

Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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DEMOCRATIC STATE OF GERMAN PEOPLE

At its session in Berlin, the German People's Council proclaimed German Democratic Republic and formed a Provisional Government. This is an act of immense international significance. The camp of peace and democracy sees in the new German Democratic Republic a powerful force fighting to make sure that the German people will never again become a blind instrument in the hands of the warmongers, the pretenders to world domination.

World War Two ended with the defeat of Hitler Germany. At the Potsdam Conference the leaders of the Three Powers reached a decision for the demilitarisation, denazification and democratisation of Germany. All peoples were firmly resolved that the Hitler State and aggressive German militarism must be completely destroyed if mankind were to live.

The USSR and the People's Democracies launched a struggle for the democratisation of Germany and the construction of its political and economic life on peaceful foundations. These efforts met with a warm response among all honest Germans who, from the experience of two generations, have realised the vital need for Germany's democratic reorganisation as the basic condition for preserving the independent sovereignty of the German nation and the German State.

The U.S. and British Governments who have taken the path of preparing for a new war against the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies have blatantly violated the Potsdam Agreement regarding joint control of Germany. As early as December 1946 they amalgamated their zones, thus openly going over to a policy of splitting Germany. After this hardly a month passed without the Anglo-American authorities taking measures which divided Germany still further. This was an open policy of prolonging the occupation of Germany. The

Anglo-American imperialists have deliberately held up the signing of peace treaty with Germany, in order to keep their occupation troops there as long as possible, in order to plunder more material valuables, to strangle Germany's peace-time industry and to revive German militarism.

By separating the Ruhr from Germany and removing it from Four Power control, the Anglo-American imperialists laid their hands on the heart of Germany's industry. They decided to torn the Ruhr into a strategic industrial base to equip the vassal armies of the Western powers. At the same time, this constitutes a threat to the security of France.

The dismemberment of Germany was further aggravated by the separate monetary reform in the Western zones and the introduction of the Occupation Statute, and completed by the establishment on September 20 in Bonn of a separate government for the American, British and French Zones. The American imperialists are trying to cover up this violation of Potsdam with demagogic talk about protecting the interest of the German people. This new deception is exposed by the "Bonn Constitution" itself, which has been drawn up by the Western occupation authorities to meet their own interests and not those of the German people.

The "Fundamental Law" of the West German State determines its federal structure. This is in diametric opposition to the desire of the overwhelming majority of the German people who want a Germany united on democratic principles. The Anglo-American imperialists are giving every encouragement to preferential power in the different laender, to political disunity. It is obvious the imperialists are making it easier for themselves in this way to realise their traditional slogan of "divide and rule". Article 24 of the "Bonn Constitution" states that the West German State can "transfer its sovereign rights to the inter-State organs" and give its "consent to having its sovereign rights restricted". This is a

blatant violation of the national rights of the German people whom the American imperialists are depriving of the main means (an independent state) of struggle for national independence and against colonial enslavement.

The occupation powers retain unrestricted authority in the West German State. The "Bonn Constitution" is merely a cover for the imperialist essence of the Anglo-American military dictatorship, an auxiliary of the so-called Occupation Statute. No restrictions are imposed on the activities of the imperialist monopolies which in their time brought Hitler to power, no guarantees are given to protect the rights of the working people. The Anglo-American imperialists behave as master in every sphere of life in the West German State. In the political field, such out-and-out reactionaries as Heuss, Adenauer and their kind, are advanced to leading posts. In the economic sphere, German industry is being completely subordinated to the U.S. monopolies. The West German State is already enmeshed in heavy debts reaching the sum of five billion dollars. Unemployment is growing (there are about 1½ million unemployed in Western Germany) and the impoverishment of the masses is spreading. The foundations of Germany's national culture are being undermined, the national sentiments of the people trampled upon, a people who gave the world Schiller and Goethe, Bach and Beethoven, Humboldt and Virchow, Marx and Engels, Bebel and Thaelmann.

In these circumstances the progressive forces of the German people decided to construct a united democratic Germany. The Eastern Zone became the base of the national-liberation movement in Germany. Influenced by the working class the democratic forces considerably increased in number here. Far-reaching reforms were introduced, leading to a revival in economic, political and cultural life. The Soviet Government did everything to enable the German people to build a democratic and free German with their own forces.

In the Eastern zone the Socialist Unity Party showed an example of cooperation with the Christian-Democratic Union, the Liberal-Democratic, National-Democratic and Democratic Peasant parties. These parties have based their joint activities on the common interests of the German people. All honest German patriots, who are determined to turn their native land into a democratic republic, worthy of the respect of all peoples, are uniting in the face of the danger of Germany's enslavement by American capitalism, in the face of the danger of the revival of German militarism.

The German Democratic Republic will play an important role in the struggle to unite a Germany based on democratic, peaceful foundations. The social-democrat servants of the Anglo-American imperialists, servants of the Schumacher type who are splitting the unity of the national movement, will not be of any avail to them because the unity and democratisation of Germany correspond to the vital interests of the German people, to the interests of preserving peace throughout the world.

The Soviet Government has handed over the functions of administration in Eastern Germany to the Government of the German Democratic Republic. The international camp of peace and democracy welcomes this step, seeing in it the fundamental difference between the Soviet Union's peace-loving policy, a policy of respect for the German people, and the imperialist, colonial policy of ruling U.S. circles. The consolidation of the German Democratic Republic will be an inestimable contribution to the struggle for a lasting peace throughout the world, to the struggle against the instigators of a new war. Let the Anglo-American imperialists and their Bonn puppets give vent to impotent ravings! The people of Germany are inspired with the formation of the German Democratic State. The German people possess the necessary strength with which to bury the insidious plans of the foreign imperialists. The all-

important thing is to strengthen the unity of the people in the struggle for national independence.

STRUGGLE OF THE FRENCH WORKING PEOPLE IS EXTENDING

The movement of the French working people for unity of action is steadily growing in strength. A particularly fine example of this at the Renault Works where, responding to the call of the trade union organisation, more than 20,000 workers and technicians met together to state their demands. The meeting closed with the call: "For unity of action!"

Railwaymen, including members of the General Confederation of Labour, the General Confederation of Christian Workers and the General Confederation of Cadres presented joint demands to the management. Food workers from the three organisations also submitted a joint programme to their employers. Since October 8, together with demands for higher wages and peace, hundreds of thousands of workers, particularly the miners of the Nord and Pas de Calais Departments, have come out with the demand for a government of democratic unity.

The lead in the movement for unity of action has been given by the General Confederation of Labour. On October 10, the C.G.T. submitted a draft agreement on the formation of a central Committee for Unity of Action to the Confederation of Christian Workers. The draft outlines plans for unity of action committees in the factories and between local and national union organisations. These committees will launch the struggle for higher wages and for unemployment relief.

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC PROCLAIMED

An event of great historical significance has taken place in Berlin—a Democratic Republic of Germany has been proclaimed. This act has been made possible by the entire course of development of post-war Germany.

The policy of the Western powers aimed at enslaving the German people, at splitting Germany and turning its Western part into a base for a new war against the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies, has recently found new expression in the formation of a separate puppet Bonn "government". It is a policy which has brought increasing protests from all progressive sections of the German people.

After discussing the situation that had arisen in the country, the anti-fascist democratic parties and popular organisations raised their voice in defence of Germany's unity, denouncing the revanche tendencies displayed by the Bonn puppets and the predatory policy of their masters, the imperialist instigators of war.

In its resolution on the National Front of Democratic Germany passed on October 4, the Plenum of the Board of the Socialist Unity Party stressed that as a consequence of the Western powers violation of the Potsdam agreement, Germany had been split and had lost her sovereignty, while the Western part of the country had been placed in the position of a colony. The Resolution further points out that in Western Germany the national oppression of the imperialist powers in all its various forms endangers the economic life of nearly all sections of the population there, undermining the basis of German national culture and threatening the people of Western Germany with

becoming the cannon fodder of American imperialism in a new war, which would spell the doom of the German nation.

The resolution states that the task of a German democrat and socialist today is to organise the struggle against the national oppression of the people in Western Germany, the struggle for equality of the German nation, for its sovereignty and independent development on the basis of friendship with other peoples. The resolution declares: "The task of the German working class, the peasantry and intelligentsia and the task of our Party as the party of the working people, is to unite with all honest forces prepared to combat national oppression and to take part in a National Front of Democratic Germany... Particular responsibility lies with the working class and its organisations. In alliance with the peasantry and the intelligentsia, the working class must become the main force in the national-liberation struggle".

The Plenum decided to start negotiations with other parties and organisations concerning the formation of a national German democratic government.

The leaders of all democratic parties, trade unions and other mass organisations in the Soviet zone stressed the need to form a government for the German Democratic Republic and declared that they would do everything to bring about this great and important decision. In their resolutions passed at meetings and rallies, thousands of workers, peasants and intellectuals asked the German People's Council, the only legitimate national German representative body, to take all measures to achieve this national demand.

On October 7, the Ninth Session of the German People's Council was held in Berlin. Expressing the desire and aspirations of the majority of the German people, the German People's Council proclaimed itself a Provisional People's Chamber. The Session unanimously approved the manifesto of the National Front of Democratic Germany promulgating the

formation of a Democratic Republic of Germany and calling upon the German people “to take the salvation of the nation into their own hands, and by supporting the struggle of the National Front of Democratic Germany, pave the way to peace, construction and national freedom for the united Democratic Republic of Germany”.

The inaugural meeting of the Provisional People’s Chamber held on October 7 ratified the Constitution of the Democratic Republic of Germany elaborated by the German People’s Council and ratified by the Third German People’s Congress on May 30, 1949. The Provisional People’s Chamber passed a law setting up the Chamber of Laenders which will be composed of representatives from the five laenders of the Soviet zone and Berlin. The Provisional People’s Chamber also passed a law concerning the formation of the Provisional Government of the German Democratic Republic. Otto Grotewohl, Chairman of the Socialist Unity Party, was charged with the formation of the government.

On October 11, V. I. Chuikov, chief of the Soviet Military Administration in Germany, made a statement on behalf of the Soviet Government to the effect that under present day conditions in Germany, “it is impossible to fail to recognise as lawful the desire of German democratic circles to take into their own hands the restoration of the unity of Germany and the country’s regeneration on democratic and peace-loving principles”. The statement further points out that the Soviet Government has decided to remit the administrative functions previously undertaken by the Soviet Military Administration, to the Provisional Government of the German Democratic Republic and to substitute Military Administration by a Soviet Control Commission.

Chuikov’s statement was enthusiastically welcomed by broad sections of the German people. Numerous resolutions, telegrams and letters, pouring in from all parts of Germany,

express a deep gratitude to the Soviet Government for the great confidence they have placed in the German people.

At the joint session of the two chambers of Parliament held on October 11, **Wilhelm Pieck**, Chairman of the Socialist Unity Party, was unanimously elected President of the German Democratic Republic.

