

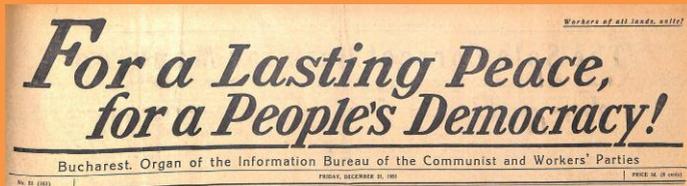
**Workers of all lands, unite!**

***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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# CONTENTS

<b>FOR INTENSIFIED STRUGGLE AGAINST MILITARISATION OF ECONOMY AND IMPOVERISHMENT OF WORKING PEOPLE IN CAPITALIST COUNTRIES.....</b>	<b>5</b>
<b>EXTEND AND CONSOLIDATE WORLD FRONT OF PEACE PARTISANS.....</b>	<b>11</b>
PREPARATION FOR NATIONAL PEACE CONGRESS IN FRANCE .....	11
LABOUR IN THE NAME OF PEACE .....	12
MEETING OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF WOMEN'S INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRATIC FEDERATION .....	13
YOUTH IN BURMA ACTIVE .....	16
RUMANIAN WORKING PEOPLE WHOLEHEARTEDLY SUPPORT PROPOSAL OF SOVIET DELEGATION IN UNO.....	16
CALL FOR INTENSIFIED SIGNATURE COLLECTION IN BRITAIN .....	17
<b>VALOUR AND HEROISM OF KOREAN PEOPLE.....</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>THE SOLE CORRECT PATH FOR MANKIND. PALMIRO TOGLIATTI, GENERAL SECRETARY, ITALIAN COMMUNIST PARTY .....</b>	<b>24</b>
<b>SAVE THE LIFE OF OBDULIO BARTHE.....</b>	<b>53</b>
<b>STRIKE MOVEMENT GROWS IN INDIA .....</b>	<b>54</b>
<b>"J. V. STALIN" STATUE UNVEILED IN BUDAPEST.....</b>	<b>56</b>
<b>CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF HOLLAND.....</b>	<b>57</b>
<b>CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF BULGARIA ON TASKS OF TRADE UNIONS .....</b>	<b>58</b>
<b>STRUGGLE FOR IMMEDIATE DEMANDS IS STRUGGLE FOR PEACE. PLENUM, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF BELGIUM .....</b>	<b>60</b>
<b>PEOPLE'S COUNCILS IN RUMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. DR. PETRU GROZA CHAIRMAN, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS, RUMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC.....</b>	<b>61</b>
<b>LATIN AMERICA UNDER THE HEEL OF U.S. MONOPOLIES. RODNEY ARISMENDI, MEMBER, LEADERSHIP, COMMUNIST PARTY OF URUGUAY.....</b>	<b>69</b>

<b>MEETINGS OF AGITATORS IN POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY.....</b>	<b>76</b>
<b>CONGRESS OF GERMAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY IN WESTERN GERMANY.....</b>	<b>77</b>
<b>MONARCHO-FASCISTS THREATEN 12 GREEK PATRIOTS WITH DEATH.....</b>	<b>78</b>
<b>ACCIDENT RATE INCREASING IN YUGOSLAV FACTORIES .....</b>	<b>79</b>
<b>PERSONNEL RESERVE OF U.S. "DIRTY BUSINESS DEPARTMENT". DRAWING BY J. NOVAK .....</b>	<b>80</b>
<b>POLITICAL NOTES.....</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>"OPERATION CLOAK AND DAGGER" .....</b>	<b>81</b>
<b>TOWN OF STALIN ON THE DANUBE .....</b>	<b>84</b>

## **FOR INTENSIFIED STRUGGLE AGAINST MILITARISATION OF ECONOMY AND IMPOVERISHMENT OF WORKING PEOPLE IN CAPITALIST COUNTRIES**

Exploitation and impoverishment of the working people in the capitalist, colonial and dependent countries have never before reached such a degree as now when the U.S.-British aggressive bloc of imperialists is conducting a frantic arms drive and feverishly preparing a new world war. The unprecedented scale of militarisation of the economy in the capitalist countries has led to a sharp deterioration in living conditions and wages for workers, to still greater unemployment and to a rise in prices for vital necessities, to a heavier tax burden and curtailment of civilian production.

Accordingly as the relative and absolute impoverishment of the proletariat grows, as millions of peasants, handicraftsmen and small manufacturers are ruined, the more monstrous is the rise in profits of the capitalist monopolies. In his report to the U.S. Congress, Truman stated that this year's profits of American corporations would total 50 billion dollars, i.e. more than double the average in the period of World War Two. Growing at a particularly rapid rate are the super-profits of the war industry concerns of the finance groups of Rockefeller, DuPont, Mellon and Morgan, whose business agent Charles Wilson, defence mobilisation boss, not long ago openly and cynically voiced the Hitlerite slogan "guns instead of butter"!

Seeking to justify the arms drive, the ruling imperialist plutocracy endeavours to befuddle the

working people by depicting militarisation and war as the pathway to economic prosperity and full employment. Meanwhile, even last year's understated data of the U.S. Labour Department show that 15.2 million people in the U.S. are fully or part-time unemployed, excluding their families. This year unemployment continued to grow. The number of unemployed in September alone increased by a million. Last year in the capitalist countries the number of fully and part-time unemployed totalled 45 million.

Seeking to conceal the real reasons for the impoverishment of the working people, U.S.-British war propagandists advocate, more and more, all kinds of cannibal neo-Malthusian "theories" about "absolute over-population" of the world, which, allegedly, leads to a shortage of supplies and food for the "surplus" people. In this way they seek to give a "theoretical" foundation to the war psychosis, and, in the spirit of Hitlerite fabrications, to demonstrate that war is needed in order to "reduce the population". Simultaneously, the "scholarly" enemies of mankind keep silent, for example, about the fact that the participants of the aggressive Atlantic bloc, even going by official calculations, will spend in the fiscal year 1951-52 a total of 190 billion dollars, a sum which would be fully adequate for full state maintenance of all unemployed and their hungry families throughout the capitalist world.

Extension of the war industry in the capitalist countries brings, as its inevitable sequel, sharp decline in production of consumer goods, soaring prices for prime necessities and rising cost of living. Thus, in the course of one year following the intervention in Korea,

the cost of living in the U.S. increased 14 per cent and in Britain 25 per cent.

The Right-wing Socialists and reactionary trade union leaders—the watch-dogs of imperialism—zealously protecting the profits of the monopolies, fully support the wage “freeze” policy. The Right-wing Socialists propound the “theory” that working class conditions are not improved by raising wages since this would automatically result in a rise in prices. Resorting to all kinds of artful falsehoods they strive to conceal from the people the truth that price inflation is the inevitable and direct outcome of the militarisation of the economy.

An altogether different picture—the very opposite of that in the capitalist countries—is provided by the situation of the working people in the U.S.S.R. and in the People’s Democracies—countries where there is no unemployment, and where all the thoughts and efforts of the peoples and their governments are directed not towards armaments drive and war preparations, but towards peaceful building of a happy and well-to-do life for the working people.

An unprecedented rise in the material and cultural level of the working people has taken place in the Soviet Union. The wellbeing of the population is improving, wages are rising and the life of the collective farmers becoming more and more prosperous. Last year, three-quarters of the total national income went to satisfy the personal requirements of the working people of the U.S.S.R., the remainder was placed at the disposal of State and cooperative organisations to meet national and public needs. The improvement in the material conditions of the working people in the People’s Democracies is evident in the steady rise in

wages of factory and office workers, in lower prices for food and consumer goods.

The robbery of the working people in the countries of imperialism, the onslaught on their democratic rights, the brutal persecution of progressive personalities, organisations and peace supporters;—all are carried out by the imperialist powers under the false slogan of “defence”. It is known, however; that all the predatory wars begun by the imperialists were prepared under cover of talk about “defence”, and that the most aggressive treaties concluded by the imperialist powers were described as “defensive”. The whole world knows—and this is proved by the course of history—that the Soviet Union has never threatened anyone with military attack. The policy of the Soviet State and of the People’s Democracies is aimed at establishing stable, universal peace among the peoples, at reducing arms and prohibiting the atom bomb. Striking evidence of the Soviet people’s love for peace is the construction of the grand hydro-electric stations and canals, the planting of powerful forest belts and the building of new towns in U.S.S.R., and also in the flowering of science and culture.

The increasing militarisation of the economy in the capitalist countries, the growing war danger, and the further impoverishment of the masses, give rise to an ever more organised resistance on the part of the working people. A feature of the present situation in the capitalist countries is the growing resistance on the part of the masses of the people to militarising the economy. The struggle of the working people for their vital demands, for peace bread, freedom and national independence is growing in the course of this struggle, unity of the working class is spreading and becoming

stronger. Combining, irrespective of political convictions and trade, under the banner of the struggle for its demands, the working class is delivering telling blows to the plans of the militarists. And wherever there is strong unity, there the working class is victorious in its struggle, despite the machinations of the Right-wing Socialist disrupters.

A powerful strike wave is sweeping all the imperialist countries. According to official American data, during the five postwar years, the average number of strikers in the U.S. annually increased three-fold compared with the period between the two world wars. In February this year, for example, a strike of railway workers brought to a standstill traffic on fifty, U.S. lines for a period of ten days. In Britain, there were strikes by miners and by dockers in Liverpool, Birkenhead and Manchester. French miners in the Nord and Pas-de-Calais Departments fought a successful strike in November. In Japan, the personnel of 139 power stations struck work recently. Numerous strikes have taken place in Italy, Austria, India and other countries. Everywhere the strikers demand higher wages, better conditions and lower prices.

The struggle waged by the working class for its daily demands, against the imperialist onslaught on the vital interests of the working people, inspires broad sections of the peasantry, artisans and small manufacturers who also suffer under the burden of militarisation; they see in the working class their leader, and, ever more closely, are rallying around it in a united national front of struggle.

The struggle of the working people in the capitalist countries for bread and work, for a higher standard of living, for preserving and extending democratic rights,

is interwoven with the universal movement for peace, against the machinations of the U.S.-British instigators of a new world war. All people of labour and honour, of conscience and progress, insistently demand an end to the criminal aggressive war in Korea and withdrawal of the U.S.-British and other foreign troops from that country; they resolutely protest against the remilitarisation of Western Germany and Japan, call for dissolution of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc, for a Peace Pact among the five Great Powers. Millions of ordinary people in-all countries of the world ardently support the noble and consistent struggle of the Soviet delegation at the present session of Uno for banning the atomic weapon, for reduction of armaments by the Great Powers, for world peace.

The resistance of the masses to the militarisation of the economy, their struggle for their vital interests, is headed by the vanguard of the working class—the Communist Parties. The Communist Parties are uniting the working people, showing them the way to their goal, and leading them in struggle against their worst enemies—the imperialist enslavers. The sacred duty of the Communist and Workers' Parties is to continue the work of organising the resistance of the broad masses to the war plans of the imperialists, to consolidate unity in the ranks of the working class. Led by the Communist Parties, the peoples, fighting for a better life, for peace and democracy, will foil the criminal designs of the instigators of a new war.

# **EXTEND AND CONSOLIDATE WORLD FRONT OF PEACE PARTISANS**

## **Preparation for National Peace Congress in France**

All over France, peace partisans are preparing for a national congress for disarmament and peace to be held in Paris on December 22-23. Department conferences, attended by thousands of people of diverse political and religious convictions, were held in 50 Departments on December 15-16. Highly successful preparatory work for the national congress is being carried out. It is believed that instead of the anticipated 10,000 delegates, the Department conferences will elect over 15,000 to the Paris congress.

Deputations of peace supporters demanding effective disarmament and the signing of a Peace Pact continue to call at the Palais Chaillot where the Uno General Assembly is in session. The police try to prevent the peace partisans from getting into the building. A deputation of girl students, for example, about to deliver a resolution in defence of peace, was arrested at the Palais Chaillot on the pretext that it was “holding up traffic”.

