

Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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LESSONS OF THE SECOND WORLD WAR AND THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE

Five years ago, the guns fired their last salvos in the heart of Europe. The Soviet Army led by Comrade Stalin, its brilliant military leader, dealt Hitlerism a decisive blow and achieved the complete rout of Hitler Germany.

The victory of the Soviet Union in World War Two is of world historic significance. The Soviet country withstood trials no capitalist country could endure. The Soviet social and State system triumphed in the war. The entire world became convinced that the Socialist organisation of society is a higher form of organisation of society. The Soviet Army accomplished its great liberation mission, it saved many peoples from fascist enslavement and death. All this is clear evidence of the boundless vitality of Socialism; evidence that the progressive onward march of mankind in the present epoch is indissolubly linked with Socialism.

The Second World War proved convincingly that it is impossible to destroy that social system which frees the peoples from exploitation and national oppression. The lessons of the Second World War teach all peoples to fight more boldly and more resolutely for genuine democracy, for Socialism, since they alone enable the peoples to end, once and for all, exploitation and wars; since Democracy and Socialism alone ensure genuine freedom and Independence of the peoples.

The events which followed the Second World War show that the ruling circles of the U.S. and Britain are openly pursuing the policy of preparing a new war. They are openly following in the footsteps of Hitler who pursued the policy of enslaving the peoples. That is why the struggle for peace, for national independence of the peoples against imperialist reaction is a great and just cause.

Only in the lunatic minds of the imperialist aggressors, who have lost all sense of reason, can there arise again, after the lessons of World War Two, the insane idea of achieving world domination. The peoples of the world have, once previously, buried similar plans in the ruins of the Hitlerite empire. All the more reason why, in present conditions, when a radical change has taken place in the co-relation of forces in favour of Socialism, the new pretenders to world domination have no possible reason to hope for the realisation of their adventurous plans. The idea of “world domination” has failed disgracefully, history has proved the complete bankruptcy of plans for world domination. No atomic weapon, no “total diplomacy” will be able to overcome the heightened consciousness of the peoples, their steadfastness and courage in the struggle for their national independence. for their national sovereignty, their firm determination to decide their own destiny! The indisputable lessons of the Second World War show, with all clarity that the new claimants to world domination may expect not world domination but only the judgement of the peoples and the gallows.

The international situation of the Soviet Union changed radically as a result of the Second World War. The camp of peace, democracy and Socialism headed by the Soviet Union has considerably gained in strength. Both to the East and West, the Soviet Union has true allies whose friendship is sealed by common Socialist aims, by the ideology of Leninism, by the common interests of preserving and upholding peace and by boundless gratitude to the Soviet Union for its selfless aid in their economic and cultural development. Soviet-Chinese friendship has become one of the greatest factors for peace. Socialist countries have no need of aggressive wars. The Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies which are building a new life, need peace. The peace policy of the Socialist camp was

defined by the great Lenin who, in his reply to an American correspondent thirty years ago, said: "Let the American capitalists leave us alone and we shall leave them alone."

It would be extremely dangerous to the cause of peace to underrate the increased danger of a new war. The Anglo-American imperialists began to prepare a new war immediately after the end of World War Two. The American imperialists are engaged in an unrestrained armaments drive. They dismembered Germany and are transforming its Western zones into a springboard for an attack against the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, they have taken the course of a long-term occupation of Japan and South Korea, they are establishing war bases in all parts of the world and are supporting extreme reactionary forces everywhere.

The henchmen of American imperialism are of late displaying particular belligerency. A few days ago, ex-President Hoover and Dulles, foreign policy adviser to the State Department, openly demanded the liquidation of UNO. Even UNO, which is dominated by an Anglo-American majority, is distasteful to reactionary U.S. circles which strive not for the peaceful settlement of international problems but to sharpen them to the maximum degree.

One of the main propaganda theses of the Anglo-American imperialists is that of the fatal inevitability of war. This thesis is the basis for the war hysteria which they are fomenting. It is perfectly clear that by means of this propaganda the warmongers and their Right Socialist agents aim at disarming the peace movement ideologically, aim at sowing uncertainty, creating the feeling of the impossibility of preventing war and in this way to break the resistance of the partisans of peace. We must be firm in the knowledge that war is not inevitable. The condition for preventing war is active struggle by the mass of the people for peace. In the final analysis it depends on the partisans of peace whether there is war or not That is why the

exposure of the thesis of the fatal inevitability of war and propaganda for an effective struggle for peace is the most important task of the Communist Parties.

Extremely harmful for the cause of peace is also the foul propaganda of the Tito clique about the “consolidation of capitalism” and about the “absence of a war threat”. The fierce struggle of the Tito clique against the peace movement once more discloses its true countenance and shows to what depths it has fallen.

Continued exposure of the fascist Tito clique and of its clamour about the absence of any danger of war is a no less important task of the Communist Parties.

Before the Second World War there were quite a few people in France, Britain, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Belgium, Holland and other countries who, by their policy of “non-intervention”, encouraged the aggressor and then themselves became the victims of aggression. The events preceding World War Two show that the aggressor is all the more insolent and audacious when he does not receive the necessary rebuff. That is why ever more active, even more organised actions by all people of good will are necessary to frustrate the criminal designs of the instigators of a new war.

First results of the collection of signatures to the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress show that the demand for banning the atomic weapon is the demand of the overwhelming majority of the populations of all countries. In Hungary, over seven million people have signed the appeal, in the German Democratic Republic fourteen million and in Bulgaria, nearly six million. In Rumania over seven million people have signed. It should be noted however, that the campaign for signatures in a number of capitalist countries (U.S., Britain, Canada, Sweden, Norway, the countries of Latin America, etc.) is still in its initial stage and has not yet reached the required scale.

The campaign for signatures to the appeal for the prohibition of the atomic weapon renders it possible for hundreds of millions of people to express their will. In signing this appeal, men and women fight for their own lives and the lives of their children. In signing the appeal, every man defends his right to a peaceful life. People to whom peace is dear, who loathe the horrors of war, cannot but sign the appeal for banning the atomic weapon and for the denunciation as a war criminal of that government which first uses the atom bomb against any country.

To march in the vanguard of the struggle for peace, to organise the struggle of all honest people for the prevention of a new world war, for the consolidation of peace, to bridle the new imperialist pretenders to world domination, to frustrate their criminal designs; save the lives of tens of millions of people—such is the great historical duty of the Communist Parties in the present situation.

BRILLIANT SUCCESS OF NEW LOAN IN U.S.S.R.

On May 3, the Fifth State Loan for the Rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. was floated in the Soviet Union to the amount of 20 billion roubles. Subscriptions to the loan were made throughout the Soviet Union in an atmosphere of great patriotic enthusiasm of the Soviet people and developed into a new mighty demonstration of warm love of the Soviet people for their Fatherland, the glorious Bolshevik Party and the great leader and teacher, Comrade Stalin. Total subscriptions to the loan, which was oversubscribed by more than 7 billion roubles, amounted to over 27 billion roubles.

FOR HUNDREDS OF MILLIONS OF SIGNATURES TO THE APPEAL OF THE PERMANENT COMMITTEE OF WORLD PEACE CONGRESS!

CHINA

Religious circles in China have published a manifesto in support of the Permanent Peace Committee appeal. It was signed by leaders of Buddhist, Moslem and Christian churches, including the head of the Young Men's Christian Association.

The manifesto warmly supports the Stockholm call to prohibit the atomic weapon and to declare as a war criminal that government first using it. It says that China's victory has thrown the imperialists into a panic and that they will struggle more desperately to provoke a new war. "We must not relax for one moment in our striving for peace", says the manifesto. "If we want to strive for world peace, we must unite with the bulwark of peace, the Soviet Union, and with all the People's Democracies".

The manifesto ends with a call to the Chinese people of all regions to unite in defending peace.

GERMANY

According to the German democratic press and radio the number of signatures to the demand for the prohibition of the atomic weapon is growing hourly throughout Germany.

Returns up to May 10 show that over 14 million signatures had been collected in the German Democratic Republic including in Mecklenburg, 1.8 million signatures, i.e. (87 per cent of the population of the Land) in Saxon, 4.3 million signatures. (84 per cent of the population) in Saxony-Anhalt, 84 per cent of the population. Similar reports have been received from other Lands in the Republic.

More than 518,000 signatures were obtained in all sectors of Berlin.

Reports of the success of the campaign for signatures are coming in from West Germany. Over 51,000 signatures were collected in Hamburg; over 31,000 in Cologne; 30,000 in Dortmund; 38,000 in Dusseldorf. According to incomplete figures in many towns of West Germany more than two-thirds of all workers have signed the appeal of the Stockholm Session.

SPAIN

The organisation of the United Union of Socialist Youth in Barcelona (Catalonia) has protested to the U.S. Consul against the open support given to the fascist regime in Spain.

“We want to be free,” reads the protest, “regardless of the cost, even if it means sacrificing our lives. We have little to lose and much to gain for ourselves and for our people”.

On the occasion of the so-called “Victory festival” organised by the Francoites, thousands of anti-fascist leaflets were distributed in Barcelona. Slogans which appeared in many parts of the city said: “The Catalonian youth will never fight against the Soviet Union”, “Never shall we use arms against the Soviet Union and the other peoples”.

Hungary. People with great enthusiasm expressed their

will for peace and unanimously voted against the use of the atomic weapon. The 26,326 local peace committees completed the collection of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee, having secured the signatures of 7,123,620 Hungarian citizens.

Rumania. 7,230,000 signatures have been collected.

Bulgaria. 5,465,000 people have already signed the appeal. In Sofia, the capital of the Republic, 389,000 signatures were obtained and 571,000 in Sofia Region.

German Democratic Republic. According to incomplete figures, more than 14 million signatures have been collected in Greater Berlin, Thuringia Saxony, Mecklenburg, Saxony-Anhalt and Brandenburg.

Czechoslovakia. Widespread preparatory work is underway for collection of signatures.

Poland. Preparation for the mass collection of signatures is nearing completion.

France. The Central Committee of the French Communist Party has adopted a detailed decision to extend the campaign for signatures. According to incomplete figures, 100,000 signatures have been collected in Marseilles, 150,000 in the Seine Department, 250,000 in the Nord and Pas de Calais Departments, and so on.

Italy. The National Peace Committee adopted a decision to conduct a campaign for signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee.

PLENUM OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

A Plenum of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party was held on May 4. Etienne Fajon, Member of the Politburo, reported on the struggle of the French Communists for the prohibition of the atomic weapon. (See page three for excerpts).

A lively discussion followed Fajon's report. Most speakers dwelt on the development of the movement of the fighters for peace and freedom; on the considerable success of the campaign for signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress. The delegates to the Plenum noted that the appeal is gaining wholehearted support in the most remote part of the country and among the broadest sections of the French people.

George Cogniot, member of the Central Committee, stressed in his speech that one of the paramount conditions for victory in the struggle for peace is the exposing, isolating and paralysing in France of the activities of the Tito agency of the Anglo-American imperialists.

Auguste Lecoer, Secretary of the Party, stated that new forms of organisation were necessary for the collection of signatures; forms which would permit greater individual initiative and that the work must be improved and carried out in every house in town and countryside.

Summing up the discussion, Maurice Thorez, General Secretary of the Party, stressed the responsibility of members of the Central Committee and of the Party as a whole for the campaign for signatures to the appeal of the Stockholm session, which is now the main task in the struggle for peace.

