

***Workers of all lands, unite!***

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

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



**NO. 31 (58), FRIDAY, DECEMBER 16, 1949**

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PRICE 34.00 (1949)

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**STRUGGLE FOR WORKING CLASS  
UNITY—VITAL TASK OF THE  
COMMUNIST PARTIES**

The success of the fight for  
unity can also be heard in the struggle  
for working-class unity.

**FRANCE**

The exhibition of gifts for Comrade  
Stalin on the occasion of his 70th birthday  
has been a great success in Paris.

**SOVIET UNION**

All the Soviet people actively and  
enthusiastically prepare to celebrate the  
70th birthday of Comrade Stalin—our  
leader.

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

Special lectures are being organized  
throughout December in Czechoslovakia  
and many revolutionary groups in the  
past months. Activities devoted to the  
70th birthday of Comrade Stalin have been organized  
and many of these have already been reported.

**WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WORLD PREPARE TO CELEBRATE THE  
SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY OF JOSEPH VISSARIONOVICH STALIN**

Lectures and discussions on the life and  
work of Comrade Stalin are being organized  
in towns and village clubs in various parts  
of the world.

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The Socialist Truth in Cyprus-London Bureaux  
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**E-Book  
September 2019**

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## **STRUGGLE FOR WORKING CLASS UNITY— VITAL TASK OF THE COMMUNIST PARTIES**

Under conditions of ever-sharpening struggle of the people for peace, bread, democracy and Socialism, against the imperialist plans of preparing a new war, the decision of the Information Bureau concerning working-class unity and the tasks of the Communist and Workers' Parties of paramount importance. The Information Bureau clearly and convincingly tells the working people: "The preparations for a new war carried out by Anglo-American imperialists, the crusade of bourgeois reaction against the democratic rights and economic interests of the working class and the mass of the people, call for intensified struggle on the part of the working class to maintain and consolidate peace and to organise a resolute rebuff to the warmongers and the onslaught of imperialist reaction. Unity in the ranks of the working class is a guarantee of success in this struggle".

During the war against fascism when Communists, Socialists, Catholics and non-party people fought shoulder to shoulder against the common enemy, and also in the post-war struggle to consolidate and extend the gains of the working people, the idea of unity took deeper root among the mass of workers. The communist Parties concentrated all their efforts on healing the split in the ranks of the working class.

In a number of countries, the Communists succeeded in achieving this aim. United working class parties, united trade unions, co-operatives, youth, women's and other organisations' were formed in Poland, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, Albania and Eastern Germany. This working-class unity played a decisive role in the successes achieved in the People's Democracies.

Serious successes were achieved in the struggle for working class unity in France and Italy. These achievements are reflected in the militant actions of the working class for immediate demands, for peace and against the war preparations of the imperialists.

The united forces of the Chinese proletariat which rallied round its vanguard—the Communist Party of China—was one of the decisive conditions of the world historic victory of the Chinese people and triumph of the Chinese People's Revolution.

International unity of the working class is growing and gaining in strength.

This is seen in the formation of such powerful mass organisations as the World Federation of Trade Unions, which unites more than 70 million working people, the International Federation of Democratic Women which has a membership of 80 million, the World Federation of Democratic Youth with its membership of more than 60 million, the convening of the World Peace Congress at which 561 national and 12 international bodies were represented, uniting 600 million people. All this is an indication both of the dimensions of the mass movement and of the strivings of the masses for united action on a scale unparalleled in the history of the struggle of the working masses.

These successes of the working class in the struggle for the unity of its ranks could not but alarm the enemy. The imperialist camp, bent on unleashing a new war, on crushing the forces of democracy and Socialism, had recourse to one of its main tactics, namely, splitting the working-class movement. The Anglo-American imperialists want to deprive the working class of its chief weapon—unity.

Acting on orders of the imperialists, the Right-Wing Socialist leaders are now discarding the policy of co-operation with the Communists which, under mass pressure and for

purposes of demagogy, they were compelled to pursue after the war.

The inveterate reformist provocateur Jouhaux in France, and the Right-Wing Socialists in Italy, seeking to split the trade unions, endeavoured to form “their own” trade unions. Bought by Wall Street and the City, the yellow trade union leaders—the Deakins and Careys—by withdrawing from the World Federation of Trade Unions calculated on striking a blow at international working class unity. They have set up a traitors’ trade union centre dependent on Wall Street.

Exuding the stench of decay, a miserable offshoot of the Second International has made its appearance. Known as Comisco, this organisation—an espionage centre of the British and American secret services—takes to its bosom all disrupters and disorganisers of the working-class movement. From time to time, as was the case recently in Paris, the “leading figures” of this espionage centre display signs of life and make themselves heard.

The raucous voice of the fascist Tito gang can also be heard in the discordant chorus of disrupters and betrayers of the working-class. This gang is endeavouring, by means of unbridled chauvinist propaganda and vile slander against the U.S.S.R. and the People’s Democracies, to poison the minds of the Yugoslav people and to isolate them from the Socialist camp.

But no matter how pitiful these efforts of the Imperialist agents—the Right-Wing Socialist leaders, the Tito gang, Catholic reaction, and trade union bosses in the pocket of Wall Street—may seem when counterpoised to the growing unity of the forces of the working-class, they represent, nevertheless serious danger. Working class unity cannot triumph without resolute struggle against the disrupters of the working class, unless the demagogy of the Right-Wing Socialists and the foul machinations of the imperialists are exposed.

“In the present international situation”, states the Resolution of the Information Bureau, “it is the duty of the Communist Parties to explain that if the working class does not secure unity in its ranks it will deprive itself of the most important weapon in the struggle against the growing danger of a new world war and against the onslaught of imperialist reaction on the living standards of the working people”.

The decisions of the Information Bureau have equipped the Communist and Workers’ Parties with a new, powerful weapon in the struggle to bring about conditions for the victory of the working class, for peace and Socialism. The decisions not only point to the goal, but also how to reach this goal.

Irreconcilable and consistent struggle in theory and practice against the Right-Wing Socialist and reactionary trade union leaders should be combined with persistent explanatory work among social-democratic workers, with drawing them into active struggle for peace, bread and democratic liberties. The realisation of unity in the lower organisations, in the fight for immediate demands in factory and office, organisation of joint action in the factories, in entire industries, on a town, district, nation-wide and international scale—all these are tried and tested methods of struggle for unity.

Attention to the Catholic working people, organisation of joint actions with them, the fight for trade union unity and drawing unorganised workers into the trade unions and into active struggle—all this is an important condition for achieving and strengthening working-class unity.

The decisions of the Communist Information Bureau evoked a wide response and received powerful support among the proletarian masses of the world. This shows that the question of working-class unity, regarded by the Information Bureau as an urgent task of the working-class movement, corresponds to the vital interests of the working class and to its struggle for democracy and Socialism.

The Communist Parties of Britain, France, China, the United States, the CPSU(B), the Communist Parties in the People's Democracies and in other countries unanimously approved the decisions of the Information Bureau, seeing in these decisions a programme of militant action for ensuring victory over the evil designs of the imperialists and their accomplices. The task is, by means of selfless, daily work, to apply this programme, to carry out the decisions of the Information Bureau and thus raise the working-class movement to a new, higher level.

The facts of the recent past show that working-class unity and consolidation of the democratic camp are gaining ground. This is evident from the recent 24-hour strikes in France and Italy, strikes which showed the consolidation of the working people in the struggle for their immediate demands. It is also evident from the Trade Union Conference of the countries of Asia and Oceania, held in Peking.

This is evident in the great popular movement gaining momentum all over the world in connection with the preparations to celebrate the seventieth birthday of Comrade Stalin, the leader and teacher of all working people. Stalin's name is the banner uniting all progressive mankind.

The Communist Parties are waging a struggle for working-class unity under the Lenin-Stalin banner. Beneath this banner international proletarian solidarity is growing stronger, a solidarity which towers granite-like, against which all machinations of the declining imperialist camp are shattered. This is the banner of the triumph of the idea of Communism.

## **REFORMS DEMANDED BY WORKING PEOPLE IN SOUTH OF ITALY**

Congresses to revive the southern regions of Italy have been held in Salerno, Bari, Matera and Crotona. Thousands of delegates elected at local conferences attended the Congresses.

Emphasising the calamities which had visited the South of Italy throughout the centuries, the Congresses analysed the conditions which gave rise to these calamities and discussed ways and means of preventing their recurrence. The Congresses recognised that the principal means of carrying out social-economic reforms and, above all, agrarian reform, lay in struggle and firm unity on the part of the working people.

Thousands of “Notebooks of Demands”, describing the appalling conditions of the people, were presented to the Congresses.

The Congresses decided to set up “Committees for Reviving the South” in all localities and to enrol the population in the struggle for fundamental reforms.

## **WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WORD PREPARE TO CELEBRATE THE SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY OF JOSEPH VISSARIONOVICH STALIN**

### **FRANCE**

The exhibition of gifts for Comrade Stalin on the occasion of his 70th birthday has been a great success in Paris.

Nearly 4,000 presents—result of the inventiveness, love and art of the people—have been collected in the Metal Workers' House.

Alongside paintings by outstanding, progressive artists, Fougeron, Tsalilski, Zambaut and others, are also modest gifts such as phonographs of the martyrs who died in the struggle against Hitler fascism.

The majority of the gifts are accompanied by moving letters which speak of the boundless gratitude of the French people to the great Stalin.

Since the exhibition was opened on December 6, in the presence of Maurice Thorez, the Big Hall of the Metal Workers' House has constantly been full of visitors.

### **ITALY**

Ever broader masses of workers, peasants and the intelligentsia in Italy join the preparations to celebrate the seventieth birthday of J. V. Stalin.

Collective and individual congratulatory messages, verses, drawings and gifts given by the working people and expressing their deep devotion and love for the great leader of the camp of peace and progress, pour in from all over the country.

All democratic newspapers carry articles and materials about the life and work of Comrade Stalin.

Communist Party federations have pledged themselves to complete the annual exchange of Party cards and the registration of their members by December 21,—much earlier than usual.

Special mas meetings on December 21, dedicated to the 70th birthday of Comrade Stalin, will be held in all centres.

Basic Party organisations are competing to circulate Comrade Stalin's works on the largest possible scale.

## **CHINA**

The week between December 15 and 21 will be used to celebrate the 70th birthday of J. V. Stalin throughout the Chinese People's Republic.

The China-Soviet Friendship Society is organising mass meetings, conferences, broadcasts, exhibitions and film shows about the life and work of the great Stalin.

## **BELGIUM**

The working people of Belgium will celebrate Comrade Stalin's 70th birthday with anniversary meetings in Brussels and twenty other towns.

Presents and messages of greetings addressed to Comrade Stalin are coming in from all parts of the country.

The Central Committee of the Belgian Party is sending to Comrade Stalin an hitherto unpublished letter addressed, 90 years ago, by Karl Marx to Lucien Jottrand, Chairman of the Brussels Democratic Association, from Manchester.

## **TRIESTE**

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Free Territory of Trieste is arranging for the celebration of Comrade Stalin's birthday in Trieste, where the working people of the Free Territory enthusiastically prepare gifts for the beloved leader.

## **BRAZIL**

Despite severe persecution by the Dutra dictatorship, the working people of Brazil actively prepare to celebrate Comrade Stalin's birthday.

The newspaper "Voz Operaia" reports that all genuine peace supporters express in various forms their sympathies with the great champion of peace, independence and freedom of peoples—J. V. Stalin.

Illegal leaflets and manifestoes greeting and congratulating Comrade Stalin are circulated in the towns of Brazil.

Every day the walls of buildings are covered with slogans: "Long Live Stalin, Long live Peace!".

A competition for the best story about the life and activity of Comrade Stalin has been organised among the readers' of "Voz Operaia".

## VENEZUELA

The working people of Venezuela are sending a present for Comrade Stalin's 70th birthday.

The Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Venezuela is conducting a special programme of activities in honour of Stalin.

In all Party organisations, meetings and special conferences are being held at which the life and work of Comrade Stalin are popularised and his works studied.

During December, the Party is also carrying out a recruitment campaign called "1949 Stalin Enrolment".

Post cards carrying greetings from the working people of Venezuela are being addressed to Comrade Stalin.

## SOVIET UNION

All the Soviet people actively and enthusiastically prepare to celebrate the 70th birthday of Comrade Stalin—a date dear to all Soviet citizens.