The session of the Provisional People's Chamber and the Laender Chamber held on October 12 appointed **Otto Grotewohl** Prime Minister of the Provisional Government, and three deputy Prime Ministers, **W. Ulbricht** (Socialist Unity Party), **H. Kastner** (Liberal Democratic Party) and O. Nuschke (Christian Democratic Union).

In connection with the proclaiming of the German Democratic Republic and the election of Wilhelm Pieck as President, a million-strong popular demonstration was held in Berlin.

METAL WORKERS CONFERENCE IN RUMANIA

Under the bourgeois-landlord regime, Rumania had a yearly output of 86,000 tons of coke, 172,000 tons of cast iron, 280,000 tons of steel and 300,000 ton of rolled steel.

The country's first Five-Year Plan envisages a tremendous development of heavy industry. In 1955, Rumanian industry will produce eight times more coke, 7.5 times more cast iron and nearly 5 times more steel than in 1938.

To discuss these tasks, Rumanian iron and steel workers held a conference in Resita, the centre of Rumania's iron and steel industry. The conference stressed that high productivity could be achieved in the iron and steel industry alongside a programme of capital investments and new construction, if rational use was made of all the resources at the disposal of the enterprises. To do this it was decided to introduce progressive targets at all iron and steel works.

The metal workers pledged themselves to fulfil this year's plan successfully and thus lay the first foundations for the Five-Year Plan.

SHOCK-WORKERS DAY IN GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

On October 13 last year Adolf Hennecke, a coal miner in the Zwickauer-Ölsnitser mining area, established a record for coal output in a single shift. Hennecke's feat met with an eager response on the part of the working people.

Leading workers in numerous enterprises, following Hennecke's example, began a campaign for higher labour productivity through rationalisation. This movement, known now as the Hennecke movement, has become widespread throughout the Soviet zone. Recently, the Board of the Amalgamated Free German Trade Unions decided to make October 13, Shock-Workers Day.

In connection with the celebration, leading workers and innovators' will be presented with the new Shock-Workers badge.

The working people prepared for Shock-Workers Day with new labour achievements and successes.

The shock-brigade of potash workers at the Krugershall workings, led by the workers Haupt and Hirsch, secured a big success recently when they exceeded the output schedule by 213.6 per cent.

IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

The proclamation of the Chinese People's Republic and its recognition by the Soviet Government was received with deep satisfaction by the working people of China. Meetings, processions, demonstrations and mass festivities to celebrate the occasion were held in at the big cities of the liberated areas.

In Peking, Shanghai, Nanking, Changsha, Nanchang and other cities, the workers are increasing output and pledging themselves to exceed their production targets.

Other countries which have recognised the Government of the People's Republic of China and established diplomatic relations with it include Bulgaria, Rumania, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, the Mongolian People's Republic and North Korea. Delegates and representatives of various public organisations met in Peking to form an All-China Society for Friendship with the Soviet Union and elected Liu Shao-chi, chairman of the Society.

These stirring events are the centre of attention for the Chinese public and the press. The newspapers of the capital and the provinces daily carry articles and comments from the working people expressing deep satisfaction that the ties of inviolable friendship between the peoples of China the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies have been strengthened and the fraternal solidarity of the forces of peace and democracy throughout the world consolidated.

The All-China Trade Union Federation in its statement welcoming the Soviet Union's recognition of the People's Republic, calls upon the Chinese working class to "learn from the Soviet Union, to strengthen the peaceful friendship between China and the Soviet Union and to redouble their efforts to

build the new China”.

At the meetings being held throughout the country, representatives of Chinese public opinion unanimously stress that the establishment of diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the People’s Republic of China will add to the confidence of the Chinese people in the success of the country’s industrialisation and the establishment of a lasting, world peace.

POLISH-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP MONTH

WARSAW (From our own Correspondent).

Polish-Soviet Friendship Month was opened by meetings and rallies throughout Poland attended by thousands of working people, in many towns and villages the meetings closed with demonstrations and the laying of wreaths on the graves of Soviet warriors who had given their lives to liberate the Polish people from German fascist slavery. The resolutions unanimously adopted at the meetings express the boundless devotion of the Polish people to the great Soviet people and its brilliant leader, Comrade Stalin.

The Friendship Month has a wide programme. The film festival will bring the productions of the Soviet cinema to millions of working people of town and country. All theatres will take part in the festival of Soviet dramatic art together with about a thousand amateur art groups. There will be many concerts of Soviet music and songs given by professional and amateur artists. Exhibitions of Soviet books are being arranged and the sale of Polish translations of Soviet literature will be increased. Lectures devoted to the achievements of the Soviet people will also be held.

The rapid development of the Polish-Soviet Friendship Society which, at the beginning of the Friendship Month, had a membership of over one and a half million, demonstrates the deepening friendship for the peoples of the U.S.S.R. Thousands of workers, peasants and the working intellectuals are daily joining the Society.

SHOCK-WORKERS IN CZECHOSLOVAK INDUSTRY

Shock-worker shifts have been formed in factories in the Brno region in Czechoslovakia and are sharply increasing labour productivity through technical and organisational improvement in the work.

This example has been followed at many other plants. At the Lishen precision instruments works, the first shock-work shift was recently organised. The movement has now taken on a mass scale. Between October 3 and 7, thousands of workers and technicians at various plants organised shock-worker shifts and achieved splendid results. The Brno initiative has also extended to other regions of the Republic, particularly at the Ostrava iron and steel plant and at the Scoda works in Plzen.

MAO TSE-TUNG'S REPLY TO LEADERS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE U.S.

The Sin-hua Agency reports that on October 6, Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China, sent the following telegram to William Foster and Eugene Dennis, leaders of the Communist Party of the United States, in reply to their message of greetings on the occasion of the proclamation of the People's Republic of China:

“Dear Comrade Foster, Comrade Dennis and all comrades of the National Committee of the Communist Party of the U.S.A.

“Thank you very much for your warm greetings on the founding of the People's Republic of China. Please convey my thanks to all members of the Communist Party of the United States, and to all people in America who love peace and justice and who harbour goodwill towards the Chinese people.

“What you said is true: The victory of the Chinese people is a victory over imperialism, first of all over American imperialism.

“This victory is part of the general victory in the struggle waged by the working class and progressive mankind throughout the world against the world imperialist camp. American Communists and all sincere democratic elements are fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Chinese people in this struggle.

“American Communists are playing a particularly outstanding role in the heroic fight to help the just cause of the Chinese people and to oppose the reactionary imperialist policy of the United States toward China.

“Although the American reactionary Government is savagely persecuting the Communist Party of the U.S. and American progressive forces and is illegally trying the eleven leaders of the Communist Party of the United States—Comrades Eugene Dennis, John Williamson, Henry Winston, Jacob A. Stachel, Benjamin Davis, Carl Winter, Robert G. Thompson, John Gates, Charles A. Doyole, Gilbert Green and Gus Hall—facts have, however, shown that it is the Communist Party of the United States and American progressive forces who are in the right, that it is their Chinese friend who has won victory, and that it is the present imperialist Government of the U.S. which has violated justice and has met with ignominious defeat.

“This fact cannot but encourage all democratic forces in the world which are temporarily oppressed and open the eyes of the peoples of the world temporarily ruled by the reactionaries who are deceiving them.

“Long live the friendship between the Chinese and American peoples!

Mao Tse tung

October 6, 1949.”

CONGRESS OF ITALIAN GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR

The Congress of the Italian General Confederation of Labour held recently in Genoa, was attended by 1,500 delegates including representatives of Christian-Democratic and Republican Workers who have remained faithful to trade-union unity.

Giuseppe di Vittorio, general secretary of the Confederation, delivered a report on "The activity and struggle of the C.G.T. for unity and higher living standards for the working people".

Di Vittorio exposed the splitters in the trade-union movement and pointed out that there were 5,117,300 trade union members by August 31 this year.

Di Vittorio pointed out that the realisation of these demands would not fundamentally solve the general question of the conditions of the working class. It was necessary to fight for profound social changes in the country, for example, for an agrarian reform to provide land for more than two million landless peasants.

Analysing the situation in the country, di Vittorio stressed the need to fight resolutely together with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, for peace, against the Anglo-American warmongers and their hirelings.

In the discussion, representatives of the working people from various industries described the struggle which they are now waging in their united trade union organisations.

RESULTS OF AUSTRIAN ELECTION

The general election in Austria on October 9 was held in conditions of intensified terror and provocation aimed against the Left bloc supporters by the Government parties.

The results show that both Government parties lost seats. The Austrian "People's Party" which had 85 seats before, now has 77. the Socialist Party 67 compared with the previous 76, the "Independent Union" secured 16 seats.

The Left bloc (Communist Party and Left Socialists) maintained their positions, winning 5 seats (in the 1945 election the Communist Party won 4 seats).

FOR UNITY OF ACTION, FOR A GOVERNMENT OF DEMOCRATIC UNITY. PLENUM, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF FRANCE

At its meeting on October 7 the Central Committee of the Communist Party of France discussed the situation in the country caused by the government crisis and outlined the tasks of the Communist Party.

Reporting on this question Jacques Duclos, secretary of the Central Committee, analysed the “government crisis” in the light of the changed balance of forces in favour of the anti-imperialist camp. Duclos enumerated the main events of the last few weeks: the proclamation of the People’s Republic of China, the consternation in the imperialist camp over the TASS report of September 25, the sterling area and “Marshall Plan” crisis. Devaluation, sending up the cost of living still further, once again brought the wages question sharply to the forefront.

The fall of the government was caused not so much by the interminable ministerial wranglings which initiated the government crisis as by the broad mass movement and the struggle of the working people for their immediate demands.

Comrade Duclos pointed out that the increased military expenditure was the outcome of the Atlantic Pact and the war in Viet Nam. He denounced the imperialist powers’ violation of the Potsdam Agreement on the denazification and demilitarisation of Germany, and the disastrous consequences of this to the security of France.

The government crisis was an expression of the difficulties encountered by the Queuille-Moch-Ramadier Cabinet in their drive to impose their policy of impoverishment and war on the French people.

The government fell because it refused to make any

concessions to the working people. Even certain circles of the bourgeoisie realise that such an attitude could not be maintained for very long.

Although increasing attempts would be made to sabotage unity of action, great headway could be foreseen in this direction: the results of the peace ballot were most indicative, showing the great possibilities for unity of action.

If the Communists were convinced that by mass action new opportunities could be created for a democratic government, concluded Duclos, then during the period of government crisis they would be able to bring strong pressure to bear on the forces of reaction, on the ruling classes.

After the discussion to which comrades Waldeck Ruchet, Raymond Guyot, Etienne Fajon, Jeanette Vermeerch and Auguste Lecoeur contributed, Maurice Thorez, General Secretary of the Party, made the closing speech. He stressed that the Queuille Government collapsed as a result of mass action.

Comrade Thorez noted the steady weakening of the imperialist camp which had suffered a heavy blow by the exposure of the Tito clique.

The whole democratic camp, said Comrade Thorez, had seen the danger to peace, democracy and Socialism presented by the traitors and spies in the service of American imperialism who were planning to operate not only in Yugoslavia but also in the other People's Democracies and in France.

