and the entire Bulgarian people, we declare that we shall do all in our power to be a worthy element of the working class and loyal members of the valiant and victorious Workers' Party (Communists).

In his speech Vylko Chervenkov, secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party said:

"The main political meaning of today's gathering is that it is the culmination of long years of effort to unite the working class in our country. This unity has been realised on the granite

basis of Marxism-Leninism, on the basis of the programme and Statues of the Party that has been tested in severe class battles, the glorious Workers' Party (Communists). This fact is the guarantee of the rock-like unity of the working class in our country”.

With us it is a precisely natural development that not amalgamation of the Workers' Parties, but the fusion of the Social-Democratic Party and the Communist Party is taking place. This peculiarity is explained by the development of the working class movement in Bulgaria, and, let it be said openly, by the irreconcilable struggle conducted by the Socialists (Tesnyaks) under the leadership of Dimiln Blagoev against Bulgarian reformism and opportunism and against the policy of collaboration with the bourgeoisie.

As is known, this struggle ended in the ideological and political bankruptcy of the “common dealers” (the name given to the Bulgarian reformists because of their policy of cooperation with the bourgeoisie—Ed.) and in the loss of their positions in the working class and among the working people in General.

“Common ideals” made its appearance in our young working class movement as an attempt to dilute Marxism with all kinds of petty-bourgeois ideas and to prevent the working class from growing and gaining strength as the only consistently revolutionary class capable of leading the working people to their emancipation from capitalism and exploitation. Objectively, “common dealing” was simply an agency of the bourgeoisie inside the working class movement.

Without the irreconcilable struggle, Chervenkov continued, against the attempts to revise Marxism, and against the bourgeois agency inside the working class movement, the creation of a militant working class party in Bulgaria would have been impossible—of the party that unconditionally accepted the ideas and cause of the Great October Socialist

Revolution and which, reorganising itself into the Communist Party and learning from the Bolshevik Party, headed the struggle of the working people against fascism and dependence on foreign imperialism. Without this the development of the powerful popular Fatherland Front movement would have been impossible, the movement which, due to the brilliant victories of the Soviet Army and to the help given by the Soviet Army, succeeded on September 9, 1944, in overthrowing the fascist dictatorship and in paving the way for the people's democracy as a special kind of stepping stone to socialism.

Comrade Chervenkov emphasised the historical and political justification and correctness of the decision of the Central Committee which stated that fusion can be effected only on the following basis: complete recognition of Marxist-Leninist science as a guide to action: recognition of the programme and Statues of the Workers' Party (Communists); the strict observance of Party discipline; resolute condemnation and criticism of the theory of the so-called "broad socialism" which is detrimental to the working class and the cause of building socialism, and also condemnation of the class cooperation in the interests of the bourgeoisie and fascism arising from this theory and practice; recognition of the need to fight constantly against the Right "Socialists", the agents of imperialism.

Those former members of the Bulgarian Workers' Social Democratic Party who do not answer these conditions cannot be accepted into the Bulgarian Workers' Party (Communists).

"For us Communists, and for our Party", said Comrade Chervenkov, "it is an iron law and indisputable fact that the Communist Parties of all lands, as Comrade Dimitrov has said," form a united, international Communist front under the leadership of the most powerful party, a party tested and tried in the struggle against capitalism and in the construction of socialism, the Party of Lenin-Stalin: that all the Communist

Parties have but a single theory as a guide to action—the Marxist-Leninist theory, and that they have one common, generally acknowledged leader and teacher—Comrade Stalin, the leader of the glorious Bolshevik Party and of the great land of Socialism”.

The meeting unanimously approved the fusion of the two Parties as an act which finally realised the complete unity of the working class movement in Bulgaria.

*(page 5)*

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**PRESS REVIEW. DEVOTE MORE SPACE  
TO THE LIFE OF PARTY  
ORGANISATIONS. “Party Worker”—  
Organ, Central Committee, Communist  
Party of Czechoslovakia**

The journal “Party Worker” issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is of immense help to the membership. Each number contains articles by Party leaders and important Party and Government documents. The journal devotes close attention to acquainting the Party cadres with the different aspects of inner Party life, and with matters appertaining to home and foreign policy.

