

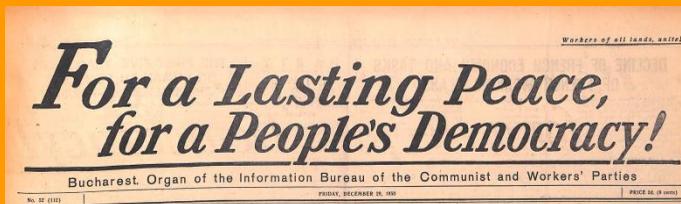
*Workers of all lands, unite!*

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

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



**NO. 52 (112), FRIDAY, DECEMBER 29, 1950**



**Source: Journal “For a Lasting Peace, For a People’s  
Democracy”,  
No. 52 (112), Friday, December 29, 1950.**

**Origin of language: English**

**Translated into English, transcribed and prepared as an  
E-Book.**

**December 2021**

**The Socialist Truth in Cyprus- Direct Democracy (Communist Party)  
London Bureaux**

**<http://www.st-cyprus.co.uk>**

**[www.directdemocracy4u.uk](http://www.directdemocracy4u.uk)**



# Contents

FOR PEACE, DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM .....	4
NEW UPSURGE OF MOVEMENT FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM IN FRANCE .....	10
CONGRESS OF HUNGARY-U.S.S.R. SOCIETY.....	11
CONSTRUCTION OF VOLGA-DON CANAL IN U.S.S.R.....	12
INTERNATIONAL STALIN PRIZE COMMITTEE “FOR CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE AMONG PEOPLES” .....	13
CZECHOSLOVAKIA ADOPTS LAW FOR SAFEGUARDING PEACE .....	14
ENACTMENT OF LAW IN DEFENCE OF PEACE IN BULGARIAN PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC .....	16
ITALIAN PEOPLE REJECT GOVERNMENT TERROR LAWS .....	17
THE GANGSTERS WILL NOT EVADE PUNISHMENT BY THE PEOPLE!	19
DECLINE OF FRENCH ECONOMY AND TASKS OF FRENCH WORKING CLASS. Benoit Frachon, General Secretary, General Confederation of Labour, France .....	24
PARTY LIFE .....	35
WORK OF PARTY ORGANISATIONS IN POLISH SCHOOLS .....	35
CONGRESS OF THE CEYLON COMMUNIST PARTY .....	36
MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTY.....	37
THE FIRST FIVE-YEAR PLAN IN RUMANIAN PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC (1951-1955). M. Constantinescu, Member, Political Bureau, Rumanian Workers’ Party .....	39
MAIN TASKS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ECUADOR AT PRESENT STAGE. Ricardo A. Paredes, General Secretary, Communist Party, Ecuador .....	46
TRUTH IS ALL—POWERFUL. Jan Drda.....	53
MILITANT TRADITIONS OF LENINIST “ISKRA”. A. Romanov.....	59
WOLVES ON THE POTOMAC. Ilya Ehrenburg .....	68
NEW YEAR’S NIGHT. Drawing by J. Novak .....	79
POLITICAL NOTES.....	80
1. STRAIT JACKETS NEEDED.....	80
2. WITHOUT COMMENTARY.....	84
3. ANOTHER ATTLEE-BEVIN MISCALCULATION .....	85

## **FOR PEACE, DEMOCRACY AND SOCIALISM**

The democratic, anti-imperialist camp, on the eve of the New Year, 1951, is confidently marching forward: the future belongs to peace, democracy and Socialism. Brilliant evidence of this is afforded by 1950, which was a year of stubborn struggle of the peoples for peace, of new great victories for Socialism, a year of fresh triumph for the immortal ideas of Lenin-Stalin.

The struggle of the peoples for peace is headed by the country of victorious Socialism—the Soviet Union. Under the leadership of the Bolshevik Party, under the guidance of the great Stalin, the peoples of the Soviet Union achieved tremendous successes this year in all spheres of political, economic and cultural life. Many decisive branches of industry in the U.S.S.R. not only fulfilled, but considerably overfulfilled, the plan for the first post-war Stalin Five-Year plan. Industrial output in the ten months of 1950 surpassed the pre-war level by 70 per cent. Collective farms solved the grain problem in an unprecedentedly brief space of time, achieving a harvest exceeding by far the pre-war level. In the U.S.S.R., the well-being of the masses is improving steadily, prices are falling steadily and the Soviet currency is being consolidated. Work on the Stalin plans for transforming nature is going ahead. The land of Socialism has begun work on the great constructions on the Volga and the Don, on the Amu-Darya and the Dnieper, which, in scale, boldness of technical design and exceptional tempo of work, are genuine constructions of Communism. The Soviet people are confidently advancing towards Communism.

Indissoluble friendship and singleness of purpose

strengthen the mighty alliance of the Soviet Union and China—the pillar of peace and security in the Far East. Under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, which opened the way to Socialism for the people, China is carrying out great reforms in its social and economic system. The great example of the Chinese peoples' revolution inspires the peoples of Asia, oppressed by imperialism, to struggle for freedom and independence.

The People's Democracies are becoming stronger. The peoples of Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Albania are fully resolved to fight for peace, for the victory of Socialism in their countries. On the basis of the experience of Socialist construction in the Soviet Union and thanks to its selfless aid, the People's Democracies have achieved substantial successes. In all these countries, industrial output considerably exceeds the pre-war level; agriculture is being reorganised on a Socialist basis; the material and cultural level of the working people is steadily rising.

The German Democratic Republic—the bastion of peace in Europe—successfully developing economic and cultural construction, is combating the strivings of the imperialists to convert Western Germany into a springboard for a new war, for uniting all German people into a single, democratic, peace-loving Germany.

The forces of the camp of democracy and Socialism have grown immeasurably.

With feelings of satisfaction, progressive mankind looks back on 1950 as a year unprecedented in the development of the world peace movement.

Varied sections of the population in all countries, people of different political convictions and religious

beliefs, have united into a single front for the sake of a great aim—defence of peace. More than 500 million people signed the Stockholm Appeal for prohibition of the atomic weapon. The slogan: “Peace does not wait on us, it must be won!” proclaimed by the Second World Peace Congress, evoked a warm response in the hearts of all honest people. The voice of partisans of peace demanding a general reduction of armaments, the banning of all forms of propaganda for a new war, condemnation of armed aggression and foreign intervention in the internal affairs of peoples, rings ever louder on the eve of the New Year.

The heroic Korean people, who have been foully attacked by the American aggressors, hold aloft the banner of the liberation struggle and despite the atrocities of the invaders, the barbarous destruction of towns and villages, continue to deal crushing blows of the enemy. Fighting shoulder to shoulder with the Korean people are the glorious sons of the Chinese people who, in the hour of severe trial, extended to their neighbour a fraternal helping hand. The gallant sons of the Korean and Chinese peoples are fighting for peace; they know that peace will triumph!

The peoples of the colonial and dependent countries are continuing their tireless struggle for freedom and national independence. They are winning victories in Viet-Nam, Malaya, Indonesia and in the Philippines. They are looking forward with confidence to 1951—the year of further struggle against imperialism and of fresh victories for their just cause.

The camp of imperialism, the camp of war, rent by insoluble contradictions, presents an altogether different picture.

In 1950, the American imperialists passed from a

policy of preparing aggression to naked acts of aggression in Korea and in relation to China.

The imperialist rulers are trying to use war hysteria and the armaments drive in order to accelerate switching capitalist economy onto a war footing. The “national emergency,” proclaimed by the U.S. rulers, is being used by the American monopolists for freezing wages, burdening the workers with taxes and for intensified inhuman exploitation of the working people.

The increased war expenditure in the Marshallised countries dooms the working people to poverty. The living standard not only of millions of unemployed, but of the vast majority of the working people, has dropped considerably below the level of 1938. In France, for instance, consumption of butter during the third year of the “Marshall Plan”, compared with the pre-war period, has dropped by 35 per cent and footwear sales—by 37 per cent. In Great Britain consumption of meat, lard and butter, during the same period, decreased by 30-50 per cent. Truman and his West European lackeys are actively pursuing the Hitler policy: “guns instead of butter”.

The imperialists are trying, with the aid of terror, to check the irresistible growth of the forces of democracy and peace. They direct their main blows against the working class and its vanguard—the Communist and Workers’ Parties. With the help of the more zealous lackeys among the Right-wing Socialist leaders such as Attlee, Jules Moch, Schumacher and others, they are trying to destroy the last vestiges of democratic liberties, outlawing the Communists (U.S.A., South-Africa, Australia), enacting laws directed against the lighters for peace, trying to organise a fascist militia (France, Italy) etc. The mercenary bandits of the

warmongers raid the premises of democratic organisations, make attempts on the lives of outstanding working-class leaders.

To the fascisation of the State system, and intensified terror and provocations on the part of the imperialists, the working class in the capitalist countries is replying with greater vigilance and unity in the struggle for democracy and Socialism, with active struggle for the rights of the working people. Longing for peace and ready to defend the cause of peace with all their might, the masses are entering the New Year fully determined to avert a new world war.

The growth and strengthening of the Communist and Workers' Parties is the guarantee that the peoples will achieve new successes in the struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism. The Communists are purging their ranks of all alien and unstable elements, systematically combating the ideology of Social-Democratism in the working-class movement, and steadfastly working for the all-round strengthening of their parties. The Communists are resolutely combating all attempts at subversive activities by the Tito-fascist clique of spies and assassins which has brought hunger and poverty to the peoples of Yugoslavia and which has completely exposed itself as a mercenary gang of the American-British warmongers. The Communist and Workers' Parties, guided by the invincible teaching of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, are everywhere the most reliable champions of the people's interests.

The forces of peace, democracy and Socialism are entering the second half of the 20th Century in a single monolithic front. Confidence in the victory of their sacred and just cause increases a hundred-fold the energy and will to victory of the broad people's masses.

Early in the 20th Century, when dying, moribund capitalism was entering its final stage—imperialism—the Russian Bolsheviki, under the leadership of Lenin, organised the newspaper “Iskra” which bore the famous words:

“The spark will kindle a flame!”. 17 years later, from the spark struck by Lenin, there flared up the flame of the Great October Socialist Revolution which ushered in a new era in the history of mankind.

The gigantic transformations, which in the first half of the 20th Century, changed the face of the earth, are striking proof of the all-conquering power of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism. Giving all their strength to the struggle for the triumph of the cause of world peace, the Communist parties in all countries will undoubtedly, achieve new successes in 1951. The new and progressive, triumphs over the old, and obsolete. Life conquers death. The forces of peace will triumph over the forces of war!

The 20th Century is the century of Lenin and Stalin, it will be the century of the victory of Communism over accursed capitalist slavery.

## **NEW UPSURGE OF MOVEMENT FOR PEACE AND FREEDOM IN FRANCE**

A fresh upsurge of the mass movement against the policy of war of the Pleven-Moch Government, and against the rearmament of Western Germany, is taking place in France.

As a result of incessant struggle, peace partisans obtained the early release of the heroic patriot, Raymonde Dien, sentenced by a military tribunal to twelve months imprisonment for her part in the struggle against the war in Viet Nam. The Central Committee of the French Communist Party sent Raymonde Dien a message of greetings, stressing the necessity to intensify the struggle for the liberation of all peace partisans languishing in prison.

In response to a call of the “Fighters for Peace and Freedom” organisation, a day of struggle against re-arming Western Germany was held throughout France on December 23. Workers of hundreds of factories took part in brief protest strikes. Demonstrations took place before the war memorials to the soldiers who fell in the two World Wars, and before memorial plaques, established in honour of patriots killed by the Hitlerite occupationists.

The “Fighters for Peace and Freedom” organisation is preparing a nation-wide referendum against the revival of the army in Western Germany.

## **CONGRESS OF HUNGARY-U.S.S.R. SOCIETY**

A Congress of the Hungary-U.S.S.R. Society held in Budapest a few days ago was attended by delegations from the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and from capitalist countries. The opening of the Congress merged into a stirring demonstration of friendship among the peoples. "The Soviet Union is the sun of hope for the colonial peoples", said a Viet Nam delegate. "The Soviet Union is the invincible standard-bearer of the struggle for peace", declared a delegate from the German people. "The Soviet Union is the model for our creative labour", said a delegate from Czechoslovakia.

Members of the foreign delegations, representatives of the Hungarian working class, working peasantry, professional workers, youth, women, People's Army and public organisations addressed the Congress. All of them spoke with gratitude about the all-round aid rendered by the Soviet Union to the peoples fighting for peace.

The Congress addressed letters of greetings to Comrade Stalin and Comrade Rakosi.

