

*Workers of all lands, unite!*

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

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## **ECONOMIC SUCCESSES IN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES**

The prosperous economic development of the Soviet Union, the steady improvement in the material welfare of its population, and the successes achieved by the People's Democracies laying the basis of Socialism, testify to the triumph of the Socialist system of economy.

Last year the People's Democracies fulfilled or topped their economic plans. Poland fulfilled its Three-Year Plan two months ahead of schedule and is now working on the fulfilment of a Six-Year Plan. Working people in Hungary completed the Three-Year Plan seven and a half months ahead of schedule and have now launched a new Five-Year Plan. Both Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria exceeded their schedules for the first twelve months of their Five Year Plans; Rumania its Twelve-Months Plan and Albania the first year of its Two-Year Plan. In all these countries industrial production is far ahead of pre-war level: In Poland it rose by 75 per cent; in Hungary, 40 per cent; in Bulgaria, two-fold and in Czechoslovakia by 40 per cent (per head of the population). The People's Democracies have, in the main, despite two years drought, achieved or will soon achieve their pre-war level of agricultural production and some have even exceeded it. Poland, for instance, has topped her pre-war agricultural production (per head of the population) by 12 per cent.

Overfulfilment of plans in the People's Democracies was accompanied by increases accumulations in Socialist industry in excess of the Plans, by increased State revenues and by a great development of internal and foreign trade—especially with the Soviet Union and with each other—as well as by a further strengthening of the currency.

Plans in all the People's Democracies give special attention to

the increased tempo of development of heavy industry, mainly in engineering, for equipping industry, transport and agriculture with new technical equipment, for the reconstruction of agriculture along Socialist lines; for the building of Socialism, and for the strengthening of the defensive capacity of these countries, and for their transformation—since all, except Czechoslovakia, were principally agrarian or agrarian-industrial—into industrialised countries. Within a short time scores of factories have been built, several new branches of industry developed, including the production of tractors in Rumania, electric motors and agricultural machinery in Bulgaria and ball-bearings in Czechoslovakia.

The successful realisation of the economic plans and the upsurge of industrial production in the People's Democracies arise from the extension of Socialist emulation, shock-work, workers' labour-saving inventions and from the rising Socialist consciousness of the working people who now work for themselves, their people and their State. Last year was decisive in this respect. Development of Socialist emulation was assisted in no small measure by the patriotic strivings of the working people to frustrate the plans of the imperialist fomenters of war, to enhance the defensive capacity and the might, of these countries and thus strengthen the camp of peace and democracy. Socialist emulation in some People's Democracies embraced over 50 per cent of the workers last year. On this basis labour productivity in industry increased in all the People's Democracies (in Bulgaria, 11 per cent and in Rumania, 18 per cent compared with 1948) which constituted an important basis for the further stepping up of production.

Fulfilment of the economic plans has led to the strengthening and expansion of the Socialist sector of the economy. At present almost the whole of industry is in hands of the State of the working people. State and co-operative

networks in the wholesale—and in some countries also in the retail trade—have increased considerably.

In Poland, for instance, sixty per cent of the retail trade, and in Czechoslovakia more than two-thirds of the retail trade is handled by State and co-operative shops. There are now many more buying and selling societies in the villages. In towns many small producers-handicraftsmen have organised societies or have found work in Socialist industry.

Of particular significance are the serious changes taking place in agricultural production. During last year, scores of new state farms which were set up are destined to play an important part in the organisation of large-scale Socialist production in the countryside. They are improving considerably the food supplies in the towns, providing peasants with selected seeds and pedigree livestock. Hundreds of State machine and tractor stations have been organised to cultivate the land of the producer co-operatives, uniting the poor and middle peasants who wish to work collectively, to organise new, Socialist production in the countryside, have been set up.

Producer co-operatives are growing and developing. Their crops last year were considerably higher than those of the individual farms. In Bulgaria, for instance, crops of the more important cultures on co-operative farms were from 10 to 12 per cent higher than those of individual farms.

The Communist parties in the People's Democracies are pursuing a policy of consolidating the union of the working class and the small and middle peasants, closely bound with that of restricting and ousting the kulaks. This, for example, is expressed in the establishment of a favourable balance for the working peasantry regarding prices of agricultural and industrial goods; in planning State deliveries in a manner favourable to the small and middle peasants at the expense of the kulaks, enabling the former to dispose of their surplus products on the free market; in pursuing a taxation policy

which is favourable to the small and middle peasants and aims at restricting and dislodging the kulaks. The working people's Government gives all-round assistance to the toiling peasantry, but displays special concern for the producer co-operatives which are paving the way to higher labour productivity in agriculture, to a better life in the countryside and Socialism.

Last year provided abundant evidence showing that development of Socialist production leads to a continuous improvement in the standard of living of the working people in the People's Democracies where, not only has unemployment been completely eliminated but where the number employed in industry is constantly rising. Wages have risen everywhere without exception. In Czechoslovakia and Hungary considerable price cuts have been effected. In Poland real wages have risen 26 per cent compared with pre-war. In nearly all the People's Democracies rationing has been practically abolished and unrationed trade extended. There has been a considerable increase in consumption by working people and in social insurance; greater care is now taken of their health and leisure; school education has improved and also the housing conditions of the working people.

The results are very different in Yugoslavia, which, country has been sold into bondage by the Tito clique to the American and British imperialists. In that country, whose economy the Titoites have completely disorganised, the more important mines and factories are being placed under the control of American monopolies; in industry and State finances disorganisation reigns; in the countryside—kulak domination. Rationing for the working people has in fact been nullified because of lack of goods in the shops; the free markets are run by kulaks and speculators, prices are soaring, real wages declining and the living standards of the working people are sharply deteriorating.

The big successes in the People's Democracies, achieved

in the struggle to overcome the difficulties caused by the resistance of the remnants of the smashed classes and agents of Anglo-American imperialism, were made possible, first of all, because these countries have widely utilised the experience of the Soviet Union in the building of their economy, because they are receiving continuous economic, political and moral support from the mighty Soviet Socialist country, which holds high the banner of building Communism.

All these achievements were also made possible because the struggle of the working people in the People's Democracies is headed by the Communist Parties which guided by the Marxist-Leninist teaching, are resolutely rendering harmless the Titoite and other agents of Anglo-American imperialism and maintaining constant contact with the masses.

Millions of people in the West have long ago realised that the notorious "Marshall Plan" advertised by Right-Wing Socialists and other servants of U.S. imperialism as a miraculous remedy for curing the ills of European economy is a fraud and swindle. Behind American credits to Marshallised countries flowed American goods, the Atlantic pact, a frantic armaments drive, currency" devaluation, and the seizure of markets and vital economic positions in these countries by U.S. monopolies. Not recovery, but deterioration and economic ruin; enslavement of European capitalist countries by American capitalism; their transformation into military bases—this is what the "Marshall Plan" brought to Europe in a combination of methods of flagrant pressure with that of bribing political leaders, the press and entire governments.

What a vast difference between this and the mutual economic assistance existing between the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies, plans which really do promote the steady economic and cultural progress of those countries. The same may be said of the disinterested and really fraternal assistance rendered recently by the U.S.S.R. to the Chinese

People's Republic in the form of a big long-term credit granted on the most favourable terms, as well as other points on the basis of the Treaty of Friendship, Alliance and Mutual Assistance and the Agreements concluded between the two countries, points which will play an important role in the rehabilitation and development of Chinese economy.

The "Marshall Plan" and the Atlantic Pact, as is now clearly evident, did not solve the problem of markets for U.S. production which was inflated during the two world wars. On the contrary, American capitalism is sinking more and more into a profound economic crisis and, is dragging in its wake all European capitalist countries.

During last year prices of primary necessities rose considerably in Marshallised countries. In those countries—and in the U.S.—expenditure on armaments rose enormously, unemployment is steadily growing, the tax burden borne by the working people has increased, while expenditure on social insurance, health services and education have decreased and the value of real wages has deteriorated.

A comparison of the economic successes achieved by the People's Democracies in a very short period of their history with the extremely difficult position of the working people in the capitalist countries constitutes a terrible indictment of American imperialism and of the whole decaying capitalist system. It is a call rallying the working people the world over for the struggle for peace, against the imperialist criminals, for the fight for Socialism.

## **ON THE EVE OF ELECTIONS TO THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE U.S.S.R.**

On Sunday, March 12, elections to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. will be held in the Soviet Union.

District election commissions have completed the registration of candidates nominated by working people to the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of Nationalities of the Supreme Soviet. One thousand three hundred and one candidates of the Stalin bloc of Communists and non-party members have been registered.

In the towns and villages, meetings of candidates and constituents are being held.

At these meetings the electorate become closer acquainted with their nominees to the highest organ of authority and with their social-political and labour record.

On March 1, electors in the Sverdlov election district (city of Sverdlov) met Comrade N. M. Shvernik, candidate to the Soviet of Nationalities. In Tula, electors met Comrade M. F. Shkiryatov, candidate to the Soviet of Nationalities.

The electorate of the Lenin election district in Moscow met their candidate—S. I. Vavilov, outstanding scientist and President of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.

Many meetings between electors and candidates to the Supreme Soviet were held in Moscow, Kharkov, Tbilisi, Orel, Novosibirsk, Leningrad and many other towns. Socialist emulation in honour of elections to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. is developing with fresh vigour at the mills and factories and on the collective and state farms.

## **AWARDING STALIN PRIZES FOR 1949 IN U.S.S.R.**

On March 4, the Soviet press published, the decision of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. on “Awarding Stalin Prizes for Outstanding Works in the Sphere of Science and Invention for 1949”. Stalin prizes have been awarded for outstanding work in various spheres of science and also for outstanding inventions and radical improvements in methods of production. The glorious army of Stalin prize-winners has been supplemented by a new big detachment of 1,285 workers in science and technique and of innovators in production, many of whom represent various nationalities, women and youth in the Soviet Union.

On March 8, the decision of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. on “Awarding Stalin Prizes for Outstanding Works in the Sphere of Literature and Art for 1949” was published. Stalin prizes have been awarded to workers in the realm of art and literature of the U.S.S.R. for outstanding works in prose, poetry, dramaturgy, literary criticism and art study, feature films and documentaries, music, painting, sculpture, architecture, theatrical art (drama, opera and ballet).

## **SIXTIETH BIRTHDAY OF COMRADE V. M. MOLOTOV**

March 9, 1950 marked the 60th birthday of Comrade Viacheslav Mikhailovich Molotov, member of the Politburo of the Central Committee of the C.P.S.U. (B), Deputy Chairman, Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.

In this connection the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) and the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. addressed the following message of greetings to Comrade V. M. Molotov:

“The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) and the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. warmly greet you, a faithful companion-in-arms of Lenin and Stalin, on the occasion of your sixtieth birthday.

“The Soviet people highly appreciate your services to the Fatherland as one of the outstanding organisers and builders of the Communist Party and the Soviet State. You have devoted the whole of your conscious life to the struggle for the cause of the working class, for the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, for the building of a Socialist society in the U.S.S.R.

“In all posts of Party and State work you, a steadfast follower of our great teachers Lenin and Stalin, have carried out with honour the tasks of consolidating unity in the ranks of our glorious Bolshevik Party, of directing Socialist economy and realising the Lenin-Stalin foreign policy of the Soviet State, fighting resolutely against the foreign and internal enemies of the land of Socialism.