The Editorial Board popularised the Resolution of the Information Bureau concerning the situation in the Yugoslav Party and urged its readers to draw their own conclusions from the serious mistakes made by the leaders of the Yugoslav Party.

The journal carried articles devoted to the fusion of the Communist and Social-Democratic Parties.

Each issue of the journal contains instructions for the conduct of branch meetings. It recommends a typical agenda, gives outlines of reports, suggestions for guiding discussion and formulating decisions. It also gives advice on such matters as the carrying through of political measures in the factories and in rural areas. The importance of this work cannot be over-rated especially when it is taken into account that thousands of functionaries in the Czechoslovak Party are new to leading work in the Party and therefore lack experience of leadership.

Readers find the articles in the Help to Party Organisation column very useful and instructive. The same can be said for the column devoted to the Factories and the Two Year Plan; Work in Rural Areas; The National Councils and the Action Committees of the National Front. It should be noted however, that most of the articles in these columns are written in the form of directives and instructions.

In the few interesting notes published under the heading, Experience of Party Organisation, there is little criticism and self-criticism. Yet outspoken basic criticism of the shortcomings in the work of the branches, the Party Committees and of individual functionaries, would help to overcome and eliminate these shortcomings.

Until recently, the editorial board made little use of criticism and self-criticism for the purpose of combating conceit, smugness, the habit of issuing commands and the failure to learn from the masses and to listen to their voice.

While not denying the importance of articles which contain directives and serve as a single guide, one would like to see the "Party Worker" give more space to concrete experiences of Party building and to articles by Party functionaries.

The strength of the Communist and workers' press lies in its intimate contact with the masses, in its ability to listen to the

voice of the working people and to learn from the masses. The wider the circle of writers attached to the journal, the more successfully will the Editorial Board do its job.

Until quite recently, the “Party Worker” devoted but scant attention to the struggle for the purity of the Party. It did not draw the attention of the Party as a whole to the need for a more careful scrutiny of applications for Party membership.

In a number of articles, the Editorial Board has, quite correctly, stressed the need of an all-round improvement in the political education of Party cadres, and has called upon them to master the fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism.

However, it should be said that the journal has restricted itself to sending out calls, and has not helped the cadres in the important matter of self-study. Theoretical articles and propaganda articles are rarely published.

One will not find in its pages articles dealing with the history of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union or the history of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, on whose rich experience of struggle the younger Party cadres should be trained and steered. This is certainly a serious weakness in the work of the journal.

By the same token, too little attention is devoted to the organisation of Party education. Only in the latest issues, do we find some articles on this subject.

Yet there is a great need to illustrate the experience of Marxist-Leninist study. Literally thousands of Party members are thirsting for knowledge, are striving to master Marxist-Leninist theory.

By publicising the good results of the Party schools and the various courses and circles run by the Party, the journal would help the Party Committees to benefit from the experience and to avoid mistakes.

Its book review page, headed, The Party Workers’ Library, regularly provides information about new publications, about

the translations of works by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin. But serious reviews devoted to Marxist-Leninist works are lacking.

*(page 5)*

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## **INTERNATIONAL YOUTH CONFERENCE IN WARSAW**

The International Conference of Working Youth organised by the World Federation of Democratic Youth, was held in Warsaw over August 8-14.

Four hundred and forty-six delegates drawn from forty-six different countries and representing some 45 million young people, were present at the Conference. Among the delegates were representatives from China, Indonesia, Vietnam, Syria, Israel, Morocco, Lebanon, Greece and Spain. The “democratic” Government of the United States refused passports to the delegates elected by youth organisations in America, on the grounds that the aims of the Conference were “contrary to the interests of the U.S.”.

Nevertheless, delegates from the U.S. succeeded in making their way to Warsaw.

Speakers at the Conference included: Herbert Williams, secretary of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, who spoke on the “unity of the working youth in the struggle for political and economic rights, for peace, democracy and national independence”.

Renato Tesei (Italy) spoke on the working youth in the struggle against unemployment and for a better life, for the right to work, equal pay for equal work and the rule of youth in the trade unions. Dillip Raihondori (India) spoke on the working youth in the struggle against the exploitation of child labour, for social welfare and health protection for young workers. Jacques Denis (France), took for his subject, the working youth in the struggle for the right to culture and physical development and the right to leisure. A. Klimov (Soviet Union) spoke on the position of youth in the Soviet Union.