Comrade Thorez went on to say that the internal situation in France was marked by the further development of working class struggle. During the holiday period the workers in many industries went on strike demanding holiday bonuses and wage increases. The greater part of the strikes ended in the workers winning their demands. This is a new factor which explains the position of the Socialist Party leaders, "Force Ouvriere" and the Blum Minister, Daniel Mayer, and also the difficulties of

the Queuille Government.

Industrial workers and working people of all social categories, continued Comrade Thorez, were beginning to see more and more clearly the connection between their material difficulties and the disastrous policy of preparing for a new world war and pursuing the war against the Viet Nam people. That is why the Political Bureau considered the exposure of the "Marshall Plan" and the Atlantic Pact as the most essential point in the programme of struggle which it submitted to the Central Committee.

Hence the inevitable conclusion: unity of action must be developed.

The attempt of the American imperialists to smash the General Confederation of Labour by splitting its ranks with the help of Blum and Jouhaux failed. Even workers who were not members of the C.G.T. looked to the Confederation to uphold their demands and will support it when it puts forward slogans of struggle for various demands.

"The movement for unity was widespread. We are entering into a situation", continued Comrade Thorez," similar to that of 1934-35. It is necessary that all leaders, all members of the Party should fully understand this situation and should not underestimate the possibilities.

Commenting on Truman's statement about the Soviet Union having, the atom bomb, Comrade Thorez pointed out that the aim of the President of the United States was to get credits to speed up rearmament in the United States and the Marshall countries.

"The imperialists," he declared, "will continue their policy of struggle and violence against the working class in our country, in Italy, Britain and Belgium. This is what we must understand. While not giving way to complacency, we must develop the struggle for peace, freedom and bread with still greater energy".

Comrade Thorez then dwelt on the slogan of a government of democratic unity. "It is a fact," he said, "that mass action can make the deputies change their position. It is a fact that mass action can bring about the downfall of one government and make it possible to form a new one.

"The temporary stoppages of work and the vast number of resolutions adopted show that the workers are reacting more strongly than was the case in former government crises."

Thorez went on to say that in developing mass actions and the struggle for unity it was at the same time necessary to criticise also the position of the Socialist Party leaders. It must be explained to the Socialist workers that it was necessary to put an end to the policy pursued by the Socialist Party leaders together with other bourgeois and reactionary groups.

He then stressed the need of developing work among all social categories: peasants, shopkeepers, ex-servicemen, war victims, war wounded and unemployed. It was necessary, in particular, to win over the women and young people.

Comrade Thorez then raised the question of vigilance inside the Party toward possible actions by enemies of the working class.

"Too often," he said, "members of the Party and even members of the Central Committee do not pay enough attention to this question. Revolutionary vigilance must be strengthened, we must be on our guard, we must expose enemy agents and destroy them without hesitation."

In the ideological sphere, the principal task was to promote the spirit of internationalism.

Saying that December 21 would mark the 70th birthday of Comrade Stalin, Thorez went on: "the working class, and the republicans of France are profoundly grateful to Comrade Stalin and repose their confidence in him.

In the person of Stalin they will greet the leader of the Soviet State, the Soviet Army, the great strategist who led the

way to victory.

Workers and Communists will greet in the person of Comrade Stalin, the disciple and continuer of the cause of Lenin, organiser of the Bolshevik Party, the steadfast leader who teaches us the principles of Marxism-Leninism which enable us to organise and build up the Party of the working class and to wage a victorious struggle for Socialism.

In conclusion Maurice Thorez stated that it was up to the Central Committee and the leadership of the Party federations to strengthen Party organisation and develop the mass movement.

“If the Communists”, he said, “can explain the situation to the masses, if they can guide the working-class movement, then in the near future the people of France will have a government of democratic unity, an essential factor in the struggle for peace.

In conclusion the Central Committee Plenum addressed the following call to the French people: Condemning the policy of impoverishment and war pursued by the Queuille-Moch-Ramadier Government, the Central Committee calls upon the French people to support the programme of national salvation and peace, which the French Communist Party submits to the people for approval.

This programme includes: denouncement of the “Marshall Plan” and the Atlantic Pact; immediate cessation of the war in Viet Nam; at home—wage increases for office and factory workers; introduction of a sliding wage-scale and immediate temporary compensation until wages are increased; revival of France’s agriculture by protecting the main branches of agriculture against American exports; protection of Constitutional liberties (right to strike, freedom of the press and assembly); dissolution of the militarised units organised by the R.P.F. for civil war; release and reinstatement of strikers and participants in the peace demonstrations, the victims of

repression.

To realise this programme the Communist Party calls upon the working class and all working people to develop united action in order to achieve the establishment of a government of democratic unity.

EXCHANGE OF EXPERIENCE IN PARTY WORK

WORK OF FACTORY PARTY ORGANISATIONS IN ITALY. Celso Ghini, Member, Central Committee, Communist Party of Italy

The main strength of the Italian Communist Party lies in the working class. Its ranks contain the majority of politically organised workers. Thanks to its constant defence of the daily interests of the workers, the Party also enjoys influence among the majority of workers organised in trade unions, as is evident from the results of the trade union elections and elections to joint works' councils.

These results achieved in the struggle against fascism during the liberation movement and by all the subsequent work of the Party, have won the Party great prestige in plants and factories.

The heavy defeat suffered by Italian capitalism arising from the downfall of the fascist regime, the rapid development of the working class organisations, the prestige gained by the working class and its organisations in saving industrial equipment from being plundered and destroyed by the German-Italian fascist gangsters, the strength of our Party and its allies—all these factors considerably facilitated the struggle of the working class in the first two years after the war. Such gains as the prohibition of dismissals, the introduction of a sliding wage-scale and the recognition of workers' factory organisations, were often achieved merely as a result of a threat to mobilise the masses.

During that period, the numerical strength of our factory Party organisations was very great. At the most important enterprises, up to 50 per cent of all the workers were Party

members. At trade union elections the Party received over 70 per cent of the votes.

Nevertheless, our Party organisations were altogether primitive bodies. They lacked organisers; they were not subdivided into groups; there was only one Party branch for the whole enterprise; there was a shortage of leading cadres. Party meetings took the form of public rallies; the percentage of active members was low, individual work among Communist workers was neglected. The Party was a great potential force in the factories. The national conference held in Florence in January 1947 which discussed organisational questions, set the task of developing this force, of utilising it inside the factories with a view to strengthening the weaker territorial organisations.

The Florence conference also set the task of reorganising local Party organisations. At factories and plants there had been branches numbering hundreds and even thousands of Communists guided by a single central body. After the conference, workshop and shift groups were formed, and it was decided that there should not be more than 70 people in each group. It was also decided to set up smaller sub-groups of ten people, to appoint dues collectors and to establish factory coordinating committees.

These measures strengthened the Party organisations in the plants, facilitated the task of leadership, increased the activity of the rank and file members. Many of them have been promoted to responsible work which has developed new leading cadre. Party work improved as a whole. It became possible to bring Party members together, to have discussions with them, to direct their work, to guide them and to mobilise them for struggle.

At the same time the conference decided that “comrades working at large enterprises who lived in villages should be members of corresponding rural Party sections though

remaining attached to the industrial branches”.

The Communists, working and living in town should be members of their factory branches but should also “work actively in the area organisations.”

The Florence conference particularly stressed the need to strengthened the territorial organisations in order to win the majority of the people. Trade union and cooperative organisations, veterans’ associations, sport, culture, and other organisations conduct their work on the territorial principle. Our Party was so strong in the factories that it was possible to spare some of the members to work in the territorial organisations and thus play a systematic and active part in the popular organisations. This organisational structure justified itself and yielded good results. Many factory workers became experienced leaders of area Party and popular organisations, imbuing them with a new spirit, with discipline and a sharp practical outlook. Even now, when the situation has changed considerably, it is necessary to transfer more and more Communists to work in the towns and villages to strengthen and extend organisation there.

At the same time it must be admitted that sometimes the factory Party organisations themselves needed special attention. Party organisations were not equally strong in all provinces, nor all branches of industry. In some cases there was an underestimation of the significance of industrial Party organisations and sufficient measures were not taken to consolidate them, particularly in those factories where women workers were in the majority, and also in the medium and smaller enterprises. Some large Party federations (in Varese, Novara, Taranto) had to raise the question of strengthening the factory organisations for, in practice, it happened that Communist workers were engaged mainly in area work with the result that work in the factories was neglected. Underestimation of the importance of factory work resulted in

opportunist tendencies on the part of individual leaders of trade union and factory organisations when faced with the difficulties of the struggle. At the same time, the weakening of factory organisations did not result in strengthening the territorial organisations, since if an enterprise ceased to be the centre of Party life, the Communist workers, dispersed in outside organisations, were unable to carry out there their leading, vanguard role.

There are also organisations with poor traditions and weak cadres which do not yet understand sufficiently the significance and the role of a Party organisation within the working class. They frequently gave way to objective difficulties (shift work, long journeys to work, lack of premises for meeting, and so on).

During the past two years, the class contradictions and the class struggle have been sharpening continually. The class enemy, defeated and demoralised by the downfall of fascism, has regrouped its forces, reorganising itself with the support of American imperialism and the Vatican, and has launched an offensive against the gains of the working class. Factories have become the scene of significant economic and political battles. The Italian working class has shown that it can fight selflessly and courageously under the most difficult conditions that it can find new methods of struggle, new effective tactics (non-cooperation, "chess-board" strikes where shops stop work consecutively, strikes with "respites" and so on), and has been able to frustrate the main plans of the enemy.

Enjoying the support of the Government and the State apparatus, the employers and their agents have come out into the open in the factories. Repression grows fiercer daily. The working class has once again found itself in the front line in the vanguard of the struggle.

The work of the Party organisations in industry has once again become one of the most important tasks. All our

weaknesses and shortcomings have come to light. It is clear that the decision to form sub-groups, department and shift groups has not been carried out everywhere, that group meetings have not been called regularly or did not discuss the main political and ideological question. A tendency toward bureaucracy and purely administrative methods of leadership has been revealed. These shortcomings were shown by the fact that only leading committees or group leaders were called together and informed of Party tasks and policy without a subsequent check-up being made on their work, without helping the leading comrades in the local organisations.

Today the entire Party is mobilised to overcome the shortcomings disclosed in the course of the struggle. Work is being carried out to form Party organisations at small factories where they still do not exist and to unite Communist workers who were formerly members of territorial branches into industrial branches. Measures are being taken to see that the Party's policy and its tasks are regularly discussed at branch meetings, that Party sub-groups act as the first stage in mobilisation and control. Work is under way to promote more and more workers to responsible posts. With this aim in view, conferences of delegates representing large-scale enterprises and also conferences of delegates from smaller enterprises were called. Factory conferences are also organised with delegates from non-Party workers and members of other Parties. Such factory conferences, particularly at large plants where there are many branches, must become the usual form of leadership and should be called at least four or five times a year.

In this way the Party will be able to consolidate its position, develop the revolutionary consciousness and fighting capacity of its members and raise their ideological and political level.

