

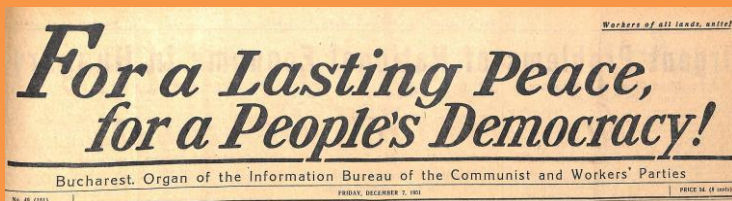
Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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



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MARXIST-LENINIST EDUCATION OF NEW PARTY MEMBERS

The Communist and Workers' Parties express the vital social-political and national Interests of the working people: they are the sole fully consistent and selfless champions of these interests. In all countries they are in the vanguard of the struggle for peace, against the war preparations, against the plotting of new aggressive gambles by the imperialists. As a consequence, the Communist and Workers' Parties have won the confidence of the broad masses of the people. Millions and millions of ordinary people in all countries of the world regard them as **their own** parties, as parties near and **dear** to them, and in whose growth and consolidation they are vitally interested. All forward-looking, honest people, the best people in the working class and other sections of the working population, are drawn to the Communist Parties. The ranks of the Communist Parties are constantly being reinforced and, in the same way, their prestige and influence are growing among the masses.

The glorious Communist Party of China which opened up the road to Socialism for the Chinese people and which is successfully guiding the building of a new life, has grown ideologically and become consolidate organisationally during recent years. Absorbing the best sons and daughters of the Chinese people, it is skilfully educating them, and in its work with new members is guided by the rich experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union—the Lenin-Stalin Party.

In Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Albania where state power is in the hands

of the working people, the Communist and Workers' Parties are government parties, the leading and directing force in the struggle for laying the foundations of Socialism. Unrestricted development of the national economy on the basis of industrialisation and electrification, socialist reorganisation of agriculture, steady advance in the material and cultural level of the people—these aims, for which the Communist and Workers' Parties in the People's Democracies are fighting, correspond to the cherished desires of the working people in these countries.

Big changes have taken place in the composition of the Communist and Workers' parties in the People's Democracies in recent years. The Communist and Workers' Parties grew considerably due to the influx of new members and candidate members after the Parties came to power, and also due to fusion with the Social Democratic Parties on the basis of Marxism-Leninism. Careful verification carried out later in the united parties while resulting in a shedding of members, helped decisively in strengthening and rallying them and in enhancing their militancy, since in the course of the verification the careerist and obviously hostile elements who had wormed their way into the Parties were expelled. The annual reporting-back meetings and conferences in the Party organisations now taking place in Poland, Hungary, Rumania and Bulgaria testify, to a considerable ideological and organisational strengthening of the Parties to increased political consciousness and activity on the part of the mass of the rank-and-file members, the development of inner-Party democracy, an ever more profound inculcation of the Bolshevik method of criticism and self-criticism in Party work and to a growing sense of responsibility

among members for carrying out economic and political tasks.

Having resumed admittance of new members, stopped for the period of the verification, the Communist and Workers' Parties are growing on a new basis. Leading workers in industry and agriculture: shock-workers, and innovators in industry and in the agricultural co-operatives, rural activists and advanced representatives of intelligentsia—these are the sources of their growth. Utterly devoted to their homeland, to their people and to the cause of Socialism, these people join the Party with the sincere desire to take upon themselves part of the tremendous responsibility borne by the Party in guiding the socialist construction. But the young members still lack militant revolutionary tempering and political maturity, to say nothing of theoretical grounding. **Consequently, systematic work with the young members and care for their political education constitute a cardinal task of the Communist and Workers' Parties.**

The Parties have at their disposal abundant means for educating their members. Party meetings, training classes, talks and lectures, the Party press and literature. Party assignments and verification of their fulfilment—this arsenal of forms and methods of Party work is directed towards making probationers and members staunch, strong-willed Communists, men of Bolshevik quality, actively participating in building Socialism in their countries.

The starting point for Communist training of the entire Party members and of young Communists, in particular, for moulding their world outlook, is Party education: study of the rules, history and basic decisions of their Party, the biographies of V. I. Lenin

and J. V. Stalin, and the “Short Course of the History of the C.P.S.U. (B)”. All the Communist and Workers’ Parties in the People’s Democracies are doing considerable work in the sphere of Marxist-Leninist education of the young members. In the Hungarian Working People’s Party, for example, a new form—classes for basic political knowledge embracing some 80,000 people—was started in the 1951-52 study year for members and probationer members taking part in Party education for the first time. In these classes the students will study, over a period of months, the biography of J. V. Stalin, the rates of the Hungarian Working People’s Party, the Five-Year Plan of the Hungarian People’s Republic, and the biography of M. Rakosi.

A most important element of work with young members of the Party is to train them in the spirit of Party discipline, of responsibility for assigned tasks, Bolshevik vigilance and irreconcilability towards the intrigues of hostile elements and all manner of deviations from the general line of the Party.

A Communist a leader of the masses, must always and in every respect be a model for non-Party people. In the factory he is the best worker, the inspirer of new methods of work, a thoughtful leader and organiser of production; in the countryside he is the initiator in building agricultural co-operatives, the most honest and disciplined worker who places the interests of the State above his own interests; in public and political life he is a foremost fighter for peace, for friendship among the peoples, a keen propagandist and agitator. The Party organisations must inculcate these qualities in the young members from the first day of membership. To strengthen the Party **qualitatively**, to transform it, as

Comrade Stalin said, into the rallying centre for the best elements of the working class, into its genuine general staff—such is the basic task of Communist and Workers' Parties in the countries of people's democracy.

The Socialist Unity Party of Germany, which heads the struggle of the German people for a united, democratic and peace-loving Germany, for the consolidation of the anti-fascist democratic system in the German Democratic Republic also became stronger organisationally after the recent verification of its ranks and after purging itself of the class alien and hostile elements.

The Communist Parties work under arduous and complicated conditions in the capitalist, colonial and dependent countries. The struggle for improving the standard of life of the working people, for democratic liberties for the people, for national independence and state sovereignty for their countries, for preserving and consolidating peace confronts the Communist Parties with the task of extending their influence among the masses, of rallying round the Party a broad non-Party active. In this connection, the **numerical** growth of the Communist Parties in the capitalist countries is of the greatest significance.

In a number of countries, such as France and Italy, for example, the Communist Parties grew into a great mass force after World War Two, a force which is recognised by and enjoys the support of millions of working people, a force which the reactionary, Marshallised rulers of these countries cannot but take into consideration. Due to the great dimensions of the struggle for peace, bread and freedom, a struggle headed everywhere by the Communists, the Communist

Parties in the other capitalist countries are also growing. Together with numerical growth there is taking place a process of organisational, ideological and political strengthening of the Parties, a process making for greater unity, solidarity and militancy. For some Parties, however, particularly for the Communist Party of Austria and the Communist Party of Great Britain—as evidenced by the decisions of the leading bodies of these Parties—and in a number of other Communist Parties, the important question now is the further extension of their ranks, particularly among the youth, of further improving the educational work of these Parties and political work among the masses.

In conditions when reaction is on the rampage, when a rabid campaign of lies and slander, persecution and repressions is being conducted against the democratic forces, in the first instance against the Communist Parties, inculcation of tenacity, self-control and courage in new Party members, of readiness on their part to endure privations and self-sacrifice in the interests of their country, for the future of their people, is of singular importance. Devoting serious attention to the significance of educating young Party members, the Seventh Congress of the Italian Communist Party pointed out in its decision: “We must strive to develop political consciousness in the young Party members, higher than the simple trade union consciousness which is the first step of the worker along the pathway of class struggle”.

Educating the new members on the experience of the C.P.S.U. (B), on the basis of their own experience, on everyday practical activity, the Communist and Workers’ Parties will further strengthen their ranks, enhance their militancy, influence and prestige among

the masses. Linking themselves indissolubly with the broad mass of the working people, they will confidently lead the peoples to new victories in the struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism.

FOR PACT OF PEACE!

Concrete Actions Against Militarisation of Austria

Recently, the workers of the Ternitz plant, part of the “Schoeller-Bleckmann” concern, refused to work on an order for 2,200 rifle barrels, Under pressure of the workers, the management was forced to withdraw the order.

However, the other day, on Government instructions, the order was again delivered to the management. In its letter of protest to the management, the peace committee reiterated that the workers would not fulfil war orders. Numerous deputations from the shops informed the management that they would cease work in the event of the order going into prosecution. The Central Works Council of the “Schoeller-Bleckmann” concern which includes factories in Ternitz, Miirzzuschlag and Hennicksberg, sent a letter to the management, declaring unanimously that the personnel of the “Schoeller-Bleckmann” enterprises would refuse to work on orders for war materials.

A special committee is petitioning the population of Simmering—a Vienna district—against the construction of a British military airfield in the locality. The first week of the campaign was highly successful. According to press reports, 9,615 Simmering citizens or more than one-third of the people enjoying the right to vote, have already been approached. Of these, 9,317, or 97 per cent, expressed themselves against construction of the airfield. The petitioning continues.

Noble Activity of Marseilles Worker

Joseph Achenza works as a painter in a shipyard in Marseilles. Fully aware of the great significance of the Peace Pact campaign, he began to devote his spare time to collecting signatures to the World Peace Council's Appeal.

Day by day this modest worker in the great movement of the peoples for peace went from door to door, visited ships in port and talked with people in the street getting them to sign the Appeal. By means of simple and clear arguments he convinced the hesitant, and those deceived by the slander propaganda of the bourgeois press and radio, of the possibility of preserving peace by common effort, by the effort of the entire people. With the help of examples taken from French and international life, he exposed the vile machinations of the warmongers.

In this way he collected a total of 11,096 signatures.

As a reward for his outstanding work for peace, Joseph Achenza was included in the trade union delegation that visited the Soviet Union to take part in the celebration of the 34th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

Congress of Peace Partisans in Northern Countries

A congress of peace partisans of Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Finland and Iceland was held in Stockholm from November 30 to December 2. Approximately 700 delegates, representing numerous trade union, cultural,

women's, youth, sports, religious and other public organisations in the Northern countries attended the Congress. The delegates included well-known figures in the Northern countries—writers, doctors, trade union and co-operative officials, clergy—men and women of different professions and convictions but who are all equally anxious to preserve world peace, particularly in the countries of North Europe. Invitations to attend the Congress were sent to public personalities in Britain, Belgium and Australia.

Congress discussed the following questions: 1. The war threat hanging over the Northern countries. 2. Work in defence of peace in the Northern countries. Over forty delegates spoke in the discussion.

The speakers underlined the broad possibility for the peaceful co-existence of the two systems, condemned the attitude of Uno which has not justified the hopes the peoples of the North placed in it called upon peace champions to demand the conversion of Uno into an effective instrument of peace, the conclusion of a Five-Power Peace Pact and solidarity of the peoples of the Northern countries on the basis of the common desire of all people in the world to preserve peace. Delegates declared that the people of the North should insist on ending the arms drive and banning war propaganda. Some of the proposals were designed to activate the work of democratic organisations in defence of peace.

Prof. Felix Iversen, vice-chairman of the Permanent Peace Committee of Finland and member of the Bureau of the World Peace Council, who spoke to the second item on the agenda, stressed that war threatens not only the North but the entire world and for this reason everything must be done on the part of the peace supporters to avert war in general. Referring to the

aggressive policy of the Atlantic bloc, the speaker pointed out that supporters of the peace movement and all democratic organisations in the North should insist that Norway, Denmark and Iceland withdraw delegates spoke in the discussion, from the Atlantic bloc.