All speakers were unanimous in their condemnation of the conditions of the working youth in the capitalist countries. Exceedingly low wages, unemployment, racial discrimination and colonial oppression doom the working youth to the life of slaves.

But the young people are joining the struggle for their rights, for their future, for peace and democracy. In Greece, Indonesia, Vietnam, China, Spain and Palestine, young men and women are waging a heroic armed struggle for their liberty and independence from the encroachments of the imperialists.

The Conference listened with close attention to the speech of the Soviet delegate, Comrade Klimov. Klimov spoke of the free, creative labour of the young people in the Soviet union, young people who are growing up under socialism and reared under the care of the Bolshevik Party and Soviet Government.

Klimov pointed out that the most powerful weapon in the struggle for peace and democracy was the unity and international solidarity of the working class. The working

youth must reinforce its unity and transform its ranks into a monolithic phalanx.

Traitors must be exposed, relentless struggle waged against the disrupters of the working class unity, and against all attempts to divert the working youth from the struggle for their class interests. Unity and combined action by all the forces of world democracy—this is the principal armament in the fight of democracy against the enemies of peace and progress.

Speaker after speaker adduced facts and figures testifying to the merciless exploitation of the working youth by the imperialists, of the poisoning of the minds of young people by means of anti-Soviet slanders, and of the attempts to get the youth once more to become cannon-fodder.

Israel Lugo (Venezuela) described the colonial conditions which prevailed in his country. Young people employed in agriculture, work 16 hours a day and child labour is widespread.

The delegate from Algiers, Comrade Korba, told the conference that in his country only a bare 10 per cent of the youth could read and write. Young men and women were denied the right to work and racial discrimination was rampant.

Delegates from the new democracies spoke of the active participation of the young people there in building the new life. Liberated from capitalist exploitation, young men and women enjoy all civil rights, are getting down to the job of mastering technique and are entering wholeheartedly into the job of building up their countries.

All the speakers were unanimous in urging the need to unify all the forces of the working youth in the struggle against imperialism, for liberty, independence, democracy and peace.

Following upon the discussion and the work of the sub-committees, the Conference adopted a Charter of rights for the youth of the world. This Charter calls for freedom of speech, assembly and press for the youth, the right to vote; the

abolition of racial and religious discrimination; the right to work, equal pay for equal work; prohibition of child labour, and so on. The Conference issued a call to the working youth of the world, to intensify the struggle for its political and economic rights, against fascism and war; against imperialism, for the independence of the nations and for democracy.

The Warsaw Conference of the working youth of the world provided further evidence of the progress and growth of the youth movement. It will help strengthen the cause of peace and democracy throughout the world.

*(page 5)*

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## **PRESS GLEANINGS. SUCCESSES OF RUMANIAN ECONOMY**

Rumanian newspapers report considerable gains made by the national economy. The newspapers Scantela and Frontul Plugarilor carried articles on the decision of the State Planning Commission to appropriate 12½ billion lei for public utilities.

In an editorial entitled, "Capital Investments, for the Benefit of the Working people", Scantela writes about the development of nationalised industry. Although the historic act of nationalisation is of comparatively recent origin, its favourable effects are making themselves felt, says the paper. Order is being brought into industrial work everywhere, and the chaos and disorganisation left over from chaos and disorganisation left over from capitalism is being liquidated. The means of production is being regrouped to fit the requirements of the national economy. More factories, mines and ore workings, ruined by saboteurs, are resuming work; in Hunedoara a

powerful blast furnace has started operations; the Resita and "23 of August" factories are producing materials formerly imported; in the paper mills at Bustem the workers have all but completed another powerful aggregate.

Everywhere, the working class is enthusiastically tackling the job of restoring and developing industry.

All the means of production and all the stocks of material at the disposal of the national economy are being made to serve but one aim—the aim of creating a powerful heavy industry.

The progress of the Republic, Scanteia went on, is linked directly with its industrialisation which is unthinkable without the building of heavy metal and chemical industries.