Our great mass Party guided by Comrade Togliatti, is acquiring daily the specific features of a genuine Marxist-

Leninist party tempered in struggle, capable of leading the working class and the working people in the fight for their economic demands, peace, and democratic liberties, in the fight for liberation against capitalist exploitation and for Socialism.

CONCERNING THE FURTHER SHARPENING OF THE GENERAL CRISIS OF CAPITALISM. A. Leontyev, Corresponding Member, Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.

Developing Lenin's thesis concerning the decay of capitalism, Comrade Stalin showed how, in the epoch of the general crisis of capitalism, the bourgeois order has become a monstrous barrier to the development of human society. The bourgeois system's inability to utilise the productive forces of society and imperialism's inherent tendency to retard the development of the productive forces have become particularly evident.

This tendency takes different forms. To begin with, there is a general slowing down in the rate of economic development in the bourgeois countries, as can be seen from the following comparison: in the 23 years preceding World War One (1890-1913) world production showed an average yearly increase of 5.8 per cent, whereas, for the same period following World War One (1914-1937) industrial production in the capitalist world increased by a total of 35 per cent, in other words by an average yearly figure of only 1.5 per cent.

In his report to the Eighteenth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks). Stalin noted that over a period of 25 years (1913-1938) industry in the main capitalist countries had marked time round about the pre-war level, exceeding the latter by only 20-30 per cent. When it is borne in mind that the population of the capitalist world increased by approximately 15 per cent during those 25 years, and that an ever greater share of production was allocated for war

purposes, it becomes clear that, far from increasing, industrial output per head of the population actually declined.

The inability of present-day capitalism to make full use of the productive forces is manifested in the chronic below-capacity operation of industry and also in the permanent mass unemployment. This is borne out by Comrade Stalin's characterisation of the general crisis of capitalism "... when capitalism no longer has, nor can have, either in the major countries or in the colonial and dependent countries, the strength and stability it had before the war and before the October Revolution; when industry in the capitalist countries is confronted with the heritage it received from the imperialist war in the shape of chronic under-capacity operation of industry, and of an army of millions of unemployed of which it is no longer able to rid itself".

World War Two temporarily absorbed millions of hands in the army and in war production. Specific war orders extended the market. But this was of a purely temporary nature, for the deep roots of such phenomena of the general crisis of capitalism as the chronic under-capacity operation of industry, permanent unemployment for millions, the deformation of the industrial cycle, and the protracted agrarian crisis remained in force. Here, too, the following factors must be taken into account.

First, the destruction of material values and human losses caused by World War Two were much greater than in World War One. According to data at hand, World Two cost about a thousand billion dollars, whereas World War One cost approximately two hundred billion dollars. The number of killed, including civilian population, was nearly 50 million as against 10 million in World War One.

Second; the fascist recipe of "aggravating the situation" by an armaments, race and uncontrolled inflation has been widely used in a number of bourgeois countries after World War Two,

especially in the United States and Britain. In view of the interdependence of various industries, the armaments programme is giving rise to a war-inflation in the economy of the country.

Such features are characteristic of the post-war policy pursued by the United States and Britain. Today the U.S. armed forces are ten times more numerous than on the eve of the last war. Despite the economic and financial difficulties of the country, the British Labour Government has, on its own admission, more than a million men under arms. Considerable labour power and material means are needed to supply such mass armies with the arms, equipment, transport and provisions essential for modern military technique. The diversion of these commodities from the national economy reduces still more the already low standard of living of the working people.

With the help of their obedient salesmen at the helm of State, the American monopolies are engaged in a feverish armaments race, especially for atomic weapons and aviation. Military allocations are being increased from year to year. For instance, appropriations for "defence needs" in 1947-1948 (the fiscal year in the U.S., starts on July 1) totalled about 10,648 million dollars. In 1948-1949 military expenditure, together with allocations for carrying out the Administration's aggressive foreign policy which aims at U.S. world domination, reached approximately 28 billion dollars—more than 70 per cent of the State budget.

Third, as distinct from World War One, in World War Two the U.S. productive capacity was extended chiefly at the expense of the State. During World War One four-fifths of industrial construction was financed by private capital and one-fifth by the Treasury. During World War Two, the proportion was the reverse: the Treasury accounted for two-thirds of capital investments and private capital for only one-third. Thus, the monopolists saw to it that the State not only shouldered the burden of capital investments but also ran the risk of the peace-

time depreciation of These investments. And, sure enough, after the war, industrial enterprises built at State expense were either closed down or handed over to the monopolists for next to nothing. In this way productive capacity was destroyed on a hitherto unprecedented scale. Although the statistic for industrial operations do not in the least reflect this monstrous fact, it is, nevertheless, a striking indication of the parasitism and decay of present-day capitalism, of its inability to make use of the productive forces and its unrestrained tendency to destroy them.

In the light of these facts the chronic unemployment in the U.S. since the war, unemployment running into millions, acquires particular significance. In 1946-47 there were at least 7-7½ million unemployed, including part-time workers.

Unemployment grew rapidly in 1948 and especially during the current year. There are more than 6 million unemployed and 12 million part-time workers, according to trade union statistics. In the manufacturing industry alone, 1,700,000 lost their job between September 1948 and June 1949.

Chronic unemployment is the scourge of the workers in a number of European countries, particularly in Italy and the Western zones of Germany. The number of unemployed in Italy actually reaches 3 million, in Western Germany the figure is 1½ million. Even the official Information Agency in Rome admits that chronic unemployment “has become an organic feature of Italy’s economic life”.

The parasitism and decay of the present-day bourgeois order are most glaringly reflected in the rapacious treatment of society’s main productive force—human labour power. This plunder takes the form of unrestrained exploitation of the proletariat, the terrible impoverishment of the working masses.

Together with intensified exploitation of the working people, present-day parasitic capitalism is steadily cutting-down the actual number of people engaged in productive labour. As is known, advertising, trade, domestic service and the production of luxuries for the parasitic exploiting class have been developed at the expense of a relative, and at times, absolute curtailment of people engaged in important spheres of production. This tendency is characteristic for all capitalist countries.

World War Two reduced the standard of living in the capitalist world on a scale hitherto unparalleled. The policy pursued by the ruling classes who are transferring the brunt of war costs and postwar burdens onto the shoulders of the working people is adding to the impoverishment of the masses. But monopoly profits are fantastically increasing, breaking all records. In 1948, U.S. company profits, after taxes had been paid, reached the colossal sum of 20.8 billion dollars (as against 17 billion in 1947), that is, double the maximum figure reached during the war (10.8 billion dollars in 1944).

The exorbitant toll exacted by the monopolists is worsening the living conditions of the people. In his message to the special session of Congress on July 27, 1948, President Truman was compelled to admit that the cost of living in the U.S. was higher than ever before in the history of the country.

Such is the picture presented by the impoverishment of the masses and the enrichment of capitalist circles in the U.S. The impoverishment of the working people in all capitalist countries has reached an unprecedented scale.

Productive capacity in the U.S. is far in excess of the home market which is restricted by the capitalist laws of distribution, thus dooming the bulk of the working people to a life of misery. The inflated productive capacity of the U.S. taken together with the severely ravaged capitalist countries of Europe and a considerable part of Asia, make inevitable the

outbreak of acute conflicts, intensified struggle for markets, new and deeper economic crises and upheavals.

At present the struggle for markets is developing in conditions of the general crisis of capitalism. This crisis was further aggravated by World War Two in the course of which capitalism, having already lost one sixth of the earth's surface as a result of the Great October Socialist Revolution in the U.S.S.R., suffered fresh losses when first the People's Democracies and then China dropped out of its system as objects of exploitation—as markets, sources of raw materials, and spheres of capital investment.

Naturally, the American people and their democratic organisations cannot help but notice the growing economic difficulties. At its Plenum on April 23-24, 1949, the National Committee of the Communist Party of the United States noted that the American people are faced with an economic crisis which has been developing in the country since the end of last year.

This is borne out by data for the end of 1948 and the first half of 1949. For instance the index of industrial production in the United States in October was 199 (100 in 1935-1939): in November it was 195, December 190, January (1949) 187, February 185, March 181, April 179, May 174, June 169 and July 162. Industrial production in July 1949 was 17 per cent below the level of November 1948 and hit the lowest figure since May 1946. Crisis symptoms are increasingly obvious in commodity circulation, credit and foreign trade. This includes such facts as the accumulation of goods and the decline in trade, the sharp curtailments in railway freightage, stock exchange crashes decline in shares to the tune of billions: the growing number of bankruptcies and a sharp decrease in American exports.

Even during the war, U.S. monopoly circles and their economists admitted, with laudable frankness, that the main

problem of American export was the “export of unemployment”. It was obvious from the reports published that if U.S. capitalist industry were to use the available labour power, it would be necessary to export goods to the value of 25 billion dollars annually.

Just what this figure means can be gathered from the following: the 1937 volume of world exports totalled 15.3 billion dollars. Before the war the United States accounted for 13.1 per cent of world exports, Britain for 11.9 per cent and Germany for 9.4 per cent. In the period between the two wars (1921 to 1939), U.S. exports averaged 3.6 billion dollars annually; in other words, they constituted 4.3 per cent of the country’s entire production. In the two post-war years of 1946 and 1947, America exported goods to the sum of 25.1 billion dollars, or 5.8 per cent of its gross output.

Thus, U.S. exports only reached half the figure envisaged by American economists during the war. But even this volume of American exports sharply aggravated the contradictions in the world capitalist market. These contradictions are all the sharper since the American monopolists, concerned with maintaining their fantastic super-profits, are restricting the import of foreign goods.

According to data published in July 1949 in the United Nations report on the world economic situation, exports of the West European countries to the United States are far below imports from the United States. In 1948, U.S. exports to Western Europe exceeded imports from these countries by 246 per cent, a fact which resulted in an extremely unfavourable balance for the countries of Eastern Europe in their trade with the United States. In 1948 the exports of the West European countries did not even come up to the 1938 level, the lowest pre-war figure, and reached only 66 per cent of the 1947 figure. Their foreign trade deficit with the U.S. in 1948 totalled 3,247 million dollars.

U.S. trade has acquired a unilateral character. On the one hand the U.S. is out to extend its exports while at the same time preventing a corresponding amount of imports. On the other hand the other capitalist countries, particularly the countries of Western Europe, are compelled to import U.S. goods but are not allowed to export a sufficient amount of goods. Hence the chronic dollar famine in these countries which is one of the reasons for the general dislocation in the present-day economy of capitalists. This two-fold contradiction was in great measure are possible for the “Marshall Plan” which, in its turn, aggravated the conflict.

It is most significant that 1948—first year of the “Marshall Plan”—did not see an increase in American export. On the contrary, compared with 1947, U.S. exports dropped by 18 per cent if value and by 23 per cent in volume.

The economic crisis of over-production, developing against a background of the terrible impoverishment of the masses, is spreading not only in the United States but also in the capitalist countries of Western Europe.

For months past it has become increasingly difficult for West European countries to find markets, with the result that production is being curtailed.