The letter addressed by the Congress to Comrade Stalin reads:

"For the merry laughter of our children, for our happy mothers, the inspiration to our youth, the creative labour of adults, the contented life of the aged folk—for all these we are indebted to the friendship of the great Stalin, and the Soviet Union, our liberator. The granite foundation of all our achievements, of all future accomplishments of the Hungarian People's Republic is Hungarian-Soviet friendship".

## **CONSTRUCTION OF VOLGA-DON CANAL IN U.S.S.R.**

The Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. has decided to accelerate construction of the Volga-Don Canal which will link all seas touching the European part of the U.S.S.R. into a single water-transport system.

Construction of the canal was stopped during the war. In the post-war years, the canal site was equipped with powerful excavators, building machines and means of transport which made it possible to mechanise all excavation and concrete work. Taking this into account, the Council of Ministers decided to complete the construction of the Volga Don water-way by 1951, that is, two years earlier than the initial schedule. The canal, which will exceed 100 kilometres in length, will link the Volga and the Don. A powerful irrigation system will also be installed in the Stalingrad and Rostov districts.

The decision of the Soviet Government to speed up construction of the Volga-Don Canal is another clear demonstration of the great vitality of the Soviet State which is building Communism, and of its peaceful policy.

## **INTERNATIONAL STALIN PRIZE COMMITTEE “FOR CONSOLIDATION OF PEACE AMONG PEOPLES”**

In accordance with the decree issued on December 20, 1949, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. has announced the composition of the Committee which will adjudicate in awarding the annual international Stalin prizes “For Consolidation of Peace among Peoples”. The Committee includes the following representatives of the democratic forces in a number of countries and public personalities in the Soviet Union:

Chairman, D. V. Skobeltsin, Professor, Moscow University, Member of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.

Deputy Chairmen—Professor Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the All-China Association of Workers of Culture and Science (China), Louis Aragon, author (France).

Committee Members—M. Andersen Nexö, author (Denmark); J. D. Bernal, Professor, London University (Britain); Jan Dombowski, Professor, Lodz University (Poland); Bernhart Kellerman, author (Germany); Marchesi Concetto, Professor, Padua University (Italy); M. Pablo Neruda, author (Chile); Mihail Sadoveanu, Academician, author (Rumania); A. Fadeyev, General Secretary of the Union of Soviet Writers; Ilya Ehrenbourg, author.

## **CZECHOSLOVAKIA ADOPTS LAW FOR SAFEGUARDING PEACE**

On December 21, the President of the Czechoslovak People's Republic, Clement Gottwald, signed a law for safeguarding peace, unanimously ratified by the National Assembly. According to this law, severe punishment will be meted out to anyone found guilty of inciting to war, irrespective of the means used, of engaging in propaganda for war or supporting this propaganda. The Czechoslovak working people reacted with great enthusiasm to the enactment of this law. They are vigorously preparing for the 1st Congress of Partisans of Peace in Czechoslovakia, to be held in Prague on January 20-21. The Congress will make a review of the carrying-out of the Second World Peace Congress decisions.

At numerous meetings in factories and residential areas throughout the country and in talks with workers, peasants, women, youth and soldiers, people are being acquainted with the programme of the struggle for peace advanced by the Warsaw Congress. Thousands of peace supporters are calling on the people explaining the tasks in the struggle for peace. The Slovak National Council unanimously adopted a peace appeal addressed to the people of Slovakia.

“Peaceful creative work”, says the Slovak peace appeal “is the essence of our life. In the name of this life we wholeheartedly approve the decisions of the Second World Peace Congress”.

In connection with the forthcoming Peace Congress,

Socialist emulation is gaining momentum throughout Czechoslovakia. Industry fulfilled its schedules for the eleven months of the first year of the Five-Year Plan by 102 per cent. Some industries and many enterprises, including the C.K.D. Sokolovo heavy engineering plant, the North Czechia coalmines and others, fulfilled their year's plan ahead of schedule.

## **ENACTMENT OF LAW IN DEFENCE OF PEACE IN BULGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC**

On December 25, a special session of the National Assembly of the Bulgarian People's Republic unanimously ratified a law in defence of peace. The law makes propaganda for war a grave crime against the peoples. Anyone found guilty of engaging in such propaganda will be liable to life imprisonment and those guilty of assisting in crimes against peace to 15 years of imprisonment. Those sentenced will be deprived of civil rights and their property confiscated.

## **ITALIAN PEOPLE REJECT GOVERNMENT TERROR LAWS**

On December 18, the de Gasperi-Scelba Government, pursuing its policy of terror in relation to the Italian people, adopted foul laws on the basis of which workers, peasants and their trade union leaders, fighting against the closing of enterprises producing for civil needs, fighting for land and for a decent standard of living, may be sentenced to terms of imprisonment and, on some charges to life imprisonment.

On the basis of these foul laws, as they are called by the Italian people, the Government intends to imprison workers seeking to keep work going in the enterprises earmarked for closing by their owners; peasants who, threatened with hunger and death, take over the idle land of the big estate owners; or who drain land, flooded by the neglect of the landlords; and also unemployed workers who voluntarily repair roads and highways for which work they insist on a small remuneration.

On the night of December 8, dozens of peasant families, abandoning their ramshackle cabins on the outskirts of Santa-Giulia di Ivica, (Rovigo Province), moved with their children and meagre belongings into... the landlords' stables. Units of the "Celere" police, summoned by the owner, evicted the peasants and threw them into the street. However, the peasants re-occupied the vacant premises due to the organised pressure of the local population.

Agricultural labourers in the village of Polesinella, (Ferrara Province), occupying dilapidated shacks which made life impossible during winter, on the instructions

of the local Council, were moved into the landlord's vacant house. The chief of police, called to the scene, after inspecting the shacks, refused to evict the people from the landlord's premises and, telling the Councillors that they had "acted correctly", said: "It is high time to abolish such eyesores".

The new laws empower the Government to throw the homeless and hungry peasants and agricultural labourers into prison.

A powerful wave of protest swept the country when the laws were published: Christian Democrat workers took part in the protest meeting held at the "Pignone" plant in Florence. A movement for the setting-up of permanent committees for defence of democratic liberties is developing in the enterprises; the leader of one of the Saragat groups has protested against the laws, saying that they are worse than the fascist laws.

On December 21, about 600,000 metal workers declared a four-hour general strike in solidarity with the workers continuing production in the engineering plants in Reggio Emilia, Milan, Savona, Bolzaneto, Lovere and other towns where the owners wanted the plants closed.

The people of Italy are entering the struggle against these terror laws, adopted by the de Gasperi Government on orders from the U.S. imperialists in accordance with their plans intensifying preparation for war.

## **THE GANGSTERS WILL NOT EVADE PUNISHMENT BY THE PEOPLE!**

The eyes of all progressive mankind are turned to Korea, where in town and countryside, in the mountains and valleys, on river banks and along the coast, the freedom-loving Korean people, for the past six months, have been fighting for freedom and independence against the insolent American invaders. The heroic soldiers of the Korean People's Army and their brothers—the Chinese volunteers—defending peace, are dealing crushing blows to the imperialist aggressors. There, in Korea, the latest pretenders to world domination are receiving an object lesson: it is impossible to violate peace with impunity!

The love and sympathies of all honest people in the world are with the Korean people, waging a just war for liberation. Every blow delivered by the Korean People's Army and the Chinese volunteers against the hordes of foreign invaders finds a warm response in the hearts of millions of people of good-will who, shocked beyond measure, demand an end to the criminal U.S. gamble in Korea.

The bestial atrocities perpetrated by MacArthur's soundly thrashed "warriors" now fleeing South, pursued by the wrath and hatred of the Korean people; have aroused deep indignation among all peoples. MacArthur's buccaneers, having lost all semblances of human beings are behaving like savages. They are wreaking vengeance for their defeat on women, children and the aged; they are setting fire to homes, hospitals and schools, destroying crops and everything within reach, and, were it in their power to do so, they

would have blown up the entire Korean peninsula with its thirty million population!

The butchers of Maidanek, the Hitlerites who achieved notoriety during World War Two by their art of the “scorched earth”, have worthy successors in MacArthur’s buccaneers. There is a certain logic in this: an army of imperialist invaders, educated daily and hourly on murder, loot and the subjugation of people, on a denial of all moral principles, educated on the cult of force and morals of the assassin, things that are trumpeted through a thousand channels by the American radio and cinema, newspapers and books, and which are openly spoken of by official persons in the U.S.—such an army cannot be anything but an army of killers and plunderers. The American crusaders pursue but one aim, that of subjugating and plundering the country. The MacArthurs are nurturing beasts and this is how they behave:—Marching into Pyongyang as “conquerors”, the Americans and Syngman Rhee’s hordes—the latter are even trying to “outstrip” their American “counsellors”—shot and hanged many thousands of civilians, including women, children and the aged. People were executed for not rendering aid to the invaders or because parents resisted their daughters being violated. Retreating from Pyongyang MacArthur’s buccaneers murdered people in “revenge” for their defeat. Eye-witnesses testified that special demolition and incendiary squads went from house to house, from district to district in accordance with previously arranged plans, and carried out their work of destruction. The city was enveloped in flames, explosions followed in quick succession. These heinous crimes were committed under protection of rear-guard units who remained until the vile work was completed.

The sadists dared to pose before the camera, holding aloft the heads of butchered Korean patriots. Apparently, the murderers wanted to perpetuate their “heroism in Korea”, so that later they could boast about their bloody crimes to their friends in Florida or Arizona. Where is the mother that will not curse her butcher son should she recognise him in one of the photos?

Here is what a United Press correspondent reported, and there is no reason to disbelieve him. He quoted an eye-witness who testified: “I witnessed executions outside Seoul. A large group of prisoners were paired off and tied together. Among them were two women and two children, one eight and the other 13. The soldiers took the prisoners to a ditch and then fired into their heads and backs. Thus, in the one week ending December 16, 800 people were slaughtered in Seoul alone.”

It is impossible to read without a shudder of horror the statements made by Korean peasants whose villages were occupied by American troops. In the village of Hakmu, Ronchong district, MacArthur’s butchers beheaded a 70 year old man because he refused to disclose the whereabouts of his family. In the village of Namsong, Sonchong district, 50 corpses of civilians were found, among them a woman with her breasts cut off. People were buried up to their necks, after which American soldiers battered them to death with the bulls of their rifles. Four American soldiers raped a nineteen year old girl, and killed several old men because they refused to tell where their daughters had gone. Thousands of such instances can be quoted.

Arbitrary rule among the American militarists is such that the army is becoming a motley of savage bandits.

According to a “New York Times” correspondent, matters reached such a pitch that the chief of the military police was forced to put all dance halls in Seoul out-of-bounds to the troops and to confine them to barracks after 7 p.m. This correspondent describes the behaviour of his compatriots in Seoul, reporting that dance halls have become the scene of night brawls with arms being used; shopkeepers complain that American servicemen raid their stores, refuse to pay and walk off with whatever takes their fancy.

Such is the behaviour of MacArthur’s subordinates. This highly-placed gangster orders refugees to their death on mine fields. They are killed during U.S. air raids, when thousands of bombs are dropped on them in order to clear the way for the southward flight of the American infantry.

The atrocities perpetrated by the American and Syngman Rhee invaders and the wholesale executions of Korean patriots and civilians have aroused wrath and indignation among world public opinion. Aware that the MacArthur and his henchmen in Korea have gone too far, Washington has “advised” that the executions be curtailed. And here is what the rabid and bloodthirsty butcher, Syngman Rhee, replied to this advice: Henceforth, executions will be carried out individually and not on the group principle! It would be difficult to think of anything more cynical.

In the example of Korea, the peoples of the world see the kind of “civilisation” brought by the American imperialists on the bayonets of their gangster army. Stop the monstrous American atrocities in Korea: withdraw MacArthur’s buccaneers from Korea and Taiwan; punish the war criminals!—such are the demands of the peoples burning with wrath and

indignation.

The people of Korea will not be intimidated by these atrocities. On the contrary, they will but fire the hearts of the Korean soldiers and the Chinese volunteers who are concentrating the full weight of their burning hatred against the rabid American invaders.

The hour of retribution will come. MacArthur will be made to pay for all his crimes!

# **DECLINE OF FRENCH ECONOMY AND TASKS OF FRENCH WORKING CLASS. Benoit Frachon, General Secretary, General Confederation of Labour, France**

The situation in France is characterised by rapidly growing contradictions between the vital interests of the working masses and the policy of war, fascisation of the State and complete disregard for national interests carried out by French Government circles and big capital under the leadership of the American imperialists.

The American demands in the matter of French armaments and for extending the term of military service to 18 months, and the switching of the entire economy onto a war footing, place unbearable burdens on the working people. Military expenditure, which according to official data was to comprise 582 billion francs in 1950, but which actually reached 700 billion francs, will again rise considerably in connection with the additional assignment of 2,000 billion francs over a three-year period (which equals 666 billion a year). It thus follows that the Government intends to force on the country a military expenditure amounting to 1,250 billion francs in 1951. This constitutes 43 per cent of the total sum paid in wages in France (2,900 billion francs).

