

*Workers of all lands, unite!*

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

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## **CULTURAL REVOLUTION IN THE PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES**

In the People's Democracies the working class and all working people are successfully advancing along the path of laying the economic and cultural foundations of Socialism. The fundamental political and economic transformations in those countries have, in their turn, led to big transformations also in the sphere of culture. Marxism-Leninism, the experience of Socialist construction in the U.S.S.R., teach that Socialism cannot be built without effecting a cultural revolution in the countries where the working class has won power. The need for a cultural revolution arises from the fundamental differences between capitalism and Socialism. The culture created by bourgeois society must be replaced by a new, higher culture Socialist culture.

The working class and its advanced detachment—the Communist Parties—are the bearers of Socialist culture. One of the paramount tasks facing the Communist Parties in the People's Democracies is to raise the cultural level of the working people in every way, to develop a new culture, national in form and Socialist in content, a culture based on emancipated labour and inspired by the brilliant teachings of Marxism-Leninism.

As was the case thirty years ago in the Soviet Union, millions of people in the countries of the New Democracy have come forward to administer their State. For the first time in the age-old history of the peoples of those countries the working masses—the overwhelming majority of the population—have consciously set about planning their destiny. The chief task of the cultural revolution is to prepare the broad masses, all the working people, politically and culturally, and to draw them into the work of running the State.

A new attitude to labour is steadily developing among the

working people of the new Democracies. This attitude is reflected in expanding Socialist emulation and shock-brigade work. The desire to increase productivity of labour has embraced masses of the people. Thus, 50 per cent and more, of the workers are taking part in Socialist emulation in Poland, Rumania, Czechoslovakia and Hungary.

A profound cultural process is developing in those countries among the masses to master modern technique. But this is only the beginning. Socialism can be built on a higher technique than capitalism, on a higher productivity of labour than under capitalism. In order to create a higher technique, in order to reach a higher productivity of labour than that obtaining under capitalism and in order completely to vanquish capitalism, it is necessary to develop, on an ever wider scale, the creative forces of the working people, to keep raising their political, technical and cultural level.

New Socialist relations are taking shape among the people in the New Democracies. These relations are reflected in an appreciation of the best workers, in mutual support and emulation in labour for the benefit of the working people of their country. A big turning point in history is taking place, a turning point in the attitude to labour on behalf of society, as a personal and social duty, a turning point in social relations which, in a class society are determined by private ownership of the means of production, by the degree of wealth and poverty.

Centres of new Socialist culture are being formed also in the countryside in the People's Democracies. These centres are the organs of People's Power, the Party, the youth and other organisations, they are the Socialist State farms, the machine-tractor depots, the peasant producer cooperatives, and along with these the new schools, libraries and clubs.

Organised peasant labour in the co-operatives, the utilisation of modern machinery and the running of the

economy on planned times, are already yielding, initial positive results. Thus, for instance, in Czechoslovakia the agricultural producer co-operatives succeeded, last year, in cutting down the time needed for harvesting the crop by 20-50 per cent and in lowering expenditure connected with, the harvesting, by 20-25 per cent.

In Bulgaria, Rumania and Hungary the co-operatives are harvesting the best crops in the country. Peasants who only yesterday, engaged in individual farming are successfully mastering the methods of large-scale social production.

The growing number of peasant producer co-operatives is accelerating the revolutionary turning point in agricultural production. This, in its turn, will bring about a rapid advance of culture in the countryside.

Socialist construction in the People's Democracies raises questions connected with the extensive development of culture.

Socialism cannot be built without making contemporary knowledge accessible to all the working people. The main question in solving this task is to equip the cadres of the Communist Parties and the broad sections of the intelligentsia with the teachings of Marxism-Leninism. This will increase their ability to orientate themselves in the complex problems of Socialist construction. In questions relating to the home and international situation.

Circulation of the classics of Marxism-Leninism, in those countries is unprecedented.

They cannot keep up with the rapidly growing demand for these works.

Dialectical and historical materialism are being taught in the universities together with political economy and the teachings of Socialism. All pseudo-scientific bourgeois trash is being eliminated from the programmes and text books which are now being revised. Cadres in factory, mine and office are being educated on the basis of the Marxist-Leninist world

outlook.

Thus, a profound revolutionary change in world outlook is taking place in the People's Democracies. A new, Marxist-Leninist world outlook is replacing the idealistic world outlook, the obsolete ideas and conceptions implanted over the centuries by the feudal lords, the bourgeoisie, their ideologists, schools and reformism.

Communists do not deny or cast aside the achievements of the old culture. They critically regard these achievements with a view to utilising them for Socialist construction.

All the knowledge and technique created by mankind in the course of its history are becoming the property of the working masses who are building a new society.

The new Socialist culture can be built only in a stubborn and bitter class struggle in which the working people resolutely oppose the corroding influence of modern bourgeois culture.

The contemporary imperialist bourgeoisie is no longer capable of new historical creative work in culture and art. The working class and Socialism alone are capable of mastering all that is precious in the old culture and of building a new Socialist culture.

The Communist Parties in the People's Democracies are re-educating the old cadres of the intelligentsia, are educating a new intelligentsia from the ranks of the working class youth, are training specialists, are working intensively, to raise the general cultural level of the people.

Compulsory elementary education has been introduced and the number of elementary, secondary and higher schools is steadily increasing together with the number of students.

Illiteracy and semi-literacy, the cursed heritage of the past, are rapidly being liquidated in the People's Democracies. The allocations for public education are steadily increasing.

The number of theatres, philharmonic orchestras, cinemas, libraries, museums and factory clubs is growing in all the

People's Democracies. Concert halls, museums, and art galleries are crowded now with working people, particularly the youth.

The circulation of newspapers, journals and books greatly exceeds the pre-war figure. Numerous, writers and artists drawn from the tanks of the workers, and musical, theatrical and many other art groups are coming forward.

Never before has people's art developed so powerfully, never before have so many talented individuals appeared from among the people as now.

In the struggle against formalism, against decadent bourgeois trends, the first major works of Socialist realism in literature and art are being created.

Restoring the finest democratic traditions and making the achievements of the culture and art of their countries accessible to the people, the People's Democratic power teaches the people a greater love for the homeland which has now taken the path of real flowering, the path, to which, in the past, the best patriots of the country aspired.

In the struggle for Socialism, in the People's Democracies a new man is being born, a man of new morals, a man who loathes reaction and the imperialists, despises parasites and who is profoundly loyal to the cause of the liberation of mankind.

He is a patriot of his motherland which, following the Soviet Union, has taken its place in the ranks of the countries marching in the forefront of world progress.

In their great historical creative endeavour—the building of a Socialist culture—the working peoples of the New Democracies, are inspired by the example of the Socialist Soviet Union, where a new Socialist culture has been created, a culture which is the proto-type of the future culture of mankind which is advancing with historical inevitability towards Socialism.

## **MARCH 12—ELECTION DAY FOR THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE USSR**

Next month the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., elected in 1946, will end its 4-year term of office. The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. has fixed Sunday, March 12 for elections to the Supreme Soviet and has approved the Election Rules and Regulations.

## **NEW PRODUCER CO-OPERATIVES IN POLISH COUNTRYSIDE**

In 1949, 55 co-operatives took part in collecting the harvest in Poland and 180 sowing winter crops.

By New Year's day the number of cooperatives had grown to 243, and by January 10 another 40 were organised making a total now of 283 agricultural co-operatives in Poland.

Of these 60 per cent are co-operatives of the higher type in which incomes are distributed only on the basis of work-day units.

Poznan province has the greatest number, followed by Wroclaw and the Warsaw provinces. Medium peasants, i.e. those possessing from 5 to 15 hectares of land, comprise nearly half the 243 co-operatives formed before January 1.

## **STRENGTHENING CZECHOSLOVAK- SOVIET FRIENDSHIP**

At its recent meeting in Prague, the leadership of the Union of Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship, summarising the year's work of the Union, noted particularly the success of the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship Days, which began in November of last year and continued up to the celebrations of Comrade Stalin's 70th birthday.

Nine million people signed the letter of greetings to Comrade Stalin; a special train was sent to Moscow carrying numerous gifts—an expression of the love and devotion of the Czechoslovak people for the great leader and teacher.

During the Friendship Days, 57,350 meetings, rallies, socials, etc. were held, attended by more than ten million people; 18,930 Russian language circles were formed in which 323,000 people are studying.

The Union of Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship increased its membership by another 1,090,000, thus becoming one of the biggest organisations in the National Front.

## **TRAINING OF WORKER'S IN HUNGARY**

Due to an uninterrupted growth of production and in the rate of capital investment and in building nearly 20,000 workers have been drawn each month into industry and the building trades in Hungary since January 1949.

This rapid growth of industry has resulted in a shortage of man-power in some branches of the national economy.

To secure the realisation of the Five-Year Plan, the Council of Ministers has taken a decision concerning the distribution of man-power in industry and the training of new, qualified cadres of workers which means, in particular, that in the next few years workers released from agriculture should be drawn into industry.

The National Planning Board will decide on the number of apprentices to be trained every year in each trade and at every factory.

Women will be urged to work in those industries in which few are now engaged, above all, in the metal and building industries and in transport.

## EVENTS IN ITALY

Police in Modena (Italy) opened fire on a demonstration of the Fonderie Riunite workers who on January 9, were protesting against dismissals and the threatened closing of their factory. Six workers were killed and nearly 50 wounded. Among them were women and juveniles.

The police action was obviously deliberate because early in the morning the town appeared to be in a state of siege owing to the concentration of large police units.

A general strike was declared immediately throughout Emilia. Iron and steel workers all over Italy struck work in solidarity with their class brothers who fell in Modena.

General strikes in Turin, Milan, Genoa, Venice, Verona, Florence and Livorno were declared.

The Civil Servants' (trade union) Federation sent 164,000 lire to families of the victims. All democratic organisations declared their solidarity with the working masses of Modena.

This latest bloody terror of de Gasperi-Scelba police has created great indignation among the Italian public.

Three hundred thousand people took part in the funeral of the Modena victims. All the Communist and Socialist deputies and senators were present. Among the marchers in the funeral procession were Comrades Togliatti, Nenni, Longo, Secchia and di Vittorio. Addressing the funeral meeting Comrade Togliatti said: "We have a government of cynics who are not even interested in explaining the circumstances in which such murders can take place. We have a Parliament the majority of which is indifferent, blind and deaf to the most urgent problems of the nation. The whole country must rise against this state of affairs which cries out for vengeance."

On Wednesday, January 11, a four-hour general strike took place in Rome. A demonstration of the working people, youth and women marched through the streets, and ended in a mass meeting attended by over 100,000 people.

Next day, de Gasperi submitted his resignation. Commenting on the Government's resignation the "Rome Daily American" pointed out that it was extremely significant that the tenure of this Government ended to the accompaniment of cries "Death to Scelba!" and "The people want a new government!" on the part of hundreds of thousand of Communists assembled in Rome and Modena.

Referring to the Rome demonstration the American newspaper described it as the biggest demonstration since that held on July 14, 1948 in connection with the attempt on the life of Togliatti.

## **FRENCH WORKERS CONTINUE THEIR STRUGGLE AGAINST WAR**

The working people of France ever more vigorously oppose the war in Viet-Nam and the policy of preparing war against the Soviet Union.

By striking, as did the workers at Rueie, Versailles, at the armoury in Toulon and at the chemical factories in Marseilles; and by taking a decision not to unload or transport American war materials, as at many railway centres, the working people showed their concrete opposition to the warmongers' policy; an opposition which is becoming increasingly active.