The Central Committee in a special decision, resolutely protested against the dismissal of Frederic Joliot Curie from the

post of High Commissioner for Atomic Energy carried out by the Bidault Government on the orders of the American imperialists.

“In the person of Joliot Curie, one of the greatest living French scientists,” reads the protest, “the Government of national betrayal has dealt a blow to an ardent patriot who objects to French science being used by U.S. warmongers just as he prevented the Hitlerites from driving benefit from French science.”

The resolution adopted by the Plenum of the Central Committee on the report by E. Fajon states that the results already obtained in France testify to the strength of the popular movement against the atomic weapon and war. At the same time the Central Committee points out that the campaign for the collection of signatures is as yet developing too slowly. “The overcoming of this lag, the realisation of the great tasks placed before the peace movement in France,” emphasises the resolution, “depend to a great extent on the Communist Party, on the active participation of all its organisations and all its members in the front ranks of the patriots of peace in the campaign for signatures to the appeal”.

The Central Committee calls the particular attention of the Party to the pressing and urgent need to intensify activities at all places of work where, as proved by many examples, it is possible and necessary to ensure the signing of the appeal by all or nearly all workers, employees and technical personnel and to devote special attention to the collection of signatures among the peasants.

The resolution provides for the further development of the Party’s organisational work aimed at drawing into the campaign for signatures trade unions, women’s youth and other mass organisations, at helping the “Fighters for Peace and Freedom” to intensify the movement for signatures to the appeal by establishing communal councils and thousands of

peace committees at the factories and in the countryside.

The resolution stresses the need to intensify, without delay, assistance to dockers seamen, railwaymen and other working people who are fighting against the unloading, transportation and production of war materials.

INDIA

The collection of signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Congress of the Partisans of Peace is being carried out successfully in Bombay and Delhi in connection with the “peace week”. The Permanent Committee of the Partisans of Peace, Bombay Province, has already collected tens of thousands of signatures.

Thousands of signatures have been collected in Delhi. Meetings of the Partisans of Peace have recently been held in different parts of Delhi.

Those attending the meetings greeted the Soviet Union and Comrade Stalin—organiser and inspirer of the struggle for peace and democracy throughout the world. They expressed their determination to struggle against the Anglo-American instigators of war and their agents in India.

BRAZIL

Meetings and the collecting of signatures are now in progress throughout Brazil for the prohibition of the atomic weapon. A crowded meeting held in the capital of the State of Bahia approved the appeal of the Stockholm session. At the Third Congress of Brazilian writers, held at the end of April, it was decided to struggle for the prohibition of the atomic

weapon and for agreement between the Great Powers. Oswaldo Aranha, former Minister of Foreign Affairs, Themistocles Cavalcanti, Chief Public Prosecutor, Senators Olympio and Kerginaldo Himaraes and Modeiros Netto, a Catholic priest and deputy along with many other representatives of science, literature and art have also expressed themselves for prohibition of the atomic weapon.

A statement issued by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil, signed by Luis Carlos Prestes, in addition to collecting for signatures to the Stockholm appeal, says: "The Brazilian people want peace and will not take part in any military adventure, they will never fight against the Soviet Union". Despite its illegal position, the Brazilian Confederation of Labour has published a manifesto calling for struggle against war and for the prohibition of the atomic weapon.

GREECE

The "Free Greece" radio station has broadcast a resolution of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Greece which exposes the colonisation of the country by American imperialists aided by the betrayers of the Greek people, the transformation of Greece into a military base, the brazen American interference in Greek internal affairs, the designs of the American warmongers and of the Greek-Yugoslav fascist cliques to form a military bloc of the Mediterranean countries.

The resolution reads: "The Americans intend to use the Greek people in the war against the Soviet Union which they are preparing. But they are profoundly mistaken. Hitler made exactly the same mistake. Just as in 1941-44 Hitler could not send a single Greek to fight against the Soviet Union, the

Anglo-American imperialists will not succeed in forcing a single Greek to fight against the People's Democracies and the country of Socialism. The Greek people will never go to war against the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies."

CELEBRATION OF THE FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Five years ago, the glorious Soviet Army liberated Prague. With feelings of profound gratitude to the Soviet Union, its invincible army and to Generalissimo J. V. Stalin, the people of Czechoslovakia celebrated the historic date May 9, 1945, which put an end not only to Hitlerite domination in Czechoslovakia but marked the beginning of a new epoch in the history of the Czechoslovak people—the epoch of building Socialism.

On the eve of this memorable day a celebration meeting was held in the National Theatre in Prague. The meeting was attended by Klement Gottwald, President of the Republic, members of the Government, the Presidium of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Presidium of the Central Action Committee of the National Front. The Soviet Government delegation, headed by Marshal. N. A. Bulganin, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of U.S.S.R. and the leaders of the delegations from other countries, occupied seats in the front of the Presidium. The Soviet delegation also included Comrade Suslov, Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (B) and Comrade Zorin and Rodimtsev.

The Prime Minister, Antonin Zapototski delivered a speech in which he stressed the enormous service rendered by the Soviet Union which triumphed over fascism, liberated the Czechs and Slovaks and created the possibilities for Czechoslovakia successfully to build Socialism.

Marshal N. A. Bulganin, head of the Soviet Government

delegation, who was received with stormy applause, remarked that five years ago the Soviet Army, as a result of its historic victories, liberated the Czechoslovak people from Hitlerite slavery and restored to them freedom and independence. Marshal Bulganin referred to the further development of Czechoslovakia which the working people, under the leadership of the Communist Party, have transformed into a People's Democratic Republic. He noted particularly the successes achieved by the working people as a result of the decisive defeat of reaction in February 1948 and the steady building of Socialism.

Comrade Bulganin said that the fraternal aid which the Soviet Union is rendering Czechoslovakia is natural and expresses the policy of friendship which the Soviet Union exercises in relation to Czechoslovakia and all other People's Democracies... "The Soviet Union and the People's Democracies pursue but a single aim," continued Marshal Bulganin—"the building of Socialist society. In these conditions mutual assistance and inviolable friendship, on the basis of equality, is the law of our mutual relations and of our further progress...

"It is our duty to strengthen in every possible way co-operation and fraternal friendship between the People's Democracies and the Soviet Union, resolutely to combat the slightest attempt to weaken it, for what at first glance may seem an insignificant doubt of the necessity of this friendship inevitably leads to a departure from the principles of proletarian internationalism, from the principles of Lenin-Stalin, leads to betrayal of one's own people, to the penetration into the state administration of mercenaries and lackeys of capitalism.

"The working people in the People's Democracies must learn a lesson from the example of Yugoslavia and be merciless towards any attempts to violate our unity—against

attempts to weaken the united front of the People's Democracies and the Soviet Union.

“In the sphere of international life the main task now is to fight for peace. The defence of peace is the cause of all peoples in the world. The will of the masses of the people and their persistent struggle for peace can curb the intrigues of the warmongers”.

Marshal N. A. Bulganin's speech was followed by tumultuous applause in honour of the Soviet Union, Comrade Stalin and the glorious Bolshevik Party. Speeches by the leaders of the foreign delegations invited to the celebration, followed.

A letter was sent to Generalissimo Stalin from the meeting expressing boundless gratitude and the affection of the Czechoslovak people for their liberation from the yoke of the fascist invaders, and for the fraternal assistance rendered in building Socialism.

On May 7, a large demonstration took place in Prague. The demonstration began with a speech by Klement Gottwald, President of the Republic, who said that the forces of the Soviet Army, the alliance with, and fraternal assistance of the Soviet Union, the wise Stalin policy of peace and of co-operation between the peoples constituted the decisive factor in the turn in the history of the Czech and the Slovak peoples.

“Only thanks to the services of the Soviet Union,” said Comrade Gottwald, “the peoples of our country, as was the case with the other people's democratic States, were delivered from the brutal American way of life, which degrades the dignity of man. Our people, thanks to the services of the Soviet Union were able to choose their own way of life which brings peace and prosperity to the people and is in accord with historical progress, and which exalts the peoples and man. We have chosen the building of Socialism is our way of life!

“We are grateful a thousand times over to the Soviet

Union, a thousand times over we are grateful to Comrade Stalin.

“Today celebrating the fifth anniversary of the historic May of 1945 and thinking of the fate of our country and of our posterity, we solemnly swear before the representatives of the hundreds of millions of supporters of the world front of peace and of the People’s Democracies that:

“We will always uphold the ideals of May 9, 1945, and will march loyally for ever side by side with our great liberator, defender and teacher—the Soviet people.

“We will devote all our energy to the cause of building Socialism in our country, to the cause of defending it.

“We will tirelessly fight in the ranks of the world-wide front of peace until the final victory of the freedom of the peoples throughout the world, until final victory over the successors to Hitler fascism; we will fight until these successors meet the fate of the Hitler fascists”.

Comrade Gottwald’s speech was followed by a march past of the armed forces of the Republic. The review continued for over two hours and expressed the will of the people to defend their gains, peace, their homeland and Socialism.

After the military parade a procession of hundreds of thousands of working people began on the Vaclav Square. This was a remarkable demonstration of Soviet-Czechoslovak friendship. Workers of the big enterprises bearing the beloved names of Generalissimo Stalin, of outstanding representatives of the Soviet people and also of famous Soviet cities, took part in the demonstration. The huge tableau carried by the demonstrators and which followed portraits of Comrades Stalin and Gottwald, read: “Together with the Soviet Union forever!”

For four hours this mighty demonstration continued in which working people renewed their solemn pledge of eternal loyalty and friendship with the beloved Soviet Union.

TREACHERY OF SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC LEADERS IN GERMANY. Otto Grotewohl, Chairman, Socialist Unity Party of Germany

The Meeting of the Information Bureau of Communist Parties, held in November 1949, exposed the policy of the Anglo-American imperialists, aimed entirely at preparing a new war, their complete abandonment of the peaceful and democratic aim of the Potsdam agreement and their intention to transform Western Germany into a military outpost. They want to drive the German people, together with other nations, into the shambles of a new war.

The present situation places a great historical responsibility upon the Communist and Workers' Parties. The main purpose of their activities now is the struggle for peace. In this connection it is necessary tirelessly to expose the propaganda of the warmongers. The point is to make clear to the broad masses that the threat to peace is simultaneously a threat to the vital interests of the working class and of all working people. The specific situation in Germany places before the German workers' parties as their **main political task, that of struggle against Anglo-American imperialism as a national liberation struggle**. The struggle of the National Front of democratic Germany must be transformed into the liberation struggle of the whole nation. The fact that the U.S. imperialists have prepared for the population of Western Germany the role of cannon fodder must evoke the protest and mass indignation of all sections of the working people.

The Right Socialists are playing the foul role of imperialist agents and, betrayers of the national interests of the people. Their treacherous, criminal policy is manifested in all that is taking place in Western Germany and Western Berlin.

Unmasking the leader of the Right Socialist Parties is becoming an ever more urgent task in the great historical struggle between the camp of peace and the imperialist camp.

I.