To achieve this aim, the Government intends to further lower the purchasing power of the working class, to freeze wages, despite the soaring prices resulting from the policy of war. It was precisely for this reason that it fixed a minimum wage at a level not

exceeding that already paid in many branches of industry. The Right-wing Socialist leaders, such as Deputy Prime Minister Guy Mollet, are pursuing this policy of poverty, and describe as demagoguery the demands put forward by all trade union organisations, namely the introduction of a guaranteed minimum wage of 100 francs per hour for low paid workers, establishment of wages for other categories of working people on the basis of this minimum, and the introduction of a sliding-scale and abolition of the wage zones.

\*

The wage situation is extremely serious. According to official data and data submitted by employers, purchasing power on the basis of the average wage in the Paris district on September 30, 1950, was 47 per cent of that for 1938. The average real wage dropped by 35 per cent compared with even 1914, a fact which testifies to the social degradation to which our country is being doomed by the champions of "Western civilisation".

The impoverishment of the working class and other sections of the working population and the working peasants, in particular, signify a further change in the distribution of the national income in favour of a tiny group of big capitalists. The share of wages, which in 1938 comprised 45 per cent of the national income, declined to less than 34 per cent in 1950, whereas the share pocketed by the capitalists in the form of profits in the same period increased from 29 to 50.5 per cent. The enrichment of the big capitalists is evident from the rising incomes of the industrial and finance companies.

From 1947 to 1949, i.e. during the years which may be regarded as the “period” of the “Marshall Plan”, the profits of 380 companies examined by us increased by 212 per cent, while real wages declined during this same period by 28 per cent. This refers only to declared profits. Undeclared profits may be regarded as constituting 80 per cent of the declared figure.

This shows that the policy of the militarisation of the economy and preparation for war has already brought about a considerable decline in the economic and social conditions of the working class. But the reactionary rulers and the big capitalists intend to go further along the same path. They want to cut social insurance benefits and thus secure billions of francs for war expenditure. And they are demanding, more and more insistently, a longer working day.

The struggle of the General Confederation of Labour (C.G.T.) for the economic and social demands of the working people simultaneously, a fight for national independence, for halting the decline and disorganisation of French national economy. The American agents, who wormed their way into the French Government under the flag of the “Marshall Plan”, are resorting to foul treachery. They are transforming France into a colony, the economy of which is completely subordinate to the U.S.A.

The economy of our country is undergoing serious decline. Since 1914 that is, since the outbreak of the First World War, the French bourgeoisie has revealed its complete inability to develop production in France in line with technical progress and scientific discoveries. If the 1913 level be taken at 100, then in the first six months of 1950, i.e. 37 years later, the index of industrial output in France equalled but 121. It should

be noted that, in the U.S.S.R., industrial output in 1938 was 908.8 compared with 1913. Soviet industry maintained its rapid advance also during the subsequent years. The gross output of Soviet industry for ten months or the current year exceeded the pre-war level by 70 per cent. Such unprecedented tempo in the growth of production is ensured by the Socialist system.

In the sphere of foreign trade, exports in particular, the transformation of French economy into an economy of a colonial type, becomes even more glaring. The share of manufactured goods in French exports has dropped from 61 to 43 per cent, while the share of raw materials rose from 27.5 to 43 per cent. This process of decline is aggravated by the "Marshall Plan" in accordance with the interests of the American monopolies.

In 1946, a commission, headed by Monnet, elaborated a far-reaching programme for the economic reconstruction of industry and agriculture in France. At the present time, this programme is being deliberately frustrated and its failure is patent. The authors of the plan have become its grave-diggers and this is additional confirmation of the fact that planned economy is impossible in the conditions of capitalist anarchy in production and distribution.

Such are the conditions in the basic branches of the national economy. The annual coal output, which in 1939 totalled 55 million tons, in 1946, thanks to the efforts of the miners, reached 50 million tons, and now, after three years of the "Marshall Plan", the country produces but 47.7 million tons instead of the 65 million tons envisaged by the "Monnet plan". As regards electric energy, on October 17, 1947, on the order of the Right-wing Socialist Ministers, Ramadier and Lacoste

work was stopped on construction of six hydro-electric stations with a projected annual capacity of one billion kilowatts. Projects for other important constructions were shelved. Steel production which totalled 9,121 thousand tons in 1949 declined to 8,314 thousand tons in 1950.

Only 15,300 tractors will be produced in 1950, i.e. 34 per cent of the number planned. The aircraft industry has practically been liquidated the number of workers in this branch of industry dropped from 92,000 in 1947 to less than 30,000 in 1950. Shipbuilding is likewise in a bad plight. In 1903, the ships built totalled 234,000 tons; in 1913, 138,000 tons; in 1949, 155,000 tons; this year, shipbuilding has been further curtailed. Production of cotton fabrics decreased from 160,000 tons in 1913 to 155,000 tons in 1949. The woollen industry produced 103,000 tons of wool fabrics in 1938 and only 80,767 tons in 1949. Due to the considerable increase in superfluous imports of American textiles, the number of workers in the textile industry dropped to 600,000 (as against 900,000 in 1929 and 650,000 in 1938). But the most disastrous effects of the anti-national policy have been felt by the building industry. From 1947 to 1949 inclusive, i.e. in three years, an average of only 40,000 houses were rehabilitated or built instead of 450,000. The number of workers in the building trades is down to 800,000, i.e. 300,000 less than in 1913 and 440,000 short of the plan.

\*

In contrast to this economic decline, accelerated by the “Marshall Plan”, a plan of colonisation and war, the General Confederation of Labour has put forward a plan

for economic and social regeneration and national independence. This plan directed against switching French economy to a war footing, includes, in particular, the following points:

1. To combat unemployment, and for economic and social development, work of a peaceful nature should be undertaken: construction of houses, schools, stadiums etc., railways modernised and electrified, and hydro-electric stations built.

2. To fulfil the first point, it is necessary to increase coal output to 66 million tons annually, to re-new exploitation of mine workings, closed under the “Marshall Plan” and the “Schuman Plan”, to develop shipbuilding, agricultural machine-building, production of electrical equipment, equipment for textile industry and all other branches of industry, the development of which hindered by the “Marshall Plan”.

3. In conformity with the tasks advanced by the genuine representatives of the overseas territories, to help these territories put an end to the economic and social backwardness caused by French colonial domination.

4. To liquidate the deficit in foreign trade, particularly by restoring and developing trade with the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies and China.

5. To combat inflation, improve finances, particularly by means of a democratic tax reform, to withdraw the expeditionary corps from Viet Nam and reduce other military expenditures, including expenditure of the police.

The realisation of this programme is only possible by changing the general line of the policy of the French Government. The need for this is being realised ever more acutely by the French working people who are

waging a valiant struggle for bread, democratic liberties and national independence.

Thousands of strikes, some large-scale, have taken place in France since 1947: the strike in November 1947 which embraced 3,000,000 working people; the two-months miners' strike in October-November 1948; the strike of the workers in the gas and electrical industries in March 1950. Police and fascist bandits have killed 15 and wounded thousands of working people since autumn 1947. Three thousand, five hundred people have been subjected to persecution, 1,200 of them sentenced to imprisonment. Many trade union leaders, including three secretaries of the General Confederation of Labour, were persecuted for participating in strikes or for their activities in defence of peace.

The National Committee of the General Confederation of Labour pointed out at its last session that the working class had not been intimidated by the widespread police repressions and that it had continued to fight courageously. The National Committee, however, emphasised the necessity of fighting vigorously and boldly against the repressions.

The National Committee pointed out that, in the struggle against attempts on the lives of leaders of the democratic organisations, we cannot rely on the law for protection, and that the working people themselves must ensure the safety of their leaders and the premises of their democratic organisations. The Committee stated that the Trade Union organisations should organise such rebuffs against Moch's fascist militia as would make it impossible for a single agent of this militia to be tolerated in the enterprises.

\*

The movement for higher wages is growing. The aim of this movement is to secure an immediate increase in wages prior to the conclusion of the collective agreements between workers and management as provided by law. Since all trade union organisations are proposed to the minimum wage fixed by the Government, the capitalists, seeking to split the working class, are resorting to a new manoeuvre; in a number of enterprises they were forced to agree to wage increases higher than the minimum fixed by the Government. Consequently, they are negotiating only with the "Force Ouvriere" and Catholic Unions. In the nationalised branches of industry (coal, gas, electricity, railways etc.) the Government, as owner, is setting the example, seeking to regulate wage questions with the three or four trade union organisations which represent not more than 13 to 25 per cent of the workers and office employees in the different industries. As, admitted by Villiers, President of the National Confederation of French Manufacturers, the tactics of the capitalists and the Government boil down to this: "Do everything possible to break the unity of action."

The capitalists, however, miscalculated. They failed to realise that all factory and office workers in France support the demand for the guaranteed monthly minimum of 17,500 francs (100 francs an hour), for a sliding wage-scale and the abolition of the wage zones, and that these workers are convinced of the possibility of realising those demands in the present conditions.

The struggle which unfolded during recent weeks was clear evidence of the growing unity and of the militant spirit of the working class. Thus, as a result of a six weeks' strike, the workers of the tulle factories in

Caudry secured a 15-20 per cent wage increase. Victory was also won by 4,000 workers in the ceramics factories in Limoges, Ambazac, Saint-Yriex, Saint-Leonard, Sauviat and Borganeuf, who, in the course of a strike lasting several weeks, won a 20 per cent wage increase. In some instances the wage increases amounted to 15, 20 or 30 francs an hour. On the whole, the minimum sum won exceeds, in some instances, 100 francs per hour.

The main basis of the broad movement for a general increase in wages is the striving of the masses for unity of action. This striving finds concrete expression in the creation of unity of action committees in the enterprises. Unity of action is the unity of all workers in a given branch of industry, in a given enterprise, for the purpose of achieving definite aims. The best form of unity of action in an enterprise is the election by the entire personnel of a unity of action committee which must not be a "secret" committee but, on the contrary, must work in close touch with the workers and keep them informed about the progress of the struggle. It still happens, and not infrequently, that active members of the General Confederation of Labour display sectarianism and refuse to work in unity of action committees if some slogan of the C.G.T. is not accepted. But while some working people may differ as yet on some questions with the General Confederation of Labour they are, however, ready to fight for the 17,500 francs a month. And this struggle is a sound and reliable basis for the realisation of unity of action. It made possible the conclusion of agreements among different trade union organisations in the enterprises, between local and department trade union organisations and even among federations (the agreement concluded

among the federations of office workers affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour, “Force Ouvriere” and the French Confederation of Christian Workers). The bureau of the General Confederation of Labour is always ready to organise unity of action at top level with other trade union centres for the purpose of achieving definite aims by means of mass actions.

Unity of action on the basis of clearly stated demands does not hinder the work of the C.G.T. in drawing all working people into the struggle on the basis of the C.G.T. programme. The C.G.T. programme and, in particular, its programme of struggle for peace, are designed not only for any one section of the working class; they correspond to the interests of all working people, irrespective of political views and religious beliefs. The General Confederation of Labour is tirelessly carrying on explanatory work, bringing home to the working people the fact that their poverty is the result of the war policy which is disastrous for the country.

\*

War is profoundly inimical to the working class of France. But its struggle for peace can be effective only if the condition that it bears an organised character. Therefore, all the trade unions, all active union members, will work with ever greater vigour in the peace movement. The main task now is to popularise the decisions of the Second World Peace Congress, to organise peace committees in those enterprises where, as yet, there is none, to give every help to existing peace committees, to develop a mass protest movement against American aggression in Korea and against

France's participation in this criminal aggression, to continue and strengthen the struggle against the rearming of Western Germany which threatens the security of France, against the "dirty war" in Viet Nam, for the recall of the expeditionary corps, to unfold the struggle against production and transportation of war materials, to fight against switching French economy onto a war footing, to combine the struggle of the working people interested in realising one or another demand with the struggle of the entire population of the area in which the enterprise is situated, and to develop in the enterprises and in the towns a mass movement against extending the term of military service.

The contradiction between the policy of reaction and war pursued by the French ruling clique, on the one hand, and, on the other, the interests of the working class, is constantly growing. The French working people are regrouping their forces. They are facing a difficult struggle but they possess the means with which to emerge victorious from this struggle.

## **PARTY LIFE**

### **WORK OF PARTY ORGANISATIONS IN POLISH SCHOOLS**

In June this year the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party drew up instructions concerning the work of the Party organisations in schools. These instructions pointed out that the total Party Committees were not paying adequate attention to the work of the schools, that Party organisations function in only a few of the ordinary schools and vocational schools and that most of the teachers belonging to the Party, work in combined school Party organisations.