Many deputations were received by A. Y. Vyshinsky and other Soviet representatives in Uno, to whom the deputations expressed the sympathy and gratitude of the French people for their efforts to prevent a new war.

Recently all the houses in the village of Hoericourt, Haute Marne Department, with the exception of the Mayor's residence and the village church, were demolished by bulldozers to make way for a projected airfield for U.S. jet aircraft. Three more villages in the same area are threatened with destruction. The meetings in defence of peace, now taking place throughout France, are protesting, against the increasing American occupation.

### **Labour in the Name of Peace**

In Czechoslovakia, peace partisans, youth and other mass organisations are holding talks and meetings with the working people. The meetings condemn the aggressive policy of the U.S.-British imperialists and intensification of the arms drive. By their creative labour they are contributing to the cause of peace.

A movement for successful fulfilment and overfulfilment of the plan for the third year of the first Five-Year Plan is underway throughout the country. The number of factories reporting completion of the annual plan is growing daily. In the Sokolovo district, the miners will produce 380,000 tons of coal in excess of the plan by the end of the year.

Responding to the call of the Ostrava miners, working people throughout the Republic are engaged in "peace shifts".

Recent meetings of the regional committees of Czechoslovak peace partisans decided to activate the work of the regional and district peace committees and intensify explanatory work among the population.

## **Meeting of Executive Committee of Women's International Democratic Federation**

A meeting of the Executive Committee of the Women's International Democratic Federation (W.I.D.F.) took place in Berlin on December 7-10. The meeting discussed the work of the Federation and its national organisations in the sphere of defence of peace, defence of children and against the danger of a new war.

The report on the decisions of the meeting of the World Peace Council in Vienna and the tasks of the Federation and its national federations in the struggle for peace was delivered by Eugenie Cotton, Chairman of W.I.D.F.

The W.I.D.F. has won enormous respect and confidence among broad sections of women in the world by its consistent and active struggle for peace, defence of children and for the vital interests of women, as can be seen from the growth of its membership. Our Federation, declared Eugenie Cotton, now embraces 135 million women in 64 countries.

The report about convening the Third International Women's Congress was submitted by Marie-Claude Vaillant-Couturier, General Secretary of W.I.D.F., who spoke about the work of the national organisations since the last meeting of W.I.D.F. in Sofia in June 1951.

In reply to the question recently posed by Vyshinsky in Uno, said Vaillant-Couturier,—Are you, or are you not, for absolute prohibition of the atomic weapon?—hundreds of millions of women say: Yes, we are and demand it from the governments.

Speakers in the discussion included delegates from the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic, Western Germany, Iran, Great Britain, Italy, France, the People's Democracies, the Scandinavian countries, Latin America and other countries. Participants in the meeting listened with great feeling to a speech by Dolores Ibarruri who said: "We are bound to encounter numerous "difficulties but we know that it is better to face these difficulties in the fight to save peace today, no matter how great they may be, than later to shed tears over the ruins of our homes and the broken lives of our children".

The meeting of the Executive Committee admitted as members of W.I.D.F. the national women's organisations of New Zealand, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Iceland, Venezuela, Iran and Punjab (India).

The meeting adopted a resolution on the tasks of the Women's International Democratic Federation arising from the decisions of the World Peace Council which states that intensification of the campaign for a Five-Power Peace Pact, for disarmament, for banning the atom bomb, explanatory work about the possibility of the peaceful co-existence of different political and social systems, wide-scale popularisation of the Appeal of the World Peace Council to the United Nations Organisation and to the peoples of the world, will consolidate the international movement in defence of peace and avert war.

The Executive Committee calls upon all national organisations to expose the attempts of the American aggressors and their henchmen to conceal, behind hypocritical talk about peace, their criminal actions aimed at unleashing another war.

The Executive Committee calls upon all national organisations to take an active part in holding regional peace conferences of the countries of North Africa, the Near and Middle East; the American' countries; the countries of Asia and the Atlantic countries.

The Executive Committee calls upon all national organisations of the Women's International Democratic Federation actively to support the programme for preserving peace advanced by the World Peace Council.

The resolution of the session concerning preparations for an International Conference in Defence of Children, scheduled for Vienna, April 12-16,1952, says that in a number of countries the movement in defence of children has not yet developed to the necessary dimensions.

The session recommends that this Conference be widely popularised by every means, that a wide circle of organisations and prominent public, cultural and scientific workers be drawn into the work of preparing it; wherever possible national and local committees should be set up and as many conferences as possible held; that special attention be devoted to the question of getting delegations to the Conference from as many countries as possible, and other measures, aimed at intensifying preparations for the Conference, taken.

The session also decided to hold the Third International Women's Congress in Denmark in the autumn of 1952.

## **Youth in Burma Active**

The mass youth organisations in Burma are engaged in active work in defence of peace. An All-Burma Youth Festival was held in Rangoon at which 10,000 signatures were collected to the Appeal for a Peace Pact. Participants in the festival adopted a resolution in defence of peace, against the U.S. aggression in Korea and against the separate “peace” treaty with Japan.

An All-Burma Democratic Youth League has been formed in the liberated regions. The members of this League have pledged to collect 200,000 signatures to the Appeal for a Pact of Peace. The All-Burma Students’ Congress which, despite government repressions, was attended by 100 representatives from 17 districts of the country, formed the All-Burma Students’ Federation, a united students’ organisation. The Federation sets itself the aim of fighting for peace, national independence and democratic education.

To date more than 130,000 signatures have been collected in Burma to the Appeal for a Five-Power Peace Pact.

## **Rumanian Working People Wholeheartedly Support Proposal of Soviet Delegation in UNO**

Peace partisans in Rumania are widely popularising the peace proposals of the Soviet delegation in Uno and also the speeches made by the head of the Soviet delegation, A. Y. Vyshinsky, published in the press, broadcast and issued in special booklets.

Extensive explanatory work is done by members of peace committees in factories and offices, in the homes of townsfolk and village residents. In factories in Bucharest, agitators arranged meetings and talks on the subject of the consistent struggle of the U.S.S.R. for arms reduction and banning the atomic weapon. The working people wholeheartedly support the just proposals of the Soviet delegation.

“Scanteia”, central organ of the Rumanian Workers’ Party, writes in a leading article: “The noble struggle of the Soviet people for peace, every note and each declaration by the Soviet delegation in Uno, must be made known to broad sections of the population”.

## **Call for Intensified Signature Collection in Britain**

Dr, Hewlett Johnson, Dean of Canterbury, prominent British progressive, addressing a meeting of 2,000 people in Newcastle, stressed the need for a greater effort in getting signatures in Britain to the World Peace Council's Appeal for a Peace Pact. He called for “thousands of in collecting extra volunteers to help signatures.

Progressive public circles in Britain call intensification for an all-out broadening and of the campaign for signatures to the Appeal of the World Peace Council.

A teachers’ peace conference, the first of its kind held in the country, took place on December 8. Those present at the conference, including Mrs. Leah Manning, member of the Labour Party, Mrs. Dora Russell, well-

known educationalist, stressed the need for a peace campaign among teachers, parents and everyday work among children. The resolution adopted at the conference pointed, in particular, to the fact that the United Nations solemnly undertook to defend the lives ,of children, their right to education and all-round development. The resolution also urged that the great Powers, by peaceful negotiations, lay the foundations for carrying out their pledges in relation to the children. The conference decided to form national and local teachers' peace committees.

## **VALOUR AND HEROISM OF KOREAN PEOPLE**

Eighteen months have passed and the guns are still barking on Korean soil. Eighteen months have passed and Korean towns and villages are still ablaze, children are perishing, and blood is dripping from the bayonets of the American and Syngman Rhee murderers, committing their black deeds under the disgraced flag of the United Nations Organisation. For eighteen months the valiant people of Korea have been upholding their freedom and independence, their right to a happy and peaceful life in struggle against the American imperialists.

Having begun several months ago, under pressure of world public opinion, negotiations for a cease-fire, the U.S. imperialists have not given up the idea of seizing and enslaving Korea. On the contrary, they are dragging out the negotiations which they have foully used and continue to use as a cloak for their aggressive designs and have not stopped active operations against the People's Army and the Chinese volunteers. Thus, in July and early in August while negotiations were in progress, they launched two desperate offensives on the eastern and central fronts both of which ended in complete failure. At the end of August, mobilising their resources, the invaders made a third attempt to effect a blitz attack of four armies, capture the mountain regions and break through to the northern borders of the country. But neither their much lauded technique nor the poison-weapons, which they used both at the front and against the civilian population, in violation of all international agreements, were of any avail to the invaders. The

People's Army and the Chinese volunteers repelled the offensive, are firmly holding their positions and heroically defending every inch of Korean soil.

In the one month from October 26 to November 25 alone, the People's Army and the Chinese volunteers killed, wounded and took prisoner nearly 40,000 enemy soldiers and officers and captured huge quantities of arms and ammunition.

The war has been a great school for the soldiers of the People's Army and the Chinese volunteers, They became tempered, commanders became more able and skilled, the rank-and-file became better disciplined and acquired greater initiative. The Korean and Chinese fighters have given additional proof to the world that an army fighting for a just cause cannot be broken or demoralised. The hardships of war give but added strength to it.

On the other hand, the world received further proof that an army waging an unjust, aggressive war, despite temporary successes, inevitably disintegrates and loses its fighting qualities. The so-called "Uno troops" who have neither just aims nor ideas, degenerate into gangs of marauders, plunderers and become morally corrupt.

Dissatisfaction is growing among the men deceived by the promise of a "lightning war" and a "Sunday afternoon picnic in Korea". The longer it is prolonged the more unpopular the war becomes. Seeing no outlet: or sense in this war, the soldiers of the "Uno forces" begin to despair, Typical of this mood was the statement made by an American war prisoner belonging to the 35th regiment of the 25th division, who said that if ever called upon again to wage war and not know what he was fighting for. he would rather go to prison for 20 years, since, he would at least know that he

would not be killing innocent people or destroying their homes.

Dissatisfaction has reached even greater dimensions among the British, Canadian, French and other units. The brazen dictat of the U.S. command, which sends these men to their death in front of American units, is arousing anger and hatred among the soldiers. Clashes between the Americans and their satellites are more frequent and often end in fatalities. Anger and hatred for the Americans are rampant in British dugouts, declared British war prisoner, W. Raymond. It is characteristic that having no confidence in their "allies", Ridgway's command assigns U.S. military agents to them.

This "Uno army"—an army of marauders and violators—is confronted with the united people of the Korean People's Democratic Republic, fully determined to fight until victory. Unity of front and rear, unity of the entire Korean people, is daily growing stronger. Workers toil under enemy bombing, risking their lives every minute. Rallied by the slogan, "Fulfil not only your norm but the norm of the comrades at the front!" they have begun a movement for the fulfilment of two and three norms. The call issued by the workers of 26 metal works, is being taken up by workers in more and more enterprises.

During the temporary withdrawal of the Korean People's Army, the industrial base was shifted to the Northern regions of the Republic. When the areas, temporarily occupied by the enemy, were liberated, serious rehabilitation tasks confronted the working class. Led and inspired by the beloved Party of Labour, the workers got down to fulfilling these tasks. Now, despite the difficult conditions, widespread emulation

for accelerated production rates and rehabilitation has resulted in the annual plan being completed 4-5 months ahead of schedule in many mines, engineering works and timber enterprises.

Each day in the life of the Korean peasantry is filled with labour exploits. Despite brutal raids by the American air pirates, bumper crops were harvested this year. The harvesting was conducted with enthusiasm. In Northern Pyongyang province, peasants harvested late crops ahead of schedule. In Kong Won province the first to complete the work were the teams formed by the committee of the Democratic Union of Women in the lunchen region. During the rice harvesting the best work-teams did two and three times the amount of work done in prewar days.