A broad movement of solidarity with and assistance to those who voluntarily give up their job rather than unload American war materials, is growing throughout the country, particularly among the working class. Paris Municipal Workers' Union has just sent 200,000 francs to the Saint-Nazaire dockers.

In all districts railwaymen carry out numerous large-scale work stoppages, thus expressing their determination to light against the orders of the Right-Wing Socialist Minister, Rineau, and against war.

The working people of France realise that the increasing deterioration in their living standards is a result of the war policy.

In Bec d'Ambes (the Gironde Department) where an American fuel base is under construction, 900 building workers declared, during a 24-hour strike for their immediate demands, that they would fight against turning Ambes into a base of aggression in an anti-Soviet war.

In connection with the International Women's Day of

Struggle against the war in Viet-Nam, scheduled for January 25, many women in France are addressing letters to workers asking them to stop production of all kinds of war weapons.

## **STATEMENT BY CHAIRMAN OF LEAGUE FOR DEMOCRATIC SELF-GOVERNMENT OF FORMOSA**

The Sin-hua Agency reports that on January 6, Se Siu-hun, Chairman of the Formosa League of Democratic Self-Government, protested in Shanghai at the secret agreement concluded between the United States and the Kuomintang.

This secret agreement reveals, she stated, the attempts of the American imperialists, to occupy Taiwan island (Formosa), in one way or another, and to turn it into a military base for an attack on the Chinese mainland and for aggression in the Far East. It also shows that the remnants of the Kuomintang have completely bartered Taiwan.

The people of Taiwan, stated Se Siu-hun, have pledged to fight these criminal actions of the United States and of Chiang Kai-shek; to fight against the growing aggression of the American imperialists and reactionary remnants of the Kuomintang who have betrayed Taiwan.

For 50 years the people of Taiwan waged a ceaseless national revolutionary struggle against the Japanese. For more than four years they fought the Kuomintang reactionaries. The people of Taiwan have united with all the people of China and become an invincible force and they will not allow the Kuomintang reactionaries to retain their grip on Taiwan.

Se Siu-hun called upon the people of Taiwan to rise in struggle and, together with the People's Liberation Army, foil the plot of the United States and Chiang Kai-shek and destroy the remnants of the Kuomintang.

## **CARE OF THE STATE FOR WORKING PEASANTRY**

Agriculture figures large in the 1950 State plan of the Rumanian People's Republic. Compared with last year the number of tractors in the machine-tractor depots will be increased by 2,080 in 1950, the number of threshers by 620 and tractor drawn ploughs by 2,100.

The State plan sets as one of its essential tasks the strengthening and extension of the Socialist section of agriculture; to increase the number of machine-tractor depots; equip the State farms technically and to give the necessary support to the collective farms.

Along with strengthening the Socialist section the Plan also provides for increased assistance to the poor and medium peasantry. The area sown with cotton, flax, tobacco and rice will be greatly extended.

This will help to increase the income of the poor and medium peasant.

This year the countryside will receive 72 per cent more manufactured goods than in 1949. The network of co-operatives will be extended.

Hundreds of thousands of peasants are learning to read and write. New schools, libraries, centres of culture and first-aid centres are making their appearance in the Rumanian countryside.

## POLICE TERROR IN MEXICO

According to reports from New York, Mexican taxi drivers on January 2. stopped work demanding that petrol be provided at the price of that used on the chain bus lines and that the licence tax be reduced.

The President's Guard and police dispersed a demonstration of nearly five thousand drivers who sought to submit a petition to the President. Police also arrested nearly 200 people and seized about a thousand taxis. Seven demonstrators were killed and a large number wounded.

On January 3, police made simultaneous raids on the premises of the new trade union centre, the taxi drivers' club and the headquarters of the Tram Workers' Union, smashing and plundering the property belonging to these organisations and afterwards, occupying the premises.

All those found in the first two of the premises described above were beaten up and arrested.

In the headquarters of the Tram Workers' Union, where a peaceful meeting of drivers was being held, police used fire-arms and tear gas. Two men were killed, 50 wounded and nearly 1,000 drivers and others who happened to be in the building or nearby were arrested.

Police violence against the taxi drivers shows the intention of the Mexican Government ruthlessly to suppress strikes despite existing laws and the rights of workers.

The reactionary press tries to justify the reprisals against the drivers by declaring the need to maintain public order.

Describing the methods of Mexican police as fascist, the newspaper "Populaire", at the same time tries to absolve the President of all responsibility.

According to later reports, all the arrested persons were released.

## **ALBANIA IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE. Manus Muftiu, Member, Central Committee, Albanian Workers' Party**

On January 11, the Albanian people celebrated, as a great national festival, the fourth anniversary of the proclamation of the People's Republic.

For the first time in their history the Albanian people today lead a free and independent life. For the first time they are working for themselves and advance forward confidently under the reliable and vigilant leadership of the Albanian Workers' Party.

Under the leadership of the Workers' Party, the Albanian people have acquired numerous powerful friends in the democratic and anti-imperialist camp, friends who are "generously helping them to build Socialism.

As a member of the fraternal family of the People's Democratic countries the Albanian people take their place in the ranks of the powerful democratic and anti-imperialist camp where they vigorously wage a struggle for peace and democracy; a struggle in defence of their freedom and independence and against the Anglo-American imperialists and their monarcho-fascist and Tito agents in Athens and Belgrade.

After achieving "far-reaching political, economic and social changes following the establishment of people's power, i.e., land reform and nationalisation of the mines, factories and banks, our people tackled the immense job of not only restoring what had been destroyed by war but of ending the backwardness in which they had been kept by the anti-people's clique and the regime of the satrap Zogu, a tool of the foreign

imperialists.

Guided by the Workers' Party and Comrade Enver Hodja, our people confidently set about building the new Albania.

With the help especially of the Soviet Union they were able to overcome many difficulties in the struggle against external enemies and their agents in Albania—internal reaction—and to make big headway in building and developing a new economy and a new culture.

Comparison of the successes achieved by the people's power during the past five years with the situation in the past shows clearly what great headway can be made, even by a small people, if they resolutely take the path of progress, the path blazed by the great Soviet Union.

In industry the pre-war level has been topped by 267 per cent. A big textile mill, which will manufacture 20 million metres a year will soon begin to operate as well as a sugar refinery with an annual capacity of 10,000 tons of sugar and a hydro-central heating station in the capital—not to mention a number of other new factories and the expansion of the old ones.

The first three railway lines have also been laid and new highways built.

In agriculture the pre-war level has been surpassed by 165 per cent and in cattle breeding by 190 per cent. Each day shows the advantages of large-scale mechanised agriculture.

The working peasantry are now adopting the collective cultivation of the land, using the machine-tractor depots and the new agro-technique. Today there are 58 producer co-operatives in the country.

In social relations laws have been introduced safeguarding the rights of the working people and the rights of women—a thing unknown in the past history of our country.

The number of hospitals in the towns and villages has increased and new dispensaries, sanatoria and rest homes for

the working people opened.

Dozens of new elementary and secondary schools are now functioning. The number of pupils increased from 58,000 in 1938-39 to 181,000 in 1948-49. The country now has its first two-year Teachers' Training College.

Great headway has also been made in culture and art. An art school, eight museums and four large libraries have been opened, a national theatre formed and new cinemas built.

The steadily developing State and cooperative trade account for 84 per cent of trade turnover. Considerable achievements have been made in relation to foreign trade, especially with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies—Hungary, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania and Bulgaria.

The Soviet Union tops the list in the Republic's trade balance. It also renders extensive technical assistance to Albania—assistance so necessary to her for organising and developing modern industry, and agriculture.

Factory and office workers, technicians and peasants are selflessly working to carry out the country's Two-Year Economic Plan. The youth have carried out large-scale construction work and have set an example of labour heroism and patriotism.

The British and American imperialists, have, through their missions in Albania and with the help of internal reaction, endeavoured time and again, forcibly to overthrow the people's power through political pressure, threats, blackmail, wrecking, provocations and slander. But the Albanian people have vigorously resisted and exposed their plans.

In their blind hatred of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, and especially of our people who courageously resist their aggressive plans, the Anglo-American imperialists incite against us the bitterest enemies of democracy and of our people—the Greek monarcho-fascists and the fascist,

espionage Tito clique.

They encourage provocation and aggressive action on our frontiers. The aggression of the Greek monarcho-fascists in August 1949, and the provocative actions of the Tito clique on the border are only a few of the countless proofs of armed pressure which they continue to exert on our country.

Our people have frustrated all these attempts to encroach on the territorial integrity of Albania, on her freedom and independence.

Our Party Congress has also completely upset the designs of the Tito clique which aimed to turn Albania into a colony and, with the help of the fascist agent, Koci Xoxe, to turn our country back to the dark days of fascist reaction.

The answer of the Albanian people to the attempts of the Anglo-American warmongers and their Greek and Yugoslav agents to prevent the success of our country; to their pressure and threats, will be to strengthen further its political unity, its friendship with the Soviet Union and with the People's Democracies and all forces of the democratic camp.

Our people will intensify the struggle against the agents of imperialism no matter where they are or under what masks they seek to disguise themselves. True to the principles of proletarian internationalism, the Albanian people will make their contribution to the struggle for the freedom and independence of peoples, for democracy and peace.

## **FIGHT FOR PEACE—THE MAIN TASK. I.**

### **Chisinevski, Secretary, Central Committee, Rumanian Workers' Party**

The Resolution of the Communist Information Bureau concerning the defence of peace and the struggle against the warmongers revealed to all progressive mankind that in view of the danger of the new war now being prepared by the Anglo-American imperialists, only the utmost vigilance on the part of the peoples and their active struggle for peace can frustrate the criminal designs of aggressive reaction.

To defend the vital interests and the freedom of the people of Rumania, the Rumanian People's Republic has firmly taken its stand in the ranks of the organised peace front headed by the Soviet Union.

However, in the light of the directives contained in the Resolution concerning the need to work more indefatigably, to consolidate organisationally, and to extend the peace movement, our Party sets itself the task of mobilising all the working people in the country to defend peace, to combat imperialist machinations and to achieve new successes in building Socialism.

The Rumanian Workers' Party, the working class and the broad masses of the people in town and the countryside are participating actively in the peace movement which now embraces hundreds of millions of people throughout the world. The peace movement developed on a particularly wide scale after the Wroclaw Congress of Cultural Workers.

The Party headed the peace movement under the slogan of consolidating the system of people's democracy; of further developing the spirit of devotion to the Soviet Union—the leading force in the camp of peace—under the slogan of struggle against the Anglo-American warmongers.

At their meetings, the Party, trade-unions, youth, women's and other mass organisations discussed matters connected with the struggle for peace.

In particular, the Rumania-U.S.S.R. Friendship Society (A.R.L.U.S.), took an active part in the movement.

Over 150,000 Party propagandists explained to the people the significance of and the need for the peace movement.

Every day press and radio popularised the struggle of the U.S.S.R. for peace, the experience of Socialist construction in the Soviet Union and the fight of the working people of the Rumanian People's Republic for peace and security of peoples.

The peace movement enabled the Party to mobilise the workers of science and art for the struggle against cosmopolitanism and other reactionary trends in science and culture.

As a result of this work a considerable number of our biologists were won for support of the Michurin teaching.

Similarly, a considerable part of the Orthodox clergy has joined the struggle for peace, and against the reactionary and pro-imperialist activity of Catholic reaction.

The number of those who have taken part in the peace movement in Rumania has reached seven million.

The Permanent Peace Committee which embraces mass cultural and public organisation is conducting large-scale propaganda and explanatory work. During 1949, nearly five million copies of booklets and leaflets relating to the struggle for peace were issued.

