

*Workers of all lands, unite!*

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

Bucharest. Organ of the Information  
Bureau of the Communist and Workers'  
Parties



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## AGAINST AGGRESSION, FOR PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

Comrade Stalin's replies to the questions addressed to him by Kingsbury Smith, European General Manager of International News Service met with unanimous approval on the part of world progressive opinion, on the part of all honest, advanced people throughout the world who are fighting for world security and for a lasting peace.

The suggestions for settling American-Soviet relations, contained in Mr. Smith's questions, had in view the publication of a joint declaration "affirming that neither Government had any intention of resorting to war against the other". They also had in view measures directed toward realising a Peace Pact between the Soviet Union and the United States.

The Soviet Government, which is consistently pursuing a policy of strengthening the cause of peace and world security, readily expressed its agreement to conclude and put into practice a Soviet-American Peace Pact and to settle the Berlin problem.

However, despite the fact that Mr. Smith's initiative reflected the sentiments and desires of wide circles in the United States and of world public opinion, American ruling circles rejected the suggestion for a meeting between President Truman and Generalissimo Stalin and for the conclusion of a Peace Pact with the Soviet Union.

Even the out-and-out bourgeois paper "New York Sun" had to admit that the U.S. would never have a clear conscience if it became a country unwilling to conduct talks with a view to strengthening the cause of peace.

The refusal of the United States to conclude Peace Pact can only mean one thing: that its ruling circles are determined to disrupt international peace cooperation and are striving might

and main to aggravate the international situation. No amount of lies and slander from these ruling circles, no devices thought up by them and their propagandists can conceal the obvious fact that the policy of aggression has become the official government policy of the United States.

The American imperialists are, not interested in signing a Peace Pact since this would cut across the course and essence of the policy pursued by them. Instead of a Peace Pact the ruling circles of America offer the so-called North Atlantic bloc, in which is contained the concentrated essence of the policy of aggression and international adventurism. Having bypassed Uno, they are forming aggressive blocs in Western Europe, in the Mediterranean, in the Near East, in Asia, thereby undermining Uno. They are hurriedly rebuilding the aggressive forces of their former enemies—militarist Japan and Western Germany—banking on, using them as tools in their plans for plunder.

An intensified armaments race, adding to the already huge military budgets, expansion of the army, the seizure and building of naval and air bases in all parts of the world—this is the foreign policy of the U.S. monopolists, a policy aimed at isolating and encircling the Soviet Union and the new democracies.

These facts show that the Anglo-American imperialists are attempting to resurrect the fascist plans of world domination which had been buried in the ruins of Hitler Germany.

The imperialists are trying to solve their internal contradictions, in which moribund capitalism is becoming more and more hopelessly entangled, by means of war and enslaving and plundering the people. By forming aggressive alliances and blocs the imperialists are at the same time trying to smash the democratic movement in their countries and the national-liberation movement in the colonies. The industrial and financial magnates are abolishing democratic liberties so

that they can establish their unrestricted dictatorship. The frenzy of the instigators of a new war, their nervousness and haste in building aggressive blocs and armaments, testify to the weakness of the imperialist camp, not its strength.

The worsening economic situation in the capitalist countries is aggravating the growing contradictions of imperialism. Despite Wall Street's frantic attempts to insure itself against an economic crisis by enslaving other countries, this crisis, with ever greater insistence, is knocking at the doors of the United States. The post-war boom in American industry is drawing to an end.

Even official figures show the sharp decline in the country's economic position: decrease in industrial production and currency circulation, more bankruptcies, sharp fall in wholesale prices, a decline in the farmer's income and a big increase in unemployment. According to the data of the Bureau of Statistics for February 4, unemployment increased by another 700,000 last December.

The situation is even worse in the Marshall countries: there are close to 3 million unemployed in Italy, over 300,000 in little Belgium, more than 200,000 in Holland. Britain is experiencing severe economic difficulties. Her trade deficit has reached a level unprecedented in peace time.

While the Truman Doctrine and the Marshall Plan have worsened the position of the Marshall countries, they have failed to solve the economic difficulties in the United States itself. In an effort to avoid the crisis the American monopolists are intensifying their expansionist drive and through Truman are laying claim to "backward areas". They would like to supplement the Marshallisation of Western Europe with the Marshallisation of the world.

The Soviet Union and the new democracies, in the sphere of international relations, are pursuing a line that is the complete reverse of this. Their policy is to strengthen the cause

of peace and world security. The Lenin-Stalin foreign policy of the Soviet Union, leading the anti-imperialist democratic camp, enjoys the wholehearted support of progressive mankind. Each day, events confirm the words of the great Lenin that "our peace policy is approved by the overwhelming majority of the population of the world", for it corresponds to the fundamental and vital interests of the working people.

The Communist Parties, uniting the democratic and patriotic forces of the peoples, have registered significant successes in the struggle for peace, and have bared and frustrated not a few of the aggressive schemes and plans of the imperialists. Having whetted the vigilance of the peoples, the Communist Parties are rallying the masses against the latest sallies of the instigators of war. The forces standing for peace are legion. They are growing and becoming stronger in all parts of the world.

We shall fight, said Maurice Thorez at the conference of the Communist Party Federation of the Seine Department, to unite all supporters of peace in our country, irrespective of their beliefs, demanding only one thing of them—that they love peace and fight for peace and democracy.

The leadership of the Communist Party of Italy published a statement calling on the Italian people resolutely to express their will for peace and to oppose all and every obligation which would turn Italy into an obedient tool in the hands of the imperialists.

Similar statements have been made by the leaders of the Communist Parties of other countries. They are supported by numerous democratic mass organisations and representatives of progressive opinion.

Ever wider sections of the working people are joining the struggle for peace. As in the years of the war against fascism, the Communists are in the forefront, seeing as their task the further consolidation and mobilisation of the masses for the

struggle for a lasting peace, for democracy and Socialism, to draw new sections of the people into this struggle, to expose ruthlessly the war-mongers. It is essential to devote still greater effort to the task of exposing the Right Socialists, the trumpeters of the aggressive plans of American imperialists; to expose their vicious attacks on the U.S.S.R. and the new democracies, and their lying propaganda by means of which they seek to cover up the aggressor and undermine the peaceful, strivings of the Soviet Union and weaken the peace front.

The will of the masses, the consolidation and organisation of the democratic camp, headed by the mighty land of Socialism, will frustrate each and every plan of the imperialist aggressors. "The horrors of the recent war," says Comrade Stalin "are too fresh in the minds of the people, and the social forces standing for peace are too great for the Churchill disciples of aggression to overcome them and turn them towards a new war.

## **STATEMENT OF AMERICAN ALL-SLAV CONGRESS**

The American All-Slav Congress has published a statement on Truman's refusal to conclude a peace pact between the Soviet Union and the United States.

It points out that in refusing to conclude a Soviet-American peace pact, which would have directed the efforts of the two great Powers toward building a lasting democratic peace, the United States Government has exposed itself in the eyes of peace-loving mankind as the principal instigator and inspirer of a new world war,

Ambiguous statements, which have become a most disgusting feature of the foreign policy of the Truman Government, will not deceive progressive Americans nor the peoples of the world, the statement stresses. The statement calls on all organisations affiliated to the American All-Slav Congress and all Roosevelt supporters to demand that the Truman Government should accept J. V. Stalin's peace proposal and direct all its effort toward concluding a Soviet-American pact.

## FOR CONSOLIDATION OF FORCES OF DEMOCRACY, AGAINST IMPERIALISM

### Strike Movement in Italy

The strikes at all private gas companies in Italy which lasted for more than a week resulted in complete victory for the working people.

A significant feature of this struggle was the part played by the municipalities. For example, Venice, Rome, Rapallo, Ventimiglia, Messina and other municipalities took over the management of the private companies and forced the owners of these companies, including such big financial groups as the Vatican, Crespi, Volpi to capitulate.

The working people of Sardinia won particularly important victories. Staging a general strike for a sliding wage scale, they won a 17 per cent increase in additional payment.

In many Italian provinces, the strike movement against the attempts of the capitalists supported by the Governments to cut workers' earnings and to close down a number of basic industries still continues. On February 4, 75,000 workers in the Fiat Works in Turin came out on a two-hour strike. The struggle took the form of a strike gradually spreading from one shop to another.

A movement for the restoration of collective agreements, broken by the industrialists is developing among chemical workers. Over 200,000 women rice-field workers are demanding a seven-hour day, workers' control over hire of labour, higher wages and a more humane attitude toward women and children.

On February 2, a 24-hour strike of bank clerks was held throughout the country. The most significant feature of this

strike was the solidarity of the autonomous bank workers' unions which are not affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour.

In Apulia, Veneto, Lombardia and Marche strikes were held to demand work for the unemployed. In Ancona, unemployed workers organised a hunger march. Ten people were wounded when police opened fire on the demonstrators.

A great wave of indignation swept the working people of Italy at the news that the Confederation of Industrialists, had annulled the agreements concerning the internal commission. These committees, elected by the workers at each plant, saw that labour agreements were kept by the industrialists, fought against dismissals and so on. By breaking the agreements, the industrialists are striking at the democratic gains of the working people.

Expressing the mood of the mass of the Italian working people, Di Vittorio, General Secretary of the C.G.T. said: "There is a limit which cannot be over-reached. And the Confederation of Industrialists has already reached this limit"

## **Among Working Youth of Rumania**

The working youth of Rumania has enthusiastically responded to the call of the workers' Party to set up a single revolutionary organisation of working youth. The Central Unity Commission has decided to convene a Unity Congress in Bucharest on March 19.

Some 13,108 young workers in Bucharest have signed individual emulation agreements in honour of the Congress. The city's young workers have decided to work 28,192 hours of voluntary labour. In the Cugir iron and steel works at Hunedoara young workers have over-fulfilled the production targets by 75-100 per cent in honour of the Congress. At the

Resitsa factory they have considerably surpassed their norm for the production of screws. Gatina Gheorghe, a young foundry worker, has fulfilled his targets by 125 per cent. In Oradea, 400 railwaymen and the workers of the "Red Flame" factory, all members of the Working Youth Union, have worked a thousand extra hours laying a road over a kilometre in length.

In the Craiova railway shops, young workers have repaired four wagons in honour of the Congress, completing the work in 540 instead of 1,050 hours.

All factories, villages, universities and schools have elected their delegates to the district and regional conferences which, amid great enthusiasm, are now taking place throughout the country to elect delegates to the Unity Congress.

## **Manifesto of the International Union of Students**

The Manifesto of the International Union of Students recently published declares that 69 per cent of Franco Spain's budget is to be spent on military measures and the police organisation while only 4.5 per cent is for education. These figures tell the story of the hardships of Spain's students and democratic youth.

Textbooks merely serve to propagate fascist ideology. The Falange, the organisation of fascist bandits, continues to use the methods of Hitler Germany and innumerable innocent students have been tortured and executed.

The Catholic Church fully supports the fascist regime in Spain. The fascist Franco is presented as an ally of the United States. That is why the tasks facing Spanish democratic students cannot be tackled by them alone, but must be the concern of the students of the whole world.

The International Union of Students, highest organ of

progressive and democratic students, has thus resolved to hold April 14, 1949 as a solidarity day with Spanish students and democratic youth.

## New People's Front Formed in Hungary

On February 1, third anniversary of the Hungarian Republic, a Provisional National Council was formed for a new Hungarian People's Independence Front. A declaration of the Front's programme was issued.

The declaration points out that the Hungarian Independence Front formed four years ago on the initiative of the Communist Party fulfilled its programme in the relentless struggle against reaction. Through the assistance of the Soviet Union, the country was able to overcome the results of military catastrophe and rehabilitate itself. Feudal landownership has been abolished. Political liberties have been given to the people and the Republic created. The strengthening of Hungarian democracy and the further development of its achievements made it possible to exceed the initial programme of the National Front.

Speaking of the sharpening struggle against reaction, the declaration demanded that the democratic forces of Hungary should be further consolidated in the struggle to suppress internal reaction, to defend the country's national independence against imperialism and to build a new, socialist society.

A congress of the Front will be held shortly and will elect the Permanent National Council of the Front. The decisions of the People's Front National Council are binding an all affiliated organisations. The Front embraces all democratic organisations willing to accept its programme and to submit to a single discipline.

The declaration was signed by the three coalition parties,

the National Trade Union Council, the mass peasant organisation (D. E. F. O. S.), the Democratic Women's Union and the Democratic Youth Union.

Comrade Rakosi was elected Chairman of the Front's Provisional National Council. Vice-Chairmen are Istvan Dobi (Smallholders' Party) and Ferenc Erdei (National Peasant Party), Comrade Rajk was elected Secretary.

## **Durban Conference of African and Indians**

On February 6, Africans and Indians from all over South Africa met in Durban at a conference called by the Indian Congress in South Africa and by the African National Congress.

The Conference is the first step toward creating a united front of non-Europeans. It was scheduled for a later date but was brought forward to February 6 so that immediate discussion could take place on the slaughter which resulted in the deaths of over 120 Africans and Indians.

The Conference passed a unanimous resolution declaring: no matter what the immediate reasons which accelerated the outburst, this Conference is confident that the main reasons for the disorders must be looked for in the country's political, economic and social system based on discrimination against the different racial groupings, in the policy of racial intolerance and discord carried out by higher circles.

The Conference decided to set up joint councils composed of representatives from various organisations in order to facilitate mutual understanding; and friendly relations between the peoples. The resolution called upon these councils to "consolidate themselves in the struggle for national liberation and general political, economic and social development and security."

## **Anti-Fascist Congress of Japanese Intellectuals**

An anti-fascist congress of Japanese intellectual was held recently in Tokyo. The Congress addressed a message to intellectuals throughout the world, saying: "We Japanese intellectuals are fighting against fascism which once again threatens our country."

Nearly 700 delegates, including writer critics, artists, musicians and cinema workers took part in the work of the Congress. All of them expressed their firm determination to "restore Japan a a democratic country which can make its contribution to the cause of world peace and the progress of mankind."

Delegates pledged themselves "to co-operate closely with progressive intellectual throughout the world," calling upon them "to give every possible assistance to the progressive intellectuals of Japan."

The Congress unanimously decided to set up an anti-fascist front of struggle for freedom and peace, and expressed itself in favour of an immediate fusion of the Communist Worker and Peasants and Socialist Parties.

## **People Discuss Draft Constitution of Germany**

As announced by the Secretariat of the German People's Council, the draft constitution put forward by the Council for the people's consideration has already been discussed at 6,550 meetings held in Thuringia, Brandenburg, Mecklenburg and Saxony. These meetings were attended by nearly 900,000 people.

So far, over 700 amendments and additions to the draft constitution have been submitted to the People's Council. They

will be considered by the Constitution Committee of the People's Council headed by Otto Grotewohl.

## CONFERENCE OF MOSCOW BOLSHEVIKS

The joint Ninth Moscow Regional and Eighth Moscow City Conference of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) was held recently. Nearly nine years had passed since the preceding conference of the Soviet capital's Bolsheviks, a period of world historic significance. During this period the Moscow Party organisation carried out enormous work, rallied still closer around the Lenin-Stalin Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B) and its great leader, Comrade Stalin.

In the first part of his report to the Conference, the secretary of the Moscow Regional and Moscow City Committees of the C.P.S.U.(B), Comrade G. M. Popov, described the outstanding role played by the Moscow, Party organisation by the working people of the city and region in the Great Patriotic War.

The immortal glory of Soviet patriots has gone down in the annals of the defence of Moscow against the German invaders. Thousands of Muscovites fought in the ranks of the valiant Soviet Army: more than 300,000 were decorated for valour and heroism in battle, while 890 were honoured with the title, Hero of the Soviet Union. Over half a million Muscovites helped to fortify the approaches to the capital. Under the leadership of the Party organisation, Moscow's industry quickly switched over to war-time needs and the capital became a powerful arsenal of the Soviet Army.

Having emerged victorious from the war, the Soviet people turned all their energy to fulfilling the great Stalin programme. Muscovites are in the front ranks of the builders of Communism. They have displayed remarkable new examples of selflessness in labour and of patriotic initiative.

Production targets had already been exceeded in 1946. After completing the 1948 plan ahead of schedule, the industry

of the capital and region as a whole outstripped the pre-war volume of gross output by 10 per cent and Moscow city alone by 16 per cent. In the first three years of the post-war Five Year Plan, Moscow's industry produced 7.5 billion rubles worth of goods above Plan. Productivity of labour in the capital's industry has increased by 32 per cent compared with the pre-war level.

In 1948, the popular patriotic movement for economy and accumulation of funds above Plan was born in Moscow. Carrying out their promise to Comrade Stalin, Muscovites accumulated 2 billion rubles above Plan in 1948, while the sum for the country as a whole exceeded 6 billion rubles.

Communists are in the vanguard for the fulfilment of the Five Year Plan ahead of schedule. Ninety-five per cent of Moscow's workers are now taking part in socialist emulation under the leadership of Party organisations at all enterprises.

In keeping with the decisions of the February Plenum of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B) the Moscow Party organisation is fighting to raise the level of agriculture. The first result of this struggle are strikingly evident from the fact that last year Moscow region collective farms gave the State more than a million poods of grain above plan as well as 4 million poods of vegetables more than in 1940.

Moscow's industry is giving all possible help to the countryside. It is now turning out tractors and has already delivered 1,100 to the machine-tractor depots.

Electricity has been installed in 65 per cent of the collective farms and in all the machine-tractor depots.

