

Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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CONTENTS

MAY DAY—THE DAY OF SOLIDARITY OF WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WORLD, DAY OF FRATERNITY OF THE WORKERS OF ALL LANDS	6
ON THE EVE OF INTERNATIONAL MAY DAY	13
CZECHOSLOVAKIA.....	13
HUNGARY	13
ITALY	14
U.S.....	14
MILLIONS OF PEOPLE SIGNING APPEAL OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF WORLD PEACE CONGRESS	16
BULGARIA	16
BRAZIL.....	17
RUMANIA.....	17
ITALY	18
BRITAIN.....	19
MILITANT TASKS OF THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE.....	20
FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY OF MAURICE THOREZ. Jacques Duclos, Secretary, French Communist Party.....	31
THE GREAT AIM OF THE PEOPLES. Frederic Joliot-Curie, Chairman, Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress	40
FOR PEACE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY! Marcel Cachin, Member, Politburo, French Communist Party	43
THE CAMPAIGN FOR SIGNATURES TOT THE APPEAL OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE IS DEVELOPING ON EVER INCREASING SCALE IN FRANCE.....	46
FESTIVAL OF LABOUR AND STRUGGLE. Klement Gottwald, Chairman, Communist Party of Czechoslovakia	47
WEEK OF EDUCATION IN POLAND.....	53
MILITANT REVIEW OF INVINCIBLE FORCES OF PEACE SUPPORTERS. Boleslaw Bierut Chairman, Polish United Workers' Party.....	54
SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CELEBRATION OF MAY DAY IN GERMANY. Wilhelm Pieck, Chairman, Socialist Unity Party of Germany	61

From the Refusal to Celebrate May Day to Repressions against May Day Demonstrations	63
They Fear our Successes	66
We Stand Firmly In the Camp of Peace	68
IN THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC	71
SUPPORT FOR THE APPEAL OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD PEACE CONGRESS	71
JOURNAL OF PEACE SUPPORTERS	72
A NEW MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LAW	73
COMPLETION OF LAND REFORM IN RURAL DISTRICTS AROUND PEKING	73
BULGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC	75
PEACE MOVEMENT IN FINLAND. Mayri Ryömä, Member, Politburo, Central Committee, Communist Party of Finland	76
ALL-GERMAN YOUTH RALLY	80
INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY OF PARTISANS OF PEACE IS INVINCIBLE! Anna Pauker, Secretary, Central Committee, Rumanian Workers' Party	81
Lessons of History	81
Foil Criminal Designs of the Warmongers!	84
For Peace and Socialism	86
ROMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. FACTORY AND OFFICE WORKERS OF THE 23rd OF AUGUST ENGINEERING WORKS IN BUCHAREST SIGNING THE APPEAL OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD PEACE CONGRESS	88
MAY DAY 1950. Harry Pollitt, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Britain	89
BRITISH WORKERS REJECT WAGE-FREEZE	93
TO SAVE PEACE IS THE DUTY OF THE INTERNATIONAL PROLETARIAT. Giuseppe di Vittorio, Chairman, World Federation of Trade Unions	94
HUNGARIAN PEOPLES REPUBLIC. MONUMENT TO SOVIET SOLDIERS, THE LIBERATORS OM GELLERT HILL IN BUDAPEST	101
ON THE EVE OF MAY DAY	102
BULGARIA	102

FINLAND.....	102
NORWAY.....	103
WARSAW-PRAGUE CYCLE RAGE.....	104
PEACE MOVEMENT IS GROWING AND GAINING STRENGTH!.....	106
WORKING PEOPLE OF HUNGARY SIGNING APPEAL FOR PROHIBITION OF ATOMIC WEAPON.....	106
FRANCE.....	107
AUSTRALIA.....	108
TRIESTE.....	109
DANISH DOCKERS PROTEST AGAINST DENMARK BEING TURNED INTO A U.S. ARSENAL.....	109
GERMANY.....	111
LEBANON.....	111
THIRD CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATIC UNION OF GERMAN WOMEN.....	112
AUSTRIA.....	113
INDIA.....	113
POLAND.....	114
ALGIERS.....	114
NORWAY.....	114
BELGIUM.....	115
NOT A STEP FURTHER! Drawing by J. Novak.....	116
POLITICAL NOTES.....	117
FORRESTALS FROM ARGENTINA.....	117
THEIR "MORAL SUPPORT".....	118
MANIFESTO OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' UNION.....	120
BILL ANDREWS 80 YEARS OLD.....	121

**MAY DAY—THE DAY OF SOLIDARITY OF
WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WORLD, DAY
OF FRATERNITY OF THE WORKERS OF
ALL LANDS**



This is the sixtieth time that the working class and working

people of the world are celebrating May Day—the day of fraternity of the workers in all countries struggling against capitalism, for liberation, for peace, democracy and Socialism. What colossal changes have been brought about in the correlation of class forces on the international arena during these sixty years!

When, on May 1 sixty years ago, the workers organised the first demonstration of the international solidarity of the working class, many still believed in the durability of the capitalist system, and in the continuity of its existence. But even in those days, capitalism was already showing signs of senility; it was passing into its final stage—imperialism, which brought enslavement to the vast majority of the peoples of the world by a handful of imperialist states and unheard of intensification of exploitation and poverty for the working people.

The victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, splitting the world into two opposing camps—marked the beginning of the general crisis of capitalism, conditioned and accelerated the inevitability of the imminent destruction of this social system.

The further course of history disclosed more and more and with inexorable consistency the decay of imperialism. Despite the feverish efforts which the magnates of capital and their Right Socialist and other lackeys are making to save capitalism, nothing can save it. The boundlessly inflated war psychosis, the frantic armaments drive, the vile campaign of slander and provocation against the camp of Socialism and people's democracy, the rabid fascist terror—nothing can avert the inevitable destruction of capitalism, for the working people are ever more resolutely fighting for their liberation.

Working people in all countries are celebrating this May Day in circumstances when 800,000,000 people—one-third of humanity—have already cast off the imperialist yoke. Over the

vast expanse, from the Elbe to the Pacific, the great ideas of the founders and leaders of the world Communist movement, Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, are being successfully realised. With ever growing alarm, imperialists watch the steadily shrinking map of their possessions, trying in vain to bar the way to the growing liberation movement of the peoples. The old world, the world of exploitation of man by man, the world of violence, oppression and destructive wars, is perishing. The new world triumphs, the world of liberated labour, Socialism, democracy and peace!

On May Day, the day of militant review of their forces, working people in all countries will summarise the results of their struggle against imperialism. They will record the further growth of the strength and might of the Soviet Union—the first Socialist country. Under the leadership of Comrade Stalin, the heroic Soviet people have accomplished in the shortest possible time the difficult task of rehabilitating the areas devastated by German-fascist occupation; they have reached and surpassed the pre-war level in industry and agriculture. The post-war Five-Year Plan is being successfully completed; gross industrial output last year was more than 40 per cent above pre-war; the gross production of agriculture also exceeded the pre-war level. The Soviet people are successfully effecting the gradual transition to Communism.

And no matter how the Anglo-American imperialists may rave and fume, they are powerless to prevent the inspiring ideas of Communism from spreading more and more among the peoples of all countries or to prevent the increasing sympathy and warm love for the Soviet Union—the reliable bulwark of peace, the citadel of the liberation movement of the working people.

On May Day, the working people will recall the great historic victory of the Chinese people, for whom the Chinese Communist Party opened the way to Socialism. The four

hundred and seventy five million population of China have been liberated from imperialist violence and plunder. With the liberation of China, the colonial system of imperialism is tottering. The national liberation war of the heroic people of Viet Nam is developing successfully; the liberation movement in Malaya, Burma and other countries in the East is spreading.

And no matter how the imperialist gentlemen may rave, they are no longer able to hold in submission the awakened peoples in the colonial and dependent countries, or to stem the ever-mounting wave of the national liberation struggles of these peoples who are straightening their backs under the powerful influence of the Lenin-Stalin national policy, the successes of the land of Socialism and the people's revolution in China.

On May Day, the working people will record the tremendous successes of the People's Democracies which, thanks to the all-round support of the Soviet Union, have, in an historically brief space of time, restored their economy and have begun successfully to lay the foundations of Socialism in town and countryside, to raise the living standard of their peoples and to realise the cultural revolution. Now, for the many millions of working people in the capitalist and colonial countries the international significance of the experience of the working class of the Soviet Union and the suitability of the "Russian model" for all peoples have become clear. If Socialism has found such favourable soil on the banks of the Vistula and Danube as it has on the Volga and on the Dnieper, then it is quite clear that sooner or later it will find the same favourable soil on the banks of the Seine, the Tiber, the Thames, the Ganges, as also on the banks of all other rivers.

On May Day, the working people will also record such an important success for the forces of peace and democracy as the establishment of the German Democratic Republic. Situated in the heart of Europe, Germany for long years was one of the

most aggressive imperialist States. The formation of The German Democratic Republic creates conditions for the unification of Germany into a single democratic State, for the elimination of the danger of war in Europe.

On May Day, working people throughout the world express their solidarity with the heroic peoples of France, Italy, Spain, Greece, Japan, the U.S., Western Germany and in other capitalist countries, fighting staunchly for their rights in the arduous conditions of police regimes and fascist terror, with the working people of Yugoslavia waging a liberation struggle against—the fascist regime of the Tito clique. The peoples of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies and all sincere democrats in the world end their greetings to the working people of these countries. And despite all the fury of the imperialists and their Right Socialist lackeys, they are impotent to retard the growth of the forces of Communism in these countries. The great class battles, especially in France and Italy, show how powerful is the influence of the Communist Parties—the fearless fighters for peace and for national independence of peoples, for democracy and Socialism.

Another big success for the working people of the world was the exposure of the criminal fascist-nationalist Tito-Rankovic clique. The Anglo-American imperialists tried to use this gang of hired assassins and spies to overthrow the State system in the People's Democracies, to detach these countries from the Soviet Union, to split the international working class movement and to unleash a third world war. The plans of the imperialists and of their Tito agents have suffered ignominious failure.

On May Day, the working people will record this fact—an exceptionally important fact for the fate of the peoples—namely the fact of the huge scale of the all-peoples movement for peace, against the Anglo-American instigators of a new

war. The peoples of the world are realising more and more clearly that the American imperialists and their satellites are feverishly intensifying the preparations for a predatory war and that the danger of the criminal violation of peace by the imperialist aggressors is growing daily.

May 1 will be a day of further mighty mobilisation of the working people of all countries for the further unfolding of the widest possible peace movement, for carrying out **a world-wide collection or signatures** to the appeal for the unconditional prohibition of the atomic weapon and the denunciation as a war criminal of that government which first uses this weapon against any country. The appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress containing these demands must become the banner of the millions of people who are striving for peace.

In campaigning for signatures to the appeal for the prohibition of the atomic weapon it should always be remembered that, without the people and against the will of the peoples, the imperialists cannot unleash war, it is necessary therefore to bring into the struggle for peace all people who do not want war, irrespective of their political and religious views, their social position or nationally.

May Day in capitalist countries is a day of struggle for the further consolidation of working class unity, for the realisation of the daily demands of the working people, for democratic rights and national independence and intensified action against the transportation of American arms. On May Day, the working people of all countries will strengthen proletarian internationalism still more as the essential condition of the successful struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism. Ever greater will, grow the love and friendship of the working people of the world for the Soviet people, the glorious Bolshevik Party and the great Stalin who, for more than 32 years, have been paving the way for mankind to a new, happy

life, a life based on the abolition of the exploitation of man by man, on the abolition of oppression and plunder of the peoples.

Raise high the invincible banner of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin—the great banner of proletarian internationalism!

Long live May Day—the day of the solidarity of the working people of all countries, the day of the review of the growing forces of the peoples fighting for peace.

ON THE EVE OF INTERNATIONAL MAY DAY

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

All people of Czechoslovakia are preparing to celebrate May Day and the fifth anniversary of the liberation of the Republic by the Soviet Army. The main May Day slogan is "For peace, for the Homeland, for Socialism!".

Socialist emulation for May Day, which embraces all workers and employees in thousands of factories, pits, unified agricultural co-operatives, state machine and tractor depots and farms, is widespread. As a result of the spread of emulation, the industrial production plan in March was fulfilled by 105.2 per cent and in the first quarter of the year by 101.9 per cent. Strong field work this year was carried out in a far shorter time than in previous years. Simultaneously with the development of May Day emulation there is taking place a widespread campaign in defence of peace.

Communist Party members and members of the public organisations are going from house to house explaining questions of world politics, the significance of the collection of signatures to the appeal for the prohibition of the atomic weapon.

HUNGARY

Working people in Hungary are getting ready to celebrate May Day with big labour achievements. New big successes have been registered in inter-factory emulation. Objectives of the emulation are; economy of materials, better quality production, less waste, lower production costs and thus

strengthen the national economy. Many enterprises have considerably reduced idle time for machines. Others, following the example of Soviet Stakhanovites, have started a movement to secure production one day each month from economised materials.

ITALY

The General Confederation of Labour in Italy has called for mass May Day demonstrations throughout Italy under the slogans of the struggle for peace, democratic liberties and for work.

Over 120 demonstrations and meetings are scheduled in Rome and Rome province.

In connection with the forthcoming festival of the working people, the General Confederation of Labour has extended the campaign of drawing working people into the trade unions. According to di Vittorio, the membership of the trade unions affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour has reached 5,400,000, that is, 65 per cent of all the workers in the country.

U.S.

New York's May Day Committee has called on all workers to demonstrate for peace on May 1. The Committee's slogan is: "All Out May Day. For Peace, Jobs, For A United Labour Movement!".

Throughout May, peace action will be intensified. The American "Committee for Peaceful Alternatives" proposed to call a conference for Peace in Chicago. The newly formed Action Committee for Peace in Boston plans to hold a mass

rally in May.

Peace ballots and petitions are also being conducted in Philadelphia, Gary (Indiana), in California and in other states and towns.

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE SIGNING APPEAL OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF WORLD PEACE CONGRESS

BULGARIA

In the Bulgarian People's Republic the collection of signatures to the appeal for the prohibition of the atomic weapon has acquired a nation-wide character. By April 25 a total of 232,246 signatures were gathered in the Stara Zagora district; 223,718 in the Haskovo district; 146,700 in the Russe district; 141,222 in the GornoDjumaïsk district; 105,000 in the Yambol area; more than 100,000 in the Mihailovgrad and Berkovica areas. The entire adult population in many areas has already signed the petition. For example; in the town of Vraca and surrounding villages, 112,000 inhabitants have signed the appeal. Similarly in the Bela Slatina area each of the 68,000 inhabitants has signed.

In six districts of Sofia 247,000 signatures had been collected by April 25.

The collection of signatures in the countryside is proceeding with equal enthusiasm; in the village of Tetovo 3,156 out of the 4,000 inhabitants have signed the appeal. In the village of Asilovci 600 signed in one day alone. All the members of the "Pravda" agricultural producer co-operative, in the village of Divdiadovo also signed in one day, Reports from Torgovice area show that the people are signing en masse.

The people of the towns of Petritch and Nevrokop and of almost all the villages in these areas made Sunday, April 23, a voluntary work day in honour of the collection of signatures for

peace. Fifty-two thousand men and women participated in this voluntary effort.

BRAZIL

The peace movement in Brazil developed on a wide scale following the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress.

On “Liberty Day”, April 21, a public meeting was held on Parliament Square organised by the “Brazil Organisation for the Defence of Peace and Culture” and the “Brazil League for the Defence of Democratic Liberties”, on the occasion of the collection of the first thousand signatures to the appeal for the prohibition of the atomic weapon. The meeting took place despite the police terror of the Dutra Government and the arrest of scores of partisans of peace.

RUMANIA

In the Rumanian People’s Republic the collection of signatures for the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress is proceeding with great enthusiasm. Within the first two weeks alone the appeal was signed by 4,300,000 citizens, including 2,825,000 peasants.

Bucharest leads the campaign with over 450,000 signatures. A total of 231,000 signatures was collected in Timos district; in Dolj, 225,000; Bihor, 126,000; Mihedinz, 120,000; Yalomiza, 118,000; Arad, 114,000; Constanza, 111,000; Ilfov, 106,000 etc.

In many enterprises and offices the appeal was signed by all the working people. For example, in the “Janos Herbac”

factory, in Cluj, each of the 6,350 working people signed.