A.R.L.U.S., jointly with the Science and Culture Society organised a series of lectures dealing with the issues of the peace struggle.

These lectures widely popularised the forces of the peace camp headed by the Soviet Union, the role of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, the peace movement in France, Italy and other capitalist countries, and also exposed, on the

basis of facts, the war preparations of the Anglo-American imperialists.

During 1949, ten million people attended lectures and discussions on the subject: "The U.S.S. R. Heads the Struggle for Peace".

A comprehensive exhibition devoted to this subject was organised in Bucharest, while a mobile exhibition with explanations in the Rumanian, Hungarian, and German languages made the rounds in outlying villages.

The distribution of Soviet literature among the masses by Party organisations, trade unions and particularly by A.R.L.U.S., has enabled tens of thousands of our workers and technical personnel to study and acquaint themselves with the methods of work of Soviet scientific and cultural workers and of the leading Soviet workers.

The work carried on by A.R.L.U.S., is of great importance also for building Socialism in the countryside. It has issued, in hundreds of thousands of copies, popular booklets which show concretely the experience of collective farming, and also publications dealing with Soviet agricultural technique and the mechanisation of Soviet agriculture.

These topics are discussed at the meetings of the rural branches of A.R.L.U.S. in this way, A.R.L.U.S., with its four million members organised in 17,000 branches, is a powerful factor in the struggle for peace.

But the greatest contribution to the cause of peace is the creative labour of the people of Rumania for the wellbeing of their free homeland.

The Rumanian People's Republic has gained considerably in power, its State apparatus has been consolidated; 200,000 people, of whom 90 per cent are workers, have replaced the reactionary minded State officials recruited from the exploiting classes.

Of 74 chairmen of the local government organs—

provisional people's councils—67 are workers. An absolute majority of all factory, managers are also workers. The creative, inventive initiative of the masses devoted to raising labour productivity is growing.

The 1949 Plan was fulfilled by 108 per cent. Output of heavy industry in particular, rose. The ferrous metals industry achieved an output 54 per cent above the highest pre-war level. The capital investment plan was surpassed considerably, reaching 100 billion lei, that is, 200 per cent more than in 1948. The beginning of Socialist reorganisation in the countryside has shown that the idea of collective labour is increasingly taking root among the masses.

Although the number of collective farms, excluding the societies for joint cultivation, is quite small—56 in all—they are, nevertheless, playing a big role in the Socialist education of the working peasants.

Tens of thousands of poor and medium peasants are expressing their desire to set up collective farms.

Together with collective farms, State farms and machine-tractor depots have been formed in the countryside and are functioning successfully.

During 1949, the national income increased by 25 per cent. The cultural level of the working people is rising steadily. Industrial workers, peasants and intelligentsia working wholeheartedly to consolidate the system of people's democracy declare:

Our peaceful labour—the building of a Socialist life, the consolidation of the economic and political might of our country with the help of the great Soviet Union, the fraternal friendship between the Rumanian people and the other nationalities in Rumania—all this is the answer of the liberated and peace-loving people to the American imperialists and warmongers.

Together with successes quite serious shortcomings are to

be noted in the movement that developed in the country.

A tendency to restrict the scale of the movement was observed among certain comrades. On the other hand, in some places only mass actions were organised, while daily explanatory work among the working people did not receive due consideration.

Measures aimed at strengthening the system of People's Democracy, and the concrete struggle against the agents of imperialism did not get the necessary attention.

In certain regions, particularly in the rural villages, Party work was carried out in a superficial way.

Strengthening the ranks of the Party is a main condition for strengthening the forces of peace.

Addressing a meeting of Party activists in Bucharest, Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej, General Secretary of the Party, said:

“If our Party succeeds in utilising the keen interest of the majority of our people in peace, if we succeed in making all the working people an active force in the struggle for peace, if we succeed in taking all measures to prevent imperialist agents from weakening the ranks of the working class and its confidence in its strength we shall be able successfully to carry out the tasks which face us”.

Our Party is striving to utilise the wide possibilities at our disposal to transform the struggle for peace into a mighty mass movement.

By improving the social composition of the Party; by strengthening Party discipline and the sense of responsibility; by deepening the revolutionary consciousness of the Party members and sharpening their Bolshevik vigilance; by exposing the enemy and taking concrete measures against all kinds of machinations by the enemy; by working persistently to raise the ideological level of the members, our Party will be able to carry out the role of leader and organiser in the struggle of the peoples of Rumania for peace.

The verification and persistent work to raise the ideological level of its members have greatly strengthened the ranks of the Rumanian Worker' Party.

But Comrade Stalin reminded Communists in all countries that during the period of building Socialism, a period characterised by accentuated class struggle, the imperialist camp seeks to recruit spies and traitors from among those who, infected with nationalism and hatred for Socialism, succeeded in penetrating into the Party.

Consequently, the leadership of the Rumanian Workers' Party is of the opinion that it is necessary more vigorously to expose and ruthlessly to isolate all inimical, opportunist and other elements seeking to penetrate into the Party organisations, and to combat by all means any deviation from proletarian internationalism, knowing that at the back of the deviation there is always an enemy, open or covert.

Never losing sight of the fact that in pursuing their aggressive plans the Anglo-American imperialists assign a considerable role to the espionage-nationalist Tito clique, our Party must continue also in future mercilessly to combat the agents of this gang of traitors and assassins.

Ranking on the nationalist and kulak elements among the Serbian population in Rumania, the Tito-Rankovic clique sent, and is trying now to send, agents and spies, saboteurs, wreckers and missionaries into the ranks of this population, trying to bribe people for active work on behalf of American and British imperialist warmongers.

However, the Serbian population in Rumania, enjoying equal political, economic and cultural rights, having its own schools, press and literature, is increasingly becoming an active factor in the struggle for peace.

Our Party combines the struggle against the enemies of the people with educating all the people—and the Serbian population in particular—in the spirit of devotion to the peace

camp headed by the U.S.S.R.; in the spirit of hatred for the imperialist agencies.

As is known, as far back as June 1948 a meeting of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party characterised Patrascanu as the bearer of the ideology and interests of the bourgeoisie in the ranks of our Party.

Now it is even more clear that the entire anti-Party and anti-popular activity of Patrascanu served the interests of American imperialist circles.

Exposing the insidious actions of the enemy, our Party simultaneously, is fighting for more vigilance on the part of the working class and of the entire people; is intensifying work to uncover imperialist agents so that it should be quite clear to all that it is impossible to defend peace without destroying the agencies of the imperialist aggressors.

With this aim in view the Central Committee has given all Party members the task of studying the reports of the trials of the imperialist agents. Rajk and Kostov-Panzov: trials which fully exposed the Tito-Rankovic gang of spies and assassins.

The Central Committee of our Party devotes much attention to strengthening the militant unity of the working class. The carrying out of this task is closely linked with the development of criticism and self-criticism in the trade unions and in the mass organisations. It is necessary to put an end to high-handedness in relation to the needs of the working people by certain of our bureaucratic functionaries who put obstacles in the way of the workers, hindering them in revealing our mistakes and shortcomings and in helping to rectify them.

With the aim of consolidating the peace movement organisationally, of extending it and transforming it into a wide movement of all those who treasure peace, honour national freedom and the sovereignty of the country, the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party plans to form committees which will co-ordinate the actions of the working

people in defence of peace both in town and the countryside, of all mass organisations and non-organised people, irrespective of nationality and religion. These committees will be formed in all enterprises, offices, districts, villages, and in schools. A particular role is assigned to trade unions. Great attention should be devoted to drawing women and the youth into the struggle for peace.

The struggle for peace must be the basis of the work of all mass organisations. To this end various means should be used: individual propaganda, illustrated propaganda, cinema, and radio. It is necessary widely to popularise the leading role of the U.S.S.R. in the struggle for peace; to organise mass solidarity actions with the democratic forces in capitalist countries and with the national-liberation movement in the colonies; to popularise their struggle and give it moral support.

The Central Committee plans also to hold a series of conferences of writers and other cultural workers to discuss with them the question of producing works devoted to the fight for peace.

Education of the men in our Army—defenders of the revolutionary gains of the people—in the spirit of devotion to peace, of hatred to the warmongers; in the spirit of patriotism in relation to the Rumanian People's Republic; of love and devotion to the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and to the peace camp; in the spirit of proletarian internationalism—such education is an indissoluble part of the struggle for peace.

Since the liberation of our country and the establishment of the system of People's Democracy as a form of the dictatorship of the proletariat in our country, the working people of Rumania, headed by the working class and guided by the Rumanian Workers' Party, have proved themselves active champions of peace.

During the preparations for Comrade Stalin's 70th birthday the people of Rumania particularly demonstrated their firm

determination to extend and defend their gains and to combat the warmongers.

Together with all progressive mankind the people of Rumania expressed their confidence that Stalin means peace and happiness for the peoples.

The boundless love and the profound confidence which our people repose in the U.S.S.R., and in Comrade Stalin, were expressed in new production successes; in the ever wider application of the methods of Soviet Stakhanovites; in the increasingly profound study of Comrade Stalin's works; in hundreds of thousands of letters and in countless signatures under the messages of greetings addressed to the great leader.

All this is a guarantee that the Rumanian Workers' Party—and all the progressive forces in the country—will fulfil with honour their duty, in the world struggle for peace headed by the U.S.S.R. and Comrade Stalin.

## **“PARTY LIFE”**

### **(Organ Central Committee, United Workers’ Party of Poland, Nos. 1-10, March-December 1949)**

The journal “Party Life”, (“Zycie Partii”) in its first issue (March 1949), formulated its aim as follows: to help the Party activists in their daily work, to keep the organisations of the Party posted on current tasks and methods of work and to help Party organisations assimilate and practise the Lenin-Stalin organisational principles.

“Party Life” is the collective effort of Party activists, Secretaries of the basic rural organisations, officials of the provincial committees and the Central Committee, secretaries of the regional and factory committees, factory propagandists and activists on the State farms—all write for the magazine.

In their articles—written individually or collectively—the authors relate their achievements, shortcomings and mistakes, put forward suggestions and submit contributions for discussion.

The contents of the magazine, which include decisions of the Political Bureau and Organising Bureau of the Central Committee, give the reader an idea of the important political and organisational tasks undertaken by the United Workers’ Party of Poland during the past year.

The March issue, for example, carried an article on the tasks of the Party organisations in connection with contracts concerning the purchase of cattle.

The April issue contained the speech made by Comrade Zambrowski, Secretary of the Central Committee, on the patronage of factories over villages as a new form of effecting the alliance of workers and peasants, and also an article

designed to mobilise the Party organisations for carrying out of the Three-Year Plan ahead of schedule.

An editorial in the August issue was devoted to the tasks of the Party organisations arising from growing activity by the reactionary section of the clergy.

The September issue printed the speech of Comrade Berman, member of the Political Bureau, calling for increased revolutionary vigilance in connection with the Rajk trial, and an article on strengthening the front of struggle for peace.

In preparation for the celebration of Comrade Stalin's 70th birthday, the November issue carried an editorial entitled: "Acquainting the Working People with the Life and Struggle of Stalin", and the corresponding decisions of the Political Bureau of the Party.

The editorial recommended, as one of the forms of studying the works of Comrade Stalin, the holding of theoretical conferences in the provincial committees of the Party; a form practised by the Party activists.

In addition to articles on the life and work of Comrade Stalin, the December issue contained important decisions of the Organising Bureau of the Central Committee concerning the organisational tasks of the Party in connection with carrying out the instructions of the Third Plenum of the Central Committee of the United Workers' Party.