“During the difficult years of the Patriotic War you successfully served the great aim of winning victory over the enemy, and today, with the Bolshevik energy so characteristic of you, you are devoting your entire strength and knowledge to

the cause of the struggle for peace and the security of peoples throughout the world.

“We wish you, our friend and comrade, our dear Viacheslav Mikhailovich, many years of good health and fruitful work for the continued prospering of our great Fatherland, for the complete triumph of Communism”.

\*

On the occasion of V. M. Molotov’s 60th birthday and taking into consideration his outstanding services to the Communist Party and the Soviet people, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S. R. has decorated Comrade V. M. Molotov with the Order of Lenin.

## **CAMP OF PEACE SUPPORTERS IS GROWING**

### **DELEGATION OF PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF WORLD PEACE CONGRESS ARRIVES IN THE U.S.S.R.**

On March 5, a delegation of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress arrived in Moscow to submit the Committee's message to the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R.

Among the delegation are members of the Permanent Committee and prominent personalities in France, Italy, Britain and the U.S. They include Yves Farge, D'Astier de la Vigerie, Laurent Casanova, Lucien Jayat, Mamadou Konate, Antoine Darlan, (France), Sandro Pertini, Vitano Renato, Emilio Lussu, Pietro Amadeo (Italy), John Platts-Mills (Britain), Johannes Steele, Rockwell Kent (U.S.) and J. Endicott (Canada).

The delegation was warmly welcomed at the airfield by a group of deputies of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., representatives of the Soviet Peace Committee, the Slav Committee of the U.S.S.R., the Soviet Women's Anti-Fascist Committee and other organisations, stakhanovites from Moscow factories, outstanding Soviet writers and scientists.

\*

On March 8, the delegation of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress was received by I. A. Parfenov, Chairman of the Soviet of the Union, and V. V. Kuznetsov, Chairman of the Soviet of Nationalities.

## **PEOPLE'S MASSES IN POLAND AGAINST WARMONGERS**

On March 7, during a session of the Polish Seim, a delegation from the Polish Peace Committee arrived at the Seim, and addressed a suggestion to all deputies to discuss the message of the Permanent Peace Committee.

The Seim immediately began to discuss the message. In their speeches, representatives of all political parties unanimously expressed themselves in favour of endorsing the message. The message was unanimously accepted.

While the message was being discussed, thousands of factory and office workers streamed towards the Seim from all over Warsaw.

After the meeting the demonstrators marched through the streets of Warsaw. Passing the U.S. Embassy and the neighbouring Yugoslav Embassy demonstrators shouted the slogans: "Down with the Anglo-American warmongers and their Yugoslav allies! Down with the hangman Tito!"

## **NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA DISCUSSES PROPOSALS OF THE PERMANENT PEACE COMMITTEE**

The movement for the maintenance of peace has attained a tremendous scale among working people in Czechoslovakia during the last few weeks. Over five thousand resolutions were adopted at numerous meetings; resolutions which were directed against the imperialist instigators of war, and which called upon the National Assembly to discuss the proposals of the Permanent Committee of the World Congress for Peace.

Responding to the call of millions of working people, the

National Assembly of Czechoslovakia unanimously carried a resolution sharply condemning the criminal activities of the instigators of war—the American and British imperialists, and their associates—the Vatican, the Right-Wing Socialists and the fascist Tito clique. The resolution contained concrete demands which should be effected by UNO. The people of Czechoslovakia, read the resolution, are taking their stand in the vanguard of the fighters for peace and solemnly declare they will never tire in the struggle.

## **YOUTH CONFERENCE IN WESTERN GERMANY**

The first conference of the Free German youth (F.G.Y.) was held in Essen (Ruhr) in Western Germany. It was attended by 750 delegations from factories, 150 visiting delegations and by Max Reimann, honorary member.

The Conference demanded the establishment of a unified state under the leadership of the All-German Democratic Government in Berlin; the signing of a just peace treaty with Germany and the withdrawal of all occupation forces, a struggle against war propaganda, against racial and national discrimination and the annulment of the Ruhr statute.

## MEETING IN BUCHAREST ON MARCH 8, INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY



Meeting in Bucharest on March 8, International Women's Day. Over 250,000 people were present at the gathering which was opened by Comrade Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej, General Secretary, Rumanian Workers' Party, and addressed by Comrade Anna Pauker, Secretary, Central Committee, Rumanian Workers' Party.

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## STRIKE MOVEMENT IN FRANCE

Workers in France are now striking to win a wage increase of 3,000 francs a month for all categories of workers. More than 700,000 working people, including 500,000 ironworkers and metal-workers, have struck work. At the majority of the engineering plants in the Paris region workers have gone on strike. At sixty factories the strike has ended in victory for the workers.

Strikes of building workers have begun, including workers on 170 construction sites in the Paris region and those engaged in building France's largest dam in Donzere-Mondragon (Vaucluse department). The personnel of the Paris subway and bus depots also stopped work. Workers in the rubber industry (Michelin and Bergougnan factories in Clermont-Ferrand) and in the chemical industry (Rhone-Poulenc and Saint-Gobain plants in Lyon) are also on strike. On the night of March 8, workers of electric-power stations and gas works went on strike in response to the call from all trade union organisations. And this notwithstanding martial law, unlawfully declared at these enterprises by the Government, and despite the fact that the police and "Republican security detachments" have occupied the central electric power stations.

The movement is gradually embracing all factories of working people, particularly, textile workers, office workers, insurance workers, and aircraft personnel.

A ballot is now under way among the miners of the Nord and Pas-de-Calais departments, in which a large majority of the workers are expressing themselves in favour of strike action.

The movement of solidarity with the striking workers is developing throughout France.

## **MONSTROUS LAWS OF THE FRENCH GOVERNMENT**

All the Marshallised parties in France voted for the fascist bill providing for imprisonment for democrats fighting against the preparation of aggression and opposing the transportation of munitions. These same parties are preparing to pass another bill aimed at strangling the democratic press.

The Communist deputies persistently fought the Government's fascist bills. Crudely violating procedure, Herriot, Chairman of the National Assembly, prevented the Communist deputies from speaking and summoned 200 policemen into the Chamber to remove Gerard Duprat, and temporarily deprived Arthur Musmeaux, another Communist deputy, of his Parliamentary rights.

The struggle waged by the Communist deputies in the National Assembly helped the working people and all Republicans to realise the danger arising from the passing of the foul bill. The protest movement is spreading throughout the country. Resolutions expressing the indignation of the working people at the passing of these draconic measures are pouring in to the National Assembly from all over France. In Paris and throughout the country numerous protest meetings and rallies are taking place.

## **ELECTION MEETINGS IN LOCAL PARTY ORGANISATIONS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

Throughout the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia local organisations are holding Party election meetings. The election of new Party Committees is preceded by a discussion of the work of the local organisations with regard to the carrying out of the decisions of the Ninth Party Congress. Meetings are taking place in an atmosphere of all-round criticism and self-criticism. During this election campaign many factory organisations have achieved better work at the enterprises, an increase in the number of shock-workers and steady over-fulfilment of production quotas.

Party organisations in the countryside are discussing chiefly how Party members and probationer members carry out their duties regarding the fulfilment of production quotas and state deliveries and in the organising and development of the unified producer co-operatives.

## **MOVEMENT FOR UNITY, INDEPENDENCE AND PEACE IN WESTERN GERMANY. Max Reiman, Chairman, Communist Party of Germany**

Characterising the policy of the U.S. imperialists in relation to Western Germany, Comrade Suslov in his report to the last Meeting of the Information Bureau of Communist Parties pointed out that the imperialists were striving to use Western Germany as a bridgehead and her population as cannon fodder to realise their aggressive plans. This characterisation was fully confirmed by Adenauer's interview with a correspondent of the U.S. newspaper "Plain Dealer". Adenauer officially stated his readiness to re-militarise Western Germany. The demand to re-militarise Western Germany corresponds also to the desires of the German monopolies reviving under U.S. protection.

The question of the utilisation of the manpower of Western Germany in the war being prepared by U.S. imperialists against the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies has been raised not only by U. S. military men and politicians. As long ago as Spring, 1949 the information bulletin of the Christian Democratic Union and the newspaper "Rheinischer Merkur"—organ of the same Party, Adenauer's Party—openly referred to it.

The political forces rallying round Adenauer constitute a bloc of the forces of heavy industry, large landowners and militarism. With the formation of the Western-German separate State and of the Government these imperialist forces once again obtained power in Western Germany, true, under the control of "High Commissioners" and only within the

limits of occupation status. Maintaining the occupation, the U.S. imperialists believe it is sufficiently powerful to ensure that German imperialists remain the ever obedient executors of the will of Wall Street magnates, and that these German imperialists will give up any interests of their own which run counter to those of the U.S. imperialists. However, the statement by the Western-German Minister Dehler, shows that the German imperialists are already beginning to state their imperialist claims.

The formation of the Adenauer puppet and government in Western Germany encouraged the German militarists. The old caste of professional officers is once again rallying, under the leadership of the Hitler General Manteuffel, in the so-called "fraternities" directly linked with the Adenauer Government. It has become known that the points made in a number of Adenauer's interviews and some of his statements were drawn up not by Adenauer himself but by representatives of the organisation of former regular officers which exists under the Bonn Government.

## **Against Militarist Plans**

However, Adenauer and his German and foreign masters seeking the speediest re-militarisation of Germany, have soon seen for themselves that the people of Western Germany have no intention whatever sacrificing their lives for the interests of U.S. and German imperialists.

This is evident from the protest movement which has spread in Western Germany against Adenauer's militarist plans. Popular indignation has been expressed in resolutions passed by youth and women's organisations, by factory groups, trade union meetings, parents' meetings, and so on. This protest of the broad masses of the people against the re-

militarisation of Western Germany forced a number of bourgeois newspapers sharply to criticise Adenauer's policy. The popular movement of protest also forced Adenauer to include in the agenda of "Parliament" the proposal of the Communist Party of Germany against re-militarisation, and to disavow, in a hypocritical statement, his own interview concerning re-militarisation. But if Adenauer thought that in this way he would be able to quieten the people who were indignant with his treacherous plans and then secretly to operate them, he soon discovered his mistake.

Due to explanatory work, carried out by the Communist Party of Germany, the population in Western Germany has become more vigilant and now watches with mistrust the policy of the U.S. and German imperialists and of their Western-German puppet Government. How impressive in Western Germany are the forces anxious to preserve peace is demonstrated even by the questionnaire issued by a bourgeois public opinion institute. According to this institute, 74.6 per cent of all questioned expressed themselves resolutely against re-militarisation and only 6.9 per cent supported it.

The Adenauer Government has quickly and thoroughly discredited itself among the masses. Representatives of the imperialist occupation powers—"High Commissioners"—have more than once stressed that the separate Western-German State has no sovereign rights; that the Adenauer Government could govern only within the limits indicated by the Anglo-American imperialists. This means that the Adenauer Government is only a docile puppet of the occupiers. All the measures taken by the Adenauer Government are aimed at placing the burden of the Hitler war and also of Anglo-American colonial policy in Germany and of the preparations for a new war, completely on the shoulders of the working people.