In connection with the preparations for the celebration of May Day and the campaign for signing the appeal, the working people in town and countryside have achieved considerable successes in Socialist emulation and in the spring sowing, under the slogan: "Support the struggle for peace by new successes in production!"

ITALY

Big demonstrations under the slogan of struggle for peace, freedom, independence and against the revival of fascism were held throughout Italy on April 21, the fifth anniversary of the victorious armed uprising of the Italian people against fascism. At a big meeting in Rome the speakers included former leaders of the glorious partisan detachments who, on behalf of the Italian people, expressed firm determination to fight for peace with all the means in their power.

On the same day, at the Congress of "Culture and Resistance" in Venice—which was attended by all democratic writers and workers of art and culture and also by prominent Italian political personalities—a resolution was carried which declared that the resistance fighters are to-day ready once more to head the people of Italy in their struggle for peace, freedom and national independence.

While preparations are under way for a big campaign for the collection of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee, thousands of Italian peasants are collecting food to help dock workers who have refused to unload war materials. Railwaymen and dockers receive thousands of letters expressing full solidarity with their actions from citizens belonging to various sections of the population from women and youth.

BRITAIN

In Britain many organisations have arranged for the collection of peace signatures to the Stockholm appeal. Within a week of the announcement by the British Peace Committee of the organisation of a national petition, 150,000 petition forms were ordered by local organisations each with space for 15 signatures. A further 100,000 forms have been printed. 250,000 copies of a pictorial peace newspaper, in connection with the petition, have also been printed.

A total of 40,000 organisations are being circularised by the British Peace Committee with the petition, and local peace conferences are being organised in London, Nottingham, Birmingham, Coventry and other towns, as well as in Scotland and Wales. Preparations are also under way for a second national British Peace Congress at the end of July.

The Scottish Trades Union Congress, attended by 385 delegates from 79 unions with a total membership of 726,420 has unanimously demanded a ban on the manufacture of all atomic weapons and called for destruction of all existing stocks.

Manchester District Council of the National of Union of Railwaymen have also demanded the banning of atom and hydrogen bombs, destruction of all stocks, and the signature of a Peace Pact.

MILITANT TASKS OF THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE

The present international situation is distinguished by a further sharpening of the struggle between the two opposing camps—the democratic and anti-imperialist camp headed by the U.S.S.R. and the imperialist and anti-democratic camp headed by the U.S.

The aggressiveness of the imperialist camp is continuing to grow. The imperialists of the United States of America and their junior partner—Britain, and their satellites in Europe and Asia are making feverish efforts to mobilise all forces of world reaction as the pre-condition for the realisation of their aggressive designs. They are engaged in an unprecedented armaments drive, whipping up war hysteria and are organising dangerous provocations, as was the case recently when the U.S. B29 military plane brazenly violated the Soviet frontier. The warmongers continue to intimidate with the atom bomb and the hydrogen bomb.

Simultaneously, the forces of peace, democracy and Socialism have grown considerably throughout the world in the struggle against the imperialist camp—the camp of the instigator of war. In peaceful competition between the two systems, the Socialist system of society is daily more and more strikingly demonstrating its immense superiority over the outmoded capitalist social system.

This is evident from the remarkable successes achieved by the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies in all spheres of the national economy and culture.

The achievements of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies stand out particularly strikingly on the background of the relentlessly advancing economic crisis, of the decline in production, the growth of unemployment and the

impoverishment of the masses in the U.S. and other capitalist countries.

The broad masses of the people throughout the world are realising more and more clearly the correctness of the position of those, and, in the first place of the advanced representatives of the working class, who constantly point to the growing danger of war, to the concrete actions of imperialist circles in the U.S. and Britain in preparing a new world war. Every day brings additional evidence that the danger of military ventures on the part of the imperialist warmongers is growing.

In these conditions the demand contained in the Resolution of the Information Bureau acquires even greater significance and urgency: "The struggle for a stable and lasting peace, for the organisation and consolidation of the forces of peace against the forces of war should now become the pivot of the entire activity of the Communist Parties and democratic organisations."

During the period which has elapsed since the third meeting of the Information Bureau, the struggle for peace has been marked by new successes. The movement of the partisans of peace has acquired an even greater scale, its organisational basis has become more consolidated. The characteristic feature of the movement for peace is the increase in the number of its partisans, the unification in its ranks of the broadest sections of the population. As a rule, millions of people take part in all practical measures carried out by the organisations of partisans of peace.

The peace ballot carried out last autumn in France by the Fighters for Peace and Freedom Union embraced over seven million people. Last year the Union of Italian Women collected three million signatures from the women of Italy in support of the demands for peace. Later, the Italian Peace Committee collected eight million signatures to the protest against the Atlantic Pact.

But the characteristic feature of the present movement for peace lies not only in its wide scale. Another distinguishing feature is the growing activity of the fighters for peace who are going over to new and more effective forms of struggle against the warmongers. This is evident from the powerful mass actions, strikes and street demonstrations in defence of peace, work and freedom now taking place in Italy and France. This is evident also from the magnificent struggle of the working class of France, Italy, Holland, Belgium and Norway against the unloading and transportation of American war materials arriving in Europe in accordance with the Atlantic Pact.

The movement of the partisans of peace has become a most serious factor in the international situation.

However, the present international situation demands from the democratic organisations and from the fighters for peace that they should exert even greater effort to defend peace, to frustrate the criminal plans of the instigators of war.

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The struggle for peace in its present stage is developing round the demand to ban the atomic weapon as a weapon of aggression and mass extermination of people and to denounce as a war criminal that government which first uses it.

It may be confidently stressed that in the general chain of measures adopted round the struggle for peace, the campaign for the collection of millions of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress, which expresses this demand, is, at the present time, the main link.

The demand for the prohibition of the atomic weapon, as a weapon of aggression and mass extermination of the peaceful population and of denouncing as a war criminal that Government which first uses this weapon is the most simple, understandable and the broadest platform round which

hundreds of millions of people can unite regardless of their political or religious convictions.

The successful carrying out of the campaign for the collection of signatures will be, at the same time, another powerful blow against the imperialist camp, exposing their aggressive plans and contributing to the moral and political isolation of the instigators of war. It will serve as a grim warning of severe punishment by the peoples to all the imperialist degenerates of mankind who, by means of the atomic bomb, would like to destroy millions and millions of innocent people.

The first reports show that the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee has been received with very great attention in all countries and is meeting with the wholehearted support of the broadest sections of the population. In the course of a few days, more than 100,000 signatures were collected among the workers in the Ruhr and Rhine regions in Western Germany. In France, the Union of Fighters for Peace and Freedom distributed millions of petition forms containing the text of the appeal of the Permanent Peace Committee which will be sent to every French family. The collection of signatures is daily assuming ever wider dimensions. The collection of signatures, in Bulgaria is proceeding with unprecedented enthusiasm and with the mass participation of the working people. The number of signatures in this country is growing from day to day and now exceeds several hundred thousand. In the Rumanian People's Republic over 4,300,000 people have signed the appeal of the Permanent Committee.

Preparations for the collection of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee are underway in Italy, Poland, Hungary, Czechoslovakia and Albania.

There is greater activity on the part of the peace committees in Britain which have also started the mass

collection of signatures. The first tens of thousands of signatures have been collected in the U.S. In Osaka, Japan, the local branch of the League for the Defence of Democracy plans to collect 500,000 signatures to the peace declaration by May 1.

This however, is but the beginning, the first steps in the carrying out of this magnificent international undertaking, such as the collection of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Peace Committee demanding the prohibition of the atomic weapon.

It is of course clear that the carrying out of such a campaign calls for great effort on the part of the partisans of peace of all countries. It is not hundreds of thousands and not several millions but tens and hundreds of millions of signatures which must be obtained in all countries of the world. The sooner all the necessary preparations are concluded, and the national organisations of the partisans of peace commence practical work for the collection of signatures, the more will it be possible to bring: in the broad sections of the population who are vitally interested that the decisions adopted concerning the prohibition of the atomic weapon and the establishment of strict international control over atomic energy are not delayed. Delay in developing this campaign, which, if one is to judge by press reports, can be observed in certain countries, deprives the peoples of those countries of the possibility of taking part in the simultaneous campaign now developing in most countries.

It is essential duty of all Communist Parties, all trade unions, women's, youth, students, journalists and other democratic organisations to give every possible support to the struggle of the people's masses for peace which is now developing in the form of the demand for the prohibition of the atomic weapon and of denouncing as a war criminal that government which first uses this weapon.

Experience in the carrying out of similar measures shows

that success in many respects will depend on the attention devoted to the organisational side. When it is a matter of collecting the testimony of the will for peace from millions and millions of people, careful and skilful organisation acquires, one might say, decisive significance. There can be no doubt whatsoever that the demand for the prohibition of the atomic weapon is the demand of the overwhelming majority of the population in any country, excluding the handful of imperialist instigations of war. The campaign for the collection of signatures must be carried out in such a way as to ensure the possibility for the masses of the peoples fully to express their will so that every honest citizen can express individually his or her adhesion to the demand for the banning of the atomic weapon which threatens all people in every country without exception. Therefore the experience of the peace partisans in France, where not only the usual forms of activity are developing such as congresses, meetings and demonstrations, but also new, especially individual forms, such as visiting residential areas, villages, canvassing from door to door, is worthy of special attention. None must be forgotten, neither worker, peasant nor employee, nor members of academies of science, writers associations, workers in art, engineers, eminent public figures and members of parliament. Let all express their attitude to the appeal of the Permanent Peace Committee since it poses the fundamental question of our times, one which concerns each and everyone and which cannot be thrust aside or avoided by empty phrases.

It is clear that the carrying out of this work will require the aid of large numbers of active, selfless people capable of explaining the purpose of the campaign and of overcoming all the obstacles being placed in the way of the partisans of peace by the warmongers.

The campaign for the collection of signatures to the demand for the prohibition of the atomic weapon provides all

excellent opportunity for all partisans of peace to develop wide explanatory work among the masses concerning the aims and tasks of the struggle for peace in present conditions, to warn people against under-rating the danger of war, to expose the aggressive plans of Anglo-American imperialist capital and to popularise the successes of the movement for peace the world over.

There is an urgent need for booklets, pamphlets and posters on these subjects. Here the masters of art and writers have a wide field for action. An especially important role can be played by the progressive press by reporting the daily course of the campaign in their own countries and throughout the world, by explaining the purpose and tasks of the peace movement, by exposing the mercenary bourgeois press which remains silent about the all-people's movement for peace and for the prohibition of the atomic weapon.

Serious work confronts the peace committees in towns, villages, factories, offices and in educational establishments. The peace committees are the organizational core of the entire peace movement, which carries on the struggle directly among the masses and where contact is formed between the local organisations of various tendencies and associations taking part in the peace movement.

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The Second World Peace Congress, scheduled for autumn this year, will undoubtedly be an important landmark in the struggle for peace. It will summarise the practical work of the partisans of peace in all countries and will demonstrate the indestructible will of the peoples to fight for peace and their readiness to frustrate the designs of the warmongers.

The preparations for the Second World Peace Congress will undoubtedly be accompanied by a further extension of the

ranks of the fighters for peace throughout the world. Partisans of peace call upon all social and religious groups, upon all workers in culture, upon all honest people to take part in this Congress.

Experience shows that the leading force in the struggle for peace is the working class which has recently displayed new examples of courage and staunchness in the struggle against the warmongers. Together with the working class, a considerable section of the advanced democratic intelligentsia is also taking an active part in the struggle for peace.

However, not only the working class and the intelligentsia are interested in the struggle for peace. The winning of a stable and durable peace fully corresponds also to the interests of the peasantry and the broadest masses of the people. Facts show, however, that, so far, the vast peasant masses have been insufficiently drawn into active struggle for peace. There are few peace committees in rural villages; peace ballots have, in the main, been confined to the town population. Individual successes achieved by the partisans of peace in Italy and France are far from exhausting all the possibilities inherent in the peasant masses.

The movement of the partisans of peace will acquire a greater scale if, in the near future, all efforts are made to draw the peasant masses into active participation in the struggle for peace. The peasantry which, as a rule, forms the mass basis of the armies, pay particularly heavily for wars organised by the imperialist aggressors and that is why the peasantry stand whole-heartedly for peace and hate the warmongers.

Preparations for the Second World Peace Congress will, undoubtedly, impart new vigour to the activities of the organisations for peace in such countries as the U.S. Britain and Scandinavia. As was justly pointed out at the Stockholm session, of the Permanent Peace Committee, the peace movement in these countries has not yet attained a mass

character. At the same time, the broad masses of the people in these countries are interested in the struggle against unleashing war and against the use of the atomic weapon in no less measure than are the peoples of other countries. The warmongers evoke among the peoples of the U.S. and Britain exactly the same hatred as they do among other peoples. The development of an active peace struggle in these countries is of a particularly great significance when we consider the fact that the ruling circles of the U.S. and Britain are the chief instigators of a new world war.

There is no doubt that the advanced representatives of the peace movement in Britain, the U.S. and Scandinavia will come to the Second World Peace Congress with successes in their just cause, despite all the difficulties they encounter in their countries. Millions of people in the U.S. and in Britain are uniting with all peoples in a unanimous demand for the prohibition of the atomic weapon and the denunciation, as a war criminal, of that government which first use this weapon.

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The Communist Parties are marching in the vanguard of the fighters for peace. The Communists have always been and will always be there where the matter concerns defence of the vital interests of the working masses, where the fate of the peoples and nations is being decided. And now they will exert every effort in order to help the partisans of peace turn the campaign for the collection of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee and for the preparations for the Second World Peace Congress into a real all-people's campaign; to rouse and unite hundreds of millions of people all over the world in the struggle for peace and against the warmongers.

It would be an unforgivable mistake in our day to underestimate the danger of war. The enemies of peace and the instigators of a new war seek to advertise in every way their

ostentatious love for peace, to conceal their own preparations for a new war and to declare the movement of the partisans of peace an allegedly unnecessary and superfluous business.

This latter point of view is now propagated with particular zeal by the fascist Tito clique, carrying out the will of its imperialist masters. This foul pack of assassins and spies completely deny, despite obvious facts, the danger of the imperialists unleashing a new war.

Partisans of peace must not let themselves be deceived by this hostile propaganda aimed at lulling the vigilance of the fighters for peace, and immobilising the peoples and thus taking them by surprise.

In face of the oncoming economic crisis and with the general sharpening of all the contradictions of present-day capitalism, the imperialist warmongers are looking for, and will continue to seek a way out in new wars, dooming millions of people to appalling suffering and extermination.

However, war is not inevitable as the warmongers wish people to believe. The imperialists cannot wage wars without the people. And if the broadest masses of the people, above all, the working class and peasants of France, Italy, Germany, Britain, the U.S. and other capitalist countries, actively fight for peace, they will be able, together with the peoples of the great Soviet Union, marching in the vanguard of the struggle for peace, with the Chinese People's Republic and the People's Democracies, to foil the plans of the imperialist instigators of a new war.

The movement for peace is growing with new strength. Ever new millions of people are taking their place in the ranks of active fighters for peace, going over from declarations in defence of peace to effective struggle against warmongers. The partisans of peace cannot be pacifists engaged in admonishing the warmongers. The partisans of peace cannot be pacifists engaged in admonishing the warmongers. The task is further to

increase the effectiveness of the movement of the partisans of peace; to go ahead along the path now taken by the working class which is carrying out, under the banner of peace, practical actions, against bringing American armaments into Europe.

The success of the cause of peace as a whole depends on the extent to which the mass of the rank and file members of the parties and all the local party organisations working directly among the masses and who well know their sentiments, are drawn into the work of carrying out practical measures.

Fulfilling this duty, the Communists will raise still higher their prestige in the eyes of the mass of the people, will consolidate even more their bonds with the masses and unite around themselves hundreds of millions of people in the struggle for peace throughout the world, against the imperialist instigators of a new war.

FIFTIETH BIRTHDAY OF MAURICE THOREZ. Jacques Duclos, Secretary, French Communist Party

To-day, April 28, Maurice Thorez, General Secretary of the French Communist Party, celebrates his fiftieth birthday. The celebration of this date is not only an important political event for French Communists, for the working class and the people of France, but also for Communists and partisans of peace in all countries.

Maurice Thorez—the indisputable leader of the French Communist Party—is one of the outstanding leaders of the international working class movement.