"Party Life" concentrates on acquainting activists with the rich experience acquired by the C.P.S.U. (B) in the course of its work. The magazine reprints articles from Soviet journals, from "Pravda", quotes from the works of Lenin and Stalin to prove theoretically a point made in the corresponding article.

The December issue devoted considerable space to Comrade Stalin's teaching on the Party. It printed, for instance, part of Comrade Stalin's report to the Seventeenth Congress of the C.P.S.U. (B), under the heading: "Questions of Organisational Leadership".

In order to cover the manifold aspects of Party activity the magazine has its special departments such as “Experience of the Factory Organisations”, “The Party in the Countryside”, “From the Experience of the C.P.S.U.(B)”, “Helping the Agitator and Propagandist”. “Talks with Our Readers” “Books that will help you in your work”, and “Party News”.

The articles and correspondence relied the experience of work of all types of Party organisations in different spheres of their activity.

Thus, the November issue carried three articles describing the experience of Party organisations in industry. In one of the articles we read how the workers of the “Bajldon” foundry, under the leadership of the Party, increased the target for 1950 which the management of the works had lowered for opportunist “reasons”.

The second article deals with the activity of the Party groups recently organised, at the “Ursus” tractor plant, and in the third article the secretary of a factory Party committee describes experience in promoting workers to responsible work.

Serious and complex tasks face the Party organisations in the countryside. How does “Party Life” help them to tackle these tasks?

In the past period the magazine dealt with essential questions of Party work in the countryside such as work on the State farms, the organisation of producer cooperatives, of producer groups in the Peasant Mutual Aid Alliance the activity of the control Committees of the Regional cooperatives, strengthening contact between town and countryside, growth of Party organisations in the countryside, and so on.

In the September issue the Secretary of the Party organisation on the Brzescie State farm related how, on the initiative of the Party, production conferences were held as a

result of which the harvest was saved from the rains and preparations for the autumn sowing completed in good time.

Another article describes the interesting experience of the Gostynin district (Warsaw province) in organising producer co-operatives.

Six producer co-operatives are functioning there and another 7 are in the process of being organised.

The Gostynin district was successful because the district Party Committee was able to mobilise all the activists and the whole organisation, to tackle the job of organising producer co-operatives; vigilance was displayed in the struggle against the class enemy, and skill in exposing the enemy in any situation.

For instance, when serious difficulties arose in one of the villages when organising a co-operative it was discovered that the centre of the trouble was the village forge—the meeting place of the local kulaks and the kulaks from the adjoining villages.

In another village difficulties arose after the co-operative had been formed, These difficulties took the form of quarrels and sabotage.

Looking into the matter the Party organisation found that peasants who had joined the co-operative were receiving packages of cigarettes by mail which contained calls to sabotage.

Successful fulfilment of the Party's tasks in town and countryside depends on the political level and organisational skill of the primary organisations, province and district committees. The magazine devotes serious attention to these questions.

The work of the regional committee is a weak link in the Party's activity. In view of this the work of the regional committee was discussed for several months in the pages of the magazine and eventually summarised by the Editorial Board.

The work of the district committee instructors also came in

for discussion.

The ten issues of “Party Life” indicate the magazine’s desire to cope with the aim of “raising the level of organisational work to the level of the great political tasks facing the Party”. (Introduction to the first issue).

At the same time the magazine has its shortcomings. One of the most serious is that it does not have a section dealing with the exchange of Party experience in the People’s Democracies.

The make up is good. It is printed on good paper, in clear type, is illustrated, carries diagrams and has a cover of excellent design.

J. K.

## **FIASCO OF TITO CLIQUE. Georges Cogniot, Member, Central Committee, French Communist Party**

During the past few months the Communists and all partisans of peace in France have intensified their struggle against the Tito-Rankovic clique.

All democratic groups and organisations without exception have condemned the Belgrade spies and assassins. The switching from one position to another by some intellectuals like Jean Cassou, who never was a member of the Communist Party, cannot in the least console the traitors who have met with defeat and have set up a bowl in the vile propaganda sheets circulated by the Tito Embassy in Paris.

Tito agents in France planned to use the 10,000 Yugoslav immigrants—miners, lumberjacks, small shopkeepers and artisans, to infiltrate into the Communist Party and mass organisations and operate from within.

Their plan included engineering different kinds of political provocation, i.e. deviations within the Communist Party, disintegration and vacillation among its fellow travellers.

With the direct support of Moch's police, which not only supplied the addresses of workers' and democratic organisations, but also spies, recruiting agents and advisers, the Tito Embassy hoped to use elements expelled at one time or another from the French Communist Party in order to uphold the absurd and false assertion that there were pro-Tito trends in the Party or at any rate the beginnings of such.

Also certain influential circles among big capitalists and, above all, the members of the Comite des Forges, planned that if they could not form a "Party" then at least they would start a "movement" of Tito followers in France. And just what did the

Titoites and their masters, the monopolists, achieve?

They failed to shake a single organisation or to form a single group on which they could rely. They even failed to set in motion the groups on which they had built their plans.

The French people know what Tito really is. His crimes and fascist terror arouse horror and disgust.

It is not accidental that the agents of Tito's Embassy looked up the Nazis formerly resident in Yugoslavia, and German kulaks from the Banat among the "displaced persons" in French camps—in other words, from among Hiller agents, for instance, in Madeline camp in Riom—in order to return them to their former estates and to use them, together with the Chetniks and Ustashi, to buttress their regime.

The pamphlet, "Tito Terror in Yugoslavia", circulated in tens of thousands of copies, revealed to French public opinion what was taking place in Yugoslavia.

Special meetings of Yugoslav immigrants were organised at which resolutions were passed expressing devotion to Comrade Stalin. Such was the case, for instance, in Nice.

In Figeac (Lot Department), a campaign was successfully carried out exposing the military orders placed by Tito, especially orders for propellers.

The French youth who worked in the labour brigades in Yugoslavia during 1946-1947, spoke out against the Tito clique both individually and in groups.

There was also the big demonstration before the Yugoslav Embassy in Paris when demonstrators burned Tito propaganda material; the despatch of a delegation of the Chemical Workers' Union to the Yugoslav Consulate in Marseilles where the delegates, in the presence of Consulate representatives, destroyed similar material (November 17, 1949).

All organisations of the French Communist Party, from top to bottom, came out in unison against the provocations of the agents of the Tito clique—the vanguard of the counter-

revolution.

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In 1949 Tito agents of the Yugoslav Embassy in Paris made arrangements to send, a “delegation” to Yugoslavia. The stipulation was that every delegate must be of French origin, a worker and a member of the French Communist Party or of one of the progressive organisations in the country.

Their choice fell on members of the labour youth brigades, who complied with the above stipulations. However, the young people openly condemned Tito and his clique of spies and refused to serve as a screen for their criminal activities.

Then they tried to organise a “trade union delegation”, making the same stipulation that they be Frenchmen and workers.

Here again they were unsuccessful.

In the long run the so-called delegation of trade union members and miners who visited Yugoslavia was **made up of Yugoslav immigrants** upon whom pressure had been brought to bear.

The same holds true for the 1949 Youth Brigade For the most part it was composed of persons of Yugoslav origin who had been threatened, blackmailed and intimidated with reprisals against their families.

The Yugoslav immigrants constantly feel the knife levelled at their throat by the French police and the janissaries of the Tito Embassy.

In the official Embassy bulletin of January 1, 1950, the editor, mad with fury, admitted that there was an agreement between the Embassy and French police to send Yugoslav miners out of France.

All the more significant, therefore is the fact that a large number of immigrants have remained true to the cause of Lenin

and Stalin. When the Tito Consul in Marseilles organised a meeting in Nice to celebrate the anniversary of the adoption of the Yugoslav Constitution, and proposed sending a telegram of greetings to Tito, only three people responded to this proposal.

The former Royalist Consul in Nice was one of the three, the other was a former colonel of the Yugoslav Royal army.

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As for the Frenchmen who were sent as “delegates” to Yugoslavia, they nearly all happen to be de-classed elements who have no ties whatever with the working people.

Who is the “delegate” from Lyons? During the German occupation she began the youth section of the National People’s Association of the Nazi agent, Deat.

The “delegate” from the Drome Department was none other than a former member of the People’s Party of the Nazi agent Doriot, who ended his days as an S.S. man.

In Grenoble the “delegates” were mainly members or sympathisers of de Gaulle’s “Rally of the French People”, individuals who had taken part in the assassination of Voitrin, a franc-tireur and hero of the Resistance.

They were recruited by a Yugoslav engineer who has open contact with the Intelligence Service.

Tito’s agent in Marseilles is a big landowner.

Fascist bandits, policemen, capitalists—such are Tito’s only supporters in France. To these can be added a handful of Right-Wing Socialist leaders such, for example, as the mayor of Nerac who should certainly be added.

This mayor visited Yugoslavia, but on his return, when asked to report publicly on his visit he refused to attend a meeting organised by democratic organisations and was thus exposed as an agent of reaction in the eyes of the people.

The complete failure in France of the Tito campaign on

behalf of these so-called delegations is evident from the fact that not one of the so-called French delegates has made a public report on his visit.

True, at the end of 1949, there was an extremely wide campaign regarding other delegation reports—those of the delegation of the Friends of the Soviet Union, which visited the land of Soviets.

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In its unanimous resolution, signed by the leaders of various political trends, the National Council of the Partisans for Peace and Freedom movement resolutely condemned the use of Yugoslavia in the interests of American imperialism.

This organisation has also justly stigmatized the inclusion of Yugoslavia in the Security Council of UNO, and has denounced the stand taken by the French Government on this question.

The Union of French Women and the leading Committee of the Friends of Peace have also exposed and stigmatised the passing over of the Tito clique into the camp of the warmongers.

On November 14, 1949, a “Committee in Defence of Imprisoned and Persecuted Democrats in Yugoslavia” was formed. The bureau of this Committee consists mainly of non-Communists, which shows that the struggle against Tito and his crimes is a matter for the broadest sections of democratic opinion .

General Tubert, former mayor of Algiers, is Chairman of this Committee. Among its Vice-Chairmen are Justin Godart, former Radical Minister, and Labeyrie, honoured Chairman of the Statistical Chamber.

The Committee consistently wages a “battle for justice and honour” against the Tito-Rankovic clique.

It enjoys the support of former French volunteers who fought in the Yugoslav Liberation Army; of the youth (both young French people and Yugoslav immigrants) who took part in the labour brigades, and of such outstanding figures as the General Secretary of the Yugoslav organisation in France and others.

The Committee is being joined by hundreds of former members of the France-Yugoslavia Society which has now become an ordinary branch of the Tito Embassy's secret service.

The Tito spies in France feel keenly this general condemnation. Wherever they dare come out into the open they are isolated and expelled from all democratic circles—such was the case with General Ilic and the artist, Marko Selebovic.

The condemnation by public opinion is so strong that even the more reactionary press is forced to reckon with it to a certain extent.

In his report on Yugoslavia, published a few weeks ago, the "Paris Press" Belgrade correspondent, an anti-Communist working for an anti-democratic newspaper, was compelled to make known many aspects of the real state of affairs.

The author admits, for example, that the newspaper "For a Socialist Yugoslavia", has a wide circulation and is extremely popular not only in Belgrade but also in other cities. "Such literature," he reports, "is now finding its way into villages. It is posted on trees and walls, is left in post-boxes..."

And this takes place under conditions "when, as in the years of Hitler occupation, people are arrested by the police and subjected to most severe punishment for reading such material".

Today, when the situation in France is characterised by the development of practical action by the working people against the transportation and production of war materials; when in all parts throughout France the slogan is: "Not a single docker will

unload ships with American ammunition"; when all partisans of peace prepare to support the courageous struggle of dockers, seamen, railwaymen and metal workers, the American agent, Tito—the warmonger—should know that his game is up.