The tillers of the Korean fields wholeheartedly contribute grain from the new harvest to the patriotic food fund. Big work to set up new livestock farms, to replace those destroyed by the U.S.-British and Syngmar Rhee robbers, is in progress. Existing farms are being enlarged.

Labour co-operation between town and countryside is gaining momentum. Responding to Kim Ir Sen's call, the trade unions organised volunteer groups to aid the peasants.

Workers of the public health service system in the Korean People's Democratic Republic registered further success this year. Hospitals destroyed by the enemy are being rebuilt and enlarged, and new ones erected. The number of prophylactic and disinfection centres increased threefold compared with last year.

Surrounded with the attention and sympathy of all progressive mankind, of all honest people in the world,

the heroic Korean people are carrying on, fighting their battle.

The burden of war, the hardship and suffering, far from disheartening them has hardened them, reinforced their militancy, strengthened their will. and made their unity inviolable. Rallied around the Party of Labour—spokesman of the will of all Korean toilers—and around its glorious leader, Kim Ir Sen, the people of Korea are as united as never before. They bear in their hearts the calm words of Kim Ir Sen, words full of confidence in the coming victory, in the triumph of a just cause: “History shows that people who take to resolute struggle for their freedom and independence are invincible. The cause of our people is a just cause. Our people shall be victorious”.

**THE SOLE CORRECT PATH FOR MANKIND.**  
**Palmiro Togliatti, General Secretary,**  
**Italian Communist Party**

What was the October Revolution? Many of us can still remember those days. The Revolution took place at one of the darkest moments in the recent history of humanity, and the news of the Revolution seemed incredible, and, moreover, was not fully understood, I think, even by most of those who got to know about this event. One thing only was clear to all, that something entirely new had taken place, something people had never seen before. Power had really passed into the hands of that party, of those people whom the entire reactionary press depicted and still depict as pariahs, enemies of mankind, and as agents (today they say fifth column!) of a foreign power. Confusion was universal, particularly when it turned out that this time the transfer of power was not temporary but permanent, that the power overthrown by the revolution in Russia was really the last power of the old ruling classes.

The organ from which the new power arose was known as the Congress of Soviets of Workers' and Soldiers' Deputies, at which there were also present representatives of the advanced sections of the peasantry.

The people who made up the majority of society but whose lot was to submit to the power of the propertied and of the rich, to be exploited and oppressed,—these people, having taken power into their own hands, set about building a new State of their own, A in order to use this State as an instrument for building a new

society in which their aspirations and hopes would be realised and their dreams come true.

After the initial surprise humanity split into two camps. The toilers, the exploited and poor, the peoples oppressed and crushed by every kind of injustice, people of lofty ideas and noble spirit began to regard the new power and the new State, known at the time as the Soviet Republic, as the beginning of a profound transformation of society as a whole. Later, this conviction grew stronger, became more widespread, was confirmed by facts and became the starting point and the basis for a radical renovation of the entire progressive movement of the toilers and peoples.

On the other hand, there began an unbridled and brazen campaign of absurd accusations, lies and slander and then armed intervention, blockade, economic sabotage and wars of extermination against the land of Soviets—a campaign which has continued for the past 34 years and the end of which is not in sight.

There were different moments in this campaign and in the struggle against the October Revolution and the power created by it. At different moments the roles sometimes changed. What was said by Hitler in his day is now repeated by Mr. Acheson, and Scelba imitates Mussolini. Anti-Soviet posters put up yesterday by the traitors from the “Salo Republic” (Puppet fascist republic set up by Mussolini in the city of Salo at the end of the second world war.—Ed.), are put up today by the Clerical Party. And gone are the days when even the priests maintained a forced silence because their freedom, too, was defended and upheld by the Soviet peoples in the heroic struggle to smash fascism. Today, as can be seen clearly, Truman and the Pope, dictator Franco and Labour Party leaders, hypocrites, liberal

philosophers and fascist criminals have again combined in an anti-Soviet front.

It is useless to draw the attention of these people to the facts, useless to point out to them the real nature of things. The uninterrupted economic progress, without crises, which has continued for over three decades; industry built anew; transformation of agriculture; abolition of unemployment, poverty, illiteracy and ignorance; two invasions beaten off, two victorious wars, and, most important, the fact that two hundred million people who hold power rule themselves, moulding their civic consciousness by means of constant discussion, study and collective solution of all the production problems which constitute the basis of social life—what does all this mean to these people?!

The only thing that matters for them is that the power and the State which arose after the October Revolution differ fundamentally from all that had previously existed and which exist at present: the power and the State of working people who are no longer exploited, who, at last, have won freedom. This is sufficient for all those who call themselves the pillars of present-day society, based on division into classes and on the exploitation of one class by another, to combine in a single front and talk the same language.

Blindly championing this society with all its injustice, absurdity and vileness, they deny obvious facts; they lie and slander. They are no longer capable of understanding that in sowing mistrust and animosity in relation to the Soviet Union, they issue calls to hate and anathematize the greater part of humanity. And this already contains their sentence. They have lost all sense of human feeling; they are narrow, class egoists, and raving madmen.

Despite this, the impact of the system founded in the Soviet Union, far from diminishing after the bright flash of the early years, makes itself felt more and more.

## I.

What happened in the past? Other revolutions deeply agitated people and the nations beyond the borders of those societies where they took place. But where was the prestige of the English Revolution twenty years later? After the fall of the Republic, the dominant position of Britain in Europe was determined not so much by ideological influence as by how its bourgeoisie was able to become the richest in the world, exploiting its working people and ruthlessly stamping out the trade of other nations.

What happened in France within the lifetime of a single generation to the impulse given to history as a whole by the French revolution? It led to a society in which freedom and equality existed only for the upper layer of property owners, to a regime which destroyed fraternity and exhausted itself in predatory wars.

In 1813—twenty-four years after the French Revolution—the nations of Europe tallied at Leipzig to regain their freedom from the tyranny that followed the bourgeois revolution, In 1945—twenty-eight years after the October Revolution—Soviet soldiers, sons of the Socialist Revolution, saved in Berlin the freedom of all European peoples.

The revolutionary uprising of the Chinese people against the colonial regime had enormous significance, but there, too, the establishment of power, similar to

that which arose as a result of the October Revolution, was necessary to enable the Chinese people win victory and to ensure that their victory, like a beacon, illumined the road for many other peoples.

The impact of the October Revolution is constantly growing because the class which carried out this Revolution—the working class—takes power into its hands not for the purpose of creating privileges for itself to the detriment of another section of mankind, but in order to abolish for ever the conditions which give rise to all privilege, all oppression and all exploitation of man by man, consequently, this power contains and embodies all that is progressive and liberating. Its successes and its victories are designed to benefit all that seeks to develop, all that must develop.

Upon coming to power, the working class respects, develops and makes its own all genuine liberating and progressive principles advanced by the previous revolutions. This is due not so much to ideological reasons as to the facts that the historical conditions of, moulding and developing' the working class compel it to take power and to use its power for reorganising, along new lines, the basis of society, the system of production, and, arising from this, relations between people. When exploitation is abolished and replaced by rational system and co-operation, only then do freedom, equality and fraternity between people begin to triumph. In this way the principles of democracy find in the principles of Socialism, and in them alone, their complete realisation.

In some political circles it is constantly repeated that irreconcilable antagonism divides democracy and Socialism, that while profound economic reforms are desirable, he, who seeks to realise them ends by

suppressing and restricting the rights of citizens, that it is impossible to replace an economy based on private capitalist property by a collective economy without departing from liberalism and democracy and heading for tyranny. The influence of these doctrines explains the fact that, even now, there are people who ask whether the social reforms we demand will not lead to the abolition of democratic institutions. But why don't these people look at the Soviet Union, the land of Socialism, where the broadest and most consistent democratic life was achieved precisely by means of establishing a collective economy?

If we turn our gaze to the opposite side, we shall find, that outside the Soviet Union and the countries following its example, in no other place in the world have profound and permanent economic reforms been carried out, reforms capable of abolishing exploitation and of leading to the disappearance of the division of society into classes. All the gains of the workers and working people achieved in the other so-called democratic countries, are restricted and unstable. They were wrested by means of arduous struggle and are in danger of being completely wiped out as soon as they begin to make serious inroads on the privileges of the propertied classes. To preserve these privileges intact, no matter what the cost, the propertied classes stop at nothing in restricting and even liquidating elementary democratic liberties altogether. Such was the practice of fascism and there are many of its followers who would like to act now in the same way. The conclusion must be drawn, therefore, that not only social justice but even freedom and democracy are now incompatible with the old capitalist economy which has outlived its day.

One must not confuse freedom and democracy with the specific forms of organisation of a political regime, such as, for example, elected parliaments functioning on a definite model, certain political parties and so forth. It rarely happens that a parliament precisely expresses class relations, interests and views in the given country. As a rule, the dominant position of the groups owning the means of production, and consequently, also the wealth, prevent such precise expression. The very character of the organisation of society, divided into classes is such that the dominant class always disposes of possibilities for rallying to its side huge masses of electors whom it is able to deceive, intimidate, partly corrupt and distract in every way from genuinely expressing their will by means of the suffrage.

When, as a result of the persistent-action of the democratic and socialist vanguard, such as the Communists and Socialists in Italy, for example, the votes cast for the propertied, dominant classes, decline to a degree entailing the risk of losing power by way of parliamentary democracy, other means are resorted to. Then the church intervenes with its ex-communication of all who do not vote for the masters. And when this instrument of spiritual terror becomes blunted, electoral laws are amended in way that the large is artificially made small and the majority becomes the minority. Clearly, such action cannot be regarded as the embodiment of democracy. Quite the reverse.

The same can be said of the notorious multi-party system and the replacing of the parties in power. The tendency of all political regimes in the countries of contemporary capitalism is to preserve in the camp of

the dominant classes this multi-party system and to change the party in power only as an outward form, in the guise of which a single political leadership is organised and established in the interests of the more powerful groups of Palmiro General these classes. The necessary compromises for exercising this leadership are reached in secret, and parliament is no longer the arena of serious struggle between these parties, Italy is a most interesting example of this tendency.

Every hard-headed person will clearly understand that the system of parliamentary democracy, which some try to portray as the sole form of democracy, is one of the transient historical forms of democracy, at present degenerating more and more and losing its democratic character. The carrying out of profound economic transformations in the economic foundations of society cannot but transform also the forms of this regime.

## II.

If we go to the root of the matter, we must say, in the first place, that democracy consists of ensuring rights for the people, but equal rights for all; where this equality is lacking there is either no democracy or it is restricted. Secondly, democracy implies power in the hands of the people and its utilisation in the interests of the people. Only where this condition obtains can we speak of a democratic system.

In the past some regimes were called democratic. People, for instance, talk about Athenian democracy. In Athens, however, not only did they not think in terms of equal rights for all, but there was a huge mass of people—slaves—who were regarded in much the same way as

today we look upon domestic animals. There is not the slightest doubt that the day will come when present-day, so-called Western democratic, capitalist regimes, will be also evaluated as being a long way from democracy, since they do not provide equal rights for all.

The more progressive bourgeois revolutions provided equal liberties for those who owned wealth and the means of production, including the right to utilise this wealth and the means of production for their own benefit. But the overwhelming majority is far from enjoying this basic right. Therefore, it is deprived of the possibility of making full use of all other rights. There remains only freedom to work, but economic life is so arranged that at a given moment even this freedom disappears, and, with it, the possibility of human existence. All existing societies and states, except the socialist states, are based on this decisive inequality.