The disastrous results of the "Marshall Plan" are being

shown more and more clearly in the economy of Western Germany. The number of unemployed exceeds 2 million and, as a result, over 10 per cent of factory and office workers in Western Germany have lost their jobs. The growth of unemployment has recently assumed catastrophic proportions. Officials of the U.S. High Commission cynically declare that the number of unemployed will mount to 3,400,000 in the near future. German and foreign monopolists regard growing unemployment as a means of lowering workers' wages. They want to force down the living standards of the German people to the level of the colonial people.

The Communist Party of Germany shows to the working people the way to combat unemployment. It insists that the law on the nationalisation of coal mines, passed in the North Rhine-Westphalia Laender should be put into effect. As is known, the operation of this law was prohibited by the British occupation authorities. The Communist Party of Germany shows that there would be enough work in Western Germany if peaceful production and inter-German trade and export could be freely developed without the restrictions imposed by the imperialist occupation powers.

Wailer Ulbricht, Deputy Prime Minister of the German Democratic Republic, recently declared that the Government of the German Democratic Republic was ready to include Western Germany in the operation of the trade agreements which would be signed with the Chinese People's Republic. This statement was joyfully welcomed by the population of Western Germany, which, more and more, sees for itself that the German Democratic Republic defends the interests of all the German people.

There is no doubt that the imperialist masters of Western Germany want to take advantage of growing unemployment also for the purpose of realising their plans of preparing a new war. Youth constitutes a considerable section of the

unemployed. By dooming the young people to unemployment and depriving them of the means of existence, the imperialists intend to force the German youth to look for a living in the army. Plans to form an “Organisation to assist the Youth” and to introduce “voluntary” labour conscription constitute the beginning of the process of educating the youth in Western Germany along military lines. As is known, during the Hitler rule the re-militarisation of Germany also began with labour conscription.

The policy of the reactionary Adenauer Government is encountering growing resistance from the mass of the people. The 50 per cent increase in petrol prices caused indignation among the population. A wave of protest spread through all big towns in Western Germany, as a result of which “Parliament” had partially to abolish the Government measures.

The economic policy pursued by Adenauer in Western Germany has resulted in a considerable increase in prices and a reduction in the real wages of workers alongside an intensification of labour. Due to the activities of the Communists in the “factories and in the trade unions this policy of forcing down the living standards of the working people to the level of the colonial workers is one which encounters ever greater resistance from workers, above all, from miners, dockers and, in some areas, from metal workers also.

In view of the intensified struggle of workers for better living standards the Anglo-American French High Commission plans to include the Schumacher followers in the Government. The Anglo-American powers and their Bonn puppets fear that unless this is done they will be unable to check the growing discontent of the working people. The Christian Democratic Union, Adenauer’s Party, has already reached agreement with the Right-Wing Social Democratic leaders on the main questions in dispute—those of regulating property relations in the mining industry and of preventing the working people from

participation in the running of the enterprises.

It should be noted that the entry of Schumacher's followers into the Government cannot change this situation. Carrying out a policy of pseudo-opposition in Bonn, the Schumacher supporters are falling over themselves to hold back the masses from militant action. This was vividly demonstrated during the struggle of the Ruhr miners and dockers for higher wages. The attitude of the Schumacher followers is dictated by their hatred of the Soviet Union, of the People's Democracies, of the German Democratic Republic and of the Communist movement in Western Germany. The Adenauer Government enjoys the full support of the Schumacher supporters on all issues of struggle against the forces of peace and against the movement for a united democratic republic throughout Germany.

### **Unity of Action Grows Stronger**

Despite the fierce resistance of Schumacher's supporters the unity in action between Social Democrats and Communists is being cemented in factories, trade unions and on the streets in the towns. This unity found expression in the protest strike of 25,000 metal workers against the Petersberg Agreement (the Ruhr Statute); in the strike of tram workers in Vesta (North Ruhr), against the appointment of a former high-ranking Hitlerite to the post of manager and in the strike and protest demonstration of 40,000 working people in Bielefeld against a ridiculously mild sentence passed on one of the Gestapo leaders in that town. Untied actions are also being operated by Ruhr miners who send joint delegations to negotiate for wage increases.

First steps have already been made in Western Germany to form a National Front of Democratic Germany. This is testified

by meetings and protest resolutions passed by workers against the prosecution—by the British authorities—of those who oppose the dismantling of factories. The struggle to preserve peace is linked indissolubly in Western Germany with the struggle to secure social rights for the mass of the people and for the unity and independence of Germany. Only a united democratic republic can ensure peace and social rights for the German people.

By fighting for peace and a united German democratic republic the population of Western Germany joins alongside other peoples, in the active struggle for peace

This is evident from the formation of peace committees in many towns and at large-scale enterprises.

The West-German Peace Committee plans to hold regional congresses in defence of peace in all Laends in Western Germany in April 1950. International Women's Day celebration committees and a central preparatory committee for an All-German youth conference to be held in Berlin at the end of May were set up in Western Germany. Dockers of Duisburg-Ruhrort demonstrated their desire to join the international peace movement by passing a resolution at their annual general meeting which says:

“We German dockers, consider it our duty to declare our solidarity with our comrades abroad. We cannot betray our comrades and we must join this front and make our contribution to the cause of struggle against the imperialist plans for a new war. Upon us, German workers, rests the task of rectifying many things”.

The Communist of Germany heads the struggle in Western Germany for peace and for a united democratic German republic. It resolutely opposes the anti-Soviet slander circulated by Schumacher followers, and declares to the population of Western Germany that Western Germany can preserve peace and uphold its national and social interests only by establishing

friendly relations with other peoples, by ending its imperialist past and by joining the camp of peace headed by the Soviet Union.

## **EXPOSURE OF SPIES. Friedl Furenberg, General Secretary, Central Committee, Communist Party, Austria**

The year 1949 clearly revealed that for years past, Tito and his clique had been traitors who seized the leadership of the Communist Party of Yugoslavia for the purpose of carrying out the plans of their imperialist masters. The trials of Rajk and Kostov and of their accomplices provided documentary proof of the fact that they had been the spies of the imperialist intelligence services for many years. The year 1949 brought irrefutable exposure of the Tito gang. And they were exposed not only by witnesses, documents and accomplices, but by their own policy.

The new American Ambassador to Belgrade, Allan, is making one statement after another to the effect that the fascist Tito can rely on U.S. aid. What is more, he pretends that he takes Tito's word for it that present-day Yugoslavia is a Communist State. American imperialism thus confirms the "Communist" allegiance of its dirty accomplice. There is nothing original in this, for every police chief does the same in relation to his spies. As we see, the representatives of the criminal world are lacking in imagination.

And so, the American imperialists, call the fascist Tito clique Communists. This is being done because Communists, throughout the world, and the Yugoslav working people, have branded the fascist Tito-Rankovic gang. But even though the American imperialists call the Tитоites Communists, they are prepared to furnish them not only with dollars and loans but also with arms. This reveals their transparent demagogy. They furnished Chiang Kai-shek with dollars and arms, so why not Tito? It is simply a question of the same bankers and suppliers of arms, of the same dollars and of the same arms, a matter of

the same receivers. Tito is just as much a traitor to his country as Chiang Kai-shek. They do not differ in principle, in their policy, in their bloody terror. The only difference is that the Chinese fascist is no longer in Nanking but on Formosa (not for long), while the Yugoslav fascist is still in Belgrade.

After the liberation of Yugoslavia by the Soviet Union, when the peoples of Yugoslavia clearly expressed their desire to establish a People's Democracy in their country, the Anglo-American parties in Austria—the People's Party and Socialist Party leadership—started an unbridled campaign against our neighbour, Yugoslavia. But the past year has seen a complete turnabout. This is perfectly understandable. The People's Party, Right-Wing Socialists and Tito are linked together by the same chain and go by the rule: my master's friend is my friend. True, the Austrian Right-Wing Socialists and People's Party changed their position gradually so as not to alarm their supporters too much.

Their first step was to stop their attacks against the Tito regime in Yugoslavia. Then they started talking about the "neighbours" with whom it was necessary to establish friendly relations. Later, under the guidance of the Americans, they entered into secret talks with them and today the press of those two American parties is only too happy to report that the Americans are supplying Yugoslavia with arms.

As for the honest Austrian workers, they see that this friendship is not accidental, and that the friends of their enemies are also their enemies. They see this for themselves for the agents sent into Austria by the fascist Tito regime are bitter enemies of Communism and have the undivided support of Austrian reaction.

Tito bandits use two channels to carry on their dirty work in Austria and to recruit agents for the U.S. imperialists. The first is the so-called Yugoslav Embassy, which, in effect, is a centre for hardened spies. The Yugoslav envoy in Austria

organises “social gatherings” and “private parties” in Vienna for the purpose of collecting information and enrolling agents. However, his attempts to get false reports into the press and to get his hirelings into the Communist Party of Austria have failed.

The second channel lies through Carinthia. Close co-operation between British agents and the Yugoslav secret service flourishes on the border. British agents have Yugoslav certificates and vice-versa. They travel freely to and fro across the border.

Tito bandits seek to utilise the Slovene people, in Carinthia for their purposes. In this respect they have completely discarded their mask and are now joining forces with rabid nationalists from the People’s Party with the aim of waging struggle against the Communists. They have no concern for the national interests of the Slovenes in Carinthia. The Titoites merely carry out the orders of their American masters to weaken the Communist movement. Actually, they have achieved the opposite. Honest Slovenes, in ever greater numbers are abandoning them in disgust.

On the borders of Carinthia one can see, along with daily co-operation between the British secret service, Tito agents and Austrian reaction, American arms flowing into Yugoslavia.

The Tito bandits conceal from the people in the border regions the fact of their brutal persecution of genuine Communists in Yugoslavia.

Exposure of the Yugoslav traitors and spies was a big victory for the international working class and a heavy blow at the camp of imperialism. The imperialists, of course, still continue to use their accomplices and, with their help, put obstacles in the way of the working-class movement.

They spread all kinds of lies in their press and over the radio about some kind of “Tito movement”. But the more they talk the clearer it becomes that this “movement” is but a

network of American espionage, made up of all kinds of criminals. The international working class and the Communists now realise that these agents and spies can cause much harm. They have redoubled their vigilance and are exposing these criminals one after the other.

The decisions of the Information Bureau of Communist Parties have been of inestimable help in exposing the Tito spies. That is why our enemies are so enraged at these decisions and why they are waging such a vicious campaign against them. But Communists will not be disconcerted by this. They now that once the enemy is in a rage it means that we are a hundred times right. That is why, as stressed in the Resolution of the recent Meeting of the Information Bureau, Communists will increase their vigilance, will further improve and extend political education in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism and smash the enemies of peace and Socialism, no matter under what guise they appear.

## **SOCIALIST DEMOCRACY AND BOURGEOIS “DEMOCRACY”. Teohari Georgescu, Secretary Central Committee, Rumanian Workers’ Party**

The breach in the world chain of capitalism effected by the Great October Socialist Revolution divided the world into two camps: the camp of victorious Socialism and the camp of capitalism which entered the stage of general crisis. This division brought face to face not only two different economic systems, but also two cultures, two ways of life completely different from each other. The general crisis of capitalism produced evidence of increasing signs of decline and corruption in all spheres of social life in the imperialist countries.

At the beginning bourgeois democracy tried to discredit the first Socialist country in the eyes of the masses of the people of imperialist countries calling it a “totalitarian state”. Bourgeois apologists extolled in every way the “wonders” of bourgeois democracy, contrasting it to the dictatorship of the proletariat.