Since the destruction of the Hitlerite State, the Anglo-American imperialists have been doing their utmost to prevent the democratic rebirth of Germany. For them the Potsdam agreement which demanded the democratisation and demilitarisation of Germany was, from the very outset, an obstacle against which they fought by the most brazen methods. Their negative attitude towards the Potsdam agreement became even more pronounced when historical developments in the People's Democracies nullified all the hopes of the imperialist forces to include these countries in their sphere of exploitation. Consequently, the Anglo-American monopolists began to exert ever greater efforts to prevent the establishment of a united and democratic Germany, foreseeing that a united and democratic Germany would narrow their sphere of exploitation and frustrate their war plans against the Soviet Union and the progressive forces allied with it.

It goes without saying that the German monopolist and landlords were prepared to support any policy aimed against the democratisation of the country, destruction of the monopolies, land reform and punishment of war criminal etc. These groups would join forces with the devil himself to preserve their positions as exploiters.

But could the Anglo-American imperialists remain satisfied with such allies as these? Of course not! Since these constituted a clear minority of the German people and moreover, circles which, because they had been involved in the predatory policy of the fascists and the gestapo, were most

unpopular. That is why the imperialists sought to achieve their political aims by subordinating to their influence the widest possible sections of the German working people and, in this way, create a vital condition in order to secure their policy

What threatens the realisation of the imperialist plans? Undoubtedly the unity of action of all working people. The working class and the other sections of the working population recall only too well the bitter experience of the November 1918 Revolution; they were disappointed with the Weimar Republic which was destroyed by the “cold” means employed by the magnates of capital, aided by “state democracy” and militarist elements; they were shocked by the violence of the ruling bourgeois circles who, at the height of an unprecedented economic crisis, resorted to fascist terror against the working people who had risen for the struggle. Now that in Germany the necessary conditions exist for the reorganisation of social relations, now that the Potsdam agreement has granted all the progressive forces complete freedom of action; now that the bankruptcy of the criminal activities of monopoly capital has become obvious, German reaction is resisting even more strenuously the democratisation of the country.

In view of the timeliness and the need for progressive measures, it was clear that all the progressive forces must unite for common action. But unity of action of the working people constituted a threat to the plans of the imperialists. That is why the imperialist jackals took action in the first place against all the strivings towards unification of the forces of the working population.

By maintaining the split in the German working class movement, by disrupting the movement for the unity of the Socialist Parties, the imperialists aimed at preventing unity of action by the working people. In this they relied upon their henchmen in the ranks of the working class movement.

The Schumachers and Ollenhauers, the Heines and

Reuters, the Brauers and Knoeringens have taken upon themselves the role of agents of Anglo-American imperialism. Foreign monopoly capital succeeded in corrupting the leadership of the Social Democratic Party and, through them, succeeded unfortunately in catching in their net a certain part of the working people whom they use for the realisation of their deadly and treacherous policy.

The life in emigration of the leaders of the Social Democratic Party, nearly all of whom lived in England or America, led to the strengthening of the influence of those elements who regard the bourgeois reformist policy of the Labour Party as a model. It should also be added that many Social-Democratic leaders, while in emigration, went into the service of the Anglo-American imperialists and, after 1945, returned as direct agents of Anglo-American intelligence. This resulted in the shameless situation whereby the leaders of the Social Democratic Party not only continued to deceive the broad masses of working people but also began to organise an espionage network.

II.

The anti-Soviet and anti-Socialist activities of the Schumachers and Ollenhauers resulted not only in the rebirth of the petty-bourgeois and treacherous revisionist policy but also in unparalleled manoeuvres aimed at political deception. The name of the old Social Democratic Party became a symbol for the policy of deceit directed by agents of German and foreign monopoly capital. The leadership of the Social Democratic Party is now more alien and more hostile to Marxism than at any previous time. Due to the policy of its leadership, the Social Democratic Party long ago shed completely its character of a Socialist, workers' party.

In 1948 the Congress of the Social Democratic Party at

Dusseldorf accepted as a directive Schumacher's declaration to the effect that no one was required to acknowledge Marxism.

The Schumachers declared that "Western Democracy" was a sound basis for the so-called "Socialist policy". They give the impression that Von Papen and Hitler had never existed, that there is no Franco, that in the class struggle the monopolists are allegedly guided by principles of morality and justice. And at the same time it was none other than Schumacher who declared that in Western Germany there exists but a single, real freedom—freedom to make profits and amass wealth. Schumacher was silent about the fact that the predatory forces of monopoly capital were, above all, able to resume their activities mainly because of the treacherous policy of the leadership of the Social-Democratic Party.

Beginning with the assertion that the realisation of social transformations is the business not of the German working class but of the British Government, the Schumachers began to laud the "Marshall Plan" and the Ruhr Statute and, of course, ended up with complete acceptance of the occupation statute which Schumacher had long advocated. The Social Democratic leaders who, for years, had been shouting about immediate "Socialisation" cannot any longer conceal even from the most backward worker that with the adoption of the Ruhr statute the last hope for any kind of "Socialisation" has disappeared. After 1918 the treacherous policy of "Socialisation" advocated by the Social Democrats resulted in Hitler, and after 1945, the carrying out of the policy of the Social Democratic leaders led the German people to the colonisation of the Western zones by Anglo-American imperialism. At the same time the Schumachers and Ollenhauers brazenly and cynically aimed the spearhead of their struggle against the unity of the working class movement. The struggle against the Soviet Union is the centre of their entire policy. That is how they carry out the assignments of monopoly capital, brazenly pursuing the policy

of deceiving the masses. The line of the Social Democratic leaders is diametrically opposed to the basic tasks of the present period: ensuring peace and democratic development for Germany.

III.

Already in 1945 and 1946 the clique of Social Democratic leaders prevented the unification of the Social Democratic and the Communist Parties in Western Germany and hindered their unification in Berlin. Under the leadership of American and British officials and intelligence officers, systematic diversions were undertaken for the purpose of disrupting the negotiations for the unification of the two Parties. The Right Socialist leaders never have hesitated and do not now hesitate, to utter any foul lie or the most brazen slander to prevent joint action by the Social Democratic and Communist organisations.

Due to the fact that the forces of imperialism had no influence whatsoever in that part of Germany occupied by the Soviet troops, the strivings of the working people for the unity of the working class movement and for the realisation of an anti-fascist democratic policy enjoy there wide possibilities for development.

In the Eastern parts of Germany the reactionary forces were deprived of all their economic and political positions. Communists and Social Democrats acted in unison. They united in the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, entered into a bloc with all other anti-fascist democratic parties, and formed united trade union, youth and other organisations and also the National Front. Finally, the crowning success of the democratic forces was the founding of the German Democratic Republic. In his telegram Comrade Stalin gave an excellent characterisation of this historic event as a turning point in the history of Europe. This line of development shows that the

progressive forces of the German people have drawn the correct conclusions from the lessons of the two world wars, that they are firmly determined to create, in struggle, a united, democratic and peace-loving Germany and resolutely to defend it against any enemy.

The Right Socialists are not content with splitting the working class movement organisationally. They constantly seek to supplement the traditional revisionist and reformist illusions with new manoeuvres with the aim of befuddling the masses. They mask their anti-Soviet attitude by affirming the need for a “third force” which, it is alleged, standing between the camp of Socialism and the camp of imperialism would help to maintain equilibrium and avoid conflicts. It is clear there can be no middle way between the interests of the working class and the working masses, on the one hand, and those of monopoly capital on the other. Those who advocate this “middle way” resort to gross deceit in attempting to hold back the working people from carrying out a consistent policy of peace together with the Soviet Union and all other freedom-loving peoples of the world.

What course did the developments in Western Germany take? At first in the Western occupation zones, tendencies towards unity in struggle also manifested themselves in the ranks of the working class. There too, Communists reached agreement with Socialists concerning joint action, and the formation of a single political party of the working class became the main topic of discussion. But very soon the quite blatant actions of the Social Democratic leaders showed that their policy of dismembering Germany was linked with their desire to preserve and deepen the split in the German working class movement.

Among other methods of deception, the Right Socialists, on the orders of the imperialists, circulate cosmopolitan ideology and, not least, try to counterpose to the national

struggle for liberation from the yoke of Anglo-American imperialism the demand for the creation of a European federation. All these manoeuvres serve the purpose of imperialist propaganda designed to deceive the masses of the people.

The distinguishing feature of the Right Socialists is their rabid hatred for the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. They spread the most disgusting lies, the most foul slander, constantly manufacturing these lies and trying, where-ever possible, to discredit the camp of Socialism. In effect all their strivings aim at undermining the confidence in, and the sympathies of, the working people for the Soviet Union and to add to that false conception of the Soviet Union implanted by the fascists. They are zealous participants in the "crusade" organised by Churchill against the Socialist countries and give it every support; they collaborate with the intelligence services of imperialist countries and openly betray the cause of the independence of their peoples and of other peoples. They are always at one with the policy of the American imperialists, promoting the transformation of Western Germany into an American colony, supporting the inclusion of Western Germany into the sphere of American imperialist economy and openly backing every measure directed against the progressive forces as is evident from the example of the so-called "defence law" of the separate Bonn State.

IV.

While the puppet Bonn Government displays ever greater readiness to carry out the orders of the High Commissioners of the Western powers, the Right leadership of the Social Democratic Party plays the farce of opposition. The Schumachers and Ollenhauers are not in Adenauer's

Government simply because they have been assigned the task of playing on the national and democratic aspirations of the people in Western Germany and in Western Berlin, of holding them back from consistent struggle against the Anglo-American imperialists. They spare no efforts in preventing the mobilisation of the forces of the working people for the carrying out of real democratic measures such as land reform, the punishment of war criminals, the expropriation of monopolists and the democratisation of the administrative organs, measures directed at combating the warmongers. They place obstacles in the way of purging all reactionary elements from the judicial organs of Western Germany. They understand perfectly well the reactionary nature of these West-German judicial organs but despite this, and maybe because of this, they take part in securing legislation for “the defence of the Republic”. Once before in Germany, a similar law for the “defence of the Republic” proved to be a noose which strangled the democratic forces. This participation by the representatives of the Social Democratic Party in forging this weapon, by means of which the monopolists in Western Germany and West Berlin will wage a struggle against the progressive forces, constitutes one of the greatest crimes of the Social Democrats.

While the Bonn Government of splitters is already entering into agreements about participation in the “Council of Europe” and, in this way, is steadily continuing the policy of dismembering Germany, the Right Socialists are screaming for so-called “free elections” which are designed to distract the attention of the people from this new betrayal. The Schumachers and Ollenhauers remain silent about the fact that genuinely free elections pre-suppose complete freedom for the progressive forces throughout Germany; they seek to conceal the fact that for a number of years the progressive forces of the German Democratic Republic have demanded free elections.

They want the people to forget that it was precisely they who prevented the holding of a referendum of the German people regarding their attitude to the formation of a united democratic Germany. They want to divert the attention of the German people from that very important fact for German policy, namely that the democratisation of Germany is all essential pre-condition for the formation of a free and united Germany.

Schumacher and his clique dread the results of the work of the Socialist Unity Party in the German Democratic Republic. Consequently they try to hamper this work. A particular role in this respect is played by West Berlin which is the centre of all subversive activities. Streams of lies emanate from here daily, directed by the American masters mainly through the channels of the Social Democratic Press. Western Berlin has become the main strong-point for intelligence activities organised on the American and British model. These intelligence activities are directed in the main by the so-called "Eastern Bureau" of the Social Democratic Party. Lavish funds which find their way into the Social Democratic espionage centre from foreign intelligence services enable it to create a broad network of agents on the territory of the German Democratic Republic. Their criminal activities have been displayed quite frequently. They include all kinds of subversive work—from propaganda of disruption and the circulation of rumours to espionage, arson and acts of terror.