In Italy, as all can see, the chairman of the Confederation: of Industrialists and magnates like him have unlimited rights. They are free to dispose of their billions as they think fit, to invest them in industry, to provide or not provide employment, to hoard capital or spend it. They are free to develop their activity in all directions: issue orders to a multitude of people, close down enterprises, impose short-time, write letters vilifying the national parliament, and nothing will happen to them; they can buy up newspapers and journals, printed in large editions, and, through their medium, mould public opinion suit their tastes and interests. And, if it is in their interests to do so, they are likewise free to fix wages and prices that entail a heavy burden for the people and ruin the national economy, But can these rights of theirs be called

democratic? Of course not, because they are enjoyed only by a privileged minority, because they conflict with the general interests. For these reasons it would be ridiculous to say that the regime established in the United States is democratic, because in essence it is based on this unrestricted freedom for big plutocrats, guarantees their leadership of all public life and even of public opinion, a regime in which there is no real freedom for a struggle between parties, and in which only a pale shadow of parliamentary life remains.

Of course, in Italy there are democratic rights, those inscribed in the Constitution of the Republic. But Italian citizens have only to recall recent events in our history in order to appreciate things as they are. We enjoy these rights today because the working class and the people, led by their advanced parties, succeeded in obtaining, wresting and safeguarding them. They were not given to us in the form of a present, and certainly not by the Anglo-American authorities who, in Greece, where they were able to act as they pleased, installed a fascist dictatorship in power. The rights won by us must serve the propertyless classes, enable them to organise themselves and demand better conditions and participation in state management.

The greater the successes won by the working people along this path, the more democratic rights become an obstacle in the way of the dominant classes, fetters which they wish to shake off, and the Constitution—a trap from which they try to, escape. When systematic utilisation of democratic rights gives a deep insight into social relations, disclose the need to change the economic structure so that all can enjoy equal rights, the ruling classes deny and dispute even the formal right to freedom. When the strength,

consciousness, organisation and independence of the movement of the working class and working people become such that the working class and working people inevitably demand a place among the forces directing the entire national life, then all vestiges of democracy are discarded by the dominant classes in order to prevent this.

By means of legislation, as was the case under fascism, implanting corresponding customs and government practices, as is being done now, there is being fostered hateful discrimination in relation to people, with the result that the only ones regarded as being worthy and of value are those who have no desire whatever for, or who are not yet conscious of, the need for a radical reorganising of the economy, that is, representatives of the dominant classes and those who support them in power. All others become outcasts and should they, in any given organisation, acquire a majority by democratic means, this organisation is no longer regarded democratic and is made illegal.

Agreements are signed between states, ruled by capitalists, for the purpose of resorting even to armed intervention and war in order to prevent the upperhand being won, even by the most legal means, or mere participation in state administration, by those masses of workers and working people who have rejected the control and yoke of the dominant classes and appear on the historical arena with their own programme of radical renovation.

We do not deny that progressive bourgeois revolutions, such as the Great French Revolution of 1789, extended the concept of democracy and affirmed certain fundamental rights for citizens. But when we turn our eyes to the countries still languishing under

capitalist domination, to all of them without exception, that is, to the camp of notorious Western democracy, we see that the political regime in this camp conflicts more and more with democratic Principles, denies them and threatens to abolish them completely, as was the case under fascism, We believe that this is not fortuitous, that it is the direct and inevitable consequence of the fact that, in states with such a regime, the economic base has not changed and cannot change, its basic function remains the preservation of capitalist privilege.

We celebrate annually the October Revolution and call upon all democrats to celebrate it, because this revolution alone laid the foundation of a new society, in which, after reorganising the economic base, democracy swept aside the last obstacles in its path, engendered by the capitalist system.

It is embodied in the social and political system where equal rights exist for all, where power is in the hands of all and where all live exclusively by their own labour.

There is no democracy where society is split in two; on the one hand, the exploited, on the other,—the exploiters, on the one hand, the oppressed, on the other,—oppressors. But where, excluding the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and the great Chinese People's Republic, is there a society which has overcome or is overcoming this class division, where there are regimes which would help, would accelerate overcoming this division? Until this division into classes is overcome there can be no unity of the people, no genuine solidarity or co-operation, no fraternity among all citizens.

There is no democracy where the leadership of society has not passed into the hands of the working people, and, in the first instance, into the hands of the working class and its parties. But where, apart from the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and the great Chinese People's Republic, is there a country in which this has been accomplished or is being accomplished? In the so-called Western world working people and workers are only regarded worthy of assuming: power when they are recruited into the party of the dominant class, that is, when they forsake their cherished hopes, their ideals and their independence.

There-is no democracy where equal rights are not recognised not only for all citizens, but also for all peoples, irrespective of the colour of their skin, race, history or nature of civilisation. A regime cannot be regarded as democratic which bases its own existence and its own strength on the abolition of freedom for other peoples, on threatening their independence and peace. The British Government, which denies the people of Iran the right to dispose of the wealth of their own soil, which by violence and armed force occupies territory belonging to the people of Egypt, is not a democratic Government. Nor can those Americans be called democratic who employ force and intrigue, corruption and arms, who interfere in the life of all other nations, establish military bases in all parts of the globe with a view to dominating the world. Imperialism is the very opposite, the destroyer of democracy. Only under a socialist system, such as exists in the Soviet Union, can different peoples live in peace, equality and in fraternal co-operation.

It is not we, Communists and Socialists, who should be asked whether we uphold and shall always uphold

democracy; rather it is we who should ask the stubborn adherents—through naivete or evil intent—of the so-called Western political systems: has not the time come for them to understand that that which they are defending, even though progressive in the past, is now a degenerating political form retarding democratic progress, and which, day after day, more and more openly denies the very principles of democracy? We are defending all the democratic gains that still exist within the framework of these regimes because they were won by the peoples.

### III.

Today it is no longer possible to refrain from going forward towards establishing equal rights for all, to unity of the entire nation, to workers and working people ruling the State, to equality before the law and in practice for all nations. The experience of some of the biggest and most advanced countries in Western Europe already shows that stubborn refusal or delay in taking this path, the genuinely democratic path, throws the traditionally bourgeois-capitalist regimes into a deep crisis which cannot be concealed either by manoeuvring or half measures. To overcome and surmount this crisis is possible only to the extent that the transition from the kingdom of formal rights, and at the same time, of flagrant inequality and injustice, to a genuinely democratic system is realised by reorganising the economic foundations of society along socialist lines.

Hence, it is untrue to say that it is impossible to achieve Socialism without abolishing democracy and freedom; the truth of the matter is that realisation of

Socialism saves and develops democracy, transforms it, for the first time, into genuine freedom and equality for all people and all nations, The clearer it becomes that there is no other way of realising this aim apart from that shown by the peoples of the Soviet Union, the more inevitable it becomes for all mankind to take this path.

But who, from the industrialist posing as “father of workers”, to the priest, from the bellicose general to the unprincipled politician, has not at least once declared himself a socialist and who, at one time or another, has not accused’ his opponents of adhering to Socialism, insisting that they be despised and persecuted? Socialism is the dream of the degraded and outraged and is in nobody’s way so long as it remains a dream. But when it develops into a real force, into an organised movement and—after the October Revolution—is embodied in the most powerful State in the world, all enemies are ready to unite, asserting that this State must be destroyed.

Socialism is the affirmation of the new rights of the human personality, which matured historically as a result of the formation and development of a new social class—the working class, More than half a century ago, Antonio Labriola, one of the most eminent Italian thinkers of the nineteenth century, spoke about such human rights as the right to live, the right to work, to full payment for work and the right to culture. Where are these new rights not only inscribed in the Constitution, but the property of all? Only in the Soviet Union, only in the countries where the economy has been socialised. Only in the Soviet Union, and thanks to the October Revolution, were the conditions that ensured the realisation or these new rights, created. Of these conditions two are decisive: changing the

economic foundation of society and guaranteeing uninterrupted economic development. The first is closely linked with the second.

The economic base of society is transformed when the means of production and exchange pass into the hands of the people when they are brought into motion in accordance with an economic plan, dictated not by a desire of procuring profit for individuals, but in the interests of the commonweal, when, consequently, exploitation of man by man and of class by class, disappears. This transformation, its turn, is the starting point for uninterrupted development of public wealth, firstly because it is not hampered by the crises which periodically shake capitalism, and also because it is achieved not by enriching some means of plunder of the peoples by a handful of imperialists, but by mutual co-operation and in the common interest, by preserving and strengthening friendship and fraternal relations among people and nations.

Therein lies the profound value of the economic progress, new in history, achieved as a result of the fulfilment of the Five-Year Plans carried out after the socialist power had successfully repelled the armed intervention of the entire capitalist world.

The first Five-Year Plan (1928-32) transformed Russia from a primarily agrarian country into an industrial country, ensured the advance of Socialism in town and countryside, laid the foundation of socialist society. The second Five-Year Plan (1933-37) completely abolished capitalism in both industry and agriculture, made it possible to complete the building of this society. The third Plan was designed to achieve the goal of catching up with and out-stripping the more economically advanced capitalist countries, but was cut

short by the Hitlerite aggression and the Great Patriotic War, which ended in the brilliant victory of the Soviet Army over German imperialism and its allies.

It will not be amiss to recall that, during the 15 years that preceded the last war, the Soviet Union reached a stage of development that took the most advanced capitalist countries some 80 years capitalism had experienced at least ten crises, and, as a result of these crises, millions of unemployed, enormous destruction of wealth and of the economic resources of society.

The now irrefutable superiority of Socialism was again confirmed in the postwar period. The Soviet Union sooner than all other countries devastated by the invaders healed the wounds caused by the war. Today, the output of Soviet industry is double that of 1940. The benefits enjoyed by society have accrued to an extent which made possible four successive price reductions, ranging from 35-70 per cent. The results attained in all spheres of the economy created the possibility for successfully tackling new tasks in the sphere of effecting profound changes in nature itself, with a view to making conditions more favourable for people and their labour. This is done not by staging paltry “festivals of the trees” arranged for the purpose of lauding this or that prematurely aged minister, but by means of planting climate-changing forest shelter belts tens and hundreds of metres wide and thousands of kilometres long, by creating in deserts and steppes new rivers and large lakes, by irrigating tens of thousands of square kilometres of land, by building new hydro-electric stations by generating electric power equivalent to the total produced by some Western states, as for example, in our country. These transformations and the new

construction guarantee an abundance of products and thus gave the way for the transition from Socialism to Communism—to a system in which people will work according to ability and receive according to need. We point to these transformations and the new construction—gigantic in scale and calling for strenuous effort on the part of all the people,—for the benefit of those who want visual proof that the Soviet Union is devoting all energy not to preparing war, but to the cause of peaceful construction. The so-called Western democracies are doing the very opposite.

#### IV.

In the conditions of a socialist society people are re-educated. A new man is moulded. Illiteracy is wiped out, and the last vestiges of obscurantism, superstition and ignorance disappear. Secondary and higher education, and science are accessible to the people. Works by classical and contemporary writers and science books are sold in numbers that we would regard as astronomical. But that which, in particular, is changing, is the basis of culture—orientating man for the solution of vital problems.

In the part of the world in which we live, where capitalism continues to exist, although there is ever greater proof of the fact that it is incapable of ensuring the peaceful existence and progress of mankind, all acknowledge that culture, the spiritual and moral life of the people, are experiencing a profound, insurmountable crisis. The modern secular thought—the mechanism of the development of civilisation in recent centuries—seems to have exhausted all its possibilities, it has entered into a blind alley from which it can see

no outlet. Beginning with the lauding of man as the centre of the universe and with boundless faith in human reason, this idea at a definite moment rejected the consequences arising from its principles, refused to admit that the very development of capitalist economy and the rise of the working class as the main, active element in economic life, sets the task of transforming all economic and social relations including the creation of a new society, organised and directed by the people in accordance with common interests, that is a socialist society. Bourgeois society, which has reached its culminating point and in order to preserve itself, denies this outcome. But this inevitably causes a crisis in the very thinking which was the spiritual nourishment of this society. The last word of bourgeois philosophy is despair. The last word of bourgeois art is departure from reality, contempt for clear and understandable things, fruitless gabble. Instead of a concrete approach to the understanding of historical phenomena there are sceptical assertions of spiritless variations of one and the same phenomena. The proud faith of man in the creative power of his reason and in progress has disappeared. Old idols, and time-worn superstitions come to the surface. This atmosphere of scepticism, of renunciation and disintegration penetrates all spheres of the intellect, all spheres of moral life.