The growth of industrial and agricultural production has considerably raised the standard of living. The average wage of the Moscow worker has more than doubled compared with 1940. The steady growth in the well-being of the working people can be seen from the fact that nearly 90 per cent of the 5 billion ruble budget for Moscow region is allocated for the

development of the municipal economy, public health and the cultural needs of the people. For instance, Muscovites who had gas installed in their homes since the war economise over 200 million rubles a year on fuel alone. Budget appropriations for public health are more than twice those of 1940 while appropriations for public education show a 67 per cent increase.

The money reform carried out at the end of 1947 and the abolition of rationing played a big role in raising living standards. The purchasing power of the ruble doubled and the real wages of industrial and office workers more than doubled.

The reconstruction of Moscow, which was interrupted by the war, is now going ahead rapidly.

In the main branches of the capital's economy, the prewar level was surpassed by the beginning of 1949. Four billion rubles were invested in Moscow city economy during the first three years of the post-war Five Year Plan and 620 million rubles in the economy of the Moscow region. Nearly 2,700 million rubles, that is, nearly double the sum invested in the first year of the post-war plan have been allocated for the development of Moscow's economy in 1949.

More than 13 billion rubles have been spent on the reconstruction of Moscow since the General Plan was first adopted, Comrade Popov said. In view of the fact that the restoration of basic branches of the city's economy has been in the main completed and that the greater part of the work outlined in the ten year General Plan will be carried out within the next three to four years, the Council of Ministers of the Soviet Union and the Central Committee of the CPSU(B) have decided to draw up a new general plan for the reconstruction of Moscow, covering a longer period of time, from 20 to 25 years.

The speaker dwelt in detail on questions concerning the growth of the Moscow Party organisation. During the past nine years the Moscow organisation has nearly doubled its

membership which now stands at more than 600,000. There has been a considerable improvement in the activities of the branch organisations which are the basis of the Party. The branches are now paying greater attention to questions of labour productivity, socialist emulation and ideological education.

Today 95.5 per cent of the Moscow Party organisation is engaged in various forms of political study; 300,000 members, four-fifths of whom have secondary or university education, are active as propagandists.

In conclusion Comrade Popov said: Moscow—the capital of the country of victorious Socialism—is the beacon for all progressive mankind. In the eyes of the working people of the world Moscow is carrying out the victorious struggle of the Soviet people for the construction of a Communist society. The working people of Moscow will continue to move in the vanguard of the Soviet people—the great and invincible army of the builders of Communism.

Discussion on the reports of the Moscow City and Moscow Regional Committees of the CPSU(B) and of the Auditing Commissions lasted three days. Discussion showed that Moscow Bolsheviks were unanimous in their determination to carry out their tasks with honour.

The conference adopted a detailed decision on the report and elected members and alternate members to the Moscow City and Moscow Regional Committees and to the Auditing Commissions. The delegates enthusiastically addressed a letter of greeting to Comrade Stalin.

## **HISTORICAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY OF GERMANY. Wilhelm Pieck, Chairman, Socialist Unity Party of Germany**

The first conference of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany was held in Berlin on January 25-28, after extensive preparatory work. The task of the Conference was to orientate the Party on three main problems of Germany's anti-fascist democratic development.

These problems are: first, the struggle for Germany's democratic unity and a just peace; second, the struggle to strengthen the anti-fascist democratic system in the Soviet occupation zone; third, to develop the Socialist Unity Party of Germany into a party of the new type.

The three reports delivered (Wilhelm Pieck, Walter Ulbricht and Otto Grotewohl), outlined the tasks facing the Party. These tasks are formulated in the Manifesto and Resolution on the immediate tasks of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, adopted by the Party conference.

The Conference proceedings demonstrated the remarkable progress made by the Party since the Second Party Congress (September 1947) as a result of the ideological and political work carried out during 1948. The discussion was on a high level and showed the ideological unity of the Party. It showed in the majority of cases that the speakers had a Marxist training and fully analysed the Party's tasks from the viewpoint of its leading role in building democracy.

One of the highlights of the Conference was the speech by M. A. Suslov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks), who received an enthusiastic ovation. Comrade Suslov brought

fraternal greetings from the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U.(B), wishing the Party every success in its work.

The same wish was expressed in the messages of greetings conveyed to the Conference by the representatives of 14 other countries.

It can be stated with satisfaction that never has the Party known a conference where the spirit of internationalism, of Marxism-Leninism was so evident. The delegates clearly, felt that the Party is experiencing a new upsurge, that it is really developing into a party of a new type.

The first report, "The Struggle for Peace, Against the War Mongers", described the situation in Germany today. While the Soviet Union is conscientiously observing the Potsdam decisions, the Western Powers are doing their utmost to dismember Germany, thus weakening her economic might and strangling her competing industry. That is why they are obstructing the significance of the peace treaty with Germany.

After the Western occupation powers had disrupted the London Conference of Foreign Ministers (November-December 1947) on the question of a peace treaty with Germany, they set up a separate Western state by uniting the three Western occupation zones and formed a government and parliament of the Western zones.

The political and economic activity of these institutions is completely subordinated to the dictatorship of the occupation authorities and does not in the least correspond to the interests of the German people. Enormous difficulties stand in the way of the development of the economy in the Western zones. The confiscation of the property of monopolists, Junkers and war criminals and the handing over of this property to the people, have been prohibited. The workers have been deprived of the right to organise production either directly, or through the trade unions, while the big capitalists and landlords enjoy the right to do as they please. Nazi criminals once again hold posts in

important state and economic institutions.

The dismemberment of Germany was further aggravated by the introduction of a separate monetary reform in the Western occupation zones and in the western sectors of Berlin. The Ruhr—the heart of German economy—is being cut off from Germany and, according to the “Ruhr statute”, placed at the disposal of the Western authorities, especially American monopoly capital. The Ruhr statute is one of the heaviest blows yet struck at the German people for it deprives them of the economic foundation.

But the Western occupation powers find that all this is not enough for their colonial enslavement of the German people. They have established an organ, under the guise of a military security department, to control the entire economy of Western Germany. This is actually an espionage organisation which supported by a huge apparatus, will constantly meddle in the economy and obstruct its development.

In their plans to enslave the German people, the Western occupation powers are preparing an occupation statute which places Western Germany, now and in the future, under the control of military administrations. In order to deceive the people, institutions such as the Parliamentary Council in Bonn and other such pseudo-democratic organs are being established whose functions are determined by the occupation statute alone.

Having divided Germany, the object of the Western occupation powers is to turn the western regions into a jumping-off ground for a new war, and the Ruhr, cut off from the rest of the German economy, into an arsenal. With this aim in view the Western occupation authorities have signed the military pact between Britain, France and the Benelux countries: known as “Western Union”, which is to be joined later by the separate West German State and the western sectors of Berlin. In violation of the Potsdam decisions concerning the

demilitarisation of Germany, systematic new militarisation is being carried out in the Western zones and an army is being trained in an aggressive spirit. A wide network of war industries is operating at full capacity.

The Western occupation powers would not have been able to put these measures into practice without the support of the German Nazis, militarists and monopolists, and the politicians from the ranks of Schumacher and the bourgeois parties who look to the West. Their treachery is best proved by the sentence imposed by the British military tribunal on Mali Reimann Chairman of the Communist Party of Germany, for referring to such traitors as quislings who one day will answer before the German people, Reimann was sentenced to three-months' imprisonment and was taken to prison straight from the court. This sentence started a broad protest movement among the masses who demanded—and won their demand—that Reimann should be released, opposed the separation of the Ruhr from Germany and denounced against the terror of the British occupation authorities.

To drag the people once again into war, a vicious slander campaign is being conducted against the Soviet Union and the new democracies, and against the anti-fascist democratic parties and organisations in the Soviet zone.

The Party Conference stated that in contrast to the situation in the Western zones, there is, in the Soviet zone and in the Soviet sector of Berlin, considerable progress in the sphere of politics, economy and culture. Immediately after the war, in May 1945, the Soviet occupation authorities allowed anti-fascist democratic parties and free trade unions to be organised. The revival of parties and their ability to solve the tasks before them brought about close co-operation between these parties, which gradually grew stronger, and finally found expression in the establishment of the United Committee ("Bloc"), The powerful nation-wide movement, the "People's Congress",

came into being on the initiative of the Socialist Unity Party, and at its two national congresses called for the unity of Germany and a just peace. These Congresses united the progressive forces of Germany and set up a permanent organ, the German People's Council, representing the national interests of the people of Germany.

This co-operation of progressive forces made it possible to introduce a democratic land reform to confiscate the property of war criminals and hand it over to the people. A democratic education reform has been introduced. The administrative organs have been purged of reactionary elements and a democratic municipal system established by promoting working people. The newly formed German Economic Commission and the economic plans drawn up first for the second half of 1948 and later for 1949-50, have been a great success. All these measures have laid the foundations for democratic development and the building up of a peace-time economy,

Great importance is attached to strengthening the Democratic Front, which is fighting for democratic development in the Soviet zone against the reactionaries who are opposing such development. There are also reactionary elements in the Soviet zone who are trying to gain the leadership of the bourgeois parties to prevent co-operation between the democratic parties. It is our great duty to extend the struggle for unity and a just peace in the West and to carry out measures in the Soviet zone in such a way as to influence the whole of Germany.

The primary task of the struggle is to preserve the unity of Germany and to win a just peace treaty. Here it is a question of democratic unity, within the framework of which the working people must decisively influence the economic life and administration of the country, in order to safeguard themselves against a revival of reaction and to secure peaceful

development.

The struggle for the unity of Germany and for a just peace treaty is, therefore, the main sector of the struggle, for which the German people must bring up all their forces. Only in this way can they secure their national existence.

This is a big job and the Conference stressed that the Party must mobilise all its forces to solve the great task presented by the present situation, which calls for a turning point in all Party activity. The Socialist Unity Party of Germany must become a party of the new type, by establishing close contact with the working people, by accepting into its ranks the more advanced elements of the working class and by educating them in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism. The Party must guide the struggle of the working masses and ensure that this struggle is waged without vacillation, with iron consistency and discipline.

The enthusiasm with which the main Conference decisions were adopted, including the decision to abolish the parity principle in the leadership, to introduce a probationary period for new members and to form a Political Bureau to secure firm collective leadership, shows that the comrades realised the seriousness of the situation, the need to intensify the struggle against the warmongers, against the measures designed to destroy the vital foundations of our people against the traitors to the national cause, the need to fight for the democratic unity of Germany and for a just peace.

The Conference called on all members of the Party, all workers and peasants, on intellectuals and the working people of Germany, on all progressive people to join in active struggle against the danger of a new criminal war, so that, under the leadership of the Soviet Union, peace can be secured throughout the world and with it a happy future for the German people in friendship with all the democratic peace-loving peoples.

## CENTRAL COMMITTEE PLENUM OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF BULGARIA

At its enlarged Plenum on February 11, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria discussed the questions of preparing for elections to the people's councils and people's courts and the spring sowing campaign. It also discussed reports on how the decisions of the Fifth Party Congress were being carried out and on the election campaign in the Communist Party of Bulgaria.

The Plenum approved the main principles of a law governing elections to the people's councils and people's courts and recommended that elections should be held in the second half of May. The Party will enter the elections with single lists of candidates and on the general election programme of the Fatherland front.

The Plenum also approved the decision of the Political Bureau concerning the spring sowing campaign, and adopted the main principles of a draft decision regarding the purchase of grain and other agricultural products in 1949.

The Plenum outlined concrete measures to popularise and implement the decisions of the Fifth Party Congress and approved a number of decisions of the Political and Organisational Bureaux on organisation questions.

## EVE OF ELEVENTH CONGRESS OF COMMUNIST YOUTH LEAGUE OF SOVIET UNION

The Eleventh Congress of the Communist Youth League of the Soviet Union opens in Moscow on February 24. Congress will hear the report of the League's Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission. It will discuss the question of the League's work in schools, will adopt changes in the League rules and will elect a new Central Committee and Central Auditing Commission.

The Eleventh Congress will generalise the rich experience gained by the League organisations in their organisational and ideological-educational work, will outline the further tasks of the League as the militant assistant of the Bolshevik Party in the struggle to build Communism in the Soviet Union.

The Tenth Congress of the Communist Youth League of the Soviet Union was held in April 1936—nearly 13 years ago. These years have been marked by outstanding historical events, by great changes in the life of Soviet youth. The young people have grown culturally and politically, have passed through a stern school of struggle under the guidance of the Bolshevik Party, have enriched the glorious traditions of the Communist youth League which date from the Civil War and the years of the first Five-Year Plans.

The All-Union Congress of the Communist Youth League has been preceded by extensive preparatory work. Election meetings have been held in all local organisations, followed by district, city, regional and area conferences and Republican congresses.

Meetings and conferences were marked by exceptional activity and a high political level. Everywhere members of the League demonstrated their deep loyalty to the Bolshevik Party,

their readiness to devote all their energies to the great cause of Lenin-Stalin. Many proposals were made by the rank and file on how to improve the work of the League organisations, how to strengthen their role as assistants of the Bolshevik Party in State and economic construction in town and countryside, in industry, transport and agriculture and in advancing science and culture.

Thus, for instance, members from the Southern and South-Eastern areas of the Soviet Union—from the Stalingrad, Chkalov, Saratov, Kharkov and Kuibyshev regions and the Stavropol area have undertaken to plant forest belts to protect cultivated land. This initiative, aimed at speeding the fulfilment of the great Stalin plan to transform nature, was supported by Party organisations and the Ministry of Forestry.

The regional, area and Republican congresses of the Communist Youth League elected delegates to the Eleventh Congress. They enthusiastically elected as their first delegate Comrade J. V. Stalin—the great leader of the peoples, the true friend and teacher of the Soviet youth—and his close companions, members and alternate members of the Political Bureau of the Party.

Among the delegates are League and Party functionaries, Heroes of the Soviet Union and Heroes of Socialist Labour, leading Stakhanovites, workers, collective farmers, scientists, teachers, doctors, agronomists, students and pupils from secondary and vocational schools. According to preliminary figures, nearly half of the delegates so far elected are young women.

The Congress is a great event in the life of Soviet youth. That is why the young men and women are preparing for it so enthusiastically.

Immediately the announcement of the forthcoming congress had been made the young people undertook additional socialist obligations. Thousands of young workers pledged

themselves to fulfil the quarterly targets set in honour of the Congress, and many have already done so. Young collective farmers, workers on State farms and machine-tractor depots promised to complete preparations for the spring sowing, to repair tractors, agricultural machines and implements. Young lumbermen promised to complete the season's assignments.

At many factories, young workers are preparing to greet the Eleventh Congress by producing dozens of new machines, machine-tools, instruments and thousands of metres of textiles produced over and above the plan. An increasing number of young people have been joining the ranks of the League during the preparations for the Congress.

## **SOME ORGANISATIONAL PROBLEMS OF UNITED WORKERS' PARTY OF POLAND.**

**R. Zambrowski, Secretary, Central  
Committee, United Workers' Party of  
Poland**

Two months have passed since the Congress of the Polish Workers' parties was held, unifying the Polish Workers' Party and the Polish Socialist Party.

The Polish Workers' Party brought 930,000 members and the Polish Socialist Party 470,000 members to the new United Party. The United Workers' Party now has in its ranks over 980,000 full members and 120,000 candidate members, of whom 787,000 are industrial workers, 62,000 agricultural workers, 282,000 office workers, (including workers promoted to administrative posts as well as members in the Army, security organs and militia), 238,000 peasants, 28,000 artisans and 3,000 small traders.

The Unity Congress laid a firm foundation for the organisational development of the United Workers' Party. Never before has any party in the Polish working class movement come forward with such an extensive programme based on Leninist organisational principles, never before has the rich organisational experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) been utilised so widely as during the pre-Congress campaign and at the Congress itself.

All Party organisations' were drawn into discussion of the draft Rules; the great wealth of the Lenin-Stalin doctrine on the Party was studied by the Party Active and was applied in the concrete conditions of the present stage in the development of people's Poland, all of which resulted in greater activity on the part of the membership.

This was a fine school for members of the former Socialist Party who had to overcome their reformist traditions in regard to organisational tasks, traditions which led them onto the incorrect path of “uniting” the organisational principles of the party of a new type with reformist organisational principles,

Above all, the organisational development of the United Workers’ Party was previously hampered by those who supported the Right nationalist deviation in the leadership of the Polish Workers’ Party, toning down the leading role of the Party. They did not develop collective methods of Party leadership, neglected criticism and self-criticism and belittled the role of the Party organisation.

The analysis of the class essence of the system of people’s democracy made at the Congress by Comrade Bierut, when he developed the thesis that people’s democracy successfully carries out the main functions of the dictatorship of the proletariat, helped considerably to eliminate shortcomings in organisational work.

These organisational tasks are determined by the transition, outlined at the Congress, from a people’s Poland into a socialist Poland. They are determined in particular, by the programme of the great tasks set by the Six-Year Plan.

This will be a period of sharpening class struggle for building the foundation of a socialist System in Poland, a period when the capitalist elements in town and countryside will be further restricted and squeezed out, and the way prepared for their complete elimination; a period of struggle against hostile activities in which the reactionary section of the clergy is actively participating. In this period the working class will strengthen its leading role, the face of our country will be changed through large-scale industrialisation, and the well-being and cultural level of the mass of the working people raised. On the basis of these achievements, the working class is strengthening and will continue to strengthen its alliance with

the working peasantry, creating for them the necessary economic and political conditions which will enable the poor and medium peasants to change over more easily to large-scale cooperative farming.