The Titoites, Government agents, provocateurs and police will, undoubtedly, try to strike at the working-class organisations and the Fighters for Peace and Freedom movement.

However, thanks to increased political vigilance, which is the foremost duty of all members of the Communist Party and democratic organisations, the provocateurs will be exposed and crushed as was previously the case.

Tito can no longer have any illusions with regard to the real attitude of the French working people towards him.

## **GLOOMY PROSPECT OF THE CAPITALIST WORLD FOR 1950. R. Palme-Dutt, Member, Political Bureau, Communist Party of Britain**

The rulers of the shrinking world of capitalist and imperialist domination cannot look back with satisfaction on the record of 1949, and have strong grounds to regard with anxiety the prospect of 1950.

1949 has seen the further relentless advance of the signals of maturing economic crisis throughout the capitalist world. While the Soviet Union has achieved a new record triumph of production, reaching by the third quarter to 17% above the previous year, and 50% above pre-war, United States production has continued to decline, and by October was 18% below the 1948 figure. Retail sales for January to November 1949 were 6% below the level for the same period for 1948. Unemployment was estimated by the United Electrical Workers in October to amount to 5.2 millions or double the number of a year ago, apart from 11 millions on short time.

The attempt to camouflage this picture of economic decline as a temporary “recession” or “re-adjustment” has had to give way to recognition of the inescapable deeper factors which point to the further advance of conditions making for economic crisis. The prospect for 1950 is underlined by the fall of new capital expenditure in 1949 by 15%. The artificial prop of high government expenditure is only able temporarily to modify the immediate picture but not arrest the fundamental advance of decline. In the words of the New York Times (10.6.49) “in the absence of a cold war the demand for goods by the Government would be many billions less than it now is.” But the Wall Street Magazine (11.9.49) warned that “care should be taken not to attach false significance” to any temporarily

rises in the production index since such “will mean neither the end of post-war re-adjustment nor the starting point of a new boom” and “will hardly change the fundamentals of the business picture.” The U.S. Bureau of Agricultural Economics indicated at the end of October its expectation that “economic activity will continue to decline slowly through 1950... consumer spending may slacken further.”

Even more gloomy is the picture of the Marshall countries and the rest of the Capitalist world. The fiasco of the Marshall plan is now admitted by its sponsors. There is no longer any question of “recovery by 1952”. On the contrary, unemployment has extended on a mass scale in France, Belgium, Italy and Western Germany, and is beginning to extend in Britain. The schemes for closer economic association of the Western European countries, brought forward by American imperialism in order to unify the market for its goods or of special groups of countries (Benelux, Fritalux, etc.) come up against insoluble contradictions of conflicting interests.

Agriculture in the Capitalist world is already under the shadow of “over production.” Surpluses of sugar, fats, cereals, and meat are piling up (United Nations Committee on World Commodity Prices). The United States Government has told farmers to reduce their cotton acreage by 24% in 1950. This developing crisis of primary production is hitting especially hard all the colonial countries.

Thus the economic perspective of 1950 points to the further development of the advance of economic crisis over the capitalist world.

These conditions of maturing economic crisis of the capitalist world lead to a sharp increase of economic contradictions and Imperialist antagonisms. The measures of devaluation, imposed by the pressure of the dollar on sterling and the European currencies, have not eased or diminished the economic conflict, but have on the contrary led to intensified

trade war, The fight for the market grows more ferocious as the market shrinks. The "United States News" has predicted that American foreign trade, which had already fallen from 15.3 billion dollars in 1947 to 12.3 billion in 1949, is likely to drop to 9.9 billion by 1952. American manufacturers have conducted large scale publicity campaigns against the "imports menace" of cheap British and European goods. Similarly British manufacturers are also quite alarmed at the menace of the impending full scale American offensive in the world market. Thus the chairman of the British firm, Tube Investments Ltd, on December 14th stated: "Marshall Aid has masked the full implications of the fact that the United States could single handed supply much of the world with a great part of its manufactured needs. Will these resources now represented by Marshall aid be used to swamp the vital markets of other industrial countries. In any price war Britain and other countries might lose much of their overseas trade."

This conflict of the interests of British and American Capitalism is also strongly shown in the American manoeuvres for monopolist control of the development of Western Germany and Japan as American bases in Western Europe and Asia, and especially in relation to China, where the opposition of British and American policy has been unconcealed.

Thus the perspective of the sharpening economic situation of 1950 points to the perspective of intensified economic conflicts and imperialist antagonisms of the leading capitalist powers, and especially of the British-American economic conflict, which develop alongside the counter-revolutionary alliance and subordination of British to American imperialism.

In the political sphere the Imperialist camp has had to suffer a series of defeats in 1949. While the Atlantic Pact has imposed the war strategy of the Anglo-American bloc and American domination on the Europe peoples, this war strategy, which was based entirely on the assumption of the American

monopoly of the atom bomb, has been thrown into complete confusion by the belated realisation on the part of the Anglo-American strategists that this American monopoly is a myth.

The subsequent contradictions and confusion of current Imperialist strategy have been shown in the discussions and negotiations accompanying the visits of the American Service Chiefs to Europe, and the open difference over the questions of the conditions of American Military "Aid."

While Anglo-American imperialists endeavour to claim with pride that they have succeeded in extending their tentacles over Yugoslavia through the regime of their Tito agents, in fact the powerful exposures of the Rajk and Kostov trials and the vigorous united consolidation and vigilance of the democratic forces of the Eastern European peoples and the international working class have dealt a blow to the would-be machinations of imperialism in Eastern Europe.

Above all, 1949 has been the year of completion of the victory of the Chinese People's Republic, which has profoundly changed the balance of forces throughout the world, in favour of the democratic camp. This victory is having the most far reaching effects on the liberation struggle in South East Asia and throughout the Colonial world.

This perspective of 1950 points to a rapid acceleration of the advance of the liberation struggle in the South East Asian countries, in Vietnam, Indonesia, Malaya, Burma and Thailand, the strengthening of the popular struggle against the imperialist satellites in India and the Middle East, and the further advance of the awakening of the African peoples. This increased awakening and the development of conditions towards crisis of the Imperialist camp does not diminish but increases the danger of new adventurist war policies of imperialism. The successive shipwreck of the plans and miscalculations of reaction, and the ever more visible shift of the historical balance on the side of the advance of popular liberation and Socialism, does not yet

mean a diminution of the dangers arising from the last representatives of the old order. On the contrary, as their desperation increases, so their frenzy grows more furious to find a violent solution. Sober calculations are thrown to the winds and the danger of the reckless gambler's throw is ever present. This was significantly shown by the military measures during the closing months of 1949, the successive visits of American Military leaders to Europe, the fierce and open bellicose declarations, of the imperialist representatives in the United Nations Assembly, and the speeding up of the armaments programme. Hence the most serious attention needs to be given to the warning sounded in the Resolution of the Meeting of the Communist Information Bureau in November:—

“It would be mistaken and harmful for the cause of peace to under-estimate the danger of the new war, that is being prepared by the Imperialist Powers, headed by the United States of America and Britain. The experience of history teaches that the more hopeless the cause of imperialist reaction, the more it rages, the greater grows the danger of military adventures.”

The world of Capitalism and Imperialism enters a year of sharpening contradictions in 1950, which are likely to give rise to still more reckless and dangerous manoeuvres and provocative policies on the part of the desperate leaders of reaction. Hence the prospect of 1950 calls for increased vigilance, activity and united organisation of the strength of the working class and the masses of the people in all countries to defeat the plans of the warmongers and carry forward the victories of working class advance and Socialism which made such signal progress during the past year.

## **WORK OF TRADE UNIONS IN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC CZECHOSLOVAKIA. E. ERBAN, General Secretary, United Trade Unions of Czechoslovakia**

In mid-December, 1949, the Second Congress of the United Trade Unions of Czechoslovakia was held in Prague. Delegates to the Congress, representing three million factory and office workers, reviewed the results of the trade union work and outlined further tasks, the realisation of which will be of decisive significance for building Socialism in our People's Democratic Republic.

Together with the new People's Democratic Republic, whose creation was possible thanks to the liberation of our country by the Soviet Army and thanks to the leading role which the working class—headed by the Communist Party—played in the national-liberation movement, a new revolutionary trade union movement came into being; a movement rallying the overwhelming majority of factory and office workers on the basis of an anti-capitalist programme.

In the early days the rapidly growing trade unions encountered no open opposition from the bourgeoisie which resorted to new tactics in order gradually to prepare an attempt to restore capitalism.

The liberal section of the Czechoslovak bourgeoisie which, during the war, orientated on the Western imperialists, had not sufficient strength to prevent the working class, organised in trade unions and guided by the Communist Party, from resolutely undermining its pre-war political and economic positions after the liberation of the country by the Soviet Union.

This section of the bourgeoisie was, outwardly, forced to agree to the nationalisation of the banks and the majority of

industrial enterprises; forced to give up its decisive influence in the State machine, and falsely express itself in favour of building Socialism and of the alliance with the U.S.S.R. In reality however, it sabotaged in every way the creative efforts of the working people, sowed discontent and discord, advanced demagogic demands, set different sections of the working people against each other, sought to break the unity of the trade unions and prepared, with the help of the imperialists, an anti-State putsch with the aim of restoring capitalism.

Guided by the Communist Party, the working people inflicted a heavy defeat on reaction in February 1948; an action in which a great role was played by the trade unions and the congress of factory committees convened by the trade union leadership—the congress which formulated the demands of the working class and declared a one hour general strike in support of these demands.

Our trade union cadres and the entire working class, have proved their political maturity. We have succeeded in overcoming the aftermath of war and enemy occupation; in consolidating the nationalised industry; in eliminating the results of capitalist rule; in securing higher living standards and, consequently, in consolidating the alliance between the working class and all other working people.

The Second Congress of the United Trade Unions of Czechoslovakia was a Congress of builders of Socialism. It coincided with the sixth anniversary of the Treaty of Alliance between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union which enabled us to take the path of Socialist development. The Congress also became a vivid demonstration of international proletarian solidarity and devotion of the Czechoslovak people to the first State of the working people; the State which is an example, a hope and an ally of all those fighting against exploitation, poverty and predatory wars.

The Congress also expressed the warm love of our working

people to the Czechoslovak Communist Party whose guidance ensured the successes of our people.

The February events of 1948 brought about great changes in the life of the working people. The working class, which heads the working people, became the complete master in the People's Democratic Republic.

All sources of wealth and power are now completely and for ever in the hands of the working people.

After the February defeat of reaction its economic basis was narrowed even more. Over 90 per cent of industry was nationalised. Foreign trade, large-scale home trade and the most important distributive centres were nationalised.

Small peasants received additional plots of land wrested from the landlords.

Complete political unity of the working class, on the basis of a united Marxist-Leninist party in the form of the Communist Party, was effected, and the influence and power of the trade unions increased still more.

By the end of 1948, the Two-Year Plan to rehabilitate economy was, in the main, fulfilled. A social security law for all working people—a law unknown in the capitalist world—was passed.

Complete equality for women in wages, profession and social position was effected. Workers enjoy paid holidays.

Unemployment disappeared and the number of workers steadily grows. And as production grows, wages increase also. (During the last year, for example, real wages rose on an average of 15 per cent.)

After the February events trade unions were able to devote all their efforts to the job of developing a conscious labour discipline and to increasing the productivity of labour in order successfully to build Socialism and constantly improve the living conditions of the working people.

Our people have seen for themselves that in present-day

Czechoslovakia, where power belongs to the working class and to the working people, production serves their interests only.