On the contrary, man's confidence in himself, in his intellect, future and progress, is upheld, extended and renovated in the new conception of the world given to us by Marxism which teaches us how man becomes the conscious creator both of social relations and of his entire history. This new conception is concretely embodied in the construction of Socialist and Communist society. Therefore, in this society man finds

himself once again; elementary human feelings shine with a new light; they become once more the daily connecting-link in relations between people working jointly for the commonweal.

Those who, in speaking of the Soviet Union, restrict themselves solely to its economic and material successes and to the political transformations, commit a mistake. These successes are truly magnificent, but what evokes the greatest astonishment is the people—people who in the space of a single generation have lived in a society that is marching forward according to new laws and under new leadership; they know neither fear of the State, fear for the future, nor do they fear threats on the part of the raving lunatics—the leaders of the aggressive imperialist states. This imparts to the Soviet people great confidence in themselves, makes them simple and open-hearted. Love for the homeland, devotion to the family, emancipated from hypocrisy and compulsion, dignity and respect for the individual, open mutual criticism and sincerity,—all leave a special imprint on these people. Self-criticism, exercised collectively, becomes the soul of the new dialectical development of social life as a whole. For the first time in history,—and not just in school-stories and sermons, but in real life—labour has become a matter of honour for all, the source of all benefits. Any, even the most modest worker, who, relying on his labour and completely mastering his trade and process of work, develops his personality and sense of responsibility, opens up for himself the pathway to leading activity, and feels himself a conscious, free and equal member of society which marches onward due to the organised and planned work of all its members. Women enjoy equal rights with men. The youth has confidence in itself and

in its future, it is threatened neither by the violence of masters and the government, nor by economic crises, natural calamities and the prospect of becoming cannon fodder. Its future depends on study and work, on the joint activities of the entire generation aimed at conquering nature, at perfecting social relations, at a more just sharing of wealth, at securing peace.

Yes, labour is accompanied by discipline, both in the individual enterprise and in defining the goals of one or another branch of industry, i.e., in distributing work among all branches. It is precisely this discipline that is upheld by Socialism against liberal anarchy of capitalism, which gives rise to chaos and poverty. We want to see a social discipline that is accepted, carried out and controlled by all. It is understandable this and correct that in this new society, which no longer knows either classes or rival economic groups seeking to devour each other, different political parties disappear and the most advanced citizens combine in a single political organisation which is entrusted not only to guide but also to educate the entire people in the practice and spirit of Socialism. It is clear that in his new society statesmen can see in war nothing but barbarity and lunacy, since the sources of economic development lie in society itself, and not in violence or enslavement of other peoples; respect for the independence of all nations is the very essence of Socialism.

It is absurd and senseless to accuse us of searching in the Soviet Union, the land of Socialism, in its achievements and the principles that made them possible, for orientation and leadership in our activities. It is logical and correct that that section of the working class, which, marching along the correct path,

succeeded in winning grand victories and attaining grand achievements,—having taken power into its hands and having built socialist society—should orientate and guide all other detachments of the international proletariat. At one time, the progressive bourgeoisie also took orientation and guidance from the example of those of its groups which won their way to power in Britain and France. Why now, when the workers have become the leaders of the State, cannot they transmit their experience to the entire international proletariat? Is it not ridiculous to see how this evokes indignation precisely among those Social-Democratic leaders and those venal hacks in the different parties who are second to none in their zeal to serve, for cash, capitalist governments, and who lick the feet of the capitalists and render them every service?

The history of mankind, and in particular the history of the European and colonial peoples over the past thirty years, has been far from easy. It was not always easy to orientate oneself at first sight in the crises, upheavals, and shocks caused by the prolonged agony of the capitalist regime. Naturally, the toilers and the peoples sought a guide. But who could have acted as guide? Could we have followed the aged Mr. Churchill who admired Mussolini and who hates all liberation movements of the oppressed and unfortunate peoples? Or Mr. de Gasperi and his friends, who so trustingly voted for Mussolini and enabled him to build up the fascist regime? Could we have found a guide among the U.S. big monopolies which gave striking examples of ability to destroy immeasurable wealth for the sake of their profits? Could we have followed those Social-Democratic leaders and Parliamentary majority groups in the countries of Western Europe, who by their policy

strangled the Spanish Democratic Republic and paved the way for the dark fascist and clerical tyranny in Spain? Or those “wise” politicians who pledged their support to Hitler in Munich if only he would attack the Soviet Union, and who sacrificed, by way of guarantee for this support, the independent Czechoslovak State?

Obviously, it was impossible to find either guides or useful counsel here. But, from the October Socialist Revolution, from the State which it brought into being, from the Party and the people who brought this Revolution to victory and this State to triumph over internal and external enemies, to success in the most difficult situations—we always received the right example and correct guidance.

## V.

In 1917 we were at the cross-roads of history. When the peoples emerged from the terrible catastrophe of the first world war, when half of Europe lay in ruins, it became clear to all rational people that the cause of the catastrophe had to be sought in the very structure of the capitalist system,—the source of the increasingly profound antagonisms and ulcers of imperialism. It was necessary to do away with capitalism, to overthrow imperialism and take the path of Socialism. This path was blazed for all by the Great October Socialist Revolution, by Lenin and Stalin. How many new catastrophes could have been avoided had all Europe been able then to appreciate and follow this path! However, it was appreciated by the best section of workers, the working people and intelligentsia; this resulted in the emergence of the European and world

Communist movement, which today constitutes an impressive international force confident of victory.

Time passed. Having healed their most grievous wounds, the bourgeois leaders and their Social-Democratic lackeys began to preach that all the evil had been exhausted, that capitalism had achieved stabilisation and would now develop peacefully. This time, too, the leaders of the Great October Revolution, of the Soviet State and the Bolshevik Party warned against falling for this deceit, that the stabilisation was but temporary stabilisation, and that it would be a grave mistake to believe once again in the old instead of orientating on the new which arose under the slogan of Socialism. The terrible crisis which, beginning with 1929, shook the capitalist world, and, at the same time, the triumphant onward march of socialist construction in the Soviet Union soon showed who was right.

Fascism came into being, first in its Italian, Balkan and Polish forms, and later in the more consistent and brutal shape of Hitlerism. It was Stalin who helped all to perceive the essence of fascism, describing it as the open dictatorship of the most reactionary imperialist elements of capital. More and more, fascism revealed itself as the enemy of civilisation, and it was the Soviet Union and its leaders who called upon all peoples to rally for the purpose of combating and destroying this enemy in order, above all, to prevent it from unleashing the war for which it strove and from which the peoples only recently emerged. Neither the bourgeois governments and the hierarchy of the Catholic church, nor the Social-Democratic leaders showed any desire to understand this call; they played openly with fascism, patronized it or helped it indirectly by disrupting the anti-fascist unity of the working people. Spain, Munich

and the inglorious end of the League of Nations—all are proof of this. Had the call of the Soviet Union been taken to heart in time, there would, in all probability, have been no World War Two.

And when war broke out due to fascism and to those who rejected anti-fascist unity, the Soviet Union and Stalin, having done everything possible to avert the scourge of war from the land of Socialism, showed to the peoples that the way to war could have been barred had all people, all nations and all states which, in one or other degree, called themselves democratic and which were threatened by Hitlerism and fascism, really combined their forces and jointly, simultaneously and without any ulterior motives, combated and crushed the common enemy. We, Italians, do not know when and how we would have liberated ourselves from fascism and foreign invasion without this consistent activity of the Soviet Union. During the past decade, this activity has inspired the movement and struggle of all peoples for freedom.

And today? Today the camp of democracy has extended to a degree that has surpassed all expectations. In this camp there are rallied the peoples and states of Eastern and Central Europe. In this camp there are rallied the great 450-million Chinese people, and from this new centre of profound social transformations a new revolutionary wave is rolling across the vast continent of Asia.

Miserable indeed is the look of the mould-covered s “Western democrats” who believe that they are the salt of the earth just because of the role played by Western Europe in the past. Some countries and some philosophical and political trends in Western Europe were in the vanguard when the banner of freedom for

the peoples, for democracy and Socialism was unfurled. And if the centre of gravity of the civilised world is shifting, this is due to the fact that today this banner is borne aloft by the Soviet Union, the People's Democracies and the Chinese People's Republic. A new unity of the world, on a new basis, is being effected.

Once again—and I think this is realised by all who have not lost their senses—mankind is at the cross-roads. Woe to him does not reckon with this. The system of capitalism and imperialism has reached the point when it can no longer develop without giving rise to new enormous catastrophes. What path is indicated to mankind by the United States of America where capitalism is still strongest? In order to avert a terrible economic crisis of unprecedented dimensions, they are going all out to intensify the struggle for world domination. The lunatic designs of Hitler are revived. The countries of Europe which at one time were in the vanguard establishing the independence of nations, are being converted by the U.S. into colonies and semi-colonies. The U.S. is destroying the economy of these countries with a view to subordinating it to its own requirements; it is dividing the peoples, splitting mankind into two, preaching class hatred against Socialism with a frenzy characteristic only of fascists. It is ferociously instigating its satellites with the aim of driving them into the abyss of another war of extermination. This is one path.

Another path is recognition of the indisputable fact that democracy and Socialism have won throughout a vast part of the world, that the peoples must be free to choose the economic and political forms desired by them, that different economic and political systems can and must co-exist peacefully, without military conflicts,

and without threatening each other with war. This path is once again indicated to the people by the Soviet Union which extends its hand, on behalf of the victorious working class, on behalf of Socialism, to all peoples who love freedom, to all people who cherish peace. The choice is of decisive significance, Peace or war, freedom or slavery, progress or destruction, competition and co-operation between the peoples, or, irreparable division of the world into two armed camps for the purpose of mutual extermination. The Soviet Union—the country which no one succeeded in suppressing when it had barely taken shape; which proved to be more powerful than all the enemies who had combined against it, and which smashed the monstrous military machine that none could halt—this State offers, peace to all, destruction and prohibition of the annihilating weapons of war, and arms reduction; it submits proposals for ending world conflicts and the signing of a Pact that would banish any prospect of war. The Soviet Union addresses the world only with those words that evoke hope and confidence in the hearts of all people.

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Today it should be clear to all why the Soviet Union is the guide, and why we regard the Soviet Union, its peoples, the Bolshevik Party and the men who lead the Party, with such admiration, gratitude and respect. In order to create such a powerful country and to secure for it such prestige, this Party and these people passed through the most trying ordeals: three revolutions, two world wars, two foreign invasions. They triumphed because they possess the correct teaching—Marxism—

which was developed and applied by Lenin and Stalin in the new conditions of imperialism, in the conditions of victorious revolution and construction of socialist society. They triumphed because they are at the head of the most progressive force of our day—the working class. They succeeded in rallying around the working class the entire working masses of town and countryside, all progressive forces. They triumphed because they were not frightened by any difficulties, and were ruthless in exposing and combating all enemies and traitors; heading the State, they never lost contact with the people from whom they came and with whom their entire existence, all their thoughts and activities are linked. This is the reason why we look with such admiration, gratitude and respect to Stalin—pupil and comrade of Lenin, the most brilliant statesman and most profound thinker of our time, the man who can speak with the most simple worker and lead millions-strong armies to victory; who, from the most complex facts and most difficult problems, is able simply and clearly to extract the truth which illumines, and the counsel which teaches.