“We must insist that the North be freed from the disgraceful yoke of the Atlantic Pact”, declared Iversen.

Congress approved the text of a letter to Uno, an appeal to the peoples of the North and a decision on practical measures and on co-operation in defence of peace. Congress also resolved to support the demand for the prohibition of war propaganda in the Northern countries.

Decisions of “Peace and Disarmament Assembly” in Italy

A vigorous protest against the war policy of the de Gasperi Government, and at the same time a clear programme of action for the immediate future—such is the significance of the decisions of the National Peace and Disarmament Assembly held in Rome at the same time as the session of the aggressive Atlantic alliance.

Let the 250,000 million lire allocated by the Government for military expenditure, says the resolution on economic questions, adopted by the Assembly, be used for the immediate rehabilitation of the regions devastated by the floods. Other resolutions stress the need to extend the struggle against illiteracy, to take urgent measures in defence of the family and children, and to fight for the independence of the Italian armed forces from any foreign command.

An appeal to the people of the country, unanimously adopted by the delegates, protests against the Government's policy of rearmament, reiterates the need to unite all Italians in view of the danger, and expresses confidence in the possibility of a peaceful regulation of the international tension, in the possibility of ending the armaments drive.

Addressing the final session of the Assembly, Senator Sereni said: "Today we are strong enough to pose the problems discussed at the Assembly not as propaganda, but by way of political action; we are strong enough to compel the Government to take the way indicated by us".

Among those who took part in the work of the Assembly there were many political personalities and men of culture; nine generals and many other high-ranking officers of the Italian Army; chairmen of provincial associations of war veterans; Saverio Brigante, first honorary president of the Court of Appeal; the deputy chairman of the Italian Red Cross Society; the secretary of the Grosseto province organisation of the Republican Party; the chairman of the Mantua Confederation of Landholders; the secretary of the Milan federation of the Social Democratic Party; the secretary of the Lombardy monarchist organisation; Franceschini, Catholic university professor the chairman of the Milan College of Barristers, and many others.

13,000 Signatures in Capital of Pakistan

In Karachi, capital of Pakistan, 13,000 people signed the Appeal of the World | Peace Council. Signers

include 12 leaders of political and trading organisations, five members of the Constituent Assembly, 30 journalists, 35 merchants, 20 writers, 15 lawyers, 10 doctors, 20 professors and teachers.

SOVIET PEOPLE EXTEND FRATERNAL AID TO FLOOD VICTIMS IN ITALY

The Italian democratic press has published telegrams sent by representatives of public organisations in the Soviet Union to the mass democratic organisations in Italy. Soviet public organisations express profound sympathy with the Italian people in connection with the flooding in the Po valley which caused such great suffering among the population in the Northern provinces of Italy, and convey their decision to aid the victims of the calamity.

The Central Council of Trade Unions of the U.S.S.R. despatched to the Italian General Confederation of Labour 25,000 centners of wheat flour, 1,000 centners of sugar and 40 million lire.

The Central Union of Co-operative Societies of the U.S.S.R. has placed at the disposal of the National Co-operative League in Italy 20,000 centners of wheat flour, 10,000 centners of seed-wheat, 500 centners of sugar, 10 million lire, and, for cooperative organisations in the affected districts—20, caterpillar tractors with ploughs and spare parts.

The Soviet Women's Anti-fascist Committee has sent to the Union of Italian Women 5,000 centners of wheat flour, 1,000 centners of sugar, 2,000 centners of semolina, 100,000 tins of condensed milk and 10 million lire.

Working people throughout Italy speak about the aid rendered by Soviet public organisations with feelings of deep gratitude for the Soviet people and Comrade Stalin.

BLOODY PROVOCATIONS OF BRITISH IMPERIALISTS IN EGYPT

On December 8, when British armed forces, using armoured cars and machineguns, provoked large-scale armed clashes with Egyptian police near Suez, 16 Egyptian policemen and civilians were killed and 68 wounded, On December 4, when over 15,000 Suez inhabitants assembled in the streets to take part in the funeral, British troops fired on the procession killing 15 and severely wounding 34.

The British imperialists seek to intimidate the people of Egypt by means of this sanguinary provocation. The British authorities are drafting extra military and naval forces to, the Suez Canal zone. For obviously provocative purposes, British troops attack and kill Egyptian policemen protecting the population from the outrages of the invaders.

The brutal actions of the British imperialists merely intensify the hatred felt for them by the broad masses. The struggle of the Egyptian people is a contribution to the common cause of peace. And in this struggle the sympathies of all progressive mankind are with them.

PEACE MOVEMENT IN U.S.

Numerous facts in the American press testify that the war in Korea unleashed by the U.S. imperialists and their feverish preparation for a new world war, accompanied by further attacks on the standard of living and democratic rights of the working people, impel ever broader sections of the American people to raise their voice in protest against the policy of war and fascism.

The Daily Worker reports that the American Peace Crusade national committee has undertaken to get 1,000,000 signatures to a petition calling for a big Power conference to settle their differences and sign a Peace Pact. In an appeal to the American people the committee stressed that a Peace Pact among the Great Powers would end the bloodshed in Korea, ensure general disarmament and prohibition of atomic weapons.

Four hundred and seventeen prominent public, labour and religious leaders, including the heads of three theological schools and representatives of different religious bodies from 43 States addressed a letter to President Truman urging that he exert a supreme effort "to bring the fighting in Korea to an end and to achieve a truce that will lead to the full restoration of peace." "We are fully aware", the letter continued, "of the complexity of the issues involved, and yet we believe that if the very lives of our boys and of all people came above all other considerations a way might be found at once to end the dying".

Among the signers of the letter are: Emily Balch, Winner, Nobel Peace Award, 1946; Professor Henry Cadbury, Chairman, American Friends Society; Dr. Herbert Gezork, President, Newton Theological School; John Long, President, Southern Christian Institute; Pat Rice, President, Local 600, United Automobile Workers' Union; Professor Robert Havinghurst, University of Chicago; James Wolfe, Chief Justice, Supreme Court, Utah, and others.

A resolution calling for an immediate cease-fire in Korea and another urging a big Power meeting climaxed the recent conference of the Eastern States of the U.S. Progressive Party.

A peace gathering held in Seattle, under the auspices of the Washington Peace Crusade, was attended by 424 delegates, including workers, farmers, housewives, representatives of Labour, Negro and youth organisations. The meeting discussed reports of the participation of Labour, women, youth and farmer organisations in the struggle for peace.

"The warmongers", said Gretchen Kimple, national committee member of the American Youth Crusade, "want to break up young people's homes before they get started, deny them jobs, education and turn them into a 'generation of cannon fodder' ". The conference unanimously approved the decisions adopted last summer at the Chicago People's Peace Congress.

Peace councils in New York have announced the calling of a peace gathering on December 4 which will be attended by delegates from all local peace committees and by representatives of all other organisations alarmed by the growing threat of war. The conference will work out a programme for 200,000 special postcards to be sent to President Truman urging

him to agree to a meeting of the five Great Powers to negotiate a peaceful settlement of international problems.

The Commission on World Peace of the Methodist Church issued a statement urging a complete ban on all weapons of mass destruction including atom bombs and germ warfare. The Commission urged Christians in all lands to spare no effort in working for universal disarmament in 1952.

The sentiments of many Americans are also reflected in the numerous letters sent to American newspapers.

A letter in the Buffalo Evening News from the mother of a soldier in Korea reads: "Our boys are not pleading with us to get them out of Korea because they are homesick. It is because they do not know what they are fighting for".

A Vermont citizen wrote to the Rutland Herald as follows: "I can't understand why the people in this country sit idly by and let our Government send thousands and thousands of our young men to Korea to be slaughtered. I thought this was a country. of democracy and free people. Are the 'free people' willing to let this horrible situation go on and on. Is our Government so overrun by greedy politicians that the 'free people' no longer have a voice in it?"

The Daily Worker published a statement by Rev. Robert Campbell, veteran of World War One, who characterised the war unleashed by the Americans in Korea as "a colossal crime... We must remember that peace is possible only when we are willing to compromise and make some concessions, even though the warmongers call it 'appeasement'". "All the talk we have heard for a long time", the Campbell statement

continued, “has been directed not toward peace but toward war... If we had not rushed into Korea, there would be no dead Koreans and Chinese, no colossal destruction of values and no tens of thousands of American corpses. It is therefore a crime not to do all in our power to prevent innocent Americans from being sent to certain death.”

William Foster, Chairman, National Committee, U.S. Communist Party, in an article “Why Wall Street is Arming” published in ‘the Daily Worker on November 26, 1951, points out that Wall Street’s criminal policy directed at unleashing a new world war, can bring the American people only to catastrophe.

“The sole sane answer to it is for the ‘masses of our people, particularly organized labour, to insist, in their irresistible strength, that the United States join with the U.S.S.R., People’s China, Britain, and France, in a five-power conference and proceed to work out a general peace pact that will lift from the world the frightful menace of another great war”.

URGENT PROBLEMS OF NATIONAL ECONOMY IN HUNGARY.· Matias Rakosi, General Secretary, Hungarian Working People's Party

I. For Strict Observance of Labour and State Discipline

During the first ten months of the current year, industrial output in Hungary rose 29.1 per cent compared with the same period last year. But considerable as this increase undoubtedly is, the plan was fulfilled only 99.3 per cent. Light industry fulfilled its plan 100.9 per cent. The lag is observed in heavy industry, in the building and food industries. The plan for lowering production costs was, likewise, not fully completed, and there is still a lag in this sphere. For labour productivity the figures are relatively good in heavy industry where productivity rose 16.5 per cent.

The development of our industry shows that the increased plan is real and realisable, contrary to all doubts and attacks of our enemies. The results accomplished testify that the Second Congress of our Party correctly defined the tasks in the economic sphere and acted correctly when it considerably raised the targets.

* From report delivered by Comrade M. Rakosi on November 30, 1951, at Plenum of Central Committee of the Hungarian Working People's Party.

As for agriculture, this year's harvest was the best harvest since our liberation. The socialist sector of agriculture developed at a rapid rate this year. The arable land of the state farms amounts now to 864,000 holds. Their rapid development has now been completed, and we can set about consolidating the attained results. A powerful upsurge is also observed in the producer co-operative movement. At present we have 4,652 agricultural co-operatives. They unite 236,500 households. These co-operatives dispose of 1,503,000 holds of cultivated land i.e. 15.6 per cent of the total area under cultivation.

The crop area of the co-operative and state farms taken together amounts to 24.6 per cent of the total cultivable land i.e. almost one quarter. Development proceeded at a particularly fast pace in the first few months of the current year when results were summed up and the incomes of cooperatives became known.

In September, acting on the decision of the Second Congress, the Political Bureau set the Party organisations the task of working not only for numerical development of the co-operatives but also for the further development and consolidation of the existing co-operatives. First of all care must be taken to improve co-operative leadership.

We specially warned our organisations that they must struggle against any pressure or coercion in the co-operative movement.

The biggest difficulties in the co-operatives—and, we may add, also in the state farms, in the machine-and-tractor stations and in industry—stem from bad labour discipline, or, to be more precise, from a falling-off in labour discipline.

Under capitalism, labour discipline was the job of a whole army of overseers, supervisors and gendarmes; but it was maintained mainly by the bogey of unemployment and the accompanying poverty of the working people.