The successful progress of democratic transformation in the Soviet occupation zone, the formation of the German Democratic Republic and the nature of this Republic as a base in the struggle for the unity of Germany have, naturally, driven the conspirators to jury and caused them to intensify their subversive activities. The enemies of the democratisation of Germany want to prevent the further strengthening of the democratic system, the fulfilment of economic plans and the raising of the living standards of the population.

V.

Under these circumstances, the duty of the Socialist Unity Party is to display the maximum vigilance. Our comrades must be on the alert everywhere, they must confidently and resolutely help to suppress the activities of the agents of Anglo-American imperialism. It should be noted that, due to complacency by certain of our comrades and to lack of clarity in ideological matters, the Schumachers, both in groups and individually, succeeded without hindrance, in carrying out demoralising work in the ranks of our Party. The decisions taken by the Board of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany at its Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth Plenums outlined the ways to overcome these weaknesses by means of consolidating the Party ideologically and organisationally. These decisions of the Party's Board, which play a great role in turning the Socialist Unity Party into a party of a new type, have been of great help in unmasking and overcoming the Right Socialist ideology, in exposing and destroying its agencies. The attitude of the Schumachers and Ollenhauers clearly shows that the **unity of the German working class movement cannot be effected in alliance with the Right Social Democratic leaders. It can be effected only in a resolute struggle against them.** Schumacher and his clique are pursuing an anti-popular policy of splitting the working class. They are the main enemies of working class unity and are the most dangerous accomplices of the imperialist warmongers. Their wrecking activities will be defeated to the degree that the working people of Western Germany and of Western Berlin unite in the factories, offices and in the streets in order jointly to resist their activities.

The struggle which has unfolded in Western Germany against the unloading and transportation of American armaments and also against the unlawful dismantling which continues to take place in Watenstedt-Salzgitter, Hamburg and the Ruhr has already resulted in large-scale joint actions and active resistance on the part of the broadest sections of the working people. The indignation with the practice of the West-German courts, a practice imbued with the Nazi spirit, and also the catastrophic conditions of millions of resettled people lacking the means of subsistence, along with the poverty of millions of unemployed and pensioners, increasingly give rise to the desire to form a front of national struggle which would embrace all sections of the working people.

The economic situation of Western Germany and West Berlin is appalling. But the policy of the Adenauers and the Schumachers does not open up any prospect which would promise the possibility of overcoming the growing poverty, the mounting economic difficulties and the growing indebtedness of the Bonn separatists. The intensified repression against the fighters for the national freedom and democratisation of the whole of Germany shows clearly the complete instability of the positions of the Anglo-American imperialists and their accomplices. This instability will manifest itself more and more, while at the same time the camp of peace continues to grow. Consequently there can be no doubt whatever that the disastrous plans of the Schumachers and Ollenhauers will be frustrated as a result of the actions of the working people who realise the need actively to support the struggle for peace and the struggle for the democratisation of the whole of Germany.

Today we have not a few examples of vigorous action by the working people all over Germany. On May Day, when a wave of powerful actions spread throughout Germany, they demonstrated their will, their determination to fight for peace and for the democratic unity of the country. Millions of honest

Germans who love their country demonstrated their will to fight for peace by signing the demand for the unconditional prohibition of the atomic weapon.

The movement of the German people for peace and democratic unity of Germany is growing and gaining strength daily, and no repressions, no draconic measures of the Anglo-American imperialists and their lackeys can halt this powerful movement of millions of people.

CANADA IN THE AGGRESSIVE PLANS OF AMERICAN IMPERIALISTS. Tim Buck, General Secretary, Labour-Progressive Party, Canada

The dominant monopoly oligarchy in Canada aims to integrate every aspect of the political and economic life in the war plans of U.S. imperialism. That aim was, in fact, the real reason for the change of Prime Ministers, from Mackenzie King to the leader of the present government, Mr. Louis St. Laurent, a proven servant of finance-capital and an open advocate of close co-operation with the United States.

The United States seeks to make Canada its military base. The United States War Department operates air bases in our country, operates several “mysterious” bases in the Canadian Arctic, supposedly to observe the weather; it carries on military and air training and manoeuvres in the Canadian North, trains officers and men, and tests arms and equipment for arctic warfare. The most recent manoeuvres took the form of a large-scale operation during January.

The relationship of Canada to the United States is now that of an occupied country. U.S. troops, manning the various bases, engaged in manoeuvres or “joint exercises”, with a sprinkling of Canadian officers and men, are not subject to Canadian law.

In contrast to the freedom of action granted to U.S. troops in Canada, the civil rights of the Canadian people are being systematically infringed and curtailed. The government sought to smash the Canadian Seamen’s Union during 1949. There is substantial evidence in support of the charge made by the leaders of the union that the Canadian Government carried

through that shameful campaign at the behest of the United States War Department—on the grounds that a Communist-led Seamen’s Union contradicted the preparations for war carried out by the imperialists. There is open government discrimination against unions which have progressive leadership.

The government is bringing hundreds of thousands of Nazis to Canada, and is encouraging the more violent of them to organise fascist attacks against the working class organisations. Canada has been made the new “headquarters” country for the scum that still calls itself “Hitler’s Galician Division”. The pro-fascist attitude of the government is typified by the manner in which it has so far sheltered fascist collaborators who escaped from France to Canada, Civil servants are dismissed on the slightest suspicion of Communist sympathies.

In pursuing the aims of monopoly-capital the government is sacrificing the national interests of the Canadian people. It agreed to the United States proposals for “arms standardisation”. At the behest of Washington the Canadian Government refuses to grant export permits for the export of farm machinery and a very long list of other products to the Soviet Union and to the People’s Democracies, although Canadian industries need these markets badly.

The government intends to replace the markets in the British Empire which are being lost, and to compensate Canadian capitalists for being kept out of the enormous markets of the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies, Canada must export a very great deal more to the United States. But Canadian products cannot be exported to the United States. The U.S. has surpluses of all the products which constitute a vital element in Canadian exports.

The government wants to turn Canada into a raw material appendage for the U.S. monopoly Industries, particularly the

war industries in that country.

These policies of the government are already bringing crisis in the sections of economy which depend largely upon exports and are bringing mass unemployment. By the beginning of March there were 400,000 workers unemployed. The plight of large numbers of the unemployed workers is terrible. Those unemployed workers who were covered by the scheme could draw benefits for only a limited period of time, after which they reverted to the same position as workers not included in the scheme. Tens of thousands of destitute workers in the main industrial centres sleep in so-called "missions" and makeshift dormitories set up by municipal governments, thousands of them subsisting on the meagre meals given to them morning and night.

Guided by the Communists, unemployed workers in several cities have organised themselves and are fighting for unemployment benefits.

In Canada the fight for peace involves immediately the fight to keep Canada independent, to stop the occupation of the country by the American imperialists, against the aggressive Atlantic Pact, the "Marshall Plan", to outlaw the atomic bomb and for reduction of armaments. The Labour-Progressive Party is actively fighting for peace. The Canadian Peace Congress, founded in May 1949, has carried through mass campaigns for the banning of the atomic bomb and for disarmament. An important farm organisation, the United Farmers of Saskatchewan, has supported the Peace Congress Petition. The Peace Congress submitted a brief, supported by nation wide meetings, to the United Nations. Recently it carried through a national campaign for signatures to its "Ban The Bomb" Petition, securing a quarter of a million signatures. The Prime Minister of Canada refused to receive a deputation from the Congress with the Petition.

In Canada, as in the capitalist countries of Europe, the

Right-Wing Social Democrats are in open alliance with the parties of big capital. The leaders of Canada's social democratic party, the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, support the "Marshall Plan" and the aggressive Atlantic Pact. They are the most vicious splitters of the trade unions, in co-operation with the Catholic Action groups. Their test of every proposal on trade-union matters is: "Is it anti-Communist or not?"

The situation, indicated by the foregoing, determines the policy and the tactics of the Labour-Progressive Party. Along with, and as an integral part of the struggle to defend the workers' living standards and maintain the unity of the trade union movement, a struggle waged by our Party, we fight to stop the occupation of our country by the American imperialists, to defeat the war-mongers in Canada, for trade with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies and for peace.

Until recently there was a mistaken tendency, for which the Party leadership was responsible, to treat the battle for peace as though it could be fought in two parts; one, the limited fight of the Peace Congress which could be characterised as mainly a fight to "Keep Canada out of War"; the other, the Party's fight to "Defeat the Warmongers". The Plenum of the Central Committee of our Party, held in February, denounced that dangerous tendency and directed the entire energy and activity of the Party into the fight for peace. Henceforth Party members will participate in Canadian Peace Congress activities as delegates from Party organisations as well as from trade-unions, farmers' clubs and other workers' organisations.

The fight to restore Canada's national sovereignty and take her out of the U.S. war camp is a national struggle which will be won only if a very broad people's democratic front is mobilised. But, because of the policy of the C.C.F. under its Right-Wing Social Democratic leadership, and because the

main trade union bodies in Canada are controlled by Murray and Green, our struggle for unity is, and in the circumstances can only be, a fight to build the United Front from below. The fight for unity is in fact a fight to unite in the struggle for peace and independence all those peace-loving, democratic workers of Canada who are prepared to defy the capitalist-minded top officials of the Congress of Industrial Organisations, the American Federation of Labour and the Cooperative Commonwealth Federation, and to unite around the working class the widening circles of urban middle-class people and farmers who are rallying to the Peace Movement.

The broad masses of the working class and working people in Canada want peace, they don't want war. The imperialist warmongers in Canada and the United States will be defeated.

WORKERS IN THE LOCO SHEDS OF “GRIVITA ROSIE” RAILWAY WORKS (BUCHAREST) SUMMARISING EMULATION RESULTS



*Socialist emulation in Rumania is proceeding under the slogan "The fight for fulfilment of the State plan—the fight for peace".
Photo: Workers in the loco sheds of "Grivita Rosie" railway works (Bucharest) summarising emulation results.*

STRUGGLE OF FRENCH COMMUNISTS FOR PROHIBITION OF ATOMIC WEAPON*. Etienne Fajon, Member, Politburo, French Communist Party

The Stockholm appeal, calling for the prohibition of the atomic weapon, is of altogether exceptional significance. It can and must deal the aggressors a decisive blow, on condition, however, that the appeal has the practical support of enormous numbers of men and women who, hitherto, have remained outside the peace movement. It is necessary to secure not just millions but hundreds of millions of signatures in all countries of the world. In France, which has a population of more than forty millions, tens of millions of signatures must be obtained. If such results are not achieved, the campaign for the collection of signatures will lose its political significance.

We cannot be satisfied with what was already been done. Taking into account the immensity and urgency of the task, the responsibility that rests with us and the tremendous possibilities at our disposal, it will be seen that we are lagging behind in developing the campaign.

A clear understanding of these possibilities may be had by mentioning but a few of the countless examples which could be quoted. Let us take an average enterprise such as the Levallois ordnance works (Seine) where the entire personnel—engineers and technicians, foremen and workers—signed the appeal. At other enterprises, where similar work was carried out, the same results were obtained. This means that nearly all the working people can and should sign the Stockholm appeal.

* From a report delivered to Plenum, Central Committee, French Communist Party, May 4, 1950.