In June the Government allocated the sum of 22½ billion lei for the development of heavy industry and in August a further 12½ billion was earmarked for this purpose. Thus, in the course of a few months, over 35 billion lei have been invested in industrialisation.

Never before, the newspaper notes, did Rumanian industry have at its disposal means such as this. The successes of Rumanian economy are due to the democratic finance policy and to nationalisation, which contrary to the expectations of our enemies, have resulted in a new rise in production throughout the country.

Scanteia pointed out that the Rumanian Government was able to make these considerable capital investments, above all, because of the invaluable help given by the Soviet Union, which cut by 50 per cent the remaining sum due in reparation. At the same time when, in those countries subordinated to the Marshall Plan, industry is doomed to steady decline and the working people face unemployment and hunger, the people of Rumania by means of their own forces and relying on the friendly help of the Soviet union, are strengthening the industrial might and the independence of their country.

Frontul Plugarilor also reports great successes achieved by Rumanian economy, saying:—All Rumania is one huge construction site. Millions of people are working enthusiastically on the front of peaceful construction. The production targets at these great national construction jobs will be reached ahead of time.

### ***MARSHALL PLAN IN ACTION***

An altogether different picture is presented by the post-war economy of the capitalist countries. Whereas in the New Democracies economy is going forward by leaps and bounds, in the capitalist countries there is an ever increasing decline. The industry of western Europe, caught in the embrace of American imperialism is confronted with the prospect of a further drying up of production.

The Marshallisation of Europe means the economic and political enslavement of the West European countries and a further lowering of living standards for the working people. The press in these countries writes more and more frequently about the difficulties of West European economy, arising from American imperialist expansion.

Belgian newspapers, for example, write about the serious crisis now being experienced by a number of branches of industry in Belgium. According to “Drapeau”, the crisis caused by difficulties in the sphere of demand has overtaken the knit goods, textile, clothing, leather, footwear, tobacco, brick and other industries. The building materials industry is affected by the absence of new building.

The worst-hit industries, according to the newspaper “Le Soir” are textiles and knit goods. Whereas, Belgium exported 680 tons of textile goods in 1938, the figure for 1947 was only 575 tons. Exports returns for 1948 will be even lower.

A similar falling off in exports can be observed in the knit goods industry. In January knit goods to the value of 28 million francs were exported; in February 17 million francs worth; in March 16 million; April 11 million francs. Linen output likewise shows a decline. Monthly output which last year ranged around 225 tons had fallen to 120 tons this year. The picture is pretty much the same in other industries.

The falling of production in these industries is giving rise to increased unemployment.

According to "Le Soir", 40 per cent of the workers in the knitted-goods industry are unemployed. In some regions the figure is between 50 and 70 per cent.

"Le Drapeau Rouge" estimated the total number of unemployed in Belgium at 129,000. In June the registered number of unemployed was 104,717.

"Le Drapeau Rouge" estimated the total number of unemployed in Belgium at 129,000. In June the registered number of unemployed was 104,717.

"Le Soir" gives these reasons for the crisis in Belgian industry; the increased import of goods of which Belgium is in little need: in particular, imports of American textiles, ready-made clothes, knitted goods and footwear are considerable in excess of the demand for these goods; low wages restrict the purchasing power of the population.

Economic decline, writes "Le Drapeau Rouge" is gripping one branch of industry after another. Such are the fruits of the Marshallisation of Belgium.

**(page 6)**

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## **PUBLISHING ACTIVITIES OF THE BULGARIAN WORKERS' PARTY (COMMUNISTS)**

In the three and a half years since it opened, the publishing house of the Bulgarian Workers' Party (Communists) has, apart from Party magazines, issued more than 500 titles of political literature and fiction in 5,000,000 copies. Of this number 127 books in 890,000 copies were published in 1946 and 161 books in 1,640,000 copies in 1947.

The main task of the Party publishers is to publish the principal classics of Marxism-Leninism in Bulgarian.

During this period five volumes of Lenin's selected works were published in 80,000 copies, as well as separate publications of his works including "What is to be done?" (40,000 copies); "One Step Forward, Two Steps back" (30,000 copies); Steps are being taken to publish the complete works of Lenin in Bulgarian.