It was, above all, the horror of unemployment, the danger of poverty and hunger that forced the toilers in the countryside and in the towns to slave for the capitalists.

Such is the ease today in capitalist Europe. Such is the case also in the United States of America where, due to the armaments drive, tens of thousands of workers, employed in civilian industries from which raw materials are diverted for war production, are thrown onto the street every day.

In our country there is no unemployment. On the contrary, parallel with the expansion of industry the demand for manpower is growing. This year, for example, the number of wage earners rose at the rate of 21,000 a month, which means more than a quarter of a million entrants into industry in a year. This figure does not include the tens of thousands of students attending secondary schools, universities and refresher courses, who only a few years ago would have been registered as unemployed. Because of the shortage of manpower there is no difficulty in getting work. Now when someone is dismissed for violating discipline, he finds work next day in another place. There are even instances when one enterprise entices workers from another. This leads to a situation in which a section of the working people, particularly the new entrants, no longer disciplined by the former capitalist compulsion and not yet disciplined by socialist consciousness, take advantage of the circumstances.

During recent months, we placed the question of strengthening labour discipline on the order of the day. Experience has shown that the measures taken so far have not yielded the desired result. It is clear that our managers have not yet realised the importance of this matter. Many people think that if those who violate discipline are treated gently, in liberal fashion, they will improve as a result. Experience proves just the reverse. Labour discipline deteriorates as a result of the liberal and lenient approach to the violators of discipline.

At the same time we see that conscious, disciplined workers are coming out ever more sharply and vigorously against violation of discipline. Not only because lack of discipline hits them, detracting from the results of their labour and from their earnings but also because they realise that weakening of labour discipline holds up the entire socialist construction and the wellbeing of the country.

To repeat, the most important disciplinary measure is creation of an atmosphere in which lack of discipline is condemned and branded, and violation of discipline, absenteeism and waste are regarded as a shame and disgrace.

In connection with labour discipline I must also say a word about civic discipline, an indication of which is the manner in which the rural population meets its tax obligations and agricultural quotas. Our press reports somewhat frequently about kulaks and wealthy farmers who pay no taxes and who sabotage the quotas, which shows that here, too, all is not in order. After the liberation of the country, we exempted in the course of three years the more than 500,000 peasants who received land from payments for it. In doing so we

helped those peasants who received land to become stronger economically. In the ensuing years we were not very insistent—for similar reasons—in regard to tax payments. As a result, things slackened in this sphere. And, certainly, the kulaks and the wealthy farmers strove to be the first to draw advantage from the situation. But there are also hundreds and every thousands of new farmers who have not paid taxes for years, who have not delivered their quotas, and who have become so accustomed to this state of affairs that they regard failure to meet their obligations as a kind of right gained by them.

I will quote one example. Ferenc Bessenyei, in the village of Golle, Shomogy region, cultivates nine holds of land given to him during the reform. He has not paid taxes for several years with the result that his arrears stand at 2,700 forints. He became highly indignant when asked to make some payment, until it was established that in the course of this year he paid 18,000 forints for a house, 4,000 for a horse, and 3,500 for a cow. I may add that even in the local council the view prevailed that “He who has so heavy expenditure cannot have much left with which to pay taxes”.

Such types and the view that obligations to the State are of purely secondary importance are quite widespread. As I have already said, we ourselves contributed to them. Now we are introducing order in this sphere also. And in doing so we have the backing of the overwhelming majority of the peasants who loyally and honestly meet and even surpass their obligations to the State. This is expressed best of all in the figures for deliveries.

During the five months since June 1, 1951, the state grain deliveries exceeded by one million quintals the

total deliveries for the twelve months of the previous economic year. At present, the deliveries of wheat are 25 per cent and barley 50 per cent above the level for the respective period last year; deliveries of maize are more than double, and sunflower 50 per cent more than last year, etc.

These figures stand out more clearly if one takes into account that, of the individual peasants, 485,000 fulfilled their delivery plan by more than 100 per cent, and of these 128,000 fulfilled quota deliveries by more than 200 per cent. The co-operatives, of course, have even better results, since the 350,000 co-operative members are more conscious and, consequently, better fulfil their duties. The Kossuth co-operative in the village of Nagybörzsöny fulfilled its production obligations 1,381 per cent; the Dózsa co-operative in Hajdusámson 1,100 per cent; the "Red Star" co-operative in Felsőszentiván 1,089 per cent; the "Red October" co-operative in Kuncsorba and the Petöfi co-operative in Kápolnásnyek exceeded their obligations nine-fold. This enumeration could be continued.

Such is the response of the co-operatives to what has been done for the countryside—on an ever-growing scale each year—since the liberation. This year, capital investments in agriculture reached 1,672,000,000 forints. We supplied the countryside with over 3,000 tractors, 1,250 self-binders, 850 threshing-machines, 850 stacking-machines, 990 mowers, and thousands of other machines in order to make agricultural labour easier. We installed irrigation systems on an area of 31,000 holds; the countryside was supplied with 2,600,000 quintals of artificial fertilisers. Highway construction continues. This year, telephone communication was extended to 170 villages and 75

producer co-operatives; 216 villages got good drinking water; hundreds of medical centres, first aid stations, drug-stores, maternity homes, and creches were opened. During 1951-52, 1,400 rural houses of culture and over 2,000 public libraries will be opened, and in 985 localities cinema halls equipped with their own narrow-film cinema units will be opened.

The working peasantry compares the economic policy pursued by our people's democracy with the policy carried out under the former capitalist regime when, sometimes a good harvest was and even greater curse for the peasants than a bad one, because good crops meant that prices for agricultural products fell so heavily that they wiped out the benefits of the good harvest. We still remember the nineteen thirties when one good harvest followed another, but when a quintal of wheat sold at 6-7 pengoes, and peasant poverty, despite the good crops, increased at a rapid rate. For example, peasants engaged in sugar-beet cultivation remember that in the event of good crops, the sugar refineries cut contract prices whole sale, raised objections with regard to the quality of the beet, sought a pretext in order to make deductions and even restricted the peasants to selling not more than 50 quintals of beet to the hold. In contrast to this, during the current year the sugar refineries in our country have bought from the peasants to date 10.5 million quintals more sugar-beet than last year. Income received this year by the peasants from sugar-beet alone, exceeds last-year's income by 400 million forints. Many similar facts could be mentioned. The peasantry appreciates this, and an indication of its satisfaction is the success of the agricultural quotas to which I have referred.

II. Abolition of Rationing and Restoration of Free Sale of Food

The question arises in view of our economic achievements, the rich harvest and the success of deliveries: is it not time to abolish rationing and restore free sale of food? Our view is that it is possible to abolish rationing, that the time is ripe for realising this measure.

When, in previous years, we gradually abolished rationing for food and other products, our working people rightly regarded this as a sign of the consolidation and success of our economy. This year when we gradually re-introduced rationing for some food-stuffs and other goods, everyone felt that this was a definite retreat made under enemy pressure.

We had to restore rationing this year mainly for the following reasons: for a number of years and particularly last year, there was a poor harvest of fodder crops. The sugar-beet harvest was also bad. Because of this, the number of hogs dropped by one-third and cattle by 15-20 per cent. Because of the poor fodder harvest, considerable numbers of poultry were killed. These factors resulted in a shortage of meat and fats, which in turn increased the demand for bread and sugar. High prices for meat and low prices for bread during the winter and spring made it possible for owners of cattle, cab-drivers and those fattening hogs, to buy bread in state stores and use it as feed. Some peasants used their grain for this purpose, and bought bread in the bakeries, in other words, actually taking back from the State the grain they had delivered to it. This situation was aggravated by the work of the enemy

who, deliberately, began buying up sugar, fats and flour in order to worsen our public supplies and exhaust our reserves. We counteracted this by restoring rationing first for sugar and flour and later, for fats and finally for bread.

Now when the question of abolishing rationing has come to the fore, we have established that more profound problems, which, hitherto, gave us no trouble, have arisen in connection with public supplies.

What are these problems?

Before the liberation and for a number of years after it, Hungary was mainly an agricultural country. Accordingly, food prices were low; purchasing power of the working people was also low. During the past four or five years, radical changes have taken place: our homeland changed from an agricultural country into an industrial country, and industrialisation is rapidly proceeding. Parallel with the development of industry, the number of wage earners rose considerably and their standard of life also rose. This was accompanied by increased demand for manufactured goods and foodstuffs: bread, meat and fats. At the same time consumption of these goods grew in the countryside, since the three million peasants who lived a beggarly life under the Horthy regime received land and their standard of living quickly improved. As a result, they are consuming incomparably more of their own products and more manufactured goods than before the war. But agricultural production did not keep up with this increased consumption. In figures it looks like this: at present, the level of our industrial output is 250 per cent compared with the level of the last prewar year, while agricultural production is only 116 per cent

compared with the average level of the last ten years before the war.

We did not face up in time to the consequences of this development for our economic life. I will give but one example: in our foreign trade, too, we did not draw the necessary conclusions from this situation. To secure imports of cotton, leather, rubber, metals and machines, we exported considerable quantities of food—just as we did when our country was an agricultural country and when the demand for food at home was far less than it is at present.

Neither has the system of state-fixed prices changed substantially since the stabilisation. In 1946 when a stable currency was being fixed, we actually tried to restore the relation in prices which existed in prewar Hungary. That price relation had been established for an agricultural country a feature of which was the low standard of life of the working people. As a result of speedy industrialisation, our prices and the system of public supplies proved unsuitable for the changed conditions. With such prices, the demand for vital food items rose constantly and the danger grew that workers and in general all wage earners would not be able to satisfy even their minimum requirements in these products. This situation cannot be changed in a short period by a rapid increase in the amount of foodstuffs, since 75 per cent of our agricultural production is accounted for by small peasant holdings on which modern agricultural machines—the decisive factor in increasing production—can be used only in small measure.

All these, I repeat, would have resulted in serious complications even without the bad fodder harvest last year. Rationing helped, temporarily, to overcome these

complications. The working class approved the re-introduction of rationing, since it eased its difficulties and afforded it a measure of protection against the attacks of speculators.

But together with this positive aspect of rationing, its harmful, negative effects began to come to the fore. It led immediately to increased bureaucratism and opened up new possibilities for corruption. The price of meat, fats and poultry soared on the free market so much that it exceeded several times over the price for the same article on the ration. A growing army of speculators re-appeared in our economic life. As a result of the speculation, fresh opportunities were afforded the remnants of capitalist class who skilfully took advantage of the situation. The off-ration prices, which soared several times, added exclusively to the income of kulaks and wealthy farmers, since they had big surpluses of meat, butter, poultry and eggs. The rapid rise in prices for off-ration products swelled the incomes of this section of the population. This process was also facilitated, to a degree, even by socialist construction which brought increased income to the well-to-do peasants. This year, for example, the State paid 1,000 million forints in transportation fees to tens of thousands of kulaks and others possessing extra horses.

Since the income derived from the higher prices on the free market and from other sources, was not used by the peasantry for the purchase of land, tractors, etc., a considerable part of it was spent, in the main, on articles of clothing, with the result that these goods become scarcer and scarcer.

III. Price and Wage Regulation

The working class regards this process with growing dissatisfaction since it is worsening its living standard in favour of the wealthy peasantry. The greater part of the peasantry which does not engage in speculation is also dissatisfied with this state of affairs and insists that we change it. The working people residing in the area outside the zone of rationed supplies suffer most of all. These things begin to weaken the worker-peasant alliance, a matter to which, naturally, we are not indifferent. Because of this there is growing pressure on the part of a section of the working people to the effect that we should extend rationing to the entire country, including goods which until now were sold off-ration.