History teaches us that the concept of democracy is inseparable from its class content. The class which has state power in its hands determines also the nature of corresponding democracy. Bourgeois democracy is nothing but a mask for the dictatorship exercised by the bourgeoisie against the mass of the people, above all, against the working class. The bourgeois class cartilages utilise the freedom guaranteed to it by bourgeois democracy because this freedom is fashioned according to the measurements of this class and because it owns the necessary means to realise this freedom. The working class cannot use the “freedom” of bourgeois democracy because this form of

democracy does not guarantee in any way its formal rights.

Only after the seizure of political power by the proletariat can democracy become real for the mass of the working people. The dictatorship of the proletariat leads to the elimination of all exploitation of man by man and consequently to the, elimination of exploiting classes. Thus, after the complete liquidation of the remnants of exploiting classes the dictatorship of the working class becomes, for the first time in history, a real democracy for the whole of the people.

This highest form of democracy has been realised in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Socialist democracy is democracy of a new type, differing radically from bourgeois democracy because it seeks to secure not capitalist property but Socialist ownership by all the people of the means and instruments in production, and because it strives to secure not exploitation of man by man but to emancipate mankind for ever from any form of oppression and exploitation.

Socialist democracy does not confine itself merely to recognising freedom in theory for the working masses. It provides them with the essential means to use this freedom. It guarantees the actual participation of millions of the people in guiding the State. Soviet democracy is the first democracy in history which ensures full equality for all nations and all races, thus solving the national question and completely eliminating hatred and discord between nations.

During the more than 32 years' existence of the first Socialist State, Soviet democracy has been constantly extending and consolidating. At the same time bourgeois democracy has cast off every mask and has taken the path of open bloody terror against the majority of the people. That imperialism is the negation of democracy is to-day clearly demonstrated by U.S. imperialism. Striving for world domination, U.S. imperialists unceasingly sing the praises of the "American way of life", What good can people see in this

way of life? Racial discrimination? The lynch law? The bloody terror against the working class movement? The persecution of progressive elements and the resurrection of the Inquisition under the new guise of the Un-American Committee? Insane trials—like that held against the leaders of the U.S. Communist Party? Growing fascisation and official support for terrorist organisations of the Ku-Klux-Klan type?

U.S. imperialists want to impose such “democracy” and such “way of life” upon all countries.

The rabid attacks of U.S. monopolies on the new Socialist democracy now being realised in the People’s Democracies; the propaganda in UNO and the trials which they seek to frame against the Rumanian, Hungarian and Bulgarian People’s Republics in the International Court at the Hague on the so-called violation of the peace treaties with regard to democratic liberties—all these are but the expressions of the impotent fury of imperialism caused by the loss of a large number of countries formerly exploited by imperialism.

In its desire to plunge mankind into a third world war U.S. imperialism has found a worthy accomplice in the person of Judas Tito and his gang. These traitors to Socialism have set up a regime of a fascist type in their country and are imitating Hitler and his terrorist methods. This shows to what kind of “democracy” desertion from the Socialist camp into the imperialist one can lead.

Typical of U.S. pseudo-democracy is the election farce. The majority of those in Congress and in the Senate are businessmen in the service of big trusts and banks. In a country where 50 per cent of the population are industrial workers there is not a single worker representative in the higher organs of power. The electorate has no control over those elected.

Quite a different picture is revealed by the Soviet electoral system—the most democratic system in the world. In the Soviet Union there exist truly general, direct and equal

elections with secret ballot. In the U.S.S.R. no one is deprived of the right to vote because of nationality, race, sex, illiteracy, residence or properly qualifications and so on. Young people of 18 years of age and upwards enjoy the right to vote. Only the mentally unfit and those disfranchised by court have no right to vote. Elected representatives of the people are obliged, according to the Soviet Constitution, to report to the electorate as to how they carry out their mandate. If electors are not satisfied with the activities of their deputy they have the right to recall him and to replace him with another.

The superiority of Socialist democracy, shown so brilliantly in the present election campaign in the U.S.S.R., is the superiority of the Socialist system. This system is now consolidated and is successfully advancing towards Communism because the guiding force in the Soviet State is the Bolshevik Party of Lenin-Stalin which is equipped with the knowledge of the development of society.

The Stalin Constitution—the most democratic constitution in the world—secures, for the first time, democratic liberties for all the people. After World War Two when, thanks to the historic victory of the Soviet Union over fascism, the countries of People's Democracy emerged, the international significance of the Stalin Constitution and of the example of Soviet democracy became even greater. The victory over fascism and the tremendous successes achieved by the Soviet Union after the war demonstrate in a striking fashion the historic stability and the victorious power of Soviet Socialist democracy.

The People's Democracies have shown that they can successfully carry out the functions of the dictatorship of the proletariat. The main task of the system of people's democracy at the present moment is the struggle for the complete elimination of the exploitation of man by man. People's democracy is a weapon of struggle against exploiting classes. In all People's Democracies the state apparatus and the

apparatus of justice are composed of people from the ranks of the working class and working peasantry. For example, in the Rumanian People's Republic there are now 40,954 people's assessors of whom 15,020 are workers and 23,818 poor and medium peasants. With the help of the people's slate apparatus and people's justice, people's democracy is carrying out its role of defender of the gains of the working class.

The trials of the traitors Rajk and Kostov, the trials of spies and saboteurs and of the agents of Anglo-American imperialism and the severe punishment passed on them, also show that people's democracy is successfully carrying out the functions of proletarian dictatorship directed against internal and external enemies of the working people.

The Constitutions of all People's Democracies proceed from the Stalin idea that it is essential to provide material possibilities for the realisation of democratic liberties. Article 19 of the Constitution of the Rumanian People's Republic does not confine itself only to proclaiming the right of citizens to work. It also declares that the "State gradually ensures this right by the organisation and planned development of the national economy". And indeed, after the first One-Year Plan in 1949 had been realised, the number of factory and office workers in Rumania rose 23 per cent compared with 1948. Article 20 of the Republics Constitution proclaims the right to leisure. And this right is secured not only by the fact that working people enjoy paid holidays but also by the fact that the State organises rest homes, sanatoria, clubs and other cultural establishments for them. In 1948, 63,000 working people spent their holidays in rest homes and sanatoria; in 1949, this figure reached 175,000.

The working class in the People's Democracies for the first time enjoy the freedom of the press which deals fully with all questions of interest to workers and peasants, and which press has the best printing-houses. For the first time workers and

working peasants in the People's Democracies enjoy freedom of speech and freedom of assembly to defend their interests. The Party of the working class works strenuously to ensure that people's democracy be extended and consolidated so as to ensure that workers and working peasants openly express themselves at meetings and make use of criticism and self-criticism—that sharp weapon of the Party in the struggle for Socialism.

Under the system of people's democracy the advance of culture and of the people's education became possible. Illiteracy and semi-illiteracy are rapidly being eliminated. The creative forces of the liberated people's masses are also producing works of great artistic significance.

In the Polish People's Republic the number of children attending elementary and secondary schools reached 3,500,000 in 1949, and the number of higher schools rose to 36 against 16 before the war. In the Bulgarian People's Republic the number of schools increased by 22.5 per cent between 1944 and 1949. In the Rumanian people's Republic, as in other People's Democracies, apart from allocating allowances for children of workers and poor peasants attending secondary and higher schools, special schools have been formed to train workers who, later, will be able to continue their studies in higher schools. Special institutes have also been opened in which advanced and highly-skilled workers can study to become engineers within two years.

The National Question has also been solved in "the spirit of Socialist Democracy. In the countries of South-Eastern and Central Europe which, in the past, were centres of discord and national hatred whipped up by the bourgeoisie and big imperialist powers, the spirit of co-operation and friendship between peoples is now being consolidated. In Czechoslovakia the Slovak people are no longer oppressed people as in the past. In the Rumanian Republic, as in other people's

democratic states the Constitution secures the full equality of all citizens, irrespective of sex, nationality, race, religion and cultural level, and the inciting of racial or national hatred is punishable by law. Friendship between peoples and their full equality have become powerful levers in building Socialism. This is shown in the enthusiasm of the working people of all nationalities taking part in Socialist emulation; in their participation in guiding the State; in the use of native language in administration and justice; in the development of schools using the language of the peoples inhabiting these countries; in the development of a new culture, national in form and Socialist in content.

Following the Stalin teaching and the Soviet experience, the Constitutions in the People's Democracies envisage the formation of people's councils or other democratic organs of government. As exploiting classes are eliminated, these organs approach more and more to the highest type of Socialist democracy. Experience shows that people's councils can become the organs through which millions of working people can be drawn into running the country.

The Constitution in each of the People's Democracies indicates the responsibility of deputies before the electorate and the right of the electorate to recall a deputy.

The complete realisation of broad Socialist democracy requires a long period of time. The question is one of successfully building Socialism; of eliminating antagonistic classes; of drawing new millions of the working people into political and public life. In this respect much work is still ahead of us. We must develop the widest forms and methods of rallying the masses around the People's Councils so that increasingly broader sections of working people take part in the direction of public affairs.

Guided by the great teachings of Lenin and Stalin, and with the brilliant example of Soviet democracy, the Communist

Parties in the people's Democracies will remove all difficulties in their way and bring people's democracy to the level of that democracy of the highest type.

## **THE GROWTH AND CONSOLIDATION OF PRODUCER CO-OPERATIVES IN THE POLISH COUNTRYSIDE. Roman Zambrowski, Secretary, Central Committee, Polish United Workers' Party**

The special feature in the development of the Polish countryside of late is the rising activity of the poor and middle peasants, who, in the process of the sharpening class struggle, are ever more swiftly shaking of kulak influence.

On this background we observe, among the more conscious and active poor and middle peasants, a growing interest in the producer co-operatives and a more vigorous movement for the establishment of producer co-operatives. The tempo of this growth is evident from the following figures: on April 1, 1949 there were 40 producer co-operatives, by October 1, 145; by February 1, this year, 332 and on March 5, 590.

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What explains this relatively quick growth of co-operatives in the last few months? The process is due primarily to the fact that our Party was able to overcome the Right and nationalist deviation, the essential feature of which is capitulation to the kulak and refusal to fight for the Socialist reconstruction of the countryside. Of invaluable assistance for our Party in overcoming this deviation was the Information Bureau historic decision on the question of the situation in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia. Having overcome gomulkaism our Party was able boldly to take the path indicated by Comrade Stalin as far back as 1928: "... we must", wrote Comrade Stalin, "build a bridge between individual poor and middle-peasant farming

and collective, socialised forms of farming, in the shape of the contract system on a mass scale, in the shape of machine and tractor stations and in the shape of the fullest development of the co-operative movement, in order to help the peasants to transfer their small, individual farming to the lines of collective labour,” The Party removed the brakes and barriers of the question of following Stalin’s teaching on collectivisation and of utilising the historic experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (B) in the development of the collective-farm movement.

The creative application by our Party of the historic experience of the C.P.S.U. (B) in the Socialist re-organisation of the village in the present stage of Socialist construction, brought into action the decisive machinery for the creation of producer co-operatives in Poland.

For over a year the entire policy of our Party was consciously directed to an active preparation of the conditions for the mass development of producer co-operatives, on which basis it will be possible to eliminate exploitation in the countryside.