The Central Committee of the Party advanced the task of forming Party branches in all schools and cultural-educational establishments where there are three or more Party members. The function of the school Party organisations is to ensure teaching in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism, to improve the school work of the pupils, to help teachers master the methods of Socialist pedagogy, etc. The Party organisations must devote special attention to the parent committees in the schools and to the factory patronage committees. Party committees are obliged regularly to discuss the work of the Party organisations in the schools. District Committees are obliged to summon meetings once every six weeks of all Party teachers for joint discussion of the politico-economic problems of the given area and the

tasks of the cultural-educational establishments, etc.

As a result of carrying out these instructions during the summer months and since the beginning of the school-year, a reorganisation of the lower Party organisations in the schools took place. Classes have been held for secretaries of the school Party organisations. The Central Education Department of the Party organised a month's course for teachers belonging to the Party. About 100 teachers who completed this course were allocated to the District Committees for Party work in schools.

## **CONGRESS OF THE CEYLON COMMUNIST PARTY**

The Communist Party of Ceylon held its Fourth Congress recently. The resolution on the political line of the Party, adopted by the Congress, stresses that the revolution in Ceylon at the present stage should bear the character of a popular democratic revolution. The aim of the revolution is to smash imperialism and its local allies, the bourgeois and feudal collaborators, to achieve national independence and abolition of the survivals of feudalism.

The Congress decided to create a Popular Democratic Front under working class leadership. The programme of this Front should include the questions: complete and real independence outside the British Commonwealth, cooperation with the democratic camp led by the Soviet Union, nationalisation without compensation of all plantations and enterprises belonging to imperialists, including banks, transport etc., and introduction of urgently needed agrarian

reform.

Summarising the results of the Congress, the newly-elected General Secretary of the Party, Dr. S. A. Wickremasinghe, and assistant secretaries, P. Keuneman and M. G. Mendis, stated that the Congress was preceded by an inner-party struggle on a number of questions and that differences of opinion within the Party had been thrashed out during the pre-Congress discussion.

A group of left-sectarians adhered to the view that the people of Ceylon should, under present conditions, work for a Socialist Revolution. The majority of the Central Committee rejected these views as being inconsistent with the present tasks of the Party and could only lead to the defeat of the Party.

The Congress expressed approval of the line of the Central Committee and condemned the anti-Party activity of the disruptors.

## **MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, BELGIAN COMMUNIST PARTY**

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Belgian Communist Party, held on December 16-17, discussed questions connected with preparations for the 10th Congress of the Party and circulation of the Party press. The Central Committee confirmed its previous decision to convene the 10th Congress on March 23-26, 1951.

Bert Van Hoorick, member of the Political Bureau, delivered a report on the general activities and organising work of the Party since the last Congress. He summed up the results of the Party's three year struggle

for peace, national independence and immediate demands of the working people. He stressed the importance of criticism and self-criticism for the Party—the tried method without which it is impossible to disclose and correct mistakes and improves the work of the Party. A considerable part of Van Hoorick's report was devoted to questions of the contact of the Party with the masses and to the necessity of securing unity of action with the working people-Socialists and Catholics. The Central Committee adopted the report as a basis for discussion by the Federal Conferences which will precede the Congress.

The meeting ended with a speech by Edgar Lalmand, General Secretary of the Party. Referring to the ideological work of the Party, Edgar Lalmand said: "Our comrades are not adequately trained for ideological work, for successful struggle against our opponents... We must tackle the difficult job of raising the ideological level of the Party, its press and propaganda with a view to equipping every member of our Party ideologically".

Concerning the increased danger of war resulting from the aggressive policy of American imperialism, and, in particular, from the re-arming of Western Germany, Lalmand emphasised that it would be incorrect and dangerous to conclude from this that war is inevitable. Lalmand called for intensification of the struggle for peace and for linking this struggle more closely with the fight for the immediate demands of the working people and against the policy of fascistisation pursued by the Pholien Government.

## **THE FIRST FIVE-YEAR PLAN IN RUMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC (1951- 1955). M. Constantinescu, Member, Political Bureau, Rumanian Workers' Party**

On December 30, 1950, the Rumanian People's Republic celebrates its third anniversary. The working people of Rumania greet this anniversary with the adoption of the First Five-Year Plan for developing the national economy. This historical stage in the life of the Rumanian people—the adoption of the Plan—was made possible by the liberation of the country by the Army of the great Soviet Union, by the overthrow of the power of the bourgeoisie and landlords and the establishment of the system of People's Democracy—form of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

In the course of the past three years, profound revolutionary transformations have taken place in the country. Industrial enterprises, transport, banks and insurance companies were nationalised, and, with the constant fraternal aid of the Soviet Union, in co-operation with the other People's Democracies, there began the planned rehabilitation and rapid development of the national economy along the path to Socialism. The working class and all the working people, under the leadership of the Rumanian Workers' Party, successfully completed initial one-year plans for 1949 and 1950, and, in doing so, created the necessary conditions for planning over a longer period, i.e. for elaborating a

five-Year Plan.

As the result of the planning in 1949 and 1950, the pre-war level of production was considerably surpassed. The volume of industrial output in comparison with 1948 has doubled, new branches of industry created (machine-building); a new, Socialist attitude towards labour is making headway among the working class; the poor and medium peasantry are taking to collective farming over 1,000 collective farms have been organised; in 1949-50, the sum of 260 billion lei was invested in developing the national economy and raising the living standard of the working people; illiteracy and the age-old cultural backwardness are rapidly disappearing, the well-being of the people is advancing.

The recent elections to the People's Councils have reinforced the State structure of the Republic, which ensures the participation of millions of working people in the work of administering the State and in the great cause of building Socialism. The 10-Year Plan for electrification of the country will create a powerful energetics base for developing Socialist industry and agriculture.

The Five-Year Plan signifies expansion of the economy and its elevation to a new, higher level, and its development along the road to Socialism in conditions of a sharp struggle between the Socialist and capitalist sectors.

The First Five-Year Plan was worked out in accordance with the directives of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party which pointed out that the **main goal of the Plan is to lay the economic foundations of Socialism in the country.** This principal goal expresses the strivings of the entire

Party, the working class and all working people to abolish in our country the exploitation of man by man and to build Socialism.

In a report delivered at the VII Extended Plenum of the E.C.C.I., on December 7, 1926, J. V. Stalin said: "Wherein lies the economic essence and economic base of Socialism?... To create the economic base of Socialist means to combine agriculture with Socialist industry in a single economy, to subordinate agriculture to the leadership of Socialist industry, to regulate relations between town and countryside on the basis of the exchange of the products of agriculture and industry, to seal and abolish all the channels; which give birth to classes and, in the first place, to capital, and, finally, to create conditions of production and distribution which lead directly and immediately to the abolition of classes."

In working out the Five-Year Plan for laying the economic base of Socialism, we were guided by these instructions of Comrade Stalin.

The main goal of our first Five-Year Plan is the **Socialist industrialisation of the country. By the end of the first Five-Year Plan, Rumania will be a country with a developed Socialist industry and where mechanised Socialist agriculture will prevail.**

According to the Plan, gross industrial output in 1955 will be 244 per cent compared with that in 1950; the thermo and hydroelectric stations will have a capacity of 1.7 million kilowatts; industry will produce 5 times more electric motors and 4 times more transformers; oil output will amount to 10 million tons and will be 180 per cent compared with 1950, coal output, 3.3 times more than pre-war; steel output will

amount to 1,252,000 tons (450 per cent compared with 1938), rolled metal—828,000 tons (260 per cent compared with 1938); coke—700,000 tons (800 per cent against 1938); iron ore, 740,000 tons (530 per cent as against 1938). Output of machines will be 216 per cent above the 1950 level, with particular stress being laid on equipment for the mining industry, on tractors and agricultural machinery. Output of chemical, building and light-industries will increase 2.5 times.

**The First Five-Year Plan envisages gradual Socialist reorganisation of agriculture by means of creating collective agriculture with the voluntary participation of the working peasantry so that by the end of the Plan the Socialist sector will predominate in agriculture.**

The Socialist sector will produce the greater part of bread, cotton, sugar beet and other agricultural produce and raw materials in 1955. The tractor park will have 28,000 tractors; the number of machine and tractor depots will be increased from 138 in 1950 to 428 in 1955. The Plan provides for the creation of a powerful grain base and extension of the area sown to industrial crops. Cotton, for instance, will be cultivated on an area of 300,000 hectares of which 40,000 hectares will be irrigated. Close attention will be devoted to animal husbandry, improving the stock and raising its productivity. The Plan provides for will increase in the number of fine-fleece and pedigree sheep to 50 per cent of the entire flock and the number of dairy cattle to 70 per cent of the total herd.

The Plan also provides for the development and strengthening of Socialist trade by means of extending State and co-operative trade and by fostering and

extending trade by collective farms and members of the co-operatives with the aim of supplying industry with raw materials, workers—with food products, peasants—with manufactured goods, extending in this way the exchange of goods between town and country side and strengthening the alliance between the working class and peasantry.

In 1955, goods to the value of 500 billion lei will be available to the population, i.e. 217 per cent more than in 1950. The quantity of bread for sale to the population will increase by 87 per cent, meat—26 per cent, fats—318, sugar—96, cotton fabrics—75, wool fabrics—98, footwear—68 per cent, etc. The rural areas will receive 112 per cent more goods than in 1950.

The Five-Year Plan provides for training cadres on a wide scale, for a steady rise in labour productivity, for a more profound cultivation of a Socialist attitude to labour and for broader application of the principle of payment according to the quantity, quality of the work performed, which will facilitate realisation of one of the main principles of Socialism: “From each according to his ability, to each according to his work”.

The national income of the Rumanian People’s Republic in 1955 will be 190 per cent above the 1938 level. The material and cultural level of the working people will be further improved. Labour productivity will rise 75 per cent, production will be lowered by 123 per cent, while the wage fund will increase by 66 per cent and number of workers, technical personnel and office employees will reach 3 million, the number of industry alone, will increase by 570,000.

The total number of school pupils and university students, coming in the main from worker and peasant

families, will reach 2,133,000; 93.6 million copies of books will be published in 1955 in the Rumanian language and in the languages of the national minorities. The public health network will be extended, particularly in the sphere of safeguarding the health of mother and child. The plan envisages the building of 2,800,000 square metres of dwelling space for the working people.

The Plan provides for the rational development of the productive forces throughout the Republic. The bourgeois-landlord regime kept a number of areas in our country in a state of cultural and economic backwardness. In the course of the Plan, such territories as Moldavia, South-East Transylvania, Maramures, Dobrudja and Oltenia will prosper, due to the development of industry, mechanisation of agriculture and the general advance of culture.

One of the important tasks of the Plan is the creation of the technical and economic conditions for strengthening the defence capacity of our country.

To ensure the realisation of the Plan, the sum of 1,330 billion lei will be invested, of which 684 billion are allocated to industry, including 560 billion for the production of means of production. The Plan foresees large scale construction projects such as the Lenin hydro-electric station, 8 other hydro-electric stations, 11 thermo-power stations, a new iron and steel centre and a large number of other industrial enterprises producing heavy machinery, turbines and electric machines, fertilisers, building materials etc.

The grand project—the Danube-Black Sea Canal and other development schemes designed to secure complete harnessing of the Danube delta—will be

completed. Construction of the Bucharest-Danube Canal will be undertaken in 1954-55.

Light industry will be greatly extended. About 20 textile factories, a large boot and shoe factory with an annual capacity of 2.5 million pairs, sugar refineries, canning factories and other enterprises will be built.

Such are the magnificent prospects which the Five-Year Plan opens up for the working people of the Rumanian People's Republic.

The Plan is an event of great significance not only in the life of our people but of serious international significance also, because it helps to strengthen the camp of peace, and proves once again that the struggle for Socialism is indissolubly linked with the struggle for peace. The radical transformations envisaged for our country by the Five-Year Plan are based on the great experience of building Socialism in the U.S.S.R. The carrying-out of the Plan will require from the Rumanian working class and all working people much effort and intense work. The enemies of the people—the expropriated capitalists and landlords; kulaks, agents of the American-British warmongers, will undoubtedly try hard to defame our successes, to create difficulties and place obstacles in the way of the carrying-out of the Plan. But they will not halt our victorious advance towards Socialism. Under the leadership of the Rumanian Workers' Party, with the full support of its policy by the broad masses of the people, the great tasks of the Five-Year Plan will be fulfilled with honour.