Maurice Thorez—whose father and grandfather were miners, spent his childhood in the mining district of Pas-de-Calais in an atmosphere of working class struggle which influenced him enormously.

The war of 1914 and the consequent evacuation compelled him, earlier than others, to question the cause of war which brings such destruction and takes such a heavy toll of life.

Settling down in the Creuse Department, the young miner became a farm labourer. Circumstances thus brought him into touch with peasant life and taught him to understand the peasants.

Maurice Thorez was a bargeman on the Somme when the 1917 October Revolution shook the world, evoking enormous enthusiasm and giving birth to great hopes.

The October Revolution made a profound impression on the young Maurice Thorez. He felt that the cause of this Revolution, which had triumphed under the leadership of the great Party of Lenin and Stalin, had become the cause of all working people. The Russian Revolution was subjected to

fierce attacks by reaction, but these attacks only endeared it still more to the working people.

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After the war, Maurice Thorez again returned to the mines of Pas-de-Calais. He thirsted for knowledge. He read virtually everything written about the October Revolution. In March 1919, Maurice Thorez joined a trade union and the Socialist Party, and was a member of the committee which was formed for the purpose of deciding the question of affiliating to the Communist International.

The Party branch at Nogelles-godault, of which Maurice Thorez was a member, expressed itself in favour of joining the Communist International and, finally, in December 1920, the Congress of the Socialist Party at Tours, which was attended by Clara Zetkin on behalf of the Executive Committee of the Communist International, aligned itself with Marcel Cachin and responded to the call of the great Lenin.

However, as Maurice Thorez wrote in his book "Son of the People", the "Communists had a long road to traverse, a difficult time of apprenticeship, for as political figures, they had to know and to learn how correctly to estimate the surrounding reality, to acquire experience in struggle and learn to be victorious in the struggle conditions prevailing in France."

Maurice Thorez began his Party activities among the miners of Pas-de-Calais. With great enthusiasm he endeavoured to carry out the slogan of the Third Congress of the Communist International: "Forward to the masses". With all his energy, Maurice Thorez fought in the struggle to secure a united front of the working people.

In 1923 repression was unloosed against the Communist Party and Frossard, Secretary of the Party, deserted to the

enemy. At that time the leadership of the Federation in the Pas-de-Calais Department was entrusted to Maurice Thorez.

At the Lyons Congress in January 1924, Maurice Thorez was elected a member of the Central Committee.

While, the Congress was in session the sad news of Lenin's death was received, which caused profound grief among the working class.

"The international proletariat and its fighters felt themselves suddenly orphaned. Lenin is no longer with us!" wrote Maurice Thorez. Estimating the role played by the great strategist of the proletarian revolution, Maurice Thorez wrote: "Leninism is an insistent call to revolution, a revolutionary concept which rips the mask from petty bourgeois utopias, combats opportunism and anarcho-syndicalism. Disclosing the meaning of the most complex and confused phenomena, Lenin's concrete analysis of each given situation reveals to us the 'link in the chain' which we must grasp in order to go forward along the road of transforming society.

"Leninism is the strategy and tactics of the revolutionary proletariat. It is the alliance with the peasant masses and the colonial peoples. In contrast to counter-revolutionary trotskyism which wishes to reign over the peasantry by terror, Leninism stresses the important role of the peasantry and the need to win it for the struggle for the Socialist revolution."

Maurice Thorez then points out that not restricting himself to the defence of the teachings of Marx and Engels against the revisionists and falsifiers in the ranks of Social Democracy, Lenin developed further the theory of Marxism. Maurice Thorez recalled the definition of Leninism given by Stalin:

"Leninism is Marxism of the era of imperialism and of the proletarian revolution. To be more exact, Leninism is the theory and tactics of the proletarian revolution in general, the theory and tactics of the dictatorship of the proletariat in particular".

Then Maurice Thorez writes: “To Stalin, Lenin’s disciple and continuator, belongs the distinction of having made a new contribution to the development of the theory of Marxism-Leninism, of having enriched and developed further the teachings of the founders of scientific Socialism. Generalising the formidable experience of Socialist construction in the U.S.S.R., Stalin elucidated the different aspects of economic, political, social and cultural development in conditions of the proletarian dictatorship, Stalin elaborated the theory of building Socialism in one country”.

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In February 1925, Maurice Thorez paid his first visit to the U.S.S.R. He had the good fortune to see and hear Comrade Stalin who received the French delegation sent to the Executive Committee of the Communist International.

Thorez recalls that on that day Stalin said to the French delegates; “The genuine influence of a Party is measured by the activity it is able to organise and to direct”.

This Stalin idea, said Maurice Thorez, “left an indelible impression on my memory”. And of this there can be no doubt since in all his work and actions Maurice Thorez is always guided by this valuable counsel.

In July 1925, Thorez was elected a member of the Political Bureau and Organising Secretary of the Party. At the Lille Congress in June 1926 he declared that the Communist Party is the inheritor of the revolutionary traditions of the French people.

“It is precisely the Communists”, said Thorez, “who, being internationalists, are at present the best patriots of France”. In this way the patriotism of the working class was proclaimed, a patriotism which later manifested itself with such force, at the price of so many victims in the struggle against fascism and

which at the present time is countering the cosmopolitanism of the imperialists and their lackeys.

From that moment the life of Maurice Thorez was inseparable from the life of the Party, from the struggle of the working class. For two years—from the middle of 1927 to June 1929—Thorez lived an underground existence. Imprisoned in the town of Nancy, he studied the classics of scientific Socialism—Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin. He read much, enriching his knowledge and equipping himself ideologically in order the better to fight against the enemies of the working class.

The activities of the Barbe-Celor group, which carried on its dirty work with the complicity of Doriot, weakened the Party and threatened its very existence. This group pursued a sectarian, isolationist policy which Maurice Thorez exposed in a series of brilliant articles: “We have no need of manikins in the Party!”. “Let the peoples express themselves freely.” These articles, and others, addressed to the Party membership, roused them to political activity and helped them to expose the Barbe-Celor group.

But the main question placed on the order of the day by life itself, was that of the unity of action of the working class. Maurice Thorez called for unity of action of the working people—Communists and Socialists in the struggle against the attempt at a fascist coup on February 6, 1934.

Unity of action was realised despite the opposition of the leaders of the Socialist Party—Blum, Paul Faure and company. This first success was followed by another victory—the setting up of the Popular Front which the leaders of the Socialist Party sought to demoralise while preparing the Munich betrayal and eventually the “phoney war” directed not against Hitler but against the French working class and its Communist Party.

At the end of September 1939, when all was quiet on the front and when the governments in London and Paris were preparing to collaborate with Hitler in the struggle against the Soviet Union, the French Communist Party was subjected to fierce attacks. Brutal repressions were unloosed against the Party because it preserved its unshakeable loyalty to the country of Socialism and believed in its policy of progress, freedom and peace.

When the Communists were driven underground and many of them arrested, Maurice Thorez, then on active service, returned in order to take his place at the head of our underground struggle. Only the enemies of the people and base traitors can reproach our General Secretary for his courageous action testifying to his profound sense of responsibility and which constituted one of the most brilliant pages in his Party life.

While leading the Party, Maurice Thorez was the teacher and leader of thousands of Communists, who fought fearlessly for the liberation of France, for Communism. Patriots and internationalists, they met death and responded to the bullets of fighting squads by singing the “Marseillaise” and the “International.”

After the war, at every new stage in the struggle Maurice Thorez, whose prestige as General Secretary grew steadily, gave concrete slogans enabling the working class to march forward.

A true disciple of Stalin, Maurice Thorez educates the Party and prepares it for the solution of the great tasks confronting it. He resolutely exposed the criminal activities of the Titoite gang, unmasking them as a gang of spies and murderers in the service of the imperialist instigators of war. Thorez points out that the transition to a position of bourgeois nationalism inevitably leads to counter-revolution.

Pointing out what constitutes the duty of proletarian internationalism, Maurice Thorez explained the enormous significance of the declaration of the Politburo of our Party to the effect that “the people of France will never go to war against the Soviet Union”.

By his persistent struggle at the head of the Party against the war in Viet Nam, Maurice Thorez has won the confidence and affection of the oppressed colonial peoples who see in him a revolutionary leader to whom Marx’s words: “No nation that oppresses other nations can be free” is not an abstract formula, but a political directive which must be realised on the basis of a clear and exact stand.

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At the XIIth Congress of the French Communist Party, Maurice Thorez again displayed the full force of his talent as a leader. His report was the basis for the entire work of the Congress and focussed its attention on the decisive question of the moment—the question of the struggle for peace. In order to wage this struggle to its victorious conclusion, Maurice Thorez spared no effort in correcting the mistakes and shortcomings in Party work.

He resolutely opposed the under-estimation of the war danger which still prevails in the Party. Maurice Thorez pointed to the danger created for the working class movement by opportunists who fear the action of the masses alike in the concrete struggle for peace and in the struggle against fascist provocations.

He emphasised the full danger arising from sectarian errors consisting in renunciation of the broad policy of unity of action with Socialist workers. Simultaneously, he pointed to the necessity of explaining to the Socialist workers all the harm caused to the working class by the policy of their Right leaders.

Maurice Thorez showed most convincingly the need for unity of action with the Catholic working people. He exposed the danger to the Party resulting from the actions of sectarians who refuse to carry out the policy which accords with the interests of the working class and the demands of the struggle for peace.

At the XIIth Congress, Maurice Thorez gave Party members and all working people an example of how boldly to make use of criticism and self-criticism. The delegates followed his example. Discussion took place on the basis of self-criticism which helped raise the ideological level of the Party .

Maurice Thorez plays an outstanding role in the leadership of the struggle for peace which is the cause of all working people, the cause of hundreds of millions of partisans of peace in all countries. Under his leadership, the XIIth Congress of the French Communist Party placed before the Party the task of drawing the working class into the struggle against unloading transporting and producing war materials. Placing this task on a broader plane, Congress decided to involve the entire Party in active participation in the powerful campaign for signatures to the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress in order to rally the broad mass of Frenchmen and French women in town and countryside for the struggle against the criminal designs of the instigators of war.

In the person of Maurice Thorez we greet Stalin's best disciple in France and an outstanding leader of French Communists, a consistent internationalist and far-seeing patriot, a valiant champion of the working class and an ardent fighter for peace.

On the occasion of his 50th birthday, we address words of gratitude and affection to Maurice Thorez and wish him long life and good health at his post of fighter for the independence

of the peoples, for freedom, peace and Socialism.

**THE GREAT AIM OF THE PEOPLES.
Frederic Joliot-Curie, Chairman,
Permanent Committee of the World
Peace Congress**

The striving of the peoples for peace is being concretised with ever greater force in the mighty movement of the partisans of peace.

The peace movement already unites hundreds of millions of men and women of all nationalities, men and women who, by means of struggle, are fully determined to compel the warmongers to retreat and to uphold peace. In France the peace struggle has taken the form of a movement of fighters for peace and freedom in which Communists fight side by side with people of different political and religious convictions. All have united in order to achieve a common aim to defend peace.

The main thing at the moment is to extend still more our struggle for peace, which is inseparable from the struggle for the liberation of the people.

At a time when mankind has not yet healed the fearful wounds of the last war the imperialists want to unleash a new war, to prepare aggression against the Soviet Union and People's Democracies.

We are fighting with all our strength against the preparation of this crime.

Peace—this is the common aim in the struggle, for the realisation of which all honest people must unite. In particular, it is necessary to point out to those not yet conscious of the danger, what war would be like in present conditions when there are such monstrous means of destruction.

A war in which the atom bomb and the so-called hydrogen super-bomb would be used would result in the loss of tens of millions of human lives and vast material destruction.

It hardly needs saying that the use of these monstrous means of destruction cannot bring victory to those who first employ them. And we know that the Soviet Union never will use these means first.

We know that in the final analysis, the decisive say will be with mankind which, headed by the Soviet Union, is struggling against the aggressors.

But people of progress want to achieve victory not by means of destruction and death. That is why the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress addressed an ardent appeal for the prohibition of the atomic bomb.

We demand absolute prohibition of the atomic weapon as a weapon of terror and mass extermination of the people. We demand the establishment of strict international control to implement this decision. This is our primary aim, an aim of exceptional importance.

All who long for peace will unite in the struggle on the basis of this appeal.

The partisans of peace will regard as a war criminal that government which first uses the atomic weapon against any other country.

Partisans of peace will go ahead with their cause and will appeal to reason and action without disregarding a single favourable factor and never retreating before any threat, before any blackmail.

By developing the campaign for hundreds to millions of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee, peace supporters will, in this way, express their unswerving determination to defend peace throughout the world.

We desire that all people in the world shall live in peace, that all people in the world should be able to take advantage daily of ever more powerful creative means. If some boast that they can and want to dominate the world, believing that they

have the most effective means of destruction, let them know and feel that the steady growth in the number of partisans of peace will frustrate the criminal plans of the instigators of war.

FOR PEACE, FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY!
Marcel Cachin, Member, Politburo,
French Communist Party

Edouard Maze, a Brest worker, was killed by gendarmes of the “Republican Security Detachments” sent by the Bidault-Queuille Government. Two Communist deputies from the Finistère Department, Marie Lambert and Alain Signor, were arrested, thrown into prison, subjected to brutal treatment.

News of the Brest events involuntarily brings to mind bloody dramas which marked the first May demonstrations in France.

In 1891, a demonstration was held in the small industrial town of Fourmies (Nord Department), as was the case throughout France, demanding a reduction in the working day. The Government sent the soldiers of the 145th Infantry regiment against the demonstrators. When the demonstrators reached the town square the officer gave the order to open fire. Fifteen of the demonstrators were killed, including a young woman worker, Maria Blondeau—who was carrying a bunch of flowers in her hand—and a ten-year old boy, Cormailles. Many others were wounded.

The firing on the demonstration evoked the indignation and wrath of the working people. In reply, the Government issued orders for the arrest of the leaders of the labour movement, including Paul Lafargue, who was sentenced to one year’s imprisonment.

But these brutal repressions failed to stop the growing movement of the French working class. Year by year the May Day demonstrations became more and more powerful. By their struggle the workers forced numerous concessions from the

capitalists. In 1936 as a result, of the broad strike movement, workers won the right to collective agreements, holidays with pay and the right to have trade union committees in the enterprises. During the Second World War, despite repression by the invaders, the miners of the Nord and Pas-de-Calais Departments by their strikes carried on the glorious traditions of the working class of France. After liberation, the May Day demonstration assumed an unprecedented scale. On that day hundreds of thousands of working people marched through the streets of Paris.

This year workers throughout the world will celebrate the great International Labour Day in conditions of outstanding successes in the camp of peace and democracy.

In the eyes of the working people of the world the Soviet Union stands out as the great example of the land of Socialism, which, is now invincible. Many People's Republics in Europe and Asia have taken the same path. At present over 800 million people have overthrown the capitalist regimes in their countries. For them, May Day will be a real celebration of emancipated labour. On May 1, the working people languishing under the yoke of capital will demand ever more resolutely the extension of those elementary democratic rights of which they have been deprived by reactionary rulers. The working people in the capitalist countries will struggle against police repressions, for the decent living conditions which they are denied. With particular resolution they will act against the policy of war, now being prepared openly and cynically by the heads of American trusts and their obedient satellites. In order to save peace which is threatened once more, they will turn to their brothers in labour in town and countryside, calling upon them to unite immediately and courageously join the common struggle.

Let the slogans calling for reduction of armaments and prohibition of the atomic weapon resound everywhere! Let the

peoples everywhere show their rulers that they will never go to war against the Soviet Union and the people's democratic Republics! These will be the main slogans in France on May Day 1950.

THE CAMPAIGN FOR SIGNATURES TOT THE APPEAL OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE IS DEVELOPING ON EVER INCREASING SCALE IN FRANCE



Photo: The Family of a Paris worker, Mrs. Roy, signing the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress after her husband. The children's names were also put on the petition form.

FESTIVAL OF LABOUR AND STRUGGLE*. Klement Gottwald, Chairman, Communist Party of Czechoslovakia

Comrades, men and women citizens!

I congratulate you on the occasion of May Day, the great festival of labour, the traditional militant review of the forces of the working people in all countries, the review of the fighters for peace throughout the world.