To carry out these tasks we must strengthen in every way the leading role of the Party in the entire political, economic and cultural life of the people's Poland, and we must boldly bring forward tens of thousands of new leaders from the ranks of the working class. It is essential to secure such a development of inner party democracy, such an unfolding of criticism and self-criticism as will bring about better discipline, increase the activity of the membership, and bring forward cadres in the process of the Party work.

A decisive factor in the leading role of the working class is the fulfilment of production plans and the development of labour emulation. That is why all party organisations must constantly centre attention on production, on the struggle for increased labour productivity and better discipline.

In the pre-Congress period, emulation to fulfil the 1948 targets ahead of time in honour of the unification of workers' parties developed among the workers on the initiative of our Party. This resulted in unprecedented labour enthusiasm in the ranks of the workers who produced 6 billion zloty worth of goods above Plan. In the course of this emulation, Party organisations in the factories were particularly concerned with production. Their prestige among non-Party members was enhanced and they were able to bring forward hundreds of advanced workers for reading economic positions. Out of the emulation campaign between individuals there developed emulation between brigades and even between entire enterprises. Of great importance was the fact that the trade unions were drawn in to lead this emulation. At the same time the Party nipped in the bud attempts by certain administrative bodies to make this movement bureaucratic, and to guide it

from the managerial office.

The increased prestige of the Party organisations during the pre-Congress emulation campaign made it easier to carry out complicated changes in wage rates and production norms after the Congress. These changes increased real wages by an average of 10 per cent. At the same time, price changes were made and rationing abolished. These measures were brought about after discussion with the workers. Thanks to this, they were approved by the overwhelming majority of the working class. They created favourable conditions for labour enthusiasm to fulfil the 1949 Plan in ten months,

The strengthening of the Party's leading role is expressed in the new aims and new rights set out in the Rules for Party organisations in the factories, where they are not only responsible for fulfilling the plan and for working conditions; they are now able to exercise a certain influence even on factory managements.

Because of this it became necessary to make considerable changes in the forms and methods of work and structure of factory Party organisations. As the Party grew, a large number of workshop organisations were formed in which were concentrated, for the most part, the whole of Party life. The only unit linking all the members at the plant was the factory Party committee. Thus the rank and file of the membership had no say in deciding matters that affected the life of the entire factory, the work of the Party organisation as a whole, and the work of the managerial board and factory trade union committees.

The new tasks of our factory organisations made it necessary to restore the rights of the factory Party meeting, which should decide all vital matters affecting the factory. This does not in the least diminish the role of the workshop organisation which is faced with the very important tasks of production and political education of the membership.

The increased role of Party members in industry has brought up new organisational tasks for the Party groups. The former system of Party groups of ten members, with leaders appointed from above whose tasks were mainly confined to seeing that their groups took part in meetings, distributing Party literature among them and similar jobs, has outgrown itself. The main basis on which Party groups are now formed are their relationship to production and common production tasks; these groups elect their Party organisers and are the most operative basic organisational units in the factories.

The reorganisation of Party factory organisations in keeping with the new Rules, which is now taking place, will help to strengthen the leading role of the Party in industry and will make it easier to increase the productive activity of the broad mass of the workers.

We set before Part organisations new tasks which go beyond the actual factory work. These include particularly the development of labour reserves, exerting a greater influence on the training and education of young people, contact of factories with vocational schools, organisation of patronage over elementary and secondary schools.

The most important task of the Party is to strengthen the leading role of the working class and to consolidate the alliance between the workers and the working peasants.

The unification of the workers' parties raised the prestige of the working class among the broad masses of the work.

However, the countryside is still lagging behind the general political and economic development of the country. Rural organisations of the United Workers' Party are still comparatively weak, both in numbers and quality of work. The strengthening of these organisations is an urgent task for the whole Party. The programme of gradual transition from small farming onto the path of large-scale, mechanised collective farming as the economic possibilities for this develop, as was

outlined by our Party to the mass of poor and medium peasant, has already met with fierce opposition from the kulaks. This resistance will intensify still more in future. That is why the most important tasks for the Party are to **consolidate the worker-peasant alliance, to win** over the medium peasants completely, and to isolate the rural rich.

In spite of the opposition of the kulaks and all reactionaries who are quite unscrupulous in their methods a growing number of poor and medium peasants are declaring that they want to form various types of cooperatives in their villages.

The publication of rules for producer cooperatives of various types, just drawn up by the Board of agricultural cooperatives on the basis of suggestions from the peasants and also the all-round assistance given to the peasants, by Party organisations, will undoubtedly help our peasants to form several hundred producer cooperatives as early as this autumn.

Our rural Party organisations are steadily developing their work and are more and more succeeding in mastering the directives of the Unity Congress. Some 104,000 active members of rural party organisations attended regional and area congresses of the peasant Active, at which members and candidate members of the Central Committee of the Party gave reports on the Unity Congress. The 3,223 people taking part in discussion at these congresses expressed their full support for the Unity Congress decisions.

The new situation in the countryside calls for new forms of the alliance of workers and peasants.

However, there are still serious deficiencies in the work of the Party in the countryside.

Both town and country party organisations are coming to understand this more deeply. That is why the slogan of consolidating the unity between the working class and the peasantry and of encouraging factories to become patrons of country areas which was put forward by the Congress has

already met with a wide response and is being put into action to an increasing extent in the localities.

Commissions to develop unity with the countryside are being set up in factory committees under the guidance of Party organisations. Visits of workers to the countryside are becoming more frequent. They make reports and conduct discussions. Brigades of specialists who repair agricultural equipment of cooperative depots, and factory amateur art groups are also going more often to the villages. .

Because the workers are taking more interest in the problems of the countryside, it has become necessary to include agricultural subjects in the curricula of evening and three-month Party courses in the towns which now cover over 75,000 members. These subjects include, "The structure and work of rural cooperatives," "The principles of the tax and credit policy in the countryside", "The policy of developing cattle-breeding," and cover the work of the producer cooperatives.

During the January campaign for the elections to the Boards of rural and area organisations of the Peasants' Mutual Assistance Union, delegations of factory workers helped the poor and medium peasants to dislodge the kulaks and their accomplice from the basic leading bodies of the Union.

As a result of these elections, of the total 271,776 members of the Boards and Auditing Commissions of the Union's rural organisations, 35,182 (or 13 per cent) are landless peasants; 131,411 (or 48.6 per cent) are peasants possessing up to 5 hectares of land and only 471 (or 0.2 per cent) are peasants who have more than 20 hectares of land. Of these people, 83,333 are members of the United Workers' Party, 50,601 of the Stronnictwo Ludowe and Polski Stronnictwo Ludowe Parties, and 137,842 are non-Party people.

This form of direct and systematic contact between factory and rural groups must be further developed to become a part

the daily life of our factories and villages. It will play a significant role in helping the advanced peasants who are now organising producer cooperatives.

An important role in the countryside must also be played by the Polish Youth Union, uniting the vanguard section of Poland's younger generation, which already has its credit considerable achievements in drawing broad sections of the working youth into labour emulation.

However, the rate of the growth of the Polish Youth Union in the countryside is not sufficient.

The reason for this backwardness was that leading cadres of the Youth Union failed to understand well enough the worker-peasant nature of this organisation, while at the same time the W.I.C.I.—a progressive peasant youth organisation which had merged with the working class youth in the Youth Union—had not been correctly utilised. The Youth leadership also failed to take into account the fact that the Youth Union—a united organisation of Polish youth—was working in a country where many parties existed side by side. The development of the Youth Union was retarded because some of its organisations imitated the methods and forms of Party work, while neglecting to give sufficient attention to the actual problems of youth.

Our party has mobilised its Active to help the cadres of the Youth Union surmount these shortcomings. With the help the Party, the Youth Union will become a million-strong worker-peasant organisation.

Our Party is able to set many common tasks because it has successfully combated the Right nationalist deviation, because in the process of unification, a mortal blow was struck at the remnants of reformism in the Polish working class movement, and because the Party cadres have developed and become steeled in the struggle.

Since the Unity Congress, the process of uniting the Party

into one whole has been successfully developing. The unity and solidarity of its ranks are growing.

However, we are far from being in any way complacent. We are fully aware that two months of joint work and struggle in the ranks of the United Workers' Party could not as yet completely eliminate Party remnants of isolation and estrangement developed in the course of many years. We know of the reactionary machinations directed against the internal unity of our Party. We also know that hostile underground organisations connected with foreign intelligence services have attempted to make use of the trade union attitude of a certain part of the former Socialist Party members and the unskilful approach of some former Workers' Party members with the of undermining the iron discipline of our Party.

We also know that reactionary groups are trying to draw into hostile activity against the United Worker' Party of Poland those people who were removed from the Workers' Party and the Socialist Party. They are also trying to take advantage of the dissatisfaction of those who were unjustly expelled from the Party during the verification and whose rights have not yet been restored.

That is why the question of strengthening Party vigilance in every possible way is a necessary condition for consolidating the unity of the Party and for elevating its a entire organisational work to the level of the political tasks set by the historical Unity Congress.

## COURSES FOR PARTY MEMBERS IN THE COUNTRYSIDE

At the beginning of this month, Party courses for active members in the countryside were started in 106 regions and 507 districts of Poland: 10,200 students will attend them,

The students are studying the decisions of the Unity Congress of the United Workers Party of Poland. Particular attention is being given to the question of socialist reorganisation of the countryside, to studying the experience of socialist construction in the Soviet Union, to the tax and credit policy and the policy of developing cooperatives,

At the same time, 1,300 secretaries of district Party committees and of the bigger rural Party' branches are now completing their studies in 16 area Party schools and in the Central Party school at Lodz

At the end of February another 1,200 members from the countryside will start courses.

Over 1,000 lecturers of regional and city Party committees have been brought in to work in the courses for active rural Party members.

## FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA'S NATIONAL ECONOMY. Frantisek J. Kolar

On January 1, 1949, Czechoslovakia started her Five-Year Plan to develop her national economy. The Two-Year Plan (1947-48) of economic restoration was carried out in the main by the beginning of the year.

Industrial targets were fulfilled by 101.5 per cent—10 per cent above the pre-war level. The number of industrial workers in November 1948 was 106.8 per cent compared with pre-war. Productivity of labour increased to 101.4 per cent. Railway transport fulfilled the freight plan by 101.2 per cent. In 1948, Czechoslovakia balanced her imports and exports. The share of the Soviet Union and the new democracies in the general volume of the country's foreign trade is now over 40 per cent. The national income grew by 36 per cent—from 155.5 billion crowns in 1946 to 215 billion in 1948. The average hourly earnings of industrial workers increased by 15.1 per cent between May 1947 and August 1948.

Thanks to the Soviet Union's aid, Czechoslovakia was able to improve her rationing system and also to extend State trade of certain unrationed goods. All this is helping to raise the living standard of the working class, to restrict the incomes of the propertied classes, to raise the productivity of labour and gradually eliminate the post-war system of wage equalisation.

The Two-Year Plan was not fulfilled in agriculture and construction due to a number of reasons: crop failure in 1947, low productivity of labour of the small producers, and also because the capitalists and reactionaries of all shades did their utmost to disrupt the Plan and prevent it being carried out.

The Communist Party met the sabotage of reaction with a programme of reconstruction and development of the Republic,

a programme which met with the support of millions of workers, peasants and intellectuals. The Communists ruthlessly exposed all who sabotaged and obstructed the successful forward movement. In February 1948, they led the working people to victory over reaction which sought to bring about a putsch. The people's democracy has been strengthened and further nationalisation carried out.

The principal aims of the Five-Year Plan are to increase the national income from 210 billion crowns in 1948 to 310 billion crowns in 1953 (that is, by nearly 50 per cent); to raise the general volume of industrial production by 57 per cent, the output of means of production by 66 per cent, production of the means of consumption by 50 per cent. Agricultural output will increase by 15 per cent. The number of workers engaged in industry will grow by 118 per cent whereas the number of those in agriculture will drop by 5 per cent. Productivity of labour in industry will increase by 32 per cent per worker and in agriculture by 20 per cent. Consumption per head of the population will rise 35 per cent.

The Five-Year Plan will be an important step in the advance of people's democratic Czechoslovakia toward Socialism. It will strengthen the nationalised industry, extend the mechanisation and electrification of agriculture and lay the basis for developing more progressive forms of production in agriculture. Realisation of the Plan will bring with it further improvements in the living standard of the working people of town and country and on this basis will strengthen the alliance of workers, peasants, intelligentsia and the middle classes in the towns. The remaining capitalist elements will gradually be restricted and dislodged from all branches of the national economy; the socialised sector will continue to expand and planned economy to grow and develop.

An indication of the scope of construction work to be accomplished in these five years can be got from the general

volume of capital investments which totals 336.2 billion crowns.

Industrial reorganisation provides for the rapid growth of heavy industry, especially machine-building. This is a necessary precondition for the successful construction of Socialism—new production technique, increased productivity of labour. Czechoslovakia inherited from Austro-Hungary a number of light industries, which even before the war had no permanent markets. The people's democracies now carrying out industrialisation need, more than anything else, a heavy industry. Thus, industrial reorganisation will furnish a stable basis for the development of co-operation between Czechoslovakia and other countries who run their economy on planned lines. It will safeguard her against the crises inherent in the capitalist West and from the machinations of the imperialists.

By the end of the Five-Year Plan, metal-processing production will be 130 per cent above the pre-war level, that of the chemical industry 90-95 per cent, ferrous metallurgical industry 64 per cent, and mining 59 per cent above prewar. The woodworking industry, however, will reach only 100 per cent of the pre-war level and the glass industry only 97 per cent. Compared with 1948, the metal-processing industry will practically double its output, while heavy machine-building will increase its output threefold.

Eight to ten heavy machine-building plants will be built as well as a new automobile plant and ball-bearings plant. Heavy machine-building will be the pivot of the Five-Year Plan.

The reorganisation of industry will strengthen Czechoslovakia's foreign trade with the new democracies and the Soviet Union.

During the Five-Year Plan major changes will take place in the structure of agriculture. Cattle breeding will have priority. There will be 45,000 tractors in the field by the end of the Plan.

The industrialisation of Slovakia is of particular interest. As a result of the Two-Year Plan, industrial production doubled compared with 1937. Unemployment has been eliminated and the national income per head of the population has gone up by one-fourth compared with 1946.

The Five-Year Plan calls for a 75 per cent increase in Slovakia's industrial production compared with 1948 (the percentage for the whole of Czechoslovakia will be 57), and a 37 per cent increase in agricultural production (15 per cent for the whole of Czechoslovakia). Cattle breeding will be doubled. The volume of construction work will be doubled and railway freight turnover will go up by 39 per cent. The network of social and cultural institutions will be greatly extended. In the near future the Slovak people will be in a position to enjoy the same favourable material and cultural conditions as the Czech people.

In his report to the Central Committee of the Communist Party last November, Comrade Gottwald pointed out that Czechoslovak economy is divided into three main sectors. Of these the socialist sector expanded considerably after February 1948 and is the principal sector in our economy. The capitalist sector decreased after February while the sector of small producers remained for the most part unchanged. Thus, as Comrade Gottwald stated, the February events cleared our path to Socialism not only in the sphere of political power. But also in the sphere of class, economic and political relations.

After February the number of workers engaged in the socialist sector increased while the number employed in the capitalist sector showed a marked decrease. The following figures speak for themselves: before February there were 1,635,000 engaged in the socialist sector and after February 1,916,000; in the capitalist sector the figure was 1,096,000 as against 822,000 today. The socialist sector accounts for 61.4 per cent of the national income, the capitalist sector for 13.6 per cent and the

sector of small producers for 25 per cent. The big economic changes have similarly influenced the country's class structure: 67.1 per cent of the working people are wage earners of which 40.4 per cent are industrial workers; 24 per cent small producers and 6 per cent capitalist elements.

Although the remaining big capitalists were dislodged from Czechoslovakia's economy in February, the numerically predominant rural bourgeoisie, the kulaks, still exist alongside the remnants of capitalist elements in the towns. The capitalist elements will offer increasing resistance to the country's forward movement to Socialism,

Only the creation of a socialist economy will lead to the abolition of all capitalist elements and prevent any possibility of a restoration of capitalist relations. This is a difficult task that calls for time, for a stubborn struggle and gradual construction, for which the First Five-Year Plan is an essential stage, That is why Comrade Gottwald at the November meeting of the Central Committee of the Party waged against attempts to bypass the present necessary stage of development. An alliance of workers and peasants continues to be all important in the frame-work of the National Front. The task is not to liquidate capitalist elements in the countryside and capitalist elements in general, but to restrict and dislodge them.

One of the essential immediate tasks is to fight for greater economy in the nationalised industries, to increase their profitability and the productivity of labour, to introduce cost accounting and control of the crown-in short to bring order in to the socialist sector of our economy. In this way we are fighting the class enemy whose interest is chaos and disorder. A well-run economy will help to transform the nationalised industries into a source of accumulation for planned capital investments and for strengthening the national economy.