Let us, for example, take two streets in Saint-Denis (Seine) where petition forms containing the text of the appeal were circulated from door to door. At the very first visit, 260 of the 269 families in the two streets signed the petition forms. In Calais, 6,000 signatures were collected from 1,500 families. This means that we can and must ensure that all or nearly all, the people in working class districts support the appeal.

At one of the market places at Marseilles, in Bernard Cadenet Square, the appeal was explained and submitted for signing to 102 traders. All signed it. This means that the urban middle class, no less than the working class, reject with disgust the idea of employing the atomic weapon and that they are striving for peace. The same of course can be said about the rural population. This is obvious from the support the appeal has received from peasant organisations in a number of departments and the large number of signatures already obtained on the farms and in the villages.

The enumeration of all the municipalities which have already approved the appeal and called upon the population in their respective communes to sign it, would take too much space. I shall note only those municipalities of Carmaux (mostly Socialists and MRP) and Noisy-le-Sec (mostly MRP and RPF).

These examples show that the task facing the partisans of peace to obtain several tens of millions of signatures in France is quite feasible. But to achieve this, it is necessary to carry out corresponding political and organisational work which only now is beginning to unfold. While considerable results in this sphere have already been obtained, they are, as yet, of a local character.

The Basic Task

The primary condition for the more speedy elimination of

the lag in carrying out the campaign for the collection of signatures is that the entire Party, from the Central Committee down to the most remote branch, should realise that this is its task, its basic task with which naturally, everything else is linked up.

Among Communists in certain Party organisations, a point of view prevails that the campaign for signatures is, in the main, the job of the Fighters for Peace and Freedom Organisation and not of the Communists. How can there be such an inconsistent and harmful point of view in our ranks. It is true that the campaign for signatures is the job of the fighters for peace and freedom. That precisely is why it is our job, the job of the Communists, for we, above all, both as individuals and as a Party, are fighters for peace and freedom. We, of course, are not the only ones conducting the campaign for signatures. This campaign is carried out by Communists jointly with the partisans of peace—non-Communists. But we must always strive in the course of this campaign to carry out our role of vanguard of the working class and of the people.

In order that millions of people in France, who have hitherto remained outside the peace movement, should sign the appeal, it is necessary to talk with them, to explain if needed, the danger threatening them and the effectiveness of their signatures to the appeal. Their objections, often moulded by the press they read and the government's radio broadcasts, should not remain unanswered.

As is known, such outwardly contradictory, erroneous tendencies as underestimation of the war danger or acknowledgement of the fatal inevitability of war, are, both one and the other, designed to secure the ideological confusion of peace supporters and are spread by imperialist agents.

Thus, the fascist Tito clique in particular, was assigned among other tasks, the job of spreading the idea that there is no real danger of war at the present time. Other agents of

imperialism are, on the contrary, zealously spreading the anti-Leninist thesis about the impossibility of the peaceful co-existence of the capitalist and the socialist systems. Therefore every Communist, every fighter for peace, is faced with the task of constantly engaging in ideological and political work. Each must thoroughly prepare himself for this work, utilising the Communist and democratic Press. And this means that our newspapers, beginning with "L'Humanité", must concentrate the main attention on the campaign for signatures to the Stockholm appeal, following in this respect the example set by the newspaper "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy!", the highly significant organ of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties.

The campaign for signatures requires much organisational work. It is necessary to promote to maximum development of the initiative of the masses and in the most varied forms, utilising all available possibilities. However, house-to-house visits are the most effective method. In large cities, petition forms should be circulated to all families without exception. Particular attention should be devoted to the circulation of petition forms in the countryside where the work as a whole is on a lower level. Petition forms should reach the most remote villages.

Systematically calling upon every French family is an immense task unprecedented in scale and one which requires unusual efforts in organisation, co-ordination and control at all levels. The fact that the Stockholm appeal has been signed by deputies of the National Assembly—the Radical, Badie, and Boulet, former member of the M.R.P., now expelled, as well as by Gilbert Jules, Radical, member of the Council of the Republic—gives us the right to speak of the desirability of submitting this appeal for their signatures to all members of Parliament.

To secure a successful development of the campaign for

signatures, it is essential immediately to secure the participation of all Party members, all sections and branches in this campaign. It is essential that all activists, all Party members should not lose sight of this task for a moment; each evening every Communist should ask himself: "How many Frenchmen have I persuaded today to sign the appeal? What have I done today to draw other comrades, other partisans of peace into the work? What should I do tomorrow to ensure that my work is even more fruitful?"

For the fighters for peace and freedom the campaign for signatures must serve as a basis for a considerable strengthening of the movement organisationally. It is necessary immediately to get the work going and to strengthen existing peace committees and, above all, to form thousands of new committees in the enterprises and in the villages, the streets and in the schools. Communists must vigorously help to carry out this task.

In a few months' time the Second World Peace Congress will be held in Italy. It is desirable that in addition to prominent public and political personalities and cultural workers, representatives from the broadest sections of the population, and in particular from among the peasantry, should attend this Congress from France.

Concrete Actions Against War

Far from hampering the political and practical actions of dockers, seamen, railwaymen and other categories of workers against the importation, transportation and production of war materials, the broad campaign for signatures to the Permanent Committee appeal and the development of the movement of the fighters for peace and freedom around thousands of peace committees, help to develop these actions, securing for them

the support and solidarity of ever broader sections of the population. It is essential that these concrete actions should not show a decline but, on the contrary, should daily become more frequent and reach a higher level. Most important in this remains the struggle against the unloading of American armaments—a struggle which cannot be separated from the struggle against the loading and transportation of war materials for Viet Nam. During recent months, the actions of dockers, seamen, railwaymen and other working people against war had considerable backing from the broad masses of the people. However, this support must become even more resolute and be forthcoming everywhere.

All the conditions are present to enable our country to play an increasingly significant role in the world-wide struggle for peace. On May Day, the French people demonstrated their desire for peace with extraordinary power. The idea of peace has become a great material force which is gripping the masses. The struggle for peace which, in itself, is of decisive significance, opens the way for the solution of the problems, including the problem of the restoration of the national sovereignty of France by the formation of a government of democratic unity which would be guided by the clear 11 point programme adopted by the Twelfth Congress of the French Communist Party, and which would be created and supported by all French people united on the basis of the common demand—peace and national independence.

WORKING PEOPLE RESIST AGGRESSIVE IMPERIALIST SCHEMES AND TITO PROVOCATIONS. Vittorio Vidali, General Secretary, Communist Party, Free Territory of Trieste

The optimistic figures which the Anglo-American administration submitted to the Security Council and to world public opinion are in direct contradiction to the real economic state of affairs in Zone "A" of the Free Territory of Trieste, which is going from bad to worse.

Whereas, in 1938, 52,000 workers were employed in industry, there are now only 35,000. The ship-building yards at San-Marco and San-Rocco are preparing to close down completely. Production at the San-Andrea engineering works has shrunk to 40 per cent. All in all, the shipbuilding yards of Trieste as a whole are working only 30 to 40 per cent of capacity. The situation is the same at the oil refineries, soap factories, paintworks and other plants. The number of those dismissed is steadily growing; working hours in heavy and medium industry are being reduced. One-third of the working people is unemployed.

Of the 17,000 unemployed who receive meagre benefits for a period of only a few months, many are seamen, 20 per cent of whom suffer from chronic unemployment. There are 33,000 pensioners in the zone, of whom 19,000 receive only 3,300 lira a month, 6,000 who receive from 4,000 to 10,000 lira monthly and only 8,000 drawing more than 10,000 lira a month.

The average wages of the employed workers range from 24,000 to 30,000 lira monthly, wages of women workers and

young people are even less, while the subsistence minimum for an average family is, according to statistics, 60,000 lira a month.

Poverty is bringing about stagnation in trade, particularly in the retail sales of textiles and footwear.

The housing situation is also in a pitiful state. Nineteen thousand, five hundred families, i.e. more than 54,000 people, are on the waiting list for houses while the military authorities have requisitioned 33 large buildings, 231 apartments, 121 villas and 19 hotels.

There are 10,000 Anglo-American troops in the zone, 7,000 police subordinated to the military authorities and a large number of agents of various intelligence services while the population is only 270,000.

The Anglo-American administration is carrying out large-scale construction of strategic roads linking Trieste with Yugoslavia.

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In February this Year, the 35,000 industrial workers of Trieste held a twenty-day strike in protest against their miserable conditions and the anti-democratic repressions carried out by the Anglo-American administration. All working people in the zone took part in a two-day general strike of solidarity.

The leaders of the Chamber of Labour (break-away trade union organisation) connected with the Italian Christian Democrats, opposed the strike and in an attempt to prevent it, organised a referendum. But these intrigues on the part of the betrayers of the working class, acting on the orders of the Anglo-American imperialists who openly sided with the industrialists, failed to prevent the united action of the working class. Workers of all trade union tendencies acted jointly with the united trade unions.

The strike illustrated the solidarity of the industrial workers, the unity of office workers with the factory workers, the solidarity of all other toilers. Twenty-four solidarity committees formed from representatives of various political trends, and different strata of the population, organised the collection of funds, sent delegations, organised protest demonstrations and set up dozens of canteens for the strikers and their families. This strike demonstrated the maturity and solidarity of the overwhelming majority of the Italian and Slovene population of town and countryside.

The industrialists and the military administration organised strike-breaking, sending soldiers and police, supervised by British and American officers, against the strikers. Titoite agents were also used against the strikers. These agents, after unsuccessful attempts to sow among the working people mistrust in the possibility and usefulness of the struggle, sought to bribe the strikers with money and food taken from the people in the "B" Zone. The trade union organisations, the strikers and citizens gave a fitting rebuff to the Titoite provocateurs, refused their aid, and having exposed their foul actions, organised a mass protest demonstration against these Titoite provocations.

The strike ended in the granting of almost all the demands of the working people. This strike is of great significance in view of its class, internationalist anti-imperialist and anti-Titoite character.

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After the strike, the enemies and betrayers of the working class did their utmost to destroy the unity achieved in the ranks of the working people. The leaders of the Chamber of Labour rejected all suggestions for further joint action with the United Trade Unions, and proposed that all the demands of the

working people should be submitted for consideration to the “Marshall Plan” technical commission in Trieste which is run by Anglo-American militarists, industrialists and financiers.

Representatives of the Italian nationalist parties—Christian Democrats, Right Social Democrats, Republicans, monarchists, fascists and also Titoites began a discussion on the question of Trieste in the municipal council with the aim of isolating the Communists and to foist on them the responsibility for the present situation in the Free Territory of Trieste and to conceal their real intentions: to transfer the “B” Zone to Yugoslavia and to maintain Anglo-American occupation in Zone “A”.

The Communists emphasis once again that the question of Trieste is that of adhering to the peace treaty, i.e. making effective the statutes of the provisional regime in the Free Territory of Trieste, the appointment of a governor, the withdrawal of all foreign troops. Fighting for peace, the Communists demand the closing down of the unlawfully created Anglo-American naval base in Trieste.

The “elections” held in Zone “B” after the “elections” to the Yugoslav Skupshtina opened the eyes of many citizens in both zones to the real situation. It became clear to everyone that the purpose of these elections, held 6 months ahead of schedule, was to sanction the incorporation of Zone “B” into Yugoslavia following a number of preparatory political, administrative, currency and customs measures. The large-scale incidents provoked by gangs of Tito criminals which accompanied the election farce, revealed Tito in an even more striking fashion as a direct accomplice of the Anglo-American imperialists. The working people in Zone “A” replied to these provocations with a general strike on April 22, in which the workers of all trade-union tendencies took part.