In our view, an extension of rationing would simply add to the above-mentioned difficulties and defects. Rationing is already beginning to act as a hindrance in the way of production. The increased income secured by the working people through increased output does not enable them to buy a greater quantity of essential goods. Due to the measures taken by us, the price of meat and fats has already begun to fall.

Certainly, such high prices for unrationed goods are not an incentive for production. Too high prices for unrationed products act as a hindrance to industry. At the same time the bans and selling restrictions, arising from rationing, retard agricultural production. The greater the number of items subjected to rationing, the more tangible the retarding influence of the too high prices for off-ration goods and the less the incentive to increase production both in industry and agriculture.

Rationing is a typically war-time undertaking. The more we left the war behind, the more restricted became the system of rationing. Extension of rationing would have taken us along the wrong path, would have but aggravated our troubles, speculation and bureaucratism. We must follow another path. In our opinion the time has come to abolish rationing.

An important premise for the abolition of rationing is the accumulation of corresponding stocks, since it may happen that in the initial period after the abolition of rationing consumers will buy more than before. As a result of the steady growth in industrial output, the good harvest and the successes of the state deliveries, in a word, as a result of the selfless, persevering work of the greater part of the working people, we now dispose of more food and consumer goods than last year. We can abolish rationing of bread, flour, sugar and soap since we already have the corresponding stocks. We can also change the present system of milk supply in a way that will ensure milk for expectant and nursing mothers and infants. Considering that delivery of fattened pigs is only just beginning, we shall abolish meat and fat rationing some time later, in February 1952.

But in this connection the question arises: will not this year's experience be repeated, will not cheap bread again be used to feed livestock and will not speculators buy up food that does not spoil such as sugar, flour, etc. The answer is: the danger undoubtedly exists if we maintain the present relatively low prices. Hence, we must ensure that using bread as cattle feed is not a paying proposition. Simultaneously, we must change our price policy in relation to quite a number of other goods in order to protect the interests of the

working people. Therefore, we propose, simultaneously with abolishing rationing, raising the price of bread, flour, sugar and certain other foodstuffs, clothing and other vital goods. The prices of most foodstuffs should be lower than market prices but higher than rationed prices, and special attention should be devoted to protecting the interests of large families.

Parallel with this we shall raise wages, family allowances and pensions. Hence, the wage increase will counter-balance the higher prices which will be effected in order to avert purchase of goods for purposes of speculation. It follows that working people will be able to buy freely, without coupons or restrictions, the goods they need in state and co-operative shops. On the other hand the higher prices for bread and flour will make it unprofitable to use these products as cattle feed, make it difficult for enemies to stock up. This price increase will create a corresponding correlation between purchasing power and available stocks. This measure will, at one blow, undermine speculation since it will be possible to buy all one needs in state shops without restriction and at fixed prices.

The price increase connected with the abolition of rationing will not affect rent, electricity and gas charges, postal rates fares, tobacco, fuel, flour products, cereals, etc., vegetables, fruit, newspapers, cinema and theatre tickets, book prices, etc., i.e. will not affect those goods and services which constitute the greater part of the family expenditure by the average worker.

IV. Free Sale of Agricultural Produce

The price regulation connected with abolishing rationing must be supplemented by such directives as will be advantageous to the working population in the countryside and encourage farmers to increase their production and sell more on the market. Hence, we propose that abolition of rationing on December 2 should be followed at once by permission to sell agricultural produce freely by those peasants who have met their quotas to the State. First of all we shall permit free milling and also free sale of cereals and wine. Hence, we shall annul all restrictions on free sale of cereals and flour for the period ending June 30th 1952. i.e. until harvesting begins next year. Those who have delivered their quotas may sell their grain anywhere and to whom they like. It goes without saying that only state organs can purchase grain intended for re-sale. We propose that permission be given to growers and to those who receive grain in payment for work to mill and sell their flour freely to consumers. Naturally, those buying grain may mill it only for their own needs and may not sell the flour. In the future, too, only the flour at the disposal of the state may be used for baking bread and other items designed for sale.

The present restrictions on the free sale of barley and oats should also be raised until the new harvest, i.e. June 30. The free sale of maize should be permitted for all villages, districts and regions that have fulfilled their state quotas 100 per cent. We must also annul the restrictions on payment in kind for milling barley, oats millet buckwheat and maize. We must raise the ban on milling grain into cereals for payment in cash or kind.

We must permit free husking of barley and millet. Beginning with December 2. permission should be granted for the free sale of potatoes and apples. We must permit the free sale of poultry, milk, eggs and dairy produce. We must permit free transportation of pork and fats. Producers may also sell meat after the corresponding sanitary inspection. We also suggest annulment of restrictions on the sale and transportation of quite a number of other less essential items.

We have no doubt that both the working class and working peasantry will approve and welcome these directives. The working class will no longer suffer from the shortage which stood in the way of raising its standard of living, hampered production and which, simultaneously, served as a basis for speculation and gave new possibilities of life for the feeble survivals of the capitalist system. The working peasantry will likewise joyfully hail the introduction of free trade for agricultural produce and the removal of the numerous restrictions caused by the war. These new measures will encourage the peasants to produce more willingly and in greater quantity in the future. Even now they are taking to the market the stocks held back because of unstable prices caused by speculation. Our measures will favourably affect industrial and agricultural production. Hence they are beneficial to both industrial workers and working peasants. On the other hand they are a serious blow against speculation, against all enemies of people's democracy. And this is one of the main aims of our measures.

Complete fulfilment of the state quotas by those agricultural producers who have not yet done so and precise and speedy fulfilment of these obligations in the future,—these are the essential prerequisite and

indivisible accompanying factor for the success of our measures. Hence, greater care must now be taken that producers in arrears with delivery of state quotas shall fully and speedily square their accounts.

Our working peasantry, local councils, Party organisations and state organs working on state delivery plans must know that successful realisation of the proposed measures, the swift manifestation of the influence exercised by them and stability of the results, depend in large measure on the progress made in the matter of state deliveries. Any slackness and carelessness in this sphere may prove harmful, therefore this must be combated with due vigour. Peasants who have honestly fulfilled their patriotic duty, the overwhelming majority of our working peasantry, insist that we bring order into this sphere. They insist that we see to it that the burden is distributed fairly, and that the greedy, selfish, tiny minority contribute their obligatory share to the upbuilding of the country, instead of damaging or attempting to undermine our firm basis by means of speculation, lack of discipline and, not infrequently, deliberate hostility.

Abolition of rationing and restoration of free marketing of agricultural produce represent another big success for our people's democracy, another manifestation of its economic and political strength. These measures will strike a heavy blow to the adherents of the old regime—kulaks, remnants of capitalist elements and speculators. Proper realisation of these measures will further strengthen and cement the ties linking the workers and peasants in our people's democracy. It will consolidate the peace front, true

soldiers of which we are, and which gains additional strength from each of our successes.

Compare this bold and confident step of hours with the situation in the big capitalist countries in the West which for a number of years have enjoyed the “blessings” of U.S. Marshall “aid”. Three weeks ago Mr. Butler, Churchill’s Chancellor of the Exchequer, delivered his first speech. I shall refer to on point only in this speech, Butler said that Britain was faced with a payments crisis: if it failed to find the means with which to pay for purchases abroad, there would be bankruptcy, hunger and unemployment. Simultaneously, he announced that the meat ration would be cut to the lowest level yet in Britain and that he could not guarantee there would not be a further cut in the near future. One American bourgeois newspaper sized up the situation in Britain under the heading: Britain Again Faces Bankruptcy. After the British Chancellor, Plevin, the French Prime Minister, delivered a speech. Plevin’s speech revealed that the situation in France is even worse than the plight of Britain. The “United States News and World Report” stated that Italy which received two and a half million dollars in Marshall “aid” “is shaken politically”. The Swiss bourgeois newspaper “Journal de Genève” adds: “One-fifth of the able-bodied population in Italy, four million people. Is unemployed”. The situation in the other capitalist countries of Europe is much the same—growing unemployment, economic instability and declining standard of living for the working masses.

We, on the other hand, relying on the great Soviet Union, which is helping us, and on the solidarity of the countries of people’s democracy, are rapidly building our socialist society, and boldly, with confidence in the

future and in the success of our cause, undertake such important measures.

Every Party organisation and each Party member should realise that the more carefully, rapidly and successfully we carry out the proposed measures, the sooner shall we overcome the big and small difficulties that are bound to crop up. They must also realise that if these measures are made stable, then in this sphere, too, we shall be able to follow our great example—the Soviet Union, our liberator, and take the path of steady price reductions and further rise in the living standard of all our working people.

I wish to emphasise again that this is not simply a question of removing the restrictions introduced early this year in the sphere of supply i. e. rationing. These measures are of far greater significance and affect all matters pertaining to supplies, wages and prices, a change rendered necessary because our country has been transformed from an agricultural country into an industrial country, from a capitalist country into a country building Socialism. This present decision, from the standpoint of its significance, is a continuation of that development which enabled us to establish a stable currency, to nationalise industry and begin the socialist reorganisation of the countryside and of the entire country.

In conclusion I wish to point out that the successes achieved in the economic and political spheres, and also this big step in abolishing rationing, are due, above all to the fact that our Party perseveringly and consistently has carried out the decisions of its Second Congress.

The directives of this Congress facilitated the successful work of our Party, consolidated its unity and intensified its healthy development. The fact that we can again make such an important step forward is best proof of the fact that knowledge, experience and discipline are growing in the Party and that, as in the past, so now, by its successful work and bold initiative, it serves the cause of the working people. Our, united and monolithic Party is the guarantee that we shall successfully solve this task, too, in the interests of the working people.

FROM PRESS OF COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

“Party Education Evenings” in Communist Party of Belgium (“Drapeau Rouge”—central organ of Communist Party of Belgium)

At a meeting held last July the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belgium adopted a number of decisions aimed at systematically raising the ideological and political level of the Party membership. Since the middle of September and Friday evenings have been reserved for Party education.

Under the general title: “Party education on Friday evenings”, “Drapeau Rouge”, featured a number of articles devoted to the tasks of Party education.

“When we became Communists”, writes the newspaper, “we took an important step: we realised that nothing can be achieved without struggle, we decided to fight and to fight together. However, joining the Party was but the first step. We must now learn to fight and to fight in the most effective way”.

Recalling Comrade Stalin’s words to the effect that the Communist Party is simultaneously the vanguard and general staff of the working class, “Drapeau Rouge” underlines:

“The position of the working people in our country is deteriorating. The danger of war threatens more and more. The preparations for this war, while enriching a handful of bankers,

industrialists and profiteers, have already imposed a heavy burden on the working masses. Apart from this, and as a result of the war preparations, the Government is resorting more and more to fascist methods... We have not yet succeeded in rallying the entire working class of our country for resolute struggle against this policy of war, fascism and impoverishment. This means that we have not worked properly, not carried out our duty to the full”.

The newspaper declares that the reason for this is the inadequate ideological-political level of the Party membership; it stresses how vitally significant for every Communist is study of Marxist-Leninist theory and its indivisible bond with the practical work of the Party:

“Were each of us better prepared ideologically, we would have better understanding of the aims of the struggle of our Party, be able better to conduct explanatory work with our workmates, be able better to refute the arguments of our opponents and the slander of enemies against the working class. Some comrades think that all that is needed to become a good Party member is practice and experience of daily work. These comrades’ are mistaken. We must have a compass for our activity. Such a **compass**, which we must hold firmly in our hand, is the **Marxist-Leninist theory**”.