The main principles of the Five-Year Plan in its initial stage are reflected in the nine points formulated by Comrade

Gottwald at the November meeting of the Central Committee of the Party. It is a question, above all, of organising and improving supplies, of successfully launching the Five-Year Plan. The capitalist elements must be restricted and dislodged through a class policy providing for deliveries of agricultural products and the fixing of taxes and prices. Priority of supplies must be given chiefly to workers at the expense of those who do not work. In the countryside it is necessary to build a network of state tractor depots, publicly-owned cattle-breeding and poultry farms, to support all forms of cooperatives, and especially the producer cooperatives.

The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is successfully mobilising the mass of the working people to fight for the fulfilment of the Five-Year Plan. Mastering the art of managing the national economy, and, relying on the Soviet Union, it has every possibility for the successful fulfilment of the Plan.

## MINISTRIES OF THE RUMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC REORGANISED

A reorganisation of Ministries is under way in the People's Republic of Rumania.

As a result of the simplification of the apparatus, many departments have either been abolished or fused with others.

Before going over to new jobs, Civil Servants released under the reorganisation will take study courses in trade union schools. During this time their wages will be paid.

The Ministers will carry out their duties with the help of deputies and councillors. In each department a council will be formed consisting of the Minister, his deputies and also technical councillors or directors of the ministries,

## EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE IN PARTY WORK

**The Stefan Gheorghiu University of the Rumanian Workers' Party in Bucharest**



The Stefan Gheorghiu University of the Rumanian Workers' Party in Bucharest. The University's one-year course is attended by Party activists.  
Picture shows students at a lesson on Marxism-Leninism.

The Stefan Gheorghiu of the Rumanian Workers' Party in Bucharest. The University's one-year course is attended by Party activists. Picture shows students at a lesson on Marxism-Leninism.

## **Seventh Congress Communist Party Norway**

The Communist Party of Norway held its Seventh Congress in Oslo over February 4-6. Among the 220 delegates were members of the Board of the Party and Communist deputies in the Storting. Fraternal delegates were present from the Communist Parties of Great Britain, Denmark, Sweden and Finland and from the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. Messages of greetings were read from the Communist Parties of France and Czechoslovakia.

Emile Levlien, Chairman of the Party reported on the political situation and the tasks of the Party. Congress also discussed organisational matters and certain changes in the Party rules.

In a manifesto addressed to the people of Norway, the Congress called for unity in the struggle against the catastrophic policy of the Government which is drawing the country into a military bloc against the Soviet Union.

“The Soviet Union, by its proposal for a pact of non-aggression has, once again, extended the hand of friendship to the Norwegian people. We must clasp this hand of our powerful neighbour, which crushed Hitler fascism and made possible the liberation of Norway.”

## **Plenum Central Committee Communist Party Japan**

The fifth, extended plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party took place in Tokyo over the weekend, February 5-6. Among the 139 people present were members of the Central Committee and Central Control Commission, members of the prefect and district committees, and

Communist Members of Parliament.

Kuichi Tokude, General Secretary of the Party, reported on the results of the Parliamentary elections and on general Party policy.

The report was subjected to an all-round discussion. Delegates reported on the movement now developing in different parts of the country for the fusion of the Socialist and Communist Parties. Other points discussed included measures for securing the ideological and organisational strengthening of the Party and its Parliamentary policy.

### **Eve of Ninth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia**

A movement to greet the forthcoming Ninth Congress of the Communist Party with new production successes is spreading in the factories and mines of Czechoslovakia.

Many factory groups are pledging themselves to increase labour productivity and to lower production costs in honour of the Congress.

In the Moravska-Ostrava factories alone, economies and increased output made by the workers under their pledges will save the country tens of millions of crowns.

The youth movement initiated by the young workers of Libcice is growing rapidly. At present 2,700 youth brigades are functioning in the country.

### **Communist Press Campaign in Italy**

The campaign launched recently by the Communist Party

of Italy to increase the circulation of the Communist press has already resulted in successes.

Two weeks after the campaign had started, 330,000 copies of the Milan edition of "**L'Unità**" were sold instead of the usual 150,000 copies. The circulation of the Rome edition of the paper went up by 30,000 copies.

The campaign is particularly successful in Milan where the circulation of "**L'Unità**" doubled, in Bologna where it went up three times, and also in Forli, Cremona and Piacenza.

All Party units, from big city organisations to rural branches, have energetically joined in the work, and have started emulation for wider circulation of the Communist press. Comrade Togliatti, has stressed the great significance of the campaign in ideological work and called on all Party organisations and all comrades to ensure that the results achieved are consolidated and surpassed.

## **Improving Ideological Work of Communist Party of Italy. Emilio Sereni, Member, Board of the Central Committee, Communist Party of Italy**

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Italy at a Plenum held last September critically reviewed the situation in the country and the political activity of the Party in the light of the sharpening class struggle both at home and abroad.

In this connection, both Comrade Longo, Assistant General Secretary of the Central Committee, in his report, and Comrade Togliatti in discussion, stressed the importance of Party work on the ideological front.

The Plenum decision centred attention on the task of raising the ideological level of Party work and the ideological

education of its cadres. Since then, considerable headway has been made in this field.

The sharpening class struggle both inside the country and abroad, requires from Party members more attention to ideological training to enable them to tackle complex questions correctly.

The Resolution of the Communist Information Bureau concerning the situation in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia aroused keen interest among the working people; it made hundreds of Communists devote more attention to political education and especially to the history of the Bolshevik Party, the history of the Soviet Union and the national and agrarian questions. After the protest strike which followed the attempt on Comrade Togliatti's life, interest in ideological problems increased considerably. This interest was further increased by the growing struggle against leftist tendencies and for working-class allies.

The Central Committee's decision on ideological work provided for a number of organisational measures, including the formation of a Central Ideological Commission, headed by Comrade Togliatti and composed of the leaders of the following central commissions (Central Committee departments—Ed.): press and propaganda, cultural work, Party schools, organisation. The task of the Commission, working under supervision of the Board of the Central Committee, is to promote the continuity and the proper orientation of our work on the ideological front and especially to encourage initiative and the development of the most important ideological campaigns.

The Ideological Commission has already carried out a number of important measures which had been submitted to the Board. One of the first of these was organisational and propaganda work among the membership to study the "Short History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union". On the

initiative of the Commission, the Board decided to increase the circulation of the "Short Course", declaring that a study of the history of the C.P.S.U. (B.) Is an important means of raising the ideological level of Communists.

The Commission helped the Party organisations to start study courses on his subject. Special lectures were arranged for the study leaders; methods of teaching the history of the C.P.S.U. (B.) were explained to them; there was an exchange of experience. The "Fondazione Gramsci"—centre of scientific Marxist research which will study the history of the Italian working class movement has been established on the initiative of the Commission.

The Central Committee has arranged a series of lectures for the study of problems of Marxism-Leninism. Among the 50 students attending this course are Central Committee members and Parliamentary deputies.

Each student reports on a given theme which is then discussed collectively. Reports given so far include: "The Struggle against Dismissals and the Leading Role of the Working Class," and "Problems of Contemporary Italian History".

Notwithstanding a number of shortcomings, this particular an effective means of course has proved theoretical training.

The work in the Party schools—central regional and in the Party federations and branches—has considerably improved since the Central Committee decision was taken several new schools have been opened as well as a correspondence course which has evoked great interest among the membership. The Commission in charge of Party schools (Central Committee department) has done a great deal to improve school work during the past few months. The ideological Commission has made a critical study of the materials used for the correspondence courses and has taken measures to eliminate weaknesses.

Since the Plenum, many questions of an ideological nature have been discussed at Board meetings. The work of the Party journals and of those journals influenced by the Party was discussed on the initiative of the Commission. The Board also reviewed the tasks of the Party in relation to culture and the press.

At a national conference of Party propaganda leaders, Comrade Togliatti drew attention to shortcomings and outlined the tasks in this sphere. Highly important, too, were the conferences devoted to questions of culture: for instance, the art critics' conference and the historians' conference in connection with the anniversary of the Republic set up in 1799 in Naples and 1849 in Rome. Also a national conference of Party students was held which outlined the tasks in ideological and cultural work among students. Preparations are now being made to hold a similar conference of Communist professors. A polemic on the subject "Literature and Society", started by our journal "Vie Nuove", aroused keen interest among Communist and non-Communist intellectuals.

Mass conferences on important ideological problems have been held in all Party federations. It is evident, however, that we still have a great deal to accomplish. There is still a tendency to restrict the scope of ideological work, not to spread it among the broad masses.

Interest in individual study has grown considerably since the Central Committee's decision was first taken. However, the general level of this form of study is still very low. In many organisations there is a tendency to take only a restricted practical view of work while in others the students become involved in an abstract academic study of theory unrelated to the concrete tasks of struggle. Our comrades and our Party organisations often take a narrow viewpoint of ideological struggle, regarding it as an aim in itself.

A positive result in the ideological work of the Communist

Party is the fact that broad masses or the working people now realise more clearly the services of the Soviet Union in liberating the peoples, and its leading role in the anti-imperialist, democratic camp.

However, we have not yet sufficiently developed the struggle against the ideology of obscurantism spread by the Vatican and the American imperialists. Nor is our struggle against the ideology of Right social democracy without its weaknesses. Our comrades and local organisations often underestimate the harm caused by this ideology, incorrectly ignore this enemy or combat him on purely organisational and political lines, neglecting to give battle on the ideological front.

One of the cardinal tasks in our ideological work is to eliminate these serious shortcomings.

## FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY SCHOOLS. V.

### Joannes, Member, Central Committee, Communist Party of France

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of France has always devoted close attention to the ideological and political training of its members.

During the difficult conditions of underground work (from September 1939 until September 1944) the educational-ideological work went on. In fact the Political Bureau took special care to see that the difficulties surrounding the organisation of Party schools in the conditions of underground struggle were overcome. It organised the circulation, in reduced format of the "History of the CPSU (B)" and other Marxist-Leninist classics. It published the journal "**Cahiers du Communisme**", pamphlets, lectures, and also issued materials devoted to different theoretical subjects.

In September 1944, when the country was liberated and the Party emerged from underground, the matter of Party education had to be tackled in a new way. Party education had now to correspond to the needs of the complex and ever changing political situation which meant greater responsibility for the Party which was increasing in numbers and extending its role in the life of the nation.

At the 11th Congress of our Party held in Strasbourg in June 1947, the results of the Party educational work were reviewed and further tasks outlined.

Speaking at the Congress, Comrade Thorez stressed the need to intensify the study of Marxism-Leninism. He said: "We must do much more to facilitate theoretical study on the part of all members of the Party, particularly those comrades holding leading positions and who are so overburdened with daily work that they may lose all perspective and get bogged in narrow

practical tasks..."

The Plenum of the Central Committee held in September 1947 which dealt with Party education and the ideological struggle, was confronted with the task of bringing home to the entire Party a profound understanding of the importance and urgency of ideological training and of carrying out the decisions of the 11th Congress. It was essential, above all, quickly to eliminate the more serious shortcomings and in the first place to ensure that women members take their rightful place in the schools; to overcome reactionary resistance and other difficulties (family, etc.) which arise in connection with women members attending Party schools; to do away with the casual attitude displayed by individual federations towards the elementary Party schools.

It was also necessary to maintain and extend the permanent network of two week schools run by the federations, and to begin the job of organising evening classes for Party members working in factory and office.

It was essential to undertake the systematic training of a considerable number of qualified teachers; the work of the Party schools had to be improved by exercising careful political control over the actual teaching which needed livening up and ridding of dogmatism.

How is the Party coping with these tasks?

Since September 1947, three four-month schools have been functioning. One of these is of fairly recent origin. Ninety-six Party members, including 11 women comrades, have attended these schools. Among the ninety-six are members of the Central Committee, leaders of the Party federations, Members of Parliament, and leading comrades in the democratic organisations.

The curricula of these schools, simultaneously theoretical and practical, include current politics, history of the CPSU (B), French history, history of the workers' movement and the

history of the Communist Party of France; there are also courses in political economy, Party structure, and courses in philosophy based on Stalin's work "Dialectical and Historical Materialism".

During this same period, eleven Four-week schools were organised, which catered mainly for Party members active in the trade unions, in the peasant, women and youth organisations, and also for activists and for leaders of the federation education departments. The student body at these schools numbered 292, of whom 56 were women.

Besides these schools, there were three-month course for journalists, attended by 29 Party newspapermen from Paris and the provinces. At all these schools, the teaching of Marxist-Leninist theory is based on the main postulates contained in the "Short Course of the History of the CPSU (B)" which is also studied chapter by chapter. A special study of the last six chapters is made in the four-month schools, Stalin's "Dialectical and Historical Materialism" is the main textbook for the theory of Marxism-Leninism in all courses and circles.

A new measure is the organisation of seminars conducted by the more theoretically equipped comrades from among the activists. These seminars help to enliven the teaching methods and improve the individual work of the students. Film shows and excursions to museums and factories have also proved most useful.

Between October 1947 and September 1948 a total of 129 permanent two-week schools functioned under the auspices of the Party federations. The 2,071 students that attended these schools were leading members of the federation and section committees.

Teaching is conducted according to a special plan worked out by the central ideological department of the Central Committee. Instructors from this department visit the Federation schools.

The same organisation of the work 15 observed in the federation evening schools for those leaders of the sections and federations who can study only in the evening. The number of these schools is growing steadily.

In the course of the people's struggle for bread, national independence and peace, new forms of Party training were found. During the miners' strike, the Party organisation in the Pas de Calais organised two schools which functioned on the basis of the curriculum of the federation evening schools. The miner students spent every second day in study and the remainder of the time alongside their comrades or at their head, in the struggle for their demands.

Serious improvement can be observed in the organisation of the elementary Party schools.

During the first six months of 1948, some 6,344 Party members attended 777 elementary schools. The lectures delivered at these schools were published and circulated in 100,000 copies. The Party leadership in the localities is devoting greater attention to these schools. At the same time they are not always given the necessary help.

One of the drawbacks is the shortage of qualified teachers for the federation and section schools. A number of measures have been taken to improve the supply of teacher cadres. In addition to the central school for training teachers, central courses have been organised for the leaders of the federation schools.

During the first six months of 1948, some 665 comrades responsible for Party education in the sections took part in conferences devoted to educational work. Fifty-five such conferences were held in the federations with the participation of 830 members. The purpose of these conferences was to study problems confronting the activists in one or another sphere of Party work. Similar conferences are taking up organisational questions, peasant problems, and questions

connected with work among women and so on,

We have, undoubtedly, achievements to our credit in the matter of organising Party schools. But these successes have not kept up with the growth of our Party.

The growth of the Party, and, on the other hand, the increased activity of reaction in the sphere of ideology, demand that ideological work and political education of the membership be advanced to a position of priority.

The leading role of the working class and of its Communist Party in the bitter struggle of our people for independence and for peace, calls for greater efforts on the ideological front. Hence, the preparation and advancing of cadres, both in the course of the struggle and directly through Party education, is a task of decisive significance.

## THE CRIMINAL TITO CLIQUE WILL ANSWER TO THE PEOPLE FOR ITS EVIL DEEDS

We have before us a letter from Belgrade. It has been sent to Moscow, to our Comrade Captain Gayo Kuzmanovic by Bogdan Vujoshevic, Colonel of the Yugoslav Army. Kuzmanovic wished all of us, Yugoslavs who refused to return to Yugoslavia, to read this letter of his brother-in-law who has become an agent of the Tito clique.

After reading this letter which praises the regime of the Tito-ites we, Yugoslav citizens now studying in the Soviet Union, want to express our deep contempt for all those who march with Tito, those who support the terror regime in Yugoslavia, and for all Tito-ites who slander the great land of victorious Socialism—the Soviet Union.

With disgust we deny Colonel Vujoshevic's lie that we were forced to remain in the Soviet Union. This is an abominable falsehood and a slander. No one forced us to remain. There are no Rankovic janissaries in the Soviet Union. We genuinely trust the Lenin-Stalin Party, the Communist Parties of other countries which exposed in good time the state of affairs in the Yugoslav Communist Party. That is why we supported the Information Bureau Resolution without the slightest hesitation, and decided to remain in the Soviet Union.

Evidently, Tito and his clique are having a hard time if they make their hirelings of the Vujoshevic type send out to various countries letters condemning the historical decision of the Information Bureau concerning the situation in the Yugoslav Communist Party. The traitors of this kind try very hard to convince us—that the -Yugoslav people “love Tito”, that they are “pleased” with the present regime, and so on. These traitors are falling over themselves to justify their degeneration,

to slander all honest Yugoslavs, and to present the stand of the Soviet Union and the people's democracies in relation to the peoples of Yugoslavia in a false light.

The hypocrisy of Tito and his clique is now clear to every honest man. We protest indignantly at the recent odious anti-Soviet statements by Tito, Rankovic, Neshkovic and their yes-men made at the so-called Congress of the Serbian Communist Party. No wonder that all kinds of reactionaries and imperialists have made full use of these speeches of the traitors to the cause of democracy and Socialism.

The slanderer Vujoshevic begs us to "change our minds", to "recognise our mistakes", to "find boldness and courage and come back to Yugoslavia" where, as the letter goes, we shall be "forgiven and embraced". We know what kind of "embraces" Colonel Vujoshevic has in store for us. They are the embraces of the hangman Rankovic, the embraces of the Belgrade Glavnaci prison, where thousands of the best sons of the Yugoslav people are now suffering, including many officers who, under pressure from the official Yugoslav representatives, returned to Yugoslavia from the Soviet Union after the Information Bureau Resolution had been issued.