**MAIN TASKS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY  
OF ECUADOR AT PRESENT STAGE.  
Ricardo A. Paredes, General Secretary,  
Communist Party, Ecuador**

The Communist Party of Ecuador was founded on May 16, 1926, and two years later in 1928, at the Sixth Congress of the Comintern, it affiliated to the Third International. Since that time, the political line of the Communist Party of Ecuador has been a Marxist-Leninist line. This fact, however, does not mean that the Party has been free both from either right or left political deviations. The most dangerous of these deviations was the so-called "Browderism" which not only brought the Communist Party of the United States to the verge of self-liquidation, but inculcated a deadly poison into many of the Communist Parties of Latin America. The Communist Party of Ecuador, however, perceived, in good time, the danger of Browderism and smashed it both in the Central Committee and in the lower Party organisations. Jacques Duclos' well-known letter about Browderism was an invaluable aid to us both in theory and in practice, in our fight against Browderism in the Communist Party of Ecuador. Now, when American imperialism and home reaction in the Latin American countries are uniting in the struggle against Communism, to smash the national liberation movement of the peoples and to destroy democracy, to impose

fascism on the peoples—we must display special vigilance in relation to the slightest manifestation of Browderism.

The struggle for peace, in which the overwhelming majority of mankind is vitally interested in the main task now facing the Communist Parties. World peace is essential in order to save mankind from annihilation and human culture from destruction. The Communist Party of Ecuador is taking an active part in this struggle for peace. However, in the struggle for extending the ranks of the champions of peace and their organisations—the vital task of the moment—the Party still has serious shortcomings. For example, the number of active champions of peace is only a small percentage of those wishing to take part in the peace struggle.

In fighting for peace, we must, at the same time, resolutely combat the stupid and harmful illusions fostered by the agents of American imperialism in Ecuador that our continent, as was the case in the previous world wars, will not be a theatre of military operations, and that in the event of war, our country would be able to expand industrial production and trade. Such views are not only false, they are simply criminal. A new world war would envelop the American continent also.

Moreover, the past war brought home to the people of Ecuador that pan-Americanism, under US aegis, does not eliminate the danger of war between the countries of the continent. Thus, for example, during World War Two, Ecuador became the object of aggression on the part of Peru. At that time, the U.S. forced Ecuador to submit to Peruvian military aggression and to accept a treaty imposed by the Rio de Janeiro Conference which,

for our country, meant the loss of more than one-third of its territory.

During World War Two, the U.S. forced Ecuador to sell raw materials at low prices (rubber, for example, was sold at one-third of its value, a price suggested by the Argentine). Such acts, plus the fact of the earlier U.S. seizure of military bases in Ecuador, actually deprived our country of its national independence. And after the war, the U.S.A. forced Ecuador to “lease”, for a period of 99 years, the military bases which they used during the war. And, taking into account the traditional Anglo-Saxon policy, this meant virtual seizure of those bases. At the same time, the U.S., in return for a meagre loan, sought to lay hands on the Galapagos Archipelago and the oil-bearing territory of Salinas.

The Communist Party of Ecuador, however, was not taken in by this policy of the “good-neighbour”. In 1945, during the session of the National Assembly, the 13 Communist deputies resolutely denounced the encroachments of American imperialism on the Galapagos and Salinas, and demanded the immediate withdrawal of the U.S. troops from our territory, any patriots backed this demand of the Communists; the Assembly turned down the U.S. proposal and its troops were forced to betake themselves from our territory. This attitude of the Communists enraged the American imperialists and was one of the main reasons for the coup d’etat carried out by President Jose M. Velasco Ibarra who, betraying the insurrectionary democratic movement that had brought him to power in 1944, dissolved the National Assembly and unloosed a wave of fascist terror.

At the moment, the vital thing facing Ecuador is the

danger of new aggression on the part of Peru, whose present statesmen are puppets of the U.S.A. The Government of Peru has again concentrated troops along the Ecuador border for the purpose of compelling our country to recognise the boundary established by the Rio de Janeiro Conference. War is threatening peace on the American continent, and, in view of this danger, the Communist Party of Ecuador has called for a peace settlement of the border problem with Peru and revision of the decisions of the Rio de Janeiro Conference.

The Continental Treaty of Mutual Aid, according to which the countries of the American continent shall come to the aid of any signatory to this treaty in the event of attack by a non-continental power, is simply an Instrument for realising the expansionist, aggressive plans of the American imperialists. This treaty, an appendix to the North Atlantic pact does not guarantee the countries of Latin America from attack on the part of one or another country on the American continent itself. The Communist Party of Ecuador has consistently fought this treaty which, apart from anything else, reminds Ecuadorians of the notorious decision of the Rio de Janeiro Conference which served as a prototype for the "Mutual Aid" Treaty. In addition, the Communist Party of Ecuador is fighting against the decisions of the Bogota Conference and against the Truman Plan for unifying armaments, which facilitate the realisation of aggression by American imperialism. Ecuador was the last of the countries of Latin America to ratify the Continental Treaty of Mutual Aid.

One of the main tasks facing the Communist Party of Ecuador is the struggle against imperialism, for national

independence. We have waged this struggle ever since the inception of our Party. The struggle against imperialism has had some success in Ecuador. In 1937, for example, a number of agreements concluded between our Government and American companies and which had proved detrimental to the national interests of our country, were revised. The Communist Party, supported by the democratic sections in the country, succeeded in getting a number of agreements revised in favour of Ecuador.

Nowadays, the Wall Street imperialists are resorting to new forms of colonisation in Latin America. Here are a few examples: a United Nations commission of experts, headed by Dr. Deperon, recently issued a customs-tariff draft for Ecuador. This draft brazenly asserts the necessity of **raising** the tariff on machinery imported for industry and agriculture, alleging that Ecuador is not in need of this equipment. At the same time, the draft calls for **lower** tariffs on manufactured goods imported from the U.S. This draft is designed to keep our country in the most backward state. Naturally, the Deperon tariff plan and the attempts on the part of the American imperialists to devalue Ecuador's currency, encountered strong resistance in our country. The Communist Party was first to denounce these attempts and mobilised the broad masses for the struggle against them. A big role in this opposition was played by the speeches of the Communist Senator Pedro Saad. We drew into this struggle not only bourgeois sections of the population but also certain semi-feudal elements.

The struggle in defence of democracy is one of the basic tasks of the Communist Party of Ecuador.

Notwithstanding the utterly incorrect foreign policy pursued by the Galo Plasa Government—a policy consistently criticised by the Communist Party of Ecuador—we are resisting the attempts of the reactionary elements to overthrow this Government.

The fight to safeguard the interests of the working people and for their well-being is the most vital task facing the Communist Party of Ecuador. Higher wages, defence of workers' rights, labour-legislation, lower rents, against devaluation of the currency, improved social insurance, defence of the interests of the peasants, agrarian reform, lower prices for consumer goods—such are the slogans reflecting the essence of this struggle.

The struggle for national progress is another basic task of the Communist Party of Ecuador. Although we are conscious that only under a Socialist system will Ecuador be able to set out on the real high road leading to progress, this in no way contradicts our struggle for the industrialisation of the country, modernisation of its agriculture, safeguarding national trade, our monetary system and extensive credits to the peasantry. Two mortal enemies stand in the way of this struggle of our people for progress: imperialism and feudalism against which we are concentrating our fire, not forgetting, however, the most important task of safeguarding the working class from capitalist exploitation. Improving and extending education and social aid for the broad mass of the population is one of the elements in the struggle for national progress for which our Party is ceaselessly fighting.

The entire struggle of the Communist Party of Ecuador for the realisation of its tasks is permeated

with the feeling of profound proletarian international solidarity—the main element in the struggle of the working class of all countries. In its struggle to fulfil these tasks, the Communist Party of Ecuador bases itself on unity with more or less broad sections of the population—unity in which the leading role belongs to the proletariat. Along with the entire camp of peace, democracy and Socialism, headed by the Soviet Union, the Communist Party of Ecuador is waging a resolute struggle for peace, against the warmongers.

## **TRUTH IS ALL—POWERFUL. Jan Drda**

I do not know for sure, but the possibility is not excluded that General Eisenhower had trouble with a bone of his Christmas turkey when, from the window of his mother-in-law's house in Denver (Colorado), where he was celebrating Christmas, he saw a lively demonstration of American women carrying a placard bearing the expressive words: "Will you lead Nazis, Mr, Eisenhower?"

Perhaps it was this little detail, this little bone that prevented the General from telling the American women frankly that he was burning with the desire to inherit the marshal's baton of Keitel and Goering, already conferred on him by the Brussels conspiracy of the aggressors. Was it possible that there was something other than a turkey bone that prevented him from speaking frankly? Have not shame and dishonour long since become feelings utterly alien to such people as Eisenhower? However, an open answer came from Truman who compared Eisenhower's role in Europe with that of MacArthur in Japan, the role of colonial governor, of Samurai-bloodsucker, who is to act in the Marshallised countries of Europe with the arrogance and shamelessness for which MacArthur has become notorious in Asia.

It is a pity that, upon hearing this "pleasant" news, a number of worthy Britons, still bold enough to speak of a free Britain and its sovereignty did not experience similar bone trouble with their Christmas turkeys. The point is that in Britain where, according to Mr. Darling,

Labour M. P., great changes have taken place in the social customs of the people, Christmas turkey is but a dream, not only for workers, but also for the British petty-bourgeoisie. For the worthy British gentlemen there was nothing to do but swallow hard upon reading in the press that General Eisenhower would become complete and unrestricted master in Marshallised Europe; that his powers would have a political administrative, judicial, economic and finance character, and that in the opinion of competent Washington circles, the Atlantic Pact provides, in the main, for concessions in the matter of national sovereignty and that, therefore, agreement concerning the powers of Supreme Commander becomes effective right away and the Parliaments of the Atlantic Pact countries, need not bother to ratify the agreement. After this interpretation of the appointment of Eisenhower, given by the French newspaper “Monde” on December 21, off to the realms of the Dickens’ Christmas stories goes not only the Christmas turkey but the renowned British Parliament as well.

However, the people of Britain, and the people of France, Italy, Belgium and Western Germany haven’t the slightest desire to swallow saliva even in those cases when their vassal Governments try to get them to do so not only by means of Eisenhower surprises but by new limitations in food supplies which, in view of the increasing expenditure for war, force them to tighten their bolts.

Typical in this respect are the words of a reader who, about the middle of December, wrote to the newspaper “Observer”:-“I ask the Government not to rest content with the role of the pot fastened to the tail

of the American rooster.”

Even more convincing is the voice of the workers in the British shipyards, factories, mines and docks who in their protest telegrams to Attlee declared that they would down tools should the British Government allow itself to be drawn any deeper into the criminal gamble undertaken by the United States. Even more effective are the protest strikes in the French town, Lille, Valenciennes, and in the Paris district. Ever more frequently resound the voices of the former Hitlerite soldiers in Western Germany; when asked about a new war they resolutely say “Ohne Mich!”—(“Without me!”)

Those who, today, on the threshold of 19, would care to figure out just to what extent the criminal shamelessness of the imperialist blood-suckers has grown during the past twelve months, would get shocking results: catastrophic destruction of the economy of the European countries by the “generosity” of Marshallisation was followed by naked, flagrant aggression against peace-loving Korea, aggression which plunged the people of Korea into a horrible bloodshed, dishonoured the United Nations Organisation and showed what the American vulture has in store for Europe.

But in this situation, for anyone who has followed the events of the past year there appear the new and great successes, similar to those of the previous year, achieved by the world camp of peace and progress. He sees the growth throughout the world of the forces that have risen against the imperialist madness, the strides that have been made by all the peoples in their desire to save and strengthen peace in defiance of all the enemies of the human race.

1950 was a year of unprecedented growth in the prestige of the Soviet Union and its peace-loving policy among the peoples of the world; the year which gave birth to the grand construction projects on the European and Asiatic territory of the U.S.S.R.,— constructions of Communism. 1950 was a year of great achievements on the part of People's China, its taking to the pathway of a happy Socialist future. It was a year of the further strengthening and developing of the People's Democracies, successfully building Socialism. It was a year of steady growth for the national-liberation struggle of the colonial peoples. It was the year of the victory of the Stockholm Appeal, the year of the Second World Peace Congress which delivered powerful blows to the criminal schemes of the imperialists. It was the year when the world-wide movement of peace partisans became a powerful force, the year of victorious hope that mankind possesses the strength and the means with which to win lasting peace throughout the world.

During 1950, the mask concealing the criminal designs and acts was ripped from the enemies of mankind. What "noble purpose", what "good-will" can Mr. Truman "express" after his threats to use the atom bomb? What camouflage, even the most subtle can any longer conceal the threads with the aid of which the American rulers compel their puppets to dance to their tune in the United Nations Organisation? What plastic operation can erase from the physiognomy of Bevin, Schuman, Adenauer and de Gasperi, the brand of warmongers which breaks through every mask? Where is the conjuror who could convince people that Tito is something else and not a foul agent-provocateur, the most shameless and bloody all mercenary assassins?