Also all the main works of Comrade Stalin have been published, including "Problems of Leninism" (25,000 copies); "Marxism and the National Question" (40,000); "Report on the draft Constitution of the USSR" (40,000); "The Great Patriotic

War of the USSR” (45,000) and “Dialectical and Historical Materialism” (64,000 copies in pamphlet form.)

The publishing house has carried out extensive work in having the first volumes of Comrade Stalin’s collected works translated and prepared for publication. Volume one will soon be on sale.

To date the following works of Marx and Engels have been published: “The Communist Manifesto” (30,000 copies); “A Critique of Political Economy” (10,000); “Ludwig Feuerbach” (20,000); “The Origin of the Family, Private Property and the State” (30,000); and “Anti-Duhring (25,000); The Short History of the C.P.S.U.(B) has been published in a large number of copies.

In 1947 the publishers issued a volume of lectures on the history of the Bulgarian Workers’ Party, as a text book for Party schools studying the history of the Bulgarian Socialist movement.

Other publications include Volume three of Dimitrov’s works which has been printed in 30,000 copies. This volume contains articles, speeches and other material covering the period between 1942 and 1947, which are of essential significance to our Party and the Fatherland front, Volume 4 of Dimitrov’s works, covering 1947-1948, will soon be off the press.

The publishing house also issues the Party’s journals:—the central organ, the newspaper “Rabotnichesko delo” (275,000 circulation); the theoretical journals, “Novoye Vremya” (25,000); “Partini Rabotnik” (15,000); “Filosofskaya Mysl” (10,000); and the monthly “Propagandist’s Handbook”: (25,000). The Bulgarian edition of “For a Lasting Peace, for a People’s Democracy” has a circulation of 25,000.

The publishing house also publishes fiction in translations, especially of Soviet literature, which is very popular, particularly among the youth. This circulation of Soviet fiction is unprecedented in Bulgaria. For instance, N. Ostrovsky’s

“How the Steel was Tempered” ran into three editions totalling 80,000 copies and Fadayev’s “Young Guard”, 60,000 copies.

*(page 6)*

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## **EDUCATION WORK IN THE CZECHOSLAVAK COMMUNIST PARTY**

The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is devoting close attention to the training of its members with a view to raising the ideological level of the entire membership.

An important measure in this regard is the establishment of what is known as “Party Education Days”.

On these days which will be held monthly, lectures on theoretical questions followed by discussion will be held in the groups and branches.

The “education days” are designed specially for those Party members who have not had any Party training and whose political knowledge is lacking. Reports on studies will be submitted to the district committees.

The first one year course in the reorganised and enlarged National Party school opened in Prague on August 2. The programme of this school has been extended considerably.

Special attention will be given to the experience of socialist construction in the Soviet Union and to the history of the Communist party of the Soviet Union, to the vanguard role of the Communist Party as Party of a new type, the economic and political building up of the Czechoslovak People’s Democratic

Republic; the history of Czechoslovakia and of the Czechoslovak working class movement.

The national School will henceforth be a training college for Party functionaries. In addition to the year's course there will be a six month course, winter classes and a special sector for evening classes.

During the summer months there will be a number of short term courses; for workers among the youth (three weeks), for district secretaries (six weeks, for teachers in regional Party schools (six weeks, for student members of the Party (four weeks).

There are also be a number of courses for Party workers in the Sokol organisation, in the State organs and for educational workers.

***(page 6)***

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## **DISCONTENT WITH LABOUR GOVERNMENT'S POLICY**

The Annual Conference of the British Trades union Congress opens at Margate on September 6.