Party education evenings, points out “Drapeau Rouge”, should:

“1. Give our comrades elementary knowledge that will enable them to conduct discussions, convince honest people and expose our enemies.

“2. Help comrades to read the classics of Marxism, as well as theoretical articles in the

journal 'Communism' (theoretical organ of the Communist Party of Belgium.—Ed.) and in the journal 'For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy'. Study of the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin will give them a reliable weapon in their everyday struggle against the class enemy.

"3. Comrades who have already acquired the habit of independent reading of our journals and who study the basic works of Marxism-Leninism will be able, during these Party education evenings, to test the knowledge acquired in the light of the remarks, comments and evaluation given by members of their organisation.

"4. Finally, these evenings will teach Communists to conduct discussions".

Referring to the question of organising classes, "Drapeau Rouge" points out that sympathisers should also be invited to these classes. The class should have its leader (the political secretary of the Party organisation or a specially appointed member well versed in Communist theory). Members of the organisation should carefully prepare for each class, study the corresponding material which is published in the central organ of the Party as well as recommended supplementary literature. The class-leader must see that every member takes an active part in the discussion. If during the class certain questions are not cleared up or if comments and suggestions are advanced, the class-leader reports this to the central education department.

SITUATION IN VENEZUEALA

According to Venezuelan political emigrants at present residing in Cuba, Venezuela is in the grip of an economic and political crisis. The struggle of the Venezuelan people against the military fascist clique (Junta) who seized power in 1948 as a result of a coup d'etat, assumes the form of armed clashes, particularly in the eastern States in Sucre and Anzuategul (oil fields).

The struggle began with a strike of university student's strike gave rise to a solidarity movement among workers, handicraftsmen and intelligentsia. An underground radio station recently summoned the population to a general strike. These events produced a crisis inside the ruling Junta. The Junta virtually holds under arrest Dr. German Suarez Flamerich, President of the Republic, and the Ministers of Foreign Affairs, Finance, and Public Works. Resignations submitted by a number of ministers were rejected by the Junta.

The Machado brothers, political emigrants, stated: "the present Government is the most unpopular ever seen in Venezuela; it is more unpopular than Gomez's sanguinary dictatorship which ruled Venezuela in 1908-35. The present Government has imprisoned more people than all the governments of Venezuela taken together". Among those languishing in prison is Comrade Faria, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Venezuela, beloved leader of the oil workers, who has been in prison for the past year and a half.

Because of the crisis, the U.S. State Department which helped the present sanguinary Junta seize power, is busy searching for likely candidates for a new,

stronger government, which, at the same time, would pursue with the same zeal the policy of preparing and fomenting a new war, a policy of police repression against the working class, against all working people and progressive elements in Venezuela. With this aim in view the State Department is negotiating with the three former presidents: Eleazar Lopez Contreras, Isaisa Medina and Romulo Galegos.

MEETING OF RUMANIAN COLLECTIVE FARM WORKERS

Economic-organisational strengthening of the collective farms is a matter that receives the constant attention of the Rumanian Workers' Party.

On the initiative of the Jalomita regional Committee of the Party a conference of chairmen, work-team leaders and secretaries of the Party organisations in 60 collective farms of the region was held in the middle of November. The chairman of the "Progresul" collective farm (Fetesti district), one of the leading collective farms, described how the farm, as a result of the attention displayed by the Party and Government and also to assimilation of the experience of Soviet collective farmers, had achieved considerable success. In the space of two and a half years the number of families belonging to the farm rose from 387 to 96. Adjuncts of this collective farm now include dairy and poultry sections, while sheep and hog raising are being developed. The collective obtained an income of 9 million lei from sale of rice which was cultivated on an area of 25 hectares, and from animal husbandry.

Seventeen work-team leaders, chairmen and leading collective farmers took part in the discussion.

The participants of the meeting exchanged their experience in organising labour, keeping records of work-day units and collective property.

REPORTING-BACK MEETINGS IN PEASANT MUTUAL-AID UNION IN POLAND

Annual reporting-back meetings are taking place in the Peasant Mutual-Aid Union in Poland. At the meetings, the members are actively discussing the work of the Union and link it with discussion of the grain and vegetable purchasing campaign and tax payments. The small and middle peasants are taking pledges, the main aim of which is to increase the productivity of agriculture and speed up the fulfilment of the grain-purchasing plans. They are exposing the kulaks who are trying to frustrate realisation of these pledges.

The significance of these meetings can be gauged from those held in the Kachalinsk region. Peasants in the Wolchawsk district of this region, immediately after the meeting, organised 10 grain convoys; in a number of villages they took different pledges including a pledge to complete the plan for sale of grain and potatoes, payment of taxes ahead of schedule. The newly elected committees of the Union include Party and non-Party activists from among the small and middle peasants and members of the producer co-operatives.

GERMAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP MONTH

In Germany a month of German-Soviet Friendship has just ended. In the course of the month Berlin was visited by a Soviet delegation headed by K.I. Scriabin, member of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R., member of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. and Stalin Prize Winner. In a joint address to the German people, the National Council of the National Front and the German-Soviet Friendship Society called upon all peace-loving Germans “fighting against the criminal plans of the warmongers, to turn the German-Soviet Friendship Month into the culminating point of the national effort of the German people”.

Numerous meetings, rallies and other political undertakings were held as part of the friendship month. In the German Democratic Republic thousands of working people took production pledges.

The people of Western Germany also participated in the campaign. In Hanover one thousand citizens attended a big rally held under the slogan: “34 years of the Soviet Union—34 years of the Soviet policy of peace”.

**AGENTS OF FASCIST TITO CLIQUE—
ENEMIES OF WORKING CLASS OF
GERMANY. Herta Geffke, Member, Central
Control, Commission, Socialist Unity
Party of Germany.**

In carrying out their predatory plans the American imperialists assign a special role to Western Germany. The Wall Street magnates regard Western Germany, first, as a base for war against the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and the German Democratic Republic, and, second, as a source of cheap cannon fodder. For these reasons the American aggressors spare no effort to subordinate the German people to the policy of military gambles. Hence the warmongers regard as their chief tasks: to aggravate the split in the working class, and to disrupt, from within, the Communist Party of Germany, the most consistent fighter in Western Germany for peace, democracy and against predatory American imperialism.

For the purpose of achieving these ends the occupation authorities of the imperialist powers set up in Western Germany and in West Berlin a ramified network of espionage centres—all connected with the Bonn Ministry of Interior and with the Kaiser ministry. In addition to these centres, there are also such espionage organisations as the "Eastern Bureau" of the Social Democratic Party of Germany, located in Hanover, the espionage bureau of the Christian Democratic Union in Gelsenkirchen, and the so-called "Against Inhumanity" group in West Berlin.

Last spring this foul gang of spies and provocateurs was supplemented by the “Schappe group” formed by the fascist Tito clique. What elements make up the “Schappe group”?

At one time Schappe was exposed as a Titoite agent in Germany and expelled from the Communist Party. It was not at all fortuitous that Schappe became an accomplice of the Tito fascist clique. This was the logical outcome of all his previous “activity”. Even prior to 1938, Schappe belonged to a “left” sectarian group, and, when arrested in 1935, he turned out to be a provocateur, betraying his comrades to the Gestapo. In the Buchenwald concentration camp, Schappe acted as traitor in relation to the Party group and became the associate of the Yugoslav Mihailov—a provocateur like himself. Today this Mihailov carries out Tito’s assignments as international recruiter of spies and assassins. On returning to Germany from Paris, Mihailov contacted Schappe in Düsseldorf and put him in touch with representatives of the Yugoslav consulate, whence, later, Schappe began to receive arms for his agents-provocateurs.

Wolfgang Leonhard, who visited Yugoslavia in 1947 at the invitation of the Yugoslav mission in Berlin, is another pillar of the espionage “Schappe group”. While in Yugoslavia the Tito clique assigned him the task of worming his way by any means to a leading post in the Union of Free German Youth. In this he was unsuccessful. Despite his double-dealing, Leonhard was exposed in 1949, during a discussion of the Information ‘Bureau’s resolution “Communist Party of Yugoslavia in the Power of Murderers and Spies”, and fled to Yugoslavia. His accomplices—Ilse Streblov and Stambulla—also took to their heels; at present as

members of the "Schappe group" they are active in Western Germany. The Schappe gang also includes Georg Fischer, Willi Böppe and others who were expelled from the Communist Party of Germany as enemies of the working class.

This group seeks to knock together all the anti-Party and corrupt elements expelled at one time or another from the tanks of the Communist Party of Germany. At the same time it strives to recruit agents in the German Democratic Republic, above all, from among elements expelled from the Socialist Unity Party of Germany.

The Tito clique assigned the "Schappe group" the task of setting up a third "workers'" party. For this purpose the gang tried to hold a number of meetings in Düsseldorf, but the gatherings were dispersed by the workers. Last spring, however, the Titoites succeeded in getting together, under the protection of occupation troops and the Adenauer police, a motley of their agents and supporters. This gang of spies and provocateurs 'called itself the "Independent Worker's Party". It was also joined by the Trotskyite grouping headed by Salus and Jungelas. Its "programme", slander and praise for the Tito fascist gang, was coordinated beforehand with Titoite agents. The Tito clique organised permanent courier contact with Western Germany via Austria.

The Titoites nominated Schappe as the leader of this "party", he being the most corrupt und suitable person for the job of realising the criminal plans. To begin with, they supplied him with a million marks. Thereupon the espionage "Schappe group" began to publish the "Neue Tribüne", a filthy fascist rag, in an edition of 15,000 copies, nine-tenths of which are given away. It is filled with foul slanders against the Soviet

Union, the Communist Party of Germany, the German Democratic Republic and the Socialist Unity Party of Germany.

The Schappe gang is a collection of provocateurs and of politically and morally corrupt elements acting as evil and insidious spies for the Western occupation authorities. Here are some examples of their vile provocations. Carrying out a police assignment, Schappe agents, under cover of darkness, planted in the Ernst Thalmann House (Communist Party premises in Düsseldorf), a package containing provocative documents ready for the police to “pick them up next morning during a raid, In Bremerhaven, Titoite agents planted explosives in the apartments of three members of the Communist Party, and the explosives were “discovered” next morning during a raid: In this way, these nefarious provocateurs create pretexts for the arrest of leading workers and for banning mass democratic organisations. These are the typical Gestapo methods well-known to German workers.

The Tito fascist agency acts on direct orders from its U.S.-British masters. Schappe and Dormann are liaison men of the CIC (American Secret Service) the headquarters of which are located in Wiesbaden whence they receive their orders. An agent named Winz maintains contact with the FSS (British Secret Service). Contact with the Tito clique in Yugoslavia is maintained through Leonhard and Stambulla. All these Titoite agents in Western Germany and West Berlin are closely interlaced; they regularly exchange their espionage “experience”; they smuggle spies into the German Democratic Republic and send them into the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. As a rule when the security organs of the German Democratic Republic detain these

spies, a vile hullabaloo is raised in the West German yellow press in defence of the alleged innocents.

The idea behind the forming of the Schappe gang was to bring together discontented “left” elements among the backward workers and to use them for secret work in disrupting the ranks of the working class) However, the Schappe gang was unsuccessful in recruiting new agents, although each month it spends on subversive work some 50,000 marks furnished by the Tito clique. Neither did the fraudulent slogan “Independence from East and West” help the espionage group. Then, in an attempt to confuse the working class, certain members from the “Schappe group” resorted to lying, demagogic declarations alleging their “devotion” to the Soviet Union. Thus, these elements do everything in their power to deceive the workers, seeking to use them for carrying out the war plans of the U.S. imperialists.