During the last few days Socialist emulation in factories, railways and mines, in state and collective farms—emulation to complete the annual plans ahead of schedule and surpass them—reached unprecedented heights.

In keeping with the glorious tradition of the Soviet people, many thousand workshops and entire factories organise special Stakhanov shifts to celebrate the birthday of the beloved leader with new achievements in production.

Workers of the "Electrosila" factory in Leningrad, named after Kirov, decided, by December 21, to exceed the annual production plan by 16 million rubles.

Workers of the Stalin automobile plant in the Urals

pledged themselves to complete the increased annual plan by December 17, ahead of schedule.

Builders of the Dnieper hydro-electric power station, who have already completed their annual plan, have undertaken by December 21, 10 put into operation another hydro-generator in excess of the 1949 plan, and to surpass the annual planned output of electricity by 10 per cent.

Collective farmers in the Slavgorod region, (Altai), pledged to fulfil by December 21 all planned milk deliveries and to send to the State 300 centners of meat and 100 centners of wool over the plan and carry out all winter agrotechnical measures in an exemplary manner.

All Soviet newspapers, and the Soviet radio, give daily reports on new production successes which millions of the working people present to their leader and teacher on his 70th birthday.

Lectures and discussions on the life and work of Comrade Stalin are being organised in town and village clubs, in schools and offices.

In Minsk, 500 lecturers and speakers are engaged in this activity. Over two thousand classes as have been formed in the city at which classes workers study the biography of Comrade Stalin.

In libraries, Party reading-rooms, factory clubs and other places, photographs and exhibitions of books, placards and pictures showing the life and activity of the great leader have been organised.

The popularity of Comrade Stalin's works among the Soviet people is evident from the statement of the All-Union Book Chamber which declares that since 1917, the works of J. V. Stalin have been issued in 539 million copies in 101 languages.

The "Short Course of the History of the CPSU(B) has gone through 235 editions in nearly 36 million copies in 66

languages.

Comrade Stalin's book, "The Problems of Leninism" has been published 238 times in 52 languages and in over 17 million copies.

Film festivals and competitions of folk art devoted to the 70th birthday of the great Stalin are being held in the capitals of the Republics and in towns and regional centres of the Soviet Union.

Soviet composers, poets and painters have created new works dedicated to Comrade Stalin.

Today all Soviet people turn with love and gratitude in their thoughts and sentiments towards the great Stalin and send to him their warm congratulations, heartily wishing him many years of good health for the happiness and joy of the Soviet people and of all progressive mankind.

## **POLAND**

The special Committee, organised to honour Comrade Stalin's 70th birthday at its recent meeting in Warsaw under the chairmanship of Comrade Bierut. President of the Republic, passed the following decisions on the report of Comrade Roman Zambrowski:

To erect a monument to Polish-Soviet friendship in the centre of Warsaw, the foundation stone to be laid on December 21.

To send a special train to Moscow with the presents of the Polish people to Comrade Stalin; the train will be drawn by a new locomotive—the present of Polish workers. A delegation representing different groups of the Polish people will accompany the presents to Moscow.

In response to the request made by a number of industrial groups, the following enterprises will be named after Stalin: the

“Sosnowec” mines, the “Labendy” iron and steel works “Cegelski” engineering works and the No. 1 cotton mill in Lodz.

On December 21 a memorial plaque will be placed on the wall of the house in which V. I. Lenin lived in Cracow (Liubomirski Street, No. 49) in 1912-1913, and which Comrade Stalin visited. A meeting of members of the Central Committee of the Bolshevik Party was held in this house under the leadership of Lenin and Stalin.

A meeting to mark Comrade Stalin’s 70th birthday will be held in Warsaw on December 20th.

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An exhibition of the gifts presented by the working people of Poland to Comrade Stalin was opened yesterday in the National Museum by President Bierut. In a short speech at the opening ceremony, the Deputy Prime Minister, Comrade Hilary Minc, noted that the gifts of the workers, peasants, adults and children were genuine works of art, expressing the warm love of the Polish people for Comrade Stalin.

## HUNGARY

The entire country has responded to the call of the “Ganz” factory workers to mark December 21, Comrade Stalin’s birthday, with even better work.

A mass movement to win the title of the best worker in the given profession has started in honour of Comrade Stalin’s 70th anniversary.

First to fulfil the target by 1,000 per cent were Istvan Vavrik and Ernò Bortella, miners from Albertteltp.

Unprecedented results of socialist labour are being

displayed every day.

The example of the miners is being followed by hundreds and thousands of mechanics, foundry workers, textile workers, print workers, bricklayers and carpenters.

At the motor works in Győr, a young turner, Ede Horvath, carried out his norm by 3,000 per cent; Imre Muszka, a turner in the Weisz factory, by 2,000 per cent; Janos Szücs, in Diosgyőr, by 1,170 per cent.

In addition to thousands of workers doubling and trebling their normal production, there are hundreds of thousands who top their rate by 20-30 per cent.

In September, only 38 workers in the "Ganz" electric factory were taking part in the emulation movement.

Now there are over 2,000 participating in honour of Stalin's birthday.

In September the rates were fulfilled at this factory by an average of 116 per cent and now by 129 per cent.

At the Kiszlex factory, over 1,700 workers are participating in the emulation drive as against 18 in September.

For Stalin's birthday, the Hungarian working people have prepared and sent their gifts.

Workers of the clock and watch factory in Pesterzsebet made, as their gift, a clock in the form of a revolving globe crowned by a red star and which, three times an hour, plays the first bars of the "Internationale".

Workers of the Mavag factory are sending a model of a chain bridge to Comrade Stalin; workers of the iron and steel factory in Ozd sent a model of their blast furnace; peasant women from the Somagy region sent a hand-made table-cloth while apprentices in the Weisz-Manfred factory have sent a model of an aeroplane.

Hungarian writers, painters, composers and actors are also preparing for the birthday of the beloved leader of the working people.

A number of editions, including poems dedicated to Stalin,—an anthology of Hungarian poetry, will soon be available.

Another anthology consists of fifty poems about Stalin by Soviet poets, translated into Hungarian.

“The Stalin Epic”, by Zoltan Zalka, will appear as a separate volume. The book, “In the Name of Stalin”, is a collection of songs by Soviet and Hungarian authors about Comrade Stalin.

“Stalin’s Boyhood”, a poem by Leonidze; an anthology of works by Hungarian writers about Stalin will come off the press by the jubilee, and also a beautifully produced album. “Stalin’s Life in Pictures” (96 pages). K. E. Voroshilov’s Stalin and the Red Army”, the stories “Old Workers about the Great Stalin”, and other volumes.

In addition, a new edition of the Brief Biography of Stalin (100,000 copies), a second edition of the first volume of Stalin’s Collected Works and the first edition of the second volume (75,000 copies), will be ready by the jubilee.

The sculptors Pal Patai and Sandor Ek have made busts of Stalin, copies of which will shortly be available to the public.

An album of ten pictures of Stalin will also be issued and a bronze medal by the sculptor, Miklos Borsos, will be on sale.

Ferenc Szabo has composed a cantata for orchestra based on words by Djambul, the Kazak poet, “The Great Stalin Law”.

The exhibition, “The Militant Path of the Life of the Great Stalin” which opened in Budapest on December 10, is a great success.

Hungarian workers, peasants, and working intelligentsia celebrate Comrade Stalin’s 70th birthday with new victories in building Socialism in Hungary.

## CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Special lectures are being organised throughout December in Czechoslovakia and many exhibitions devoted to the life and work of J. V. Stalin have been opened.

In the Czech lands alone, 3,184 discussions have been held by the Women's League on this subject: "What Stalin's teaching gives to the women of Czechoslovakia".

The second and third volumes of the Collected Works of Comrade Stalin will be in print on his birthday.

A large book entitled, "About Stalin", has already appeared in the Slovak language. Works about J. V. Stalin by Czechoslovak art workers and a collection of letters from the working women of Czechoslovakia are also being printed.

The preparation of gifts for Comrade Stalin which reflect the heroic labour of Czechoslovak factory and office workers is coming to an end.

Many factories have organised a special month of shock brigade work in honour of the 70th anniversary of J. V. Stalin.

It is a matter of honour for all working people in the Republic to achieve the best possible results in these Stalin shock-brigade shifts.

Results of the work will be announced on the birthday of Comrade Stalin.

## RUMANIA

Gifts for Comrade Stalin have arrived in Bucharest from all over the country.

Every gift is an expression of great love and gratitude to the liberator of the peoples—the great Stalin.

Each gift is a joyful report about successes in building

Socialism, a solemn pledge to follow the Stalin teachings in everything and resolutely to fight for peace.

Models of mines, factories, blast furnaces, the first Rumanian IAR-22 tractor, the first ball-bearing made in Rumania:—all these presents indicate to Comrade Stalin that the People's Republic of Rumania has firmly taken the path of industrialisation and of building Socialism in town and countryside.

Rumanian peasants, members of the "Lenin's Road" collective farm in the Livedia Ilfov, carved in wood the history of the foundation of their farm.

Hungarian peasants, members of the Gheorghe Doja collective farm in the Turia-Trei Scaume village have sent a model of the castle, formerly the property of a Hungarian count and now the premises of the Collective Farm Board and the Club.

The inscription on it runs as follows:

"Once every brick in this castle was covered with our tears. But now, Comrade Stalin, thanks to our liberation by the Soviet Army, we are building a new life after the example of the Soviet collective farmers".

Together with touching gifts from children there are also exhibited masterpieces from skilled artisans.

A special non-winding clock sent to Comrade Stalin by Albu Gh. Tudorache, a worker from Ploesti, is supplied with a calendar which registers the years since the Great October Revolution and carries the inscription: "Time works for us".

Among bright carpets and rich national costumes there is also a modest flute from a shepherd in Buzatoiu, Gorj region; a linen towel woven by a peasant woman, Anna Toma, mother of seven children, from the village of Bistra, Turda region; and a silk scarf on which Serica Paul from Tutova, wrote "I love my children and that is why I love Comrade Stalin who defends their life".

The Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party, the editorial board of "Scanteia" and of other newspapers have received thousands of individual and collective letters, poems and drawings from workers and peasants, poets and scientists, officers and soldiers, students and pioneers: letters expressing love and devotion to Comrade Stalin.

## GERMANY

Among numerous gifts sent by the working people of Germany to J. V. Stalin on the occasion of his 70th birthday is a planetarium—one of the most perfect existing.

The gift consists of two main parts, the planetarium itself and an observatory. It represents a highly complex unit with 40 projectors, thousands of lenses and a great number of other precision instruments.

"Until now it has taken sixteen months to build less complicated planetariums", said Dr. Heiland, from the astronomical-physics department of the Zeiss plant in Jena. "But we want to complete the present for Stalin far earlier—by spring 1950".

The planetarium will be installed in Stalingrad—the scene of two Stalin military victories.

In Hamburg, (British zone), working people are preparing 1,500 gifts for J. V. Stalin.

Communist women in the Wurtemberg-Baden lander (Western Germany) have prepared presents which will be delivered on Comrade Stalin's 70th birthday to children's homes in Stalingrad.

## LAW OF HUNGARIAN FIVE-YEAR PLAN

On December 10 the Hungarian Parliament unanimously approved the law on the Five-Year Economic Plan for the Hungarian People's Republic.

The Plan envisages capital investment in the national economy to the sum of 50.9 billion forints. (Capital investment in the Three-Year Plan totalled 8 billion forints).

Venue of industrial output will register an 86.4 per cent increase by 1954 compared to the 1949 level.

Output of heavy industry will increase by 104.3 per cent, and light industry 72.9 per cent.

Standard of living for the same period, will be 135 per cent of the 1949 level; 180,000 new apartments will be built.

The Plan provides for the extensive development of public health measures. The network of polyclinic; and dispensaries will be extended. More than three hundred new rural dispensaries will be opened.

The number of factory and office workers who spend their vacations in sanatoria or rest homes will increase from 400,000 to 600,000.

The Plan also envisages major developments in the sphere of public education: universal secondary education (8 classes), and the opening of 30 new schools to meet an increase of 54,000 secondary school pupils.

The number of vocational schools will be increased from 165 to 500 and the number of Higher School students by 8,000.

## **NEW SUCCESSES IN SUPPLIES TO WORKING PEOPLE OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

The supply of goods to the working people is steadily improving in Czechoslovakia.

For the third time this year, price cuts were introduced (on December 1,) on articles of food and manufactured goods.

Starting with December 1, the open stores are selling a choice of food stuffs.