In these complex and difficult conditions, our Party has succeeded, in consistent struggle against the forces of Anglo-American imperialism since the publication of the Information Bureau Resolution on the situation in the Communist Party of Yugoslavia, in trebling its membership and in achieving impressive successes during the municipal elections in Trieste and in the localities.

Within one week, over 40,000 people signed a message of greetings to Comrade Stalin on the occasion of his 70th birthday. A petition protesting against the utilisation of the port of Trieste for military purposes, which was signed by tens of thousands of people, was also a great success.

Due to consistent work by the Communists, the mass democratic organisations have also gained in strength especially the trade-unions which, at their Congress, laid the basis for overcoming the present split and of effecting a more concrete unification of the ranks of the working class by drawing into the struggle the majority of the working people from the splinter organisations.

The influence of the Communist Party is constantly growing. Thanks to the correct political line pursued by the Party in defending the rights of the working people, democratic liberties and peace, its prestige is increasing all the time.

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In all their actions, the Anglo-American imperialists and the fascist Tito gang have revealed their strivings to turn Trieste into a naval base and a point for unloading American arms; actions which constitute another violation of the peace treaty. But the port workers, together with the democratic masses, have fittingly replied to these actions by refusing in any way to help unload such materials.

A General Assembly of the partisans of peace of the Free

Territory of Trieste was held on April 15-16, which was attended by 302 delegates from the 24 peace committees which function in the “A” Zone. Delegates from the “B” Zone, which is under the rule of the Tito clique, were unable to take part of the work of the Assembly since the peace committees there are regarded as criminal bodies. In its resolution, the General Assembly of the peace partisans in Trieste, expressed their full confidence in the Permanent Peace Committee, and undertook to devote all their effort and activities to collecting signature to the appeal of the Stockholm session of the Permanent Committee. The Assembly called upon the new leading committee to strengthen the local committees organisationally, increase their number and to widen their political influence so that in each peace committee there should be representatives of various political trends, that a single peace front be created capable of barring the way to the attempts to transform Trieste into a military port.

The struggle in defence of the economic and social rights of the working people, which unites the working class, and the struggle in defence of democratic rights in Trieste—this strategic base of imperialism—are of particular significance in defending proletarian internationalism, democracy and peace. Italian and Slovene Communists in the Free Territory of Trieste are fully aware of this significance, and consider it a matter of honour to strengthen the Party of the working class in order to extend and intensify the struggle for peace against the warmongers and their loyal agents, the betrayers of the working class—the fascist Tito gang and Italian nationalists.

FIRST SUCCESSES OF THE CO-OPERATIVE MOVEMENT IN HUNGARY. Ferenc Donat, Member, Central Committee, Hungarian Workers' Party

The first collective farms in the Hungarian countryside were established in the autumn and winter of 1948, chiefly by farm labourers and semi-proletarians on land formerly leased by the kulaks and which was taken over by the people's democracy and transferred to the poorer peasants.

The beginning was not easy. The kulaks spared no effort to shake the faith of the members of the young co-operatives in their own strength; they tried by various means to disorganise the co-operatives, even employing terror to attain their end. This explains the marked fluctuation in membership during the initial stages of the cooperatives. There were even some co-operatives where the membership had changed completely by the spring of 1949.

However, by that time the Party had already overcome these difficulties and consolidated the producer co-operatives. New members were enrolled from the poorer peasants. The co-operatives were further strengthened by better leadership and by successful spring work in the fields. There can be no doubt that only effective support on the part of the Party and the Government, mainly, through the machine-tractor stations, strengthened the first five hundred co-operatives and secured their economic development. The Party policy was correct when instead of trying to achieve a quantitative increase in the number of producer co-operatives in the very first year it set about establishing a small numbers of collective enterprises which could, in practice, prove their superiority over individual

farms. Thus it became possible to build a strong base for the further development of the co-operative movement.

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The number of producer co-operatives in Hungary increased from 580 last September to 1,760 in the middle of March. The land acreage of the producer co-operative has also increased considerably—almost six-fold compared with the previous year and now comprises 360,000 holds (a hold equals 0.56 of 8 hectare), of which 350,000 are cultivated land. In 1948 there were whole districts without producer co-operatives. They now average one in every second village. This means that producer co-operatives are now part and parcel of the Hungarian countryside. At present, co-operatives embrace 80,000 working peasants and their families.

However, the development of the co-operative movement is characterised not only by a quantitative increase. There have also been qualitative changes, primarily shown in the fact that in the autumn of 1949, as a result of the explanatory work and the re-survey of the increase of land, co-operative members substantially reduced the plots retained for personal use. Regarded from the viewpoint of the development of the producer co-operatives this is the main issue. At first we were liberal on this question. Many co-operative members pooled only a part of their land in the co-operative and in their individual capacity continued to farm on the remainder. This led to a situation whereby certain members of the co-operative regarded the co-operative as a kind of subsidiary farm, the income from, which could be used for the development of their individual farms. It is clear that anyone who combines work in the co-operative with that on his own individual farm cannot do good work on the former. Such peasants still had one foot on the individual farm. Hence one of the greatest achievements in

the development of co-operatives is the fact that now all the land of the members of the co-operative, except the half or three-quarters of a hold allowed by the Rules, is owned in common.

Simultaneously, the socialisation of other means and instruments of production has begun. Nearly 3,000 head of cattle, 2,000 horses, a considerable number of pigs and goats were made over to common ownership in the autumn. To facilitate entrance into the co-operative the Rules lays down the condition that co-operative members shall socialise only horses and that all other livestock in their possession can become common properly only by their expressed wish. Ninety-four per cent of all the cooperatives are societies of the higher type where the work is done collectively and the income is distributed mainly on the basis of work performed.

Regarded from the viewpoint of the development of the producer co-operatives, the decisive factor is the amount of income paid in rent for land which is privately owned. The Rules provide a maximum of 20 per cent of net income for rent payments. This means the temporary preservation of rent and the recognition—although in a limited form—of the private ownership of land within the co-operative.

By the autumn of 1949 the social composition of the members of producer cooperatives had also changed. The relative number of the rural proletariat dropped from 56 to 34 per cent; the number of small peasant owning land increased from 42 to 50 per cent while the number of middle peasants is now 12 per cent and the remaining four per cent are handicraftsmen and others.

It thus follows that the co-operative movement, which at first was primarily a movement of the agricultural proletariat, has already embraced peasant land holders and that now the majority of the co-operative members are peasants who own land. Of course this year also the co-operative movement will

continue to spread chiefly among the poor peasants and only in its later stage of development can we reckon upon it embracing the masses of the middle peasants.

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How can we explain the successes achieved in establishing producer co-operatives? They can be explained, above all, by the general successes of the people's democratic State and the economic achievements already attained by the producer cooperatives during the first year of their existence. Despite the fact that during the first months there was no firm organisation of labour in the producer co-operatives, that there was considerable fluctuation in membership and that in many places the autumn field work in 1948 was not fulfilled on time, nevertheless the majority of the crops in the 1949 harvest of the producer co-operatives exceeded the average harvest throughout the country. For example, co-operatives harvested an average of 8.2 centners of rye per hold while the country's average yield was only 6.3 centners per hold. In many co-operatives the wheat harvest was 3 to 4 centners higher than that on individual farms, and nearly everywhere the co-operative harvest surpassed the yield on individual farms. This became possible, in the first place, due to the cultivation of the land by machines, which was done in co-operatives by the State machine-tractor depots. Co-operatives also widely used artificial fertilisers.

Last year tens of thousands of working peasants visited producer co-operatives, viewed their work and saw for themselves that a collective farm secures a greater harvest than an individual one.

The successful development of producer co-operatives in 1949 was greatly promoted by re-allocation of the land as a result of which tens of thousands of individual peasants whose

land had not previously bordered co-operative land now joined the co-operatives. In the course of the survey of land borders, 160,000 holds of land passed to co-operatives in 460 villages.

A particularly important role in strengthening the co-operative movement was played by members of the peasant delegation which visited the Soviet Union. At rallies and meetings they spoke of the successes achieved in the development of agriculture in the Soviet Union. and in the life of the peasant on collective-farms, This provided an impetus to thousands of peasants to take the path of collective farming.

Finally, the development of the co-operatives was greatly assisted by considerable State support in which the main role was played by the machine-tractor depots. At present there are as many as 275 machine-tractor stations with a total of 4,500 tractors. Alongside these the State gave and continues to give considerable financial assistance to the co-operatives by short and long-term credits and by contracts concluded will, the co-operatives. Apart from this, co-operative members enjoy privilege in taxes, delivery of products, in payment for land received under the land reform, and so on.

The basis of the achievements made in the collectivisation of agriculture is the correct policy of the Party which, following the teachings of Lenin and Stalin, strictly and consistently ensures that the voluntary principle is observed, and which also patiently ensures that the working people of the countryside take the path of collective farming in a simple form acceptable to them. As a result of this correct Party policy we have overcome the initial difficulties. Our producer co-operatives have justified themselves; the movement has taken deep root and is now on the way to becoming a mass movement of the working peasantry.

However, the results achieved cannot conceal the shortcomings and mistakes still to be observed in the co-operative movement. In many co-operatives, accounting and

estimation of quantify and quality of work performed were substituted by merely counting the number of days worked. Moreover, in some places there has appeared equalitarianism in payment which affected the interests of the advanced workers. The verification showed that these mistakes often resulted from the activities of speculative, hostile elements who penetrated the co-operatives and who sought either to obtain unearned income or to violate labour discipline and destroy the producer co-operatives.

Shortcomings in labour accounting have prevented the correct organisation of work, the development of labour emulation and of a Socialist altitude towards labour among the peasants. The Socialist principle: he who works more and better, receives more, is not yet realised in all producer co-operatives. Much also remains to be desired with regard to the altitude of the co-operative members to common co-operative property.

With the development of the co-operative movement the class struggle assumes sharper forms and finds expression in attacks by the kulaks on collective farms and on their members. The brutal murder of the former secretary of the Party organisation in the Lengyelkapolna village in January this year showed that behind these assassinations stand organised kulak gangs directed by agents of the fascist Tito clique. In addition, the kulaks seek to penetrate the producer co-operatives or to send their agents into them with the aim of conducting subversive work from within.

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On January 24 this year, the first national conference of producer co-operative members was held in Budapest. More than 300 people from all over the country took part in the work of the conference. The conference showed that the co-operative

movement is based on a sound foundation and has all the essential conditions to achieve new successes. Steady Increase in co-operative production was outlined by the conference as the most important task for the further development of the co-operative movement. Delegates to the conference pledged themselves to gather this year an average yield of 20 per cent more than the individual peasants; to apply agro-technique both thoroughly and on time; further to preserve and Improve the fertility of the land; to increase co-operative livestock; and this year to form at least two livestock farms in every producer co-operative and organise the joint fattening of stock. The increase in crop yields will, undoubtedly, result in the further strengthening of the producer co-operatives and in the setting up of new producer groups.

The consolidation of Party organisations in the co-operatives and the establishment of such organisations wherever they do not at present exist, constitutes yet another decisive pre-requisite for the development of the producer co-operatives. Strong and properly functioning Party organisations will fight to consolidate organisationally and economically the producer co-operatives, so that they can successfully overcome the attacks of the class enemy and, winning the sympathies of the working peasantry, switch agriculture on to the basis of Socialism.