According to the United Nations’ report on the world economic situation, published last July, industrial output in all countries of Western Europe dropped in the first quarter of the year compared with the first quarter of 1948. The first quarter of 1949 was marked by a sharp rise in unemployment in all West European countries: the figures doubled in general, but in some countries to even higher. In France the number of registered unemployed increased by one and a half times in the first three months of 1949, in the American and British zones of Germany the increase was almost twofold, the unemployed figures doubled in Holland, the increase was almost as great in Norway while Switzerland registered a threefold increase in the

numbers unemployed. The inter-twining of the West European crisis with that in the United States threatens to aggravate the crisis still further.

In conditions of ever-growing crisis Britain, the leading European capitalist country, is faced with increasing export difficulties—forcing exports is one of the essential points in the Labour Government's economic programme.

Complying with the orders of the Wall Street monopolies, the British Government devalued the pound. The immediate result was a depreciation in the currency of some two dozen other capitalist countries. The American monopolists now have the possibility of buying cheaply the industry of the West European countries and the sources of raw materials in their colonies. Devaluation means a further disastrous deterioration in the living standard of the working masses. At the same time, the depreciation of sterling is a way of veiling the plunder of a number of colonial countries to whom Britain still owes vast sums dating back to the war. Moreover, devaluation, far from solving the economic difficulties of the capitalist world, will intensify them. Cripps' promise that devaluation would mitigate Britain's financial crisis and lessen her dollar deficit is obvious charlatanism designed for the gullible. It is clear that the American monopolists did not dictate the devaluation of the pound for the purpose of promoting British exports at a time when American exports are declining month by month and the struggle for markets is steadily growing sharper. But the calculations of the American monopolists are built on sand: in their race for super-profits they are pursuing a policy which can only result in a further shrinking of markets and, consequently, a further intensification of the economic crisis of over-production in conditions of the unprecedented impoverishment of the masses.

The economic crisis of over-production is caused by the inner laws governing the capitalist system or economy. The cause of the crisis is the main contradiction of capitalism, the contradiction between the social nature of production and the private, capitalist form of appropriation. At the same time, the greedy and short-sighted policy of the monopolies, dictating their will to the bourgeois governments, undoubtedly aggravates the growing crisis in the capitalist countries. The policy of the armaments race could not, and did not save these countries from the blows of the crisis. Once again, the estimation given by Stalin of a similar policy pursued by the aggressive rulers of Germany and Japan on the eve of World War Two has been brilliantly confirmed:

“For what does placing the economy of a country on a war footing mean? It means giving industry a one-sided, war direction; developing to the utmost the production of goods necessary for war and not for consumption by the population; restricting to the utmost the production and, especially, the sale of articles of general consumption—and, consequently, reducing consumption by the population and confronting the country with an economic crisis.”

At the same time, ruling monopoly circles are still further aggravating the ever-growing economic crisis by their aggressive policy toward the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, a policy which sabotages all economic relations, a policy which discriminates in trade, and so on. Coupled with the Western Powers' policy of dismembering Germany, the grabbing policy being pursued by the monopolies is artificially restricting the already shrunken market and thus increasing overproduction and accelerating the growth of unemployment.

Marxism teaches that there is no such thing as permanent crises of over-production. This holds true also today in the epoch of the general crisis of capitalism when the industry of

capitalist countries do not exist without going through the usual cycle, although the cycle itself is considerably disturbed compared with the previous epoch. This disturbance in the cycle is more obvious in the post-war period than it was in the period between the two wars. The present crisis of over-production is beginning to grip the capitalist world not after a phase of prosperity but after a short-lived, speculative, post-war “boom”, caused by specific and rapidly changing circumstances. This disturbance vividly demonstrates the general weakening of capitalism’s economic foundations, the instability and internal decay of these foundations.

ENSLAVEMENT OF YUGOSLAVIA BY ANGLO-AMERICAN CAPITAL. Antonin Gregor, member, Central Committee, Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

In 1947, Tito pompously declared that the Yugoslav Five-Year Plan would be completed in 1951. But none of the conditions necessary for the fulfilment of the Plan had been created in the country. The Plan contained unreal, astronomical figures and, in general, was framed in such a way as to break economic relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, and to subordinate Yugoslavia to the capitalist countries.

It is quite obvious that the main targets of the Yugoslav Five-Year Plan are totally unreal. For example, by the end of the Plan, industrial output is scheduled to surpass the 1939 level by 494 per cent, and the output of means of production by 625 per cent. To do this it envisages capital investment in industry to the value of 278,300 million dinars. To understand fully the unreality of this figure it is sufficient to bear in mind that the value of industrial production for 1951 is planned at 126 billion dinars, in other words, capital investments are twice this figure which in itself is unreal. In Czechoslovakia, on the other hand, capital investments envisaged by the Five-Year Plan amount to 336 billion crowns while the value of industrial production in the last year of the Five-Year Plan will reach 454 billion crowns.

A feature of Yugoslavia's plan is that it concentrates on developing production of those goods which were supplied to Yugoslavia by the People's Democracies and the Soviet Union. It is on the production of these goods that the efforts of the fascist clique are concentrated in the first phase of the plan. For example, oil output, which in pre-war Yugoslavia was

insignificant, is to go up 450 times by the end of the Plan; raw steel will rise 323 per cent, rolled metal, 311 per cent, coal, 272 per cent. The Titoites are doing everything to develop production of industrial coke. Their attempts to produce about 700,000 tons of coke a year will cost Yugoslavia 22 to 25 billion dinars. Yet, in the opinion of the specialists installing the necessary equipment, the production of coke from Yugoslavia's lignite is practically impossible, and such an attempt will cost the country dear.

By concentrating on production of those goods which Yugoslavia could receive on favourable terms from the People's Democracies and the Soviet Union, the treacherous Tito clique is exposing its own long-planned aims and those of its American masters to abandon economic cooperation with the camp of Socialism and make a complete break with it. These plans have been posed on the "basis" of false slogans about "Yugoslavia's economic independence" and "building Socialism with our own forces".

If in 1917-1918 the targets were fulfilled in certain branches of industry, it was only because of the selflessness of the Yugoslav working people and because of the very great help given to Yugoslavia by the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. Apart from the regular trade exchange through which Yugoslavia was supplied with products essential for reconstruction and construction, (for example, Czechoslovakia supplied coke, rolled steel, fireclay and so on), the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia and Poland signed special investment agreements with Yugoslavia. According to these agreements, Yugoslavia was to receive a total of approximately 30 billion dinars worth of investments. The Soviet Union, Yugoslavia's biggest supplier, granted an extended credit. Other People's Democracies also gave Yugoslavia credits. Czechoslovakia, for example, refrained from demanding advance payment for Yugoslav orders.

The Tito clique rejected this assistance. By systematically violating agreements, and by hostile policy toward the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, the treacherous Titoites severed economic relations with these countries. They deliberately deprived Yugoslavia of support, aid, and the guarantee of its national independence. The country was placed at the mercy of the imperialist States.

The imperialist States, having earmarked Yugoslavia as an instrument in the struggle against the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies, are taking both open and secret measures to keep their hired Tito clique in power, at any rate for the time being. While the attempts of the People's Democracies to establish economic relations on the basis of mutual benefit meet with no support on the part of imperialist powers, the Tito "clique is given quite a different reception.

Here are some examples of this. Late in 1948, the Yugoslav Government signed a commercial agreement with Britain covering trade to the value of 200 million dollars. Recently a Yugoslav-Italian trade agreement was signed to the value of approximately £7 million, although before the war, when Italy was one of Yugoslavia's biggest trading partners, the total value of trade between the two countries was never more than £5 million. The United States is pursuing a policy of discrimination against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. They also sanctioned the export of machinery and equipment for a steel-works to Yugoslavia to the value of 3 million dollars. The bourgeois press gleefully recalled that the repeated requests of Czechoslovakia and Poland for supplies of similar machinery and equipment had been rejected.

At the beginning of September, the U.S. Export-Import Bank announced that it would grant a 20 million dollar loan to Yugoslavia. The American press made no attempt to conceal the political nature of this loan. The Washington correspondent of the United Press pointed out that the Bank had granted

Yugoslavia the loan with unusual speed—less than two weeks, after the official request. The correspondent stressed that, in his desire to help Tito, Acheson used pressure to get loan through. According to the United Press, at first Johnson, Minister of Defence, opposed the loan because he considered the United State should not do anything to strengthen the military potential of any of the East European countries. However, continued the United Press, Acheson managed to convince Johnson that a loan for Yugoslavia would give the U.S. a valuable diplomatic advantage in the cold war.

On September 23, a correspondent of the French weekly “La Tribune de Nations” reported: “The agreement to grant the 20 million dollar loan through the Export-Import Bank was signed on conditions which are gradually becoming clearer. It has become known that one of these conditions stipulated big zinc and lead mining concessions in Slovenia. Apart from this the U.S. Ambassador in Belgrade is now negotiating for mining concessions in Kamnik for the ‘Anaconda Copper Mining Company’ ”.

In the light of the exposure of the Rajk espionage gang, Acheson’s concern that Tito should receive a loan is quite clear: for a long time the U.S. imperialists have wanted, to entrench themselves in Yugoslavia, and with the assistance of their hirelings, the Tito clique, they are trying to turn the country into a base for the struggle against the Soviet Union and People’s Democracies.

As already pointed out, the most essential imports for Yugoslavia are raw materials and machinery necessary to develop a normal level of production. Formerly, Yugoslavia partly balanced its imports from the countries with planned economies by exporting non-ferrous metals and large quantities of wines, fruit, low-grade timber and so on.

Today Yugoslavia can find no market for these goods in the capitalist countries. Yugoslav wines, for example, cannot

compete with Italian and French wines, and the same holds true for other products. Thus, Yugoslavia is now compelled to pay the capitalist countries for all its orders in the goods and raw materials that are most essential for herself. This is evident from the trade agreement with Italy according to which Yugoslavia will export only non-ferrous metals, certain minerals, timber and grain.

Yugoslavia also supplies the U.S., Britain and Holland with non-ferrous metals. Two shipments of tin (5,000 tons and 3,000 tons) were sent recently to the United States. It is interesting to note that the Yugoslav satraps of the imperialists sell non-ferrous metals to their masters at much lower prices than they did to the People's Democracies. Here are some figures: Czechoslovakia was charged 19 crowns per kilo for tin, Britain 12.60 crowns, the U.S. (at the beginning of July) 15 crowns, and Italy (at present) 16 crowns. It should be noted that during the past few weeks prices of tin have noticeably increased on the world market.

The predatory felling and export of timber is further proof of the Yugoslav traitors' dependence on, and servility to their Anglo-American masters. The country's timber resources are being expended at an unprecedented rate. For (example, the 1951 target for timber exports has already been reached. The value of timber felled in excess of plan and earmarked for export has reached the enormous annual sum of 11,800 million dinars. And now the Tito clique is finding it necessary to export a considerable amount of basic foodstuff which will add still more to the hardships of the Yugoslav people.