I am all the more happy to congratulate you because today for the sixtieth time—the working population and all progressive people throughout the world are marching on the streets, Yes, the international working class and the working people are celebrating their militant holiday for the sixtieth time. For the sixtieth time they are demonstrating their firm will to fight for a better and more just social system—for Socialism, for genuine democracy and for lasting peace between the peoples.

Truly, the face of the world has changed beyond recognition during these sixty difficult years which have taken their toll in the battle for the emancipation of labour and of the working people! Joyful and triumphant are the results of these 60 years of May Day! One third of mankind, having cast off the chains of capitalism and imperialism, is celebrating May Day in freedom. The working class and with it all working people in many countries in Central and South-East Europe and on the vast expanses of Asia, to-day fill the streets and squares no longer as outcasts fighting for their rights and legal dues but as free masters of their home. They are confidently reviewing

* *Text of Comrade Gottwald's speech on the occasion of May Day 1950.*

their victorious battles and constructive work.

To-day in the ranks of these victors march also the working class and the working people of our country. They are appraising and registering the results of their free labour for the past year. They are verifying their ranks—the ranks of the conscious builders of Socialism—in order, with renewed enthusiasm and with ever greater confidence, to step out in their onward march to the Socialist morrow.

But on this May Day we are not only celebrating the sixtieth anniversary of the international workers' festival of labour. The significance of this May Day is all the greater, and for us all the more memorable since we are celebrating it for the fifth time since our liberation by the glorious Soviet Army. These five free May Days are five unforgettable historic milestones in our forward march towards Socialism, to a better life for our people, to a secure future for our people and for our State.

Year after year our May Day balance-sheet becomes more and more impressive. For this reason our May Day is, year by year, becoming ever more powerful and joyful accordingly as year by year the results of our labour become ever more successful.

Last year I was able, in connection with May Day, to record the successful completion of our Two-Year Plan and the successful commencement of our Five-Year Plan, the plan for the building of Socialism in our country. To-day I can say that, thanks to the diligence and conscious labour of our workers, peasants and all other sections of the working people, we have successfully fulfilled the plan for the first year of the Five-Year Plan and have started work on the programme for the second year of the Five-Year Plan.

Whereas last May Day I was able to report that due to creative successes we were able to improve supplies to our population, to-day I can say that in the past year considerable

new improvements took place. We abolished rationing for bread, flour and cereals and considerably extended trade and reduced prices on the free market. Greater quantities of textiles, footwear and other consumer goods are now available. As a result of the ever growing movement of shock workers and Socialist emulation in the factories and mines, labour productivity is rising which cannot but lead to a further rise in the living standard of the people, which is the direct law of Socialist construction.

The past year has also brought the first successes in developing our agriculture along the lines of higher production methods. The good results arising from the conclusion of contracts with the peasants and spring field work, the establishment and consolidation of the united agricultural co-operatives, the growing movement for collective work in the fields promise improved food supplies for our people and the gradual Socialist reorganisation of our countryside.

Last May Day I mentioned the strengthening of our People's Democracy and the consolidation of all its political, state and administrative foundations. In this respect, too, this year's results are superior to last year's. A further strengthening of the National Front has taken place—this political alliance of the working people in town and countryside, led by our powerful working class, headed by its glorious vanguard—the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

Clear for all to see is the improvement in the work of our people's State power and administration which is drawing into the management of public life ever greater masses of the working people, women and youth, thus giving a vital content to the fundamental principle of our people's democracy.

The work of our democratised judicial system is steadily improving and likewise the vigilance of our people's democratic State security corps and of our people's democratic army—the faithful guardians of home and foreign security of

the Republic against all the crafty intrigues of internal and external reaction.

The picture would not be complete if I did not say something about the solution of the Church question. By means of legislation we guaranteed the really free exercise of religious liberty but at the same time have not nor shall we permit the Vatican, this alien State power in the service of American imperialism, to corrupt the morale of our people with the aid at the Church hierarchy, to interfere with their peaceful work and to undermine our home and foreign security,

Last May Day I was able to comment on the growing international security of our State, the extension and strengthening of its international relations. To-day, in this respect, and particularly in this respect, the balance is no less joyful than last year.

We have extended and deepened even more our fraternal bonds and all-round co-operation with our most powerful ally and friend, with our liberator and defender—the invincible Soviet Union, and with our people's democratic allies.

During the past year the people's democratic family of nations has grown and extended on an unheard of scale. The great Chinese people have victoriously completed their long years of struggle against home reaction and foreign imperialism and have taken our common path of Socialist development, relying on the firm bonds, alliance and friendship with the Soviet Union. Four hundred and seventy-five million people have been added to the camp of progress and peace. Last year a new path of development was taken by the people of Eastern Germany who formed the German Democratic Republic—which signifies a turning point in the entire history of Europe. The people of Viet Nam are completing their liberation. The peoples of Malaya and of other colonial and dependent countries are intensifying their national-liberation struggle. The working people in the capitalist countries,

particularly the peoples of Italy and France, are prosecuting with renewed vigour their heroic struggle, successfully frustrating the war plans of the imperialists which are aimed at unleashing a new war and enslaving the peoples of these countries.

In vain do the American imperialists rattle the sabre! In vain do they brandish their super-bombs! In vain do the ruling classes of the satellite countries echo them! In vain do the imperialists gather all the evil forces—the Right-Socialist agents the Vatican, the Tito clique and other spies, including emigre rats of all nationalities! The forces and the activities of the camp of peace, headed by the first champion of Socialism and of peaceful co-operation between nations—the Soviet Union—are growing day by day, Day by day the struggle to preserve peace throughout the world becomes more powerful; the struggle which isolates the imperialist camp and brands it in the eyes of all progressive and peace-loving mankind. The strength of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism, of which our State is a loyal and firm member, is, comrades, our own strength. It is our security. It is a guarantee of the peaceful and accelerated construction of Socialism in our homeland.

Such in brief are the undoubted success of the year that has raised since last May Day. This explains why this May Day—the fifth since that day when the heroic troops of the Soviet Army, the liberator, entered the Vaclav Square—is more joyful and more powerful than ever before.

And so, comrades, let us go forward more boldly to the building of Socialism in our country!

Long live and prosper our dear, people's democratic Czechoslovak Republic—the happy homeland of the working people!

Long live the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia—the guiding force of our regenerated National Front, and may its ranks grow and strengthen!

May the invincible camp of peace and Socialism and its vanguard—the Soviet Union, grow and gain strength!

Long years of life to the leader of the Soviet peoples and of the working people of the world, the be friend and teacher of our people—the great Stalin!

WEEK OF EDUCATION IN POLAND

In Poland, the week from May 1 to 7 will be known as education, book and press week. The chief slogan of the week is struggle for a lasting peace. A special Committee, headed by Prime Minister Cyrankiewicz and which includes eminent public figures, political personalities, workers in science and culture, stakhanovites and worker-peasant correspondents will supervise the carrying out of the programme for the week.

The programme provides for numerous mass cultural measures—first place going to the fight against illiteracy, circulation of works of fiction, political and popular-science literature, outings, opening of a considerable number of rural and factory libraries, amateur theatrical performances, opening of the new cinemas, film festivals and so on.

Conferences and meetings between the editorial staffs of the newspapers and their factory and rural correspondents will also be held. An all-Poland meeting of factory and rural correspondence will take place in Warsaw on May 6-7.

MILITANT REVIEW OF INVINCIBLE FORCES OF PEACE SUPPORTERS. Boleslaw Bierut Chairman, Polish United Workers' Party

During the past 60 years the Polish working class has experienced periods of brutal persecution, periods of the flow and ebb of the revolutionary wave, becoming more and more tempered in the struggle against the class enemy, in the struggle against hostile and Bolshevik ideologies. In the May Day demonstrations, the Polish working class displayed its unbreakable militant spirit, its profound confidence in the victory of the ideas of proletarian internationalism, ideas which were realised by Lenin and Stalin—the great continuators of the cause of Marx and Engels.

For the sixth time in People's of Poland, regenerated after World War Two, millions of working people will, on this May Day, fill the streets of the towns and villages, more conscious than ever before of their power and ideological unity.

What is the source of this growing strength of the Polish working people? They are strong in the knowledge of the revolutionary transformations already accomplished and which are still developing and in the tempestuous growth of the productive forces based on Socialist industry.

They are strong from the hundred-fold increase in the activity and consciousness of millions of working people, in their inexhaustible, creative energy which has awakened to a new life.

They are a hundred-fold stronger in the knowledge of their eternal, indissoluble friendship with the great Soviet Union, in their ideological unity with the Communist Party of the Soviet

Union (B), in their fraternity with the People's Democracies, in their solidarity with hundreds of millions of workers and peasants in the capitalist countries.

What results can the Polish working people show on this May Day of 1950? The past year was a mighty step forward in all spheres of political, economic and cultural life in the country. It was a year of enormous growth in strength and prestige of the working class movement, an expression of which was the historic Unity Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party held in December 1948. It was a year of further strengthening of the forces of the working people and cementing the workers-peasants alliance on the basis of rendering consistent aid by the people's democratic State to millions of poor and middle peasants in reorganising their life, in raising the level of economy, education and culture in the Polish countryside which for ages had remained ignorant and backward. The unification of the peasant parties in the autumn of last year was a further manifestation of the deepening process of the consolidation of the overwhelming majority of the Polish people on the basis of a platform of the Socialist development of Poland.

Millions of working people in towns and settlements were drawn into Socialist construction and by their personal experience are becoming convinced of the superiority and undoubted advantages and benefits of Socialism. The past year has also witnessed a considerable advance in the consciousness of the peasant masses, in their attitude to the producer co-operatives and to Socialist reorganisation of the countryside.

The past year was the year of the victorious completion—two months ahead of schedule—of the Three-Year Plan—for economic rehabilitation, as a result of which Poland's industrial output exceeded pre-war level by 76 per cent. Polish industry now produces almost two and a half times more goods per head of the population than before the war and the total

output of agriculture per head, of the population is now 12 per cent above pre-war.

On the one hand, the further restriction and dislodging of capitalist elements is proceeding ever more speedily. On the other, there is a continued growth of Socialist elements in the national economy, and in conditions of stubborn struggle bourgeois ideology is steadily being overcome in the cultural life of the country.

May Day is being celebrated at the time of the reorganisation of the People's Councils and the setting up of a single authority in the localities, linked by thousands of threads to the working people.

May Day is being celebrated in the struggle to carry out the first year of the "Six-Year Plan", the Plan for laying the foundations of a Socialist Poland, in struggle for Socialist discipline in labour and for the further unfolding of Socialist emulation on a mass scale.

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These achievements of Poland, as is the case with the other People's Democracies, would have been unthinkable without the world-historic victories of the Soviet Union in all spheres of political, economic and cultural life, without the tremendous successes of Soviet science.

The provocations of the warmongers, the threat of the relentlessly advancing economic crisis and the hopeless situation of the West-European capitalist economy—which is becoming more mercilessly enslaved by American imperialism—evoke fear and confusion among the petty-bourgeois sections of the population in the capitalist countries. The boundlessly insolent and false imperialist propaganda poisons their minds making it impossible for them to see the rapid development of the creative energies released by the

Socialist system. Acknowledgment of the successes of Socialist construction would shatter the bases of the world outlook prevailing in these circles, all the pillars of petty-bourgeois life. But the facts of the creative advance of the land of Socialism and the New Democracies are indisputable, they are plain for all to see and are exercising an ever greater influence over the working masses throughout the world. This is something to which the ruling circles of American imperialists refuse to reconcile themselves and therefore they endeavour to keep the world in a state of alarm by new provocations.

The failure of the “benefits” of the “Marshall Plan” imposed on Western Europe, alongside the successes of the camp of Socialism has aroused the fury of the imperialist rulers who are now trying to frighten the world with their adventurous methods of “total diplomacy” which stops at nothing in the interests of the financial oligarchy.

In this “total diplomacy”, the Tito-Rankovic-Djilas clique is playing a particularly disgusting provocateur role. The same unenviable role is assigned to the leaders of the Right Social Democrats—Bevin, Moch, Saragat and their henchmen.

In the U.S. the imperialist policy leads to the abolition of all democratic liberties, to the terror and arbitrary rule of the all-powerful political police, to the fascisation of the entire life of the country. American politicians and their agents are inflaming the passions, and by false information and provocations seek to intensify the war hysteria. In their addled brains one adventurous plan supersedes another. They threaten the great country of Socialism and People’s Democracies; they want to put the chains of slavery on the working class of Western Europe; they want to enslave all Europe and plunder the peoples of the colonial countries with impunity.

However, the working class and the freedom-loving nations, of which the Soviet Union is the mainstay, is in a position to unfold a steadily growing and indestructible peace

movement which will foil the plans of the frenzied imperialists.

This depends only on the activity of the working class and its Communist Parties; it depends on the formation of a broad front of the partisans of peace embracing all honest people.

No one can “sit at home” now; every effort must be exerted to isolate more and more the criminal instigators of war, and to paralyse any provocation.

The course of events has revealed the bankruptcy of the “national narrowness” and isolation as well as the poisonous influence of American cosmopolitanism. The struggle against all kinds of “European unions”, which are a screen for the complete enslavement and Americanisation of Europe and for a more convenient mobilisation of cannon fodder and a brazen utilisation of the German fascists, the struggle in defence of national sovereignty and national culture—all this leads to the failure of the war plans of the imperialists.

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The advanced Polish workers are joining the efforts of the camp of peace not only by proclaiming their determination to fight for peace and not only by increased political activity. The masses of the Polish working people are realising more and more clearly that their achievements in daily productive work, the development of emulation, the strengthening of labour discipline, the growth of the country’s economic reserves are a substantial contribution to the cause of peace. It is worth while quoting the statements made by a number of rank and file workers.

Franciszek Mazur repatriated from France says:

“I have been a miner for 30 years and although old age is drawing near; and after all that I have been through, my bones ache, I have never worked with such energy and enthusiasm as now because I feel that with every ton of coal I strengthen our

own national economy and that the more coal there is produced the more resolutely the nightmare of war recedes. That is why I have undertaken to produce 141 per cent of the norm. But I also wanted to celebrate May Day in a worthy way so I have promised to produce 20 per cent more. That which I promised I already fulfilled a few days ago. I am now cutting additional supplies of coal with such pleasure and with such satisfaction and enthusiasm as though I were digging a grave for the imperialists. We, Polish miners, have always stood and stand on guard for peace. We will always fight for peace!”

Another miner, Rudolf Stanko wrote:

“When I heard that the dockers of Cherbourg, Marseilles and Amsterdam had refused to unload vessels bringing arms to Europe, I thought to myself: ‘Solidarity boys, they are defending peace.’ We miners are defending peace by producing coal; by producing as much as possible in excess of the plan. Every month I produce an average of 180 per cent of the norm. But for May Day I decided to cut another 200 tons more of coal. And my name would not be Stanko if I did not produce it.”

Alojzy Szwadzba, a turner, states:

“I am convinced that by firm determination and by honest daily work we workers, will be able once and for all to knock the thought of war out of the heads of these madmen in the West.”

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But despite all the significance of our successes we must not rest on our laurels, we must not be complacent. The fate of every freedom-loving people is indissolubly linked with the development of the struggle of the entire camp of the partisans of peace.

In order to overcome our backwardness—the grave legacy

of capitalism—there must not be the slightest easing of the efforts of our people.

It is necessary to develop ever more boldly the political and productive activities of the masses, and ever more boldly to advance new cadres of the fighters for peace and Socialism!

It is necessary even more boldly to take along with us the many millions of non-Party people and to eliminate the remnants of sectarianism!

It is necessary to deliver heavier blows at the class enemy!

All our daily work must be imbued still more with the spirit of proletarian internationalism, the spirit of ardent affection for the Soviet Union.

Hundreds of millions of people throughout the world will take part in May Day demonstrations—the militant review of the invincible forces of the partisans of peace—under the slogan of a sacred struggle for peace, defence of culture and civilisation against the new atomic barbarians, for the freedom of peoples, and for the indestructible solidarity of all working people.

SIXTIETH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CELEBRATION OF MAY DAY IN GERMANY. Wilhelm Pieck, Chairman, Socialist Unity Party of Germany

The year 1890, when May Day was first celebrated, was an historic year for the German working class movement. In September 1890, after twelve years of persecution and repressions, the so-called exceptional law against the Socialists collapsed. This was a victory for Social Democracy over Bismarck—the sanguinary “Iron Chancellor” of the Germany of the Kaisers. Bismarck’s downfall was the result of the collapse of the exceptional law against the Socialists.