Textiles can also be bought on coupons, each coupon allowing for a discount of 15 crowns of the fixed price on the free market.

This year has witnessed considerable improvements in supplies. A year ago textiles, foodstuffs and footwear were rationed.

Today bread, flour and flour products are all off the ration.

Certain foodstuffs such as meat, fats and sugar, as well as certain kinds of textiles and footwear are still rationed, but all these goods can also be bought at commercial prices which are steadily being lowered.

## **BULGARIAN WORKING PEOPLE APPROVE DECISIONS OF INFORMATION BUREAU**

The Bulgarian newspaper, "Otechestven Front", recently carried the Resolution of the Executive Committee of the National Council of the Fatherland Front which states:

"The Executive Committee of the National Council of the Fatherland Front unanimously approved the Resolutions adopted at the Meeting of the Information Bureau of Communist Parties held in Hungary during the second half of November.

These Resolutions, which have as their object the defence of world peace, have been received with keen interest and satisfaction by the working people of our country and will act as a still greater stimulus in the common struggle of the people of the world to preserve peace."

The decision of the leadership of the Bulgarian People's Agricultural Union, published in the newspaper, "Zemedelsko Zname", states:

"The Committee of the Bulgarian Agricultural Union unanimously approve the Resolutions of the Information Bureau of Committee Parties. Together with all Bulgarian people, we realise that the freedom of our country and the maintenance of peace throughout the world are guaranteed by the powerful Soviet Union, around which are united the democratic countries and peoples".

## **BUILDING SOCIALISM AND THE DEFENCE OF PEACE. Rudolf Slansky, General Secretary, Communist Party, Czechoslovakia**

Today we wage a struggle against the warmongers under different and far more favourable conditions than before World War Two.

The forces of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism, headed by the Soviet Union, have grown and continue steadily to grow.

The Soviet peace policy and the struggle of hundreds of millions of people all over the world have become a powerful international factor, exposing the warmongers and hampering the realisation of their war plans.

The Munich treachery showed the peoples of Czechoslovakia that the struggle for peace is, at the same time, the struggle for national independence; that the Soviet Union is the most reliable bulwark of our national independence and that the guarantee of our State sovereignty is linked indissolubly with maintaining a close alliance and fraternal co-operation with the Soviet Union and by supporting its peace policy.

Prior to World War Two, Czechoslovakia was in the clutches of Germany. But today the security and external position of Czechoslovakia has changed fundamentally.

We have become neighbours of countries allied to us—the fraternal Soviet Union and also the People's Democratic Republics of Poland and Hungary.

We have solved all outstanding controversial questions with these two countries, questions which, under capitalist regimes, proved to be insoluble.

The formation of a new democratic Germany, resulting

from the resolute struggle of the Soviet Union to democratise and denazify Germany, is also of great significance for the guarantee of Czechoslovakia's security.

For a thousand years German feudal—and later capitalist—invaders threatened the existence of the Czech people and, for centuries, oppressed them.

Now, for the first time in a thousand years, a different Germany arises before us, a new Germany in which the working people, headed by the working class, are coming to power, a class which has not, and cannot, have predatory aspirations.

The sympathies of the Czechoslovak people with the German Democratic Republic are steadily growing, for the people see that this Republic is based on the principles of democracy and love for peace.

The Anglo-American warmongers seek once again to wrest the countries of the People's Democracies from the camp of Socialism, and make them, a base for their military adventures against the Soviet Union—as before World War Two.

Czechoslovakia is daily the object of the most flagrant attempts of the imperialists to disturb our peaceful, creative work of laying the foundation of Socialism.

The victory won by our people in February 1948, destroyed the hopes of the imperialists to restore the power of capitalists and landlords in Czechoslovakia with the help of the legal organisations of reaction, representatives of which were, until February, ensconced in the higher State and economic organisations.

That is why, since the February events, the imperialists have pursued, with even greater malice, their hostile policy towards our country, seeking to organise putsches, sabotage, espionage and subversive work and thus undermine our new system.

After our rejection of the Marshall Plan, the Anglo-American imperialists declared a systematic and ever extending economic boycott and discrimination against Czechoslovakia.

Nevertheless, the disinterested and effective assistance of the Soviet Union and economic co-operation with the People's Democracies enable us to overcome these difficulties. Despite all discriminatory measures of the Anglo-American imperialists our economy is successfully developing.

The Anglo-American imperialists interfere with our home affairs in the most cynical way, violating all international rules.

We constantly expose the activity of responsible Anglo-American diplomatic representatives, activities aimed at organising espionage and sabotage and at carrying out anti-State activity.

During this year alone we exposed and prevented three attempts to carry out a putsch, and it has been fully proved that in all these cases the anti-State putsch groups received instructions from U.S. or British Embassies.

Almost every day in Czechoslovakia we catch various terrorists, 'pies and saboteurs who have been trained by the Americans and the British at special courses and sent into our country to commit crimes against our State. Recently, an illegal group engaged in espionage and sabotage was uncovered in our country.

It transpired that a number of spies and saboteurs recruited by the Anglo-American imperialists were directed by agents of the Yugoslav intelligence service.

Thus, we have direct evidence of close co-operation between the Anglo-American and Yugoslav spies.

By exposing the treachery of the Tito gang in its Notes, the Soviet Union rendered a great service to the cause of peace.

It showed that Tito and his clique are an espionage agency of the Anglo-American instigators of war.

Of great significance also for Czechoslovakia was the Rajk trial which showed that in the interest of the Anglo-American imperialists and their military plans, the arch spy, Tito, tried to tear the People's Democracies from the camp of Socialism and peace and place them in the camp at imperialism.

Our Party realises more and more how far-sighted was the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) and Comrade Stalin who, last year already showed us that the road of Tito bourgeois nationalism inevitably leads towards open desertion from the camp of Socialism.

We have realised that the Tito clique is a gang of the most dangerous spies and traitors.

The Tito clique, in the service of the warmongers, tries to send its agents into all Communist Parties in the People's Democracies with the aim of undermining them from within.

In Czechoslovakia, Tito spies have been exposed in various sections.

It is necessary to intensify ideological work, to explain the danger of all forms of bourgeois nationalism and to deepen the sense of proletarian internationalism.

It is necessary also to increase the Bolshevik vigilance of the entire Party and to expose all agents of imperialism and purify the ranks of the Party from them.

The Catholic Hierarchy, whom we vigorously combat, is a weapon of the Anglo-American imperialists in the struggle against the People's Democratic Czechoslovakia. We know that the struggle against Church reaction will be neither easy nor short. But we also know that this struggle will end in the victory of the People's Democracy.

In the struggle against the reactionary henchmen of the Anglo-American imperialists, our people see for themselves that only the working people, led by the working class and relying on the Soviet Union, can secure the independence of

our country.

The venal, reactionary emigrant bourgeoisie, and those still inside the country, have long abandoned the idea of an independent Czechoslovakia, hoping to restore capitalism in our country with the help of the adventurous military plans of the Anglo-American imperialists.

Reaction has accepted the imperialist concept of a federated Europe in which Czechoslovakia would be dismembered and her separate parts become colonies of the imperialists.

That is why the struggle of the Czechoslovak people for peace and against the instigators of war, is at the same time, a struggle to guarantee the security of Czechoslovakia.

During the Peace Congress in Paris and Prague, and after it, the broad mass of the people were mobilised.

This resulted in an unprecedented movement of the working people in factories and villages, trade union, women's and youth organisations, co-operatives, many church organisations and among the intelligentsia—a movement for peace and against war.

During the "Peace Week" alone, 10,600 meetings and rallies were held at factories and villages attended by nearly three million people.

The struggle of the Czechoslovak people for peace, and to guarantee the security of our country, is linked with the further strengthening of friendship with the great land of Socialism.

The extensive celebrations held in honour of the 32nd anniversary of the October Revolution and during the ten days' celebration of Czechoslovak-Soviet friendship, (November 1 to 10), furnished a great demonstration of the love and loyalty of the Czechoslovak people to the Soviet Union.

During this period the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Union gained 1,200,000 new members and now has a membership of 1,800,000.

Nine million Czechoslovak citizens signed the message of greetings to Comrade Stalin in connection with his 70th birthday. This activity assumed the character of a plebiscite on the question of friendship with the Soviet Union and agreement with its peace policy.

Over 300,000 people have joined classes to study the Russian language, which study is carried out under the slogan:

The Soviet Union is our teacher in building Socialism, and the Russian language—the language of progress—will help our people daily and directly to learn from the U.S.S.R. and to build Socialism in our country”.

In addition, the study of Russian was introduced in all schools, beginning with the second class.

While explaining the Information Bureau Resolution concerning the situation in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, our Party has also initiated large scale discussions in its ranks showing that, for our country, the road to Socialism can be secured only with the help of the Soviet Union.

In doing this we described as erroneous, various formulations which concealed the fact that there was only one Bolshevik, Marxist-Leninist path towards Socialism, the path which, in general form, can be taken in our country.

To deepen proletarian internationalism today means, above all, to realise even more our community of interest and destiny with the Soviet Union; to learn even more from the experience of building Socialism in the Soviet Union, from the experience of the glorious Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks).

The attitude towards the Soviet Union is the corner-stone of proletarian internationalism for every Communist and every genuine Czechoslovak patriot.

The study by Party members of the great teachings of Lenin and Stalin more than anything else helps the struggle against bourgeois nationalism and the struggle to deepen

proletarian internationalism.

Our Party began the publication of the collected works of Comrade Stalin with 200,000 copies in the Czech language and 50,000 copies in the Slovak language.

We are organising a “Party education year” in which all Party members will study to raise their ideological and political level.

The struggle against bourgeois nationalism and the struggle to deepen proletarian internationalism must be developed daily on the basis of Bolshevik criticism and self-criticism, particularly where ideological vacillations and ideology alien to us are shown in the ranks of the Party.

We well remember the Bolshevik advice that it is impossible successfully to build Socialism and to beat the class enemy if we do not, at the same time, combat expressions of alien ideology inside the Party and if we do not overcome them.

The weakness of our Party still is that the broad mass of its members underestimate the opposition of the class enemy, its unrelenting efforts to get its agents into the Party to conduct subversive activity against the People’s Democratic system.

By underestimating the class enemy, Party members show insufficient Bolshevik vigilance. To declare the need for more vigilance in words only is not enough.

Increased vigilance should be proved in practice, in our everyday policy in relation to personnel; in the ability to know our cadres and constantly to verify their work; in the timely removal of unreliable persons and elements alien and hostile to the Party.

Further strengthening of our economy is one of the most important jobs in the struggle against imperialist warmongers seeking to hamper our construction.

If all hostile strivings of home and foreign reaction end in failure, and if the basis of reaction steadily diminishes, this is

largely the result of the political and economic consolidation of our economy, of higher living standards of the working people and of the gradual dislodging and elimination of capitalist elements.

Reactionaries predicted that the rejection of the “Marshall Plan” would lead to the failure of our Five-Year Plan, to the disorganisation of State finances, to the failure of foreign trade and the collapse of the living standards of the people.

Reality however, shows just the opposite. We are executing and surpassing our production plans on the basis of an ever growing Socialist emulation movement.

The living standards of the people are rising,

We have abolished the rationing of bread and confectionary while retaining former prices. At the same time a number of consumer goods, meat and other products have been placed on a free sale basis.

The volume of trade is growing. During the past year the private enterprise section in retail trade went down to 25 per cent while the co-operative and State section rose to 75 per cent of the trade turnover.

In the countryside, contracts have been signed stipulating the amount of agricultural goods to be delivered to the State while the right freely to sell surplus product is guaranteed.

In Czechoslovakia there are now 450 peasant cooperatives which operate according to a general plan.

In all districts there are State machine-tractor stations. Publicly owned hog farms supply nearly 30 per cent of the pork consumed in the country.

But we know that Socialist re-organisation of agriculture is and remains the most difficult problem for us.

We carry on serious political, organisational and technical preparations to fulfil this task successfully. We are also teaching the Party and its members not to be afraid of difficulties and how to overcome them.

Relying on the great Soviet Union, and maintaining steadfast loyalty to the principles of Marxism-Leninism, we will increasingly consolidate our People's Democratic State, eliminate all enemy attempts to carry on subversive work, and successfully advance towards Socialism in our country.

By the successful building of Socialism we will contribute to the utmost to the consolidation of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.