To achieve the mass voluntary organisation of producer co-operatives of poor and middle peasants is the immense revolutionary and historic long-term task of the working class and our Party. This is the object of our policy of industrialisation and first of all of the extension of the production of tractors, agricultural machinery and mineral fertilisers; our policy of economically strengthening State farms. The conditions for this movement are being prepared by new forms of economic ties between town and countryside expressed in the swift development of producer and consumer co-operatives, in the Peasants’ Mutual Aid Union, in the mass development of contracting and in the growth of the co-operative machine hire stations. All this, along with our class taxation and credit policy, are powerful means for the wide

development of producer co-operatives in the countryside.

## **OUR EXPERIENCE**

We have already acquired certain experience in the sphere of producer cooperatives. All three types of producer cooperatives in Poland have stood the test and all, in one or another degree, are showing a tendency to further development.

Of the 590 existing producer co-operatives, 345 have been founded on a statute similar to that of collective-farms in the U.S.S.R. One hundred and ninety two co-operatives are based on the rules of the so-called first type of co-operatives. In addition to sharing income on the basis of work (60-70 per cent of the income distributed among co-operative members), these rules provide also for so-called rent, paid for land and implements pooled in the co-operative (30-40 per cent of the income). Such a system facilitates the process of the passage of a considerable section of the middle peasants to the producer cooperatives. There are, finally, 53 producer co-operatives founded on a statute modelled on the experience of the societies for the collective cultivation of land in the U.S.S.R. The comparatively small number of such co-operatives is explained on the one hand by the fact that the movement for the creation of producer co-operatives is in its earliest stage and, on the other, by leftist tendencies in some places, expressed in an underestimation of the vitality of this form of producer co-operatives.

The vitality of existing co-operatives in all forms is due mainly to the voluntary principle laid down by the Party in both the organisation of peasants in producer cooperatives and in the choice of the type of co-operative. Very important for accelerating the tempo of the organisation of producer co-operatives was our Party's decision to create State machine and

tractor stations in areas where the development of producer co-operatives can be carried out at an accelerated pace.

Guided by Stalin's directive of the need to take into consideration the different conditions in the various regions of the U.S.S.R. applicable to collective farm building, the Politburo of our Party, on the basis of an analysis of the economic structure and the political and cultural level in individual areas, selected 115 of the 300 districts where conditions are most favourable for the swift development of producer co-operatives and where machine and tractor stations will be organised first of all.

It is an established fact that the realisation of this decision is already yielding positive results. Of the total of 590 producer cooperatives registered on March 5, 450 have been established in the 115 earmarked districts. Thirty one districts already have places embracing from 5 to 24 producer co-operatives.

Alongside the broad network of co-operative machine-hire stations, the chief task of which is to help poor and middle peasants in their struggle against kulak exploitation and which successfully undermine the kulak influence, arising to a considerable degree from possession of machinery, the producer co-operatives will, in the forthcoming sowing season, be able to rely on the first 70 machine and tractor stations with a pool of nearly one thousand tractors.

However, despite the swift growth of producer co-operatives we are still very far from having a mass movement. It is, as yet, a vanguard movement whose social base remains principally the farm labourers and peasants granted land five years ago during the agrarian reform, as well as the poor and middle peasants who received part of their land either as a result of the agrarian reform or who have settled in the western areas.

It is characteristic that the development of producer co-operatives, concentrated mainly in the Western areas and in

districts where agrarian reform was widely effected, is also under way in the Eastern districts which, in 1939-41, wholly or partially formed a part of the U.S.S.R. and where the peasants had already seen for themselves the superiority of collective farming. But producer co-operatives are developing insufficiently in those villages where the agrarian reform—for lack of landlord estates—was not carried out.

## **ORGANISATIONAL AND ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING OF PRODUCER CO- OPERATIVES**

The growing tempo in the organisation of producer co-operatives in recent months -as well as the fact that in the 115 districts earmarked for development the district committees of the United Polish Workers' Party, together with organisations of the Peasant Party, envisage the possibility of establishing in 1950 more than 1,500 producer co-operatives—shows a further positive improvement in the attitude of the working peasants towards producer co-operatives. There is marked psychological advance among a large part of the poor and middle peasants as a result of the direct contact of peasant delegations with Soviet collective-farms and the reports of these delegations in the countryside, as well as the influence of our best producer co-operatives in the peasants. A large section of the peasants have already rid themselves of the effect of slanderous kulak tales.

These changes are also visible in the fact that in the flames of the sharpening class struggle in the countryside there grows and becomes ideologically stronger the Party's active nucleus which, with ever greater success, is learning to overcome the resistance of the kulaks and their myrmidons; to organise the honest, poor and middle peasants into co-operatives; to keep

out kulaks who at times try to penetrate the co-operatives, and to remove various scoundrels who would like to enrich themselves at the expense of others. The mass of poor and middle peasants are following with keen and increasing interest the work and internal affairs of every producer co-operative. A section of the working people are hesitating, they want to convince themselves of the correctness of this idea of producer co-operatives, therefore they wait to see concrete economic results from existing co-operatives and depend on this before taking a decision.

That is why our Party regards as its foremost **task the organisational and economic strengthening of existing producer co-operatives**. Whether hundreds and thousands of new co-operatives come into being now, depends on the organisational and economic successes, and consequently, on the possibility and the ability of the co-operatives exercising a positive influence. The struggle for the organisation of new producer co-operatives is now indivisibly linked with the struggle for the quality of the work in existing co-operatives.

But not all our local Party organisations are fully conscious of the significance of the question. We must admit that a number of district committees committed a serious mistake when they directed all their efforts to increasing the number of co-operatives without ensuring that they were strong both organisationally and economically. These committees did not understand that it is not only difficult for the peasant, as an individual owner, to make up his mind to join a collective enterprise but that in the initial stage it is even difficult for him to organise such an enterprise without outside assistance from the working class, from the organs of the people's administration and from the Party. Nor was it everywhere understood that the first few years of a producer co-operative are years of bitter conflict between the old habits and the new requirements of collective work; a struggle waged not in a

vacuum but where the class enemy—the kulak and his myrmidons—is at work.

A large number of producer co-operatives are already able to boast of considerable economic achievements. In twenty producer co-operatives in the Poznan province, for example, yields were considerably above those of individual farms. Stable economic results were achieved in the first place by co-operatives where payment for labour has been organised on the work-day unit system and where, due to this, labour discipline is observed; where all the members in accordance with the statute have fully contributed their share of implements and paid up their membership dues; who themselves take part in various undertakings connected with capital construction and who carefully, only when there is real necessity, expend State credits.

However, in a number of producer cooperatives this rule is not adhered to. The principal weakness of such co-operatives is that no proper record of labour-time is kept. For example, in the Wroclaw province only 10 of the 54 producer co-operatives keep account of work-days. The situation is still unsatisfactory with regard to the contribution of implements to the co-operative. Of the 13 co-operatives which adopted collective labour in the Bydgoszcz province in the autumn of 1949 only 76 per cent have contributed their share of implements and sowing materials. The situation with regard to the contribution of their respective quotas is even worse in co-operatives established later.

The question of credit policy is important. Our people's government provides wide financial assistance to machine and tractor stations and producer co-operatives.

It must, however, be admitted that there is no order in the sphere of utilisation of credits for capital construction in many producer co-operatives, no economic responsibility for financial discipline.

It is abnormal when, in a number of cooperatives, expenditure on housing exceeds that on the construction of farm buildings.

## VITAL TASKS OF THE PARTY

Along with these weaknesses hindering the prosperous development of existing producer co-operatives there have also been serious distortions of the political line in some of them. Individual co-operatives are rife with kulak intrigues in those particular villages where not all the peasants have joined the co-operative. “You leave me alone and I will leave you alone”,—this attitude of a secret “non-aggression pact” between the producer co-operative and the kulak conceals the danger that the co-operative will not become the centre rallying the mass of poor and middle peasants.

The attitude of the producer co-operative to the kulak must be firm and aggressive. It is essential that producer co-operatives take an interest in such questions affecting the village as taxation and that they defend the poor peasant against the kulak. Only thus will the co-operatives fulfil the role of the Socialist vanguard in the countryside.

The basic task of the Party organisations now in the areas earmarked for co-operation is to fight for the strengthening of existing producer co-operatives. This, in the first place, requires the provision of a considerable number of adequately trained proletarian cadres for machine and tractor stations and for the training of chairmen for producer co-operatives. We already have the first results in this sphere. Seventy directors of machine and tractor stations and their political assistants drawn from workers and Party members, have just finished a two-month training course. The two-month course for 180 chairmen of producer co-operatives ended at the same time. A network

of courses has also been established for agronomists, machine and tractor station mechanics and book-keepers of producer co-operatives.

By carrying out a similar cadre policy we wish to reach a situation whereby machine and tractor stations will not only be the centre of technical and agronomic assistance but will, as proletarian centres, exercise a political influence over the producer co-operatives and the individual poor and middle farms.

We want to establish in 1950 a wide network for the training of cadres for machine and tractor stations and producer co-operatives to enable us in the near future to make good the shortage in skilled labour.

The local Party organisations in consumer co-operatives must play a particularly important role. Relying on the experience already gained, the efforts of the local Party organisations will, on an ever increasing scale, be directed to an all-round development of the co-operative, especially to the development of self-management in the cooperatives, to the growth of activity and authority of the board and the general meetings of co-operative members.

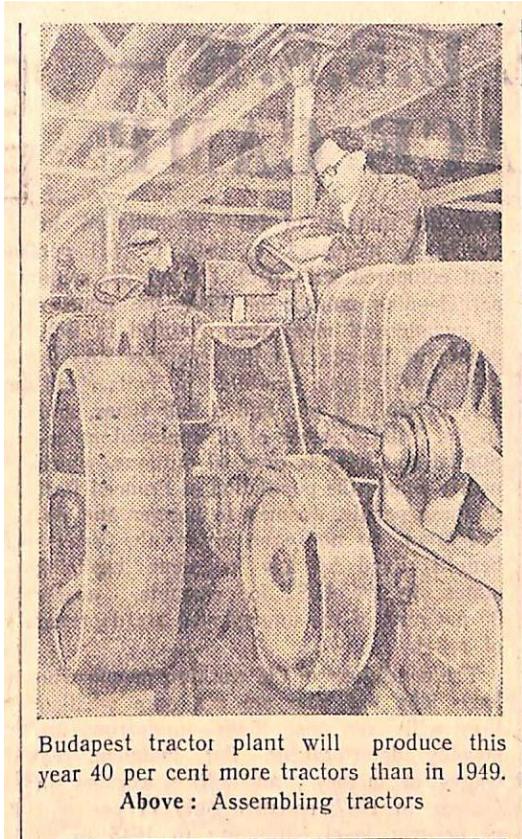
Upon the district and provincial committees lies the responsible duty of rendering all necessary assistance to the local Party organisations in this work; in the struggle against all tendencies of forcing outside economic decisions on co-operatives and so forth and in the struggle against every attempt to replace leadership of the co-operatives by dictation to them. In his reply to the letter of Comrade Zubka, secretary of the Strzelin district committee (Wroclaw province), describing the achievements and difficulties of producer cooperatives in that district, Comrade Bierut emphasised: "The most important thing is to render the newly organised co-operatives the maximum solicitous organisational assistance in order to strengthen them in respect to precision in work and to

get good results, in respect to the organisational solidarity of the members of the co-operative, their collective discipline, selflessness, good leadership and their high productivity of labour”.