APPEAL OF THE GREEK COMMITTEE FOR THE ABOLITION OF MAKRONISOS AND FOR A GENERAL AMNESTY IN GREECE

**“To the United Nations Organisation,
to the Governments of all countries,
to the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress,
to the World Federation of Trade Unions,
to the Women’s, International Democratic Federation,
to the World Federation of Democratic Youth,
to the International Association of Democratic Lawyers,
to world public opinion.**

“We, representatives of trade unions, public and other organisations in Greece expressing the unanimous desire of our people, appeal to you and ask you to help our people in their striving to find the way out of the present tragic situation and once again to begin a peaceful, normal life. The first step to achieve this aim must be the abolition of Makronisos and the carrying out of a general amnesty and the release of all political prisoners.

“In this appeal we have no desire once again to describe in detail the terrible sufferings of the prisoners. It would take volumes to write about these hundreds of people who, as a result of fearful tortures, have lost their reason; of these thousands who have become invalids, who are paralysed and are dying a slow death in Makronisos and other concentration camps; of those tens of thousands of victims—higher officers, leaders of political parties and trade unions, scientific workers, children and aged people, mothers with infants who, suffering monstrous torture in this hell, remain faithful to their ideas of liberty, democracy and peace.

“Reading our appeal, think for a moment of the tragedies

of Aeschylus* which are now being reproduced in Greece.

“Lend your ear to the suffering voices of these thousands of people who dreamed and fought for a world where there would be no place for Oswiecim, Buchenwald, Dachau and Maidanek, and who are now persecuted for this in every way.

“Faced with this tragedy of tens of thousands of victims and heroes who face death daily; faced with this tragedy of hundreds of thousands of their families; faced with this tragedy of the entire Greek people, all political differences must be set aside. Not one consistent democrat can remain indifferent to the cynical mockery of human dignity and the rights of man. The stand taken in relation to the Greek tragedy will be the criterion for consistent democratic public opinion and respect for human rights.

“At home in our own country our people are struggling in most arduous conditions for peace and in the recent elections they condemned the bloody regime of Makronisos and the terror and demanded a general unconditional amnesty.

“Help our people in this struggle—this is the sacred duty of every free and honest person. The Greek people expect effective help from their friends.

“Demand the abolition of Makronisos, the release of political prisoners and a general amnesty in Greece.

“Demand that an international commission be sent to Greece which on the spot could (on Makronisos, in Corfu Prison, Akronafplia, Yura and other concentration camps) attest to the crimes committed against the imprisoned patriots.

“Every day brings these heroes nearer to death. If each in his own way and we all together fulfil our duty to the Greek people, in a just cause and for mankind, we shall win this

* Aeschylus (525-456 B.C.)—an ancient Greek tragedian who wrote many tragedies.

sacred cause.

Petros Kokkalis, University Professor, Chairman, National Peace Committee of Greece;

Kostas Theos, Secretary, Board of Greek Confederation of Labour;

Roula Koukoulou, Secretary, Women's Democratic Union of Greece;

Nikos Akritidis, Secretary EPON (United Youth Union of Greece);

Apostolos Grosos, Secretary, Tobacco Workers' Union, Greece;

Takis Dimitriadis, Member, Executive Committee, Railwaymen's Union, Greece;

Stefanos Savidis, General Secretary, Union of Agricultural Co-operatives, Greece;

Miltiadis Porphyrogenis, Member Executive Committee, International Association of Democratic Lawyers;

Stavros Kotsopoulos, Member, Central Committee, People's Liberation Front (Macedonia);

Zisis Zografos, Member, Executive Committee, Union of former Political Prisoners under Nazism;

Apostolos Spilios, Member of the Leadership, Union of Newspaper Editors of National Resistance;

Elli Alexiou, teacher and writer Member of Greek Children's Aid Committee; (EVOP);

Kostas Karayorghis, Journalist.”

PLENUM, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF JAPAN

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Japan held at the end of April, unanimously approved the general report submitted by Tokuda, General Secretary of the Communist Party, a report by Shiino, Chairman of the Central Control Commission, and a declaration by Shiga calling for the consolidation of the unity of the Party and that an end be put to factional activities, and also issued a statement in connection with the conclusion of the work of the Plenum.

The statement issued by the Plenum says:

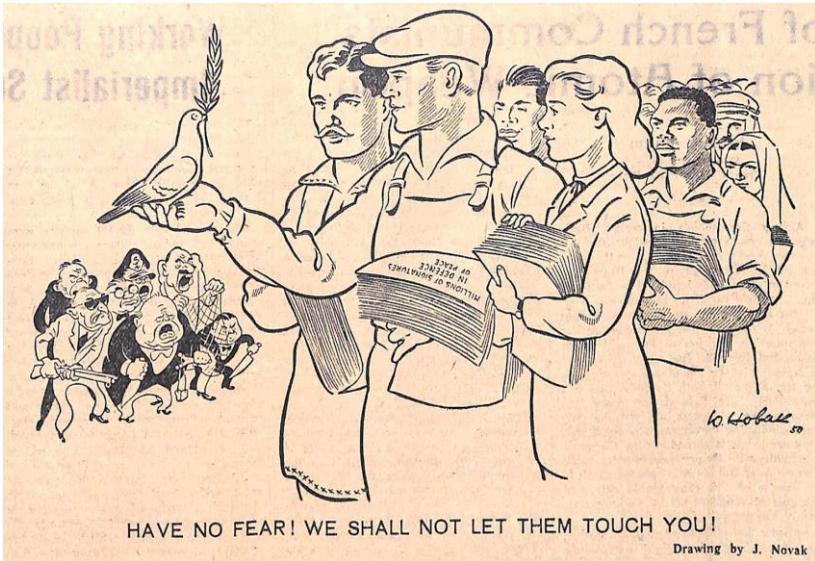
“The Nineteenth Plenum of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Japan has reached agreement on the main points in deciding questions of Party strategy. The Plenum also thoroughly discussed inner-Party questions and after comradely self-criticism unanimously passed a decision on the struggle against the factionalists and those causing trouble in the Party and also concerning democratic centralism and on securing unity in the Party.

“At the present time, home and foreign reaction are concentrating their attacks on the Communist Party of Japan. In particular, they intend to deliver blows at our Party by false propaganda and repressions during the forthcoming elections to the Chamber of Councillors of the Japanese Parliament.

In view of this campaign all Party members, including all members of the Political Bureau headed by the General Secretary, Tokuda, are fully determined to frustrate the attacks of the enemy, counter, posing to them ideological and organisational unity, by consolidating the Party and securing the alliance of the Party with the broad masses. They are fully determined to fight courageously together with the entire people for the complete independence of our country and

against it being transformed into a war base and against war”.

HAVE NO FEAR! WE SHALL NOT LET THEM TOUCH YOU! Drawing by J. Novak



HAVE NO FEAR! WE SHALL NOT LET THEM TOUCH YOU!

Drawing by J. Novak

PLENUM OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY

A Plenum of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party took place on May 8-10.

Comrade Boleslaw Bierut, Chairman of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, delivered a report on the "Tasks of the Party in the Struggle for New Cadres in Connection with the Political Situation". Comrade Juzwjak-Witold, Chairman of the Central Control Commission of the Party, reported on "Basic Tasks in the Work of the Central Control Commission of the Party".

The lively discussion which followed the reports centred mainly on questions of the policy of advancing, training, selecting and educating new cadres.

The Plenum also discussed organisational problems and elected Comrades Konstantin Rokossovski and Zenon Nowak to the Political Bureau, and Comrades Franciszek Mazur, Edward Ochab and Zenon Nowak as Secretaries of the Central Committee.

EDUCATION WEEK IN POLAND

The Education, Book and Press Week in Poland, which was held from May 1 to May 7 under the slogan of the struggle for peace was conducted in an atmosphere of great enthusiasm. The first number of the daily paper "Youth Banner" was published in 600,000 copies on May 1. On May 2, exhibitions opened in Warsaw: "The Press in the Struggle for Peace", "Achievements of Public Education in Poland".

Numerous book bazaars were organised in Warsaw and throughout Poland on the last day of the "Week".

In the Maritime Province, for example, 500 book stalls were set up and special buses with libraries toured remote villages. The first conference of worker and peasant correspondents, held on May 6, was an especially significant factor for the Education, Book and Press Week. This conference was attended by 520 correspondents who represented 12,000 correspondents from factory, peasant and youth newspapers in the country.

In a speech delivered to the conference, Prime Minister Cirankiewicz spoke of the tasks of worker and peasant correspondents in the struggle for peace and the building of Socialism. The lively discussion was summed up by Comrade Zambrowski Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party.

IN THE CHINESE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

THAT WHICH BELONGS TO THE PEOPLE IS RETURNED TO THE PEOPLE

During the 1950 May Day festivities, the working people of the capital of the Chinese People's Republic received a splendid gift from their people's democratic government. On the eve of May Day, the Peking Workers' Palace of Culture was opened in the spacious premises of the world-famous Peking Palace which, for centuries, had belonged to the Chinese emperors.

The Imperial Palace in Peking was build by the labour of thousands of Chinese working people. Entire generations of master craftsmen in wood and stone and scores of famous Chinese artists took part in building and decorating this Palace. For centuries this exceptionally beautiful masterpiece of the creative genius of the Chinese people was a monopoly of the emperor's family and the court clique. The area of the Palace was a forbidden zone and even the attempt by ordinary people to approach it was severely punished. The Chinese Press justly considers it symbolic that during the May Day celebrations the working people of Peking, for the first time in the history of China, entered, as masters, into the palace created by the hands of the working people.

The people's government of China has provided every amenity in the spacious palace promises for the cultural and spiritual development of the working people. There is a library with large reading-rooms and also meeting and lecture halls. Four buildings behind the main palace are devoted to music, drama, the fine arts and dancing. Workers of the Central Dramatic Academy and of the People's Art Theatre of Peking

have agreed to help to develop amateur art in the working people's Palace of Culture.

SIGNING OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENTS

To normalise relations between employers and workers, a campaign for collective agreements is now under way at numerous private enterprises in the Chinese People's Republic. These agreements cover such questions as wages, hours, rest, employment and dismissal, safety and welfare. The Sinhua Agency reports that these agreements differ considerably from the contracts signed in capitalist countries. The main difference is that in China the workers are the leading class: "The policy of the Chinese Government", writes the Agency, "is to protect the interests of workers and, at the same time, encourage private capital engaged in activities beneficial to the national economy".

The collective agreements are drafted by the workers and employers concerned on the basis of complete equality of either side and on their free will. But certain basic principles have been laid down by the people's government as a guide to workers and employers. They include the right of workers to join trade unions and to take part in any social and political activities and the right of employers to dismiss workers in accordance with the requirements of production. Discharged workers have the right to ten days' notice of dismissal and to protection by their trade unions if the dismissal is unreasonable. According to the agreement, workers are entitled, in the event of dismissals, to compensation ranging from two weeks' to three months' wages. These basic rules also fix the working day, equal pay for men and women engaged in equal work, 45 days paid maternity leave and payment by the employer of all medical expenses caused by

accidents at work.

In individual factories, the agreements are supplemented by consultative committees consisting of equal numbers from both sides which can settle minor questions on the spot and enable the workers to express their views concerning production, safety measures and so on without interfering with the rights of the management.