Despite the plundering of Yugoslavia's natural resources and the drastic measures that are forcing the living standards still lower, the Tito clique cannot make good the enormous loss caused by severing economic relations with the people's democracies and the Soviet Union.

Yugoslavia is now in a position where she has not enough

goods with which to buy the necessary products abroad. In 1949 her trade balance had a deficit of 30-40 per cent. The situation is aggravated by the fact that Tito and Company have already exhausted the credits granted by the capitalist countries within the framework of the present trade agreements. By the end of 1948, the dollar reserves acquired when the U.S. returned the Yugoslav people's gold blocked during the war, were similarly exhausted. The capitalists will only grant new credits against sure guarantees. Such guarantees can only be full foreign monopoly control over Yugoslav economy and the restoration of capitalism in Yugoslavia.

Yugoslavia's economy is already under the control of various "agents" and "representatives" of the imperialist countries, who, according to the Western press, are carrying on negotiations concerning the internal structure of Yugoslav economy, such as the level of production in various industries, and so on.

The number of these people in Yugoslavia grows from day to day. Recently it was reported that the London firm, the Mackenzie Engineering Company, was planning to build an iron and steel plant in Yugoslavia and was therefore sending many "experts" to the country.

Capitalist monopolies also control Yugoslav export. The Tito Government willingly set up so-called joint societies to organise exports to various capitalist countries. Such societies have already been established in Britain and Belgium.

These are nothing but capitalist companies which, though pretending to serve Yugoslav interests, are, in reality, the means by which capitalist firms control Yugoslav exports and economy in general.

The oil monopolies are particularly interested in Yugoslavia's oil. The U.S. State Department has sanctioned the export of drilling equipment to Yugoslavia on a scale denied even to the Marshall countries. It is also known that an

agreement exists for building a large-scale oil refinery in Yugoslavia with American assistance. This will not probably be supplied with oil from the Near East.

Anyone with an understanding of the methods of imperialist monopolies will not have the slightest doubt that all these concessions will be paid for at the expense of unrestricted exploitation of the Yugoslav working people.

As regard the construction of an oil refinery, there is talk that the compensation may be military bases. Tito will probably try to conceal this some way, perhaps by establishing a “transport centre” to buy arms for the Yugoslav Army from capitalist countries.

Thus, as a result of the Tito clique’s deliberate treachery, Yugoslavia, whose people won the sympathy of all progressive mankind by their struggle for national freedom, has lost its economic and political independence and is now being ruthlessly plundered and enslaved by the capitalist monopolies.

However, the real friends of the Yugoslav people in the democratic camp have no doubt that, led by the vanguard of the Yugoslav working class, the working people of Yugoslavia will not let the monstrous treachery of Tito and his hirelings deliver Yugoslavia into the hands of the imperialist bandits for ever.

“EUROPEAN UNION”—INSTRUMENT OF WAR AGAINST THE U.S.S.R. Francois Bijoux

For a month the so-called European Union was in session in Strasbourg. Its agenda covered a tempting programme: elaboration of an European economic policy, study of a general programme of public works, methods to unify social legislation, establishment of an European Tribunal in defence of the rights of man.

It required a certain measure of boldness on the part of the French representatives to adopt this programme at a time when the Government in their own country was, in the sphere of social legislation, trying to abolish social security, trade union liberties and the right to strike; when a colonial war is being fought against the Viet Nam people and repression employed in Madagascar and when the Right Socialist Minister of Home Affairs, Jules Moch, used police dogs against a peace demonstration in Marseilles.

What took place in Strasbourg?

Nothing less than the establishment of yet another organisation for American imperialism to use for its policy of world domination and war preparation against the Soviet Union.

This was clearly revealed during the debates in the so-called European Assembly. The attempt of the imperialists to set up a European Council should not be underestimated, for this Council is at once an instrument to unleash war, a manoeuvre to disorientate the broad masses who stand for peace and a smokescreen behind which preparations for a new war are being made.

The idea of forming a European federation is already a very old one. During World War One, social democratic

leaders first proposed a United States of Europe.

In 1915 Lenin disclosed the reactionary nature of such a slogan which could only serve the interests of the imperialists: “In the sense a United States of Europe is possible as an agreement between the European capitalists... but for what? Only for the purpose of jointly suppressing Socialism in Europe, of jointly protecting colonial body...”

Lenin pointed out that under capitalism a United States of Europe is either impossible, or reactionary.

The “European Union” of 1949 is a striking confirmation of Lenin’s analysis.

We must not forget that Hitler also claimed that he was building a “new Europe”, and that Providence had entrusted him with this mission.

European Federation is an heritage which Hitler left to his heirs to realise.

It is not surprising that the initiator of this new organisation is none other than Churchill, one of the main inspirers of the anti-Soviet war. And, naturally, behind him we find the wreckers of France, Daladier and Paul Reynaud.

Nor is it fortuitous that Right Socialists of the Bevin type are playing a leading role in Churchill’s undertaking. One of them, Spaak was the President of the Consultative Assembly of the “European Union”.

Earlier, on March 30, 1948, Leon Blum made it clear what countries were to take part in this union. Blum said: “when we speak today of an European Federation and the United States of Europe, we mean in practice all the ‘Marshall Plan’ Powers”.

Blum defined the nature of the future “European Union” as a union which would only be composed of capitalist countries, that is, an organisation in the service of the capitalists, working against the peoples oppressed by them and against the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies.

Dominated by fear of the peoples and of Communism,

European Union represents an organised defence for the capitalist class, a kind of mutual insurance society, a cartel of capitalist powers formed to combat social progress.

European Union will operate within the framework of the “Marshall Plan”, that is, it will be an instrument of the policy of American imperialism.

Along with the Atlantic Pact, European Union will be used as a new weapon to undermine Uno.

All this was borne out at Strasbourg. The first act of the Strasbourg Assembly was to accept the representatives of monarcho-fascist Greece and Turkey as members of the European Union and to prepare the way for accepting Franco. Churchill insistently demanded that Western Germany should be included. Certain French leaders pretended to be perturbed, since they had to consider the national sentiments of the French people, but in reality they have no objection to Western Germany’s participation in the European Union. During the debate on the Atlantic Pact, the French Government, announced that, for the time being, it was opposed to Western Germany’s inclusion in the Pact, made it clear that it took a favourable view of the question of Western Germany’s participation in the European Union.

As French Foreign Minister, Robert Schuman, envisages it, the “material basis” for the Federation should consist of the Ruhr, Rhine and Saar areas, the Belgian coal fields, Luxemburg and Lorraine. Schuman suggested supplementing this foundation with electric power from the Vosges and the Alps. This is just what is wanted by those Germans who are thirsting for revenge. It is obvious that such a “material base” will be in the hands of the German industrialists who are themselves in the service of the American financiers.

This is one aspect of how the “Marshall Plan”; and the Atlantic Pact are being realised. In these circumstances the Atlantic Pact and European Union pursue one and the same

aim; they complement each other. The inclusion of Western Germany in the European Union means inclusion in the general preparations for aggression.

This does not, however, mean that the inner capitalist contradictions within the European Union will be overcome. The contradictions clearly came to the surface during the debates in Strasbourg, especially between France and Britain. And a few days later in the Bonn Assembly the Social Democrat, Schumacher, expressed his dissatisfaction that Adenauer had not praised the British Labour Government as he praised the American Government. The Strasbourg Assembly was an attempt on the part of the British imperialists to unite the European capitalists under their leadership and use them in Washington during the discussions with the American financial representatives.

The fact remains that the Assembly could not arrive at any practical decision. The American agent, Paul Reynaud, cynically announced the intention of his masters “to boldly liquidate all industries” in the Marshall countries standing in the way of the American trusts and to “introduce a new division of labour,” retaining in the Marshall countries only the branches of agriculture and industry which are of no interest to the American monopolists.

“Naturally, this will inevitably mean losses and suffering,” continued Reynaud callously.

And while the “European gentlemen” at Strasbourg were talking about a planned European economy and similar humbug, the Wall Street businessmen were calmly preparing the devaluation of the pound sterling and other currencies of the “Europeans”.

The laws of capitalist economy, the irreconcilable contradictions between the European capitalist countries and between them and America proved to be stronger. They scattered, as the breeze scatters smoke, the futile intentions of

the French Socialist, Philippe, to establish a “common planned economy” in one part of the capitalist system. The desire of the inspirers of the European Union to maintain this Union at all costs lays bare its real object, namely to further involve the European countries in the strategic plan for a “Holy Alliance” against the U.S.S.R and the People’s Democracies. Certain people were deceived and believed in the utopia of federalism, presented as a “noble” idea. They will now see European Union in its true colours: a machine of war and capitalist oppression.

The false statements by the Right Socialists, who have wholly or partly rejected national sovereignty as an “integral part of Socialism”, no longer carry any weight, whose interests are served by the loss of even a fraction of national sovereignty, that is, of national independence? Only the interests of American imperialism. It is clear why the Right Socialist leaders are defending Tito, Rajk and other traitors. It is because they themselves are trying to place their country in the hands of the American imperialists. The trial of Rajk and Justus is also the trial of the Right Socialists.

Thus, exposure of the intrigues in and around the European Union and of the attitude of its members—the capitalists who are trying at the expense of the peoples to solve their own contradictions, the Right Socialist leaders who are trying to present cosmopolitanism as internationalism, the American imperialists, who under the guise of helping Europe, are preparing for war against the Soviet Union—this will help us win over to our side and to unite ever wider sections of the supporters of peace.

BELGIAN PEOPLE DEMAND ANNULMENT OF SECRET AGREEMENT WITH U.S.

The Belgian Union for Defence of Peace has addressed an open letter to the Prime Minister of Belgium concerning supplies of uranium from the Belgian Congo being sent to the United States. The Union reports that a secret agreement is soon to be renewed whereby radio-active ore, used in the production of the atom bomb, will be reserved exclusively for the U.S. and Britain.

Two-thirds of the world's uranium are mined in the Belgian Congo and the uranium yield of the ore is extremely high, sometimes reaching as much as 60 per cent.

“Belgium has made a serious mistake in complying with such a secret agreement,” declares the Union. “There is no guarantee that when the war now being prepared breaks out, the uranium supplied by us will not be dropped by the Americans on our heads in the form of bombs which our error has enabled them to produce”.

Expressing the desire of the overwhelming majority of the Belgian people, the Peace Union demands that the Government should annul the secret uranium agreement. It considers that a considerable part of the uranium production should belong to Belgium herself. Belgium should declare that she is willing to supply uranium to any country on condition that it is used exclusively for peaceful purposes.

FRATERNAL ASSISTANCE OF WORKING CLASS TO COUNTRYSIDE. Stefania Romaniuk, Senior Instructor, Central Committee, United Workers' Party of Poland

At the April Plenum of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, Comrade Zambrowski, Secretary of the Central Committee, speaking about the work of the Party in the countryside, said: "An essential manifestation of the strengthening of the alliance between workers and peasants and the leading role of the working class in this alliance is the mass patronage of the countryside by the towns which has started in the country. The basis of this movement is, undoubtedly, "the new line in the policy of our Party in the countryside".