Nothing will ever wash the blood of the innocent Korean people from the hands of butcher MacArthur, from the hands of Truman and Trygve Lie, from the hands of all those who, by their shameless voting in the United Nations Organisations; ordered the shedding of this blood!

A large number of people in all countries of the world see things in a different light now, than they did at the beginning of the year. Of course, there is a great divergence in the degree of their knowledge: the British petty-bourgeois, when he sits down at the table to write an anxious letter to his Conservative or Labour deputy, is probably still casting an anxious glance at his wife's half-empty shopping basket. Many Americans are now probably doubling their usual sleeping draught to shake off terrible thoughts of the future. But the London docker and the Pennsylvanian worker clearly see the criminal policy of their "yellow" leaders, and are becoming firmly resolved to fight them openly and stubbornly.

At the Second World Peace Congress in Warsaw, we saw many honest people who had, for the first time, crossed the borders of capitalist States and were able, for the first time, to see life in the People's Democracies. They were stunned by what they saw, by the new and the real. "How we were deceived?" exclaimed many of them; as they observed every step of our new, happy life.

No, no-one will ever succeed in wresting this weapon, the mighty weapon of truth from our hands! The ranks of those awakening and beginning to understand on which side lies the truth, who will fight ever more resolutely for this recognised truth, will grow

not from year to year, but from day to day. There is no obstacle, no prison wall that can hold up or cut short this mighty stream of human thought and hearts, of human knowledge and resolve, This vast process within mankind is subordinate to the same invincible laws to which the forces in a magnetic field are subordinated: our new society brushes aside all traitors, all exploiters and criminals and, on the contrary, constantly attracts and wins the hearts and thoughts of all honest and peace-loving people longing for peace and friendship among peoples.

“Will you lead Nazis, Mr. Eisenhower?”; was the question asked by American woman at Mr. Eisenhower’s window. As time goes on, such questions will be asked more insistently at the windows of all warmongers. One the day they will sound outside the windows of the White House, unless Harry Truman flits, beforehand, to the cave-tow whither he wishes to move Washington. But no cave can save any of the criminals from due punishment. Let Mr. Truman, before leaving for the cave, recall how Adolf Hitler sought the very depths of his concrete lair, how he dug deeper and deeper underground in an attempt to evade the peoples’ tribunal. There is no cave, no desolate island in known seas, no corner in the universe where the instigators of war could hide, where human justice; cannot be bribed, will not overtake. He who lays claim to Hitler’s inheritance also takes upon himself his fate.

He who takes up the Keitel’s baton will also receive his noose.

The peoples of the world will not allow anyone to again endanger their destiny.

## **MILITANT TRADITIONS OF LENINIST “ISKRA”. A. Romanov**

Fifty years ago, on December 24, 1900, there appeared in Leipzig the first issue of the first Russian Marxist newspaper “Iskra”. This momentous date is widely marked by the Communist Party and the working people of the Soviet Union and by the Communist and Workers’ Parties of the world.

“Iskra” was the first leading organ of Russian revolutionary Marxists. Its founder, organiser, editor and ideological leader was Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, in the very first issue of “Iskra”, three outstanding works by Lenin were published: the leading article “The Vital Tasks of our Movement” and the articles: “The Chinese War” and “The Split in the Union of Russian Social-Democrats Abroad”, Altogether, Lenin contributed about 50 articles covering all the basic problems connected with building the revolutionary Party of the proletariat and the vital international events of the day.

Lenin and “Iskra” are inseparable. “Iskra” was the militant organ of creative Marxism. It was an effective transmitter of the Leninist, Bolshevik programme, tactical and organisational views, a popular tribune, exposing the oppression and lawlessness of the ruling circles of tsarist Russia. It was an outstanding collective organiser, propagandist and agitator. Lenin emphasised, time and again, that the old “Iskra” was “completely ‘Bolshevik’ in line”, that it was precisely “Bolshevism that, for three years (1900 to 1903), led the old “Iskra” and emerged for the struggle against Menshevism as a

definite trend.”

The publication of “Iskra” marked the beginning of the realisation of Lenin’s brilliant plan of building a Marxist Party of the new type. The essence of the plan—as defined by Stalin—“was to establish an all-Russian political newspaper as a rallying centre of Party forces, to organise staunch, party cadres in the localities as ‘regular units’ of the Party, to gather these cadres into one entity through the medium of the newspaper, and to unite them into an all-Russian militant party with sharply-defined limits, with a clear programme, firm tactics and a single will.”

“Iskra” fulfilled this task brilliantly. It dealt a crushing blow to Russian and international opportunism in the working-class movement and prepared the ideological and organisational consolidation of the revolutionary Party of the working class. Therein lies its lasting, world-historical significance.

\*

“Iskra” made its appearance, in the period of historical upheavals in world economy and world politics, at the opening of the twentieth century. This was the time when capitalism entered upon its final phase—imperialism—to the accompaniment of a keen sharpening of all its insoluble contradictions. In the conditions of the acute economic crisis, which at the beginning of the twentieth century gripped the most important breaches of industry in all capitalist countries in Europe, the international working-class movement was faced with new tasks—the tasks of preparing for a decisive struggle for power, for the dictatorship of the

proletariat.

Russia in this period “was the home of every kind of oppression—capitalist, colonial and militarist—in its most inhuman and barbarous form” (J. Stalin).

Russia, more than any other country, was pregnant with revolution, and the Russian working class was confronted with the great historical role of becoming the vanguard of the international revolutionary proletariat. The ever-growing indignation of all sections of Russian society against the savagery of the autocracy and the monstrous social and national oppression, the mass strike struggle of the working class, the peasant disturbances and the student movement all this heralded the advent of a turbulent revolutionary period. “The working-class movement developed with amazing speed”—pointed out Comrade Stalin, “but nowhere in sight was the vanguard detachment—Social-Democracy—which would import to this movement a Socialist consciousness, unite it with Socialism and thus give the struggle of the proletariat a Social-Democratic character.”

Russian Social-Democracy was then in a state of ideological and organisational dissolution and dispersion. The social-Democratic groups and circles, the activities of which never went beyond the confines of narrow local interests, were eaten up with the rust of “economism”. The “economists” were the bitterest enemies of Socialism. They bowed to spontaneity in the working-class movement, denied the necessity of arming this movement with Socialist ideas, and were against the establishment of a revolutionary Party of the working class.

It was the Leninist “Iskra” which took upon itself the

great mission of importing socialist consciousness to the working-class movement and of organising a militant, ideologically monolithic, strictly centralised, revolutionary Marxist Party, capable of leading the struggle of the working class for the overthrow of tsarism and capitalism and achieving the dictatorship of the proletariat.

Lenin's main demand in relation to "Iskra", and the Party press in general, was to abide strictly by the ideology and the principles of the Party.

"... We do not intend", said Lenin in the declaration of the "Iskra" editorial board, "to utilise our publication merely as a storehouse for various views. On the contrary, we shall conduct it along the lines of a strictly defined tendency. This tendency can be expressed by the word, "Marxism", and there is hardly any need to add that we stand for the consistent development of the ideas of Marx and Engels, and utterly reject the half-way, vague and opportunistic emendations which have now become so fashionable as a result of the sleight-of-hand of Ed. Bernstein, P. Struve and many others."

The first task that Lenin placed before "Iskra" was to fight for the purity of the Marxist theory, against opportunistic perversions of this theory, against opportunism in the theory and practice of the revolutionary movement.

"Iskra" regarded as its most important task "to separate the sheep from the goats, to dissociate oneself from alien elements" (Stalin); to separate the revolutionary elements in the working-class movement from the opportunist elements, to carry out the task of breaking completely and unconditionally with opportunism.

In the pages of “Iskra” and especially in his work “What is to be Done?”, V. I. Lenin smashed “economism”, the Russian variation of international opportunism. He subjected to devastating criticism the entire system of views of international revisionism (Bernstein and Co.), with exceptional force, consistency and irreconcilability, “Iskra” fought the opportunists and reformists in the Second International, completely exposed their designs for transforming the Social-Democratic Parties in the West into Parties of social reform, completely exposed the German, French and British opportunists as bourgeois agents in the working-class movement.

“For the bourgeoisie,” said “Iskra” in its 19th issue, “nothing can be more pleasant than to be able to pose against a class Party of the proletariat such a ‘Labour’ Party with a Socialist label which in practice goes hand in hand with bourgeois Parties.”

These words sound as if they had been uttered today. The Right-wing Socialist leaders in Britain, France, Belgium, Western Germany and in other capitalist countries do not stop before any villainy or treachery in order to ensure the interests of their imperialist masters. The Epigoni of the old Social traitors whom “Iskra” flayed with such devastating criticism—the Attlees, Bevins, Schumachers, Guy Mollers, Mochs and Spaaks—have become the most foul accomplices in the bloody crimes perpetrated by the imperialists against mankind.

In Lenin’s articles, “Iskra” posed the problem of the hegemony of the proletariat as the basic condition for the victory of the bourgeois-democratic revolution then maturing in Russia, of the bourgeois-democratic

revolution growing into a Socialist revolution. “Iskra” waged a ceaseless struggle for proletarian leadership of the revolutionary movement of the peasantry as the genuine ally of the working class in the bourgeois-democratic revolution, and, at the same time, upheld the necessity of special work among the rural poor as the solid ally of the working class in the Socialist revolution. “Iskra” posed before the Russian Social-Democratic movement the historical task of organising its work in such a way that all progressive forces of Russian society would recognise the authority of the leadership of the Party of the working class.

“Iskra” elaborated the Party programme which was later adopted by the Second Congress of the Russian Social Democratic Labour Party. This was the most consistent Marxist programme of all Social-Democratic Party programmes of those days. Lenin pointed out that “the question of the dictatorship of the proletariat was laid down clearly and definitely in this programme, and was laid down precisely in connection with the struggle against Bernstein, against opportunism.” “Iskra” created an organisation of professional revolutionaries which served as a solid base for building the Party of a new type—a Leninist Bolshevik Party.

Comrade Stalin, in those years, acted as the founder of Leninist-Iskra organisations in Transcaucasia organisations which displayed splendid examples of struggle for uniting Socialism with the working-class movement. In September 1901, there began to appear, on the initiative of Comrade Stalin, the newspaper “Brdzola” (“Struggle”)—organ of the revolutionary wing of Georgian Marxists, which consistently advocated the ideas of the Leninist “Iskra”. Carrying out the

programme elaborated by Comrade Stalin, which was outlined in the article “From the Editorial Board”, “Brdzola” was (after the Leninist “Iskra”) the best Marxist newspaper in Russia, a genuine guiding centre of the working-class movement in Transcaucasia. “Iskra” often referred to the exemplary work of the Leninist-Iskra organisations in Transcaucasia, which were founded and led by, Comrade Stalin.

The circulation of “Iskra” in Russia encountered enormous difficulties. Anyone found reading the newspaper was ruthlessly persecuted by the tsarist authorities. The gendarmerie and police placed every possible obstacle in the way of the newspaper and its readers. V. I. Lenin occupied himself personally with questions of getting “Iskra” into Russia, and with its circulation. Reliable routes and convenient means for dispatching the newspaper, were found, A wide network of “Iskra” agents covered all the main towns in Russia, organising the delivery of the paper to the readers and reprinting it in illegal print-shops. “Iskra aid groups” functioned in St. Petersburg, Moscow, Pskov, Samara and in the South of Russia. Due to this, “Iskra” had a wide circulation in Russia and every copy passed through scores and hundreds of hands.

By the autumn of 1902, there was not a single more or less significant Social-Democratic organisation which did not declare its recognition of “Iskra” as the leading organ of the Party, and solidarity; with its programme, tactical and organisational principles. “The best of the conscious proletariat has taken the side of ‘Iskra’,” wrote Lenin.

From Lenin’s “Iskra” (“Spark”), there eventually flared up the flames of the great revolutionary

conflagration which reduced to ashes the nobility-landlord tsarist monarchy and bourgeois power in Russia; it illumined the path of the peoples of the Soviet Union and brought them to the victory of Socialism, to the triumph of the great teaching of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin.

\*

“Iskra” played a tremendous role in the history of the Russian and international working-class movement. Its fighting traditions, its militant Party spirit and irreconcilability towards the enemies of the people, were taken over and amplified by “Pravda” and the entire press in the Soviet Union. These traditions are being followed by the press of the Communist and Workers’ Parties of all countries.

The strength of the newspapers of the Communist and Workers’ Parties, genuine mass newspapers of the people, is that from the Bolshevik press, created by Lenin and Stalin, they learn lofty ideals and Party principledness, that they are waging the struggle in the interests of the people and are closely linked with the people.