The Sinhua Agency reports that the signing of collective agreements and the formation of consultative committees provide a new form of administration at privately owned factories in China.

SHAMEFUL SILENCE

The Swedish writer, Marika Stiernstedt notorious for her sympathies for the fascist Tito clique, addressing a meeting of the students' organisation "Clarte" in Stockholm on May 1, lauded the Tito regime and vilified the Swedish Communist Party.

Exposing Stiernstedt slanders, the Swedish Communist newspaper "Ny Dag" wrote on May 4; "Marika Stiernstedt declared that she had held pronounced Socialist views ever since she began to think politically. We, of course, cannot forbid Marika Stiernstedt having political convictions of any kind. But when she says that the Swedish Communist Party is dependent on Moscow and when she holds up Tito as a model, she must surely be aware that actually she is relinquishing every vestige of a Socialist outlook. Piffle about subordination to Moscow is a reactionary lie which was first used by Goebbels. Tito is not a Socialist, he is a criminal, an agent of imperialist States."

One would think that it should be clear to every honest person what this fascist clique stands for and what aims it pursues. Having betrayed its people, the Tito clique has become a tool of the Anglo-American warmongers and has subordinated Yugoslavia to them. The Rajk trial in Hungary and the Kostov trial in Bulgaria demonstrated quite clearly the role played by the Titoite hirelings in the plans of the Anglo-American warmongers in their struggle against the forces of peace and democracy throughout the world.

And yet, despite this, certain Swedish Communists find it possible to listen in silence to praise of the Tito regime and slander against their own Party. The audience at the "Clarte" meeting addressed by Stiernstedt included Communists. But no

one delivered a fitting rebuff to this slander. Shameful silence! Such silence ill becomes Communists who are called upon to march in the vanguard of the struggle for peace, against the instigators of a new war and their Titoite agents who mask themselves in Socialist phraseology.

“PEACE SPECIAL” IN BRITAIN

Two hundred and fifty thousand copies of an illustrated newspaper, entitled “Never Again,” have been published by the British Peace Committee as part of the nation-wide campaign for signatures to the appeal of the Permanent Committee of the World Peace Congress.

Urging: “Write our name for peace”, Hewlett Johnson, the Dean of Canterbury points out: “A million signatures will annoy the warmongers. Ten million signatures will make them pause. A hundred million signature will wreck their plans and save the world”.

Reg. Birch, President, North London District Committee, Amalgamated Engineering Union, declares: “The struggle for peace is the struggle of the people, in which everyone must play a part, no matter how small. Without peace we can have nothing, neither life, nor work, nor happiness”.

Among other well-known contributors are Professor Bernal, J. G. Crowther, Dame Sybil Thorndike, the author, James Aldridge and Dr. Barnes, Bishop of Birmingham, all of whom condemned the atomic weapon.

THE VATICAN—ENEMY OF CZECHOSLOVAK PEOPLE. A. Cepicka, Member, Central Committee, Communist Party of Czechoslovakia

The recent events connected with the brazen intrigues of the Catholic hierarchy in Czechoslovakia are not its first action against the system of people's democracy, against the Czechoslovak people. Neither are they only the work of internal reactionary forces. The threads of the conspiracies of the Catholic hierarchy extend far beyond the boundaries of the country—to the evil den of the Vatican and the Anglo-American instigators of a new war. This was shown with particular clarity during the preparations of reaction for the putsch in February, 1948, in the organisation of which representatives of the U.S. and British imperialist circles played a leading role, acting in company with Vatican agents.

The Vatican has always been on the side of the dominant exploiting classes, loyal to those who secured greater power and wealth for it and opposing any liberation movement of the oppressed and exploited. In the epoch of imperialism the Vatican policy linked the fate of the Roman Catholic Church even more closely with that of the exploiting classes. Dreading the loss of its power, the Vatican is fiercely attacking the ideas of Socialism and the Communist movement and is the worst enemy of the first Socialist country in the world—the Soviet Union.

The Pope and the Vatican who, since the very inception of Soviet power, have organised “crusades” against it, gave their blessing to the fascist regimes and backed Hitler Germany in the war against the Soviet Union. And today the Vatican is

completely in the service of American imperialism which is preparing war against the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies.

The Vatican plays an important role in the camp of imperialism and war. It openly defends the capitalist regime, alleging that this is the ideal system for Christians. Wherever the power of capital has been overthrown, the Vatican seeks to restore it. To undermine the unity of the working people in the capitalist countries and in the People's Democracies, the Vatican has issued a decree excommunicating Communists and those co-operating with them; that is, excommunicating the mass of Catholics who are taking an active part in the historic reorganisation of society. This medieval attack on the part of Catholic obscurantists could not but end in an ignominious failure. The mass of the people in Italy, France and other countries were not stampeded by the decree, and to secure its consistent realisation in the People's Democracies, the Vatican would have had to abolish the Roman Catholic Church.

Despite this ignominious defeat, the Vatican issued another decree calling for the unity of all Christians for struggle against Socialism and Communism. The fact that the Vatican has called for a new crusade and has addressed itself to those non-Catholics whom it has previously persecuted, is the best proof of its tottering position.

The Vatican displays hatred against the world peace movement. It has anathematised this movement and punishes its members—both priests and laity—with the most severe penalties of the Church. The Vatican and its agents seek, wherever possible, to undermine the unity of peace supporters and to help the imperialist warmongers, hangmen and oppressors of the freedom of the peoples.

But the Vatican invariably suffers defeat after defeat. Mindszenty in Hungary and a number of Catholic dignitaries in other People's Democracies were exposed as Anglo-American

spies and traitors. In none of these countries has the Vatican succeeded in shaking the loyalty of the broad mass of the people to the new State system. On the contrary, the Vatican has revealed itself as an enemy of the people and its influence has waned considerably.

The failure of the Vatican policy in the People's Democracies can be seen in the example of Czechoslovakia. As is known, the Czech and Slovak Catholic hierarchy had fundamentally compromised itself in the eyes of the people by its open collaboration with the Nazis and by its negative attitude to the changes in the social system in liberated Czechoslovakia. In the new conditions the hierarchy sought to conceal from the working people its unenviable past. With this aim in view it brought forward those of the clergy who had not been compromised in the eyes of public opinion. Thus Dr. Beran, former inmate of a Hitlerite concentration camp, was appointed Bishop of Prague and Dr. Trotha, another political prisoner, under the Hitlerites, became Bishop of Litomerice. Under cover of these two men, the Vatican sheltered all the other members of the Synod who, during the occupation, betrayed the interests of the Czech and Slovak people and who collaborated with the Hitlerites.

Under the new leadership and in co-operation with all the enemies of the people's democratic system, the Synod took to the defence of the capitalists and landlords. In the name of "Christian love" it condemned the eviction of the Germans, the nationalisation of industry and the development of the new people's rule and sought to turn churches and monasteries into centres of anti-Soviet propaganda and for subversive activities against the new State. Honest Catholics and priests protested in vain against this misuse of both church and religion. Encouraged by the Vatican, the Bishops, far from listening to the voice of the people, literally competed with other reactionary representative in their anti-popular activities.

Catholic dignitaries were heart and soul of the preparations for the February reactionary putsch. An important part of these preparations were the meetings in the Archbishop's Palace. At the moment when the defeat of the putsch was already decided, the Archbishop of Prague tried to avert the defeat of reaction. The pastoral letter issued by him at the end of the February events clearly showed that he also was an inveterate enemy of the working people and of Socialism.

Soon after the February victory of the people over reaction, the Papal Nuncio in Prague issued new instructions: to unite as quickly as possible the defeated reactionary forces with the help of the Roman Catholic Church. The Synod was reinforced with a new member, the out and out reactionary Matoha, appointed to the Archbishopric of Olomouc. It was forbidden for the clergy to take part in public life. Patriotic priests were persecuted and subjected to disciplinary measures by the Church. Under the guise of a striving for a more just religious life the clergy were forced to engage in widespread underground wrecking activities. The Church dignitaries depicted the people's democratic system—openly to the clergy and in allegorical terms to the laity—as the work of “Satan and the Devil” and called upon them to struggle against it.

A special mission was entrusted the monasteries and places of pilgrimage. Armed enemy agents and monks received orders to prepare uprisings, espionage and subversive actions against the national economy and the people's power.

The Catholic hierarchy even tried to draw into the struggle against the people's democratic state its old enemy—the non-Catholic Czechoslovak Church. On behalf of Beran and the Vatican, their agents offered immediate financial assistance and also an assurance that after the collapse of the people's democratic power, Beran would reward the Church of Czechoslovakia with money and property, including the transfer of several churches. However, this and other non-

Catholic denominations, which had learned from bitter experience in the past what the methods of the Catholic hierarchy were like, did not fall for Beran's bait.

The Vatican not only failed to create "Christian Unity" against Socialism but its attempt to turn Catholic clergy and the laity against the people and the new system also collapsed. Except for a few traitors who ended up in the prisoners' dock, the clergy and laity resolutely rejected the line of undermining the State. The call of the reactionary Catholic hierarchy, which tried to rally Catholics for revolt against the people's democratic system, met with no response. Step by step the rank and file Catholics got to know who was hiding in the bishops' armchairs under the mask of "defenders of the faith and freedom of the Church".

Simultaneously, confidence increased in Government policy as a result of successful work carried out by the Communist Party which consistently exposed reaction and strengthened the vigilance of the working people. The laity became convinced that in the people's democratic State freedom of worship, equality of the churches and religious tolerance were consistently observed and carried out. The attempt by Vatican agents to stampede believers with stories of all kinds of dangers, horrors and suffering, which they alleged threatened the Church, failed since both clergy and laity were convinced of the contrary.

The legislation which established a State Board for religious matters and for the maintenance of church and religious societies by the State secured the interests of the churches and believers. The establishment of salaries for the clergy and the repayment of all expenditure to the Church from State funds convinced all denominations that there was every possibility for fruitful co-operation with the State. The clergy and the laity condemned the resistance to these new laws.

But even after this defeat, the bishops did not abandon their anti-popular treacherous activities. In close collaboration with foreign enemies and reaction at home, the Catholic dignitaries seek to sow discord among the clergy and laity in applying the new laws and continue their subversive activities.

Trying to stampede the people and to prepare the mass of the laity to follow a line favourable to the imperialist warmongers, the Vatican and the Church dignitaries resorted to “miracles”. The recent trials of ten representatives of monastic orders and of various U.S. intelligence agents revealed to our people the monstrous facts of the participation of the Vatican, Cardinal Spellman of New York and the Catholic hierarchy in organising espionage, murder and subversive anti-State work in Czechoslovakia. The masses regard with contempt the lackeys of the alien and hostile Vatican power and American imperialism who have betrayed their country and the people’s State.

In these conditions it is not at all surprising that the influence of the Vatican and their obedient lackeys—the bishops—is steadily declining in Czechoslovakia. Defence of the old capitalist world and the struggle against the progressive social system led the Vatican agents to subversive anti-State activities which are rejected by every honest citizen in our country. The successful creative work of the Communist Party and the working people, and also the consistent solicitude on the part of the State for the affairs of the Church have won the trust of all honest Catholic and non-Catholic believers. That is why the ranks of the patriotic priests are extending and strengthening; why the overwhelming majority of Catholics together with the whole nation are more and more actively building the new just social system.

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