The American warmongers and their lackeys in Western Germany miscalculated. The wide response which the appeal of the People’s Chamber of the German Democratic Republic for an all-German meeting found among all sections of the population, testifies to a remarkable growth in the activity of the German people in the struggle for reunion, for independence. The Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Communist Party of Germany are the vanguard in this struggle. Their solidarity and militancy are constantly growing. Having expelled from its ranks the enemy and corrupt elements of the Schappe gang, the Communist Party of Germany has gained in strength; it acted resolutely in putting an end to the appeasement and rotten liberalism which enabled these criminals to carry on their subversive activities inside the Party. Of great

help in this struggle were the resolutions of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties which exposed the Tito clique as a gang of fascist spies and assassins. These resolutions helped the Party to discern the enemies, despite their camouflage and double-dealing. Raising ideological work and revolutionary class vigilance to higher levels, And studying the history of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks), the vast experience of the Lenin-Stalin Party, will equip us in the struggle against all enemies who, acting on orders from the imperialists, seek to split the working class and its revolutionary party.

“PEASANT EDUCATION DAYS” IN FRANCE

On November 24 and 25, in Perigueux, the French Communist Party held “peasant education days” in which Jacques Duclos, Secretary of the Party, and Waldeck Rochet, member of the Political, Bureau, took part. Four hundred delegates from eight Departments, Party functionaries and peasant activists, were present.

The object of the “education days” was, first, to explain to the peasants, who are experiencing great hardships, the suggestions advanced by the Communist Party, its programme and policy for regenerating agriculture, for national independence and peace. Second, to focus the attention of all Party organisations, Party members and particularly peasant members of the Party, on the urgent need of putting an end to sectarianism and of carrying on work in the agricultural organisations.

A resolution adopted stresses that “peasants—members of the Communist Party— must work actively in the agricultural organisations in order to uphold the interests of the mass of small and middle peasants and to foil the manoeuvres of the reactionaries and of the fascist-big landlords”. The resolution recalls that “work among peasants is a matter for the entire Party and not just for a few experts”.

The resolution calls for intensified circulation of the Party newspaper *La Terre* “which should play the role of collective propagandist and organiser of the peasant masses”.

The “education days” concluded with a tally attended by seven thousand peasants. It was addressed by Waldeck Rochet and Jacques Duclos.

BULGARIA ON THE PATH OF SOCIALIST INDUSTRIALISATION. Anton Yugov, Member, Political Bureau, Central Committee, Communist Party of Bulgaria

The people of Bulgaria, led by their Communist Party, enjoying the invaluable aid of the great Soviet Union and in close co-operation with the People's Democracies, marching steadfastly along the Stalin path of socialist industrialisation, have made great strides in developing industry and in socialist reorganisation of the entire national economy.

Extremely backward in the matter of economic development, with a primitive agriculture and an exceedingly weak, mainly light industry, in semi-colonial dependence on the imperialist countries, particularly German imperialism,—such was Bulgaria prior to the establishment of the people's democratic system.

A feature of our industry prior to September 9, 1944, was its domination by foreign capital, amounting to 48.3 per cent in the large-scale processing industry, and even more in other industries ; for example, 100 per cent in lead and zinc mining, 91 per cent in the cement industry, 85 per cent in sugar-refining and match production, 65 per cent in the tobacco industry, etc. The main export firms marketing tobacco, fruit, ores, etc. were in the hands of foreign capital. All the key positions in national economy of old Bulgaria were held by foreign capital which, acting the master, dominated the entire economic life of the country.

In such conditions our country could not develop its industry and create its own technical base. Hence its extreme backwardness in economic development.

The liberation of Bulgaria by the Soviet Army from fascist slavery, and the establishment of the people's democratic system which put an end to our country's dependence on the imperialist jackals, opened a new page in the life of our people, created conditions for industrialisation and for the socialist reorganisation of the entire economy. The first decisive step taken by the people's democratic power towards realising these transformations was the taking over of the means of production from the big capitalists and converting them into State, public property. The nationalisation of industry, introduced on December 23, 1947, was, as Georgi Dimitrov expressed it, "a most important revolutionary measure in the sphere of economy".

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The great leaders of the international proletariat, Lenin and Stalin, teach us that in order to establish the economic base of Socialism—after the seizure of power by the working class—it is essential to build up the national heavy industry, since highly developed industry is the main basis of Socialism.

Guided by these directives, Georgi Dimitrov, addressing the Fifth Congress of our Party, advanced as the main task of the Party, the transformation of Bulgaria from, a backward agrarian country into an industrial-agrarian one. He stressed more than once that our task was not exhausted by reconstructing that which already existed in the national economy. "What is also needed", said Georgi Dimitrov, "is accelerated

development of the production forces in our country for the purpose of speedily eliminating its economic backwardness and of transforming it, as quickly as possible, into a developed industrial-agrarian country”.

The opening of these perspectives for our country, for its rapid advance towards Socialism evoked the greatest enthusiasm among the working class and all working people in Bulgaria. Due to selfless labour and high production activity on the part of the hundreds of thousands of people who joined the great construction work begun through the country, Bulgaria's national economy was in the main rehabilitated during fulfilment of the Two-Year Plan, and the ground was prepared for working out the Five-Year Plan for the development of the national economy, as a programme for laying the economic and cultural foundations of Socialism in our country.

Carrying out the political line charted by Georgi Dimitrov at the Fifth Congress, the Party and the Government undertook concrete measures to ensure fulfilment of this vast construction programme. Decisive among these measures was the annual increase in the volume of capital investments. In 1949, for example, 45 per cent more capital was invested in the national economy than in 1948. During the first 6 months of 1951, capital investments were 1.6 more than in the same period in 1950; in heavy industry alone, capital investments more than doubled. In 1951, investments in capital construction rose 4 times compared with 1947.

As a result of this extensive construction, 373 industrial enterprises costing 10,707 million leva, with heavy industry accounting for 8,977 million leva, commenced operations in 1949. Last year 806 industrial enterprises were put into operation. During the current

year construction of the Stalin chemical combinat—the biggest industrial enterprise in our country and the pride of our socialist construction—was completed. The big thermo-electric station named after Vylko Tchervakov, was put into operation. By the end of the year, the “Republika” thermo-electric station, the “Tchervena Zvezda” and the G. Kirkov engineering plants, and many other enterprises and power stations valued in all at 92,000 million leva, will begin functioning.

During the current year alone, there will commence operations power stations whose total capacity will exceed by 40 per cent that of all the power stations built in Bulgaria in the past 60 or more years, that is, in the period since the liberation of our country from the Turkish yoke up to 1939.

Such a rate and such a scale of construction were never before known in our country and are simply impossible under the capitalist system.

Due to the opening of a growing number of new enterprises, industrial output is steadily rising and the needs of the country and of the working people are being satisfied on an ever wider scale. Already, by the end of 1948, total industrial output exceeded the pre-war level by 85 per cent as a result of the fulfilment of the Two-Year Plan, In 1949, industrial output rose 30 per cent compared with 1948, and in 1950—23.3 per cent compared with 1949. By the end of 1951, total industrial output will be, approximately, 4 times more than in 1939, and in the industries producing means of production, the figure will be 4.2 times more. Thus, by the end of 1951, industrial output will reach 97.3 per cent of the level envisaged by the Five-Year Plan for

1953, In the basic branches, the Five-Year Plan will be completed in 3 years.

Guided by the counsel of Comrade Stalin that the pivot of industrialisation, its base consists in developing heavy industry, (fuel, metal, etc.), and finally, in developing production of the means of production, in developing a national machine-building industry—the Party and the Government directed our industrial development in a way that resulted in a big change in its structure. The Five-Year Plan envisaged an increase in the share of heavy industry from 30 per cent in 1946 to 44.6 per cent at the end of 1953. But already, by the end of 1951, the share of heavy industry will amount to 42.7 per cent. At the end of the current year generation of electric power will be 3.7 times more than in 1939; coal output, 2.8 times; ore output will be 24 times greater; output of machines more than 90 times, etc.

As a result of the successful fulfilment of the socialist industrialisation programme, a number of new branches of industry, hitherto non-existent in our country, were established.

In his address delivered on the occasion of the Freedom celebration—September 9, 1951—Comrade Vylko Tchervenkov said that we now had our own electrical industry, agricultural machinery industry, a chemical industry; that output of ores was being developed successfully, and that with the fraternal aid of the Soviet Union we would build in the near future our own iron and steel industry.

Simultaneously with the development of heavy industry, the volume of output in light industry is steadily rising. In 1951, for example, output of cotton fabrics rose threefold compared with 1939, woollen fabrics fourfold, etc.

Such a rate of industrial development will enable us not only to attain, by the end of the current year, the level envisaged by the Five-Year Plan for 1953, but even to surpass it; in coal by 14 per cent, in timber felling 8 per cent, woollen fabrics, 25 per cent, and so on.

The development of our heavy industry and the vast technical and economic aid received by us from the Soviet Union, play a decisive role also in the reorganisation of our the peasants are united in the agricultural producer co-operatives which, together with the state farms, supplied 70 per cent of the state grain fund this year.

On the basis of these successes in our industry and agriculture, a steady rise is taking place in the material and cultural level of the working people, a consolidation of the patriotic unity of our people is, taking place, of its faith and firm conviction in the correctness of the policy of our Party and the Government; of its confidence in and boundless love for the great Soviet Union, for the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks) and for our beloved leader and teacher—Comrade Stalin.

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The big successes in developing Bulgaria's national economy are the results of the heroic and conscious labour of the working class and of all working people in our country who, under the leadership of the Party and headed by Comrade Vylko Teherventkov, are displaying exceptional labour and political activity in fulfilling and exceeding production plans, There is a growing awareness among the working class and working peasantry that they are the masters in their country and

that the fruits of their labour go not to capitalists and parasites, but to themselves, and to those coming after them, to benefit the people and strengthen peace.

That is why the socialist emulation in which the vast majority of workers are taking part is extending to more and more factories throughout the country. In industry, during the second and the third quarters of the current year, 85 per cent of the workers participating in the emulation took individual pledges; in the cotton industry, 93.5 per cent of the operatives took individual and collective obligations.

Hundreds of heroes of socialist labour, shock-workers, rationalisers, innovators, inventors and Dimitrov Prize winners, appeared among the workers in industry and in transport. Following the experience of Soviet stakhanovites, they are making the old norms obsolete, and, by their example, inspire other workers. A new, progressive initiative is making more and more headway: multiple machine-minding is being mastered and widely operated—embracing in some enterprises from 80 to 90 per cent of the workers; the number of innovators in mining is growing.

Our working class is steadily extending the struggle for economy of funds and materials, for better quality, for more variety of goods and lower production costs.

Arising from this, labour productivity rose during 1950, in the Ministry of Industry alone, 13.2 per cent compared with 1949, and 10.5 per cent in the first six months of 1951. Production costs in industry during 1950 were lowered in the enterprises of the Ministry of Industry by 47.5 per cent and by 5.4 per cent during the first six months of the current year.

We are indebted for these successes to our Communist Party which was able to organise and rally

our people and to direct their creative energies in the struggle for building Socialism, for fulfilling and exceeding production plans, in the struggle for the steady development of our socialist economy. They result from the fact that in the majority of enterprises the Party organisations devote close attention to economic matters, that they regard plan fulfilment as their constant task.