Today, as at all decisive moments of the long historical period separating us from the victory of the October Revolution, we are confident that the sole correct path for mankind is the path indicated and offered to the world by the Soviet Union and Stalin who heads it. This is the path of Socialism, i.e. the path of democracy, socialist justice and progress. This is the path of extending the activities of the progressive forces, which, in conditions of peace among the peoples, must lead in every country to reorganisation of the economic structure, to complete abolition of the privileges of the dominant classes, and to the formation

of a classless society. This is the path of peaceful co-existence of different economic and social systems, a path ensuring the necessary progress for civilisation with the least sacrifice and the least risk. We suggest this path for all, and shall do everything in our power to ensure that mankind as a whole takes this path, But if, unfortunately for all, the lunatics heading the camp of dying imperialism, lose their heads completely and try to hurl the people into the abyss of another war, then—and of this we are confident—by our strength, the strength of the working class and of the peoples who want independence and peace, and by the might of all peace-loving states, and in the first place the might of the Soviet Union and the wisdom of its leaders, the road of these lunatics will be barred and they will get the lesson they deserve. A new world, really united in building a new, Socialist society, must and will arise from the ruins of capitalism and imperialism.

## **SAVE THE LIFE OF OBDULIO BARTHE**

Comrade Obdulio Barthe, a veteran leader of the working-class movement and leader of the Communist Party of Paraguay, who has been languishing in a Paraguay prison since August, is being subjected to monstrous torture.

This is how the Paraguay lackeys of the American masters deal with a patriot and selfless fighter for peace, for the interests of the people. But they fear the international protest movement and are hounding those who are fighting to save Barthe's life. In the port of Asuncion, the police detained and deported a commission of Argentine lawyers.

The movement to save the life of Obdulio Barthe is daily gaining momentum. The Barthe Defence Committee recently issued a call for renewed efforts in defence of Obdulio Barthe. Advanced public opinion throughout the world is profoundly indignant at the action of the Paraguay authorities and demands freedom for Obdulio Barthe.

## **STRIKE MOVEMENT GROWS IN INDIA**

A strike movement of factory and office workers in India for higher wages, increased bonuses to make-up for the higher prices, and for better conditions, is underway in India.

Whereas in 1950 there were 814 strikes in India involving nearly 720,000 workers, during the first six months of 1951 the number of strikes reached 761 with over 490,000 workers participating. During the month of October alone, strikes took place in Hyderabad, in the Bengal, Bombay, and Bihar provinces and in Tamilnad, Kerala and Delhi.

Workers in the Osmanshani works in Nanden (Hyderabad State) struck in defence of their rights. Calcutta dockers struck work for higher wages and better conditions. In Bombay 350 workers in the Godrej factory went on strike when the Government ignored their demand for higher wages.

Over 2,000 workers in the Madhusudan works downed tools in protest against the action of the management in refusing to allow relatives bringing food to the workers to take shelter in the premises of the works during rain; 1,500 workers employed in the Government Mint in Bombay refused to work overtime and gave notice of strike action. After a strike of a month's duration the employees of the Vidjaya Mohini works, in Kerala, won a bonus.

The struggle of the working people is becoming more and more organised, and the desire for unity is growing. Thus, Indian railway workers are battling against the Right-wing leaders of the Railway Workers'

Union which refused to take part in uniting the railwaymen in the struggle for immediate demands.

## **“J. V. STALIN” STATUE UNVEILED IN BUDAPEST**

A “J. V. Stalin” statue was unveiled in a solemn atmosphere in Budapest on December 16. The ceremony developed into a powerful demonstration of the love and devotion of the Hungarian people to the leader of progressive mankind—Comrade Stalin. From all parts of the city columns of working people, carrying photographs of Comrade Stalin, state flags and red banners, flocked to the centre. The demonstration which brought together over 50,000 people was attended by the leaders of the Hungarian Working People’s Party headed by Comrade Rakosi, and members of the Government.

In his speech Comrade Revai, member of the Political Bureau of the Hungarian Working People’s Party, said; “The army of Stalin liberated the Hungarian people. The Soviet Union renders constant aid to our country. But for us the best aid is Stalin’s teaching. With the name of Stalin the working people of Hungary are building Socialism”. The meeting ‘broke into tumultuous cheering in honour of Comrade Stalin.

## **CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF HOLLAND**

A conference of the Communist Party of Holland, attended by more than 650 delegates from all parts of the country, opened in Amsterdam on December 15.

Paul de Groot, General Secretary of the Party, delivered a report in which he enunciated the main points of the Party's election programme. These are: peace, freedom, work and national independence. The Party will fight for the carrying out of a policy of national independence, annulment of all enslaving treaties concluded under U.S. pressure, and withdrawal from the aggressive North Atlantic Alliance. The programme of the Communist Party also calls for a 700,000,000 guildens reduction in military expenditure and allocation of the sum saved for education, social security, public health, building of dwellings for working people. In relation to Indonesia the demands of the Party are as follows: annulment of the enslaving "Round Table" Conference agreement and its replacement by an international treaty based on friendship.

H. Fergey, Secretary of the Central Committee, dealt with the agitational work to be carried out during the general election campaign.

## **CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF BULGARIA ON TASKS OF TRADE UNIONS**

At an enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria, held at the end of November, Comrade G. Tchankov, member of the Political Bureau, delivered a report on the trade unions and their tasks in the struggle for building Socialism in Bulgaria. The other day the Central Committee of the Party published a resolution on this question.

The resolution points out that the growing socialist construction in the country demands that the trade unions participate more actively in rallying and organising the working people. The main task of the trade unions is to devote still more attention to questions of production; to give every support to the movement of shock-workers and labour innovators and to strengthen to the maximum their role as organisers of socialist emulation. It is necessary, therefore, to change radically the character of production meetings in the enterprises and to strengthen control over the fulfilment of collective labour agreements.

The Central Committee deems it necessary to strengthen the participation of the trade unions in directing production and in elaborating economic plans, but without any interference by trade unions in the work of the management. The task of strengthening one-man management calls for the elimination of the “triangle” in the enterprises.

The resolution of the Central Committee points to the need for eliminating bureaucratic distortions in the work of the trade unions, for ensuring genuine trade

union democracy and developing criticism and self-criticism.

The Party organs must give the trade union organisations practical help, reinforce their cadres, put an end to underestimation of work in the trade unions and to the substitution of trade union organisations.

## **STRUGGLE FOR IMMEDIATE DEMANDS IS STRUGGLE FOR PEACE. Plenum, Central Committee, Communist Party of Belgium**

Questions relating to the significance of the struggle for the immediate demands of the working people in connection with the common fight for peace were discussed at a meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Belgium held at the beginning of the month.

A report was delivered by Comrade Herssens who pointed out that the arms drive of the American imperialists and their henchmen which enriches a handful of capitalists, is fatal for the workers and the middle strata of the population of Belgium.

Edgar Lalmand, General Secretary of the Party, said: Our worst mistake would be to underestimate the strength of the working class. In order to strengthen our positions in the enterprises—the main task of the entire Party—we must improve our work in the trade unions. It is impossible to choose slogans that would rally the masses and fellow-workers in factory and shop without close contact with the masses, without living the life of the masses and of our comrades in factory and shop. Nothing whatever can substitute this daily close contact with the masses”.

Stressing that the Right-wing Socialist leaders are forced to manoeuvre in order to maintain their influence in the Belgian labour movement, Comrade Lalmand called for unity with the socialist workers.

The meeting also discussed matters relating to the Party press.

**PEOPLE'S COUNCILS IN RUMANIAN  
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. Dr. Petru Groza  
Chairman, Council of Ministers,  
Rumanian People's Republic**

One year ago, the first elections to people's councils—the most democratic organs of local government ever known in our country—took place in the Rumanian People's Republic.

The system of people's democracy, which was born in the process of revolutionary transformations and struggle of the working people, proclaimed, and ensured in practice, democratic freedoms: freedom of the press, freedom of speech and assembly, freedom of religious worship, complete equality of nationalities,—freedoms of which the working people were deprived under the old, bourgeois-landlord system. At the same time, the Constitution of the Rumanian People's Republic reflected the conditions required for the struggle for laying the foundations of Socialism in our country. It enabled us to see the image of that Rumania—the powerful and happy Rumanian People's Republic—which we are now building.

The struggle for the transfer of power into the hands of the working people, which began after the Soviet Union had liberated our country and secured us against the possibility of U.S.-British intervention, was a living manifestation of the will of the masses to abolish for ever the old order and establish a new system in which the people would be the master of their country. Following the expulsion of the government of counter-revolutionary generals, the agrarian reform was carried

out, the monarchy abolished, industrial enterprises and banks nationalised, and the old state apparatus eliminated step by step. State power in the Rumanian People's Republic passed into the hands of the working people. And in contrast to bourgeois constitutions which hypocritically depict the State as an "impartial mediator" between the classes but which in practice ensure the domination of the exploiters, our Constitution, which sealed the formation of the Rumanian Republic, directly and openly proclaimed that in the Rumanian People's Republic "all power stems from the people and is effected by the people".

This principle is effected also in the local organs of state power. In their status and functions and in their composition, the people's councils differ radically from municipalities and commune committees in the capitalist countries where these bodies are subordinated to the bureaucratic machine of the capitalist state. The people's councils guarantee broad participation by the masses enjoying full rights in state administration. Altogether there are 109,000 deputies of village, district, town and regional people's councils; 12,610 representatives of Hungarian working people, 1,450 German deputies and 2,150 working people's deputies of other nationalities decide matters jointly with representatives of the Rumanian workers, peasants and intelligentsia. Women deputies, of whom there are 28,500, display great organisational skill in all spheres of state and economic life.

There was a time when our people used to say with bitter irony that the article in the Constitution which applied to them most frequently was article 25, that is 25 strokes of the lash (punishment widely practiced in the army, in the countryside, and elsewhere). The

sanguinary reprisals conducted by gendarmes against workers on strike and rebellious peasants were also referred to as the “application of the Constitution”. There was a time when the prefect held the entire bureaucratic apparatus in his grip and with the help of so-called election agents secured municipal and commune committees obedient to him. In those days the electorate was faced with a dozen different parties all of which spared no effort to conceal from the masses that they loyally defended the interests of the capitalists and landlords.

International capital, with the help of satellites and politicians subordinated to its interests, obtained, at ridiculously low prices, monopoly rights to use our resources.

The wealth accumulated as a result of the exploitation and toil of our workers, taken out of the country in profits, went into the pockets of American, British and other capitalists. In the country itself, there remained only the bribes received for the concessions granted by kings and ministers, and the miserable wages paid to miners and factory workers.

Those days have gone for ever. Now, the country’s wealth belongs to the people, and the State is interested that all working people should actively participate in solving all matters of State. By drawing the working people into the struggle for fulfilment of the Five-Year Plan, for timely delivery of the state grain quotas, for disclosing and utilising new resources, the people’s deputies help to strengthen the economic might of the country, help to raise the standard of living, thereby accelerating the advance of our Republic along the road to Socialism.

The creative initiative of the tens of thousands of deputies and activists in public life is a great force in carrying out the plan for the industrialisation of the country and reorganisation of the countryside along socialist lines. As a result of the work of the people's councils, numerous small enterprises of local industry have been opened, which, working on local raw materials and industrial scrap, produce building materials, agricultural implements, metal and textile goods, household utensils and furniture. Considerable peat deposits have been explored in various parts of the country and their utilisation begun. According to incomplete data, output of local industry rose 80 per cent this year compared with 1950.

The new masters have changed the face of many of our towns. Parks, squares and playgrounds have appeared on the outskirts and on waste land. The Bucharest People's Council opened a recreation park, named after J. V. Stalin, on the banks of the lake in the capital; it is visited by hundreds of thousands of working people. In the towns the local councils have improved supplies for the working people: in 1951, for example, the area under vegetable gardens grew to 290,000 hectares against 210,000 hectares in 1950.