The first celebration of May Day as the International, militant day of the proletariat coincided with this final phase of the anti-Socialist law. In all countries of Europe, the capitalist State power strove to suppress with arms and to drown in blood this display of international solidarity of the proletariat.

The idea of an international Socialist demonstration, as Rosa Luxemburg wrote in 1907, seemed to the bourgeoisie to resurrect the spectre of the old hateful International, and the courageous preparations for the world-wide festival of labour—as the death knell of capitalist glory.

This hatred of the reactionaries for the international militant day of the proletariat was particularly pronounced in Hohenzollern Germany. The reactionary forces sought a pretext to organise bloodshed on May 1 and thereby inflict a blow on Social Democracy which had grown despite the exceptional law, and to destroy it completely.

The leadership of the Social Democratic Party, including August Bebel (excluding, however, the voice of Wilhelm Liebknecht) proved unequal to the task. On February 20, 1890 the Social Democrats won a big electoral victory. The masses

of the Party members were anxious for vigorous action. Local Party organisations adopted decisions which demanded that May Day be declared a non-working day. The Berlin Party organisation in its call suggested that in all industrial towns where there existed strong organisations, that “all workshops should come to a stand-still” on May Day! Instead of giving an organised character to these strivings of the masses for struggle, in order on the one hand to nullify the provocations of the reactionaries and on the other so that May Day would nevertheless become a mighty militant review, the Party leadership in general denied the militant character of the celebration. The Social-Democratic group in the Reichstag even went so far as to declare in its appeal:

“German Social Democracy is not in need of a militant review after the great action and victory of February 20.”

Opportunists of all shades utilised this refusal to give the May Day celebrations a militant nature in order to bury May Day as such. The Right trade union leaders were the first to demand the abandonment of any struggle and any stoppage of work on May 1st. They distorted this world militant celebration of the proletariat, turning it into a celebration of “class harmony” and of “class collaboration.” They reached agreement with the employers concerning this. This meant carrying out in practice the reformist theory of the “gradual growing into Socialism”, which advocated “extending a hand to the good will” of the capitalists. According to this theory, crisis, wars and revolutions are obsolete conception and bourgeois Parliamentarism and the reformist trade unions are, allegedly, capable of securing democracy both in the State and in the factory. The carriers of this reformation in the Party and the trade unions used all means to discredit May Day as a militant celebration. At all Party and trade union congresses they whined about May Day, seeking to reduce everything to questions of benefits and trade union dues.

Thus, long before 1914, the German reformist undermined and emasculated the May Day celebrations, and at best turned them into an occasion for a peaceful family gathering for which the blessing of the employers and their class State was necessary.

From the beginning of our century, May Day, to an ever greater degree, became for the German workers, as well as for the conscious workers of all countries, a day of struggle against the danger of imperialist war, against the armament race and against social reaction. Even the reformists in their sneers against May Day were forced to recognise that the calls on May Day strikes resounded ever louder despite victimisation for taking part in them. In this respect the influence of the mass struggle in the period of the first Russian revolution exercised a decisive role on the conscious German workers. Rosa Luxemburg wrote on the eve of May Day 1907 in the women's journal "Gleichheit" ("Equality") published by Klara Zetkin:

"The army of workers in all countries is headed today by the **Russian proletariat**—the proletariat of the empire where a revolution is taking place. The revolutionary battles of this proletariat, its experience, and the problems facing it—all this is a great historical school for our own future battles".

From the Refusal to Celebrate May Day to Repressions against May Day Demonstrations

When World War One began, the Right leaders of the German Social Democratic Party went over openly into the camp of imperialism, voted for war credits, became zealous advocates of war until the victorious end and in every way trampled upon internationalism. They were delighted that martial law and civil peace relieved them from the necessity of resorting to manoeuvres to deceive the masses in connection

with May Day. For them, it goes without saying, that together with every other Socialist principle, May Day, as the world day of struggle for peace, had to be sacrificed to the imperialist war.

The official leadership of the Party refused to have anything to do with the celebration of May Day.

The honour of the German working class movement was saved by Karl Liebknecht who, at the famous May Day demonstration in 1916 on the Potsdam Square in Berlin, raised aloft the banner of internationalism, of the struggle against war, for the overthrow of the imperialist government. As was to be expected, the old adversaries of the May Day celebration, such as Landsberg, David and their ilk, when speaking in the Reichstag, slandered and smeared Liebknecht who had been imprisoned for his action.

In 1919, this same Landsberg and David Were members of the Government which, with the help of their White Guard hirelings, on May 1, 1919, brutally drowned in blood the Soviet Republic in Munich. During the period of the Weimar Republic these same Right leaders of the Social Democratic Party refused to provide minimum guarantees to workers who wanted to make May 1 a day of struggle against the war danger and against reactionary forces. They, on the contrary, took upon themselves the role of suppressing the international militant celebration of the workers. In 1929 when, under the influence of the developing world economic crisis, the class struggle sharpened, this role was assumed by the Right Social Democrats—Grzesinski. Prussian Minister of the Interior, and Zörgiebel, police chief of Berlin. They banned the May Day demonstration of Berlin workers and ordered its dispersal by force of arms. Thirty-three workers were killed. In the struggle against the workers who demonstrated on May Day, against war and fascism, they did not shrink from any bloodshed. The final act of this policy was the declaration, made in the spring

of 1933 by the leaders of reformist trade unions, of their readiness to collaborate with the Hitler Government. On May 2 that same year they handed over the trade unions to the Nazis.

Provocations by the Leaders of German Social Democracy

We have turned to the history of May Day in Germany not only in connection with its 60th anniversary. This history is important also for understanding the situation in Germany on the eve of May Day 1950. The Schumachers, Ollenhauers and Reuters have fallen even lower in their treachery. To-day they are hirelings of Anglo-American monopoly capital. They seek to use May Day for their war propaganda, for the struggle against the German Democratic Republic, against the great camp of peace, democracy and Socialism. They have become open provocateurs, calling upon the Americans to use tanks to drown in blood the national struggle for peace and the unity of Germany. Together with the parties of the big bourgeoisie, headed by Adenauer and Heuss, together with the American agent, Jakob Kaiser and Schwennicke, and together with the American radio, the Right Social Democrats call for the organisation on May Day of a meeting right on the boundary of the Soviet sector of Berlin—at the place where in 1948 they organised a bloody provocation. Their appeal is replete with war propaganda against the Soviet Union, against the People's Democracies and against the German Democratic Republic. The purpose of this provocation is obvious. Acting on the orders of their Anglo-American masters they want to provoke incidents in Berlin on May 1; to organise bloodshed and to give an additional stimulus to war propaganda in order to mask their betrayal of the interests of the German people.

This provocative policy in connection with May Day and with the forthcoming all Germany rally of the Free German Youth is extremely characteristic of the present situation in Germany. It testifies to the nervousness and weakness of the

Anglo-American interventionists and of their German lackeys. The consolidation and strengthening of the German Democratic Republic during the six months of its existence, and the unfolding struggle of the National Front of Democratic Germany for the unity of Germany and for peace evokes serious alarm among them. The policy of desperate provocations is explained, not least of all, by the fact that the German Democratic Republic begins to extend its attractive and mobilising influence in Western Germany also. This is the more pronounced the more evident becomes the imperialist colonial nature of Anglo-American policy in relation to Western Germany.

The seizure of the Saar by France alarmed the broadest sections of the German people. The inclusion of Western Germany into the so-called Council of Europe was effected not by way of invitation to the Bonn puppet Government but by an invitation to the High Commissioners of the Western powers. It was accompanied by a demonstrative declaration to the effect that the West German “Federative Republic” had no claim to sovereignty. At the same time the American General Bradley announced that Western Germany must provide mercenary troops for the realisation of the war plans of the Atlantic bloc.

They Fear our Successes

Thanks to the generous support of the Soviet Union the German Democratic Republic can record considerable successes during the six months of its existence. The 1919 plan for the development of the national economy was successfully fulfilled. Industry completed the production plan by 104 per cent. Outstanding successes have been achieved by the socialised enterprises. In agriculture the plan of cattle-raising was over-fulfilled, with the number of hogs increasing 33 per

cent over the planned figure. The socialised estates and machine-hiring stations secured a more intensive cultivation of land and consolidated the results of agrarian reform. All conditions exist for the fulfilment of the Two-Year Plan by July—ahead of schedule—that is, by the Third Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany.

Shock workers in our industry have begun, to go over from a quantitative increased output to improving the quality of production. The spring fair at Leipzig was a magnificent review of the achievements of socialised industry and also of the achievements of the entire democratic economy. These successes facilitated the raising of the food ration on December 1, 1949, after which there were two price reductions, of 30 per cent and more in free State trading. Our peasants, machine-hiring stations and socialised estates are successfully completing the spring sowing which is proceeding under the slogan—for a prewar harvest. They will ensure the abolition of food rationing by the autumn of this year.

Similarly, in the political sphere, not a few successes have been achieved. The Anglo-American interventionists pinned their hopes on the reactionary forces in the bourgeois parties of our Republic, These parties were given the task of smashing and undermining the bloc of the anti-fascist democratic parties, of orientating these parties on Bonn and on subordination to the Anglo-American policy of war and colonisation. By sabotaging the Government policy, above all, in the sphere of finance, agriculture and supplies, they sought to evoke discontent among the population. But the very moment these reactionary elements began to attack openly they encountered the strongest resistance, not only from the Socialist Unity Party and trade unions but also from the progressive forces in their own parties. In these actions the reactionaries suffered defeat after defeat. They were forced to withdraw from the leadership of the parties and, in their majority, departed to their Anglo-

American masters in the West German colony. This struggle has resulted in the consolidation of the bloc of the anti-fascist democratic parties. Today this bloc—united and consolidated more than ever before—is preparing for the elections due to be held in October this year.

Jointly with this struggle against agents of imperialism and saboteurs, the unification of all patriotic forces in the National Front of Democratic Germany took place. Although the National Front committees in laenders, regions and in the localities are as yet weak in their social composition and still display serious weaknesses in the struggle for peace and against Anglo-American imperialism, nevertheless here also successes can be recorded. An urgent task is considerably to increase the representation of the working class and working peasantry in the National Front committees. And precisely because of this, the May Day celebrations, which will be organised in our Republic by the trade unions, will be held under the slogan of the National Front for a United Democratic Germany, under the slogan of the struggle for peace, against the warmongers.

We Stand Firmly In the Camp of Peace

The successes of the German Democratic Republic should also be noted in the sphere of foreign policy. The People's Democracies, following the great example of the Soviet Union, established diplomatic relations with the German Democratic Republic. The Soviet pavilion and the joint exhibition of the People's Democracies at the Leipzig spring fair were striking proof of the fact that diplomatic recognition opens for us a way to new economic and cultural relations with the liberated peoples. Thus once again we see the practical realisation of the words of the great leader of the peoples, Comrade Stalin, who

wrote in his message:

“You need not doubt that in advancing along this road and strengthening the cause of peace, you will find great sympathy and active support among all peoples of the world, including the American, British, French, Polish, Czechoslovak and Italian peoples, let alone the peace-loving Soviet people.”

To-day we receive this active support not only from the peoples of the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies but also from the peoples in the countries of the American military bloc.

We see it in the demand to recognise our Republic, a demand advanced by the Congress of the French Communist Party. We appreciate the fact that the biggest party in France, in its message to Comrade Stalin, declared:

“We will actively support the German Democratic Republic which, in contrast to the Bonn puppets in the service of the American imperialists, is laying the basis for a united, democratic, peace-loving Germany, the existence of which excludes the possibility of new wars in Europe”.

Under the slogan of this international solidarity we celebrate, for the 60th time, May Day which, according to the Constitution of the German Democratic Republic, is celebrated for the first time as a festival of the working people.

The main demands brought forward by the Paris Congress in connection with May Day have been realised in the Republic: the 8-hour day, the prohibition of child labour, the law for the protection of youth rights and also the great demand of equal rights for women: equal pay for equal work! But more than ever before the slogan of the struggle for peace which is at the same time the struggle for the democratic unity of Germany takes first place in our May Day slogans this year. All provocations of the interventionists and of their German lackeys will be shattered against this firm basis of our policy. Despite everything, May Day in Germany always will be a

powerful demonstration for peace, democracy and Socialism.

IN THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

SUPPORT FOR THE APPEAL OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF THE WORLD PEACE CONGRESS

A joint declaration issued by the All-China Federation of Labour, the All-China Democratic Women's Federation, the All-China Democratic Youth Federation and the All-China Student's Federation, reads: "We give our enthusiastic support to the call of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress which demands unconditional prohibition of the atomic weapon and declares it war criminal the government which first uses it.

"All the people of the world, lovers of peace and democracy, are now united round the Soviet people—mighty bulwark of peace—and are struggling persistently to oppose the instigators of war and to safeguard world peace.

"Peoples all over the world are more and more coming to understand that to safeguard peaceful labour, social prosperity and the progress of mankind we have to fight persistently to safeguard world peace, national independence and people's democracy. We must staunchly oppose the acts of the imperialists who attempt to enslave the peoples of the world... We firmly oppose the warmongers who, for the sake of their own profits, unleash aggressive wars and suppress the people of the colonial and dependent countries who are fighting for national independence. We enthusiastically support just wars against aggression, for national independence, peace and democracy...

“We call upon all Chinese people to strive ever harder to unite even more closely with the lovers of peace and democracy throughout the world in order to fight for the defence of world peace, for national independence and for people’s democracy.”

JOURNAL OF PEACE SUPPORTERS

The first issue of the monthly paper “In Defence of Peace” (organ of the China Peace Committee) appeared recently in Peking. The journal opens with an article by Kuo Mo-jo, Chairman of the All-China Peace Committee, which declares: “... The Chinese people well know how valuable, is peace; that is why they are so enthusiastic and so resolutely demanded to defend peace.”

The American imperialists who have learned nothing from their failure in the Far East persist in nursing Chiang Kai-shek and the Japanese reactionaries. Having gathered a batch of skunks together, they seek a Pacific Anti-Communist union in an attempt to slow down our reconstruction, to frustrate the liberation of the Far Eastern peoples and to wreck world peace. **The Chinese people are in the front ranks defending world peace and our responsibilities are extremely heavy.”**

“The noise from the aggressive camp is not a sign of strength, but of increasing weakness. The weaker capitalism is, the sooner it will perish and the more noise it makes. It is true that the peace camp is now far stronger than that of its opponents, but we must be vigilant nonetheless. People all over the world do not want war. Although the threat exists, we are sure that with constant vigilance we can defend peace, root out war and make imperialism an historical term.”

A NEW MARRIAGE AND FAMILY LAW

The Central People's Government has passed a new law on marriage and family which takes as its basis the freedom of choice of both parties, monogamy, equal rights for both sexes and guaranteed legal rights for mother and child. Polygamy, concubines, child marriage or child betrothal are prohibited. The marriage age is now 20 for males and 18 for females. The law outlines in particular detail the rights of women, and this is not accidental because for thousands of years in feudal China a woman was a slave without rights. In the old China a woman could be bought and sold. There was no legislation to protect women to any extent.

As each area was liberated from the Kuomintang troops, new progressive rulings concerning marriage and family were operated. However, the national law establishes equality of women in marriage for the first time in the history of China and there is no doubt that it will lead to rapid changes in the status of the women of China.

COMPLETION OF LAND REFORM IN RURAL DISTRICTS AROUND PEKING

Land reform has been completed in each of the villages in the 260 rural districts around Peking in time for this year's spring sowing.

As yet there are no complete figures but preliminary estimates show that in these areas of China 65,000 acres of land have been nationalised and distributed among 160,000 peasants who formerly were landless or owned small plots. Formerly, the poor peasants and farm labourers, though they comprised 30 to 40 per cent of the farming community, owned

only about 12 per cent of all the land, including most of the worst land. Landlords and kulaks who constituted less than 10 per cent of the population owned between them 50 per cent of the land.

The Sinhua Agency reports that there is much evidence to testify to the fact that the agrarian reform has profoundly encouraged the peasants. They are planning to produce much more grain this year than previously.

BULGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC



Bulgarian People's Republic. Members of the producer co-operative "Success" signing appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress in Sofia.