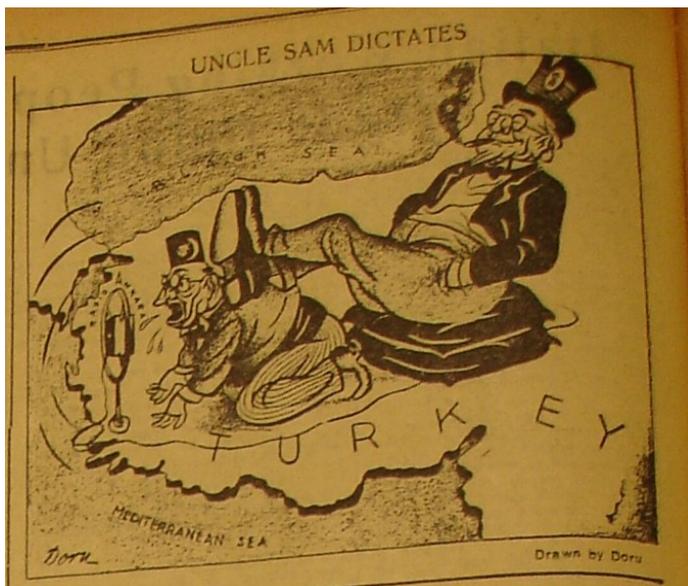
Ten national trade unions have submitted resolutions expressing opposition to the Government's wages, profits and prices policy.

Typical in this respect is the resolution submitted by the Electrical Trades Union which says that "measures so far taken by the Government have not prevented the decline of wages in relation to rising prices—profits have risen and still continue to go up."

***(page 6)***

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## FEUILLETON. THE TURKISH LIARS



Recently the Turkish newspaper “Kumhuryet” carried a sensational report that a plebiscite would be held in Rumania on August 23 to decide Rumania’s “annexation” to the Soviet Union. To give this wild despatch the semblance of truth, “Kumhuryet” told its credulous readers the following “details”: “All cinemas in Bucharest, with the exception of four, have been turned into prisons by the authorities in preparation for the plebiscite. Seven thousand Communists who opposed the annexation of Rumania to the Soviet union have been arrested.”

There is hardly any need to refute this monstrous lie. It is only necessary to pick up any Bucharest newspaper and read the announcements to see that 10 central and 37 district cinemas are functioning in Rumania’s capital at the height of the summer season. As for the arrest of Communists, it seems as though the Turkish journalists, in their haste to print the report

about the “plebiscite”, slipped up and inserted despatches from the United States and other countries of dollar democracy where it is a fact that Communists, the true champions of peace and democracy, are being thrown into prison by the thousand. August 23 has to come and gone. There has been no plebiscite in Rumania. The readers of “Kumhuryet” are most probably having a good laugh at the authors of the “reliable” reports which this prostituted sheet frequently serves up to its subscribers.

It is not difficult to see that the gross fantasies circulated by this paper pursue a definite provocative aim. The Wall street warmongers are trying to prepare the ground in Europe for American aggression. They want to poison the minds of the people of Europe by alleging that the Soviet union threatens the countries of Western Europe.

These were the precise aims of the “Kumhuryet” provocateurs when they reported that “the Russians were preparing for further action in the direction of the Balkans and Italy”, that “the Kremlin had elaborated a plan for advancing on the Mediterranean” and that “the annexation of Rumania to Russia is the initial step on the way to realising this plan.”

There is nothing new in all this. Neither the Turkish gentlemen of the despicable sheet “Kumhuryet” nor their White House masters show any originality in their method. Hitler did the same thing. It is the method of all bandits who shout “Stop, thief” as they flee from pursuit. The noise made by the American imperialists and their lackeys in the capitalist press about an alleged war danger coming from the Soviet union and the new democracies cannot conceal the indisputable fact that it is the expansionist policy of American imperialism that threatens the nations of the world with the disaster of a new war. The “concern” the Turkish press displays over the sovereignty and national independence of the Rumanian People’s republic is somewhat ironical. The people of Rumania have not

forgotten that they had to wage a long struggle against Turkey for national independence and that it was the great Russian people who gave them fraternal help in this struggle.

While exhibiting their “concern” over the sovereignty and national independence of Rumania the Turkish bandits of the pen, dazzled by American gold, are blind to the fact that Turkey, with her medieval industry, primitive agriculture and Anglo-American mercenary Government, has long ceased to be a sovereign and independent state. They refuse to see that Turkey has become a colony of American imperialism, a pawn in the hands of the United States rulers who are using her as a base for future aggression against the Soviet union and the new democracies.

In the light of these facts, the Turkish Jupiters who are aiming their thunderbolts at the Soviet union and the new democracies present a pitiful and sorry spectacle.