In the past, the cultural backwardness of the people and prejudice were used by those interested in enslaving the people and who made huge fortunes by **plundering the** people. Today, all the conditions for satisfying the steadily growing demand on the part of the people for knowledge have been created. Tens of thousands of town and village libraries circulate books among the public; thousands of cultural establishments and amateur art groups bring culture and art to the broad masses. Science, literature, and art are no longer

confined only to the tiny section of the privileged; they are now becoming accessible to all.

The work of the people's councils has helped in raising the cultural level, particularly of the rural population. Cinema halls and radio diffusion have appeared in the countryside. Some 10,500 "cultural centres", of which 500 were opened this year, are functioning in the villages. This means, that at present almost every village has its "cultural centre". With the help of the people's councils hundreds of new elementary schools were opened, many of them being built with local forces; 401 new medical centres, 208 maternity homes and 34 children's clinics were opened.

Nevertheless, the people's councils are not as yet making full use of the immense creative power of the masses. Inexhaustible springs of talent are concealed in our people. The people's councils can and must release them and place them in the service of the homeland, to draw all deputies into even more active work, to draw in more activists from the ranks of the workers, peasants and intelligentsia—such is the immediate task of the people's councils. It is essential also to direct the work of the people's councils and particularly of every deputy in a more purposeful manner. Deputies must become more closely acquainted with the vital needs of the masses, must study with greater attention the suggestions advanced by their electors, should talk more frequently with electors in the villages, districts and towns, and submit proposals to the executive committees. The people's councils should verify the work of the executive committee departments, daily guide the work of the subcommittees, and bring the leading workers, agronomists, chairmen of collective

farms, machine-and tractor station managers, teachers and doctors into the work of the subcommittees.

The idea has taken firm root in the minds and hearts of the working people that all the gains of the system of people's democracy benefit themselves, their families and their children, The people of labour clearly realise that the prosperity of the homeland is based on peaceful creative labour; they know that the danger threatening peace emanates from the U.S. and British imperialists. The people's councils of the working people of town and countryside will fight with still greater vigour for peace, democracy and for strengthening our Republic which is a part of the mighty peace front headed by the great Soviet Union.

The results of the first year's work of the people's councils show that they have acquired a wealth of experience. A democratic instrument has been formed by means of which the widest activity and initiative of the masses are combined with strict planning and centralised leadership by the people's democratic State.

The successes of the local organs of government and all the achievements of the people's democratic State are the outcome of the fact that at the basis of the State there is the close alliance between the working class and working peasantry. This alliance is steadily gaining in strength and enjoys the constant support of the state organs which protect the interests of the working peasantry against kulaks. This alliance was established by the Rumanian Workers' Party which is the leading and directing force of the system of people's democracy and which enjoys the boundless confidence of the masses. This Party displayed consistency and political irreconcilability in the struggle

against fascism and enemies of the people, in the struggle to win power and build Socialism. Popular confidence in the Party was again demonstrated during last year's elections to the local councils, when 96 per cent of the more than ten million electors voted for the Front of People's Democracy led by the Rumanian Workers' Party.

Even during the years of underground struggle, the Rumanian Communist Party—the vanguard of the Rumanian working class,—faithful to its principles—maintained friendly contact and always cooperated with the Ploughman's Front, This contact has been unbroken ever since 1933.

From the ideas which form the basis of the alliance between workers and the working peasants we draw strength for our struggle which has as its aim the eradication for ever of exploitation of man by man and the construction of Socialism in the Rumanian People's Republic. The worker-peasant alliance is also effected within the framework of the people's councils. As a result of united action and mutual support, the alliance is becoming increasingly profound in content, serving the common interests of the working people of town and countryside.

Guidance by the Rumanian Workers' Party is an enormous source of strength, the guarantee of the correctness of the path for the people's councils and for all people's deputies in all spheres of state activity. The Soviets of Working People's Deputies in the USSR are an example for our people's councils. Assimilating the experience of the Soviet Union, purging the councils of the hostile elements who wormed their way into them and tightening state discipline, the people's councils will further enhance their economic and organisational

activity, and draw the working people more and more widely into the struggle for the flowering of their Homeland.

The Stalin Constitution of the Soviet Union, its principles and practical application are an inspiring model in all our state construction, including the work of the local organs of power. The very existence of the Soviet Union, its economic aid, the consistent policy of peace carried out by the U.S.S.R, under the leadership of the great Stalin, the assistance rendered us by our great neighbour in the grim days and which has been rendered constantly,—all are the guarantee that we will unswervingly march forward, consolidate our people's democratic State and build a strong and happy socialist homeland.

## **LATIN AMERICA UNDER THE HEEL OF U.S. MONOPOLIES. Rodney Arismendi, Member, Leadership, Communist Party of Uruguay**

In Washington's plans for enslaving the peoples great attention is devoted to Latin America. The lands situated south of the Rio Grande were, by 1940, important sources of super-profits for the Wall Street billionaires. These countries absorbed 40 per cent of the total export of U.S. capital and 25 per cent of the goods exported. At present the Latin-American countries find themselves in semi-colonial dependence on the United States. This state of affairs was facilitated by the treacherous policy of the ruling oligarchy in the Latin-American countries—the landlords and big capitalists—who also waxed rich on the war and on the brutal exploitation of the masses. Moreover, the British “ally”, weakened during the second world war, was squeezed out by American finance capital from the zone of the Caribbean Sea.

After the war the U.S. Government, the servant of Wall Street, hastened to consolidate the domination of the monopolies by means of a series of agreements which enabled it to exercise military control and to command the state apparatus in the Latin-American countries.

The landlords and big bourgeoisie in, Latin America have linked their interests with the U.S. monopolists through “joint enterprises” and by participating in the joint banks and joint stock companies. The owners of the latifundia and big traders, industrialists and bankers

in the Argentine, Brazil, Chile, Mexico, Uruguay, Cuba and Colombia comprise a counter-revolutionary oligarchy who, together with the American monopolists, ruthlessly exploit their peoples and pursue an imperialist policy of war and impoverishment.

Comrade Stalin was perfectly correct in pointing out that “Not only the United States and Canada are striving to unleash a new war, the same path has also been taken by 20 Latin-American countries, the landowners and merchants of which crave for a new war somewhere in Europe or Asia, in order to sell goods to the belligerent countries at super-high prices and to make millions out of this sanguinary business”.

The bloodthirsty exploiters of Latin America are turning their countries into an agricultural and raw materials appendage to U.S. economy. In the Argentine, Brazil, Chile and Mexico, for example, shipments of raw materials constitute from 60 to 99 per cent of their entire export. The U.S. takes from them copper, tin, saltpetre, oil, manganese, zinc, mica, rock-crystal, wool and so on, obtained at the expense of the physical exhaustion of the toilers, as a result of barbarous exploitation in factories and on latifundia, owned in large measure by American monopolies. Such, in general, is the situation in the colonial and dependent countries.

The U.S. monopolists took full advantage of the weakened state of their British “ally” during the war and after, in order to maintain a tighter grip on the raw material resources and markets of Latin America. From 1913 to 1989 British capital investments in these countries remained unchanged, constituting five billion dollars. But in 1950 investments of British capitalists comprised only 2,600 million dollars, while American

capital investments already amounted to six billion dollars. In Brazil, for example, where, before World War Two, British capital dominated, North American capital now prevails. In Uruguay, North American monopolies increased investments fivefold during the period from 1940 to 1950. During this period the share of Latin America in the total capital export of the U.S. rose from 40 to 50 per cent. In 1950, one-third of the total United States import was of Latin-American origin; the bulk of it being valuable strategic materials.

The Wall Street billionaires and the big bourgeoisie in Latin America are raking in fabulous profits from the exploitation of working people in Latin America. The Brazilian journal, “*Conjuntura Economica*”, writes that in 1950 the oil companies operating in Venezuela netted a clear profit of more than 500 million dollars. “*Anaconda Copper*”, which owns the Chilean copper mines in Shuquicamata and Potrerillos, netted more than 70 million dollars profits last year. The American copper enterprises operating in Chile have an annual turnover of 30,000 million: pesos while the wages of workers who put in up to 20 hours a day, amounts to less than 400 million pesos. Last year’s profits of U.S. meatpacking plants in Uruguay amounted to 35 per cent of the invested capital.

In this brutal exploitation there is seen the very essence of “pan-Americanism”. Most Latin-American workers and peasants live in slavery. The Chilean copper mines located at altitudes several thousand metres above sea level, the tin mines in Bolivia and the plantations of the sultry equatorial America, are simply forced labour camps where medieval forms of exploitation are combined with well-nigh unbearable natural conditions.

Practically throughout the American continent the owners run factory shops where workers are forced to pay higher prices for goods and thus become permanent debtors of the owners. Capitalist rationalisation of labour and the sweating system force the worker or peasant to toil 15-20 hours a day.

The onslaught against the vital interests of the working people on the part of imperialist reaction was renewed with particular intensity after the Inter-American Defence Junta approved, in February 1947, the Truman programme for the setting up of a united army of the Western hemisphere under Pentagon command, and for feverish preparation for a new war. The realisation of this plan was accompanied by coups throughout Latin America, the installing of dictatorships—mostly of a military nature—and the establishment of an occupation regime by U.S. imperialists.

A new impulse to the arms drive was given by the Washington Conference, which, according to Acheson, counselled the armed forces of the Latin-American countries to get ready to fulfil police functions for guarding strategic materials supplied to the continent by the war industry of the U.S. and its satellites. The United States insist that the Latin-American countries provide cannon fodder for its military gambles, including the war in Korea.

The extensive programme of preparing a third world war is reflected in the enormous increase in military expenditure in the Latin-American countries. Last year, military allocations in Brazil, according to official data, amounted to more than 6,000 million cruzeiros out of a total budget of approximately 22,000 million. Actually, however, they are much greater, since the budget

contains other items providing for the establishment of air lines, expenditure on military police, etc.

Hence, Brazil is actually spending more than half the federal budget allocations on preparation for an aggressive war.

In Colombia where the sanguinary Government despatched a transport with troops to Korea, military and all kinds of repressive expenditure constituted over 44 per cent of last year's total state expenditure. In fascist Argentina, military expenditure absorbs 66 per cent of the tax revenue and 41 per cent of the stipulated allocations. In Venezuela military expenditure has increased five-fold in the past four years. In Uruguay the budget of the Ministry of Defence and Police almost trebled in the period from 1941 to 1950. Approximately 17 million pesos, a supplementary allocation for the purchase of ships, aircraft and for financing the military mission of the U.S.A. should be added to the expenditure of the Ministry, plus five million pesos spent on "aid" for the American aggressors in Korea. Expenditure on Uruguay's increased police force also trebled in the same period. The budget of the War Ministry in Peru has risen threefold in the past four years.

The feverish preparation for aggressive war against the peace-loving peoples of the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic and the People's Democracies is accompanied by catastrophic inflation and decline in real wages. In Peru, the number of banknotes in circulation increased fivefold between 1941 and 1950, while the purchasing power of money deteriorated by 53 per cent.

The warmongers are more and more tightening the noose of hunger and poverty around the necks of the

working people, increasing annually both direct and indirect taxation. In Peru, in 1945-1949, direct taxation rose from 110 million to 284 million soles, i.e. more than two and a half times. Indirect taxation rose correspondingly from 179 million to 442 million soles. Taxation in Colombia, Chile, Uruguay, Bolivia and other countries of the continent rose 3-5: times.

Prices for most consumer goods have soared in the past nine years: in Peru and Bolivia, six-fold; in San Diego (Chile), eightfold; in Paraguay, fivefold; in Colombia, twofold, etc. These figures, taken from the International Labour Bureau, understate the actual rise in prices and the decline in real wages. In the Argentine, for example, the wage of a building trades worker is now 88 per cent of the subsistence minimum, of the metal worker, 42 per cent, and so forth.