The press of the Communist and Workers’ Parties ruthlessly exposes the warmongers and propagandists of a new war, their base misanthropic “ideas” and “theories”; it is waging ceaseless struggle against the economic, political and ideological expansion of U.S. imperialism, against the preparations for war carried out by the imperialists under cover of combating Communism.

The Communist press exposes, day by day, the

Right-wing Socialist leaders—the foul agency of the imperialists in the working-class movement; exposes the ideology of Social-Democratism—the ideology of betrayal and treachery of the interests of the people; exposes the spies and assassins from the Belgrade Tito clique the direct accomplices of the warmongers.

In this valiant and noble struggle, the Leninist “Iskra” is for the Communist press an inspiring example of selfless service in the great cause of the emancipation of the working people.

## **WOLVES ON THE POTOMAC. Ilya Ehrenburg**

Commenting on a recent radio speech by Mr. Acheson, a correspondent of the Americanised newspaper “Figaro” wrote that the State Department announced the title of the speech beforehand: “The strategy of liberty”. The correspondent said that he had heard the speech together with Americans who did not belong to the Government apparatus. Seriously troubled by the world situation, they hoped that Mr. Acheson would comfort them, help them understand present-day events; convince them that American diplomacy and the army command had not blundered. Mr. Acheson spoke for 28 minutes; then followed the news—the retreat in Korea continues. The contrast was too striking not to see the tragic discrepancy between Mr. Acheson’s speech devoted to glorifying moral-Christian values, and bitter reality. As is often the case, Mr. Acheson was a bit too exalted.

The worse their affairs, the more exalted their talk. This is not only true of Mr. Acheson. It would be difficult to recall a single speech by Mr. Truman (apart from the recently published letter to the music critic) where the President did not invoke God, morality or truth. When MacArthur’s pilots used Napalm bombs to burn down Korean towns Mr. Truman spoke about Christian clemency. When MacArthur’s troops turned tail and fled South, Mr. Truman hastened with a reminder that there was a higher moral argument—the atom bomb. The President is particularly fond of referring to truth: it is true that America has done much good for the world; it is true that it has transformed Hiroshima into a

blossoming orchard and saved Korea's children from death. Mr. Truman cannot live a single day without the truth.

It would not be amiss to establish what the American rulers understand by the word, "truth". I shall clear the floor for Brigadier General David Sarnow, President of "Radio Corporation of America". He is no stranger; his name has led newspaper columns for twenty years. Sarnow achieved notoriety at the time of the "Young Plan" when he earned quite a bit by fleecing Germany. This did not stop him from making money simultaneously on equipment for talkies and even on the smile of the movie star, Bebe Daniels. One of the films produced by the Sarnow Co. carried the title "Love in the Desert". Love was necessary to attract the fans; as regards the desert, the image is really dear to the heart of Mr. Sarnow. He is now raking in profits both from the devastation of Korea and from the dreams of a world desert—he is being fed by the "cold war". Appropriations are growing on extension of broadcasting and on the establishment of an "underground radio broadcasting". Recently, Mr. Sarnow had a brain wave: to show the rank and file American the bombing of a town or a tank battle by means of television. Mr. Sarnow is quite a reliable witness, he will not be deflected either by Mr. Truman or Mr. Acheson. Here is approximately what he said about truth in an interview published in the "American Mercury":

**Mr. Lindley** (Newsweek): If I understand you correctly, you wish to say that we must rely mainly on facts and truth?

**Mr. Sarnow:** I certainly stand for the truth, but truth must be conveyed in a way people will understand

and it must look attractive. Naked truth is like a nude, it is unattractive...

**Mr. Lindley:** Do you think it possible to use a mechanism of psychological war such as an underground radio station, which may not always convey the truth?

**Mr. Sarnow:** I certainly believe that there exists a possibility for the use of underground radio... Propaganda means selection of news and facts and a specific method of presenting them. It is impossible after all to live by lies alone. And on the other hand, truth alone is not enough.

**Mr. Gross (Daily News):** How will you convince people behind the iron curtain that we are not merely indulging in counter-propaganda, that there is truth in our words?

**Mr. Sarnow:** I would like to read to you a part of a recent statement by General Marshall: He was asked the same thing—about propaganda and truth: He replied: The basic and guiding principle is that we must abide by truth only. The question is, what is that truth, at what moment, to what degree and how to convey it to the listener—these are technical problems and must be solved by experts.

We must admit that there is a “certain degree of truth” in what General Sarnow and General “Marshall” said. They have explained clearly enough what “truth” stands for in the minds of the American rulers. The “Figaro” correspondent should not have reproached Mr. Acheson: the Secretary of State did his best, he said no more than was necessary; he dressed up MacArthur’s gangsters to make them look like timid missionaries; nor did he forget to dress up Truman so that the naked figure of the President might not embarrass the simple-

minded; as for the tactics of the zealots of slavery, Mr. Acheson poetically described it as the “strategy of liberty”.

In vain did the Americans, who had written to the “Figaro” correspondent, expect an answer as to why and for what the men of the 8th Army perished in Korea. In vain did many people outside America hope that after the disgraceful epic of General MacArthur, his patrons and inspirers would come to their senses. As the old Russian saying has it: the wolf may shed his coat but never his nature. The Washington wolves left quite a bit of their fur on the Manchurian borders: they lost in a few days not only much of the territory they had seized, not only several regiments,—they lost the last remnants of their prestige; they are being scoffed at, not only by British school-boys, but even by honourable Labourites.

Mr. Hoover, the seventy-six year old ex-President lost his temper. Ignoring General Sarnow, he declared publicly: “The truth is disgusting”. This was a clear indication that the wolf was not merely changing his coat; he had already changed it. But his nature did not change MacArthur’s men were still running, unable to pull themselves together, when Mr. Truman was already debating the possibility of having to start another war. In Korea, the soldiers were abandoning their arms, while in Washington the senators were brandishing the sword. Senator Knowland wanted bombs dropped on Chinese territory. Senator Ferguson and others insisted on the immediate use of the atom bomb. They were backed by Stassen, one of the leaders of the Republican Party. Senator Pepper declared that it would be stupid to be too fastidious. Mr. Dewey, Governor of New York

shouted that America was waging a desperate fight and could not afford to be over-superfluous. Finally, Senator Morse jumped up and asked petulantly for the Soviet Union to be atom bombed without delay.

People who have not lost “their reason will ask what’s the matter; why are the American rulers, losing a small war, striving to unleash a big one? It is difficult to answer this question; here, there is no logic, only signs of mental disorder. They can no longer restrain themselves. Some are driven mad by greed, others by arrogance and still others by fear. They see their salvation in war. They know, of course, that plain truth is unattractive, so they have hundreds of arguments for the simpletons. Mr. Acheson, for instance, affirms that in preparing for war, “Americans are fulfilling a Christian duty”, Mr. Truman alleges that his policy, paving the way to disaster, is “based on Lincoln’s behests”. Mr. Hoover suggests building battleships and also praying to God. Senator Ferguson asserts that the “atom bomb will save the Christian world from atheist Communism”. Mr. Dewey vows that a hundred divisions must be equipped at once for the “defence or truth”. Verbose General Sarnow furnished a god explanation as to why wolves bleat. But it is most unlikely that anyone will mistake the atom bomb for a dove of peace, or General MacArthur for a Tolstoyan. They are no longer hiding behind clouds of incense or the Statute of Liberty; the world now knows that they have decided on war.

They have everything they need for war: the signatures of eleven vassals to the Atlantic Pact, and the soundly thrashed MacArthur who is longing to restore his tarnished glory. They have atom bombs,

plague fleas and the bacteria of hundreds of other diseases. They even have a Commander-in-Chief in the person of General Eisenhower who is now on the lookout for a comfortable castle for his headquarters. They have prepared war plans-political, strategic and economic. They already have a “national emergency”. They have a few dozen European supporters who, not of military age, have responsive hearts: M. Moch, Signor de Gasperi, Mr. Van Zeeland. They are provided with everything: bases, uranium, the UNO flag, instructions for grilling “suspects” successfully applied in Korea, three thousand War correspondents and five thousand cameramen, spam for Britain’s Labourites and concentration camps for the five continents. Finally Mr. Sarnow has promised to organise, for the coming war, television programmes so that the destruction of European towns might be served to every American for breakfast, like and coffee and grape-fruit. They have everything for war except soldiers.

There are, of course, many people in America capable of carrying arms. But here we must stop to think of the different meanings of the word “war” in the Old World and the New. Europeans regard war as a terrible calamity: the men in the belligerent countries go to the front; many are killed; military operations often take place on their own territory. But they have a different idea of war in the New World. The Americans send arms and supplies to Europe; the Europeans do the fighting and get killed; as for the American soldiers, they show up at the front just in time to claim the glory of the victors; all this takes place thousands and thousands of miles away from the United States. This conception of war is deeply rooted in the minds of

Americans and, taking this into account, the rulers of America say to Europeans: our dollars, your soldiers. But at this juncture something goes wrong: it proves to be much easier to persuade Attlee or to secure full and free use of the UNO flag than to find soldiers who are willing to die for the decorated truth of Mr Truman.

The American journal, "Reporter", recently published an article under the loud headline: "Will Europe Fight?" The author recognises that this question, expressed aloud, "might be dangerous and tactless". Mistrust towards Europeans, according to the author of the article, is a common feature in the U.S. The cause of this is explained in articles which appeared in "Readers Digest." These articles point out that, together with the United States, fifty countries declared their intention of supporting the war in Korea. The total population of these countries is well over 800 million people. The maximum number of troops which they offered to send to Korea amounts to forty-one thousand... It is absolutely clear that the anti-Communist countries are not prepared to take immediate action against Communist aggression in Asia. Nor will they do so in Europe. According to Senator Malone, the British are concerned only for their colonies and Attlee wants the American Army to do the fighting for them in Korea. The "Washington Star" commented that the British and French had shown the white feather, and added that the Americans must declare outright that neither Great Britain nor any other country has the right to veto any American weapons and the atom bomb, in particular. Walter Winchel said that the French and British, with their dreams of appeasement, are acting as defeatists. The "Chicago Tribune"

complained indignantly: We, Americans, were not niggardly in giving them dollars and what did we get in return. Referring to the dollars allocated to the European countries for armaments, Mr. Hoover described the allocations as sacrifices never before known in human history. Hoover warned the British and French that unless they behave themselves and send troops, the Americans will not give them a single dollar. It is quite possible that these admonitions may help to soothe the hearts of the ill-starred conquerors and angry money-lenders, but speeches and newspaper articles will hardly give birth to soldiers.

The witless rulers of America seem to have forgotten that much has changed in the world since the days when kings collected mercenary soldiers. In those days they usually succeeded in recruiting a few thousand unfortunate wretches; but wars were different then; mercenary fought mercenary; whereas, nowadays, mercenary soldiers are compelled to fight against great peoples. The gentry at the White House would do well to recall the recent past! Hitler also had his allies, but what did they do in the war? They did not fight, they surrendered. Whom did Hitler manage to recruit in Europe? A handful of hired assassins, the French "legion" and the marauders of the "Viking" and "Wallonia" divisions. They were alright at looting, but fight they did not. Is it possible with such rabble to set out to storm one-third of the earth's surface?

But what can be done? ask the American advocates of war. The above-mentioned article in the "Reporter" suggests that the Communist Parties in Western Europe be smashed. American aid, says this article, must be accompanied by constant interference in the internal

affairs of the countries. And if we will not deceive ourselves by banal references to international law, we must admit that interference in the internal affairs of other countries has become a common occurrence, therefore we must not bother ourselves with pangs of conscience. One can be quite certain that the Washington wolves are not now, and will not be, troubled by pangs of conscience for the very simple reason that conscience is not part of their make-up. They would gladly accept the "Reporter's" proposal had it not been for the fact that they just haven't got the soldiers with which to launch a world war, nor have they got the soldiers to smash the Communists in France and Italy.

The "Readers Digest" hacks suggest recruiting soldiers everywhere—in Germany, Japan, Turkey, and Spain. Special trust is reposed by these hacks in the Falangists because, as they say, the Spanish troops are violently anti-Communist and can be relied upon for the German front against Russia. According to the reasoning of the "Readers Digest" gentry, in addition to the Falangists, the Nazis will fight for America, and Western Germany can supply many anti-Communist divisions. Senator Martin says the American must not be a scrupulous about choosing allies. Senator McCarran places his hopes on General Franco. Senator Smith sings the praises of the Turks. Mr. Dewey displayed greater energy: like a shaman he exclaims: away with illusions, peace is now impossible... Turkey possesses the greatest army in Europe, an army that will fight... Tito has thirty divisions and, in my view, said Dewey, he will fight on our side. Franco, he continued, has twenty-two divisions and Franco will light. The Germans and

Japanese will fight if we negotiate with them... we must recruit them, they will fight against their old enemy ... Mr. Dewey gaily adds up the foreign divisions, but he is not quite sure that the Tito soldiers or the soldiers of Franco or Adenauer will actually fight. And so from building castles in Spain, Dewey returns to “bitter truth” and suggests placing under the arms every man and woman in America over 17 years of age.