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Guided by the historic experience of the victorious struggle of the C.P.S.U. (B) for the Socialist reconstruction of the countryside, our Party will transform the existing producer co-operatives into mighty instruments for the further development of producer co-operatives and for the preparation of conditions for a radical change in the attitude of the mass of poor and middle peasants towards Socialist forms of farming.

## BUDAPEST TRACTOR PLANT



Budapest tractor plant will produce this year 40 per cent more tractors than in 1949.

**Above:** Assembling tractors

*Budapest tractor plant will produce this year 40 per cent more tractors than in 1949.*

***Above:*** Assembling tractors

## **TRADE UNIONS OF HUNGARY DEMAND EXPULSION OF TITOITES FROM WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS**

The Presidium of the Council of the Hungarian Trade Unions has addressed the Secretariat of the World Federation of Trade Unions with the request to expel the Tito fascist Yugoslav Trade Unions. The message said that “Hungarian workers follow with great sympathy the struggle of the Yugoslav workers who remain true to the cause of peace and democracy, against the fascist Tito “clique and its professional agents”. The Hungarian workers emphasise that there is no place for provocateurs, instigators of a new war, and imperialist agents in the ranks of the World Federation of Trade Unions. The expulsion of the Yugoslav Tito Trade Unions will help the struggle of Yugoslav workers, loyal to the international proletariat, against traitors.

## **FOR UNITY OF TRADE UNION MOVEMENT**

At the joint meeting of the representatives of the Council of the Finnish Trade Union of transport workers, lumber men and raftsmen, held in February, questions regarding the improvement of living conditions of working people and measures to restore the unity of the Trade Union Movement were discussed. A Unity Committee was set up and a programme of further activities adopted.

A resolution passed at the meeting condemned the splitting policy of the Right-Wing Social Democrats of the leadership of the C.A.F.T.U. (Central Amalgamation of Finnish Trade Unions) who are trying to turn C.A.F.T.U. into a rigid bureaucratic organisation, to suppress democracy in the Trade Unions and to deprive them of their independence.

The Unity Committee have decided to develop a struggle among the workers for the unity of the Trade Union Movement against splitters; to set up Unity Committees in factories and in Trade Union branches; to carry on the struggle for the immediate economic and democratic rights of the workers; for peace and support for the Peace Committee of Finland and to set up local Peace Committees in the factories.

# **PREPARING FOR THIRD CONGRESS OF THE SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY OF GERMANY**

“Neuer Weg”, journal of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany reports that the Third Congress of the Party will take place on July 20-23.

All organisations of the Party are preparing for the Congress. Meetings of the local organisations will be held between May 8-25, district Conferences from June 3 to 25, while- the Laend Conferences will be held from July 1. These meetings will elect delegates to the Third Congress. A mass movement is developing throughout the German Democratic Republic under the slogan “Complete the Two-Year Plan by the date of the July Congress.”

## U.S. MINERS DEFY TAFT-HARTLEY LAW

Over 370,000 U.S. coal miners who were on strike for eight weeks for a 95 cents a day wage increase and a 15 cents a ton increase in bosses, contributions to the miners' welfare fund stood firm against mining monopolies and intimidation by Truman who, for the third time in two years, invoked the anti-trade union Taft-Hartley law against the miners.

It will be recalled that in the 1948 Presidential election campaign Truman made repeal of this anti-working class law one of the main planks in his election programme. Under this law the United Mineworkers Union was fined 1,420,000 dollars in 1948 for refusing to end a strike. Despite legal action taken against them the miners refused to be stampeded by this slave-labour law.

Hundreds of union branches, expressing solidarity with the miners, condemned Truman and demanded immediate repeal of the Taft-Hartley law. Typical solidarity action was characterised in the joint co-operation of New Jersey furniture and farmer trade unionists to supply the striking miners with food.

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According to reports, the continued strike of U.S. miners has ended in victory. The employers have been forced to accept the miners' demands concerning collective agreements. This victory has been achieved despite the treachery of trade union leaders and the terror of Truman's Government.

## **STRUGGLE OF YOUTH IN ITALY FOR PEACE AND DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS. Enrico Berlinguer, Chairman, Italian Youth Alliance**

Italian capitalism, now operating under the banner of clericalism and Americanism, is unable to satisfy the vital needs of the younger generation, or to provide it with the right to earn a livelihood by daily, honest work. The closing down of important branches of industry, the crisis in agriculture, the dismissal of tens of thousands of workers, among whom are young men and women,—this is what the “Marshall Plan” and the U.S. “disinterested aid” means for the Italian youth.

According to the latest figures, there are no less than a million young unemployed in Italy—not counting those on short time in industry and young workers with irregular earnings in agriculture and in building. During the last 4-5 years young people in general have not been given jobs in the most vital branches of industry. The number of factory apprentices steadily declines. In 1938 they comprised 9 per cent of all employed Italian workers, in 1948 only 2.9 per cent.

Wages of young workers are extremely low. They are not paid on the basis of output but according to sex and age. An eight hour working day, holidays, educational opportunities or opportunity to indulge in sport—such things are unknown to the majority of Italian working youth. Thousands of engineers, doctors and other specialists cannot find jobs. Because of increased fees the student body in the universities has dropped by 40,000.

Streams of filthy slander against the Soviet Union and the countries of people’s democracy are being circulated through American films and newspapers which are printed in editions of millions of copies. The “American way of life” is boosted.

Reacting to this policy of enslavement and oppression, the resistance and struggle of the working masses, led by the Italian Communist Party, grows stronger every day. The struggle for peace—this is the main task of the Italian democratic youth organisations rallied behind the Youth Alliance.

## I.

Young people of Italy participated most actively during the Spring of 1949 in strikes, demonstrations, meetings and campaigns to collect signatures against the Atlantic Pact. Some of these actions were organised by the youth itself. For example: the demonstration during which a peace banner was hoisted over the Italian Foreign Ministry, and others. Apart from this the Youth Alliance organised youth meetings and congresses throughout Italy the main task of which was to combat the Atlantic Pact. This movement resulted in the holding of fifteen regional peace congresses in preparation for which more than 500,000 young men and women took part. Despite the Government ban, a National Youth Peace Congress was held in Rome in which over 20,000 people participated. This broad movement attracted the attention of the entire country, particularly, of that section of the youth not directly participating in it. The movement assumed new forms including all kinds of marches, festivities and demonstrations. This secured broader participation of the youth because hundreds of thousands of young men and women changed from spectators into initiators of these actions. More than 3,500 peace banners were hoisted throughout Italy. All the young men and women participating in these actions solemnly pledged themselves to fight for peace and national independence, once again repeating the “peace oath” taken by delegates to the National Youth Alliance Conference in Naples,

November 1948.

In December 1949, immediately after the return of the Italian War Minister from the Paris session of the Ministers of the Atlantic Pact countries, the Executive Committee of the Alliance called upon all the Italian young people to oppose war obligations by declaring once again that "Italian youth will never take part in war against the Soviet Union". Thousands of protest resolutions were adopted. At scores of factories in Turin, Milan and Genoa the youth were the first to stop work, inspiring other workers by its example. Young people hissed a military mission when it arrived at one of the factories in Genoa to see about the possibilities of switching it to war production, thus making the mission give up its plans.

Italian youth have recently assumed forms of activity which correspond more closely to the new phase in the struggle for peace. Following the example of the Ancona dockers, railwaymen and port workers in Genoa, Savona, Livorno, Venice, Civitavecchia and others refused to load and transport munitions. At the same time thousands of young industrial workers in Milan, Genoa, Turin and other cities refused to produce war materials. In Rome scores of youth delegations went to the U.S. Embassy to tell Mr. Jacobs that the Italian people want neither war nor American military controllers.

Italian youth organisations have set themselves the task of winning new sections of youth for the struggle for peace. With this aim in view, discussions are being held at thousands of meetings in factories, villages, towns and in schools followed by the adoption of the "Youth Peace Charter" containing the points which the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress is forwarding to Parliaments of all countries.

Apart from this, the Youth Alliance has decided to carry out a number of measures for the improvement of our work in the Army, such as fraternising with young soldiers and propaganda in the cause of peace.

The youth has made a valuable contribution to the economic struggle of the working people in town and countryside. More than once it has put forward its specific demands. When recently young workers at the Breda works in Milan downed tools, young Catholics and Saragat followers were also drawn into the strike. The strikers were able to break down the resistance of the employers and to achieve success.

The students struggle has recently assumed considerable proportions. In nearly all universities the movement against higher fees has developed. In 1949, 60,000 took part in two student strikes which embraced all technical schools in Italy. In Naples, Rome and Perugia students even succeeded in seizing university buildings, which led to clashes with the police.

## II.

In spite of remarkable successes achieved in mobilising Italian youth to fight for peace and democratic rights it is impossible to overlook the fact that reactionary forces in Italy still seriously influence, both politically and organisationally, broad masses of the youth.

The activities of the Vatican-guided Catholic youth organisations represent the greatest danger to the unity of Italian youth. "Catholic Action" youth organisations have the advantage of many centuries of experience of work with the masses, of State assistance and the possibility of mobilising the entire clergy. Leaders of "Catholic Action" pretend they support the defence of peace. Actually they conduct pro-American propaganda and a campaign of loathsome slander against the Soviet Union, and are dreaming of a "great crusade" against Communism. Having mastered the art of hypocrisy and fraud they seek to erect a barrier between the young men and women under their influence and the mass of democratic youth.

At the end of 1948, the Italian Youth Alliance resolutely advanced the task of working in the ranks of Catholic youth, Leaders of "Catholic Action" were invited to answer publicly certain questions. You claim to be peace supporters, they were told, so prove it in deed by denouncing the warmongers and demanding that atomic weapons should be outlawed. The Catholic press and the leaders of "Catholic Action" were forced to discuss questions put by us, and thus our standpoint at least partially reached young Catholics.

The most important aspect of these activities consists, however, not in polemics with the leaders, but in the fact that the polemics prompted our organisations to establish contact with the mass of the Catholic youth, to organise public debates and discussions. The issues of war and peace are at present being discussed among the mass of Catholic youth. A considerable number of young men and women (the question so far is one of a few thousand young people) have left "Catholic Action" youth organisation and have joined the Youth Alliance. Since 1948, the ranks of the "Catholic Action" have thinned out.

In future we should turn even more to the mass of young Catholics, eliminate the sectarian views of some of our members and, in addition to general propaganda, try also to expose in the Catholic youth organisation the covert but profound contradictions between the policy of its leaders and the interests and strivings of the masses, and to draw the Catholic working youth into an effective struggle for peace.

### III.

Right-Wing Social Democrats have failed to form youth organisations of any considerable size in Italy. This fact can be regarded as a success for us, as the result of our work. But we cannot ignore the fact that the influence of Social Democratic

slogans is felt among certain sections or working youth where this influence penetrates if not through youth organisations, then through the medium of the Saragat Party. We know that the unity of all democratic youth cannot be cemented and extended without fighting, above all, for the unity of the working youth; that we cannot win the struggle for the unity of the working youth without exposing the Right-Wing Social Democrats—the loyal agents of imperialism.

Recently our work of exposing the criminal Tito gang has developed on a considerable scale. One should not forget that Tito agents seek to penetrate democratic organisations and also the ranks of the youth and to disseminate propaganda material and all kinds of slander, and that in view of this the democratic youth should display sharp vigilance with regard to ideology, policy and practice in order to frustrate these manoeuvres.