But however much the inordinately greedy reactionary press of America and Western Europe circulate their “canards”, concocted on the shores of the Bosphorous, “canards” which even such self-styled Socialist organs as Blum’s “Populaire” are not averse to using—the truth cannot be submerged in filthy anti-soviet slander.

**Stefan VOICU**

*(page 6)*

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## **ELECTION STRUGGLE AND ONSLAUGHT OF REACTION IN U.S. M. MARININ.**

The election struggle in the United States has entered its crucial phase. The national conventions of the three parties to nominate their Presidential candidates have been held. The levers of the gigantic and ubiquitous party machines, built up over the years by the Republican and Democratic Parties, have been switched on. Millions of dollars which wall street has placed at the disposal of the Truman-Dewey "bi-partisan bloc" are being manoeuvred.

The cost of an election campaign, writes "This Week" has enormously increased. Jefferson's first election, says the journal, cost him 50 dollars in all, whereas today up to 23 million dollars are needed to become President in the White house. In all probability even this figure is far below the actual cost. It overlooks the extent of election corruption, the wholesale bribery not only of party bosses but of vast sections of the electorate and groups of people.

The 1948 Presidential election campaign reflects as clearly as a mirror, the disposition of forces in the principal bating camps inside the United States and once again lays bare the substance of their political line.

That is precisely why there are now plenty of every kind of stunt and trick that would give a distorted picture of the actual struggle. The inveterate politicians of the two parties of monopoly capital are trying to give the people the impression that the scene being acted in the country's political arena is chiefly a duel between republicans and Democrats, that the menace of the struggle is whether the republicans will succeed in taking revenge in their "historical" battle against the Democrats or whether the Democrats will be able to withstand

the onslaught of the “traditional” opposition and after sixteen years in power remain in office for another term of four years. Only political simpletons will fall for this grossly falsified bait. For the fact of the matter is that the main political demarcation line runs not between the Truman and Dewey parties both of which are directly under Wall Street orders, but between Wallace’s new Progressive party and the bi-partisan bloc of the republicans and Democrats.

The assumed antagonism in the election contest between Truman, first protégé of American monopolies and Dewey, another of their protégés, screens their complete agreement on vital questions of home and foreign policy.

It is no secret that the so-called election platforms of the Republicans and democrats are merely meaningless phrases: self-advertisement, inordinate praise of their supposed merits and achievements go hand in hand with their assertion that the rival party is responsible for all that is bad and evil. Such are the lines along which the latest election programmes have been drawn up. But in spite of this, nothing can conceal the real policy being pursued by both Republicans and Democrats.

The dominant “bi-partisan bloc” in the United States is a union of reactionary top leaders of the Republican and Democratic parties on the basis of a single imperialist programme covering both home and foreign policy.

Judging by the election platforms of Republicans and Democrats, the general foreign policy of this bloc will continue to be determined by the “Truman Doctrine” and “Marshall Plan”, that is, by an openly aggressive and expansionist programme which might just as accurately be called the “Dewey-Vandenberg Doctrine” Dulles Plan”.

The true emphasis of the bloc’s home policy is on monopoly capital’s offensive on the basic rights and interests of the working people and above all, on the rights and interests of the

working class and abolishing the remnants of democratic liberties.

Hence there is not the slightest doubt about the real content of the election programmes of Truman's anti-Democratic party and Dewey's anti-Republican party. This programme combines home and foreign policy in one, takes the line of the unvarnished domination of imperialist reaction, unloosing militarism, the fascistation of the State apparatus, as the conditions which will enable the U.S. in the future to play the role of the principal centre of political reaction in the international arena.

How can it be explained that the chiefs of the reactionary "bi-partisan bloc" are assiduously trying to conceal from the American public the existence of an agreement between Republicans and Democrats, that they are at every turn exaggerating their alleged differences? Wall Street wins anyway, whether a different representative of the "bi-partisan bloc" comes to the White House or, which is highly improbable, whether Truman succeeds in holding the Presidency for another term. Therefore the hypocritical manoeuvres of the top party leaders, who are blatantly fanning the "differences" between the Democratic and republican parties, serve but one end: to compel the American electorate to continue to vote only for the candidates of one of the two old parties of monopoly capital and at all costs divert their attention from Wallace's new Progressive Party.