The Tito-ites will never be able to deceive our people, because it is impossible to conceal the truth from the people. Is it possible to hide the brutal murder of our unforgettable Colonel-General Arso Iovanovic, the hero and favourite of the Yugoslav people killed by Rankovic's agents? Is it possible to conceal thousands of facts proving that Rankovic's janissaries are throwing into prison all those who support the Information Bureau Resolution, all those who brand with shame the treacherous activities of Tito and his gang?

The Tito clique is doing everything to prove that there is "complete unity" in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia. At the same time numberless arrests of Communists are taking place throughout the country.

We will mention merely some of the facts known to us. At the beginning of this year, many prominent Communists, including several deputies, were arrested in Sarajevo. Among these were deputy Luic Vojo, former Forestry Minister of Bosnia and Herzegovina; deputy Obren Starovic, Minister of Finance; deputy Hamidia Sinanoic, former public prosecutor and a member of the Control Commission; Lieutenant-Colonel Nenad Vasic, In Zenitsa, deputy Ioso Marcenkovic and Nagida Hacic, both members of the Executive Committee of the Anti-Fascist Women's Front of Bosnia and Herzegovina, were arrested.

The disgusting aim of the treacherous leadership of the Yugoslav Communist Party to demonstrate by demagogery the Party's "unity" will not succeed since it can find no support among honest Communists. We know that many delegates to Party conferences electing delegates to the Congress of the Communist Party of Serbia, wrote the one word "Stalin" across the ballot papers printed with the names of the Tito candidates.

Djilas's propaganda screams about the "people's unity", about the people's "faith in Tito". But the facts expose this false propaganda. The Tito-ites have no support among the people. They are afraid of the people's justice. This is the reason for the new wave of arrests in Belgrade University where such students and distinguished partisans, like Milinko Stojanovic, Spasoe Petrushic and Radivoje Vasic were thrown into prison. In their treachery, Tito and his lieutenants do not hesitate to arrest boys and girls. For example, in Pancevo, Rankovic's agents recently arrested eight pupils of the local secondary school.

We well know what is the real meaning of Vujoshevic's words about "building Socialism in Yugoslavia"; we know what kind of "Socialism;" it is.

The reactionary "Voice of America" and the slanderers from the London B.B.C. immediately follow up the false anti-

Soviet propaganda of the Tito-ites. It is not difficult to see that the political falsifiers from the "Voice of America", and the B.B.C. and the yes-men of the Tito group are birds of a feather. We know it was no accident that in his slanders the traitor Vujoshevic went so far as trying to pretend—on order from the lieutenants of Rankovic and Djilas—that honest Yugoslav Communists fighting against the Tito-ites are the people who are working for American dollars.

We understand why Tito's agents and yes-men like Vujoshevic are slandering the newspaper "Nova Borba". It is necessary for them to hush, up the fact that the Belgrade "Borba" is now a mouthpiece of the nationalist Tito clique which is leading Yugoslavia into the servitude of Wall Street and is coming out as an accomplice of the imperialists.

No hysterics from Vujoshevic and his kind will stop the course of historical development. History will show once again the strength of the Yugoslav people who will put an end to the domination of the Tito clique.

We Yugoslavs who remained in the Soviet Union watch with admiration the heroic work of the Soviet people who are restoring their war devastated cities, villages, factories, collective and state farms; who are building the glorious edifice of Communism. We know very well the unanimity with which the Soviet people met the Information Bureau Resolution and we see clearly that the Soviet people who have condemned and branded with shame the treachery of the Tito-ites, are loyal friends of the Yugoslav people. This is the source of our strength in the struggle against the Tito-ites.

We are confident and ardently believe that all the best forces of the people and the Party, faithful to the banner of proletarian internationalism and to the cause of democracy and Socialism will bring Yugoslavia back into the family of the fraternal peoples, to the united democratic camp.

We believe that this ardent desire will come true. Signed:

Dushan Bacin, Miodrac Viahovic, Mirko Vujnovic, Vladislav Dedic, Boza Djuranovic, Rade Djuranovic, Stojan Duvnjak, Predrac Djukanovic, Lubisha Groic, Gyio Kuzmanovic, Slobodan Savic, Anton Nograshek, Djuro Vukoanovic, Dane Pavlitsa, Sivojin Stefanovic, Milan Stanishue, Neven Tsinoti, Stanoe Jankov, Drago Jakopets, Petor Antonievic, Iovan Dragoevic, Ognan Iovanovic, Slavkov Marinkov, Ianko Tompa, Georgie Pavlovski, Tonci Deshkovic, Acim Djordjevic, Borislav Lasarevic, Velko Subic Radolub Perovic.

## **SOME RESULTS OF MEMBERSHIP VERIFICATION IN HUNGARIAN WORKERS' PARTY. Istvan Kovacs, Secretary, Central Committee, Workers' Party of Hungary**

On September 2, 1948, the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Workers' Party of Hungary decided to suspend recruitment into the Party from September 6 until March 6, 1949, and to carry out a membership verification during this period.

This decision is of great importance to our Party and is vital to its further development. As the Political Bureau pointed out, it was necessary to take this decision because many careerist elements and, in some cases, even enemy agents had penetrated into the Party—the ruling Party, as a result of its liberal attitude in accepting new members.

Even before the decision had been taken, Comrade Rakosi had stressed, time and again, that the influx of members into the Party carried with it the danger of obliterating the border line between the Party and the class.

After Hungary's liberation, there was a particularly sharp struggle between the existing parties to win the support of the masses. To increase their influence and their vote the bourgeois parties and the Social Democrats recruited wholesale.

At first the Hungarian Communist Party made a strict selection of new members. But at that time we were threatened with the danger of the bourgeois and Social Democratic parties becoming too prominent, of winning big advantages in elections to factory committees and trade unions. This would have had a serious effect on the further development of democracy in our country. That is why the Party leadership found it necessary temporarily to open wide its doors.

Thus, the membership grew inordinately during 1946-47

and particularly in 1948, after the Party had united with the Social Democratic Party. Last August, there were more than 1,150,000 members. There was also a change in its social composition. Our organisations often indiscriminately accepted representatives of the petty bourgeoisie as well as politically-undeveloped workers and peasants. A large number of the petty-bourgeois elements came over from the Social Democratic Party.

This deterioration in the social composition of the Party and weakening of its proletarian nature undoubtedly affected our struggle against the enemies of the people. "There are a number of indications, many of which have just lately appeared," wrote Comrade Rakosi, "which show that a part of the membership is under non-Party influence and even under the influence of enemies of democracy."

The new rules adopted at the Unity Congress last June, fundamentally changed the conditions governing admittance to the Party. Under these rules, new members must have two recommendations: a probationary period for recruits and the right to transfer Party members to probationary status were instituted. But these rules were not strictly observed in the daily life of the Party.

Thus, the actual situation made it imperative to introduce organisational measures to improve and strengthen the Party to put into effect the Lenin-Stalin principles of building the Party. Verification of the Party ranks was one such historically important and imperative measure,

The verification demanded enormous political and organisational work. It was necessary to make its object and purpose clear to the membership and to non-Party people. More than 7,000 special commissions had to be formed.

The verification was carried out in four stages, from top to bottom. The first to come before the verification commissions were the comrades who themselves, as organisers and leaders,

were to take a direct part in this work. Last October the Central Commission verified the political and the technical personnel of the Central Committee of the Party, the Greater Budapest Party Committee, and the Party apparatus of the regional and district organisations—in all 4,500 comrades. Of these 4.5 per cent—for the most part members of the technical personnel were expelled and 4.2 per cent transferred to probationary status. These figures show that unsuitable elements, among them agents of the class enemy, had penetrated even into leading Party organs.

Last November, the Budapest and regional commissions verified more than 20,000 middle Party functionaries. In December, branch officials, leaders of Party groups and Actives, altogether 150,000 members, came before the commissions.

More than 6,000 such commissions have been functioning since the beginning of the year. These commissions, now verifying over a million rank and file members, will complete their work by the middle of February.

Apart from these four types of commissions, special commissions composed of responsible comrades were formed to verify Party members working in the trade unions, mass organisations, in state, administrative, military and economic organs.

The verification is drawing to a close, and results show that it was useful and necessary to rid the Party of unsuitable elements.

Every member was verified from a class standpoint. Account was taken of his attitude before and after the liberation, of his approach to work in production. Stricter demands were made on Party members of Petty-bourgeois origin than on workers and working peasants. We paid special attention to representatives of the intelligentsia and especially to technicians. The Political Bureau of the Central Committee

attached exceptional importance to the fact that the commissions should not be mechanical in their approach, that they should realise that they were dealing with human beings, and that their decisions should only be made after thoroughly weighing all the circumstances.

The verification brought to light many hostile elements. It is clear that the Party must be purged of them. The other expulsion concern people who, although not hostile to the Party, yet do not come up to the requirements of Party members. Their exclusion was made in such a way that the greater part of them has remained Party sympathisers and will work in the various mass organisations. The enemy will, undoubtedly, try to win them over. Our Party is fully aware of this and is doing everything to avert this danger by building up comradely ties between the Party and non-Party working people and by enhancing the prestige of the Party.

We have purged the Party of alien anti-popular elements with reactionary backgrounds and have considerably improved the social composition of our Party by increasing the proportion of workers. This was the most important result of the verification. We have verified the social composition of the leading Party bodies; wherever it was unsatisfactory we have improved it.

Complete figures are not yet to hand, but the following, taken from various regions, are characteristic of those for the whole Party.

In Csepel, the biggest factory Party organisation in the country, the number of workers in the Party increased from 84.7 per cent to 88.1 per cent in the course of the verification. In the Dyor region the percentage of workers increased from 47.7 to 52.5. that of working peasants from 22.4 to 24. The number of tradesmen and artisans in the Party dropped from 6.1 per cent to 3.8 per cent. In the majority of industrial towns, the number of workers increased by 5, 10 and even 17 per cent

compared with other social groups. In Budapest District XIII, one of the petty-bourgeois quarters of the city, the percentage of workers went up from 30 to 48, and in 90 branch organisations in the district from 82 to 86. In one of the sections of District IX the percentage of workers increased from 38 to 52, whereas that of tradesmen dropped from 15 to 7.

In the course of verifying the social composition of the Party some mistakes were committed. There were instances where members of the commissions were far too strict in their demands on workers and 'labouring peasants'; in others, petty-bourgeois elements managed to get onto the commissions and did their utmost to expel workers and peasants from the Party. There were cases when alien class elements succeeded in evading the vigilance of the verification commissions. This demanded constant control of the commissions' work.

The Political Bureau and Organisational Bureau closely followed the course of the verification; this question was discussed every two weeks and instructions given on how to rectify mistakes and improve the leadership of the commissions. The Political and Organisational Bureaux appointed a special commission of Central Committee members which co-ordinated, controlled and guided the verification throughout the country.

The verification commissions were only authorised to make proposals regarding Party members. These proposals were considered by higher Party organs and then submitted to Party meetings for discussion. In this manner the higher Party body was able to rectify mistakes. The Political Bureau of the Central Committee passed a decision reinstating workers and working peasants who had been unjustly expelled. Expelled members have the right to appeal against their expulsion during the verification. These appeals are considered on the spot by commissions sent from the centre.

The completion of the general verification does not, of

course, mean that the Party organisations must cease to fight for the purity of their ranks.

Another important outcome of the verification is that our Party has undergone a vast qualitative change during the past five months. Since the country's liberation, the verification was the biggest political-educational school for our membership. It made a profound impression on the Party members and non-Party masses. The Party considerably enhanced its prestige and extended its political mass basis. The expulsion of certain alien elements brought thousands of honest people closer to the Party.

In the course of the verification, Party members and non-Party working people began to realise the historical mission at our Party, its significance as the vanguard of the working people. The verification was accompanied by mass work for which purpose we used the press, radio and propagandists to the fullest extent.

The serious attitude to their work taken by the 30,000 odd members of the verification commissions contributed very largely to the success of this work. Apart from exposing hostile elements they carried out extensive educational work among the comrades coming up for verification, educating them in the spirit of self-criticism, vigilance, discipline, a Communist approach to work, and impressing upon them the need to master Marxist-Leninist theory, thus strengthening their loyalty to the Party. The commissions accomplished a great deal in bringing forward the necessary cadres for the Party. They proposed the removal of people unsuitable for leadership, suggesting in their place thousands of others who possessed the necessary qualities in this field.

Since the Political Bureau decided to carry out the verification, the inner life of the Party became much more active. Thousands of Party members became active; members who until then had done no Party work came to the Party

committees after the verification to be given assignments. Attendance at Party meetings doubled and, in some places, tripled. Interest in Marxist-Leninist theory greatly increased. Activists and rank and file members are attending lectures and Party schools. Many are studying individually. Probationers are studying hard, preparing to enter the Party.

The growing interest in theory is reflected in the circulation of Party publications. Between April 1 and September 1 last year, 836,000 copies of various Party publications, pamphlets and books were sold. In the five months following the Political Bureau decision 1,778,000 copies of Party literature were sold out.

Class vigilance, criticism and self-criticism are now on a much higher level. At meetings Party members now subject their own mistakes and those of their comrades to more serious criticism and self-criticism and combat a too liberal attitude toward shortcomings.

The verification has greatly helped to improve control in the Party. The Central Committee has never had such an opportunity to control the work of Party functionaries, Party leaders and Party membership as during the verification. The verification added to the Party's experience. It disclosed positive and negative methods of work and shortcomings in the different Party bodies and organisations.

Practice shows that the political Bureau's decision to verify the Party ranks and its implementation was correct, necessary and timely. Our Party is smaller numerically but its strength, prestige and influence among the mass of the people have grown considerably. Its ideological and organisational unity has become stronger, taking deeper root among the people. The verification has created a situation which will enable our Party to serve the cause of the Hungarian working people even better than before, to be more united and consolidated in conditions of the sharpening class struggle, to successfully carry out its

tasks in building Socialism.

Finally, the verification has made it possible to consistently put into practice the Lenin-Stalin principles of Party structure, and to transform the Party, more and more, into a vanguard of the Lenin-Stalin type.

## NATIONAL LIBERATION MOVEMENT IN INDONESIA. P. de Groot, General Secretary, Central Committee, Communist Party of Holland

During the Japanese occupation of Indonesia the local bourgeois nationalists gave themselves to the service of the invader. Unlike the Dutch imperialists who relied on the old feudal circles, the Japanese used the bourgeois elements and fostered the development of the numerically weak, national bourgeoisie. They set up a ‘National Council’, headed by the Indonesian bourgeois nationalist Soekarno and Hatta.

After the defeat of Japan, Soekarno and Hatta, under pressure from the people, proclaimed an independent Republic. Actually, what they did was to present their “National Council” as the government, and in every possible way held up the further development of the national-liberation movement.

Feudal domination and the exploitation of peasants continued. The majority of the local rulers who had been appointed by the Dutch colonial administration and who had retained their posts under the Japanese, continued to run the countryside. Nothing was done to ease the burden of the peasants and workers under the Sharir and Sharifuddin Governments in which the Socialist Party held decisive posts. Nothing was said about an agrarian reform.

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The democratic movement in Indonesia developed under the leadership of the Communist Party, the only force which actively fought the Japanese during the war.

The Communist Party of Indonesia was formed in May 1920. Shortly afterwards, the Dutch colonial administration

banned the Party and embarked on a brutal repressive policy against the Communists. After the 1927 rising, thousands of Party members were either executed or sent to the infamous Ober-Digul concentration camp in New Guinea. Only some of the Party leaders succeeded in escaping abroad, among them Comrade Moesso, member of the Central Committee and leader of the Union of Post Office Workers.

In 1936, comrade Moesso succeeded in reuniting the scattered forces of the Indonesian Communist Party and created a small Communist group. This nucleus, working underground, developed into a new Communist Party of Indonesia which up to World War Two was able to influence the mass of the people through the semi-legal and legal nationalist parties and trade unions.

After the defeat of Japan, a united front embracing all sections of the people was formed and the Communist Party was able once again to work legally.

However, the weakness in the activity of the Indonesian Communists during that period was that they did not openly come forward as a party. They continued their earlier tactics, preserved their underground organisation and dispersed their forces. They even formed a Socialist Party in which they enabled the Right Social Democrats, including Bevin's agent Sharir, to play the leading role. They were active in the "Worker's Party" and purged it of Japanese agents.

Despite its shortcomings, the Communist Party was more and more supported by the mass of the people. Last summer and autumn, after it had rectified its mistakes on the basis of a correct practical application of the Lenin-Stalin teaching on the national and colonial question, the Party achieved big successes.

The various Workers' parties merged with the Communist Party which based itself on the trade unions and peasant organisations and also on the militant Socialist youth

organisation.

This decision of the Communist Party to extend its mass basis along with an open recognition of its past errors resulted in a new upsurge of the national liberation movement and was strongly supported by the working people.

The Communist Party's programme called for the liberation of the country from all imperialist troops and influence. The Party called upon the people to form a mass national front.

The Party submitted a number of democratic demands to the Hatta Government. It demanded the immediate democratisation of the local organs of State power, the transfer of the confiscated land of the imperialist landlords to the agricultural communities (this is imperative because the irrigation system in Java requires joint cultivation). The Communist Party insisted that Hatta put an end to all capitulatory tendencies in relation to the imperialists, both American and Dutch. The Party set itself the aim of replacing the Hatta Government, which supported itself solely on the corrupt bourgeoisie and big landlords, with a democratic government of the people which would wage the liberation struggle to a victorious end.