That is why, after reaction had been defeated, the Socialist emulation movement and that of the shock workers, rationalisers and inventors, developed on a mass scale.

The trade unions aimed to steadily develop nationalised industry described by Comrade Gottwald, even before the February events, as the economic basis of our national freedom and State independence.

In 1949, the people of Czechoslovakia launched their first Five-Year Plan. Whereas at the beginning of 1948, some 400 plants and factories took part in emulation, a year later 2,000 enterprises were participating.

In July 1949, there were over 30,000 shock-work brigades in the country compared with 1,100 in October 1948. In the first half of last year, more than 35,000 rationalisation suggestions were submitted by factory and office workers.

All this shows the moral-political consequences of the February victory and the results of the work performed by the Czechoslovak trade unions in mobilising the masses to carry out the job of building Socialism.

Of decisive significance for the work of our trade unions was the Ninth Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, held in May 1949, when Comrade Gottwald outlined the main tasks of the working people in building Socialism.

First job on the list is that of carrying out the Five-Year Plan in all spheres—which is also the paramount task of the trade unions.

The Ninth Congress of the Party decisively stimulated the development of labour initiative, shock-work and Socialist emulation.

In connection with the Ninth Party Congress and the Second Trade Union Congress the number of those participating in the emulation movement increased

considerably. In February 1949, there were some 250,000 people participating. In July, 342,000; in October 649,000.

Last year, industry (excluding the food industry) fulfilled its target by approximately 102 per cent.

At present, industrial production per capita of the population in the Republic averages nearly 40 per cent over the 1937 level. Output of lignite is 50 per cent higher than in 1937, electric power 100 per cent, steel 20 per cent, cement 28 per cent, woollen fabrics 50 per cent, footwear 25 per cent and tractors 16 times more than in 1931. By the time the Second Trade Union Congress had opened, the majority of factories had fulfilled targets for the first year of the Five-Year Plan.

Our production successes made possible a further increase in the living standards of the working people. The free market was opened rationing of bread, flour and flour products was abolished.

The supply of goods is constantly growing and prices have been cut several times along with a simultaneous increase in wages and the number of employed.

Undoubtedly, improved material conditions of the working people, greatly influence the development of the Socialist emulation and shock-work movement.

The Second Trade Union Congress fittingly replied to imperialist provocations directed against our people's Democratic Republic.

Whereas the capitalist world is characterised by currency upheavals, by military budgets swollen at the expense of people's education, public health and social security, by growing unemployment, declining living standards of the working people and, at the same time, by growing terror against their organisations, in the People's Democratic Czechoslovakia, capital investment in the national economy steadily grows, peaceful production is developing and the number of those employed increases and their wages rise. Our

currency is stable and the State budget and foreign trade furnish proof of a sound and successful economic development.

At their Second Congress the Czechoslovak trade unions showed their ability to carry out, even better than before, the job of organising the working class on a mass scale to advance towards Socialism.

Self-criticism and criticism of the shortcomings in the work of the trade unions and their individual organisations which, were made at the Congress, provide evidence of the strength and maturity of the working class and the trade union movement in the Republic.

Congress delegates declared their loyalty to proletarian internationalism, to the World Federation of Trade Unions, to its programme of struggle for peace, social progress, and against fascism, exploitation and colonial oppression.

In their letter of greetings to J. V. Stalin, delegates expressed their gratitude to the great leader of the peoples of the Soviet Union, the leader and teacher of the working people all over the world.

Representatives of the three million trade union members of Czechoslovakia pledged at their Congress to work in such a way as to realise the aspirations of both our peoples—to build Socialism and to make their contribution to securing peace throughout the world.

## **EXPERIENCE OF MASS WORK OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF BULGARIA IN THE ELECTION CAMPAIGN. Ruben Levi, Member, Central Committee, Communist Party of Bulgaria**

In the election to the National Assembly and to district people's conclusion December 18, 1949, the Communist Party of Bulgaria won a brilliant victory. The Fatherland Front, led by the Party, received 97.66 per cent of all votes while the number of those who went to the polls reached 98.87 per cent of the electorate.

The election demonstrated the increased political activity and consciousness of the Bulgarian working people who rallied even more closely around the Fatherland Front and its leader—the Communist Party of Bulgaria.

The election also gave striking evidence of the further consolidation of the People's power, and of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The Anglo-American imperialists and their Tito agents did their utmost to influence the outcome of the election.

Long before the opening of the trial of the State criminal, Kostov and his gang, the reactionary press and radio of imperialist countries, together with the fascist Tito press and radio, launched a fierce campaign against the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Bulgarian Communist Party.

They invented all kinds of lies alleging disintegration of the Bulgarian Communist Party and the Fatherland Front and circulated absurd rumours about trials in our country and organised sabotage and wrecking in our industry, trade and finance.

But all their machinations failed. The working people of Bulgaria resolutely and firmly followed the Communist Party and the Fatherland Front.

The success of the election was decided by the open and honest policy of our Party and the large-scale mass political work it carried out among the people.

The Plenum of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party held in June last year resolutely denounced the mistakes committed under the influence of the Kostov group in relation to the peasants; mistakes which found expression during the selling up of agricultural producer co-operatives when the interests of poor and medium peasants suffered serious injury, a virtual policy of food assessment being pursued in relation to them.

The June Plenum ended this wrong policy in relation to the majority of peasantry.

By leaving a considerable part of the surplus products in the hands of the peasants—products which the peasants, after meeting their obligations to the State can freely sell on the market; by rectifying the mistakes committed in the course of organising the agricultural co-operatives and by a certain increase in the price of grain to correlate the price with that of industrial goods; these and other measures played a great positive role.

The poor and medium peasants saw for themselves the solicitude for them of the Party and the People's power—whose prestige grew enormously.

The election campaign coincided with a number of other extremely important events in public and political life: The celebration of Comrade Stalin's 70th birthday, the completion of the autumn sowing and ploughing campaign, grain deliveries to the State and the explanatory work in connection with the trial of the Kostov espionage gang.

In view of the great significance of all these issues the

Party faced serious tasks.

Each of these measures had to be well organised and properly co-ordinated, all calling for unsparing efforts. It can now be said that the Party fully coped with these tasks.

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Preparations for the election started long before December, 18, and were carried out in keeping with the plan drawn up by the Political Bureau of the Party.

Pivot of the Party's work during the election campaign was the further exposure of the imperialist policy of the Anglo-American warmongers and their Balkan agents—the Titoites, the Greek monarcho-fascists, Turkish reactionaries, the Kostov group and all kinds of nationalists; the struggle further to consolidate friendship with the great Soviet Union and the People's Democracies as a decisive condition of our national independence and of building Socialism in our country and the struggle to realise completely the decisions of the June Plenum of the Central Committee and to achieve the targets of the first year of the Five-Year Plan.

Because of the great significance of explanatory work, central short-time, courses to train propagandists, district courses, and several thousand local courses (in factories, house blocks and in villages) were organised on the decision of the Political Bureau.

Over a hundred thousand propagandists attended these courses.

To see that the mass propaganda work was properly organised it was decided to do it in three stages. Each stage covered a certain group of questions.

During the first stage propagandists had to explain to the electorate questions regarding the international and home policy of our country.

In the second stage they dealt with the trial and exposure of

the espionage Kostov gang.

In the third stage they centred their attention on the achievements of the People's Power during the last five years and on matters relating to food supplies.

This propaganda was carried throughout the country by a great army of 479,000 propagandists organised in 7,682 centres—an average of one propagandist to every 10 or 12 electors.

Together with Party members, tens of thousands of non-Party propagandists—members of the Fatherland Front and of the Agricultural Workers' Alliance—were also included in the propagandist groups.

This enabled us, during the election campaign, to cover nearly the whole of the adult population among whom large-scale and intensive explanatory work was carried out.

Propaganda work was centred on the streets and houses. This method proved to be particularly effective since the propaganda was conducted among small groups of citizens in the form of discussions, enabling the propagandist to explain in detail not only outstanding political and economic questions but also relatively "small" matters in which the working people showed a lively interest and with which they were concerned.

Great importance was also attached to individual discussions. In Sofia, for example, 45,000 propagandists conducted individual discussions with 150,000 electors.

During these discussions particular attention was devoted to those citizens who were not quite clear and displayed hesitation on some questions of Government and Communist Party policy.

A big role in the election campaign was also played by visual propaganda. Apart from material sent from the centre, all branches of the Party and of the Fatherland Front, as well as the Dimitrov Youth Union, issued wall-newspapers.

During the first stage of the mass agitational work devoted

to home and international questions, the speakers derived great assistance from Comrade Malenkov's Report delivered on the occasion of the 32nd Anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution, and also from the Reports and Resolutions of the November Meeting of the Information Bureau of the Communist Parties.

Meetings and discussions on international and home affairs turned into real demonstrations of the unbreakable fraternal friendship of our people with the peoples of the mighty Soviet Union; into demonstrations of deep and genuine gratitude and love for the great Stalin.

The second stage of the propaganda work was devoted to the exposure of the Titoites and the Kostov group.

Early in the election campaign meetings of protest against the terror policy of the Tito fascist clique towards the Bulgarian population in Yugoslavia i.e. the brutal beating-up of a number of innocent Bulgarians by Rankovic, janissaries in the Zaribrod region, were held throughout Bulgaria, at which the working people expressed their indignation.

Facts revealed in the Indictment and trial of Kostov and his accomplices evoked a wave of indignation from the Bulgarian working people which was expressed in numerous meetings.

In street meetings and during house to house discussions with electors, propagandists utilised the report of the trial, explaining in detail to the people the essence of the subversive work of the Kostov group and the consequences which could have arisen for the Bulgarian people.

Explanatory work carried out in connection with the trial rallied the working people even more round the Communist Party and its Dimitrov Central Committee, around the People's Government.

The third stage of the propaganda work was devoted to successes achieved by the People's Power during the last five years and to current questions in the country's economic life—

such as the completion of the autumn ploughing, of grain deliveries and of the supply of food to the population.

Large-scale and skilful explanatory work among peasants concerning the need for the speedy realisation of the State plan for grain deliveries, and for additional voluntary delivery of surpluses to the State, brought positive results.

Contrary to the practices of the reactionary parties in the past who, during an election campaign were guilty of unbridled and disgusting demagoguery—promising everything to the peasants and forgetting their promises even by election day—our Party honestly and openly told the electorate that our grain situation was extremely unsatisfactory and that peasants should help the People's Power by carrying out their obligations to the State as soon as possible so that the latter, in turn, could provide the town workers and also the Army with bread.

Peasants appreciated this clear and straightforward policy of the Party. They not only increased the rate of deliveries but also voted for the Party.

Another important feature of the propaganda work during the election campaign was its offensive spirit, its explanatory character. Our propagandists did not confine themselves simply to answering questions. They exposed hostile rumours, lies and slander which were being circulated. They exposed not only the Anglo-American warmongers, the fascist Tito clique and the Kostov gang but also local enemies in the villages.

This concrete exposure of the activity of hostile elements resulted in their complete isolation from the working people and played a big role in the brilliant victory on December 18.

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The great mass work carried out by the Bulgarian Communist Party during the election campaign and the weaknesses revealed during this work permit the following

main conclusions to be drawn:

The Bulgarian working people fully approve and support the home and foreign policy of the Party and the People's Power.

The Party, the People's Power and the Fatherland Front have extended and consolidated their influence even more. Hostile and anti-popular sections have been isolated from the people.

There should be no intoxication with success, no complacency. It is necessary to wage, with even greater determination, the struggle to carry out completely the decisions of the June Plenum of the Central Committee, to fight against any weaknesses and setbacks; to develop criticism and self-criticism in our ranks and to combat bureaucratic tendencies.