In all these actions against war and for the unity of the youth the struggle on the ideological front assumes great significance. We must explain the policy of the Soviet Union to the young people, explain the achievements of Soviet youth and also of the youth in the People's Democracies, the significance of the victory of the Chinese people and of the successes of the democratic forces all over the world. We must develop the spirit of internationalism among the youth.

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At present the Youth Alliance has acquired the nature of a broad federation rallying the movements and organisations of the Italian democratic youth (i.e. the Communist youth, Socialists, sports and student societies, etc.) and embracing hundreds of thousand of members in its ranks,

The Communist Youth Federation is inspiring the struggle of the Italian democratic youth and of all youth organisations. True to its glorious traditions, the Federation, under the

guidance of the Communist Party. is educating young men and women in the spirit of Marxism-Leninism; is leading them along the road of struggle and victories, towards a better future, towards a happy life for the entire Italian youth.

## **NEW PRICE CUTS IN THE U.S.S.R. VICTORY FOR THE PEACE CAMP P. Todorov**

The manifold comments of world public opinion in connection with the new price cuts in the U.S.S.R. and the transfer of the rouble to a gold basis show that the significance of these measures of the Soviet Government and the Communist Party of the U.S.S.R. is not confined to the limits of the Soviet country.

“The decision of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. and the Central Committee of C.P.S.U (B) regarding the reduction in prices of food and manufactured goods and the decision of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. on raising the rate of the rouble in relation to foreign currencies”, writes the Chinese paper “Jenmingjipao”, “have again shown the world the constant solicitude for the welfare of the people in the Socialist country and once again demonstrated to the whole world the inevitable doom of the capitalist system. These decisions have not only aroused a feeling of happiness and profound gratitude towards the Soviet homeland among all working people in the Soviet Union, they also inspire the peoples of all democratic countries to study the experience of the Soviet Union in order courageously and confidently to march towards a full life and complete abundance”.

Yes, the Soviet people, following the path indicated by their wise teacher and leader Comrade Stalin, are confidently going forward to the good life and complete abundance. The four years of unprecedented war which called for measureless sacrifice from the Soviet country, did not plunge the Soviet people into poverty and hunger as anticipated and desired by the contemporary imperialist reptiles of the Churchill type and others like him. Two years after the war, rationing in the U.S.S.R. was abolished and the first price reduction made

which gave the population a clear gain of nearly 86 billion roubles. In March 1949 there followed the second price cuts which ensured the population a clear gain of almost 71 billion roubles annually. And now there is the third reduction in prices which, in State trade alone, will yield the population a clear gain of at least 80 billion roubles in twelve months. But considering that reduction in State prices will inevitably be followed by an approximately similar decline in prices on the collective-farm markets and in co-operative trade, the total gain to the population from this last price reduction will, in the course of a year, total no less than 110 billion roubles!

Soviet people hailed the news of the new price reductions as a big victory. And though the figures, as a Soviet poet expressed it, did not indicate tanks, guns and mortars captured from the enemy, and although the report did not contain the flames of liberated towns and regions but the enumeration of commonplace articles such as bread, sugar, butter, flour, soap and matches, the words carried a solemnly triumphant note; something extremely great. It was the triumph of a rational, humanitarian system; the triumph of Socialist ideas: the triumph of a people which has inscribed Socialism on its banners!

The Soviet Union is showing the world that Socialism is unthinkable without the daily solicitude of the government for the welfare of the people. This is the law of development of Socialist society.

Reduction in prices and, arising from this—a higher living standard for the working people—is the result of the rapid development of the unparalleled upsurge registered in the entire national economy of the Socialist country during the last year. Soviet industry has already exceeded in total output the level foreseen in the Five-Year Plan for 1950, the last year of the Stalin Five-Year Plan. In the fourth quarter of 1949 the total average monthly industrial output was 53 per cent over

the 1940 level. Agricultural output also exceeded the pre-war 1940 level. Not only is there no unemployment in the U.S.S.R., on the contrary, the numerical strength of the working class grows from year to year: in 1949 the number of factory and office workers increased by 1,800,000 compared with last year. In 1949 the national income of the U.S.S.R. was 17 per cent over that of 1948 and 36 per cent over that of the pre-war year of 1940.

Consequently, the steady rise of production in industry and agriculture, the upsurge in culture and science and the development of technique in the U.S.S.R., lead to a systematic reduction in prices, to strengthening the rouble, to higher purchasing power for the people and to the improvement of its material standards. Such is indisputable reality in the world of Socialism confirmed by concrete facts.

Apologists of imperialism cannot hide this reality, either by remaining silent regarding the new price cuts in the U.S.S.R., by slanderous inventions, or by distorting the decisions of the Soviet Government.

The truth about life in the U.S.S.R. will reach the working people in the capitalist countries no matter what “iron curtain” of lies and slander the imperialists and their Right-Wing Socialist lackeys set up to hide this truth from them. Working people have but to look round to convince themselves again of the hopeless poverty and hunger into which they are being dragged by capitalism.

Whereas prices in the U.S.S.R. are being systematically reduced, in capitalist countries they are rising.

Food prices in the U.S. have trebled compared with 1938; in France they have soared twenty-fold and in Italy—sixtyfold.

The real “American way of life”, glorified by the imperialists, is clearly demonstrated by facts contained in the report of the Congress Commission, headed by Sparkman. According to this official data for 1949, the living standard of

two million families in the U.S. is below that which even conservative people regard as essential to maintain health and decency. The Commission asserts that of a total of 38,500,000 families (excluding 8 million single people) more than 10,000,000 families get under 2000 dollars a year. According to the Labour Bureau the minimum needed for a family of four in 1917 was 3,004 dollars and in 1948 4,111 dollars a year. One can well imagine the life of these 10,000,000 families on earnings which are about half the minimum.

Index of industrial production in the U.S., which in October 1948 was 195, dropped in July 1949 to 162 and in October to 152. In other capitalist countries enslaved by American "aid" the situation is even worse. In the third quarter of 1949 the index of industrial production dropped compared with the second quarter of the same year: In Britain, 7 points; in Belgium, 9 points; in France, 17 points and in Norway, 23 points.

In all capitalist countries unemployment is growing catastrophically. According to the obviously underestimated figures of the Secretariat of the United Nations Organisation, the number of fully unemployed in the U.S. increased, in 1949, by 111 per cent compared with 1948. During the same period—nine months of 1949—the number of unemployed more than doubled in Belgium; in France, the increase was 2.6; in Western Germany, two-fold; in Switzerland, 3.2; in Holland one and a half times, and so on. Total number of unemployed in capitalist countries is over 40 millions, which nearly equals the population of France. Part of these people, doomed to hunger and degradation, do not even enjoy the scanty benefit fixed by law in some capitalist states. In the U.S., for example, nearly 35 per cent of the unemployed are deprived of relief.

The conditions of the working people who have jobs but who are not sure whether they will not lose them tomorrow, are steadily deteriorating. For instance, real wages of factory and

office workers in Greece, in 1947, equalled only 71 per cent of pre-war level, slumping in 1948 to 62 per cent and in 1949 to 52 per cent. In France the price index is twice as high as the wage index. In the U.S. the real wages of workers in 1948 were 15-25 per cent below 1944 level. In Britain, parallel with rising prices which, according to the Board of Trade, reached, in December 1949, a "record height", workers' wages are "frozen".

All these facts confirm again and again the correctness of V. I. Lenin's words that in capitalist society an absolute and relative impoverishment of the working masses is growing at an extraordinary rate. The unrestrained growth of prices, the fall in real wages, growing unemployment, the armament drive, the increasing tax burden—this is what capitalism brings to the working people.

One has only to compare the tremendous successes achieved by the Soviet people during the post-war years with the situation in capitalist countries and it becomes clear who needs war.

The Soviet people do not need war! In peaceful competition between the two systems the Socialist system triumphs clearly and convincingly. The Soviet people are fighting for peace, for they believe in their future. The reason why the Trumans, the Bevins, Bidaults and others of that ilk remain silent about the successes of the land of Socialism, and why they refuse to receive delegations from the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress is that they are afraid of peace and are preparing war—although there can be no doubt that war will but accelerate the doom of capitalism. The powerful strike movement of workers in France, Italy, the U.S. and other capitalist countries shows that the working class does not intend to be reconciled to the poverty and police repression directed against its lawful right to a decent existence.

The new price cuts in the U.S.S.R., the transfer of the

rouble to a gold basis and the increase of the rate of the rouble in relation to foreign currencies inflict a new blow on imperialism and consolidate the forces standing for peace throughout the world.

The U.S. dollar which personified—as a result of the plunder of the world by U.S. monopolists during two world wars—an illusory stability of U.S. capitalism, and which pressed down the pound and the franc, is to-day itself a second-rate currency. The most stable currency now is that of the social power—the Soviet rouble, which relies on the most stable basis—Socialism, to which belongs the future.

## **HIGH LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY OF HUNGARIAN WORKERS**

Targets for the first year of the Five-Year Plan have been made known to every worker in many factories in Hungary. This helped to raise productivity of labour. Miners in Pit No. 14 in Tatabanya, completed their February schedule as early as February 23. At the Banfalva pit the leading miner, Istvan Nyàg had completed his monthly quota by February 16. At the Kincsesbanya mine, the brigades of Mihitly Vida and Ferenc Varga fulfilled the February programme by February 15, and that of Janos Horvath by February 20.

Kàroly Motzi, leading foundry worker of the “Hofherr” plant was, by February 27, working on the April programme. Andràs Lakatos, stakhanovite turner at the “Danubia” plant is now working on the June plan. Women spinners in the “Kistext”, “Goldberger” and “Juta” factories, and fitters in the “Fémbulorgyàr” plant are now working on April plans and some of them even on the plans for May.

## PEOPLE'S BOOKS MONTH IN ITALY

The people's books month in Italy which began on February 12, on the initiative of a group of democratic workers in the sphere of culture, is drawing to an end. The purpose of this month is to secure a greater circulation of democratic books among the working masses, to set up libraries in all district in towns, a considerable number of provincial centres and local book clubs, which it is hoped to link up into an Association. The Association will have for its aim the development and co-ordination of cultural-mass work in the provincial centres, rallying public opinion in defence of culture and schools against the combined onslaught of clerical obscurantism and Anglo-American imperialism.

This initiative has the support of the more prominent figures in the spheres of culture and art and in the Italian democratic movement. It acquires particular significance in view of the spreading illiteracy in the country. During the post-war years two million of the seven million children of school age have not attended school. In some regions of Italy, especially in the South, illiteracy is as high as 45 and, even 50 per cent (Calabria, Lucania) , not to mention the huge numbers who are only barely literate. According to official data the elementary schools alone lack about 50,000 forms.

## DEMOCRATS PERSECUTED IN ARGENTINA

On February 3, our paper reported the suppression of the democratic press in Argentina. The Peron Government continues its savage persecution of democrats.

On January 22, three editorial board members of “La Hora”—Paulino Gonsales Alberdi, Alfredo Varela and Salvador del Aquila—were arrested and imprisoned in the cells of the Special Department which persecutes democratic organisations. They spent two tormenting weeks there on the bare ground, without light or air; they were forbidden to read papers, to communicate with the outside world or to choose defence counsel. Later, they were taken to the Devoto prison in Buenos Aires where they remain to this day. They have not once been brought before the judge who issued the warrant for their arrest.