## **PLENUM OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF FRANCE**

A Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of France, held on December 9-10, heard reports by Etienne Fajon on the struggle in defence or peace; Jacques Duclos on unity in action of the working class of France and the unification of the French people; George Cogniot on the struggle against the Tito clique of assassins and spies.

After saying that the struggle for peace is the essential task and duty of all the forces of democracy, Comrade Fajon summarised the results of the struggle for peace in France.

In his statement Andre Marty explained how to achieve success in the struggle against the colonial war in Viet Nam, which is a link in the preparations for war against the Soviet Union.

Reviewing the results of numerous joint actions waged by the trade unions and by the unorganised workers for their demands, Jacques Duclos stated that the Party's policy of working-class unity is based, above all, on increasing the activity of the masses. "The Party rallies the masses on the basis of its programme of national salvation which is the exact opposite of the policy of poverty, reaction and war pursued by the French Government".

In his report on the struggle against the Tito clique, Georges Cogniot analysed the Resolution of the Communist Information Bureau and exposed the activities of the Tito embassy in Paris.

The speaker noted the resolution of the National Council of Fighters for Peace and Freedom, unanimously adopted and signed by public figures of different views, which resolutely condemn American imperialism for playing up the present

situation in Yugoslavia.

He also mentioned the valuable initiative displayed by the Party federation of the Seine Department which is distributing 160,000 copies of the Information Bureau Resolution in leaflet form.

The Central Committee adopted a resolution calling upon Communists to uphold the demands of all sections of the working people, to intensify the struggle against the projected anti-labour law concerning collective bargaining and compulsory arbitration, for a further development of class-consciousness, devotion to the Party and the spirit of selflessness.

The resolution stated: "It is necessary constantly to point out that the Party's policy, namely, defence of the vital interests of the working class, and effective struggle against war production, calls for increased activity and organisation on the part of workers in the enterprises".

Emphasising the need for united action on increased scale, the resolution exposed the error of those who speak of the "disintegrated Socialist Party", instead of seeking united action with the Socialist workers.

This struggle calls for the political exposure of the Right-Wing Socialist leaders, on the basis of concrete facts and without alienating the Socialist rank and file. Pointing to lack of vigilance in relation to the hostile activities of police and Tito agents, the Central Committee called for more revolutionary vigilance on the part of Party members.

The resolution urged Communists to redouble their energy and how greater foresight in order to act "in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism, in the spirit of the teachings of Stalin who is leading us along the road to Communism".

The Plenum was addressed by Comrade M. Thorez (see speech on p. 3).

**FRATERNAL FRIENDSHIP WITH THE  
U.S.S.R.—GUARANTEE OF PEACE AND  
INDEPENDENCE OF BULGARIA. Vilko  
Tchervenkov, Secretary, Central  
Committee, Bulgarian Communist Party**

In the struggle for peace; the cardinal task facing Communists who are in power and guide the State is, undoubtedly, the all-round strengthening of this State.

The question of the defence of peace and national independence is the decisive question today in the policy of the working class and Communist Party of Bulgaria.

Since the first Conference of the Information Bureau, our Party has achieved considerable successes in strengthening the People's Democracy and independence of Bulgaria.

We can proudly say that the leading role of the working class in our country is now clear and unmistakable.

The Communist Party is the recognised, guiding force in the country's social, political, economic and cultural life.

Under its leadership are the Bulgarian Trade Unions, with a membership of nearly 700,000; the Bulgarian Women's Union, 600,000 members; Dimitrov Youth League, 600,000 members; Bulgarian-Soviet Society, embracing 1,100,000 citizens of Bulgaria, and the co-operative movement with 1,200,000 members.

The bourgeois opposition and Right-Wing Socialist opposition-agents of the Anglo-American imperialists—have been destroyed, as well as a number of centres of conspiracy, formed on the instructions and with the help of the Anglo-American imperialists.

The working people have also greatly strengthened their moral and political unity. The Social-Democratic Party merged with the Communist Party. Militant working-class unity has been effected in keeping with the teachings of Marxism-Leninism.

The “Zveno” Party and Radical Party announced their decision to disband as independent parties.

The confidence of the working people in the Communist Party has grown stronger, particularly during the past few years. At the elections on May 15, the Fatherland Front polled 92 per cent of the total vote.

The labour enthusiasm of the working people unbounded. The People’s Democracy of Bulgaria has greatly grown in stature, politically and economically, during the past two years.

One of the cardinal factor accounting for this is the widespread and profound nature of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship. This friendship is an important motive power in our social development.

Socialist emulation in industry and in State, and Co-operative farms in the countryside is proceeding apace under the stimulus of preparations to celebrate the seventieth birthday of Comrade Stalin.

The working people of Bulgaria rightfully consider Comrade Stalin to be their great leader and teacher. They report to him on their achievements and undertake new obligations.

This fact should be particularly stressed, for it speaks of the Bulgarian working people’s deep sentiments of attachment and devotion to the Soviet Union and to Comrade Stalin. This is our most priceless achievement which we must, in every way treasure and build up.

To fight for peace means sparing no effort to strengthen the indivisible friendship between the great Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies. Indivisible friendship with the great Soviet Union, recognition of its leading role, not in words but

in deeds—constitute the basis of the struggle for peace and Socialism.

To the Bulgarian Communists, the fight for peace means sparing no efforts to strengthen People's Democracy in the country and to advance Socialist construction, industrialisation and the country's defensive capacity; it means displaying the greatest vigilance towards the machinations of the imperialists and their agents in the person of the infamous Tito spies who stoop to the most vile provocations on Bulgaria's Western border.

To us, the fight for peace means sparing no effort nor means to strengthen defence and the State security organs. We are compelled to take serious measures to strengthen these and guard our borders in the South and West.

At the same time we constantly remember that a ruthless struggle against all expressions of nationalism inside the Communist Party is a direct duty, an absolutely necessary prerequisite, or more correctly, an integral part of the struggle for peace.

Nationalism not only helps the warmongers—it is the outright ideology of the enemies of peace, the enemies of the Soviet Union. Nationalists are the direct agents of imperialism.

The Rajk-Brankov trial disclosed the essence of the nefarious schemes of the imperialists in their struggle against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

These schemes were designed to restore capitalism in the People's Democracies with the help of the fascist espionage Tito clique which has become the agent of international reaction.

It is a matter of a large-scale international conspiracy, organised by the Anglo-American imperialists against the People's Democracies and the Soviet Union, against peace and democracy.

This was revealed by the Rajk trial and also by the Kostov

trial.

It is a question of a plan of the imperialists, a plan to **undermine** the Communist Parties from within; to plant a nationalist espionage agency inside the Communist Parties.

Who is Kostov? It appears that he is an old British spy. In 1942, he was recruited by the British secret service and has been connected with the Tito clique since 1944.

Carrying out the orders of Anglo-American officers, Kostov, together with the Titoites, formed a group of spies in the Party and in the State apparatus, a group which, taking advantage of our weaknesses, our confidence and carelessness, tried in every possible way to harm the Party and the State, especially in the economic sphere and, with the assistance of the Titoites, sought to isolate Bulgaria from the Soviet Union, to restore capitalism and bring Bulgaria into the camp of imperialism.

It was planned to use the slogan of a federation of South Slavs and the Balkan federation to effect Bulgaria's isolation from the Soviet Union.

It is clear that the Kostov South Slav federation had nothing in common with our conception of a union of Southern Slavs, for the Kostov federation was to be directed against the U.S.S.R.

The Kostovs demanded that Bulgaria join Yugoslavia and reckoned on the military assistance of the Titoites.

They knew that the sentiments of love and devotion to the Russian people and the U.S.S.R. have deep roots in our Party and among our people.

That is why they thoroughly disguised themselves, resorted to all kinds of double-dealing and phrase-mongering about their loyalty to the Soviet Union, were hypo-critical to the extreme while, in practice, preparing forcibly to change the policy of the Party and the country with the help of the Tito gangsters.

Naturally, the Anglo-American secret service is interested not only in Yugoslavia, Hungary and Bulgaria. Its tentacles reach out everywhere, to all the People's Democracies.

That is why the Communist Parties in other People's Democracies should make wide use of the experience of struggle against enemy agents in Hungary and in our country.

Our offensive against capitalist elements narrows the enemy's base. This is obvious. All the better. Perhaps that is why the imperialists view our country with such fury and venom. Perhaps that is why they try to flood our Party with their spies why they do their utmost to penetrate its ranks.

That is why to fight for peace means, above all, thorough verification of the ranks of the Communist Party, unmasking enemy agents in it, taking ruthless measures against these agents and purging the Party of this contamination.

We would have made much greater headway had it not been for the wrecking activities of the Kostovs. They concentrated mostly on distorting the Party's policy in practice, thus causing discontent among the people.

The Kostov traitors caused particularly great harm in our economic policy, in our relations with the peasantry.

Things went so far that all non-State transactions were actually prohibited—and this in a country where small-scale production predominates. The State actually deprived the peasant producer of his surplus products.

The Party vigorously combated this gross distortion of its policy. It is now waging a fight to overcome the consequences of the wrecking activity without loss of time and is mobilising the working people to play their part in this struggle boldly encouraging criticism and self-criticism.

Preparations for the forthcoming elections to the organs of State power are being carried out on the basis of ruthless criticism of weaknesses and of a decisive reorganisation of our work.

The mass of the working people is being drawn in to take part in constructive criticism of weaknesses and shortcomings in the work of the State and economic organs.

The struggle against the criminal Kostov gang has consolidated the Communist Party as never before. The Party has increased its vigilance, is extending and strengthening inner-Party Democracy, is accelerating the process of its Bolshevik tempering.

We are conscious that there is not just one Kostov spy. There are other Kostovs still hiding in the Party. But they will not be able to screen themselves now that Kostov and his chief accomplices have been exposed.

With the fraternal help of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) and the Soviet Government, the Bulgarian Communist Party and Government are preparing and introducing a number of measures to ensure supplies to the population; to combat drought; to raise the yield of grain and other crops; to increase production and improve the cultivation of export crops; the mining of raw materials for industry; to improve cattle breeding and measures to promote the electrification of the country and prospect the country's mineral resources.

Measures are also being taken to strengthen the alliance between the working-class and the working peasantry on an economic basis, to consolidate the producer agricultural co-operatives.

The initial results achieved in fulfilment of the Central Committee June Plenum decisions, (1949), which revealed serious shortcomings in our work, show that we are advancing along the right path.

The working people of town and countryside show greater confidence in the Party and the Party has established still closer ties with the mass of the medium peasantry.

We are seriously tackling the job of rectifying mistakes

committed and reorganising our work.

This is borne out by the decision of the Central Committee of the Party and Government to reorganise transport, where incompetent and doubtful elements have been removed from their posts, and which branch of our economy is now headed by Comrade Tchankov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

We have set ourselves the task of explaining the international scene on a much wider scale than hitherto, of explaining to the masses the actual possibilities of averting a new war, of exposing the plans of the warmongers and the despicable role played by the contemptible Tito-Rankovic clique—the advance detachment of the warmongers.

On a wider scale than ever before we are impressing upon every honest Bulgarian the understanding that our vital national interests call for indivisible friendship with the great Soviet Union that not only is it impossible successfully to build Socialism and thus deliver the country from age-old backwardness and poverty without this friendship, without the support of the Soviet Union but that the national independence of Bulgaria is unthinkable without this friendship and support.

Without the support of the Soviet Union our country would become a victim and pawn in the hands of Anglo-American imperialism which would turn Bulgaria into its colony.

The Bulgarian people know that the interests of the Soviet Union as a Socialist country fully coincide with the national interests of Bulgaria. Therein lies the invincible, vital force of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship.

This friendship is the main guarantee of Bulgaria's national independence and further advance towards Socialism.

## **TASKS OF FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY IN STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE\*. Maurice Thorez, General Secretary, Communist Party of France**

In developing the struggle for peace French Communists must carry out political propaganda on a wide scale. They must also take practical action against preparations for an anti-Soviet war and against the continuation of the war in Viet Nam.

The task of developing a political mass struggle against the production of war materials was raised at the Conference of the Central Committee of the Party at Montreuil. The practical application of this decision yielded obvious results but it is necessary to accomplish more.

France today produces a small amount of war materials. It is planned to arm Frenchmen who will be used as cannon fodder, with obsolete American equipment. Billions of the war budget will be used to purchase this old American equipment.

Although the question of what can be done by the workers engaged in the production of war materials is not the main question, it cannot be neglected.