Bulgarian People's republic. Members of the producer co-operative "Success" signing appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress in Sofia.

PEACE MOVEMENT IN FINLAND. Mayri Ryömä, Member, Politburo, Central Committee, Communist Party of Finland

The policy of open support for the plans of Anglo-American imperialism, a policy pursued by the Finnish Government since the autumn of 1948, is making ever larger sections of the working people understand that peace can only be secured by the active struggle of the working masses.

The lowering of the standard of living and the encroachments on the basic democratic rights of the working people (which, simultaneously, were a violation of the peace treaty between Finland and the Soviet Union), carried out in 1949 with the aid of the Right-Social Democratic Government, prove convincingly that the struggle for peace and the struggle for better conditions and basic democratic liberties are inseparable. It is not fortuitous that the workers in the northern town of Kemi, against whom a monstrous police terror was directed, rank among the most active fighters in the peace movement. Nor is it fortuitous that the people's democratic movement, led by the Communist Party of Finland, which has condemned the reactionary policy of President Paasikivi, gained a relative victory in the voting for the electoral colleges in January 1950. As is known, DSNF gained 67 of the electoral colleges, but in the allocation of seats in parliament it could count on only 57 colleges. The right Social Democrats, who supported Paasikivi, received only 65 of the electoral colleges instead of the 81 on which they could reckon in view of the number of seats they have in Parliament, losing thereby 150,000 votes—30 per cent of their 1948 vote.

Enjoying the strong upper of the Finnish Communist Party, the peace movement in Finland developed into a popular movement during 1949.

The structure of the central body of the partisans of peace in Finland is such that organisations may affiliate and send delegates to its congresses according to their numerical strength. Affiliated organisations at present include the Democratic Union of the Women of Finland, the Democratic Youth Union of Finland, the Democratic Union of the People of Finland, the Communist Party of Finland, the “Kiila” Progressive Writers’ Association, the Workers Union of Esperantists, the Student Federation, the “Academic Socialist Society” and the national trade unions such as the Builders’ Union, Food Workers, Textile, Lumber and Raft Workers, Transport Workers, Plasterers and the General Union of Journalists. The trade union representatives on the Central Committee of the Partisans of Peace form its trade union section which organises the peace movement in trade unions and in factories throughout the country. The Finland-Soviet Union Society, with a membership of 170,000, is also affiliated to the “Partisans of Peace” organisation. Other affiliates include a number of local trade union bodies and branch organisations of trade unions the central leadership of which is in the hands of the Right Social Democrats who refused to participate in the struggle for peace.

This form of organisation is dictated by the conditions prevailing in Finland. However, the working organs of the peace movement are local peace committees, formed with the aid of the affiliated bodies which now number one hundred. In addition, there are factory committees, house committees and district committees in the bigger townships.

On October 2 last—International Peace Day—the Finnish “Partisans of Peace” convened their First National Congress which was attended by approximately 700 delegates from all over the country. They were composed of people of different points of view, and were drawn from various social circles, including eminent scientists and writers.

At the end of November 1949, the collection of signatures to a popular appeal was commenced. The appeal, which will be submitted to the Finnish Parliament, the Government and to UNO calls for a general reduction in armaments and destruction of the atomic weapon. By the end of March more than 300,000 signatures had been obtained. Early in December last, a peace relay started out from the most northerly point in Finland, which, along two routes, traversed the entire country, covering a total of 10,000 kilometres. More than 200 peace meetings, attended by over 100,000 people, were held en route. Local peace committees were set up at these meetings.

The most active opponents of the peace movement in Finland have been the Right Social Democratic leaders, The Right Social Democratic leaders who headed a provocative demonstration in Sweden in opposition to the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress, have failed to achieve anything in Finland. The Finnish Right Wing Social Democrats—who have influence in the Central Trade Union Federation, in the Workers' Sports Union and in the Co-operative Movement—frustrated the collective participation of these organisations in the peace movement but could not prevent the growth of the peace movement in the local Co-operative and Sports organisations nor even among the Social Democratic workers. The peace movement is meeting with ever greater support from all sections of the people. This, for example, is reflected in the fact that many clergy of the State church, University lecturers and secondary and elementary school teachers, and also a group of outstanding sportsmen recently made a public statement supporting the peace relay.

All the peace-loving, working population in Finland realise that friendship between the people of Finland and the Soviet Union is, for Finland, a guarantee of peaceful development and that the consolidation of this friendship will serve to strengthen

peace throughout the world. The partisans of peace in Finland are profoundly grateful to Comrade Stalin for the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance which was concluded on April 6, 1948 of his initiative—the anniversary of which was recently celebrated throughout the country. This treaty, which aims to ensure international peace and security has, in recent months, been brazenly violated by Finland's rulers, but the peace-loving Finnish people see in it a reliable support against the encroachments of the Imperialist warmongers and they demand its genuine fulfilment.

ALL-GERMAN YOUTH RALLY

Democratic youth throughout Germany are actively preparing for the All-German youth rally scheduled for Berlin during the month of May. The Central Council of the Free German Youth Union has published the slogans of the rally. The basic content, of these slogans is the struggle for peace.

The youth of the German Democratic Republic is preparing for the rally with new successes in industry. Thirty-five thousand youth brigades totalling 200 thousand young men and women, have been formed in the enterprises. These brigades have set themselves the aim of fulfilling the Two-Year Plan ahead of schedule, to improve the quality of production and lower production costs.

Widespread preparations for the All-German youth rally are also underway in Western Germany. According to incomplete data, over 100 preparatory committees formed by the Free German Youth Union are getting down to active work. The activity of these committees, directed towards uniting all German Youth in the struggle for peace and for a united Germany, has found support among the youth belonging to other organisations. Representatives of sport associations, some religious youth centres, the "Falcons" (Social Democratic Youth Organisation) and other youth organisations in Western Germany have joined the committees. Despite persecution by the occupation authorities and their lackeys in the Western zones, thousands of German young men and women are ready to demonstrate their will tirelessly to struggle for peace against the warmongers.

**INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY OF
PARTISANS OF PEACE IS INVINCIBLE!
Anna Pauker, Secretary, Central
Committee, Rumanian Workers' Party**

The hundred years struggle of the working class for Socialism, which has been crowned by great historic victories, has demonstrated that the international solidarity of the working class and of all working people is invincible; that it is capable of overcoming all enemy forces.

Now, when the Soviet people are victoriously building Communism, when in a number of countries a struggle has unfolded on a broad scale for the Socialist transformation of society, when mankind is bending all efforts to prevent the realisation of the criminal designs of the American and British imperialists preparing a new war, it is becoming increasingly clear to all genuine partisans of peace and democracy that their international solidarity is the condition of the victory over the intrigues of the enemies of mankind.

Lessons of History

At the beginning of World War I the international solidarity of the proletariat was paralysed by the treachery of the Social-Democratic leaders—out-and-out opportunists and chauvinists.

But, as early as 1915, Lenin, speaking on May Day on the correlation of class forces, warned the working class not to judge only by outward appearances. War, said Lenin, was the greatest crises. And every crisis, he added, signifies the accelerated development, the sharpening of contradictions,

their disclosure and the collapse of everything that is corrupt.

How accurately has history confirmed this forecast of Lenin. The imperialist bourgeoisie proved unable to halt the maturing crisis, unable to stave off the inevitable: accelerated social development, sharpening and disclosure of the contradictions between imperialism which enslaves the peoples and which gives rise to war, and the peace-loving and freedom-loving masses of working people; accelerated growth of the consciousness and international solidarity of the proletariat and, of all working people.

As a result of World War I the international unity and solidarity of the working people reached a far higher level of development.

The Soviet Union and the social forces which, in the struggle against fascism and war, rallied round the U.S.S.R., and the Communist Parties succeeded by solidarity in struggle in delaying for a considerable time the outbreak of World War Two.

It has now been fully established that World War Two was not the work of only German and Italian fascism and of Japanese militarism. It was equally the work of the American, British and French imperialists who supported and developed the forces of aggression, pursuing one aim—that of smashing the Soviet Union and of strangling Communism. But, as was the case in 1914-18, imperialist circles were unable to avert the growing political crisis caused by the war and were unable to prevent this crisis from turning against them. This crisis has in a number of countries, resulted in discrediting and exposing the bourgeoisie which had betrayed the national independence of these countries, and in a remarkable acceleration of the revolutionary development of society along the road to Socialism.

The international assistance given by the Soviet Union in liberating the oppressed peoples, the heroic struggle and

historic victory of the Soviet Army awakened enormous masses of people throughout the world who found in the Communist Parties loyal and steadfast leaders. They joined the front of international solidarity and struggle for national independence, for lasting peace, for people democracy and Socialism. The strength and prestige of the Communist Parties grew enormously. The direct outcome of the defeat inflicted on the main shock-troops of world imperialism by the Soviet Union and the result of the international policy of the U.S.S.R. was the formation of the countries of People's Democracy.

The formation of the People's Democracies, the establishment of the Chinese People's Republic and their close co-operation and alliance with the mighty Soviet Union represent, qualitatively, a new historic setting and accelerate an unprecedented development of firmly welded international solidarity of the working people. The frontiers of the imperialist world have narrowed. On the boundless territory extending from Berlin to Indo-China international solidarity of the working people to the struggle for Socialism has reached a higher level of organisation—thanks to the fraternal co-operation of independent and sovereign states representing the interests of the working people.

Aid of a new kind—Socialist aid rendered to the People's Democracies by the Soviet Union on the basis of complete equality, is the highest form of displaying that international solidarity on the part of the Soviet peoples who are building Communism with the peoples who are building Socialism. Thanks to this the People's Democracies are carrying out industrialisation, strengthening their independence and raising the standard of living of their peoples.

Here is an example. As is known, until a few years ago Rumania had no tractor industry. But recently the "Sovromtractor" plants in Brasov produced their 4,000th Rumanian tractor. It goes without saying that without very

substantial economic aid from the U.S.S.R. we would never have been able to achieve such success in industrialisation and in the mechanisation of agriculture.

The Soviet Union—and with it the People's Democracies—resolutely uphold in UNO, and on the international arena, the vital interests of all peace-loving and freedom-loving peoples.

Foil Criminal Designs of the Warmongers!

In these conditions of remarkable development of the democratic forces and of the international solidarity of the working people, American and British imperialists—immediately after World War Two—began, at an accelerated rate, to push the world towards a new slaughter. By their aggressiveness, their shameless striving for world domination, by the brutality with which they seek to strangle the resistance of the peoples oppressed by them, the American imperialists are accelerating the ripening of the political crisis which Lenin referred to on May Day 1915.

Discontent is growing among the popular masses in the Marshallised countries, the liberation struggle of the colonial and dependent peoples is flaring up more and more. At the same time, these peoples realise that what was impossible before World War One and World War Two is now not only possible, but is realisable and expedient **at the present time**. The unleashing of a third world war can be frustrated by the international solidarity of the working class, of all working people and of hundreds of millions of partisans of peace throughout the world. This is not an easy matter. But it is possible provided there is consistent, fearless and active international solidarity among the fighters for peace. It is possible provided the partisans of peace and, above all, the

Communists and the working class in all countries, realise how great and serious an effort is required in order to bar the way to fascism and war.

Facts show that the spirit of active and resolute international solidarity among the partisans of peace exists and is steadily growing.

Inspired by the Stalin policy of defending peace, pursued by the Soviet Union, the working people in the capitalist countries, led by such tested Communist Parties as the French, Italian and other Communist Parties, declare with all firmness their resolution never to fight against the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies; they are organising strikes and demonstrations, refusing to unload American armaments and are holding up the transportation of arms for colonial wars.

Many intellectuals, millions of peace loving people of all social strata and in all countries are joining the gigantic movement of the partisans of peace. By signing the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress, countless numbers of honest people in all sections of society are joining the ranks of those fighters who consider it their duty actively to participate in solving political questions of international significance; questions upon which their fate and the fate of mankind depends.

Consolidation of the militant unity of the working class is a condition for the growth of international solidarity among the fighters for peace, democracy and Socialism. And this, in its turn, calls for the ruthless exposure of the Right Social Democrats, the agents of American imperialism.

A big success for the international solidarity of the working people was the exposure of the gang of American spies which had penetrated the working class movement and grouped themselves around Tito-Rankovic and similar traitors, provocateurs and spies. Unmasking and eliminating this rot from the ranks of the working people is a law for the

development of the working class movement and of the movement of the partisans of peace.

For Peace and Socialism

The enthusiasm with which the Rumanian people are signing the Stockholm appeal is extremely significant: during two weeks 4,300,000 citizens signed the appeal. Every day additional hundreds of thousands of people affix their signatures to it. But signing the appeal is not the only aspect of this broad political campaign. Two hundred and thirty seven thousand people—members of the 17,000 peace committees elected by the masses—as well as tens of thousands of other voluntary activists in the fight for peace are taking part in collecting signatures. Peace Committees are engaged in widespread explanatory work in connection with the campaign for signatures, going from house to house in towns and villages and talking with every citizen individually; in the factories and in the streets they display drawings and slogans all testifying to the growth of the forces of peace supporters led by the Soviet Union, and depicting the struggle against the warmongers.

Enthusiastically working in factory, field and office, battling to consolidate the economic might of our homeland, to strengthen its defence and raise the material and cultural level of the people, the working population of our country is daily helping to strengthen the front of international solidarity in the struggle for peace.

The struggle for peace is closely linked with the considerable initiative displayed by the workers and technical personnel in the May Day Socialist emulation which is progressing with great enthusiasm. With the slogan “More oil for the homeland, for peace!” workers and technical personnel in the oil industry are achieving big production successes.

Particularly enthusiastic is the emulation among workers in to non-ferrous metallurgical industry, in different branches of industry, workers and technicians are introducing the methods of Soviet stakhanovites for increasing labour productivity and so on.

The successes of the first 176 collective farms are evoking among the working peasantry an increasingly stronger and broader movement in favour of collectivisation. Ever greater numbers of peasants, having visited these collective farms and having seen for themselves how groundless are the falsehoods circulated by the kulaks, express their desire to form collective farms. All-round support for this movement means consolidating our homeland, the Rumanian People's Republic and, at the same time, strengthening the international front of the struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism.

In our country the education of the working people in the spirit of proletarian internationalism is intensifying. This finds expression in the increasingly warm affection of the people for the Soviet Union and for the great Stalin; in the growing friendship between the Rumanian people and the other nationalities residing in the country, in strengthening friendly relations with the other People's Democracies and in the ever more lively and fraternal interest displayed by the masses in the heroic struggle of Communists and partisans of peace in the capitalist countries.

Led and guided by the Rumanian Workers' Party, ever broader masses of the working people of our country are consciously uniting their efforts with the efforts of the entire front of international solidarity of the fighters for peace, democracy and Socialism.

**ROMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC.
FACTORY AND OFFICE WORKERS OF THE
23rd OF AUGUST ENGINEERING WORKS
IN BUCHAREST SIGNING THE APPEAL OF
THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF THE
WORLD PEACE CONGRESS**



Rumanian People's Republic. Factory and office workers of the 23rd of August
Engineering Works in Bucharest signing the appeal of the Permanent
Committee of the World Peace Congress

*Rumanian People's Republic. Factory and office workers of the 23rd
of August. Engineering Works In Bucharest signing the appeal of the
Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress*

MAY DAY 1950. Harry Pollitt, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Britain

It is more than 60 years since the world working class began to celebrate May Day. Thirty three years have passed since that May 1st in 1917 when the workers and soldiers of Petrograd demonstrated on the streets under the slogan, “A Peace without Annexations and Indemnities” and gave a great impetus to the revolutionary movement which culminated in the Great October Socialist Revolution. Today the Soviet Union is the mightiest force for peace in the world, an invincible Socialist State, whose people are advancing to Communism with unbounded confidence in the future. It inspires hundreds of millions of workers and peasants throughout the world, because it is the living proof that the working class and its allies can achieve unparalleled victories when the rule of the capitalists has been ended.

Twenty-three year ago, China’s first great revolutionary May Day demonstration took place at Hankow. This May Day the 475,000,000 people of China will celebrate the gigantic victory which has crowned their more than 20 years of indomitable struggle under the leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, and which signifies a crushing blow to the forces of international reaction. The conclusion of the Soviet-Chinese Treaty of Friendship sees on this May Day nearly 700,000,000 people joined in an unbreakable front of peace and mutually beneficial co-operation, such as the world has never seen before.