The patronage movement quickly took on a mass character. Last January 300 factories became "patrons" of villages. By the end of August this figure had gone up to 1,600.

At present nearly every Sunday and every holiday over 20,000 workers go to the countryside in groups of 7 to 10. Factory-village friendship committees formed by the factory committees handle the organisation of these groups. These committees are guide politically by factory, district and regional Party committees. In August alone, 250,000 factory and office workers went to the countryside.

Until January and February the patronage groups mostly undertook to repair agricultural machinery in the machine depots. But their activities soon began to extend and are now extremely varied. The workers help the peasants to sink wells and build reading-rooms, to bring electricity to the villages, take part in the village meetings, organise amateur

performances, and so on.

To develop closer contacts between the worker “patrons” and the peasants and to enable the peasants to see for themselves how their “patrons” work and live, excursions of peasants to the towns are also organised.

It should be said that in the early stages there were shortcomings in the organisation of this patronage work. The first visits to the countryside were undertaken without sufficient contact with rural Party organisations, the Peasants Mutual Assistance League, or the women’s and youth organisations. Sometimes it happened that on coming to a village the workers did their jobs of repairing the machines in isolation from the peasants and then returned to town almost without having carried on any political work. However, these shortcomings were revealed and eliminated.

Below are a few examples of recent work done by patronage groups.

The workers of the Nissa boiler factory together with the Party organisation of the village of Gieranowice which is under their patronage, involved the peasants in the work of repairing the machines and equipment of the machine depot and helped to organise and carry out the election of the public control sub-committee of the village cooperative.

On the initiative of the workers, the peasants in the village of Skruda rebuilt the bridge themselves. Workers and an engineer from the patronage group helped with the work.

Again, with the workers’ help, reading-rooms have been opened in many villages and amateur theatre groups are being formed. In the village of Zendziny, Stettin Province, workers and peasants collected scrap iron and repaired the reading-room with the money received for the scrap. To enable the patron to develop work among village women, women workers, active in social life, go out with the patronage groups. They teach peasant women to sew, organise excursions to the

towns where they show them the work of factory child-care organisations, keep to start nurseries, particularly special nurseries to look after children during the harvesting and sowing seasons.

In Gniezno, dress-makers were included in the patronage groups of sugar refinery and railway workers. These women organised sewing courses for the peasant women in the villages.

In the process of their work, the patronage groups are accumulating great experience. Now they have begun to link the concrete assistance given to the poor and medium peasants with political and educational work. They conduct political discussions and propaganda wherever possible—at places where machines are repaired, where a doctor gives consultations, where the people rest after work, and so on. The workers inform the peasants about political events and explain the significance of the measures carried out by the Government. They often take part in village meetings and help in finding a correct solution to vital questions of village life.

Kulaks and reactionary clergymen try in every way to undermine the patronage work. Sometimes kulaks stole parts of agricultural machines belonging to poor and medium peasants and accused the visiting workers of having done it. Reactionary priests tried to convince the peasants that workers came to villages not to help them but to break up their Sunday holiday.

In a village in the Province of Pomorskie a local reactionary priest tried to persuade the peasants that they should not accept a library offered by the workers. In the village of Wodzierady, in the Province of Lodz, workers helped the peasant youth to organise a local group of the Polish Youth League. On the day the group was to be formed a group of priests came in the village. They heard confession for the young people late in the evening in an attempt to prevent the meeting of the peasant youth with the factory group from being

held. The manoeuvre failed: at the request of the young people, the workers waited and late in the evening a local organisation of the Polish Youth League was formed.

There are still many shortcomings in the work of patronage groups. Some of them have not sufficiently clear political features, have poor knowledge of the concrete situation in the villages under their patronage and the former the class struggle is taking there. Also the leaders of these groups are not always able as yet to give a correct lead. The work is to sufficiently linked up with the Party, youth and other organisations in the countryside and therefore is not always carried out according to Plan.

The matter of eliminating shortcomings and strengthening the patronage movement, of coordinating and organising its central leadership, will be discussed shortly at a meeting specially devoted to this purpose. The Central Committee organised a special three-day course which was attended by 3,000 leaders and activists of the patronage brigades.

These measures will, undoubtedly, help to develop still further the fraternal assistance to the countryside from the working class. They will contribute to consolidating the alliance of workers and peasants and the leading role of the proletariat in it, and will help to reorganise the countryside along socialist lines.

SECOND CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY IN THE FREE TERRITORY OF TRIESTE. Vittorio Vidali, General Secretary, Communist Party, Free Territory of Trieste

The Second Congress of our Party was held on September 16 to 18. It was attended by 310 delegates from the "A" zone (representatives of Party organisations in the "B" zone under Yugoslav military control could not take part in the Congress).

The telegram from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) was received with stormy applause, demonstrating the delegate's love for the Soviet Union and Comrade Stalin.

Greetings from the fraternal Communist Parties and from Yugoslav Communist emigrants in Czechoslovakia, Poland, the Soviet Union, Bulgaria, Hungary, France and the United States stressed the responsibility of Trieste Communists and the significance of their struggle against Anglo-American imperialism, which, with the help of the Tito fascist clique, is preparing a new aggressive war again the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

Regarding Trieste as a strategic base in their future war, the Anglo-American imperialists have included it in the Atlantic Pact and are acting the masters on our territory.

The imperialists are dismantling all the largest industrial plants in the territory. Contrary to General Airey's statement in the Security Council that in 1949-50 Trieste industry would work to 90 per cent of its capacity, output hardly average a third of pre-war, and in a number of industries (engineering,

the dye industry, soap, textiles and so on), it is barely 20-25 per cent of the pre-war level.

According to official reports, there are 20,069 unemployed in Trieste of whom 11,284 are industrial workers, and this number is steadily growing. Many others are on short time. From December 1947 to May 1949, 62,000 workers had their working time cut by a total of two million working hours.

Wages are insufficient to cover essential expenses. For example, the earnings of the lower categories of factory and office workers are between 26,000 and 31,000 lire a month (some categories, particularly women, earn even less). But according to official figures, the subsistence minimum for a family of four is as high as 60,000 lire a month.

These difficult conditions are forcing the working people of Trieste to fight vigorously for their rights.

The most significant actions of the working people against the capitalists recently were the strike at the "Cantieri Riuniti dell' Adriatico" and "I.L.V.A." ship yards, organised and directed by the united trade unions.

Anglo-American and Yugoslav troops anti-large police forces in the two zones are terrorising the people of Trieste, instituting a regime of oppression against democratically minded working people.

In the "B" zone under Yugoslav military control, conditions are even more difficult than in the "A" zone, both economically and from the point of view of police terror. The anti-democratic repressions of the Titoites have an openly fascist and anti-Soviet nature. They are levelled mainly against Communist-internationalists who have supported the Information Bureau Resolution. Many political emigrants who came to the zone to escape imperialist persecution were forced to leave the country because of the repressions of the Yugoslav secret police. Others were handed over to the Anglo-American military authorities by the Yugoslav secret police.

Since the treachery of the Tito clique has been completely exposed, the Italian nationalists have now actually withdrawn their demands for the Free Territory of Trieste, to be handed over to Italy and have agreed to partition Trieste, giving one part to Yugoslavia and the other to Italy at the same time maintaining the Anglo-American occupation troops. Having subordinated their aims to the aims of preparing war against the Soviet Union, the Italian and Slovene nationalists, the Titoites and cosmopolitans of the American brand are striving to maintain the present state of affairs in Trieste indefinitely.

On this question, our party has a clear line confirmed by the Congress: to demand the immediate withdrawal of both Anglo-American and Yugoslav occupation troops and the unification of the two zones. To achieve this the Communist Party urges that there should be appointed immediately a governor. This is acceptable to the majority of the Italian, Slovene and Croatian population of the Free Territory of Trieste, for it is in the interests of every honest citizen, to end the present situation which is catastrophic in every respect.

The task of Trieste Communists, as stressed in the Congress decisions, is to strengthen unity of action aimed at altering the present situation and at exposing the imperialist warmongers and their henchmen, the Tito fascists. The Congress pointed out that in the struggle against imperialism and the Tito fascist gang, the popularisation of the peace policy, of the Soviet Union is of extreme importance.

Analysing the election results, the Congress noted the big success gained by our Party which, despite unfavourable conditions, received an absolute majority of votes in the municipalities of Muggia, Dolina and Zgoniko and 21 per cent of votes in Trieste itself. Particularly significant is the fact that the local agents of the Tito gang suffered a complete defeat in the election, gaining only 2.4 per cent of votes in Trieste. They also lost in the Slovene villages near the Yugoslav border.

However, despite this defeat, the criminal activity of the Titoites is still a serious danger for the democratic movement in Trieste. Over 1,200 Belgrade hirelings are now working in Trieste as well as numerous U.D.B. agents who, backed by enormous funds, carry on a vicious propaganda campaign against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, persecuting the Information Bureau supporters and all genuine Communists.

The Congress stressed that in order to make itself a really militant Marxist party, our Communist Party must wage an even more vigorous fight against the corrupting activity of the Titoites.

At the same time the Congress showed that on the basis of serious criticism and self-criticism, of a bold struggle against all deviations and doing away with any nationalism or trotskyism, our Party has restored in its ranks the spirit of proletarian internationalism, and the principle of democratic centralism, it has strengthened discipline and political, organisational and ideological vigilance. But much work is still ahead of us. The Congress particularly stressed the need to raise the ideological level of Party members, to train them by study and struggle to ensure that the Party is able to carry out its tasks in the struggle against Anglo-American imperialism and its agents—the Tito fascist gang—in the struggle for peace and democracy in a united socialist camp by the Soviet Union.

CONSUMER AND PRODUCER COOPERATIVES IN RUMANIA

In view of the need to reorganise consumer and producer cooperatives in the interests of the working people, a registration of cooperative members has been carried out in Rumania, covering nearly million co-operators. In the course of the registration the membership went up another 500,000.

General cooperative meetings were held everywhere. At these meetings kulaks, speculators and other hostile elements who had penetrated into the cooperatives, were exposed and expelled. The co-operators also discussed new draft statutes for the cooperatives.

The work of consumer and producer cooperatives was reviewed recently. It showed that in the course of the year, 19,329 tons of vegetables, 11,043 tons of fruit, 30 million eggs and 2,200 tons of livestock were sold by consumer cooperatives to the working people of the towns.

Producer cooperatives in record similar successes. Producer cooperatives in industry number 5,832 branches. Dairies and fruit preserving plants were organised, and so on.

A National congress of consumer and producer cooperatives is scheduled for the near future, which will establish separate centres for various types of cooperatives.

PERSECUTION OF CANADIAN-YUGOSLAVS IN YUGOSLAVIA

The “Toronto Star’s” special correspondent in Yugoslavia reports that the Tito clique is waging a savage terror against the Yugoslav people, including the three thousand Canadian-Yugoslavs who in 1947 and early in 1948 returned to their native country after a long stay in Canada.