But the decisive factor of our successes in the sphere of industrialisation is the inviolable friendship with the Soviet Union which inspires our people to heroic labour exploits. Without the fraternal aid of the great Soviet Union and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks), without the everyday solicitude and counsel of Comrade Stalin, our people would not have succeeded in attaining such brilliant results in socialist construction in our country in such a short space of time. The Soviet Union supplies our country, on the basis of long-term credits, with machinery and equipment for our big undertakings—factories, mills and power stations. It sends us its excellent specialists; who render invaluable aid in the matter of assimilating the new technique and in mastering Soviet methods of work. The Soviet Union renders us all-round technical aid in projecting big plants, in prospecting and utilising our mineral resources.

Precisely-for these reasons our people see in fraternal friendship with the great Soviet Union a guarantee of their bright future and the soundest guarantee of their freedom and independence, of their rapid advance along the pathway of laying the foundations of Socialism.

Between this sincere fraternal aid which the Soviet Union renders us and the other countries of people's democracy, aid based on absolute mutual respect and equality and pursuing the sole aim of helping the countries of people's democracy to get onto their feet more quickly and more firmly, of strengthening their sovereignty and independence—between this aid and the “aid” of the American imperialists to the Marshallised countries which makes them completely dependent politically and economically, there can be no comparison whatever.

A typical example is Yugoslavia which the fascist Titoite gang of provocateurs and spies isolated from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies and turned over to the clutches of the U.S.-British imperialists. At present the U.S.-British monopolies and trusts are sucking dry Yugoslavia's national economy, feverishly militarising the country and preparing it for war against the Soviet Union and 'the countries of people's democracy. Tito's fascist gang placed all the natural resources of the country at the disposal of the American imperialists who have turned Yugoslavia into their agrarian appendage and its people into their serfs.

As a result Yugoslavia's economy is in a state of utter decline. Industrial output is steadily falling. In 1950 output declined 20 per cent compared with 1949. Labour productivity declined by 32 per cent. The Titoites themselves admit that the eight hour day is not observed in Yugoslavia. The working class is subjected to brutal exploitation and terror and the conditions of the working people are constantly deteriorating.

Therefore, the exposure and liquidation of the Traicho Kostov gang, the imperialist agency in our Party ranks and in the state apparatus of Bulgaria striving to

turn our country into a U.S. colony similar to Yugoslavia, were a big victory for the Party and the Bulgarian people.

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The rapid development of our industry, taking place in the conditions of ceaseless struggle against the class enemy, against routine and survivals of the past, demands not only increasingly greater responsibility but also better training of cadres and higher skill, since these are essential for mastery of the new technique, for ensuring efficient leadership in the socialist enterprises. Consequently, the job of training cadres of highly skilled workers and technical personnel is now one of the main jobs facing the Party and the Government.

The Party and the Government spare neither effort nor means in training such cadres. In 1950, for example, 46,390 workers completed training courses in the enterprises of the Ministry of Industry. This year another 56,000 workers completed these courses. Courses have also been opened to prepare workers to take the exams for the complete course in the technical schools and for transmitting the experience of the best workers—stakhanovites.

However, the training of workers for industry and transport is still lagging behind the needs and rate of our development. There are as yet serious shortcomings in the training system, in drafting the curricula and in selecting teachers. There have been instances of departments obviously underestimating the significance of training and refresher courses for workers and technical personnel.

The technical personnel often lag behind the movement of workers for widespread introduction of new methods of work. At times the workers introduce new methods over the heads of their leaders, fighting in some cases to overcome their conservatism and apathy. In some branches of industry the role of foreman has not yet been elevated to the due level, he has not yet become commander in his sector, responsible for fulfilment of the plan.

As yet some enterprises are not doing all they could do to make full use of the machinery and equipment, to plan the working day efficiently, to bring into action all the inner reserves—an important condition for a steady rise in labour productivity and for lowering cost of production. A number of enterprises are not fulfilling production plans in all respects.

Not everywhere has the struggle for decisive improvement in quality and variety of goods become the everyday militant task of the Party and trade union organisations, of the administrative and technical leaders. In a number of branches of industry labour fluctuation and absenteeism are still serious matters.

The Fifth Congress of the Party and particularly the Third Conference, posed very sharply the question of strengthening labour and financial discipline in the enterprises. We have achieved big success in this sphere as a result of systematic work. But, as yet, we cannot say that we have fully solved the task of establishing strict financial discipline and accounting which constitute one of the conditions for timely disclosure and liquidation of weaknesses and shortcomings and on which depends the conversion of our socialist enterprises into going concerns. Precisely for this reason, with the aim of ensuring continued

consolidation of financial and labour discipline, the Party advances, as one of its main tasks, resolute struggle against absenteeism and labour fluctuation, for more rational utilisation of machinery and its proper maintenance, for raising skills and improving quality of production, for making the enterprises more profitable, as a condition for a constant increase in socialist accumulation.

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How then does our Party define the main line for the further development of the national industry?

First, the Party and the Government set as the main and basic task **to develop geological-survey work to the maximum** with a view to ascertaining the mineral wealth of our country and creating a solid base for the development of mining, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy as the starting point for the development of heavy industry.

Second, guided by the Lenin-Stalin teaching of the role of electrification for development of the national economy, the Party and the Government devote special attention to maximum utilisation of our fuel and hydro-power resources so that **by continually increasing output of electric energy** we will be able to satisfy the ever growing demands of industry and agriculture.

Third, **development of the chemical industry and building materials industry.** Putting into operation the Stalin Chemical Combinat and construction of the soda plants are a solid foundation for the further development of our chemical industry. The country disposes of raw material resources on the basis of which the chemical industry can be further greatly developed

and converted into one of the most important sectors of our industry and of the entire national economy. The conditions are also favourable for development of our cement industry and other important branches of the building industry.

Fourth, **development of machine-building**, mainly those branches making equipment for the mining industry, agricultural machinery, equipment for the food industry and also equipment essential for mechanising the processes in other branches of the national economy.

The industrialisation of our country is proceeding with the aid of the great Soviet Union and its mighty industry and in cooperation with the other countries of people's democracy. Hence, in developing machine-building and other branches of industry we strive not to duplicate those branches of industry which are highly developed in the Soviet Union and in the people's Democracies and development of which would not be advantageous economically nor justified for our national economy.

Simultaneously the Party and the Government have set as the task number one completion as rapidly as possible of the industrial plants now under construction in order to accelerate utilisation of new capacity and to prevent material means from being unduly frozen.

Moreover, there are bottlenecks in different branches of industry, arising from the plan-less construction during capitalist rule.

Enterprises in different branches are inadequately equipped, they lack price specialisation and there is an obvious discrepancy between certain kindred branches as a result of which insufficient capacity in one branch renders impossible maximum use of capacity in other

branches. Typical in this respect is the disparity between the weaving and spinning branches of the cotton textile industry. To overcome this by building new spinning mills is a vital condition for maximum utilisation of capacity of the weaving mills and for raising the output of the cotton textile industry. Along with eliminating these bottlenecks we are, simultaneously, building a number of light industry enterprises in order to satisfy the growing needs of the population.

Such are the basic plans for the development of the country's industry.

Assimilating the rich experience of their Soviet brothers, the working class and all working people in Bulgaria, led by the Party, are successfully solving and will solve completely the tasks bound up with the industrialisation of the country and with reinforcing its economic might and defence capacity. By doing so they will make their contribution to the common cause of the freedom-loving peoples, who, headed by the Soviet Union, are battling for peace, democracy and Socialism.

BOOK REVIEW

Organiser of Work of Party Activists (Italian Communist Party Journal “Activists Note-Book”)



More than four years ago the Italian Communist Party began to publish the fortnightly journal “Activist’s Note-Book” with a view to helping Party activists in their everyday work, for fruitful exchange of experience among Party organisations and for extending the contact between the leadership of the Party and activists. The journal now appears in 50,000 copies.

It contains articles by leaders of the Party, by secretaries and members of the federation committees and of sections and branches, summarising the experience of ideological, organisational and Party mass

work as well as methods of carrying out vital Party decisions.

In addition, the journal runs permanent columns. The column "Replying to comrades", for example, deals with various aspects of the life and activity of Party organisations; the column "From the organisations" contains shorts and articles about the work of the sections and branches. The column "Consultations on ideological questions" furnishes answers to theoretical questions connected with practical work. The column "Calling your attention" publishes brief reviews of books, journals and leaflets of interest to activists.

During important Party campaigns the journal opens special sections as, for example: "Notes on exchange of Party membership cards", "Notes on Party press month" and so on, which popularise the most valuable experience acquired by this or that branch, section or federation in the course of the campaign.

Since January 1st 1951 each issue of the journal has featured the column "Thirty years work and struggle" containing articles dealing with the history of the Italian Communist Party, with episodes of its struggle, its traditions and rich experience—all of which help to improve work at present.

In an article "Struggle for peace in Abruzzo region", Celso Ghini, member of the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party, describes the positive results of the participation of Communists in the campaign for a Peace Pact. Simultaneously, it criticises the mistakes on matters of principle made by certain Party functionaries, mistakes which were responsible for the long period of poor activity in collecting signatures to the Appeal of the World Peace Council. These

Communists, while rallying their forces for the struggle for the immediate demands of the working people, failed to understand the significance of direct and active participation in the campaign for a Peace Pact. The author of the article stresses that in extending the movement for peace, “they would have strengthened and made more purposeful the struggle for land. for the Labour Plan, for the regeneration of southern Italy. They would have furthered the cause of creating permanent and powerful mass organisations in accordance with the directives of the Seventh Party Congress”.

A number of articles from Rome acquaint readers with the interesting experience of peace partisans in the capital. The first describes how, on the initiative of a Party Member, a peace committee was established in the Ponte Parione district. Another speaks about the delegations which called on the local clergy to sign the Appeal for a Peace Pact. The third article deals with the experience of a woman member. Due to patient and convincing arguments and ability to put her finger on “that and main ability point to with which can agree”, she rallied for the peace struggle all the residents in her street block, the majority of whom belong to the middle section of the population (office employees, traders, etc.). Frequently, there is a section entitled “Experience of the struggle for peace” which contains reports dealing with the interesting and effective measures taken by peace partisans, illustrated material and reproductions of posters, wall-newspapers, and leaflets published by the peace committees.

The journal explains to Party members that every mass campaign conducted by the Communist Party should be organised in a way that ensures closer

relations between the Party and the masses and promotes the influence of the Party among the masses. Referring to the Communist Press Month, Pietro Secchia, deputy General Secretary of the Communist Party, stressed the need to increase the circulation of the press—the mightiest weapon of the Party. “We must”, he wrote, “by means of collections for the newspaper, by circulating it, by organising ‘Unita’ celebrations, embrace as many people as possible. Each celebration must become a channel helping us to reach places hitherto untouched by us. All organisations and Party members must take up this job with enthusiasm. The success of the Month will mark a new step forward in the struggle for peace and freedom”.

A number of articles deal with the experience of the work of branch Party organisations and of one or another of the Party activists. An article by Anita Galiussi notes shortcomings in preparing and conducting Party meetings in some branch organisations. Because the agenda was not discussed beforehand by the bureau of the branch, these meetings posed casual questions of minor importance. As a result of inadequate organisation, the members were sometimes not acquainted with the agenda beforehand or not informed about the meeting at all. At times no chairman was elected, no minutes taken, no resolution adopted and the meeting took the form of a “family” talk.