Such is the reign of terror, the victims of which are the selfless fighters for peace, democracy and human rights. The imprisonment of the editorial board of “La Hora”, clearly exposes the reactionary policy of the Peron Government which is systematically restricting the rights and liberties of the people, throwing the defenders of these rights and liberties into prison.

## **CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT IN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA. Kiril Dramaliev, Member, Central Committee, Communist Party of Bulgaria**

During the 21 years of the fascist regime in Bulgaria the people's education went into a complete decline. By September 9, 1944, when the country was liberated, bourgeois obscurantism in education had reached its apex. Special laws to persecute progressive teachers and students were issued. The curricula and entire educational system were permeated with the fascist chauvinistic spirit of Greater Bulgaria.

The primary task set by the People's power was to eliminate as quickly as possible the legacy inherited from fascism in the sphere of education. It was essential to open wide the doors of schools to the sons and daughters of the working people; to build new schools, select the necessary teaching cadres and commence a vigorous struggle to eliminate illiteracy.

It was necessary to create material conditions for the children of the working people to enable them to obtain secondary and higher education. During the past five years of the Fatherland Front considerable achievements were made in this regard. The number of elementary schools rose from 7,161 under the fascist regime to 8,958 today; secondary schools from 134 to 262; vocational secondary schools (except agricultural schools) from 204 to 244. Prior to September 9, 1944 there were 8 higher schools in the country with 15 departments covering 33 subjects. Today there are 10 higher schools with 20 departments covering 60 subjects.

Two new universities have been opened and whereas in

1944, 12,000 students attended higher schools, 39,000 now attend. In the People's Republic of Bulgaria there is one student for every 180 citizens (Britain, 1 to 526, France 1 to 500).

Thousands of young men and women engaged in production also have the opportunity to obtain higher education through correspondence courses. For the first time in the country's history, elementary and secondary evening schools have been opened for workers. There are now 31 evening colleges and 121 evening elementary schools.

In the 1943-44 study year there were 27,816 teachers in secondary schools, including vocational schools. At present there are 37,968 teachers. Even this number is insufficient in view of the rapid extension of schools. Steps are now being taken to realise completely the principle of compulsory seven-year education.

Over 100,000 adults have conquered illiteracy, vigorous measures are being taken to eliminate illiteracy in the near future. The State renders material assistance to less well off, capable pupils and students. Last year, for example, the State provided for 3,900 scholarships in higher schools and over 5,000 in secondary—mainly vocational—schools.

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Second big task of the People's power in the sphere of education is to reorganise the educational system on a Marxist-Leninist basis, using the rich educational experience of the Soviet Union. Important reforms in this respect have already been carried out.

Compulsory education covers children up to and including 15 years of age. The study term in colleges was reduced by a year.

Latin and Greek were removed from the college curricula

and are now studied in universities or at a special faculty in some colleges.

Reading of Old Slavonic and study of the old Bulgarian language were also removed from the curricula. Ethics and civic science, formerly taught on the basis of idealism, were replaced by a political subject and that of the Republican Constitution. Study of the Russian language in all classes and throughout the entire term of studies was introduced. In the new school year, 14 classes were opened in three of the largest towns in the country in which all subjects are taught exclusively in Russian.

All religious, mystical, Greater-Bulgarian, fascist and other reactionary theses have been removed from the study material. New text-books have been issued on all subjects.

According to the new law concerning popular education, the school will provide an all-round training for citizens—builders of a Socialist society. But we are greatly hampered by the shortage of new teachers, by the unsatisfactory training of old teaching personnel, particularly in humanitarian subjects. The Education Ministry is taking serious measures to improve the scientific, ideological-political and professional qualifications of teachers by means of correspondence courses, organising short-time courses and by holding national and regional scientific and professional conferences. The Ministry of Education also devotes increasing attention to the correct organisation of the post-school studies of pupils in which the schools, receive valuable assistance from two mass organisations of pupils—the “Septemvriyche” organisation and the “Dimitrov Union of People’s Youth”. These organisations cover 85 per cent of school students and help to raise the ideological and political level of the pupils and inculcate conscious discipline in the schools.

On September 8, 1949, a joint decision of the Central Committee of the Communist Party, the Council of Ministers

and the National Council of the Fatherland Front outlined the conditions and tasks of popular education. This decision of tremendous significance for further developing education, contains practical instructions how to improve school studies and emphasizes that education is not merely the concern of the Education Ministry but must also be the concern, of other state, public bodies and organisations. This decision also provided higher wages for teachers.

\*

Profound changes have been made in higher education. Up to September 9, 1944,, the university and other higher schools were centres of pseudo science. Every progressive move by student or teacher was punished by expulsion. Special police organs “worked” in the university. The professional personnel produced most rabid fascist ring-leaders such as Tsankov, the hangman of the Bulgarian people. The People’s power has nearly cleared the higher schools of reactionary professors and teachers and the curricula has been freed from all kinds of reactionary rubbish. Compulsory study of dialectical and historical materialism, of the Constitution of the People’s Republic of Bulgaria and Marxist-Leninist principles has been introduced.

For the first time practical work for the students was begun. A post-graduate course was also organised to train qualified, scientific personnel. The achievements of Soviet science are widely popularised. Theory is linked with practice. In deciding the curricula the needs of Socialist construction are carefully taken into account.

The Academy of Science actually did not exist before September 9, 1944. The institution which plumed itself with this title was an association of little use, engaged merely in the study of annals, popular songs, folklore, and in archaeological

excavations in conformity with the chauvinist policy of the bourgeois government while the natural and mathematical sciences were neglected. The Academy had not a single scientific institute. Almost all its members were fascists, Greater Bulgaria chauvinists and reactionaries. It has now been reorganised as the highest State scientific body in the country and it carries on its own independent scientific-creative, organisational and administrative work. Twenty research institutes have been founded under its auspices. The task of the Academy is to facilitate by every means the development of theoretical and applied sciences in the country; to study and develop world scientific achievements, and, above all, Soviet science. It was also given the task of helping to secure the most speedy practical application of scientific discoveries in order to ensure the successful realisation of State plans and the re-organisation of the country along Socialist lines.

Confirmation of the great attention devoted by the People's power to the development of science, literature and the general culture of the people is the establishment of the Council for Science Art and culture which organises discussions on the main, scientific problems and questions of literature and art. These discussions help to expose pseudoscientific theories and quickly to eliminate bourgeois distortions in art and literature.

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The following figures are striking evidence of the desire of the People's power to render culture accessible to the broad masses of the people. Prior to September 9, 1944, there were 5 national, 5 regional, 4 district theatres and one opera House. There are now 19 national theatre and .4. Opera Houses, an amateur opera theatre, youth theatre, puppet theatre and 15 rural theatres. Over 3,200 amateur dramatic groups were formed. In 1943-44, 56 million leva were allocated to the

theatres, in 1948-49 350 million leva. A higher Dramatic School has been opened, and whereas under the fascist regime there was only one State symphony orchestra, there are now eight.

Never before were books so widely read in Bulgaria as now.

Publishing houses are in the hands of the State and public organisations. Prior to the 9th of September 1944, books of bourgeois writers were published in editions of 3,000 to 5,000 copies. Today books by progressive Bulgarian writers, and by Soviet and other writers are published in editions of 20,000, 60,000 and more copies. For instance, "How the Steel Was Tempered", by N. Ostrovsky; had a circulation of 75,000 copies; the collected stories of the revolutionary poet, Hristo Botev, 200,000 copies; the "Short Course of the History of the C.P.S.U. (B)" totalled 120,000 copies (four editions).

The works of Lenin and Stalin were issued in two million copies. During the last four and a half years over 30 million books and 22 million text-books were published.

For the People's Republic of Bulgaria there opens up a clear perspective of genuine Socialist development in the sphere of culture.

## IN ONE HARNESS. Drawing by E. Doru

The American monopolists are subordinating the entire home and foreign policy of the Marshallised countries to their lunatic plans for world domination.



## BRIEF NOTES

### 1. ANOTHER MONSTROUS TITOITE VILLAINY

The fascist Titoite clique, which has degenerated into an advanced detachment of the Anglo-American aggressors in the Balkans, continues its insolent provocations on the borders of the People's Democracies. These provocations have been intensified particularly since the exposure and trial of the Titoite spies Rajk and Kostov.

On February 25, Titoite bandits committed another crime: having penetrated Bulgarian territory they killed two Bulgarian border guards who were making their usual round of inspection. The fascist bandits fired explosive bullets. To cover up the traces of the crime and place the blame on the Bulgarian authorities, they attempted to remove the bodies to Yugoslav territory, but were prevented by the Bulgarian border guards.

The vile Titoite provocation again exposes the contemptible gang of Belgrade spies and killers as dangerous enemies of peace and order in the Balkans: as the bloody vanguard of the aggressive policy of American imperialism in South-East Europe. There is also profound significance in the fact that the Titoite killers shot the Bulgarian border guards on the day when Health, former U.S. Ambassador in Sofia—exposed as the organiser of the American espionage in Bulgaria and who, for this reason, had to leave the country—uttered base lies and slander against Bulgaria to Belgrade hack-writers.

The Government of the Bulgarian Republic has lodged a strong protest with the Government of Yugoslavia in connection with this new fascist provocation. But the Belgrade fascists, although caught red-handed, refused to admit

their guilt. That is understandable since bandits do not like to confess to their crimes.

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## **2. NETHERLANDS' LACKEYS OF THE WARMONGERS**

In accordance with a decision of the Permanent Committee of the World Council for Peace, a delegation was commissioned to visit Holland, and a number of other countries to submit a petition to parliament containing proposals for the preservation of peace.

The delegation, consisting of members of the French and Italian parliaments, functionaries of the women's and trade union movement of Denmark and Luxemburg was met... by reinforced police detachments.

On the direct instruction of the Netherlands Government the delegates were held under arrest a whole day, subjected to a rigid examination and then ordered out of the country.

The arrogant Netherlands rulers, fearful that peaceful proposals might prevent the continuance of their military adventure in Indonesia, raised their dirty hands, stained with

the blood of Indonesian working people, against the representatives of many hundreds of millions of partisans of peace, hoping thereby to win favour with their masters—the Anglo-American instigators of war.

Unlike their Netherlands colleagues the Belgian parliamentarians selected a “softer”, more bureaucratic method of combating the peace proposals of the Permanent Committee. They listened to the proposals but to avoid discussion on them or the necessity of expressing an opinion on the reduction of armaments and the outlawing of the atom bomb, parliament forwarded these proposals to the Belgian Foreign Minister.

Nor did the Swiss Government wish to lag behind its Netherlands and Belgian partners in the struggle against peace. It forbade Louis Saillant, General Secretary of the W.F.T.U.; Roger Garaudy, member of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party; Xuan-Lai, Viet Nam student; and Simone Bertrand, all official of the international women’s movement to speak in Switzerland in defence of Peace.

The people of Holland showed that the disgraceful behaviour of the Netherlands Government—unprecedented in the history of international relations—bore no relation to them at all. At a huge meeting in Amsterdam rallying thousands of people, the Netherlands working people strongly, protested against the action of the authorities towards the delegation. The Swiss working people also protested against the ban which prevented the delegates from speaking in defence of peace.

History teaches that when progressive ideas set in motion millions of people, no reactionary force can then stop their triumphant march. There can be no doubt that neither the Dutch police, nor their partners in the Marshallised countries will succeed in hindering the great movement for peace.

**Jan MAREK**

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