Even more persistent work should be carried out to consolidate the organisations of the Fatherland Front, the Trade Unions, the Dimitrov Youth Union, the women's organisations and others.

The propaganda organisation should, under no circumstances, be allowed to collapse as was usually the case after an election campaign.

The propaganda organisation of the Party and the Fatherland Front should be extended and consolidated by all means and in particular it should be strengthened in factories, offices and in the streets and villages.

To carry out more successfully its policy and to realise its tasks—and also to mobilise the working people on the widest possible scale for the realisation of these tasks—the Party needs, apart from the press and radio, a permanently functioning powerful propaganda organisation embracing not less than 150,000 propagandists.

Our Party and the Fatherland Front can and will have such an army of propagandists.

## WHAT IS TAKING PLACE IN SYRIA?

The Anglo-American struggle for domination in the countries of the Near East has recently been waged with particular sharpness in Syria.

For a long time the Anglophile elements in Syria's Parliament and Government have been preparing to put into effect British imperialism's old plan for a "Greater Syria", for British colonial circles try to fashion Syria, Iraq and Transjordan into a single monarchist state: into a "Greater Syria", and to make it as obedient a vassal as Transjordan and thus bolster their badly shaken position in the Near East.

The American imperialists are doing their utmost to wreck the British plan and to take Syria into their hands.

The United States also uses French agents in the Near East to bring increased pressure to bear on the Syrian ruling circles.

Forestalling the British, the Americans incited the Syrian military clique to demonstrate "in defence of the Republic and democracy".

On March 30, 1949, Colonel Husni as-Zairn, a Franco-American agent staged a coup d'etat, He dissolved the Government and Parliament; banned all political parties gave himself the title of marshal and "elected" himself President of Syria.

Zaim's first act in the sphere of foreign politics was to sign a Syrian-French financial agreement and an agreement with the Americans to lay a pipe line.

Zaim negotiated for a dollar loan, for a military agreement with the American imperialists and their French accomplices and was ready to grant them strategic bases in Syria.

At the same time he flirted with the Turkish reactionaries and planned officially to recognise Turkey's annexation of Alexandretta and opened wide the doors to foreign above all, to American goods to the detriment of national industry.

Zaim established a dictatorship and a regime of police persecution. Hundreds of democrats were thrown into prison and concentration camps.

The dictator introduced exorbitant taxes particularly the so-called levy for the army.

In the meantime the crisis in industry and trade grew ever sharper. Thousands of small shopkeepers were ruined. Unemployment reached vast dimensions. Wages were cut by 50-80 per cent.

In its call to the people at the beginning of August 1949, the Communist Party of Syria said:

“Zaim... is a lackey of imperialism. He collaborates with Turkish reaction with the leaders of the Armenian dashnaks and also with the Arab feudal lords and big speculators in order to enslave and plunder the Arab people, the Kurds and Armenians, and to comply with the orders of the imperialists and their criminal war plans”.

The terror, reprisals and persecution unleashed by Zaim evoked a broad protest movement of the working people.

Prisoners in the el Mezza prison declared a hunger strike, workers downed tools and demonstrated. A “Committee in Defence of Political Liberties and Prisoners” was formed on the initiative of the Communists.

The Communist Party headed the people’s movement against the dictatorship. Zaim savagely persecuted the Communists, subjecting them to medieval torture in an unsuccessful attempt to crush their resistance to his dictatorship.

In this tense situation the pro-British elements, headed by Colonel Henau, who opposed Zaim, staged a second coup d’etat on August 14, 1949 when Zaim and his Prime Minister, Muhsen Barazi were arrested and shot.

Henau declared himself commander-in-chief of the Syrian army, abrogated the agreement with the American oil

companies and charged Hashem Atasi, leader of the so-called People's Party, to form a government.

"Democratic liberties" were announced, but all the anti-people's laws of Zaim remained in force. The ban on the Communist Party remained. Only under pressure of a broad people's movement did Henau, on August 19, 1949, release the political prisoners arrested by Zaim.

By fixing "free" elections to the Constituent Assembly on November 15, 1949, Henau and his accomplices reckoned on winning an easy majority.

However, the democratic forces in the country entered the election campaign and carried on widespread agitation.

A "National Democratic Front" was established which put forward 10 candidates—well-known fighters for the cause of the working people in the Near East; Syrian, Communist leaders, Haled Bakdash, Nedjat Hasan, Nasuh al-Hafari, Abd al-Kerim Taijar and others.

The democratic candidates advanced slogans which were popular among the Syrian people such as: Democratic liberties for the working people; national independence; nationalisation of industries and banks belonging to foreign monopolists; transfer of the land of feudal lords and landlords to the peasants; improved conditions for the working people and equality of women.

Slogans on foreign policy included: Struggle against imperialist "alliances" and "blocs", friendship with democratic States, above all, with the Soviet Union.

The "National Democratic Front" elaborated the draft of a new democratic constitution for Syria, which it circulated in tens of thousands of copies.

Seeing in the "National Democratic Front" an obstacle to the carrying out of the plans they had been charged with by the imperialists, the Syrian rulers took urgent measures to prevent Front candidates getting into the Constituent Assembly.

Only 15 days were allowed for the election campaign. Election commissions consisting of secret police agents and bribed officials were brought into being.

Some of the democratic candidates such as Nedjat Kassab Hasan, Nesuh-al-Hafari and Abd al-Kerim Tajjar were thrown into prison during the election campaign without any charges being lodged against them.

The Governor of Damascus, refused to register the candidacy of Haled Bakdash, despite a court decision which declared this refusal an illegal act.

He demanded that Haled Bakdash put in a personal appearance, intending to arrest him.

Election meetings held by democratic candidates were broken up by the police and the participants arrested. Such was the position in the Damascus, Ham, Aleppo, Tartusa, Homsa and other places where "National Democratic Front" candidates addressed meetings. The population vigorously resisted this terror.

The authorities prohibited the publication of all election leaflets not submitted for censorship. The police, gendarmes and soldiers tore down election bills of the front candidates and arrested all those found carrying "seditious" statements of the democratic candidates.

The election terror surpassed the terror unleashed in the dark days of the French mandate. To make doubly sure of favourable election returns the Syrian rulers instructed the gendarmes, and feudal lords to deprive their peasant of their passports and "vote" on behalf of them.

In spite of all the stratagems of the Syrian authorities and the interference of British and U.S. officials, the working people of Syrian voted for the candidates of the "National Democratic Front".

The authorities thereupon simply decided to falsify the returns. Representatives of democratic organisations were

barred from watching the counting of the votes, which were counted by officials guarded by gendarmes and police.

Wherever a democratic candidate polled a clear majority the election commission substituted a valid paper with a false one.

Even Government members, Michel Afljak and Akram Haurani, were forced to admit that the election figures had been tampered with.

Only by means of violence, falsification and foreign interference were Henaui and his followers in the “People’s Party”—as well as other reactionary parties and organisations in Syria—able to secure a majority in the Constituent Assembly. Hashem Atasi was then elected acting President of Syria.

Two main groups took shape in the Constituent Assembly. One favoured uniting with Iraq, that is, to realise the British plan.

The second group was, formally, for an independent Syria and closer rapprochement with the Lebanon under the aegis of the United States. This viewpoint is supported by a considerable section in military circles.

A bitter struggle ensued between these two groups in the Constituent Assembly; a struggle which gave rise to a protracted Government crisis.

At the same time, Henaui energetically set about putting the plans of the British imperialists into effect.

But on December 19, 1949 another coup was staged.

The army group, headed by Commander, in-Chief, Colonel Shishekli, arrested Henaui and his associates.

On December 27, 1949, the Syrian command announced that the army would not allow the project for a “Syrian-Iraq federation” to be put into effect and that it “refuses to be an obedient tool in carrying out the imperialist plan”.

Thus, the supporters of French and American policy in

Syria's army circles again foiled the plans of Britain's agents.

Growing Anglo-American rivalry for domination of the Near East, so glaringly revealed during the recent coups in Syria, once again demonstrates the profound, insoluble contradictions in the camp of the colonisers—the instigators of a new world war.

Each of the imperialist powers is fighting for the right to exploit both the Syrian working people and the natural resources of the country—especially its oil—and to turn Syria into a market for “its” goods, into “its” colony.

In one thing alone are the imperialists in full agreement—in crushing the democratic, liberation movement of the working people of the Arab East; in the desire to draw the Arab countries into anti-Soviet “blocs” and into ‘unions’ prepared by the warmongers.

Undaunted by repression the working people of Syria, headed by the heroic Communist Party, continue to struggle against imperialist encroachment on their country. They fight for a democratic regime, for peace and friendship with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies in Europe and Asia.

The broad masses of Syria are beginning to realise more and more that they can overthrow the imperialist yoke only by waging an active struggle against the American and British colonisers and their agents in the reactionary ruling circles of Syria.

**BUTRUS M.**

# CHIANG KAI-SHEK CLIQUE—LAST PHASE". Drawn by B. YEFIMOV

CHIANG KAI-SHEK CLIQUE — "LAST PHASE"



Don. Squawh-50.

Drawn by B. YEFIMOV

## CANDID ADMISSION

### A Wall Street Estimate of Tito's Treachery

Joseph Harsch and Emil Lengyel are joint authors of the booklet *Eastern Europe Today* (U.S. Foreign Policy Association. Sept. Oct. 1949), which, with unsurpassed cynicism, assesses not only the significance of the Tito clique's betrayal of Socialism and its desertion to the imperialist camp, but of the role of this clique in the imperialist war preparations against the Soviet Union and the New Democracies.

The booklet recalls that prior to the Tito treachery, American diplomacy based its "operations" (read espionage. Ed.) in Eastern Europe almost exclusively on elements hostile to the regimes.

According to Harsch and Lengyel, this tactic "did not pay". But now, with Tito, Kardelj, Rankovic, Djilas and others deep in the pockets of Wall Street, American diplomats are delighted.

"Tito", write the authors gleefully, "is worth all the dissident elements put together..." **"It is costing us a 'billion dollars to equip nine French divisions, whereas Tito has brought twenty Yugoslav divisions potentially over to the Western Side..."**

This brazen admission in a United States Foreign Policy booklet, inspired by and echoing the inner thoughts of the State Department, is, on the one hand, the most revealing statement yet made by the Washington warmongers concerning their policy in Eastern Europe and, on the other, a damning indictment of the Tito clique's treachery.

Tito, in return for dollar loans, is trading in the flesh and blood of Yugoslav workers and peasants who, in the American

scheme of things, are destined to become cannon fodder.

Claiming that the buying of the Tito clique represents the one success of Wall Street policy in Eastern Europe since the war, the booklet declares that, Tito's "secret police are now directed primarily against Cominform agents instead of against agents of the West..."

Thus, according even to his dollar paymasters, Tito is No. One post-war Quisling, ready to sent over 20 divisions against the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism, making Yugoslavia the main American espionage centre in Europe and filling jails and concentration camps with genuine Communists and democrats.

But the State Department scribes are a little too cocksure about 20 divisions; theirs is a premature glee. The workers and working peasants of Yugoslavia, like the workers and peasants in France and other countries will never go to war against the Soviet Union and the new Democracies.

## IN BRIEF

\* **British Labourites are pleading to their American masters** not to enforce American demands for the stoppage of all atomic research in Britain and, according to New York “Times”, they are willing to give up attempts to produce atom bombs in Britain, and are prepared to “lend” scientists to their Yankee paymasters while asking the latter to “store” atom bombs in Britain.