Another letter relates the positive experience of a Party section in Rome which, having formed a sports circle, organised a sports competition, lectures, exhibitions, and so on, and succeeded in making close contact with the population in the district.

A number of items deal with trade union work. They include the articles: “Struggle of Miners in Grosseto”,

“Struggle of Peasants in Matera for Agrarian Reform”, a letter dealing with the struggle for trade union unity, the work of the factory commissions, etc.

A better idea of the contents of the journal can be had from a review of the materials published in No. 20 (October) of the “Activist’s Note-Book”. The front page reproduces a poster calling for study of the “Short Course of the History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks)”. The editorial, written by Gian Carlo Pajetta, member of the Party Board, is devoted to the Italian-Soviet Friendship Month. Then there are three articles generalising the experience of the activity of peace partisans in Naples, Ancona and Rome; an article by the secretary of the Party federation in Cosenza describing the struggle of Calabrian peasants for land; an article by Velio Spano, secretary of the regional committee of the Party in Sardinia, on the tasks of the Sardinian Party organisations in carrying out the decisions of the Seventh Party Congress; an article by Comrade Grieco, member of the Party Board, about guidance to the young pioneer organisations. Other articles and letters are devoted to the significance of independent study by members, of work among war veterans, among women workers in the factories, about organising amateur art competitions, etc. Under the title “Books about the U.S.S.R.” there is an introductory article and a list of books about the Soviet Union published in Italy. The issue contains a brief review of Volume 4 of J. V. Stalin’s Works, recently published in the Italian language.

The editorial board of the journal shows constant concern for extending the number of contributors. In the past two years the journal printed articles by 300 Party functionaries. Of these, 102 work in the central

bodies of the Party and mass democratic organisations, and others in the province committees of the Party and mass organisations. In addition, there were published several hundred editorial articles and items critically reviewing the organisational, educational and propaganda work of the federations, sections and branches.

The journal maintains contact with readers and correspondents not only by printing their material but also by means of correspondence in which members of the editorial board and workers in the Central Departments of the Party take part.

The quality of the materials published in "Activist's Note-Book" is steadily improving. However, the editorial board has yet to overcome many serious shortcomings in order to make the journal an even more effective means for giving political orientation and guiding the work of the tens of thousands of Party activists. As yet, little attention is devoted to experience of the work of the local organisations. The journal's treatment of the work of Communists in the trade unions, in the women's and youth organisations and in the peace movement, is still inadequate. The ideological level of some of the articles is not up to the mark. As a result, evaluation of the practical work of the members is not always accompanied by extensive propaganda of Marxist-Leninist teaching.

The journal sets as its main task to develop further criticism and self-criticism in its columns. It seeks to introduce planning into study and popularisation of the experience of Party life, the struggle of the Party and its daily work so as to make the content of the journal less casual. The editorial board strives to ensure that each article contains concrete facts and a concrete

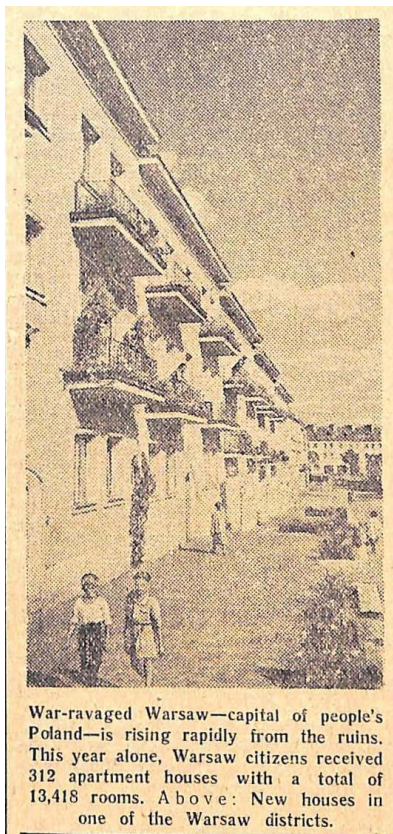
analysis of the work of the Party organisations and of individual activists, that it contains conclusions and generalisations helping to improve the entire work.

The positive experience of the discussion conducted in the columns of the journal on questions relating to the life and struggle of the Party and of the mass organisations should be extended. It is important that the' most vital questions of the work of Party activists should form the subject of discussion. The journal plans to devote particular attention to materials popularising the experience of individual Communists, arguments against hostile propaganda. The editorial board intends publishing more articles about individual study, to report the experience of leading workers and of rank-and-file members of the local organisations.

"Activist's Note-Book" has proved itself an effective weapon in the hands of the Party—a weapon contributing to improvement in Party work. Developing criticism in its columns, lending a ready ear to suggestions and points raised by readers, and organising, with their help, contributors' conferences, the journal will be able to overcome the shortcomings. The more Communists—its present readers—contributing to "Activist's Note-Book", the better will the journal fulfil its task.

ALDO D'ALFONSO

WAR-RAVAGED WARSAW—CAPITAL OF PEOPLE'S POLAND—



War-ravaged Warsaw—capital of people's Poland—is rising rapidly from the ruins. This year alone, Warsaw citizens received 312 apartment houses with a total of 13,418 rooms. Above: New houses in one of the Warsaw districts.

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READERS OF “FOR A LASTING PEACE, FOR A PEOPLE’S DEMOCRACY” HOLD CONFERENCE IN SAXONY

A conference of readers of the journal “For a Lasting Peace, for a People’s Democracy” in Saxony (German Democratic Republic) recently took place in Dresden. Those present included propagandists, agitators, worker activists from the people’s enterprises and representatives of the technical intelligentsia.

Addressing the conference, Comrade Horst Nebel, head of the agitation department of the Socialist Unity Party in Saxony, stressed the significance of “For a Lasting Peace, for a People’s Democracy” in the struggle for a united democratic Germany, for fulfilment of the Five-Year Plan of the German Democratic Republic and for educating Party cadres in the spirit of proletarian internationalism.

Speakers in the discussion told the conference of the use they made in their daily work of the material printed in the journal and exchanged experience.

Comrade Rudi Wetzel, assistant chief of the Central agitation department of the Socialist Unity Party, also addressed the conference.

YOSHIDA AMNESTIES WAR CRIMINALS

Acting on orders from the U.S. imperialists, the Yoshida Government recently published yet another—the eighth—list of personnel absolved of responsibility for activity during the second world war, that is, for the atrocities committed in China and Korea. Of the 33,745 militarists mentioned in the new list, nearly 32,000 are former gendarmes, some 1,400 former army officers and more than 200 naval officers.

In all, the Yoshida Government has illegally removed from the lists agreed upon after the war by the Allied Council for Japan, up to 99,000 war criminals, or 90 per cent of the entire fascist military personnel originally held responsible.

POLITICAL NOTES

1. Their Own “Iron Curtain”

On October 5, “United States News and World Report” featured an article under the portentous title: Our Own Iron Curtain. The author, a certain David Lawrence, asks in confusion: What has happened in free America?... Lawrence wants to know whether the hypocritical boasting about Americans living in a republic with free institutions and: enjoying “freedom” of the press will continue, or whether they will bow their heads in shame upon seeing their own iron curtain being lowered.

What has taken place in the U.S., what gives rise to these queries? There has taken place that which happens daily and hourly in a country where the process of fascisation of the political system leaves but ghostly recollections of the one-time “democratic liberties”. The point is that Truman recently issued special regulations for the press, blotting out once and for all, with one stroke of the pen, the article of the U.S. Constitution which declares that Congress cannot enact a single law restricting freedom of the press. The iron curtain decree”—as David Lawrence characterises the new regulation—prohibits all officials of the executive bodies from transmitting to anyone, other than the Government, by word of mouth or in writing, any information which their chief considers confidential.

Naturally, Truman accompanied this censorship regulation with talk about it not being an iron bridle but simply a fine silken rein and that it would lead to publishing not less but more information. Newspaper

people, however, immediately guessed the meaning of the President's order. From now on the only information available to American editors and journalists from government offices will be that which the President and his advisers consider favourable for the Government. Henceforth the monopoly of "free information" passes into the hands of the Government.

Certainly, it would be naive to think that prior to Mr. Truman's new ruling there was no censorship in the U.S. No other capitalist country knows such an iron censorship by capitalist monopolies, concerns and trusts—the owners of thousands and thousands of American bourgeois newspapers. In no other country are there such intricate obstacles in the way of the democratic and progressive press as in the U.S. And if this iron censorship by those who exercise power and this persecution of the democratic press no longer satisfy the present rulers of the U.S. with the result that they introduce special "regulations for the press this means that the process of unifying the press, and of subordinating it to the interests of the warmongers and the new pretenders to world domination, has gone long way indeed.

David Lawrence and his colleagues had to acknowledge that they were looking for the "iron curtain" in the wrong place can be seen, the actual "iron curtain" with which the U.S. rulers fence off the American people from the truth, exists precisely in the U.S.—in the country where the most rapacious plutocracy holds sway where everyday a most vile and venal press poisons the minds of people and where the rights of the people are basely outraged.

2. In Guise of Religious Missions

There is no foulness to which the American-British imperialists do not resort in their attempts to deceive ordinary people; to enslave the nations and prepare aggressive war. They try to flood other countries with their agents in order to facilitate realisation of their misanthropic designs. American diplomats, military representatives and even... missionaries—all are used as spies and provocateurs.

Not long ago a conference of representatives of American and British religious missions operating in the countries of South East Asia was held in a London suburb. What was discussed at this conference, what questions engaged the attention of the gentlemen in clerical garb?

It appears that they were worried about the fact that the peoples of Asia no longer want to be slaves of the imperialist plunderers from the West. As a certain Cross, head of the religious missions in South East Asia, put it, the conference became imperative in view of the fact that conditions of work for the religious (i.e. spying) missions in China and other countries of South East Asia had become most complicated due to the victory of the Chinese revolution and the reforms carried out by the People's Government of China. According to Cross, the mere existence of the People's Government in China agitates the minds of people in the neighbouring countries. In these conditions, continued Cross, the main effort of the religious missions in South East Asia must be concentrated on action designed to prevent the influence of the liberation ideas of the

Chinese revolution from gripping the minds of the broad masses in these countries.

The conference decided that all religious missions should establish contact with the American and British secret services in these countries and supply them with information obtained by the missionaries from religious people.

The conference also decided to give “spheres of activity”: American missionaries will engage in espionage in India, Burma, Thailand and Pakistan, while British missionaries will have Hong Kong, Singapore, Malaya and Indonesia.

However, no matter what foul and provocative methods are employed by the American-British imperialists, they cannot halt the victorious march of the peoples towards peace and democracy. The ordinary people are becoming increasingly aware of what is actually concealed by the words mercy and love inscribed on the signboards of the American and British religious missions.

Jan MAREK

FACTS EXPOSE...

Greek Tobacco “Marshallised”

Americans “expressed a desire” to supply Greece with... tobacco. The trouble was that Greeks have a hankering to buy and smoke their own tobacco of which there is an abundance, and which used to be the main item of export. Lapham, head of the “Marshall Plan” mission in Greece, quickly found a remedy for this ticklish situation by suggesting that Greece instead of growing tobacco should turn the tobacco plantations into vegetable gardens.

Yankees in Western Germany

The editor of the “New York Times” gave his Frankfurt correspondent a difficult assignment: to write about the behaviour and morale of U.S. soldiers in Western Germany. After beating about the bush the correspondent finally reached the conclusion in regard to the behaviour of American soldiers that automobile accidents and occasional crimes and violence, including rape and murder, were on the increase.

EDITORIAL BOARD

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