Only six years ago a great part of Europe was under the fascist yoke. Today, the 100,000,000 workers and peasants of the countries of People’s Democracy liberated from fascism by the glorious Soviet Army, are rapidly laying the foundations of

Socialism.

When to these 800,000,000 people in the countries comprising the camp of peace and democracy are added the militant working class movements of France and Italy, the powerful forces of the German Democratic Republic, the great revolutionary upsurge of the colonial people, and the great feeling for peace which exists in Britain and America in spite of the war propaganda of the warmongers, the working people of the world can feel nothing this May Day but supreme confidence in the victorious outcome of their fight!

Little did the pioneers of the working class movement, who first decided that May Day should be celebrated as a day of international working class solidarity, imagine that in so short a time such immense advances would have been made.

Yes, we can have confidence this May Day—the confidence that inspires us to new efforts, that steels us for harder battles. For this is a time of danger, as well as opportunity. The great advances of the camp of peace, as well as the growth of the insoluble contradictions and antagonisms in the imperialist camp are striking panic into the hearts of the imperialists and resulting in them intensifying and speeding up their preparations for war.

The warmongers are pushing ahead with their plans for atom bomb warfare. A few weeks before May Day, on March 17th, Mr. Louis Johnson, the American Secretary of Defence, boasted that “terrible new weapons of war, of which the hydrogen bomb is only one, are being developed.”

Churchill followed him a few days later with the demand for the ex-Nazis of Western Germany to be re-armed. New measures were announced for intensifying the war against the Malayan people, whose liberation movement after 18 months of violent attack by the British forces, is now stronger than ever.

May Day 1950 confronts all the peace-loving people of the

world, and especially the forces of the working class, with a challenge—the challenge to stop these crazy warmongers and smash their insane plans.

It is men and women and children—the millions of ordinary people—who will suffer and die if peace is not preserved. And it is the ordinary people who have it in their power to bar the way to war, to refuse to handle American arms, to prevent their countries being handed over as war bases of the Americans, to refuse to tolerate the attacks on their living standards and democratic rights—which the war preparations involve.

This May Day, a great responsibility rests on the peace forces in the capitalist countries, and especially in Britain. The building of a broader, more powerful, more active movement for peace in Britain will be a great blow at the warmongers. The working people of France and other European countries have set an example to the British people by their fight against the colonial wars of their Governments and their determination not to handle American arms.

We remember that in May, 30 years ago, the London dockers who refused to load the ship “The Jolly George” with arms that were to be sent to Poland for use against the Soviet people—set in motion a great campaign that helped to defeat the interventionist policies of Lloyd George and Churchill.

The decisions of the Stockholm meeting of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress will undoubtedly result in still further developing the peace movement from the stage of propaganda to the stage of action. This declaration that the first Government to employ the atomic weapon against any country will be considered as a war criminal and its call for the unconditional prohibition of the atomic weapon are meeting with a profound response from the peace loving people of the world. Its decision to convene the Second World Congress of Peace supporters at the end of 1950 will be welcomed by all who want to stop the drive to war.

The main thought dominating the minds of the vanguard of the British working class on this May Day, the main theme of the May Day Demonstrations in Britain, will be the translation into action of the profound desire for peace which exist amongst the British people.

The British Communist Party, as it prepares for the struggles that lie ahead, is fully conscious of its responsibility before the international working class movement for ensuring that, in 1950, the British workers carry out their duty to the full and take a foremost place in the line of battle of the world forces of peace and progress.

BRITISH WORKERS REJECT WAGE-FREEZE

A majority of Britain's eight million organised trade unionists now oppose the pay-pegging policies of Britain's Right-Wing Labour Government and Trade Union Congress leaders.

The 4,000,000 trade unionists who have voted against the policy of worsened living standards for the workers and soaring profits for the bosses, include the miners; railwaymen, electricians, foundry-workers and shop-workers.

In addition, one-and-a quarter million engineering trade unionists have decided to defy the Government's policy to prevent strike action following the employers' refusal to grant their demand for a £1 a week pay rise.

**TO SAVE PEACE IS THE DUTY OF THE
INTERNATIONAL PROLETARIAT.
Giuseppe di Vittorio, Chairman, World
Federation of Trade Unions**

May Day this year acquires a special character in view of the exceedingly serious situation created in the world, due, above all, to the preparations for a new and more terrible war of extermination with which Anglo-American imperialism is threatening all mankind.

Every year on May Day the working class and the working people of all countries confirm their international solidarity, estimate the situation in every country and throughout the world. On the basis of these results, the proletariat in all countries review their forces on a national and international scale, define the perspectives of in order to advance along the path of winning political and social liberation and permanent peace between all nations of the world.

On May Day the world proletariat will submit the balance sheet of the evil consequences of the capitalist regime all over the world and in individual countries still subordinated to the rule of capital, the balance sheet which constitutes a terrible indictment of the oppressed against the oppressors.

Only a few years have passed since the historic period, when the proletariat and the peoples of practically the whole world, responding heroically to the call of the first Socialist country in the world—the Soviet Union—took to arms both in regular troops and in glorious partisan units, and together with the victorious Soviet Army won the greatest military and political victory in history of the peoples over the fascist barbarians. At that time all the Allies, together with the

U.S.S.R., undertook to guarantee democratic and trade union liberties to large and small nations, to guarantee minimum social justice, national independence and lasting peace.

However, after a brief interval, the capitalists and imperialists, directed by the most hysterical and criminal American imperialists, blatantly, abandoned their obligations to the peoples, adopted the fascist programme of anti-Communism and, on the basis of this programme, unleashed a new slanderous campaign of hatred against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, switching over, with the aid of the "Marshall Plan" and the Atlantic Pact to concrete preparations and cynical provocations for a new anti-Soviet anti-peoples' war.

The international proletariat and its great united organisation—the World Federation of Trade Unions—realise that this switch to fascist and militarist reaction on the part of the imperialists was not accidental. It is a result of the organic inability of the present-day capitalist system to secure the minimum well-being for the masses of the working people, minimum economic and social progress in the countries oppressed by them, and a minimum guarantee of national independence and peace for the peoples.

The alarming symptoms of economic crisis hang over all capitalist countries. Production (barring war production) is either in a state of stagnation or is declining, and full and part-time unemployment and poverty, from which ever broader sections of the working people are suffering, are increasing steadily.

Such, is the situation also in the richest and most "powerful" capitalist countries, for example the U.S. where the number of fully and part-time unemployed has reached the enormous figure of 18 millions. Unemployment is also continuing to grow in Belgium and France. In Italy the number of fully unemployed registered in State labour exchanges is far

in excess of two millions; but if to these are added the numerous unemployed—the unregistered workers, mental and manual workers, part-time unemployed and agricultural labourers and agricultural workers who work irregularly (no more than 140 days a year) the number of unemployed is over 5 million—people doomed to poverty and chronic malnutrition.

It is hardly necessary to comment upon the steady growth of the appalling poverty of the working people in the fascist countries: Greece, Spain, Portugal, Yugoslavia and others, as well as the countries of Latin America which are completely colonised and fascisized by American imperialism, not to speak of the subordinate and colonial countries of Asia and Africa.

Finding themselves in the grip of economic depression and crisis, the capitalists and big landowners are looking for a way out by the usual methods: they seek to place the consequences of the crisis on the shoulders of the working people and the mass of the people as a whole, intensifying exploitation and reducing their already extremely low standards of living and actively preparing a new imperialist predatory war with the aim of plundering, subordinating and starving other peoples, and of seizing new markets. And since it is impossible either further to increase the enormous poverty of the working people or to draw peoples into predatory enslaving war without more open violence and terror, we witness the process of the destruction of democratic liberties and trade union rights of the working people and of a rapid transformation of the regimes of the so-called “Parliamentary democracy” into police and reactionary regimes of a more or less fascist type.

Consequently the “achievements” of imperialism appear before the world proletariat and all mankind as follows: first, an uninterrupted deepening of economic crisis, the growth of full and part-time unemployment, exploitation and poverty of the working people and of the broad masses of the people;

second, a steady intensification of ever more vile and bloody repressions against the working people who are rising up in struggle for their elementary right, to work and bread; third, instigating a new predatory war of extermination by Anglo-American imperialism and by the satellite governments united in the Atlantic Pact which constitutes a military coalition, a pact which undermined the instrument of peace which UNO should have been.

Celebrating May Day 1950 under the banner of unity, the world proletariat must say that alongside poverty and reactionary violence, the only immediate perspective offered by the imperialist world to the peoples is that of a new aggressive atomic war which threatens mankind with extermination.

The situation in the Socialist camp is entirely different. The great Soviet Union has in record time, healed the terrible wounds of the war which ended victoriously in the liberation of Europe and of the whole world from fascist barbarism. The Soviet people have resumed their triumphant march along the path of boundless progress; industrial and agricultural production is growing steadily and the economic and cultural level of the entire population is rising accordingly.

Following the glorious example of the U.S.S.R., all the People's Democracies are with great enthusiasm building a new Socialist society. From Czechoslovakia to Poland, from Hungary to Rumania, from Bulgaria to little Albania, production is increasing in all branches of the national economy and the destructive manifestations of crises, unemployment and pauperism of wide strata of the people—characteristic features of the decaying and dying capitalist system—have already disappeared.

In its turn the new People's China, freed from the domination of foreign imperialism and from the oppression by the ruinous and corrupt feudal system of Chiang Kai-shek has

begun, the victorious construction of a new life.

In that part of the world which has once and for all torn asunder the fetters of capitalism and imperialism, no-one is interested in kindling an aggressive war. All the liberated peoples love peace and are resolutely struggling in its defence and for the establishment of friendly relations and agreement between all peoples in the world.

These magnificent successes, which decisively strengthen the international peace front and the freedom of the peoples are welcomed with great enthusiasm by all working people, democrats, partisans of peace and honest people in all countries. These same successes sow terror in the parasites from the Anglo-American trusts who actually are **afraid of peace**. These big criminals want war and are actively preparing it with the aim of achieving world political and economic domination, reckoning thereby not only on countering the economic crisis but, contrary to the experience of history, also entertaining the insane hope of destroying Socialism and the unshakeable faith of the working people in the capitalist countries in the possibility of winning their social liberation.

The new war of extermination which the Anglo-American imperialists are trying to unleash will be directed equally against the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies, against the working people in all capitalist countries and against the dependent and colonial peoples fighting for national liberation. The war which the Anglo-American imperialists are preparing is, therefore, an aggressive war of billionaires against the proletariat, the privileged against the unprivileged, big swindlers, against honest people living by their own labour, the oppressors against the peoples who want independence for their own countries. The war which, in the main, is being prepared by American billionaires, is a war against the working classes, the most unjust and the most hateful in the history of all wars.

And if the big criminals—the Anglo-American imperialists—were given freedom of action the catastrophe might befall mankind at any minute. But the forces of peace, headed by the united working class which cements them, are immeasurably more numerous and powerful than the criminal advocates and instigators of war. We can and therefore we must prevent war. We can and therefore we must save peace.

The struggle for peace is closely linked with the day to day struggle for bread, with the defence of democratic liberties and trade union rights trodden under foot by reaction. By struggling vigorously for better conditions for the working people, by forcing the governments to reduce military expenditure in order to provide work and to increase unemployment benefits, by compelling governments to adopt proposals in defence of peace, for the reduction of armaments, to sign the international agreement submitted by the Soviet Union for the prohibition of the atomic weapon, by collecting tens and hundreds of millions of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress—by doing all this we are defending peace.

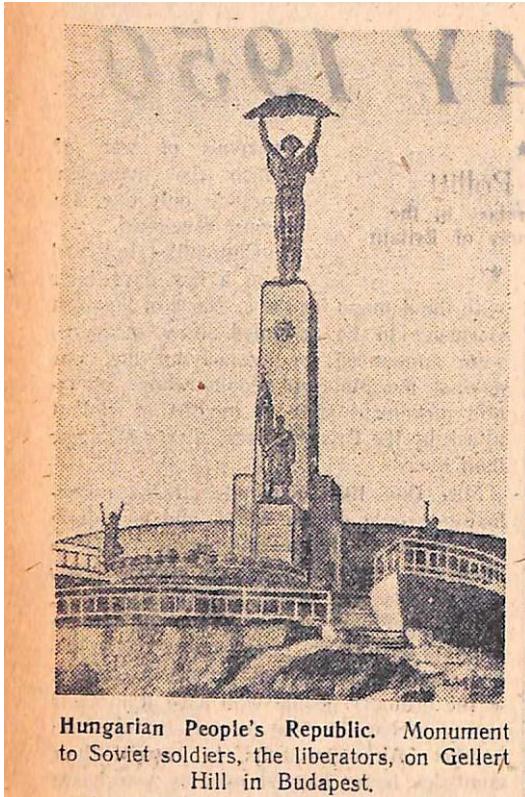
The matter is one of saving mankind from the terrible threat of extermination. Consequently, all the more glorious and all the more noble is the task of the world proletariat—to make war impossible, to save peace by all means. Every sacrifice demanded by the struggle for peace, no matter how severe, will be less than the vast destruction and mass extermination of humanity which will result from even one hour of war.

On May Day 1950, on all the public squares in the world, working people of every race and religion, demonstrating under the slogans of the World Federation of Trade Unions, will pledge themselves as a matter of honour, valour and heroism, to struggle against war, against every form of its concrete preparation such as the unloading and transportation

of American arms. The struggle must take concrete shape in the factories, the ports, on the railways, in towns and villages and in all places. One of the most important concrete forms of struggle for peace is the collection of signatures of working people and all people of good will to the appeal for the prohibition of the atomic weapon and for denunciation as a war criminal of that government which first uses it.

On May Day 1950, the world proletariat, together with democrats in all countries and all progressive mankind, will solemnly pledge to extend the unity and daily struggle of the peace forces to an extent which will make war impossible.

**HUNGARIAN PEOPLES REPUBLIC.
MONUMENT TO SOVIET SOLDIERS, THE
LIBERATORS OM GELLERT HILL IN
BUDAPEST**



Hungarian People's Republic. Monument to Soviet soldiers, the liberators on Gellert Hill in Budapest.

ON THE EVE OF MAY DAY

BULGARIA

The preparations for May Day in the Bulgarian People's Republic are characterised by the mass collection of signatures for the appeal to prohibit the atomic weapon and Socialist emulation for the fulfilment of the national economic plan for the current year. Some 13,000 production teams are taking part in this emulation. One hundred and sixty thousand individual pledges have been taken. Emulation is proceeding mainly along the following lines voluntary upward revision of production norms (this patriotic initiative of the Plovdiv tobacco workers is developing more and more into a mass movement), fulfilment of production plans ahead of schedule, better quality and assortment of goods, economy of materials and good labour discipline.

The movement of the transport workers for a hundred thousand kilometre run with their lorries without major repairs is spreading. Among train crews, a movement is spreading to increase the tonnage drawn by freight trains by 50 to 100 per cent above norm.

FINLAND

Despite the decision of the Right-Wing majority on the Central Trade Union Federation of Finland, the Finnish working class is preparing for a united May Day celebration. According to this decision, local trade unions which take part

in organising united May Day celebrations will be expelled from the Central Trade Union Federation. The Right Social Democratic leadership has also forbidden trade union branches to carry their banners during the joint May Day demonstrations.

This action of the Social Democrat trade union leaders in the leadership of the Federation is all the more reprehensible because not only is it a brazen violation of more than half a century tradition of celebrating May Day, but, above all, because it means splitting the trade unions and the forces of the working class.

The workers realise that now, more than ever before, firm unity is essential in the struggle against the capitalists in defence of trade union demands for increased wages. The singleness of purpose which animates the working class is evident from the tens and hundreds of resolutions unanimously adopted by trade union organisations throughout the country in favour of united May Day celebrations.

Local trade union bodies and branches which unite in their ranks workers of different points of view initiated the idea of a joint May Day celebration. All the democratic organisations, together with a number of local organisations of the Social Democratic Party, have decided—despite the special ban by the leadership of the Party—to take part with their banners and slogan in the May Day celebrations organised by the trade unions.

NORWAY

In Oslo, and other towns in Norway, May Day demonstrations will be held under Communist Party slogans which call on the working people to celebrate the holiday by developing the struggle for peace, against the war preparations,

for taking Norway out of the North Atlantic bloc and for the national independence of the country.