Our answer to this question must be: Our arsenals, government and certain private enterprises, can produce civilian goods.

Yes, pots and pans can be produced, for housewives, tractors for agriculture, machines for industry and thus achieve increased production and productivity of labour and effect a real cut in the price of manufactured goods. France, too, can

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\* *From Maurice Thorez's closing speech at the Plenum of the Communist Party of France, December, 1949*

build more ships and she can produce more automobiles and planes.

We must foresee that the French Government will place at the disposal of American imperialism complete free zones—zones of actual foreign occupation. The main question is that of transporting war materials.

Will the French people allow weapons of death to be unloaded and transported through their country?

Inevitably the struggle for peace will acquire more and more the character of a political struggle, a struggle of the masses.

Can it be said that seamen, dockers and railwaymen will be unemployed if there is only non-military goods to be transported? In their courageous struggle against the war in Viet Nam the dockers of Algiers and Marseilles are supported by all working people and all champions of peace.

The struggle against war, against militarism and colonial policy has one of the finest traditions in the French working-class movement; a movement which not only had negative aspects.

Weak people who retreat in the face of the difficulties of struggle should remember Lenin's words that there can be no revolutionary struggle, no victory without sacrifices.

To close one's eyes to the real state of affairs means deceiving oneself, the working-class and the people.

The duty of Communists is to develop the struggle for peace, without fearing that this struggle may demand sacrifices.

But when fighting for peace the French Communist Party must not forget the economic struggle.

Communists who have been entrusted with the leadership of trade unions by the trade union membership must be the first in the struggle to win the demands of the working people.

Can it be assumed that demands will be won by talks and meetings only? The all-important thing is the mobilisation of

the masses. The struggle decides.

This means that a struggle for peace must be organised in which all sections of the working people are involved, all mass organisations and, above all, the trade unions.

This is also stated in the Resolutions of the Information Bureau, which stress that all intellectuals, political and public figures must be drawn into this struggle.

The peace ballot has shown that vast possibilities exist, possibilities which, in a number of cases are not fully used. Millions of votes could have been collected in addition to the seven million cast.

The organisation of the Fighters for Peace and Freedom today centres its activity round the question of the danger in the rearmament of Germany.

Preparations are underway for the second Congress of the Fighters for Peace and Freedom. All Communists should take part in this struggle, launched by this organisation.

They must support the courageous actions of the women and youth who, too, have their glorious tradition of struggle against war.

Last week I received the leader of the Christian youth who asked that our party and our deputies support their demands:

Fixed terms of military service, increased pay, free travel for men on leave, the right to free postage, increased allowances for soldiers' families and improved food.

I said to the young comrades:

“Not only do we support your demands—we have already formulated them. For instance demobilisation after 12 months military service, an allowance of 30 francs a day, free tobacco, increased allowances for food and half a litre of wine per day”.

Our deputies have advanced similar proposals and we shall continue to fight for them.

## **United Action of the Working People**

United action is needed to develop the struggle. The fact remains that joint action is more frequent more in the economic than in the political sphere.

The reason for this may be that the Communists have not yet made sufficiently clear to the people the connection between the policy of war and the situation of the working people; the connection between the struggle for immediate demands and the common struggle for freedom and peace.

To develop the struggle for economic demands and strengthen united action between different trade unions and their members, the disruptive leaders of the so-called Force Ouvriere—and also the new International yellow trade unions—must still be strongly criticised.

It is worth referring to the following statement recently printed in “Monde”:

“If, because of their inability, the Social-Democratic trade unions are forced to let the working people, little by little, fall under the influence of the Stalinites, this will spell the end of the Marshall Plan and Atlantic Pact.”

That which the bourgeois journalist fears, will be achieved due to the united action of the workers and in spite of the Socialist Party leaders and “Force Ouvriere.”

On the question of unity, the Information Bureau Resolution, adopted on the basis of Comrade Togliatti’s report, confirmed the correctness of the French Party’s policy on all main points, and in particular the correctness of the Party’s call to the Socialist workers for united action, without in the least minimising the criticism of Right-Wing Socialist leaders who are betraying the working class, the Republic and France. If anything, this criticism must be redoubled.

The Socialist Party is in a state of complete disintegration, in a state of crisis: it is losing its influence among the masses,

its membership is decreasing, its leaders, even those least compromised, are losing prestige.

However, as correctly pointed out in the Resolution of the Central Committee of the Party, this does not mean that Social-Democracy no longer exists, that it is breathing its last.

There are few workers left in the Socialist Party, but Social-Democratic ideology continues to exist among certain sections of the working class and among the petty bourgeoisie who support the Socialist Party leaders.

It is important to stress the following:

The Right-Wing Socialist leaders are not only the lackeys of their own bourgeoisie, they have also become the open agents of American imperialism.

So too, do the leaders of “Force Ouvriere” and other splinter trade unions submit to the leadership of the different Browns and other A.F. of L. and C.I.O. agents.

The resolution adopted by the Central Committee of the Party confirms the correctness of our policy of the outstretched hand to the Catholic working people, a policy which we pursue without retreating from our materialist and secular principles and without ceasing the political struggle against the Hierarchy of the Church—the principal organised force of reaction in France.

The resolution also confirms the policy aimed at uniting all Republicans, patriots, all French men and women.

On the government question the Information Bureau Resolution states that the mass movement in defence of peace may produce a slogan of even wider range than that calling for the establishment of a government of democratic unity.

Thus the correctness of our Party policy is confirmed also on this extremely important question.

It is not a question of going back to 1934 and 1936. It is a question of putting in power—through mass action which will be a decisive factor this time as well—a government that will

defend peace and the independence of France.

Experience teaches us that the bourgeoisie sends its agents into the working-class movement, that it even succeeds in bribing or blackmailing certain politicians who accidentally found their way into the ranks of working-class parties.

What has to be done in this case? Hide from reality, close our eyes to it? No. The spies and provocateurs must be exposed and driven out.

In view of the lessons of the trials in Budapest and Sofia, and judging by our own experience, we see that spies and provocateurs are able to worm themselves into responsible posts only because of the true principles of democratic centralism having been discarded by various organisations of the Party.

The system of electing the leading organs is not always followed. Party members do not everywhere report on their activity to Party meetings and conferences. This makes control by the lower bodies difficult.

When mistakes have to be rectified this is usually done along administrative lines; the Bolshevik method of open and direct discussion is not practised.

This disastrous spirit can lead to groups and factions. And groups and factions are fertile soil for police provocateurs for in such cases factionalists cover up each other and factionalism takes the place of Party discipline.

## **To Guard the Principles of the Party**

Many new members have been accepted into our Party. Seven hundred thousand members joined our Party after the Liberation, many of them during the struggle or immediately after.

As early as 1945 we discussed the need for extensive

ideological work to educate new members and re-educate the old ones in the spirit of Leninism. But much work has still to be done in this sphere.

Under the conditions of sharpening class struggle the more unstable elements inevitably wilt and give way. They get scared and fear going into action.

This refers particularly to those who came to the Party from the ranks of the petty bourgeoisie during the periods of comparative lull. This situation could be seen in some branches.

The Party is not isolated from social environment. Individual members yield, in one form or another, to ideology hostile to the working class. Thus, petty-bourgeois sections bring in their form of education and their vacillations into the ranks of the Communist Party.

For example, one rarely come across vacillations or doubt among workers with regard to the U.S.S.R.. and the People's Democracies. But such doubts can be seen among certain people who come from the petty bourgeoisie.

Incidentally, these doubts often serve them as a pretext for avoiding struggle. We believe we should not hold on to such people to whom the working class, its interests, its aims and its Communist Party are absolutely alien.

Our Party exists to carry out a revolutionary struggle to establish the dictatorship of the proletariat. We shall not hold on to Party members coming from the petty bourgeoisie who do not agree with this, who question the principles of the Party.

We shall not hold on to them. On the contrary, we shall try to be rid of them. They want freedom in order to wallow in the mire, as Lenin put it. Very well! Let them wallow in the mire.

But they must also recognise our freedom—the freedom to prevent our Party from being drawn into the swamp or opportunism and Social Democratism which we have abandoned more and more in the course of over 30 years of

persistent struggle. We will fight for the Party line.

In the Party there is a full freedom to discuss matters before coming to a decision according to our Rules, decisions which must be observed by everyone unreservedly.

Of course discussion should be held on a basis of principle and we must not let our freedom of discussion be used by our enemies for their own ends.

Certainly, it is necessary patiently to explain things and, aided by weighty arguments, to convince those Party members who are mistaken, without offending and alienating them, but with the utmost straightforwardness.

But it is necessary to fight for the Party line without the slightest vacillation, to fight against any deviation, opportunism or sectarianism.

Whenever differences arise in practical questions, they are easily solved. If the question is one of political differences we should not evade discussion on them until they are removed, until the Party line triumphs.

Two lines cannot exist in the Party. The Party has one line—a revolutionary, proletarian, Lenin-Stalin line of the Communist Party. This general line cannot be questioned in any Party organisation. Not a single Party branch, nor Party unit will allow it.

Finally, the need for criticism and self-criticism should, once again,—and always—be stressed.

Very many weaknesses can be explained by fear of criticism and self-criticism.

Let no one refer to the arch-opportunist pretext that the enemy will allegedly be able to use the open criticism of our mistakes and weaknesses and will try to put obstacles in our way.

Let clowns play the clown, as Lenin said. Self-criticism is a sign of a strong and serious party, a Party which believes in the people and enjoys the confidence of the masses, a Party

which therefore does not shirk difficulties and is able to draw lessons from its own mistakes in order to educate, on the basis of these mistakes, the working class and the mass of the working people.

But in order to criticise, a Party approach is needed.

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A few days ago a journalist assured me that our enemies believe there are allegedly opposition trends in our Party, including the leadership, and that there are even Tito supporters. In reply, I said:

I know very well that our enemies willingly take their desires for reality, but I can only say that their hopes are groundless.

Our confidence in the CPSU(B), in Stalin, is absolute and unreserved. We speak of it every day.

It is not a question of a “cult”, as asserted by our enemies. It is a question of a conscious confidence based on experience; a political confidence which does not exclude, but on the contrary strengthens, our love for Stalin.

Why should we not declare our love for Stalin, our friend, our leader?

Our enemies would like to see opposition in our leadership. They do not want to see the social origin of our leaders they refuse to see that these leaders have been brought up in the Lenin-Stalin spirit, as collective leaders working together, mutually supporting and fraternally criticising each other and going through all ordeals together.

Our Party is doing well.

We are gaining members, valuable people. We must intensify our work in this sphere, especially at the large enterprises.

We must pay attention simultaneously to the qualitative

and quantitative composition of the Party. We are entering a period when the question of the qualitative composition of the Party will have a decisive bearing.

Our aim is to ensure that by having sound forces in the factories and in all Party organisations our Party will be able to direct, organise and guide the entire mass movement, carrying out its task both resolutely and firmly.

Under this slogan we shall prepare for the 12th Congress of our Party which will take place next April, in Toulouse.

While preparing for the 12th Congress it is necessary to carry out our tasks, to rectify mistakes and to improve our work in all spheres.

We will help the working class, the people of France actively to participate in the struggle for peace.

We will secure the formation of a government of democratic unity which will satisfy the demands of the working people, restore and extend the freedom of the people and bring France back to the camp of democracy and peace.

In this way we shall lead our country along the road towards Socialism.

## **STRUGGLE AGAINST TITO AGENTS OF IMPERIALISM IS STRUGGLE FOR SOCIALISM. Erne Gerö, Member, Political Bureau, Central Committee, Hungarian Workers' Party**

The Resolution of the Information Bureau of Communist and Workers' Parties on **the Situation** in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, adopted in 1948, exposed the Tito clique which has betrayed Socialism and the peoples of Yugoslavia.

The Resolution stated that the Tito leadership of the Yugoslav Party has taken "the path of betrayal of the international solidarity of the working people", that it has "broken with the internationalist traditions of the Yugoslav Communist Party and taken the path of nationalism."

In the period that has since elapsed, this clique completed its treachery and, after being exposed as an agency of international reaction, has openly gone over to the camp of the imperialists.

By his brilliant foresight and vigilance—which laid bare the treacherous policy of the Tito gang in good time—Comrade Stalin rendered invaluable service to the Socialist and democratic movement of the world.

Stalin's analysis of the masked nationalist policy of Tito helped the democratic and Socialist movement throughout the world to equip itself against nationalism and the undermining activities of imperialist agents.