In the meantime, sympathy for the Soviet Union grew among ever wider circles of the Indonesian people. Last June an agreement was signed in Prague which provided for Consular exchange between the Soviet Union and Indonesia. The Hatta Government delayed ratification of this agreement but all the political parties, including the National Party of which Hatta himself is a member, insisted on its ratification.

The people of Indonesia have not forgotten that it was Comrade Manuilsky, representative of the Soviet Ukraine in the United Nations Security Council, who first raised the question of Indonesia's fate before world opinion, and that the Soviet Union steadfastly supported peace in Indonesia and

upheld the right of the Indonesian people to an independent existence.

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Intensified activity by the Communist Party and its determination to head the national liberation struggle opened up new revolutionary perspectives for the masses.

The growing influence of the Communist Party evoked the feverish activity of the Washington, London and Hague Chancelleries. The imperialists resorted to their tested weapons—to terror and assassination, and, in the last resort, to Trotskyite provocateurs.

American financial circles gained increasing influence over the Hatta Government. As is known, many rubber plantations and other enterprises have fallen into the hands of the Americans. More than 50 per cent of the capital investments in the Jambi oil industry (central Sumatra) is in American hands. On July 2, 1948, the Hatta Government signed all agreement with the American banker, Fox, which provided for Indonesia's entire foreign trade being leased for 15 years.

A number of other important economic concessions were made to Fox. British and American military and economic "advisers" appeared in Jogjakarta who were unofficially accredited to the Hatta Government.

The American representatives in the "Good Offices Committee", sent to Indonesia by the Security Council, used their position to carry out the role of political advisers and State Department instructors for the Hatta Government.

Last July a secret meeting was held in the mountain village of Sarangan, in Java, attended by Hatta and Soekarno and the American deputy in the "Good Offices Committee", Mr. Ogbourne. At this meeting Ogbourne insisted that Hatta should extirpate Communism in the Republic and placed at his disposal American arms and instructors for "special troops."

In September 1948, Hatta carried out the assignment given

him by the Americans. Asserting that "Communists" had started "a revolution" in Madiun (Central Java), the Government began a terror campaign against the Communists throughout the Republic.

Over 25,000 patriots were arrested. Many Party leaders were killed.

The imperialist scheming was elaborated according to Hitler methods. They insisted at the outset on the Hatta clique striking at the Communists, in the hope that the blow would behead the revolution. They followed up by striking at the Republic itself to ensure the speedy military defeat of the national liberation movement. When, on December 18, Dutch para-troops were thrown against the Republican capital, Jogjakarta, they did not meet with any serious resistance. The Hatta Government capitulated "according to plan." Subsequent developments were, however, far from the liking of the Dutch imperialists.

While part of the staff and officers corps of the regular forces of the Republic surrendered, the armed forces of the people, the so-called "Lascars," refused to lay down arms and took to the hills from where they are continuing the struggle.

Dutch troops are subjected to ceaseless attacks by these guerrilla forces who are striking at the enemy's extended communications.

Banking on their temporary military superiority, the Dutch imperialists are restoring the old colonial regime throughout the country.

Hatta, Soekarno and their supporters, who had hoped that their treachery would be rewarded by their being retained at the helm, became victims of deception.

The Dutch authorities immediately abolished the Republic. Having placed Hatta and his associates under arrest, the Dutch are relying now on military and police to secure their domination. Their promise of a so-called Indonesian

Government is merely the fig leaf with which to cloak their methods of colonial plunder.

The recent discussion in the Security Council revealed that the United States had “produced the Indonesian tragedy.” At first “sharply” condemning Dutch aggression, the American representative later submitted a resolution to the Security Council which actually approved the Dutch seizure of territory belonging to the Indonesian Republic.

The Soviet representative put up a consistent fight in the Security Council to curb the unbridled colonisers. The Soviet Union proposed that the Security Council should insist on the Dutch aggressors withdrawing their troops to their former positions and that Holland should respect the Security Council decision. Using its obedient “majority” the United States got its resolution through which aroused the indignation not only of the oppressed peoples of the colonial countries but also of progressive opinion throughout the world.

The people of Indonesia are now paying heavily for the division in the ranks of the national liberation movement—a division caused by the reactionary, feudal bourgeois clique. But the people have not been defeated. They are rallying round the Communist Party and are continuing their struggle for freedom and independence.

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The new phase in the colonial war in Indonesia has considerably aggravated the contradictions inside Holland. The Dutch bourgeoisie’s policy of blatantly violating the rights of the Indonesian people has brought sharp protests from the various sections of the Dutch people.

After the Indonesian Republic had been attacked, workers in many Dutch factories went on strike; protest demonstrations were held in the towns.

The Right Social Democrats have now shown themselves in their true colours as the vanguard detachment of imperialism. Together with the leaders of the reformist trade unions they prepared for colonial war against the Indonesian people and are now heading it themselves.

The Communist Party of Holland is waging a struggle against colonial terror, seeking to intensify the joint struggle of the working people of Holland and the people of Indonesia.

## WHERE IS SOCIAL-DEMOCRAT GOVERNMENT LEADING FINLAND. Herta Kuusinen, Member, E. C. Communist Party, Finland

The destruction of German fascism and its Finnish allies by the Soviet Army enabled the people of Finland to gain peace and their national independence. They were able to turn their country into a real democratic State.

A democratic government was formed the Communist Party became legal. The influence of the Communist Party and of the progressive forces close to the Party increased considerably. The mass of the people became more active and the influence of the working class and the working people as a whole on the State became stronger.

The new political course facilitated a speedy economic revival, and the gradual improvement of the living standards of the working people who were exhausted by the war and its aftermath.

The new democratic Government won its greatest successes in foreign policy. Finland abandoned its former policy of hostility to the Soviet Union, and signed a treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance with it. At the request of the Finnish Communist Ministers, the Soviet Government reduced the reparation payments due from Finland. The democratic Government punished the chief war criminals; it refused to have Finland included in the Marshall Plan. It seemed as though Finland had broken completely with the imperialist camp.

However, the essential democratic changes demanded by the working people were not brought about. The Right Social Democrats together with the strong right-wing of the Agrarian Union and other reactionary bourgeois parties succeeded in

preventing large-scale enterprise and banks from being nationalised, a genuine agrarian reform from being carried out, and the state apparatus from being democratised. The Right Social Democrats turned the Nationalisation Bill into a caricature, into an investigation of the pre-conditions for socialisation". The state apparatus was only partly reorganised. The chauvinists were able to maintain their positions in the state organs and vital branches of social life, and gradually, regrouped their forces. Reaction met each attempt of the Government to strengthen friendly relations with the Soviet Union with outbursts of nationalist propaganda.

The Finnish reactionaries were at once supported in their fierce resistance to the country's democratisation by Anglo-American monopoly capital and its Scandinavian agents. The reactionary press of the United States, Britain and Sweden brazenly advocated a change of regime in Finland. The representatives of American and British capital melted Finnish reactionary circles to go over to the offensive encouraged by its partial election victory, and with the idea of staging a comeback, reaction decided to make use of the old and tried weapon of the bourgeoisie—the Right Social Democrats.

The bourgeois reactionaries then tried to get the Communists and other people's democrats excluded from the Government. The President approved a Social Democratic government representing a minority in the Sejm. This government even includes such nationalities as Simonen, Minister of the Interior, and Suontausta, Minister of Justice, men who are completely alien to the working class. By this cowardly, crafty manoeuvre—a method which Finnish reactionary circles know how to use particularly well—the present Fagerholm Government was formed, willing and ready to carry out the order of the reactionary bourgeoisie and the Anglo-American imperialists.

Fearing mass discontent on the part of the people because

of this manoeuvre, the new Prime Minister himself described the government as being "provisional". However, the big capitalists who back him want to keep it in office until such time as they can replace it with an openly reactionary government.

A brief survey of the line of the Fagerholm Government, both in foreign and home policy, reveals it as a government which acts against the working people of Finland.

Let us start with foreign policy. To mislead the broad masses of the Finnish people, the government declared it would continue the foreign policy of the former government. Reference was made to the fact that Enkel, Foreign Minister in the former government, had retained his office. However, the political attitude of Minister Enkel does not in the least guarantee that the line of the former government's foreign policy will be observed. Enkel's statement at the Paris Peace Conference alone is sufficient proof that he will justify the hopes of reaction as soon as possible.

In the course of many years, other members of the present government, particularly the Prime Minister, showed clearly enough what were their foreign sympathies and antipathies. Fagerholm is on record as having~ publicly expressed his displeasure with Finland's rejection of the Marshall Plan. It is doubtful whether his views differ from the opinion of these Social Democratic leaders who, in their time, resisted the signing of the treaty of friendship, cooperation and mutual assistance with the Soviet Union, and who were particularly vociferous in their opposition to the clause of mutual assistance—one of the most important points in the treaty. Fagerholm's Scandinavian orientation is also well-known, in the course of a few months of his becoming Prime Minister, he managed, under various pretexts, to make two visits to Copenhagen where conferences of the Scandinavian Governments were being held.

These conferences discussed the best way for the governments to take part in the anti-Soviet blocs—either by joining the “West European bloc”, or the “Atlantic bloc” or by forming a Scandinavian union which would tag behind American aggressive policy carrying Finland with it.

No wonder that under a government with such a foreign policy record the nationalist elements became more and more insolent and began to conduct open anti-Soviet propaganda.

Violations of the peace treaty became frequent. They were made under direct government protection; for example, several nee-fascist organisations are carrying on their activities.

Finnish ruling circles are seriously changing the country's foreign policy. This is steadily becoming clear to the working people of Finland who have no desire to hand over their country to the imperialists for use as a military jumping-off ground—and in fact they are determined that this will not be so.

No less reactionary Is the Fagerholm Government's home policy. The democratised security police has been dissolved, and the police reorganised on the model of the war-time secret police and General Staff control department, both of which closely collaborated with Hitler's secret police.

Taking advantage of government protection, fascist societies masquerading as marksmen are intensifying their activities. Democratically inclined office workers are being discharged. Last autumn Helsinki workers who were demanding better working conditions were actually beaten up.

In the economic sphere, the government's much-vaunted “stabilisation policy proved in practice to be nothing less than freezing, and, in fact, lowering of wages. The proposals of the people's democratic bloc to extend foreign trade with the Soviet Union and the new democracies were not considered.

Finland's industrial output, which last spring reached the pre-war level, is beginning to decline. In August there was no

unemployment in the country. Today there are tens of thousands of unemployed. As lumbering is curtailed, still more unemployment is expected.

In Finland they tried to pretend that the inflation caused by the war was the result of the wage-raising policy carried out by the Communists. However, at present, inflation is growing while wages are falling. Prices are steadily going up. Despite the reparation concessions granted by the Soviet Union, budget expenditure this year exceeds expenditure for the same period of last year by many billion marks. The Sejm's decision to cut direct taxes is a piece of demagogery. It is quite obvious that the deficit will merely be taken from the people in the form of increased, indirect taxes.

The income of the peasantry has also dropped sharply because timber-cutting has been slowed down and because of the sharp difference between the prices of agricultural raw materials and the industrial goods produced from these materials.

The entire Government programme of "economic stabilisation" is nothing but a policy to support the attack of big capital on the working people of town and country.

The advanced detachments of Finnish workers had already understood the tasks facing them. Now the political consciousness of the majority of the working people is awakening. The Communist Party which has 55,000 members find rallies round it hundreds of thousands of progressive workers, peasants and intellectuals, is fighting for the cause of the working people. It has consistently exposed the double-dealing policy of the Social Democratic accomplices of Finnish reaction.

In an attempt to check the growing mass movement of the workers, the Social Democratic leaders have intensified their manoeuvres to split the trade unions. However, the majority of the organised workers are determined to prevent the splitters

from disrupting the movement.

The working class and its allies—small and medium peasants and progressive intellectuals—are preparing to rebuff reaction.

A new upsurge of the democratic movement of the mass of the working people is on the way in Finland. The class struggle and the struggle for independence is intensifying. This struggle—is being waged under the banner of strengthening and consolidating the anti-imperialist cramp, under the banner of the victories of Socialism throughout the world. The struggle will not be easy, but there is no doubt what the outcome will be: it will lead to the victory of the working people and of democracy over reaction.

## FURTHER IMPROVED SUPPLIES IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Czechoslovakia recently introduced coupon-free sale of footwear, textiles and other manufactured goods parallel with the sale of the rationed supplies of these goods.

Free sale of some goods will also be started from the second half of February. Tea, coffee, sugar, rice, high quality cheese, jam and other goods until now rationed will be on sale in the state shops, off the ration. As with manufactured goods, these products will be sold at higher state prices.

This free sale of certain goods became possible because the Soviet Union helped Czechoslovakia with supplies. Even by last autumn the supply of rationed food to the working people had considerably improved. Market trade is extending. Peasants who fulfil their state obligations can sell eggs on the free market. Gradually a number of other products will come on to the free market.

The recent Government decision concerning contracts for agricultural products helped greatly to improve supplies to the population. These contracts, concluded with individual peasants, stipulate how much the state will buy from them.

## DECLARATION OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ARGENTINA

It its issue of January 19, the newspaper ““Orientacion”” (Buenos Aires) published a Declaration of the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Argentina, exposing the fascist character of the draft constitution which Dictator Peron intends to impose on the people of Argentina.

Peron’s draft would concentrate the maximum political, military and economic power in the hands of the President and abolish those still remaining but extremely limited democratic liberties, contained in the old Constitution of 1853. This draft actually prohibits the existence of all political parties except Peron’s, abolishes municipal elections, gives the Catholic Church the right to interfere in public life, places judicial power under the control of executive power, liquidates the institution of people’s assessors, and so on.

For years the Argentine people have been fighting for democratic reforms in town and countryside. Aware of the feeling of the masses, Peron has included in his draft a number of general demagogic phrases. But he refrains from mentioning the question of agrarian reform and the social rights of the working people. On the contrary, his detailed enumeration of the “duties of citizens” are clearly aimed at suppressing the organised struggle of the working people against the capitalists and landlords,

Describing Peron’s draft as being aimed at introducing a corporate fascist regime in the country, the Executive Committee of the Communist Party calls upon all citizens and democratic organisation in the country to oppose this draft and to fight for a really democratic constitution.

## RANK AND FILE IN BRITAIN CONDEMN DEAKIN TREACHERY

The anti-democratic disruptive policy now being pursued by Arthur Deakin and other British and American trade union leaders, who sought to smash the W.F.T.U, is being roundly condemned by rank-and-file trade unionists in Britain.

The Birmingham trade union council representing 150,000 members, by an overwhelming majority of votes condemned the withdrawal of the T.U.C. delegation from the World Federation of Trade Unions. Mr. Law, district organiser of the Foundry Workers' Union, who moved this resolution on behalf of his branch stated: "We consider the split an insult to the British workers."

The Raynes Park (London) branch of the Amalgamated Society of Woodworkers described Daikin's action as "cowardly and treacherous".

One of the Chiswick (London) branches of the Transport and General Workers' Union (Deakin's union), unanimously passed a resolution condemning Deakin's treachery.

A resolution passed by the Earlsdon (Coventry) branch of the Amalgamated Engineering Union condemned Deakin and Tewson as being "guilty of splitting international solidarity at a time when unity of purpose is the only way to peace among the nations."

# **THE ANTI-IMPERIALIST MOVEMENT IN FRENCH COLONIAL AFRICA.** Raymond **Barbé, Member, Central Committee, Communist Party of France**

The French colonies of West Africa and Equatorial Africa cover a territory of six million square kilometres with 24 million inhabitants. Except for a few points along the coast, the occupation of these areas by French imperialism began in 1880, was completed by 1920. Until then the population of these lands had been divided into numerous tribes and feudal principalities, about 300 in all, and hardly touched by capitalist penetration,

During the years of colonial exploitation, French capital investment in these colonies was small. In 1940 it was valued at 28 billion francs, or which the largest part was concentrated in trade. French imperialism retarded the development of these colonies. Hence, the numerically-weak proletariat. There are only a few hundred thousand workers, including those in agriculture, The native bourgeoisie likewise developed slowly; imperialism hardly drew it into the process of exploitation of the country. At the same time, the system of so-called direct administration took away or lessened the power of the majority of the tribal rulers and feudal princelings.

After World War Two, African participation in the economic life of the country considerably increased. This development accentuated the differentiation taking place between the various social classes. However, the powerful urge for liberation from the yoke of imperialism as pronounced among the population of Africa as it is among all the colonial and dependent peoples, is bringing together, in the main, the

various classes and social sections of the population. Workers and peasants, office workers, state employees and intellectuals, artisans and shopkeepers, tribal chiefs and feudal princes are all feeling the pressure of the French colonial policy to a varying extent and in different ways. They are conscious of the growing national oppression and well understand that their countries are being utilised as strategic bases for western imperialism.

Since the end of the war, the mass movement in Africa has developed rapidly. Workers, office workers and state employees have struck in defence of their economic and professional interests. In 1947-1948, for example, 20,000 railwaymen in West Africa were on strike for five months; the strike covered 80 per cent of the workers and paralysed the economy of the countries concerned. Finally the men won their chief demands.

Through their strike, the Ivory Coast peasants won higher prices for their agricultural products which had previously been bought from them at 10 to 15 per cent of the prices in the metropolis.

Political meetings are often attended by 30,000 to 40,000 people, that is, by the entire population of the given district. Hundreds of arrests made by the French colonisers in the past two years did not suppress but intensified the political activity of the mass of the people.