The very fact that in the 1948 election campaign the "bi-partisan bloc" is opposed by a new, third party which is coming forward as no mere propaganda or election group but as claimant to the country's leadership, is a sign of the profound changes taking place in the united states. The emergence of the progressive Party arises from the fact that the policy of the two traditional bourgeois parties in the United States has revealed

their bankruptcy, that these parties are passing through a profound crisis.

The new third party expresses the great urge for unity felt by the democratic forces. This is true of the advanced elements of the working class, of the farming population and intelligentsia and also of the petty bourgeois urban strata, who are aware of the approaching economic crisis and realise what the adventurous foreign policy of the American reactionary ruling circles holds in store for them.

Thus, whereas the “bi-partisan bloc” unites the camp of imperialist reaction, the Progressive Party reflects the process of consolidation of the forces in the camp of democracy whose platform calls for a policy of peace, of cooperation with the Soviet Union against a third world war, for which the American imperialists are preparing, for opposition to the offensive of monopoly capital against the rights and interests of American democracy.

The steadily growing influence and popularity of the Progressive Party have thrown the “bi-partisan bloc” chiefs into a rage. Incapable of producing a constructive programme to compete with the third party, the Trumans and Deweys have decided to reply to it with terror and provocation. They plan to hold the election along the tried methods of the German fascist Reichstag incendiaries. They have lined up the police, the F.B.I. and numerous fascist and semi-fascist organisations in the service of their election manoeuvres.

The “bi-partisan bloc” a provocative blow at the Communist party. In this connection it is worth recalling that just over fifteen years ago, in February 1933, when the then President of Germany, Hindenburg (a puppet in the hands of the Hitler gang) outlawed the Communist Party, he found it necessary as a preliminary measure to change the Constitution. The decree which introduced the change declared henceforth those paragraphs of the Constitution, which guaranteed the liberty of

the individual, freedom of opinion, assembly and press would no longer be valid.

But congress and the president of the United States never even considered it necessary to have recourse to a similar operation. They annulled, lawfully of course, those paragraphs of the United States Constitution which referred to the liberty of the individual and to freedom of opinion, assembly and press. What was the idea? Does not everybody know that the constitution of the United states exists, but never functions; that it has long since been reduced to the role of a mere formal pendant to the mechanism of the police state.

The provocation against the Communist Party pursues altogether far-reaching aims. First, it was designed to add fuel to the flames of the anti-Communist hysteria, on which the “bi-partisan bloc” is gambling, not only in the United States itself but beyond its borders. Second, it was calculated to put out of action the party which represents the interests of the working class, of all the working people and which is the most active and consistent fighter for the genuine consolidation of the entire democratic camp. Third, the anti-Communist provocation pursues the aim of “discrediting” Wallace’s Progressive Party.

But these calculations are based on sand. The monstrous measures against the leaders of the communist Party at the height of the election campaign reveal more and more the anti-popular imperialist essence of the “bi-partisan loc”. The anti-Communist hysteria once more reveals this bloc in all its ugly reality.

This cynical, scandalous election trickery of the “bi-partisan bloc” is calculated to befuddle the politically unenlightened. But every thinking American must surely understand that parties which resort to provocations of this nature lack any faith whatsoever in their own strength and stand in deed of a clean, open and honest electoral contest.

Contrary to the calculations of the ill-starred bi-partisan strategists, the repressive measures against the leaders of the American Communist Party will result in the Party increasing its influence among the masses.

He who says “A” also says “B”.

The blow against the leaders of the American Communist Party is but the first of the provocations by means of which the Democrats and Republicans hope to improve their election prospects. It follows, therefore, that the camp of democracy in America should redouble its political vigilance and be ready to repulse at a moment’s notice any diversionist blow by the “bi-partisan bloc.”

Their labours in the field of political provocation will hardly gain for the Wall Street crew the results they so ardently desire. The consolidation of forces in the camp of American democracy is by no means just a combination of top-liners. It is a process that is in harmony with historical necessity. It is based on actual conditions and possibilities and it is not given to the Wall street politicians to halt this onward development. It does not depend on them.

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## EDITORIAL BOARD

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