Every day the newspaper "Friheten" publishes the decisions of workers' organisations expressing their desire to take part in the demonstration. Such a decision has been taken, by the workers of the "Sveisebedrift" factories, by the Metal Workers' Union and by the Oslo Painters' Union, the Bricklayers' and the Concrete Workers' Unions in Bergen and by the workers in a number of enterprises in Shten, Hammerfest and other towns. These decisions were either adopted unanimously or by an overwhelming majority.

WARSAW-PRAGUE CYCLE RACE

An international cycle race from Warsaw to Prague will be held as in the previous two years, from May 1 to May 9. The race, which will start from Warsaw, is being organised by the editorial boards of "Tribuna Ludu", organ of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, and "Rude Pravo" organ of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. Cycle teams from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania, the German Democratic Republic and also from workers' sport groups in France, Denmark, Finland and Britain (from the "Daily Worker") will take part in the race.

The route passes through most of the main industrial centres of Poland and Czechoslovakia: Warsaw-Lodz-Wroclaw-Katowici-Cracow-Gottwaldowo-Olomunec-Brno-Pardubice-Prague.

A big demonstration of international workers' sport solidarity will take place on May 5 on the Polish-Czechoslovak frontier. The race as a whole will form a powerful mass

demonstration for lasting peace and freedom for the peoples. The Polish and Czechoslovak Peace Committees have instituted prizes for the winners.

PEACE MOVEMENT IS GROWING AND GAINING STRENGTH!

WORKING PEOPLE OF HUNGARY SIGNING APPEAL FOR PROHIBITION OF ATOMIC WEAPON

Thousands of people who attended a peace meeting in Budapest took the peace pledge and expressed themselves for the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress.

A resolution adopted at the meeting reads: "Let peace committees be created in every city, in every city district, at every enterprise and every work-shop, in every village and farmstead. Let these committees become instruments of struggle for peace and unite in their ranks all who intend to act in the interests of realising the appeal of the Stockholm session... Let there not be a single Hungarian working man who has not signed the appeal, who has not taken active part in the peace movement. By our unity, organisation and bold actions we shall help, under the banner of the great Stalin, under the leadership of Matias Rakosi, in the united front with the peace-loving peoples of the entire world to rebuff the attacks which the warmongers are preparing against our country and all mankind."

The collecting of millions of signatures for the Stockholm appeal has begun. At the "Ganz" waggon-building works, one of the biggest heavy industry enterprises in the country, the workers followed up a peace meeting by enthusiastically signing the petition forms. Similar enthusiasm prevails in scientific organisations and institutes where the collecting of

signatures is under way.

FRANCE

Fighters for peace and freedom in France are developing a campaign to collect millions of signatures for the Stockholm appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress.

The Communist Party Federation in the Seine Department has called upon all Party members and all Party organisations to conduct a campaign for the collection of signatures, devoting particular attention to the Renault and Citroen works, the Austerlitz station, and the Bank of France.

Communists of Noyelles-Godault (the birth-place of Maurice Thorez) in the Pas-de-Calais Department will, on April 30—Maurice Thorez's 50th birthday—report on the results of the campaign to collect signatures at factories, in towns, streets and in villages.

The Miners' Federation has advanced the slogan: "Not a single mine without a peace committee!". A similar slogan is being put forward by the Metal Workers' Federation. The Association of Lease-Holders and Share-Croppers in the Higher Vienne Department has called upon peasants to sign and collect signatures supporting the Permanent Committee's appeal.

Many municipalities are giving wide publicity to the appeal of the Permanent Committee and are calling upon the population to sign the appeal.

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French working people are going ahead with their concrete action against war. In Unis (Lourier Department) 2,000 factory workers stopped work in protest against the intention of the

management to resume production of shells for 380 mm. guns. At Chartres and Angers, people held up a train transporting troops of the “Republican Security Detachments”. At Vogirar, a Paris station, patriots overturned three army lorries and put 20 others out of commission. A similar action took place at Bordeaux on April 22. Upon learning that a military train had arrived with U.S. army trucks destined for Indo-China, working people assembled at the railway sidings and, dumping two lorries out of the waggons, put them out of commission. The lashings of the remaining lorries were also damaged, with the result that the train was delayed.

AUSTRALIA

The opening session of the Australian Peace Congress, with 12,000 delegates and guests present, was the biggest meeting held in Melbourne for several years. Eight hundred delegates from all parts of Australia included delegates from the Miners’ Federation, Waterside Workers’ Federation, Sheet Metal Workers’ Union, the Building Workers’ Industrial Union, the Seamen’s Union, Ships Painters and Dockers’ Union, the Teachers’ Federation and Clerks’ Union.

The Congress unanimously demanded the prohibition of the atomic weapon and the branding of the first government to use it as a criminal.

Hewlett Johnson, the Dean of Canterbury, who addressed the Congress on behalf of British peace partisans, was the first to place his signature on a “Ban the Bomb” petition. It is planned to collect hundreds of thousands of signatures to the petition which will be placed eventually before the Australian Government.

TRIESTE

The collection of signatures in support of the demand for the demilitarisation and neutrality of the Free Territory of Trieste, organised by the Trieste peace committee, has received the enthusiastic support of the working people. More than 30,000 signatures were collected in three days from people of different political views.

Simultaneously, many municipal councils in the Free Territory of Trieste are voting on the resolution calling for the prohibition of the use of the port of Trieste for military purposes. In the course of a few days, 28 meetings were held in different townships and villages at which deputations were elected to place before the Allied Military Administration the firmly expressed determination of the people of Trieste to struggle against war. A big demonstration of dockers—held on the initiative of the peace committee—was greeted by more than 60 delegations of working people from different factories and districts.

DANISH DOCKERS PROTEST AGAINST DENMARK BEING TURNED INTO A U.S. ARSENAL

At a general meeting held on April 23, the Copenhagen branch of the Dock Workers' Union carried by an overwhelming majority a resolution protesting against the forthcoming unloading of American arms in Copenhagen. "We sharply protest" reads the resolution, "against the increasingly active role which official Denmark is playing in preparing war against the Soviet Union, by recently placing "Castrup" airfield at the disposal of armed American bombers for their

provocative flights over the Baltic.

“We are worried by the character of economic development which will result from the growing militarisation and the armaments drive and we indignantly protest against the transformation of Denmark into an American arsenal for a future war.

“We consider that the port of Copenhagen must serve the cause of peace and free trade and not be converted into a naval harbour. We therefore call upon all organised workers and all peace-loving people to protest jointly with us against the unloading of armaments of the American gangsters in our port.

“We want peace and better social conditions and not guns, tanks and jet fighters!”

*

The peace committee in Denmark has started collection of signatures to the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee throughout the country. Many democratic organisations are taking part in the campaign for signatures—above all, the Danish section of the Women’s International Democratic Federation, the Danish section of the World Federation of Democratic Youth, political prisoners of the occupation period, a group of participants of the resistance movements and others.

Local peace committees have already been formed in the towns of Aarhus, Odense, Herning, Nuksbing, Sakskobing, Trorod, Helsingor and Moeen Island.

A conference of peace committee representatives is scheduled for June 11th when questions of current work will be discussed and matters relating to preparations for an All-Denmark Peace Congress.

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GERMANY

The German peace committee has called upon all Germans to organise in all houses in the town and countryside the collection of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress. The United Free German Trade Unions, the Democratic Women's Union of Germany, "Kulturbund", the Association of Victims of Nazi Persecution, the Union of German Youth and others have supported the campaign for signatures.

Wilhelm Kenen, Chairman of the Secretariat of the National Front of Democratic Germany, stated that the National Front would give the utmost support to the collection of signatures, since the preservation of peace is the pre-condition for the national independence and unity of Germany.

The campaign for the collection of signatures is developing on an ever greater scale in Western Germany. Tens of thousands of signatures have been gathered in the towns of Carlsruhe, Nurenberg, Mullendorf, Amberg, Dortmund and other places.

LEBANON

The movement for peace in the Lebanon is acquiring ever greater dimensions. The movement is headed by the Lebanon peace committee which includes eminent, public figures, representatives of the democratic intelligentsia and workers and peasants. Lebanon democratic organisations are taking an active part in the struggle for peace: the Lebanon Youth Peace Committee, "The Society for the Rights of Women", the Democratic League of Lebanon Lawyers, the United Democratic Trade Union of Lebanon and the Students'

Committee. They are holding peace meetings, compiling and circulating peace calls among the population, against the warmongers and are sending letters to the parliament.

At present moment the Lebanon peace committee is engaged throughout the country in collecting signatures for the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Congress.

THIRD CONGRESS OF DEMOCRATIC UNION OF GERMAN WOMEN

The Third Congress of the Democratic Union of German Women, in which 1,900 delegates participated, including 500 from West Germany, ended on April 24 in Berlin. The struggle of German women for peace and a united, democratic Germany in the ranks of the National Front was the main subject of discussion at the Congress.

Delegates who participated in the discussion reported the increased activity of German women in the struggle for peace and emphasised that in West Germany also, branches of the Democratic Union of German Women had been formed, so that to-day the Union is becoming an All-German organisation.

Congress resolutions emphasised that the main task of the Union was to draw women throughout Germany into the mighty movement of the supporters of peace. Congress called on all women in Germany to take an active part in the collection of signatures to the appeal for the prohibition of the atomic weapon.

Women's delegations from the Soviet Union, Rumania, Hungary and other countries participated in the work of the Congress.

AUSTRIA

In connection with the forthcoming All-Austrian Peace Congress scheduled for June 10, the "Free Austrian Youth" organisation is gathering signatures throughout the country from young people in support of the demand to secure peace. The Austrian youth demands that the armament drive be stopped, the atomic weapon and the preparation for bacteriological warfare prohibited, the immediate signing of a State treaty, withdrawal of occupation troops from Austria and that Austria refuse to join any kind of military pact (the Atlantic Pact).

The demands of the youth will be delivered, together with the signatures supporting them, to the All-Austrian Peace Congress.

INDIA

The Permanent Committee of the All-India Conference of partisans of peace has called upon the people of India to unite for struggle against the Anglo-American instigators of the India-Pakistan war and against their Indian feudal and bourgeois agents. The Committee has recommended all local and province peace committees to fight for genuine Hindu-Moslem unity; to organise demonstrations of peace supporters jointly with trade-union, peasant, student, women's and other democratic organisations; to form groups of peace supporters to prevent Hindu-Moslem disturbances and vigorously to resist the warmongers and the organisers of disturbances.

POLAND

The Polish Peace Committee in addition to its campaign for collecting signatures to the appeal for the prohibition of the atomic weapon, has decided to begin preparations for the first All-Poland Peace Congress in Warsaw during September. The Committee has also decided to open a Defence of Peace fund. The fund will be used to help the defenders of peace—victims of persecution by the warmongers.

More and more peace committees are being formed daily in rural areas and factories throughout Poland. Side by side with mass explanatory work the local peace committees are engaged in preparations for the collection of signatures to the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress.

ALGIERS

The entire audience of a large public meeting in Algiers signed the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress. At a meeting in the port of Algiers 300 dockers pledged themselves to intensify the struggle for the prohibition of the atomic bomb.

NORWAY

Along with the protest movement against the militarisation of the country and the sharp decline in the standard of living, working people in Norway are developing a campaign for the collection of signatures to the peace appeal.

A unanimous decision to sign the appeal of the Permanent

Committee was taken by the workers of “Radioindustry”, the housewives in the eastern sector of Oslo, the workers of the paper mill at Granfoss, the workers of the wood-working enterprises at Fredrickstadt and at other enterprises.

BELGIUM

The Politburo of the Belgian Communist Party has issued a communique stressing that the struggle for peace is the most important task to which all other tasks must be subordinate. The Politburo approved the decision of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee and called upon all Party members, all sympathisers and friends of peace to develop in every possible way the work of collecting signatures and to intensify the struggle for peace.

NOT A STEP FURTHER! Drawing by J. Novak

The enemies of peace—the imperialist warmongers—are aware that the decisions of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress constitute a serious obstacle in the way of realising their criminal designs.

(Press report)



POLITICAL NOTES

FORRESTALS FROM ARGENTINA

The Argentine puppets of Washington are trying to imitate their American patrons in everything, even lunacy. If Forrestal, former U.S. Secretary of War, before plunging to his death from the 16th floor dressed only in his underwear, screamed. “Help, the Red Army is in the street of Washington!”, why should not the editor of Argentina’s Government paper “Noticias Graficas” act similarly?

The editors of this paper decided to go one better than Forrestal. And so, a few days ago, this newspaper reported the establishment in South America of ...a “Soviet Union of South America.” The alleged chairman of this “Soviet Union” is Louis Carlos Prestes. General Secretary of the Communist Party of Brazil. These lunatic editors indicated even the borders of the “Soviet Union of South America”, one part stretches from Ecuador to the Mexican-U.S. border; the other takes in the remainder of South America.

It would appear from this Argentina example that lunacy is catching. But it spreads only in special conditions—in the imperialist camp, in the conditions of utter degradation of a class doomed to extinction.

The scale of this lunacy is evidently explained by the subordinate position of the Argentina lunatics. As is known, the lie of the master is magnified to monstrous dimensions on the tongue of his lackey.

The conclusion to be drawn by all sober-minded, truthful people who are struggling for peace is perfectly clear: put the madmen in the madhouse!

THEIR “MORAL SUPPORT”

It is known that in Western Germany, due to the Anglo-American imperialists lording it there, and to the inclusion of Western Germany in the system of the Marshall Plan, that the economy of Western Germany is breaking up.

Things are no better in Western Berlin where, as we know, American businessmen are also completely “acting the master”. Their German puppets such as Adenauer, justly known as the “colonial premier”, seek in vain to make both ends meet. But nothing doing! The requests for help addressed to their Anglo-American masters are also ignored.

For example, replying to Adenauer’s latest request, General Bourne, Commandant of the British sector of Berlin, declared that by the end of May the budget deficit in Western Berlin would amount to 60 million Western marks. As for the aid from the occupation authorities in Western Berlin—they would be able to give“moral support.”

And so “moral support” reaches Berlin—tanks, armoured cars, tear gas and so on, everything needed for break-up demonstrations of the working people. Moreover, the occupation authorities are also sending to Berlin the corresponding “specialists”, experienced “suppressors” and detectives. As General Bourne recently told the Press: “In the event of necessity” a battalion of specially trained soldiers would be sent to Berlin in British planes. Almost simultaneously, the newspaper “Die Welt”, issued by the British authorities in Germany, contained a report headed: “Precautionary measures against Communist disorders.” This report stated that in view of the forthcoming May Day demonstration, and also in connection with the all-German Youth gathering, John Nott-Bower, a “leading official” of Scotland-Yard, had arrived in Berlin.

Such is their “moral support”! Such are the “gifts” sent by

Anglo-American imperialists to the German people. But no Scotland-Yard officials, no “specially trained” thugs and “suppressors” can stifle the courageous voice of the German people in defence of peace.

Jan MAREK

MANIFESTO OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS' UNION

The International Students' Union has called upon all its members and organisations in sixty countries to support the campaign for signatures to the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress for prohibition of the atomic weapon.

The International Students' Union, reads the manifesto, supports wholeheartedly the decision of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress and particularly the appeal for the prohibition of the atomic weapon and the decision to convene the Second World Peace Congress.

BILL ANDREWS 80 YEARS OLD

On April 20th, Comrade Bill Andrews of South Africa celebrated his 80th birthday. Bill Andrews' life has been one of selfless service devoted to the cause of the revolutionary working class movement. From early youth, Bill Andrews played an active part in building the trade union movement in Britain. Later, when he emigrated to South Africa, he immediately entered into the work of strengthening the trade union movement in the country and became all active propagandist of Socialist ideas.

Andrews was one of the leaders of the big strike movement against the owners of the gold-mines in 1911-12, one of the founders of the South African Workers' party, and organiser of the first Trades Councils and of the United, Trade Union Federation of South Africa.

Comrade Andrews is one of the founders of the South African Communist Party. During the twenties he was an ardent supporter of the Red International of Trade Unions. Returning to South Africa after a visit to Moscow in 1922, he did much to spread the truth about the Soviet Union. He made every effort to build friendship between working people irrespective of race and colour.

For many years Comrade Andrews was General Secretary of the Communist Party of South Africa until old age compelled him to relinquish active work.

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