Such is the situation in which the anti-imperialist movement is being developed and organised in the French African colonies.

As pointed out by Comrade Stalin, of those countries where there is no proletariat or almost no proletariat, and which, industrially, are completely undeveloped "where the national bourgeoisie has as yet no reason for splitting into a revolutionary party and a compromising party, the task of the Communist elements is to do everything possible to create a

united national front against imperialism."

The African Democratic Union represents precisely such a broad front of all sections of the African population fighting against imperialism.

At present this Union is organised on 11 out of 14 territories of French Colonial Africa, it has about 800,000 members and genuinely represents the mass of the African people. It is a force which the colonisers are compelled to take into account. For example, despite the ban imposed by the Colonial Administration and French Government, the Union held its Second Congress in Abidin.

All the territorial sections of the Union were represented at the Congress, in spite of sabotage from the colonial administration, long distances and all kinds of transport difficulties. The will of the masses to fight was clearly expressed, both in the speeches of delegates and in the general atmosphere of enthusiasm and determination which it displayed. At the same time, the political maturity of many of the leaders and their ability to guide the movement were obvious. In spite of the differences arising from the very broad social composition of the movement, the Congress decisions were adopted unanimously.

The Constitution guarantees the population of the French Union equal rights and liberties, irrespective of race or religion. But the French imperialists have violated the Constitution. Oppression and exploitation of the African people continues as of old.

In its struggle against imperialism, the African Democratic Union sets before the mass of the African people the aim of abolishing colonial oppression and securing equality within the framework of the French Union on the basis of voluntary adherence.

Uniting the peoples of all the territories and regions of French Colonial Africa, irrespective of racial origin, the

African Democratic Union is striving to expose the colonisation policy of "assimilation," to accelerate the development of the African peoples and to achieve higher forms of a free, national independence. To this program are added the specific demands of various classes and social strata united in the movement.

The Union is fighting in close alliance with the working class and the people of France and with the French Communist Party—the genuine political representative of the French people. In this way it will facilitate the formation of a government of democratic, unity in France which will end colonial oppression, an oppression which is becoming more and more naked in the French African Colonies. The Union lines itself up directly with the anti-imperialist, democratic camp which is struggling against the forces of imperialism, headed by the United States.

The economic development of French Colonial Africa has already caused big class differentiation, and will lead to a still greater differentiation. Certain social groups, particularly traders, are beginning to take an opportunist and conciliatory stand toward imperialism, disguising it with autonomist and nationalist phraseology. That is why, without changing its main principle—the unity of all sections and classes of the population—the Union vigorously underlined at its Congress the significance of the peasantry and the working-class as the backbone of the movement.

Aware of the importance of Marxist theoretical education in raising the level of the mass movement, the Union held on the eve of the Congress a successful two-week political course for 130 of its activists.

The Communists of French Colonial Africa, who are working in Party education circles, have an important task—to safeguard the anti-imperialist liberation movement against opportunist and nationalist deviations which find some basis

inside the Union, composed as it is of various social classes.

The basic unit of the Union is the local Committee (in villages, districts etc.). Because of the significance of the peasantry in the movement, the recent Congress decided to develop special committees in the villages and for the defence of the peasants. Similarly, workers' committees are being set up in the towns (at factories or in various branches of industry).

Women's committees are already playing an important role in the movement.

Then comes the sub-section which controls and guides the movement over an area of some thousands of square kilometres. There is a territorial section in each of the administrative territories. A coordinating committee headed by a Chairman, Felix Houphouet, and General Secretary, Gabriel d'Arboussier, coordinates the work of the Union throughout the whole of French Colonial Africa, taking into consideration the varying local conditions.

The African Democratic Union, which at its Congress defined its tasks and responsibilities before the mass of the African people, constitutes a great force on the African continent, which was until recently so backward. The Union's rapid growth (it came into being only two years ago, in October 1946) testifies to the intensification of the national-liberation movement of the peoples of French Colonial Africa.

## **THE PEOPLE OF CHILE DEFEND DEMOCRATIC LIBERTIES.** Victor **Contreras, Secretary, Central Committee, Communist Party of Chile**

Sixteen months ago, the so-called law which granted emergency powers to the Government and placed the country virtually under martial law, was introduced in Chile. Since September of last year, another law has been in force which empowers the Government to outlaw the Communist Party and other democratic organisations of the working people.

In seeking “emergency powers”, the purpose of the dictator, Gonzales Videla, was to secure the destruction of the working class movement and to make their profits safe for the U.S. monopolists.

Relying on these “emergency laws, the Government is trampling underfoot the Constitution and the right of the citizens, and uses its powers unsparingly, to deport any citizen without the sanction of the judicial organs.

In seeking his dictatorial powers, Videla asserted that the unrest among the miners was directed against the U.S., and that the Communist Party and the Confederation of Labour of Chile were responsible for the discontent. At the behest of the U.S. imperialists, Videla severed relations with the U.S.S.R. and the people’s democracies.

He used the emergency powers to carry out brutal repressions in relation to the mine workers. The miners responded with strike action and remained underground for 24 hours.

Troops were ordered to the mining areas and the pits were occupied. In the course of 12 hours, 4,000 workers and their families were deported. They were transported in goods wagons and left to the mercy of fate in different parts of the

country.

Unrest began among the power station workers, at the nitre and copper works and among the working people in the agricultural regions. They demanded the immediate abolition of the emergency powers. Again, repression became the order of the day. Trade unions were dissolved, meetings prohibited, labour agreements violated, while workers were discharged wholesale. In the mining industry and in transport alone, 15,000 were discharged.

Upon overcoming the miners' strike, and having dissolved the trade unions, Videla embarked on a free anti-Communist campaign. The Press, controlled by the American trusts, filled its columns with falsehoods of every description, alleging conspiracies, undermining activity, and so on. The democratic Press was placed under rigid censorship. In order to get the truth to the people, the democrats had recourse to illegal publications. Thousands of people were thrown into concentration camps.

In every speech Videla worked up anti-Communist feeling, incites audiences to violence against the Communists, find to destroy Communist Party premises and printing works, The mercenary newspapers, hired by the Government, published lists of names and addresses of Communists.

After the lapse of six months, that is, when the term for the emergency powers was about up, the Minister of the Interior requested that the term be extended. Six months had proved insufficient for him to carry out the order of the American imperialists "to liquidate Communism" in Chile.

During a conference held in the Ministry of Finance in May 1947, the copper magnates, Stanars and Hobbins, forced the Government to turn down any demands made by the workers for higher wages and social reforms and to avoid taxing the capitalists. After this meeting, dictator Videla began to distribute the entire national wealth among the various

monopoly groups: the "Chilex Exploration" Company was granted a new concession for 90 years; the nitre fields were given over to the "Angle-Chilean" and "Lautora Nitrate" 'lit rate' Companies: an agreement was signed with "Standard Oil", according to which home capital was prevented from participating in Chile's oil refining industry; "Fundicion de Caero", and the "El Abanico" and "El Banzal" power stations are among these leased to the American trusts. Under State Department pressure, Videla refused to defend Chile's rights in the Antarctic, although these rights date from 1531.

These developments caused enormous damage to the national economy, damage which is estimated at tens of billions of pesos. One hundred thousand workers are without work and homes. Industry and trade are declining. Prices are fixed at the whim of the American monopolies. Additional indirect taxes introduced in 1947, amount to 1,300 billion pesos, inflation is growing apace.

According to the Chilean Confederation of Labour, the profits of the joint-stock companies, for a 9 month period in 1948, amounted to 1,389 million pesos. The profits of the "Italo-Chilena" Insurance Company reached 65 per cent of the invested capital; the "Fenix Chilenia"—50.2 per cent; "Sociedad Anonyma Mecanica Industrial"—44 per cent; in 1948, the net profits of the "Banco de Chili" Company reached 49,500,000 pesos, that is, 50 per cent of the invested capital. While the profits of big trusts benefit from a lowering of taxes, small manufacturers and farmers experience considerable difficulties in the matter of credits.

According to Confederation of Labour statistics, during the two years between September 1946 and September 1948, the price of bread went up from 4.20 to 7 pesos a kilo; rice—from 3.20 to 8.80 pesos; milk—from 2.40 to 5.20 pesos a litre; meat—from 20 to 38 pesos a kilo; butter—from 27 to 58 pesos. Despite the high prices, the average wage of industrial workers

remains at the former low level.

For the past sixteen months the people of Chile have been waging a heroic struggle against the arbitrary actions of American imperialism and its puppet—Gonzales Videla Chilean patriots are rallying together in the National-democratic front. When for the fourth time, the Videla Government demanded the renewal of the “emergency powers”, the wave of protests on the part of the working people against the police terror reached out all over the country .

The arrest of Senator Bernardo Araya, General Secretary of the Confederation of Labour, who enjoys great popularity among the people, together with 23 other trade union leaders, all of whom were charged with preparing subversive action”, evoked profound indignation. The Minister of the Interior, Members of Parliament and the President were flooded with thousands of messages and protests demanding the release of Araya and the other political prisoners, the liquidation of the concentration camps, the reinstatement of discharged workers, abrogation of the anti-democratic laws prohibiting freedom of speech and assembly, and the cessation of all persecution of Senator Pablo Neruda, the well-known poet A widespread protest movement developed on behalf of the prisoners in the Pisagua concentration camp who declared a hunger-strike against the loathsome sanitary conditions and brutal treatment. A Declaration which exposed the preparations for the physical extermination of the prisoners was widely circulated by the Committee of the families of political prisoners. Protest meetings were held in Santiago, Valparaiso and other cities. Various democratic organisations—the Students’ Federation, the Federations of mine workers, metal and building workers, workers employed in the footwear, textile, electrical and gas industries—all passed resolutions denouncing the Government’s actions and demanded that the prisoners be set free. The Democratic Party sent a similar demand to the

President of the Republic. The leaders of other parties and many Members of Parliament have also spoken up for the victims of the Government repression. Throughout Latin America the working people organised demonstrations of solidarity with the victims of Chilean reaction.

In a call addressed to all factory and office workers and peasants, the Chilean Confederation of Labour urged them to unite for the struggle against the "emergency powers", for increased wages, against Chilean reaction which is linked with American imperialism, and against its lackeys—the disrupters in the trade union movement. An appeal issued by the Socialist Party of Chile charged the President with having betrayed the programme on which he was elected, and of turning the country into a police state.

In the towns, in the villages, in the mine fields—the working people are entering the struggle for the political and economic liberation of the country, for an agrarian reform, for defence of the national industry, and for peace and friendship with all freedom-loving peoples,

## BOOK REVIEW

### **"Lupta de Clasa"—Theoretical and Political Journal of Rumanian Workers' Party, (Nos. 1 and 2, August-December 1948)**

With the aim of furthering the Marxist-Leninist education of its cadres, the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party decided, last year, to resume publication of "**Lupta de Closa**" ("Class Struggle"), the theoretical and political organ of the Central Committee.

This journal has a militant past. It first appeared in 1920, at the time when the party of a new type, the revolutionary Marxist-Leninist party—the Communist Party, was formed in Rumania. The terror against the working class and its revolutionary party, and persecution by the bourgeois-landlord regime, prevented the journal from appearing regularly. After publication had been prohibited, "**Lupta de Clasa**" was issued illegally. Illegal publication was renewed in 1926, then in 1934 and again in 1938. Despite the gaps in its publication, the journal played an important role. Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej, General Secretary of the Rumanian Workers' Party, in an introductory article in, the first number of the new edition wrote: "The journal has correctly reflected in its columns the unflagging, bitter and heroic struggle waged by the Rumanian Communist Party ever since its formation."

As shown by the content of the first two numbers of "**Lupta de Clasa**" now being re-issued, the journal poses vital problems of the working class movement both in Rumania and on an international scale, and offers a solution for them.

The reader will find in its columns such articles as "The Programme and Rules of the Yugoslav Communist Party—a

new proof of the betrayal of Marxism”—by Comrade Chisinevschi, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers’ Party; “The morale of our Party” by Comrade C. Parvulescu; “Nationalised industry—the socialist sector of our national economy” by Comrade St. Voicu; an article on the “History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks)” by Comrade N. Goldberger; “The Centenary of the 1848 Revolution” by Comrade N. Ignat:

Comrade G. Gheorghiu-Dej’s report to the National Assembly on the national economic plan for 1949; Comrade Sorin Toma on the significance of the Great October Socialist Revolution for Rumania; Comrade V. Luca, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers’ Party, on the Lenin-Stalin doctrine of strategy and tactics; Comrade Vinte on the verification of Party activists; Comrade Roller on the cultural revolution; Comrade Z. Brancu on the work of the national Party schools; reviews of Rumanian and foreign Marxist journals.

Of great significance is Comrade G. Gheorghiu-Dej’s discussion of the economic postulates of Marxism-Leninism in the light of the present development of the Rumanian People’s Republic.

“A planned economy”, stressed Comrade G. Gheorghiu-Dej in his report to the National Assembly on the 1949 national Plan, is impossible under capitalism.

Only after the Rumanian basic industry, transport, banks and insurance societies had been nationalised on June 11, 1948, after the working class had taken the leadership of these enterprises into its own hands were the necessary conditions created for a planned economy.”

After analysing the internal and international situation in which the People’s Republic of Rumania starts the 1949 Plan, Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej outlined the political and economic aims of the Plan. The primary aim is to consolidate the

economic achievements of the working people of Rumania, to strengthen the country's independence and to create the necessary conditions of building Socialism. Industrialisation is the method by which this can be achieved. The 1949 Plan is to increase industrial and agricultural production 40 per cent above the 1948 level.

The report shows how the various branches of industry, agriculture, forestry and transport will develop, and how the material and cultural standards of the working people of Rumania will be raised. Fulfilment of the Plan will strengthen the system of people's democracy. Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej stresses that this system performs the functions of proletarian dictatorship, that is, it is a system in which the leading role is played by the working class, relying mainly on the poor peasantry while strengthening its alliance with the middle peasantry.

In his article, "Lenin-Stalin strategy and tactics", Comrade V. Luca pointed out that the Fifth Congress, of the Communist Party of Rumania held in 1932 laid down its strategical and tactical line on the basis of the experience of the Bolshevik Party.

The Congress defined the character, the driving force and the perspectives of the revolution in Rumania. Its decisions set the task of completing the bourgeois-democratic revolution, and advanced the slogan of a socialist revolution. The correctness of the Congress decisions was can firmed during recent years.

**"Lupta de Clasa"** is a theoretical journal. Its task is to spread the teachings of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, to raise the ideological level of the membership of the Rumanian Workers' Party, to combat relentlessly in its columns the ideology of the exploiting classes and their agents, and the influence of hostile ideology to the Party ranks. We wish the journal success in tackling these serious tasks.

It is to be hoped that future numbers will also contain articles on international problems and problems of economy. Of great theoretical and practical interest just now is the question of the class essence and the role of the State in people's democracy. Likewise, of considerable interest for Party activists are the problems of art and literature elucidated from the Marxist point of view. There is no doubt that these problems will also be dealt with in the columns of the journal.

## POLITICAL NOTES

### COMISCO Blackmailers Get Told Off

On January 21, the leadership of the Italian Socialist Party (I.C.P.) published its reply to the ultimatum delivered by Comisco (Committee for Organising International Socialist Conferences), demanding that it renounce its unity pact with the Communist Party.

Not restricting itself to defending its unit pact with the Communist Party, the leadership of the Italian Socialist Party charged the British, French, Dutch and other Comisco Socialists with betraying internationalism and the ideas of Socialism, and backed its charge with irrefutable facts.

Comisco threatened the Italian Socialists with "isolation". But isolation from whom? If it is a matter of isolation from the mass of the workers, then a pretty good example is afforded by Leon Blum's party, one of the parties which is the backbone of Marshallised, Comisco. This party has long since been forsaken by the French working class, its membership has dropped by two-thirds. Its paper "**Le Populaire**" manages to hang on to its miserable existence thanks to foreign subsidies. The Italian Socialist Party, on the contrary, has maintained and strengthened its contact with the masses, has influence and prestige among the masses and represents a serious political force in the country—and all due to its unity in action with the Communist Party, due to fraternal, mutual support, and because the Italian Socialist Party showed no desire to enter into the service of the Marshalls.

The reply of the leadership of the Italian Socialist Party cannot be described as an irreproachable defence of the line of working class unity. The authors, with due regard to their

centrist convictions, found it necessary to complain about certain "inconveniences" of united action with the Communists, they bow to what they call the "socialist" home policy of the Labour Party.

But by and large, the reply is a fitting rebuff to the ceaseless campaign of intimidation and pressure waged against the Italian Socialists by the Comisco clique and its inspirers—the Labour leaders. That is, the significance of the reply of the Italian Socialist Party in the Comisco ultimatum.

A further conclusion can be withdrawn from this reply. Last June, at the Genoa Conference of the Party, the Rights, prompted by London, used the difference between Comisco and the Party leadership at the time to remove Pietro Nenni and his supporters from the "Party leadership and to get if to split" away from the Communists. Reality, however, showed that the membership of the Italian Socialist Party prevented the Party from being dragged into the imperialist camp. and remained loyal to the ideals of Socialism and democracy.

## **Max Reimann Released**

Comrade Max Reimann, Chairman of the Communist Party of Western Germany who was sentenced on February 1 to three months' imprisonment by the British military tribunal has been released.