In addition to exposing the Tito clique, the Resolution raised before the People's Democracies the main questions relating to the tactics and strategy of building Socialism.

It showed Communist and Workers' Parties in the People's Democracies that Socialism cannot be built in the towns without reorganising the countryside among new Socialist lines; that the class struggle grows sharper during the transition from capitalism to Socialism, and that Communists must prepare themselves for this.

The Resolution stressed particularly the importance of the Marxist-Leninist education of Party personnel in the spirit of proletarian internationalism; devotion to the Soviet Union—the main bulwark of Socialism, democracy, peace and the independence of people.

The Hungarian Workers' Party drew the necessary lessons from the treachery of the Tito clique.

In keeping with the June Resolution of the Information Bureau, the leadership of the Party, enthusiastically supported by the membership and the broad mass of the working people, introduced several political and organisational measures designed to expose completely to the people the real role of the Tito clique and to prevent its subversive work in Hungary and in our Party.

## I.

The cardinal lesson which the leadership of the Party—headed by Comrade Rakosi—drew from the Resolution was that it was necessary, more than ever, to strengthen the ties of friendship between the Hungarian people and the Soviet Union; that it was not enough to rest content with a general, and frequently superficial popularisation of the achievements of the Soviet Union; that our working class and the working people as a whole should make it their daily and prime task to learn the achievements of the land of Socialism, to study the militant path traversed by the heroic party of Lenin and Stalin, and master the rich experience of the Soviet Union and Bolshevik

Party in building a new Socialist society.

Although not everything has yet been done in this respect, great headway has been made during this last year and a half.

The Hungarian working class and the whole people celebrated the thirty-second anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution as their own holiday.

During the International Youth Festival our people also extended a warm and enthusiastic welcome to the Soviet Komsomol delegation on its arrival in Hungary.

Hundreds of thousands of people heard the report of the delegation of Hungarian peasants who visited the Soviet Union.

To an ever greater extent our workers apply the Socialist experience of the Soviet Union in production.

Soviet Stakhanovites are well known in our country and their methods of work are studied by our best workers and engineers with great success.

The Soviet pavilion at the autumn fair in Budapest; the concerts of Soviet song and dance ensembles and artistes; the Soviet art exhibition, etc., all were a great success.

The Hungarian Workers' Party, the working class, and the broad masses of the working people recognise that the Soviet Union is the principal guarantee of peace and security, of the prosperity of the Hungarian people and of the building of Socialism in our country.

That is why preparations to celebrate the seventieth birthday of Comrade Stalin have literally become a nation-wide movement in our country.

This is reflected in the keen interest of the people in Comrade Stalin's works, in the extension of labour emulation in honour of his birthday; in the voluntary work undertaken both in town and countryside; in the thousands of rationalisation suggestions and inventions received; in the tens of thousands of presents for Comrade Stalin now being

prepared by the working people.

This movement, which embraces all sections of the Hungarian working people, increases their feelings of friendship and devotion for the great Stalin and the Soviet people.

The second lesson drawn by the Hungarian Communist Party from the Information Bureau Resolution, was that Socialism must be built in the countryside as well.

After the necessary political, ideological and organisational preparations, our Party, pursuing the policy of restricting the kulak, decided to establish producer co-operatives in agriculture.

The first serious, although undoubtedly initial, results of this policy are at hand.

More than 40,000 peasant households are today united in producer co-operatives which possess close on 350,000 holds (196,000 hectares) of land.

Each co-operative member averages 8 holds of land, which in Hungarian conditions, corresponds to the household of the medium peasant.

This means that the idea of the co-operative, the idea of the collective farm is taking root among the mass of the Hungarian working peasants.

Not only the poor peasant but also the medium peasant begins to take serious interest in the co-operatives.

Two hundred and twenty-one machine-tractor depots operating 3,300 tractors—not to mention a large number of other agricultural machines—help our working peasantry to organise and strengthen producer co-operatives.

Simultaneously with the growth of producer co-operatives, the State farms increased their sown area six-fold in the course of a year.

The third lesson drawn by the Hungarian Workers' Party from the Resolution was the need to clarify relations between

the Party and mass organisations, between the Party and the People's Front.

Some of our comrades held that it was necessary to turn the People's Front into a mass organisation such a would mean slurring over the leading role of our Party and the working class.

The Party leadership rejected this and carried on serious work among the broader sections of the people, explaining the leading role of the Party and the working class in accordance with the teaching of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin.

## II.

Our Party also seriously began to tackle questions affecting ideology, Marxist-Leninist education, the struggle against hostile bourgeois ideology in the spheres of the Party and in social and State life.

Here, too, considerable progress has been made, although by no means commensurate to the task facing us.

The publication of Marxist classics in Hungary has trebled during the past year, reaching three million copies.

Higher Party schools with courses ranging from one to two years have been opened and the number of short-term Party schools is increased.

Marxism-Leninism is now taught in the universities and the radio and other means are used to propagate Marxism-Leninism. This, however, is not enough. That is why the Political Bureau recently adopted a decision to improve Marxist-Leninist education and theoretical work.

The Hungarian Workers' Party considers it its duty to help, as much as possible, to expose the gang of Yugoslav traitors and correctly inform the peoples of Yugoslavia of the true nature and policy of their leaders.

Several thousand Yugoslavs reside in Hungary. The Tito

clique tried to use some of them, mainly kulak elements, for subversive work. However, the overwhelming majority of them resolutely opposed the Tito gang, thus rendering harmless a large section of kulak agents engaged in subversive activities.

It should be noted that Tito and his gang are today regarded as the “ideal” not only of the Yugoslav kulaks in Hungary but also of the Hungarian kulaks and the capitalist elements still to be found in the towns, not to mention very enemy of People’s Democracy.

Hungarian reactionaries who formerly regarded the Serb people with rabid chauvinism, today have nothing but enthusiasm for Tito.

The Rajk-Brankov trial in Budapest played no small role in exposing the Tito gang and the foul plan of the imperialists. The fiasco of the conspiracy plotted by this gang of provocateurs and double-dealers and their complete exposure at the Budapest trial was a big victory for the Hungarian people and the entire camp of Socialism, democracy and peace.

But a mere statement of this is not enough. Important lesson must be drawn from the trial.

The first question we must pose is: were we vigilant enough, did we expose in good time this dangerous agency of the imperialists in the ranks of our Party and in the country?

Since the plot failed, since we frustrated the foul plans of the Titoites and their Anglo-American masters, the plot was exposed in good time.

But we could have exposed it earlier had we paid more attention to certain alarming factors and had we analysed these factors thoroughly.

It is known that Rajk, acting behind the backs of the Party leaders and using putschist methods, disbanded the Party organisation in the Police force.

We were inclined to regard this as a non-Party attitude, a political mistake by Rajk and did not see the hand of the

enemy.

An artificial campaign popularising Rajk was conducted. The enemy inside the country and abroad sang his praises and contrasted him—the “native” and “national” Communist—with the leadership of the Party.

We, of course, noticed this but did not draw the proper conclusions.

We thought it was a question of provocation, that the enemy was responsible. It never occurred to us that Rajk himself was the enemy in our ranks.

### III.

In the majority of cases it is no easy matter to uncover the enemy. The imperialists know how to disguise their agents whom they sent into the Communist Parties many years ago, artificially boosting their prestige and making “heroes” of them.

Rajk, for instance, disguised himself by once sharply attacking his accomplice in espionage, Szönyi, demanding that he be called to order and so on.

There were instances, disclosed at the Rajk trial, when individuals belonging to one and the same espionage gang conducted a fierce “struggle” against each other on the instructions of their masters.

Thus, for instance, one of their number held an important post in the Ministry of Social Insurance, another in the medical trade union.

From these positions they “fought” each other to make impossible normal co-operation between the Ministry and the trade union, to fish in troubled waters and engage in undermining activities.

The enemy resorts to every stratagem and manoeuvre to penetrate into our ranks, into our State apparatus and to harm

the People's Democracy.

From all this it follows that there can be no liberalism toward a non-Party attitude, toward political mistakes, toward the struggle of groups and cliques; that when looking into such matters the question must be asked; whether it is really only a question of mistakes, lack of discipline, or whether it is a question of the enemy having a hand in the matter.

An analysis of the Rajk trial shows that it is not only through bad work that the enemy in our ranks can be detected. A section of the Rajk gang—such as the Szönyi group—had been instructed to work well, to make themselves “useful” to the Party as a step towards securing important Party and government posts for their members and, when the time came, to put their apparatus espionage and sabotage into operation.

The enemy pursues a long range policy in his undermining activity—a fact we should remember.

The Rajk trial shows that the enemy is only too glad to recruit his agents from among persons who were at odds with the Party: the discontented, former factionalist, Trotskyites, Right opportunists, especially if they have lived as emigrants for a long or short time in the capitalist countries of the West.

The British, American, French and other espionage organisations often recruited these people into their service.

Therefore, before placing people in responsible posts the Party must make it its business to know all about the present and past of the given individual.

Another conclusion to be drawn from the Rajk-Brankov trial is that the greater the number of various bourgeois organisations and parties abolished in the People's Democracies and the narrower their mass basis becomes, the more tenaciously the enemy tries to plant his agents in the Communist and Workers' parties which guide the working class, the people and the State.

The enemy knows that as long as the Party is strong

politically and organisationally, as long as it is an ideologically healthy Marxist-Leninist Party his foul, undermining plans are doomed to failure.

That is why he concentrates his efforts on undermining the party of the working class from within. Hence, we must be still more vigilant to preserve the purity of our Party ranks and frustrate all enemy attempts to penetrate it.

The trial of the Rajk gang shows that nationalism furnishes the most fertile soil for the enemy's subversive activities.

The danger of nationalism has on more than one occasion reflected itself in an over-estimation of our economic and other successes and in an underestimation of the achievements of the other People's Democracies.

It has also expressed itself in belittling and even ignoring the achievements of the Soviet Union.

However, no matter what form it takes we must consistently combat this danger by widely propagating genuine patriotism which does not contradict proletarian internationalism but is its dialectical component.

The Rajk-Brankov conspiracy was a conspiracy of an international character, a conspiracy against the Hungarian People's Democracy, against the other People's Democracies and against the Soviet Union.

There was concrete proof in the evidence at the Budapest trial that the threads of this imperialist conspiracy stretched to Czechoslovakia, Poland and other countries of the People's Democracy.

This is borne out by the exposure of the Kostov gang in Bulgaria, not to mention certain other espionage groups in other People's Democracies.

Undoubtedly, all the Communist and Workers' Parties in the People's Democracies will draw the necessary lessons from this international conspiracy of imperialism and thus render harmless similar attempts in their countries.

The Rajk-Brankov trial once again confirms the Lenin-Stalin teaching that during the transition from capitalism to Socialism, the class struggle, far from dying out, grows sharper.

The nefarious plot hatched by Rajk, Brankov, Tito and Rankovic is, without doubt, an expression of the sharpening class struggle inside the People's Democracies and on the international plane.

Steadily losing their influence and strength the enemies of the people take the line of uniting the most reactionary sections, Right Wing Socialists, clerical elements and fascists in the struggle against peace, democracy and Socialism.

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The imperialists' schemes to set Hungary against the Soviet Union have come to naught. As a result of the Rajk trial the working people see that our Party saved the country from the danger of the capitalist and landlord yoke being restored; they also realised that the establishment of still closer ties of friendship with the great Soviet Union is an all-important task in the struggle, against the undermining activities of the imperialists and in defence of the freedom and independence of the Hungarian people.

That is why, after the exposure of the Tito-Rajk gang, the friendship of the Hungarian people for the Soviet Union and their devotion to the beloved Stalin became even more deeply rooted.

The Hungarian Workers' Party and the Hungarian people have drawn the necessary conclusions from the lessons furnished by the exposure and elimination of the espionage and diversion of the Rajk-Brankov gang.

The Party and the people have increased their vigilance and, equipped with the Resolutions of the November Meeting

of the Information Bureau, will resolutely advance with their ranks still more consolidated, along the path towards Socialism, inspired by the example of the great Soviet Union.

## **TRIAL OF BULGARIAN STATE CRIMINAL TRAICHO KOSTOV AND ACCOMPLICES**

**SOFIA. December 15 (from our special correspondent).**

On December 14, the Supreme Court of the People's Republic of Bulgaria delivered judgement in the case of Traicho Kostov and his accomplices.

The Court sentenced Traicho Kostov to death.