\* **Comrade Eugene Dennis, General Secretary, Communist Party U.S.A.**, congratulating Mao Tse-tung on the victory of the Chinese people wrote to him saying: “We rejoice that our new friend the New China, is inflicting defeat and disgrace on the imperialist rulers of America who are violating justice by their false accusations against our Party and its leaders”.

\* **The Swedish Communist Party, celebrated the 20th anniversary** of its central organ, “Ny Dag” by a great extension of the Communist daily press when, since January 1, four Communist weekly papers have been published daily.

\* **Brazilian working people held protest meetings and demonstrations** despite Government repression, when, an American military mission arrived in Rio de Janeiro.

\* **Canada has more than 300,000 unemployed**—an increase of more than 90 per cent in unemployment insurance benefit claims within the last year. According to Canadian trade union sources this overall figure is considerably underestimated.

\* **More than 18,000 miners in Illinois, U.S.A. are on strike** for pay increases.

\* **Poland will supply 85,000 tons of coal monthly to Pakistan**, whose supplies from India were recently cut off owing to currency disagreements following devaluation.

\* **H. V, Tewson, Right Wing leader of the British Trade Union Congress** has been “honoured” with a knighthood by the British ruling classes for his splitting activities in Britain and in the World Federation of Trade Unions.

\* **Traffic was resumed on New Year’s Day along the whole of the 1,212 kilometres** of the Peking-Hankow railway for the first time in 13 years. Traffic along 21.046 kilometres of railway line has been resumed (the overall rail network in the liberated areas of China amounts to 24,794 kilometres).

\* **A resolution demanding that the United Kingdom withdraw from the Atlantic Pact** and that American troops be withdrawn immediately from Britain, was carried unanimously at the annual conference of the Student Labour Federation in Manchester, England.

\* **Cost of living in France has risen from a basic 100 in December 1938**, to 1,937 for food, 1,379 for fuel and light and 1,920 for general costs in December, 1949.

\* **Peasants in Lecce (Italy)** have secured an agreement whereby 25,000 hectares of landowners’ land will be transferred them for a period of for 29 years free of charge for the first four years and a payment of from 35 to 75 kilogrammes of gram per hectare during subsequent years. “We must reckon with the fact, “writes the newspaper “Stampa”, organ of Turin industrialists, “that the peasants have completely entered into political life in Italy.”

## PROPAGANDA OF LIES, HATRED AND FEAR

### Regarding Truman's Message to Congress

Charles J. Harrison's novel "**Nobody's Fool**", published in New York in 1948, lifted the curtain on a "new" branch of American business catering for "social relations".

With the help of the venal press, radio and Government officials, the firm of "Jefferson. Clark and Co." (the story is told by the junior partner), depicts 100 per cent fascists as democrats and, for a fantastic price, gives the greedy monopolists of American capital the reputation of being disinterested benefactors of the ordinary people.

Truman's Message to Congress—on the state of the Union, on the economic situation and on the budget—reveal that the activities of such firms and their methods of deceiving the people are not new to the President. The difference is only one of scope.

Whereas Harrison's "hero" tried, under cover of verbiage about being a "typical American", to deceive his compatriots. President Truman, in his Message, set himself an obviously unattainable object—to beat the drum about the American way of life" and, with utterly false anti-Communist propaganda, to deceive all mankind.

Truman's Message, filled with contradictory statements and demagogic promises—was clearly drawn up with an eye on the forthcoming November elections to Congress.

Of necessity a number of domestic problems are dealt with in the Message. But each of these problems is presented in such a way as to hint at the possibility of overseas ventures and are calculated to arouse in the people fear of imaginary dangers

and to whip up hysteria and a war psychosis.

Under the false cover of defensive measures the Message lays down the well-known **policy of aggression, the policy of unleashing a new war and world domination by American imperialism.**

Mr. Truman declares that today the world is threatened by Communism. Truman's anti-Communism is nothing but a flimsy screen for his aggressive plans. Hitler and Mussolini started in the same way. So has Mr. Truman, Hitler and Mussolini ended with poison and the noose; What makes the American aggressors think they can expect a better fate?

"No one", says Mr. Truman, "can foretell the future exactly". He tries to act the historian but he is a complete failure for he falsifies history.

Truman would have the world believe that he is a sociologist, but the net result is the unrelieved boasting, hysteria and falsehoods of one who trembles with fear at what the future holds for him. He tries to pose as a prophet but is revealed as a miserable fortune-teller.

"If our productive power continues to increase at the same rate as it has increased for the past fifty years... this would mean," he prophesies, "that the real income in the year AD 2000 would be about three times what it is today."

The Congressmen, in all probability, clapped with joy at so pleasant a prospect. But why did Mr. Truman have to speak in terms of half a century to describe the situation in the country after stating that the United States had "met and reversed the first significant downturn in economic activity since the war" and that "today, by the grace of God, we stand a free and prosperous nation"?

Perhaps in order to divert attention from the real state of affairs and, by shameless demagogy, to try to deceive all and everyone?

In vain. Already, the first signs of the economic crisis in

1948-1949 scattered to the four winds the fairy tale of imperialism's henchmen that the United States has allegedly entered the era of "non-crisis prosperity"; that they can, by the skilful manipulation of arm supplies and the "Marshall Plan", change the laws of capitalist development.

As is known, in July 1949, U.S. production was only 65 per cent of the wartime peak and was 18 per cent below the figure for October 1948. In October 1949, production was 22 per cent lower than October 1948.

The crisis in the coal industry led to a sharp decline in coal output. According to approximate figures bituminous coal mined in 1949, reached about 430 million tons as against 599.5 million tons in 1948 and 630.6 million tons in 1947. In other words, output dropped by 29 and 32 per cent respectively.

The output of anthracite dropped to 45 million tons in the course of the year, reaching the lowest level since 1902.

This sharp decline in industrial production particularly affected the railways. In 1949 freightage was approximately 16 per cent below the 1948 level and 19 per cent below the 1947 level. There are no grounds whatsoever for believing that 1950 will bring an increase in "American economic activity" and not a decline.

The numerous Truman prescriptions for "ensuring progress" offered in his Message will hardly "improve the health" of American economy.

"We must preserve our national strength." says Mr. Truman, adding that this "strength is not simply a matter of arms and force". But it is common knowledge that U.S. chaotic economy, **feeds on war and cannot live without war.**

The first half of the 20th century, clearly reveals that the United States, reached its peak in industrial output—its greatest "prosperity"—during the first and second world wars.

The annual growth of industrial production in the United States averaged 4 per cent between 1870 and 1939, It increased

by 7 per cent during World War One and 15 per cent during World War Two.

And this was a specific American “prosperity”. It suffices to point out that whereas in World War One the number of U.S. millionaires increased by 22,000 during World War Two the increase in the number of millionaires was many times greater.

Eleven American firms carrying out orders for the army have passed from the category of millionaire to that of billionaire. Perhaps this is what Truman has in mind when he says American life has acquired a fuller meaning?

Hence the root of the economic crisis in the United States lies in, the very nature of capitalism; in the peculiarities of contemporary monopoly capitalism which tries to defer its end by new military ventures.

Whereas until now it has been a question of shameless demagoguery, Truman’s statement about the increased standard of living in the United States, about “increasing freedom from poverty and drudgery” is simply a naked, cynical lie.

Even according to the “moderate” U.S. figures the number of unemployed at the end of 1949 exceeded 5 million.

“The average hours of work have declined from sixty to forty a week.” states Truman. To this “achievement” should be added that in the middle of 1949, 16.5 million people in the United States were on short time, working from 15 to 34 hours a week and 1,700,000 from one to 14 hours a week.

The situation in U.S. agriculture is even worse. Although millions of American families are in need of food and clothing; although 20 million of the country’s 30 million rural population have not enough to meet even the subsistence minimum, American agriculture suffers from overproduction.

Because of big surpluses which are glutting the market, prices of agricultural products have dropped by 22 per cent compared with the highest figure reached in the post-war period.

Millions of plundered and ruined small producers who have been driven from the land have become nomads wandering from end to end of the country in quest of work.

Perhaps these are the people who, in the words of Mr. Truman have “more opportunities for travel and recreation and enjoyment of the arts”? May be this is what Truman means when he advertises the “ideals of liberty and equal opportunity”?

America, wrote Lenin in 1918 in his “Letter to the American Workers”, “has become characteristic for the depth of the abyss that divides a handful of brutal millionaires who are stagnating in the mire of luxury, and millions of labouring starving men and women who are always staring want in the face”.

It is this “American way of life” that Mr. Truman planned for the millions who do not now enjoy it.

But this “way of life” is well known to the peoples. This “way of life” stands for the witch-hunt, headed by the notorious Un-American Committee; it is the “loyalty test” of Civil Servants; it is police surveillance of writers, artists, scientists; it is the Taft-Hartley Law; it is the trial of the Communists when everybody, be they the accused, witness or counsel, are thrown into prison; it is unbridled racial discrimination and the lynch law.

It is the “American way of life” has made the United States the country most notorious for crime. For instance, between 1923 and 1940 the number of prisoners in the country increased seven times quicker than the population.

American journalists have calculated that every 21 seconds a serious crime is committed; every 100 seconds a burglary; every 3 minutes a car is stolen; every 9 minutes a larceny and every 44 minutes a murder is committed.

Before the war there were 4.3 million criminals on the files of the F.B.I. The figure today is 6 million.

Such is the picture of life in the United States, no matter how hard Mr. Truman tries to cover it up.

Mr. Truman, states that the U.S. has “moved from the outer edge to the centre of world affairs” and that “our country has joined with others in the task of achieving peace”.

But how strange to hear the word “peace” from Mr. Truman, for everything he says breathes war and not peace, reveals the imperialist programme in all its nakedness. More than 70 per cent of the Government’s expenditure in 1950, he announces, is required “to meet the cost of past wars and to work for world peace”.

Seventy per cent of Government expenditure for war—**not in the past but in the future**—such is the real meaning of this statement of the President of the U.S., and this is just how it is understood by the ordinary people everywhere.

Hundreds of millions of peoples throughout the world are beginning to view with increasing hatred the so-called disinterested benefactors on the other side of the ocean, whose prime concern is to lay their greedy hands on the world and bring It under their undivided rule.

Even that arch-reactionary weekly, “Truth”—the haven of professional anti-Soviet liars and slanderers—was forced to write that while acting as the champion of civilisation against the Soviet danger, America manages to spread its financial and political hegemony over Europe, Asia, Africa and Oceania.

However, one would search in vain for a harmonious presentation of foreign policy problems in Truman’s Message.

What, for that matter, could the President speak about? About the desire of American imperialism to undermine Uno; to turn it into an instrument of its policy; to prevent it carrying out its main obligations in defence of peace and world security?

About the complete collapse of the American imperialists in China? About the failure of the United States’ diplomatic-

secret service in the People's Democracies? About the crisis of the "Marshall Plan" and the fiasco of U.S. atomic blackmail?

All that was left to Mr. Truman was to slander the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, the Communists in all countries; to slander all honest fighters battling for peace and the security of peoples and against the instigators of a new war.

In Charles J. Harrison's book the agents of the "social relations" firm failed to deceive the simple printer, Alan Barbor, who was quick to see what sort of "benefactor" he was dealing with and who refused to serve their shady interests.

Mr. Truman will not succeed in deceiving the American people; in deceiving mankind, no matter to what demagogic propaganda of anti-Communist lies, hatred and intimidation he resorts; no matter what mantle as "champion of peace" he dons.

Behind the pious mask of the trans-Atlantic "benefactor" we see the bared fangs of the beast vi prey—the enemy of the people, the provocateur and warmonger, the zealous troubadour of imperialism, which is doomed by history to a speedy and certain death.

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