Truly, they are not squeamish and know no scruples. Nobody can call ruling America a fastidious dame. She would take on all comers: Tito... then, let it be Tito; if janissaries, let it be janissaries. Nazis—with pleasure. The only thing she fusses about is to get hold of soldiers. But the soldiers are nowhere in sight. Adenauer agreed, the Hitlerite generals agreed, but the ordinary German answers: “Have a go, my dear. We’ve had it.”

So far the formation of a German army has led to one thing: even the Americanised French now realise what their benefactors have in store for them. I am not suggesting that, prior to this, the American could count on French soldiers. But now the Americans would do well to give French soldiers a wide berth. In their hunt for divisions, the rulers of America tried to kill not two, but a dozen birds with one stone. And whom did they get? Tito.

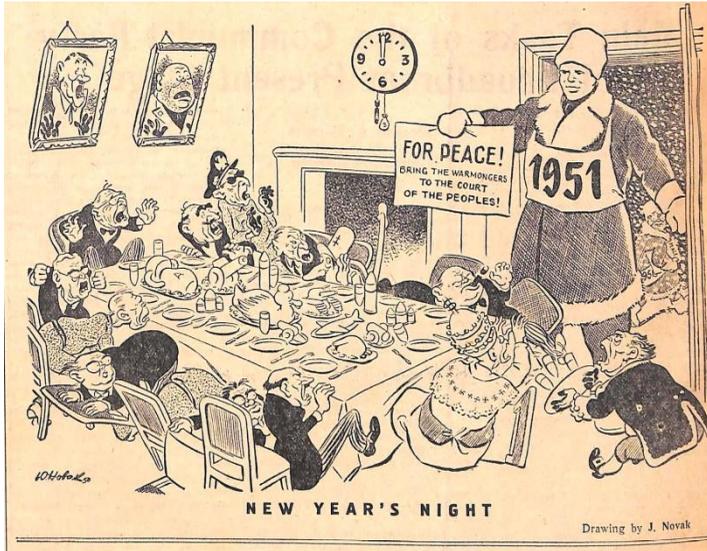
They have no divisions, and no brains. They cannot understand the simplest thing: nobody is going to fight for them. At best they might be able to knock together labour battalions from among their European sheriffs, yesmen and turncoats.

However gullible the average American may be, he is beginning to realise that all is not well in his house, that the decorated truth of Mr. Truman is simply a

barefaced lie, that neither God nor morality has anything to do with it, and that the dividends of the trusts are the only thing that matters. The average American is beginning to understand that MacArthur is alright when it is a matter of shooting down the defenceless, and at razing open towns, but that he is useless as a soldier, that dollars cannot buy either love or divisions, that the world war of which he is continually told by his newspapers will be fatal not only for Europe or Asia but for America itself. The average American possesses both common sense and conscience. One more declaration by Truman, another dozen speeches by Dewey, one more gamble similar to the march on the Manchurian border and the average American will understand that there really are wolves on the banks of the Potomac.

The peace movement is now growing much more rapidly than the feverish preparation for war. This movement is not the monopoly of any Party, one State or a group of States: Fighting for peace, shoulder to shoulder with the Communists, are Socialists, Liberals, and Catholics. Peace is being upheld jointly by the Russians and French, by the Chinese and British, by Italians and Indians. It is my earnest wish that the rulers of America will come to their senses and not fire the first shot which, for them, may prove to be the last shot.

# NEW YEAR'S NIGHT. Drawing by J. Novak



## POLITICAL NOTES

### 1. STRAIT JACKETS NEEDED

As 1950 drew to its close, the most fashionable people in the United States were Senator McCarthy and gangster of the pen, Drew Pearson. These gentlemen, in many respects, are typical of the ruling top circles in America. Both of them made careers out of monstrous slanders, falsehoods and perfidy. At the moment, photos of McCarthy and Pearson are features on the front pages of American and West European newspapers. The point is that the Senator and the corrupt columnist had a brawl in one of Washington's select night clubs, and the newspapers, on the alert for sensation, have already used hundreds of tons of newsprint in describing the minute details of the fisticuffs.

Here, for example, are some of the many versions of the brawl.

**McCarthy:**—I slapped him hard.

**Pearson:**— He kicked me below the belt, but did not knock me down. I was not hurt. **Radio Commentator Fulton Lewis, Jr.** Senator McCarthy punched Mr Pearson, lifted him three feet off the floor and knocked him down.

For what are these gangster politicians famous in addition to their nocturnal adventures?

Just about a year ago, McCarthy delivered a speech in West Virginia which marked the beginning of a special brand of American political gangsterism. He charged the State Department with Communist (!), the notorious

establishment whose Chief, Dean Acheson, is threatened, in Truman's words, with being the "first to go to the gallows" for his hounding of democrats and Communists, in the event of the political regime in the U.S. being democratised.

McCarthy's tirade was featured in almost the entire American press. He had discovered a "gold mine", and thirsting for fame delivered himself of "muck-raking" speeches, one after the other, liberally spiced with anti-Communist fables.

Displaying terrific energy the Senator prosecuted his witch-hunt, smelling out "red dragons" in the State Department. For proof he listed the number of "Communists with Party tickets working under Acheson".

From 57 he jumped to 81, then 100, 205, always a different figure and each time threatening to produce "the list".

His agents travelled the length and breadth of the country. He became head of a "political school" which he described as "McCarthyism". He sent threatening telegrams to the White House.

Pick up the telephone, he said in a telegram to Truman, and ask Acheson how many of those in your administration, regarded as dangerous Communists during the loyalty test, he refused to discharge... If you refuse, the Democratic Party will be regarded as a helpmate of international Communism.

Truman, his voice trembling, said:

Our Government is waging the struggle against Communism with deeds, not with words... We sent for trial and sentenced a large number of people suspected of being Communists.

McCarthy was unable to deny these Truman “services”. Nor did he put his finger on a single Communist in the State Department. All that he did was to make himself a laughing stock.

But behind McCarthy stood influential businessmen, for whom the whipping up of anti-Communist hysteria was a profitable matter. Things took a serious turn when the names of McCarthy’s inspirers became known.

Their number included the former Defence Secretary, Louis Johnson, successor to Forrestal; the notorious pro-fascist, William Bullitt, and finally the big businessman, Alfred Colberg who from Chinese textile imports alone, netted a cool 1½ million dollars a year, Colberg, who wanted war against China, publicly declared that he had supplied McCarthy with his “exposures”.

And McCarthy got his revenge when the Truman policy suffered disgraceful failure in Korea. The Senator shouted for all America to hear: I told you so, I warned everybody that there were Communists in the State Department, they have brought defeat upon America. Losing his reason completely, McCarthy charged Drew Pearson with being an agent of the Cominform—Drew Pearson, the worst enemy of democracy and Socialism! Pearson, asserting his reputation as a pro-fascist and misanthrope, recalled the authoritative opinions expressed about him by the Pope of Rome de Gasperi, Auriol and other enemies of Communist who confirmed that far from being a Communist, he, (Pearson) was a “doughty anti-Communist warrior.” Such was the outcome of the brawl in the night club.

The McCarthy-Pearson brawl is a clear illustration of the decadence and corruption which has gripped the

ruling top circles in the United States, which has whipped up a disgraceful anti-Communist hysteria in this country. Many of the instigators of this hysteria have been so assiduous that, due to nerves or loss of reason, they have got caught in their own trap and are behaving like lunatics.

What, for example, can one say about the animal ferocity which gripped Admiral Standley, in San Diego (California), during the Christmas holidays? True, this Admiral never rose to the Nelson level in naval action, nor did he become a Tallyrand in diplomacy, although for a while he filled the important post of U.S. Ambassador in Moscow. But all of a sudden he sprang into fame by kicking up a row in San Diego. The Admiral went into a rage when he saw the traditional “Bethlehem stars” put up on a number of shops for Christmas decoration.

There are Communists here, roared the horrified Admiral. What! Red stars over the business centre, and in the present state of our relations with Russia!.. Take them down at once!

In the eyes of the scared Admiral, the innocent orange colour takes on a red hue. His tortured thinking saw a “Communist conspiracy” in the stars put up by the respected city fathers.

Things are bad indeed with the senators and admirals. Like Forrestal, many of them are ready to jump from a skyscraper window in their pyjamas. But it would seem that it’s not only McCarthy and Standley who in the new year will seek to outstrip Forrestal’s fame.

What will be next!

## 2. WITHOUT COMMENTARY

As is known, a law calling for the registration of all Communists has been enacted in the United States. But let's take a look at those who reported for registration.

In the city of Los Angeles, only one aged man bothered to appear. This aged citizen declared that, as far as he could remember, he had joined the Communist Party in... 1897. An old woman, who also turned up, declared that she was not sure whether or not she had advocated at least one of the ideas now forbidden by the numerous ordinances.

Not long ago, a United Press correspondent in Carmel (California) reported in a despatch: The city fathers found themselves up against a difficult problem. There was only one man in the town who called himself a Communist. What made matters more complicated was the fact that this particular individual, the only registered "Communist" on the Monterey peninsula, actually declared that he was a Communist, but that he did not believe in the use of violence to overthrow the Government. That would be stupid and unnecessary. The Government, he said, would fall by itself, because it is rotten through... I am not a member of any Communist organisation, said this man; they would not accept me as a member.

According to reports from Washington, the F.B.I. is seriously worried about these three registered individuals. It is rumoured that the Senate is about to set up a special sub-committee to investigate them and that for this purpose an extra appropriation of some 300,000 dollars will find its way to the F.B.I.

### 3. ANOTHER ATTLEE-BEVIN MISCALCULATION

Driven to desperation by the, failure of repeated military offensives against the Malayan National Liberation Army, the “Socialist” Government in Britain has resorted to a last refuge.

Judging, it would seem, from their own experience, the Attlees and Bevins believe that with thirty pieces of silver it is possible to buy everybody and everything. The Attlee Government has offered a “reward” of £7,000 for the capture, dead or alive, of the General Secretary of the Malayan Communist Party. The sum of £6,000 is offered for the head of a member of the Political Bureau of the Party: £5,000 for a member of the Central Executive Committee; £350 for the leader of a Party group, while £200 will be paid to anyone bringing in the head of a rank-and-file member of the Party,

For decades, Malaya has figured as one of the richest sources of super-profits for the City of London. For the last three years (1947-49 inclusive), the City’s dollar earnings from Malayan tin and rubber alone, have exceeded the total annual value of British manufactured exports.

During the war, when the members of the Malayan People’s Resistance Movement were shedding their blood against the Japanese invaders, the Churchills, Bevins and Attlees described them as “brave heroes”, and solemnly promised them complete national independence.

But the rulers of Britain soon “forgot” their solemn wartime assurances. Organised by the Malayan Communist Party, the People’s Liberation Army is

waging successful armed struggle against British imperialism for freedom and independence. And so, in the jargon of the police “Socialists”, yesterday’s heroes of the anti-Japanese resistance movement are transformed overnight into “bandits”.

Against the national liberation movement in Malaya, the Attlee-Bevin Government despatched a total of 130,000 troops. In the course of the past two years, these forces have conducted offensive after offensive against the “bandits”—all of them fruitless. The military operations are accompanied by monstrous atrocities of which the civilian population is the victim. Like Hitler’s gestapo, the Attlee-Bevin punitive forces are laying waste to villages and slaughtering Malayan men, women and children.

Referring to the system of gestapo concentration camps into which the British have herded thousands of civilians, including entire families, Mr. Driberg, Labour M. P. recently declared that they are “a disgrace to the Labour Government”. Driber likened the British camps to the notorious Makronisos Camp of the Greek monarcho-fascists.

Such is the real face of Labour imperialism! And when the tanks, airplanes and 130,000 troops, the burning of villages, and slaughtering of civilians, the prisons and concentration camps,—when these fail to subdue the country. Attlee dangles his pound notes. Having sold out body a soul to the moneybags of the City and Wall Street, the Attlees and Bevins think that they will find people in their own base image in Malaya.

In vain! The liberation fighters in Malaya are men cast in a different mould. Unlike the “Socialist” ministers in Britain, honour conscience and liberty, and

the trust and confidence of their people, are dearer to them than pound notes. The Malayan patriots are winning, despite the terror of the British imperialists.

**Jan MAREK**

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**