Ivan Stefanov, Nikola Pavlov, Nikola Nachev, Ivan Gevrenev and Ivan Tutev were sentenced to imprisonment for life, loss of civil rights, a fine of one million leva and confiscation of property; Tsonja Tsonchev, Boris Hristov, Blagoi Hadji-Panzov were sentenced to 15 years imprisonment, deprived of civil rights for a period of 20 years, fined 300,000 leva, and their property confiscated; Vasil Ivanovski 12 years imprisonment, loss of civil rights for 15 years, fined 200,000 leva and his property confiscated; Ilja Bojaltsalijev, 8 years imprisonment, deprived of civil rights for 10 years, fined 10,000 leva and half of his property confiscated.

This sentence is final and cannot be appealed against.

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In the dock were 11 provocateurs and spies, bitter enemies of the Bulgarian people, agents of the Titoite Anglo-American secret service inside the Bulgarian Communist Party.

Sons of landowners and merchants, of elements hostile to the people, they sold themselves to the Anglo-American secret service.

Carrying out the assignment of this secret service they penetrated into the ranks of the Bulgarian Communist Party and, donning the mask of "active" and "loyal" Communists,

plotted a conspiracy which had as its ultimate aim the overthrow of the lawful government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria with the aid of the fascist Tito clique, the forcible seizure of power in the country, and the turning of Bulgaria into a colony of Anglo-American imperialism.

The vigilance of the Bulgarian people and its vanguard—the Communist Party—severed the threads of this conspiracy.

With anger and indignation, the people present in the court-room listened to the testimony given either in an entirely false light or with brazen cynicism, testimony describing criminal activities of these political diversionists.

Kostov, the arch conspirator, mumbles something about his “mistakes” and “fallacies”, but is silent about crimes perpetrated and prepared, schemes hatched together with Djilas, Kardelj, Rankovic and Tito.

The hardened spy twists and squirms, tries to deceive the court, to side-track the issue, to cover up his traces.

On the lips of this provocateur his treason, paid assignments in the service of the imperialist secret services, are made to sound as if they were simply “mistakes”, “lack of vigilance”, a “flight of the imagination” and so on.

## **The Mask is Off**

But the Chairman of the Court calls on Ivan Stefanov, an immediate accomplice of Kostov in espionage and plotting. And we see before us not the innocent lamb that Kostov pretended to be, but a wolf with his fangs bared. Unlike his patron, now cornered like a rat, Stefanov to inveterate enemy, cool and calculating, realises that his bluff has been called and that there is no sense in resisting. He pleads guilty without much ado and declares that he will tell the truth and nothing but the truth.

Step by step Stefanov unfolds the story of his espionage and wrecking activities. And as he speaks, the figure of the “innocent” Kostov stands out clearly as the chief of the Bulgarian agency of the degenerate fascist Tito and his Anglo-American masters.

To remove Georgi Dimitrov and Vasili Kolarov from the leadership of the Party at all costs, even going so far as assassination, to take over the reins of government and hand over the country as a seventh republic of the “Great Yugoslavia” to be plundered by Anglo-American imperialism—such was the political credo of Kostov dictated to him by Washington, via Belgrade.

Citing incontestable facts, Stefanov not only proves Kostov’s complicity in enemy activities but his leading role in plotting the conspiracy; he discloses Kostov’s links with the Anglo-American secret service whose assignments he personally transmitted to Stefanov and other accomplices.

Stefanov confirms that as early as 1945 Kostov instructed a Bulgarian trade delegation before leaving for the Soviet Union to drag out negotiations by making impossible demand on the Soviet Union so that afterwards they could accuse the Soviet Union of being “adamant”, of “pressing” the countries of the People’s Democracy.

Even at that time Kostov told Stefanov that close relations with the Soviet Union were detrimental to the interests of Bulgaria which, according to Kostov, should follow the Yugoslav line and, consequently, it was necessary to strengthen in every way Bulgaria’s contacts with Western Europe.

Stefanov proves that it was none other than Kostov who propagated among his followers the Tito idea of a Balkan federation under the aegis of Yugoslavia, and that it was he who uttered a warning of the need to be careful when preparing the conditions to unite Bulgaria to Yugoslavia.

Kostov was the architect of all the wrecking and espionage

activity in the country; he knew every detail of the undermining work executed by his henchmen. The full truth of this is laid bare by the facts cited by Stefanov.

This was also confirmed by the accused Nachev who stated that, when initiating him into the conspiracy. Kostov hastened to stress that he, Kostov, enjoyed the patronage of Tito and the Anglo-American secret service with whom he had established direct contact.

Nikola Pavlov, one of the Kostov-Stefanov-Pavlov "triumvirate" states that the moment the Party emerged from underground, with Kostov occupying the leading post as Secretary of the Central Committee, he immediately began to surround himself with people whom he regarded as being reliable.

Thus, with Kostov's help, and on his insistence, such irreconcilable enemies of the new Bulgaria as Bogdanov, Ganev, Kunin, Maslarov, Pavlov and others, who pursued a policy coinciding with Kostov's interests, were given key positions in the Communist Party and in the organs of State security.

## **Agents of Anglo-American Secret Service**

Pavlov, who was one of Kostov's intimate associates in espionage, also testified that at the beginning of 1945 Kostov informed him of his intention to contact the British through Colonel Bailey, their representative on the Allied Control Commission.

Afterwards, Kostov repeatedly told Pavlov, as his trusted man, about his meetings and conversations with Anglo-American secret service agents.

Numerous witnesses testified to Kostov's criminal relations with Anglo-American intelligence officers, having

seen him more than once in the company of Colonel Bailey and other Anglo-American agents.

Thus, also on this point in the indictment, Kostov was completely exposed by his own accomplices.

The other accused likewise exposed Kostov's criminal contacts with the fascist Tito clique and its agents in Bulgaria.

Stefanov, for instance, testified that acting on direct orders from Kostov, he met Tito's agents to whom he handed information on the situation in Bulgaria and from whom he received instructions.

On Kostov's instructions, the accused Hristov, Bulgarian trade representative in the U.S.S.R., established contact with Jiberna, the Yugoslav trade representative there, with whom he collaborated on all questions relating to Bulgaria's trade and treaty relations with the U.S.S.R.

Kostov not only contacted his associates with the Tito spies—he, himself, regularly met representatives of the Yugoslav fascist leadership. He had meetings with Tito and Kardelj, Djilas and Rankovic. Moreover these meetings were often of a conspiratorial nature and dealt with matters known only to a small number of the plotters.

Kostov was fully aware of the sabotage carried out, knew for whom and where his associates were “working” and the information they supplied.

The testimony of the accused and the witnesses completely exposed Kostov as a shameless careerist, an adventurer, crafty and callous; a man of malice and cunning, with a stone in his pocket, ready to throw it at any minute, to use the words with which Georgi Dimitrov, leader of the Bulgarian people, once described Kostov.

## **Belgrade—Centre of Anglo-American Espionage**

Naturally, Kostov did not rely solely on his associates, on the handful of conspirators isolated from the people, in his struggle against the lawful government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, against Georgi Dimitrov, leader of the Bulgarian Communist Party, who enjoyed great prestige among the people.

In October 1948, the accused Stefanov testified, Kostov, Pavlov and I, having met to summarise the results of our undermining work, agreed that the penetration of our people into the Party was insignificant and that the sabotage results were nothing to speak of.

Kostov was of the opinion that it was possible to use the Fifth Congress of the Bulgarian Communist Party for our purposes. We could not, of course, he said, come out at the Congress with a definite programme, but we could use the Congress if we managed to win over the majority of the delegates. In this event we could elect our leading body at the Congress, put my (Kostov's) report on the agenda, adopt the necessary resolution and, after this, concentrate on forming a Party leadership that would further our aims.

This done, we would then take over control of the Party while retaining its old name. After two years of successful work we could hold a new congress, adopt a new programme and change the Party line.

Unfortunately, we failed to win the support of the majority of the delegates and therefore had to pretend that we supported the line of the Political Bureau.

Knowing that they would not find support in the Party, Kostov and his accomplices, from the outset, staked on outside forces—on the Anglo-American imperialists and the fascist

Tito clique with whom they entered into criminal relations immediately following the liberation of Bulgaria.

Promised all-round aid by Tito, including military assistance, Kostov embarked on his undermining activities which included an attack on the Central Committee of the Communist Party, headed by Comrade Dimitrov; an attempt to violate the unity of the Party by selling up factions and groups; propaganda to unite Bulgaria to Tito Yugoslavia in the form of a so-called Balkan Federation; worsening relations with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies; a policy of rapprochement with the capitalist countries of the West; economic sabotage and wrecking in industry, agriculture, transport, trade and in finances, and, finally, espionage on behalf of the Anglo-American and Yugoslav secret services.

Kostov, said the accused Nachev, believed "we would not be able, without the help of the capitalist countries of the West, to restore our national economy and ensure its proper development".

He was of the opinion that Bulgaria had been deprived of the assistance she could have received from Britain and America, and that in this respect, Tito was pursuing "a more sober and realistic policy".

In Kostov's opinion it would have been better to take the line of softening the class struggle in the country and encouraging and strengthening the private sector. This would have made it possible to establish in Bulgaria a regime similar to that existing in the Western capitalist countries, would have brought Bulgaria closer to the countries of the Anglo-American bloc. In other words, a repetition of that which took place in Yugoslavia. Kostov did not merely confine himself to propagating the plan of isolating Bulgaria from the camp of Socialism and including her in the orbit of Anglo-American influence; he steadily put his designs into effect. When Stefanov left for Moscow in 1945 as head of the trade

delegation, Kostov instructed him to insist on extremely high prices for Bulgarian goods and minimum prices for Soviet goods.

This was done to protract artificially, or even to break off the talks, to arouse distrust in the Soviet Union and to impress upon the Bulgarian people that the U.S.S.R. could not supply Bulgaria with goods.

Hadji-Panzov testified that Kostov incited anti-Soviet feelings among the people; issuing slanderous rumours to the effect that the shortage of certain goods in Bulgaria was due to these goods having been exported to the Soviet Union.

Simultaneously with the pursuance of all anti-Soviet policy, Kostov, said his accomplices, widely advertised the need for establishing close ties with Yugoslavia, sang the praises of Tito and kept emphasising the correctness of Tito's policy, which he set up as an example.

Stefanov testified that in Kostov's view, had Bulgaria joined Yugoslavia, this would have solved many economic problems. As early as September, 1945, he told me that the Yugoslav leaders intended to break off relations with the Soviet Union and co-operate closely with the Western countries from whom they expected assistance.

The accused, Nachev, testified that at the end of 1947, Kostov, during a meeting with Kiril Slavov, informed the latter that he had interviewed Tito who demanded that decisive measures be taken to wrest Bulgaria from the Soviet Union.

Kostov said Tito had given him instructions to seize the State and Party apparatus as soon as possible and to give executive post to his men who were capable of pursuing Tito's and his (Kostov's) policy in Bulgaria.

He also told Slavov in confidence that he had reached agreement with Tito to incorporate the Pirin region into Yugoslav Macedonia.

Tito, with Kostov trained and completely subordinated to his will, as testified by the accused, already began to look upon Bulgaria as his province.

His agents, masquerading as, teachers, artists, booksellers, and so on, literally flooded Bulgaria, especially the Pirin region.

The Yugoslav intelligence officer, Citsmil, was appointed Yugoslav Ambassador to Sofia, where he built up a ramified, espionage network.

The Yugoslav Embassy in Sofia, practically all of whose members were engaged in espionage, became, in the words of the accused, Hadji-Panzov, the Bulgarian branch of the Yugoslav secret service.

During my work in the Yugoslav Embassy, said Hadji-Panzov, gathered from various documents that the Yugoslav leaders engaged in espionage and subversive activities.

Starting in 1945, immediately after the liberation of Macedonia and Yugoslavia, the main trend of Yugoslav propaganda was to impress the Bulgarian people and, above all, the Macedonians resident in Bulgaria, that they could build a happy life only if the Pirin region were joined to Yugoslavia.

Continuing his testimony, Hadji-Panzov dwelt in detail on the subversive work of the Tito agents in the Pirin region; in 1947 a group of artists were sent from Skoplje to organise a Macedonian theatre there. All the artists were secret service agents.

The U.D.B. officers, Panovsky, Petrovsky, Korubar and Oliolovsky, were sent in the guise of teachers. Two youth brigades, organised in Bulgaria on the personal instructions of the Yugoslavia Foreign Minister, Simic, also engaged in espionage and propaganda activities.