As is known, Max Reimann was imprisoned because he described as quislings the corrupt German politicians who, are helping the Western Powers to establish a colonial regime in Western Germany.

Order No. 8. 1945; for violation of which Reimann was sentenced, makes it illegal to insult German employees (chauffeurs, laundry women, servants, etc.) working for the British occupation authorities. According to the Prosecutor,

this order now covers German politicians and industrialists.

It would be difficult to find better confirmation of the correctness of Max Reimann's statement about quislings.

At the Reimann trial "Western democracy" revealed itself to the German people and the world in its most disgusting form.

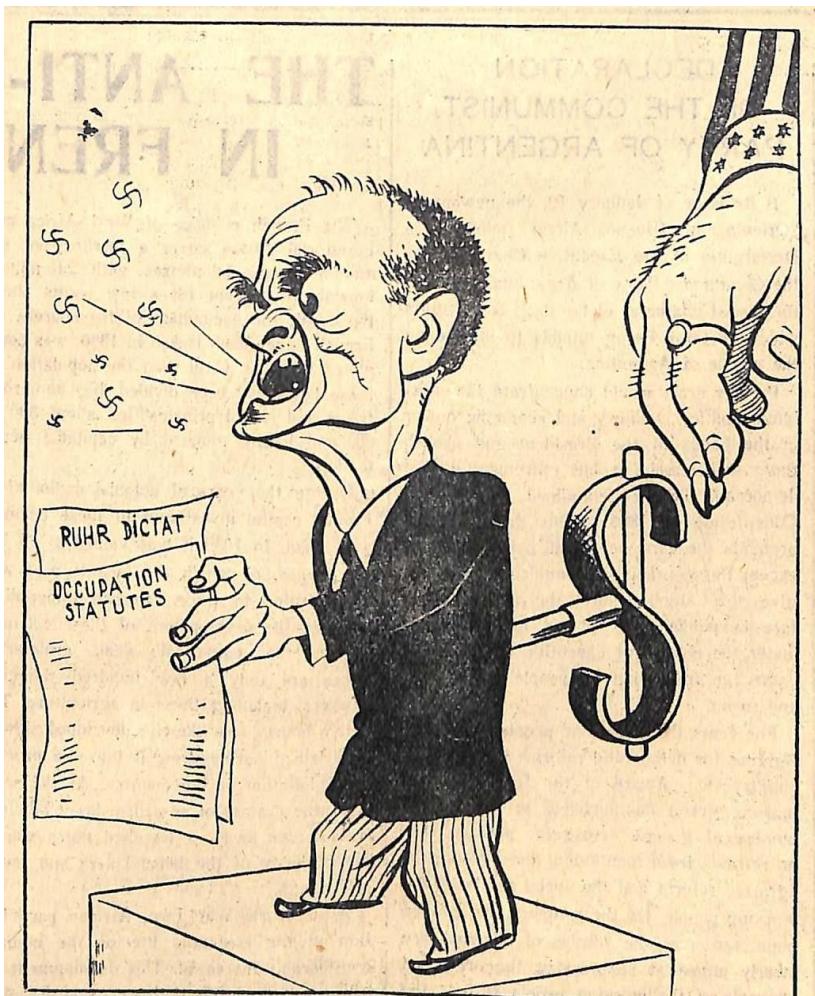
The British authorities gave as the reason for their forced concession the fact that Reimann is scheduled to take part in the Parliamentary Council of which he is a member. But this will hardly deceive anybody.

The occupation authorities of the Western Powers planned to use the Reimann trial to intimidate and cut short the protest movement of the working people of Western Germany against the Ruhr Statute, against the division of Germany. The outcome was just the reverse the sentence evoked deep indignation both in Germany and beyond its borders.

Max Reimann has been released by German working people who, under the leadership of the Socialist Unity and the Communist Part of Germany, engaged in a mass protest against the outrageous sentence.

**Jan Marek**

THE SCHUMACHER—WALL STREET'S  
MECHANICAL SPEAKER. Drawing by  
Ramilescu



Schumacher—Wall Street's mechanical speaker

Drawing by Ramilescu

## THE SCHUMACHERS—BETRAYERS OF GERMAN PEOPLE. W. Peter

The Schumacher Party crowd is not the Social-Democratic Party as a whole, it is not the Social-Democratic workers. The Schumachers “are an altogether small element consisting of the top leaders of the Social-Democratic Party, of its “vorstand” (central board) headed by Kurt Schumacher. To this element belong also the leaders of the provincial and district boards, and the Berlin leaders, in particular Neumann, Mattick, Swolenzky and Reuter.

The policy carried out by the Schumachers has nothing whatever in common with the Social-Democratic workers, with the working people of Germany in general. There is a gulf between the Social-Democrat leaders and the rank and file of the Party. The Socialist Unity Party and the Communist Party in the Western zones show the Social Democratic workers in comradely way that unity of action on the part of the Socialist Unity Party organisations and the Communist Party, on the one hand, and the rank and file of the Social-Democratic Party, on the other, would be the best means of exposing the Schumacher leaders.

That the Schumachers in no way reflect the class interests of the German workers is evident from their stand in relation to the main questions which represent the touch stone for any party in Germany claiming to be a democratic organisation.

These questions include:

Its **attitude in relation to the Soviet Union**, as leader of the anti-imperialist, democratic camp;

Its stand in the matter of **peace and war**;

Its stand in the matter of **building a new, united democratic Germany**.

Schumacher is hot only helping Anglo-American

imperialism to dismember Germany and turn her into a jumping-off ground for an attack on the U.S.S.R. and the new democracies. The main task given him by his masters is to lead the Social-Democrat workers along the anti-Soviet and anti-democratic path. Anglo-American imperialism has found, in the Schumachers, faithful and loyal auxiliaries.

In 1946, so zealous were the Schumachers in their anti-democratic, anti-Soviet propaganda that even "**Tagesspiegel**", published under licence of the American occupation authorities, counselled them to be more "tactful", otherwise they would scare away the masses: "**Sozialdemokrat**", organ of the Berlin Social Democratic Party, replied to this with an article entitled "**Nurenberg**" which said: "After World War One, Lloyd George and Churchill wrote that had the Germans put all their cards on the table, agreement would have been possible. We are now saying quite candidly what is necessary".

The question is posed with unmistakable clarity. "We, Schumachers, undertake to campaign against Socialism, and for war" against the Soviet Union; while you, the representatives of Wall Street, must support us and place us at the head of Germany".

As is evident from the decisions of the meeting of the Central Board of the Social Democratic Party held in Godesberg in December 1948, the Schumachers, anxious to win favour with the German bourgeoisie, aim at turning the Social Democratic Party into a "People's Party". They admit, shamelessly, that this political line has been dictated from across the Atlantic. Speaking at a meeting in Untertaunus, Knote, the leader of the Social Democratic Party in Hesse, said: "At present we must abandon Marxism... since the Americans are opposed to any socialist experiment".

Schumacher's report, read at the Social-Democratic Congress in Dusseldorf last September, not only openly proclaimed the abandonment of Marxist ideology, it also

announced complete freedom for the propagation of any reactionary views.

In his report Schumacher underlined the vanguard role at his clique in the struggle against Communism and the Soviet Union. "Each party in the Western zones must combat Communism...Unfortunately, to the West of the iron curtain, the Christian Democratic Union and the parties supporting it leave the struggle against Communism solely to Social-Democracy".

The Schumachers have openly announced their readiness to serve the U.S. monopolists. It was not for nothing that Schumacher went to Washington for instructions. Speaking in the Spandau district of Berlin last November, Otto Suhr cynically said: "We would prefer to become a semi-colony of America" rather than make any concession to Communism and the U.S.S.R.

On October 13, 1948, "**Telegraf**", the organ of the Berlin Social-Democrats, contained an article which sang the praises of Schumacher. The newspaper stressed that Schumacher's chief merit was a relentless struggle against Communism and the U.S.S.R.

In their servile zeal, the Schumachers even try to outdo their American masters. They call hit the destruction of the vanguard of German democracy—the Socialist Unity Party of Germany "In the interests of the city (Berlin) it is necessary to liquidate the Socialist Unity Party", the leader of the Berlin Schumachers, Franz Neumann, said recently.

The Schumachers are agitating for a new world war. Their organ "**Socialdemokrat**" of May 23, 1947 carried an editorial eloquently headlined: "Begin anew!" The article said: "The eyes of the German people are turned to the West. Will the turning point come (in relation to active operations by the Americans—W.P.), and will it come in time, in order to avert the worst? We think and hope that this new course will be

taken together with us in order to put Germany and together with her, the whole of Europe on their feet."

As pronounced in the "**Sozialdemokrat**", the favourite slogan of the Berlin Schumachers was "Berlin is worth a war."

The Schumachers are organising underground subversive activity in the Soviet zone where they are resorting to sabotage and terror; they call, fruitlessly, for the creation of a "resistance movement. They are waging a frantic campaign of revenge among the German settlers from the Eastern regions. They fabricate anti-Communist forgeries of the "Protocol M" variety.

Schumachers spies display a particular interest in material relating to the Soviet Army units, and in confidential orders and instructions issued by the Soviet Military Administration.

The ADN agency recently published a booklet entitled "Behind the scenes in the leadership of the Social Democratic Party." The author, Wilhelm Lohrenz, a former Schumacher agent, was arrested in November, 1946. Lohrenz had been political secretary of the Berlin board of the Social Democratic Party. In this booklet he describes the criminal activities carried out by the Schumachers..

On Schumacher's advice an "Eastern Bureau" was formed which included: Swolinkzy, Suhr, Klingelhofer, Schmidt, Kiaulehn and Mewes. Lieutenant-Colonel Silver, an American undertook the financing of this organisation.

In addition to espionage, this "Eastern Bureau" circulates provocative rumours among the population of the Soviet zone, provokes incidents, supplies false information to the press, slanders the Socialist Unity Party and the Soviet Military Administration and tries to undermine the Socialist Unity Party organisations from within. To ensure the carrying out of these activities, the Berlin Social Democratic organisation receives about a quarter of a million marks monthly from the Western occupation authorities.

A statement made by the former Schumacher man Shmiedi, to the organ of the Soviet Military Administrator fully confirmed the facts related in Lohrenz's booklet.

As is evident from the facts, the Schumachers represent the reliable bulwark of American imperialism in Germany. They are a gang of adventurers, warmongers, Anglo-American spies, and saboteurs.

# **WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS WILL GROW AND STRENGTHEN.**

## **Gheorghe Apostol, Chairman, General Confederation of Labour of Rumania**

The first world trade union congress in the autumn of 1945, at which the World Federation of Trade Unions was formed, is recorded in the annals of the international working class movement as one of the most significant stages in the struggle for trade union unity throughout the World.

On the basis of the Rules and decisions unanimously adopted by the Congress, the W.F.T.U. worked successfully in the interests of the international working class, in the interests of peace and social progress. This activity developed in spite of sabotage on the part of the representatives of the British trade unions and the American Congress of Industrial Organisation. Deakin, Carey and Kuypers did their best to restrict the activity of the W.F.T.U., and to hold up measures taken by its leading bodies to defend the workers democratic liberties and fundamental rights.

The memorandum of the General Council of the British Trades Union Congress, demanding that the W.F.T.U. should suspend all activity for twelve months, was a flagrant violation of W.F.T.U. rules and elementary principles of workers democracy.

The workers of all countries, including those the splitters themselves represented, were disgusted at this proposal and fiercely opposed it.

As is known, the majority of the Executive Committee of the W.F.T.U. rejected this demand and called a special session of the W.F.T.U. Executive Committee, the only body with the

right to consider the future existence of W.F.T.U.

The Executive Committee's resolution concerning the T.U.C.'s proposal frankly called the activities of the splitters by their real name. The decision of the Executive Committee declares that the W.F.T.U. shall continue its activity and shall work even harder to organise the common struggle of trade unions throughout the world for the workers' economic rights, their right to organisation, for better conditions, for the destruction of fascism, the exposure of the predatory plans of the imperialists and for lasting peace among the nations.

The resolution states that to carry out these great tasks, the international character of the W.F.T.U. must be strengthened and developed to embrace all workers irrespective of race or nationality, of political, philosophical or religious beliefs. It also declared that the doors of the W.F.T.U. were open to all genuine trade union organisations.

Every worker will heartily approve this firm adherence to principle, displayed by the Executive Committee in full conformity with the W.F.T.U. rules, hitherto supported by the British American and Dutch trade union leadership, and now reaffirmed by the resolution of the recent Executive Committee meeting in Paris. The workers of Britain and the United States, whom Deakin and Carey arbitrarily led out of the great family of the working people united in the W.F.T.U., will not find it difficult to see that the subversive policy of their leaders was, in fact, dictated by the American and British Governments.

The Executive Committee's decision to set up industrial departments in the W.F.T.U. is extremely important. These, departments will cover all the industrial, sections of the unions of the various countries. The significance of this decision becomes more striking when it is considered that until now there were no such central industrial organisations in the W.F.T.U. The splitters also made good use of the fact that this question was not then settled as a pretext for their withdrawal

from the W.F.T.U.

In the past, the Amsterdam International formed a number of industrial secretariats. These organs, quite unknown to the working people both before and after the war, had to close down after the W.F.T.U. had been formed. The leaders of these secretariats, mostly British, refused to carry out the decisions of the world congress and the W.F.T.U. General Council, concerning the formation of trade departments within the framework of the W.F.T.U.

The Paris session of the Executive Committee exposed and condemned the double-dealing of the splitters in the matter of the industrial departments. As far as words went, the splitters agreed with their formation and even accepted statutes for the departments. Actually they did their best to prevent the W.F.T.U., from organising international trade union activity according to industrial sections.

In its resolution, the W.F.T.U., invite the international secretariats to cooperate with it in convening international conferences of industrial sections of trade unions from which W.F.T.U. industrial! departments can be created. If, this time, the leaders of the international secretariats still do not respond to the invitation of the W.F.T.U. Executive Committee, it will be clear to all that they are not for united action of the workers, and do not represent their interests. In the event of their refusal, the W.F.T.U. will start to form trade departments without the participation of these leaders.

The formation of industrial departments within the W.F.T.U. will strengthen the international solidarity of the working people. Through an exchange of experience inside the industrial sections, these departments will be a great help in the common struggle for better working conditions and higher living standards.

At its recent session, the Executive Committee also discussed the situation in the trades unions of Asia and Latin-

America. In these parts of the world, the Anglo-American imperialists are imposing on the people fascist governments with whose help they are trying to destroy free trade union activity, to get rid of the trade union leaders and end the national liberation struggle. The splitters in the W.F.T.U. apparatus prevented an Asiatic trade union conference from being convened. Such a conference would enable the W.F.T.U. to gain a better understanding of workers' conditions in Asia and to draw up a plan of action to improve them.

For two years the splitters sabotaged this move. It is possible that in doing so Deakin, Carey and Company hoped, like their masters, that the peoples of Asia and Latin America would be intimidated by British and American planes, tanks, and machine guns and relinquish their national liberation struggle. But they have been bitterly disappointed. During the past two years, the colonial people have developed the whole scale of their offensive against imperialism.

The Executive Committee decided to call a pan-Asiatic trade union conference in the near future. The conference will take in Peiping and will be a means of mobilising the working people of Asia to fight for freedom and a better life.

Every worker who carefully examine materials of the Executive Committee meeting held on January 16-19, when Deakin, Carey and Kuypers walked out of the W.F.T.U., will easily discern the crude manoeuvres to which these people resorted in their attempt to split international trade union unity.

The working class has seen for itself that if its forces are divided, the way is opened for fascism, war and the impoverishment of the working people. It has seen that the main essential for preserving peace and developing social progress is the strengthening of the international unity of the working people. The World Federation of Trade Unions will continue to grow and strengthen.

## SUMMARY OF 2½ YEARS' MILITARY OPERATIONS BY THE PEOPLE'S LIBERATION ARMY OF CHINA

Every day brings news of fresh victories for the Chinese People's Liberation Army which is delivering crushing blows to the Kuomintang generals.

The People's Democratic Government has established its authority over an enormous territory extending north from the Yangtse. Units of the Liberation Army have already reached the south bank of the river and fighting is in progress on the approaches to the Kuomintang capital of Nanking.

A communique issued on February 4 by Liberation Army Headquarters contains a summary of the results of two and a half years operations Kuomintang losses during this period amounted to four and a half million men of whom 71 per cent comprised regular troops. Prisoners taken totalled 2,693,000 officers and men consisting of regular and non-regular troops. The Kuomintang forces lost 869 generals of whom 697 were captured, 105 surrendered and 67 killed.

Territory liberated approximated to 300,000 square kilometres with a population approaching 55 million.

The total area of liberated territory now covers 2,580,000 square kilometres with a population of 190 million people.

During this two and a half year period another 270 towns were freed, bringing the total of Chinese towns and cities liberated so far to 737.

The liberation Army smashed the General Headquarters of one military zone. 11 Army groups, 3 "appeasement districts", 4 reorganised armies, 67 armies, 23 divisions and routed 246 divisions, 594 regiments and 722 battalions.

Military supplies captured included: Over 1,480,000 rifles, over 17,000 machine-guns, 30,000 guns, over 2 million shells,

226 million rounds of ammunition, nearly 2 million hand grenades, 38 airplanes, 242 tanks, 214 armoured cars, 772 locomotives and over 9,300 motor vehicles.

One hundred and sixty-one airplanes were shot down and 129 tanks destroyed.

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

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