After the war, five thousand Yugoslavs in Canada, inspired by the democratic development in the People’s Democracies and unaware that the Tito clique had long been in the service of Anglo-American reaction, decided to return to their homeland. By the summer of 1948, some three thousand of them had arrived in Yugoslavia, but after the Information Bureau’s exposure of the treachery of the Tito clique the other two thousand refused to return. The correspondent reports that a large number of those who returned are now in prison where they have been detained for months without trial and denied visitors. The relatives of many of these prisoners have had no news of them since their arrest.

The Council of South Slavs in Canada has protested against the terror of the Tito regime directed against innocent Yugoslavs, including the Canadian-Yugoslavs who returned with the genuine intention of helping to rebuild their homeland.

COMMUNIST PARTY OF URUGUAY DENOUNCES TREACHERY OF TITO CLIQUE

At its meeting on September 13, the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Uruguay passed a unanimous resolution on the Tito clique's activity in the service of imperialism.

The resolution says: "The Tito clique, exposed to the whole world by the Information Bureau and by all the Communist Parties of the world, is now revealed all its ugly nakedness. In the direct service of imperialism it has become a centre of nefarious provocation against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, against peace and the liberation of the peoples... In its preparations for a new aggressive and provocative war against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, imperialism is openly making use of Tito and its clique".

The Executive Committee calls upon all Party and mass organisations to fight for the unity of the working class and the people's masses, to strengthen the Party, to be vigilant against provocateurs, to expose the Tito clique which is trying to conceal its links with the imperialist Intelligence Services under the slogans of bourgeois nationalism and chauvinism.

FREE TRADE EXTENDED AND PRICE CUTS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Rationing of flour and flour products was abolished in Czechoslovakia on October 1.

At the same time food prices have been cut considerably (particularly for butter, coffee, sugar, tea and tinned meat). The reduction in prices will, by the end of the year, enable consumers to effect an overall living of three billion crowns.

ANTI-IMPERIALIST DEMONSTRATION IN DAMASCUS

The city of Damascus was the scene of a recent demonstration by Syrian democrats. The demonstrators carried posters bearing the slogan: “Down with the schemes of the Anglo-American imperialists!”. Other slogans were directed against the schemes for the creation of a federation of countries of the “Holy Crescent” and a “Greater Syria”.

The demonstration was broken up by the police.

GROWING UNEMPLOYMENT IN INDIA

In India increasing American imports and the falling off in the demand for goods are resulting in growing unemployment. During the past six weeks the number of unemployed textile workers in Cawnpore has increased from two to five thousand. It is anticipated that by the middle of October this figure will go up by another thousand.

The closing down of glass making factories in the Cawnpore area has thrown 30,000 people out of work. More and more artisans are being ruined. Cawnpore's unemployed number over a thousand people formerly engaged in the haberdashery trades.

The closing down of textile mills in Agra has left over a thousand people without jobs.

In Hatras 535 workers were discharged from two factories in connection with "rationalisation".

BRIEF NOTES

1. KARDELJ, BEVIN, ACHESON & Co.

In order to give public proof before the world of their loyalty to the Anglo-American imperialists and to assure the latter of the firm and irreconcilable anti-Soviet position of the Tito clique, the Yugoslav Government sent the trustworthy Anglo-American spies, Kardelj and Djilas, to the United Nations Assembly.

These “diplomats” came to Uno with the sole object of giving an open demonstration from the Uno platform of their solidarity with the Anglo-American imperialists in their irreconcilably hostile policy toward the U.S.S.R. and the People’s Democracies.

Having been exposed at the Budapest trial as a espionage-diversionist gang, long in the service of the Anglo-American Intelligence Services and operating on the instructions of the U.S. State Department, the Tito clique decided to **legalise** its undermining activity against the land of Socialism.

And it selected the most appropriate place for the purpose. It is well-known that the delegations from the imperialist states at the United Nations consist of the bitter enemies of the U.S.S.R. and the People’s Democracies, of rabid opponents of the working class of all countries, of the hangmen of the Communist Parties, of the enemies of the world progressive and democratic movement, of the most active instigators of war.

Messrs. Kardelj and Djilas have openly formed an alliance with these representatives of imperialism and reaction in their counter-revolutionary struggle against the U.S.S.R. and the People’s Democracies, in their subversive work against peace

and democracy.

Here the Yugoslav spies and hirelings of Anglo-American imperialism stand revealed in their true colours. This shows the true value of the “Communist and socialist” labels they still use as a cover for the storm detachment of the Anglo-American imperialists—the clique of Tito, Kardelj, Djilas and Rankovic.

After all, this is for the best. The working class of the world, the working people of all countries can now see for themselves the fact that will be made clear again and again—that Tito, Kardelj, Djilas and Rankovic have openly aligned themselves out and out reactionaries, imperialists and warmongers, such as Truman and Acheson, Bevin and Shawcross, Queuille and Schuman, de Gasperi and Sforza, Chiang Kai-shek and Tsian-Ting-fu, against the U.S.S.R, and the People’s Democracies, for the unleashing of a new war for the destruction of the world Communist movement. Missing from this company are Hitler and Mussolini—the gentlemen whom Tito, Kardelj and Djilas would have welcome with open arms.

John Smith

2. WHAT IS BEHIND TSIANG TING-FU’S PROVOCATIVE MANOEUVRE

After the agenda of the present session of the U.N. General Assembly had been approved, Tsiang Ting-fu, representative of the Kuomintang Government; announced that he wished to submit a proposal for the agenda. Getting onto his high horse he demanded that the General Assembly consider the question of the “threat to the political independence and territorial integrity of China”, and also the “threat to peace in the Far East” by the Soviet Union. Naturally, Tsiang Ting-fu could

neither offer proof nor a single argument in support of his chicanery. The General Assembly, he brazenly declared, must consider the question simply because he had raised it.

The diversive, provocative, anti-Soviet nature of the Kuomintang chicanery was thus revealed in all its nakedness. Not a single member of the American bloc risked coming out in his support. But when the voting machine went into operation, the suggestion was adopted by the mechanical majority of the Anglo-American bloc.

This manoeuvre is reminiscent of the "Stop thief" tactic. Certainly, there are in the world interests which are threatened by the political independence and territorial integrity of China. But they are not the interests of the Soviet Union. Certainly, there is a menace to peace in the Far East and throughout the world. But it does not emanate from the Soviet Union.

It is common knowledge that U.S. representatives at all kinds of conferences are discussing the possibility of intervention in the Far East, the setting-up of an aggressive "Pacific Pact". And it is interesting to note that the U.S. Government has allocated 75 million dollars for espionage and subversive activities in the Far East and especially in China.

In the notorious "White Paper", Acheson confessed that the only reason why large-scale, direct military intervention on behalf of the Kuomintang had not been carried out was because the American people would never have agreed to such a colossal undertaking. And after this, the same Acheson prompts his Chinese puppet to provocative statements in Uno against the U.S.S.R.

It is obvious why the American imperialists needed this farce. They sought to belittle the tremendous impression made on all peoples, including the American people, by the formation of the People's Republic of China. But Tsiang Ting-fu's sleight of hand cannot alter the obvious fact that a nation of 475 million people has overthrown the yoke of imperialist

slavery and greatly strengthened the camp of democracy and peace!

Florica SELMARU

3. INFAMY WITHOUT PARALLEL

The trial of Von Manstein, one of the major war criminals and former Field Marshal in Hitler's army is nearing its end.

According to the Moscow agreement between the Allied powers, all war criminals were to be sent back to the countries in which their abominable deeds were committed in order that they would be judged and punished according to the laws of those countries. But, as was the case with the Potsdam, Yalta and other Allied agreements, the agreement concerning the handing over of war criminals to those countries in which they committed their crimes was treated as a scrap of paper by the Anglo-American imperialists. Consequently, after four years of procrastination Manstein, the cannibal, appears not before a Soviet or Polish court, but before a British military court in Hamburg.

This monster's chief defence counsel is an English gentleman named Paget, a Labour Member of Parliament.

Paget, as reported in the "Daily Herald", October 6, declared that Manstein's conduct in Poland and in the Soviet Union was "immaculate", the "German Army was well-behaved". The Russians, according to this gentleman, by resorting to guerrilla warfare did not adhere to "the rules of war and therefore, they, and not Manstein are responsible.

Thus, according to the casuistry of this fascist masquerading as a "Socialist", not Manstein, the butcher, but his victims are guilty of these frightful atrocities. What infamy!

Of all the slanders levelled at the Soviet people and their

honoured dead, none are so revoltingly disgusting and cynical as “Socialist” Paget’s monstrous slanders.

For the “humane” Paget, the 500,000 victims of his cannibal client do not count. What does this “cultured” gentleman, educated at Eton, and Cambridge, care for the tears of the widows and orphans in Krasnodon, Stalino, Kerch, Simferopol, Eupatoria, Warsaw and Lodz.

Acting as agent for the Churchills who organised a “Manstein Defence Fund”, Paget seeks to present a bandit and murderer in the guise of an innocent lamb. With the insolence of an out and out fascist he is using the Hamburg tribunal to defame the great Soviet people who saved civilisation from fascist barbarity. Paget cannot conceal the fact that Manstein merely practised by less refined means what the Churchills and Trumans are now striving and preparing for.

Jan MAREK

WORKER -INVENTORS EXHIBITION IN HUNGARY

An exhibition of inventions and rationalisation devices by Hungarian industrial workers has opened in Budapest.

Opening the exhibition, Antal Apro, General Secretary of the Hungarian Trade Unions said that in the past eight months alone, industrial workers had submitted a total of 8,600 devices and rationalisation suggestions, which, all told, had enabled the State to economise 180 million forints. The exhibition has been organised under the joint auspices of the National Trade Union Council and the State bureau of inventions.

IN BRIEF

* **By decision of the People's Council** in Cracow a memorial plaque will be placed on house No. 6, Shewska Street where V. I. Lenin addressed a meeting on April 18, 1913.

* **Partisan warfare** is spreading in South Korea. Fighting against the South Korean puppet government, the partisans are destroying police forces, communications and industrial enterprises.

* **Americans are disposing of Japanese gold.** Acting on the instructions of the U.S. Government General McArthur has transferred to the French Government Japanese gold to the value of 37,300,000 dollars, and 43,700,000 dollars worth to the Government of Thailand.

* **Twenty thousand workers are scheduled for dismissal** this winter in the iron and steel industry in the Ruhr due to the dismantling carried out by the British authorities.

* **A new newspaper "Peace Post" has commenced publication in Berlin.** It is being published by the German-Soviet Friendship Society.

* **Student protest meetings** against racial discrimination were held recently Sydney (Australia).

* **Nearly 25,000 workers** are on strike in Montevideo (Uruguay).

* **"We refuse to visit Yugoslavia"** was the reply of Italian Socialist representatives to an invitation extended by the Yugoslav rulers to visit the land of Tito "Socialism".

* **Landless peasants** in Sardinia (Italy) are, on their own initiative, ploughing land left untilled by the landlords. More than 30,000 peasants are taking part in the ploughing.

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