Hadji-Panzov said in evidence that together with the Yugoslav military attache in Bulgaria, Milatovic, he, on Rankovic's instructions, paid his agents in Bulgaria, monthly

“salary” of 15,000 leva, apart from lump sums as a reward for particularly important information.

After the publication of the Information Bureau Resolution on the Situation in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia—which curtailed the possibilities of espionage—the Titoites began to send their agents into Bulgaria disguised as political emigrants, opponents of the fascist Tito regime.

Among these provocateurs was Hadji-Panzov, who, on the orders of the Yugoslav Government, returned to Bulgaria as an alleged opponent of Tito and, as such, organised subversive activities, on Rankovic’s instructions, among genuine Yugoslav political emigrants.

I learned of Kostov’s anti-popular activity from Citsmil, said Hadji-Panzov.

Citsmil told me that Rostov was waging a struggle against the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party, headed by Georgi Dimitrov. He described Kostov’s activities and his close contact with Tito and other Yugoslav leaders.

Citsmil stressed that a Rostov victory in Bulgaria would favourably affect the situation in Yugoslavia. In the event of such a victory, he said, Yugoslavia would gain immeasurably in prestige and would occupy first place in the Balkans.

The accused Bojaltsalijev and Ivanovski, carrying out the orders of Hadji-Panzov, Tito and Kolishevsky, engaged in disruptive activity in the Pirin region and, as they testified, directed all their efforts towards wresting this region from Bulgaria.

Apart from propaganda activity among Macedonian and Yugoslav emigrants and among the Macedonian youth, Bojaltsalijev testified that he gathered information about the guards stationed on the Bulgarian borders, and other information for the Yugoslav secret service which he gave to Naum Nakov, an official of the Yugoslav Embassy.

The fascist-nationalist Tito clique which, after the war,

feverishly hastened to annex Bulgaria to Yugoslavia, was furious when, despite all Kostov's efforts, the leadership of the Bulgarian Communist Party rejected insolent encroachments on the independence and sovereignty of their country.

The Tito colonisers were particularly enraged at the firm stand taken by Georgi Dimitrov and his co-workers.

Describing his meeting with Kardelj in Bled, the accused Stefanov declared that Kardelj, expressing Tito's point of view, said with fury:

“Dimitrov and the other leaders of the Bulgarian Communist Party who stand in our way must be removed from the leadership of the Party and the State and physically destroyed”.

## **Wreckers and Saboteurs**

Parallel with propaganda and espionage activities, the plotters in the Kostov gang, acting on the instructions of their Anglo-American and Yugoslav masters, organised numerous acts of sabotage and wrecking in the country.

Taking advantage of the high positions they occupied in key branches of the national economy, the plotters dislocated Bulgaria's economy over a number of years, hoping completely to undermine the economy and disorganise important organs of the State, thus worsening the material conditions of the people, create dissatisfaction among them against the existing order and the government and to discredit the policy of the Bulgarian Communist Party.

Having seized a number of vital branches of the national economy, the plotters systematically frustrated the realisation of the plotters, curtailed output, artificially created difficulties in the country, and sought to compromise the People's Democratic Government and prove its “inability” to cope with the job of rehabilitating the war-damaged economy.

The big manufacturer, Gevrenov, having wormed his way into the Communist Party on the orders of his British masters carried out criminal activities in the rubber industry of which he was in charge.

To discredit the nationalisation of industrial enterprises, Gevrenev, on the orders of Petko Kunin, former Minister of Industry, closed down profitable factories, leaving open unprofitable ones, and later ordered the dismantling of equipment in canning factories.

Similar subversive activities were carried out, according to Gevrenev's testimony, in the woollen, wood-working, and other industries.

In the sphere of finance the Minister, Ivan Stefanov, directed the criminal activities with the help of his cousin, Tsonu Tsonchev, who was given the job of manager of the Bulgarian National Bank.

The subversive activities conducted there by me within three years, said Stefanov in his testimony, was mainly to freeze credits for capital construction, to see that the possibility of making accumulations should neither be discovered nor used and deliberately to increase expenditure.

Quite deliberately we went slow on the job of drawing up a unified State budget which was so urgently needed in the planned economy.

The budgets of the State Social Insurance Institute, Red Cross and other organisations were not included in the 1948 budget.

There was no control over the taxation of kulak elements. Incomes were taxed incorrectly in order to create discontent among the working people.

Stefanov also described how a complex and intricate procedure was effected on the orders of Kostov in 1947, during the exchange of old banknotes, which created great discontent among the population, a discontent aggravated by the shortage

of small money.

Stefanov left the country without a reserve of banknotes which later caused great difficulties for the Government during the exchange of banknotes.

Stefanov allowed current taxes and arrears to be paid in old banknotes resulting, as testified by the expert commission, in a loss to the State of 600 million leva.

Stefanov also testified that as Kostov had repeatedly told him, the criminal work in the sphere of internal trade was carried out mainly by preventing supplies of essential goods being sent to the urban population and industrial goods to the rural population.

A wide network of subversive activities was also organised in railway transport, building, tobacco and other branches of industry.

According to figures submitted by the expert commission and announced at trial, the national economy of Bulgaria, between 1945 to 1948 as a result of the sabotage orders issued by Kostov and Manov Sakelarov, former Minister of Construction, suffered a total loss of 4,384 million leva.

## **Anglo-American Imperialists—Actual Masters of Fascist Plotters**

The trial of Kostov and his associates, like the Rajk-Brankov trial in Budapest, laid, bare the real inspirers and organisers of conspiracy against the People's Democratic countries; against the State sovereignty of Bulgaria and against the free and independent Bulgarian people.

These saboteurs and organisers of plots, the aggressive forces of Anglo-American reaction, operate with the aid of their intelligence services and the fascist Tito clique, which is the main centre for organising espionage and conspiracy in the People's Democracies.

Aware of the criminal relations into which Kostov entered to save his miserable life, British agents made him their instrument, an obedient executor of the will of imperialist rulers who strive to turn the Balkans into their colony and into a strategic base for an attack on the Soviet Union.

Pursuing their insidious aims, the Anglo-American imperialists began to plug the idea of a so-called Balkan federation under the aegis of Tito Yugoslavia; for such a federation would, they thought, be a nice juicy steak which they could swallow without much difficulty.

Stefanov reported in his evidence how Colonel Bailey, a British intelligence officer who visited him in 1945, claimed that the Bulgarian and Yugoslav peoples were akin and that they had common interests.

“There are no obstacles to hinder the peoples of Bulgaria and Yugoslavia being in one and the same federation”, said Bailey. “From the social-economic point of view, Bulgaria is closer to Yugoslavia than to the U.S.S.R.

“The economic development of Bulgaria, her industrialisation, electrification, use of natural resources and the development of her heavy industry can be effected only with the help of the Western powers—Britain and the U.S. That is why Bulgaria should maintain friendly relations with them, to receive their assistance”.

The Browns and Baileys, sleuths of Wall Street and the City—who disguised and continue to disguise themselves with diplomatic passports, spared no efforts in the struggle against the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies, declaring they would wipe them off the face of the earth and shackle the Bulgarian people.

Realising full well the enormous prestige of the Communist Parties among the working people, the Anglo-American imperialists and their agents tried and still try to use the noble title of Communist to mask their careerists, spies and

inveterate enemies of the people who are guilty of provocative, subversive work in the Communist Parties and in the People's Democracies.

It was not fortuitous that Brown, chief of the British intelligence service in Bulgaria, ordered Stefanov to keep inside the Communist movement under any circumstances, even if the latter had his own views or would have trouble with the police.

It was also the British intelligence service which suggested that its spy, Tutev, should join the Communist Party and win the confidence of the Party.

Insisting on drawing Communists into espionage work, James Clark, an agent of the American intelligence service in Bulgaria, stated frankly in his talk with Tsonchev that "Communists" could be of much greater use to America than former fascists.

Recruiting for intelligence service hardened scoundrels like Kostov and his accomplices, who regarded their membership of the Party as a means for their personal enrichment, the American intelligence service hoped, with their help, to destroy the Communist Party from within; to enslave the peoples of the democratic countries; to colonise Bulgaria; to extend their base and to unleash war against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

But the foul designs of the warmongers has turned into a fiasco. The imperialists and their agents have been exposed and pilloried.

The people of Bulgaria welcomed the just sentence of the Supreme Court with great enthusiasm.

**S. BESSUDNOV**  
**S. DRAGINEV**

## BOOK NOTES

### ORGANISED CORRUPTION OF THE YOUNG

In his booklet, “Seeds of Crime” (“Semences de Crime” Paris, 1948), Andre Mignot, one of the leaders of the “Public Morals Association” collected data pertaining to the circulation of amoral literature now flooding France.

He writes with indignation about the stream of literature which fills the mind of French children with “rubbish, vulgarity, gangsters’ adventures and blood-shed ; which teaches them how to jeer, lie, steal, torture and kill” and which contains everything, “including apology for adultery, divorce and suicide”.

Analysing French periodicals for children the author shows that the majority are devoted to crime, pornography and mysticism. Main source of this spiritual poison are the American publishing houses which supply pornographic and crime literature and set the “standards” for others.

However the author does not indicate that the entire reactionary press and cinema in the service of U.S. propaganda are corrupting the youth.

André Mignot does not say a word about the fact that only the French Communists carry on a consistent struggle in this sphere; that they insisted that legislative measures be passed against the organised corruption of French youth.

It should be noted in this connection that, last July, the deputies of the Government majority turned down the Communist proposal that foreign texts and pictures should take up no more than 25 per cent of space in youth publications.

## **TWO ASPECTS OF AMERICAN CAPITALISM**

The progressive American “Labour Research Association” has issued a book entitled **“Trends in American Capitalism, Profits and Living Standards”**. (New York, International Publishers 1948).

When reading the rich statistical and factual material compiled in the book, the reader’s attention is drawn to figures showing the enormous concentration of capital and growth of profits; in 1935, 5 per cent of the manufacturers pocketed 23.4 per cent of the total income.

Using a variety of stratagems, the monopolists conceal the actual amount of their incomes. Thus, for instance, over a period of 29 years, corporations failed to declare for taxation 60 billion dollars in profits.

Facts show that between of 1909-1944, “General Motors” netted a clear profit of 100 per cent.

Between 1929-1947, the income of 70 to 80 per cent of America’s families was only 50 to 70 per cent of the subsistence minimum.

Even during the “boom” years preceding the crisis of 1929 and during World War Two when corporations netted fantastic super-profits, the conditions of the American workers continued to deteriorate.

## **AMERICAN “GENEROSITY”**

The Italian economic newspaper, “Globo” which can in no way be considered an opponent of the Marshall Plan, recently unwillingly refuted American tales about the prosperity of Marshallised countries.

The newspaper gives the latest returns for industrial output

in Italy compared with the 1938 level, which show that in 1949 Italy is far behind the pre-war level of production and that her output, far from growing, continually declines.

Total returns for production last September was 15 per cent below that of September 1938, and 5 per cent below that of September 1918. Particularly drastic was the decline in production in the iron and steel industry where output is 22 per cent below 1938 and 17 per cent below 1948.

According to "Globo" during the past year alone total industrial output in Italy fell in all by 5.6 per cent; iron and steel by 18 per cent and electricity by 19 per cent.

## IN BRIEF

\* **Seventy-one per cent of the territory and 75 per cent of the population** of China was liberated by the People's Army of China by the end of October 1949.

\* **Industrial production has topped** the 1944 level in the Korean People's Republic in engineering the target has been exceeded by 245 per cent, in light industry by 152 per cent.

\* **There are hundreds of thousands unemployed today in South Korea.** Having closed down 90 per cent of South Korea's enterprises, the American imperialists flood the country with their goods.

\* **More than 1,000 scientific works and inventions** have been submitted for Stalin Prizes in the U.S.S.R.

\* **Peru Government will call up women for army service** for which purpose all women between 21 and 45 years are being registered.

\* **Death sentence passed on M. Glezos**, editor of the paper of the Communist Party of Greece, "Rizospastis has, following mass pressure of world democratic public opinion, been commuted to life imprisonment.

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**Journal “For a Lasting Peace, for a People’s Democracy”  
appears every Friday. Address of Editorial Office and of  
Publishing House: 56, Valeriu Braniște, Bucharest. Tel.  
5.10.59.**