The capitalists and landlords have put the worker and his family on starvation rations. Mortality is rising and the span of life of working people decreasing due to malnutrition. In Chile, Brazil, Peru, Ecuador, Paraguay and Bolivia, for example, the average expectancy of life for working people is under thirty. According to official data, 236 of every thousand infants die in Chile; 142 in Ecuador, 139 in Venezuela; 136 in Mexico; 122 in Costa Rica; 99 in Uruguay.

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The proletariat and peasantry in the Latin-American countries are waging a heroic struggle against their oppressors, for peace, freedom, democracy, for the independence of their countries, against the criminal anti-popular policy of war, impoverishment and fascism. Many of the Latin-American countries have been swept

by a strike wave. The working masses are supporting the camp of peace, Socialism and democracy, headed by the Soviet Union. At the head of the masses, fighting for their vital interests, stand the Communist Parties—the recognised leaders of the anti-imperialist front, the leaders of all working people and oppressed peoples.

## **MEETINGS OF AGITATORS IN POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY**

District meetings of agitators held in the Polish United Workers' Party were attended by more than 10,000 factory and rural agitators. Fifty per cent of those present at the meetings were rural agitators. The meetings indicate that the Polish United Workers' Party now disposes of a large contingent of politically tempered agitators discharging their duties with great enthusiasm.

The agitators exchanged experiences and stressed the importance of personal example in the enterprise, in fulfilling obligations to the State, and pointed to the need for militant agitation and bold denunciation of enemies. They criticised shortcomings in the leadership provided by certain Party committees which do not carry out consistent work with agitators and fail to supply them with literature. The agitators also stressed the need for new and broader forms of agitation and for extending their activity to residential quarters, workers' hostels, youth homes and the need for organising group radio listening and individual talks.

These district meetings of agitators will help overcome the shortcomings in agitation and will strengthen still more the bonds of Party organisations with the masses.

## **CONGRESS OF GERMAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP SOCIETY IN WESTERN GERMANY**

The Second Congress of the German-Soviet Friendship Society, held recently in Dortmund, brought together over 700 delegates from all the laender in Western Germany. In his report to the Congress, Gampfer, Secretary of the Presidium, pointed out that the Society is well on the way towards becoming a mass organisation in Western Germany.

Dr. Alfred Wahl, President of the Society, stressed the need for developing the movement for German-Soviet friendship in Western Germany, with a view to strengthening the patriotic movement of the German people for peace and unity, and to frustrate the attempts of the imperialist plunderers seeking to turn Western Germany into a springboard for a new war in Europe.

## **MONARCHO-FASCISTS THREATEN 12 GREEK PATRIOTS WITH DEATH**

The Greek Government, brazenly violating its promises, has refused to annul the death sentence imposed on Beloyannis and another 11 Greek patriots. The Army General Staff and Asphalia (Greek secret service), acting on American orders, are hastily concocting a new “case” against them. Stavropulos, presiding judge at the trial of 93 Greek patriots, confided in his colleagues: “this time we shall finish with Beloyannis”.

These foul machinations of the Athens assassins have been indignantly denounced by world public opinion.

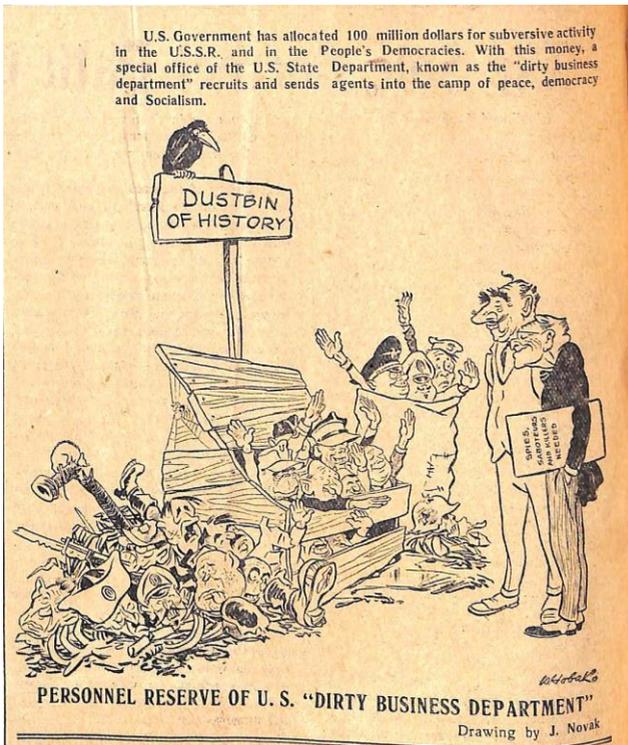
## **ACCIDENT RATE INCREASING IN YUGOSLAV FACTORIES**

Elementary labour protection is non-existent in Yugoslav industrial enterprises. As a result, the accident rate has grown tremendously. Twenty-four workers received injuries in a factory in Nish in the space of a month.

Factory managements usually conceal the facts of accidents. In the monthly reports of the labour inspection, the manager of the textile mill in Nish and the administration of the “Tigr” factory, mentioned only a single case of mutilation suffered by a worker, whereas there were more than 20 such cases.

# PERSONNEL RESERVE OF U.S. "DIRTY BUSINESS DEPARTMENT". Drawing by J. Novak

U.S. Government has allocated 100 million dollars for subversive activity in the U.S.S.R. and in the People's Democracies. With this money, a special office of the U.S. State Department, known as the "dirty business department" recruits and sends agents into the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.



PERSONNEL RESERVE OF U.S. "DIRTY BUSINESS DEPARTMENT".  
Drawing by J. Novak

## **POLITICAL NOTES**

### **“Operation Cloak and Dagger”**

Truman’s 1951 Mutual Security Act allocating 100 million dollars for spying, sabotage, wrecking and every conceivable foulness against the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies, is cynically called in the U.S., according to a New York Times correspondent, “operation cloak and dagger”. This “operation” is now an integral part of official State Department “diplomacy”.

This international banditry, which is what “operation cloak and dagger” really is, comes under the supervision of Gordon Grey, director of the so-called Psychological Strategy Board, better known in Washington as the “dirty business department”, and of General Bedell Smith, former U.S. Ambassador to Moscow, now head of the American Secret Service.

Grey and Smith, one a big businessman-gangster, the other, a militarist-diplomatist-gangster, manned their “dirty business department” and selected their “cloak and dagger” men from the ranks of a choice collection of murderers. “Personnel” on its payroll include Hitlerite war criminals, quislings and collaborators who fled the Americans from the wrath of their people.

Two of these “cloak and dagger” men, Spinder and Saplacan by name, were recently parachuted into Rumania by a U.S. airplane which took off from Athens. When apprehended, these bandits had in their possession radio transmitters, hand grenades, five automatic pistols, ample sums of money and forged

identity papers. The press has also reported the detention of two American saboteurs who were parachuted onto the territory of the U.S.S.R., in the area of the Moldavian Soviet Republic, for espionage and subversive activity.

Thus notorious criminals are dispatched as “envoys”. Their credentials—the grenade, revolver, the dagger and poison.

Tito, one of the State Department’s chief “cloak and dagger” men, has the special function of trying to get agents quartered on Yugoslav territory across the border to Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania and Hungary.

The Governments of the Soviet Union, Rumania, Poland, Hungary, Bulgaria and Albania in a number of Notes, published recently, adduced numerous examples of the criminal subversive policy pursued by the imperialist rulers of the U.S. against these states.

This unprecedented policy of the U.S. Government is part of its programme of preparing a new war. It runs counter to all the elementary principles of international law and throws clear light on the hypocritical humbug of Truman and Acheson about “defence” and peace. This policy—the policy of naked American interference in the internal affairs of independent states of espionage and subversion, evokes universal indignation among the peoples of the world.

But these provocative acts of the U.S. imperialists betray desperation rather than strength. The “dirty business department” has suffered many telling defeats of late. It has just been deprived of these services of Slansky. In People’s China it has lost many of its “cloak and dagger” men, including those garbed in the robes of Christian missionaries. The vile efforts of the U.S.

Government to send their saboteurs into the democratic camp are also doomed to failure.

The peoples will see to it that the bandits from Acheson's "dirt department" are prevented from doing their inhuman work. They will redouble their vigilance and make their free countries far too hot for the scoundrels, spies and assassins trained by the U.S. State Department and specialising in the treacherous stab in the back.

**Jan MAREK**

## TOWN OF STALIN ON THE DANUBE

On the right bank of the Danube stood Dunapentele, a mud-covered, tiny hamlet unknown to the outside world. Not even the most daring mind could have dreamed that within a few years gigantic factory buildings, built according to the last word in science and technique, would rise in these backwoods, that a beautiful town, surrounded by a green-belt of parks and gardens, would replace the ramshackle hovels. A town, in the planning of which, the best architects will have in mind the comforts and cultural life not of the factory owner but of the working man and his family!

Now that the people of Hungary are masters of their own fate, the most daring dreams and projects become reality.

In 1950, in line with the first Five-Year Plan, the Hungarian Working People's Party and the People's Government decided on the construction, to the south of Budapest, in Dunapentele, of a big metallurgical combinat similar to those wonders of modern engineering which constitute the pride of the Soviet Union. This combinat consists of a series of concentrated plants performing all production processes—from charging the furnace with ore to turning out rolled metal. As planned by the designers, working under the guidance of experienced Soviet engineers, the combinat concentrates in a single unit numerous plants, auxiliary shops, a big power station, an extensive river-port, which can also be used in the winter, railway sidings with several tens of kilometres of lines on the territory of the combinat alone, goods stations, overhead railways which shorten the

transportation of materials from the port to the combinat, and a wide network of branch lines.

As in the Soviet Union, the combinat will work on local fuel. Rich coal deposits were discovered in the vicinity of the village of Komlo, 170 kilometres away. Our scientists have proved the coking qualities of the coal, thus relieving us of the need to import furnace coke from other countries and enabling us to save 300 million forints annually. The significance of this saving can be gauged from the fact that after about 13 years it will enable us to build another metallurgical combinat of the same size.

Work in Dunapentele on the biggest iron and steel plant in the country and the building of our socialist town began less than two years ago, but already we see on the banks of the Danube the contours of a number of factory sections and blocks of apartment houses.

The giant-combinat, the like of which Hungary has never seen, is rising with unprecedented rapidity. By the autumn of 1950 eight apartment houses had risen on territory which a few months before, in the spring, was a bare stretch of wasteland. In less than a year a bakery and water tower were built and piped water laid on. Together with the first section of the works, construction is underway of schools, creches, kindergartens, a Palace of Culture, a hospital, polyclinic, cinemas, shops, restaurants, laundries and the other services needed for the everyday life of the people in the new Hungary; they are being built to the north of the combinat where they will be sheltered from factory smoke and soot by a green belt.

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The enormous scale and the unusual nature of the construction, the speed dictated by the requirements of the rapidly developing economy of the country, confront the people of democratic Hungary with great and seemingly impossible tasks.

First the question of personnel. Requirements called for not just hundreds but for thousands of building trades workers. And not just any, builders but the most advanced and mechanised building. Rendering fraternal aid, the Soviet Union supplied the huge building site with most modern and varied machines—scrapers, conveyors, and excavators. The Soviet machines alone will excavate on the site five million cubic metres of earth—more than two-thirds the quantity excavated during construction of the Panama Canal.

But who will operate the powerful technique? Where will the skilled workers come from? The whole country is in the throes of building...

And here the decisive say was said by the people—the masters of the country. All that is advanced, noble, patriotic and selfless was roused and responded to the needs of the first fledgling of the Five-Year Plan. The great undertaking attracted people from all over Hungary. And now, in addition to the professional bricklayer and carpenter, we see yesterday's peasant, housewife and office worker. During the summer vacations thousands of enthusiastic students and secondary school pupils volunteered for work here.

People go to work on the site which Hungarian citizens proudly call construction of Socialism—the peace fortress—not by compulsion but in response to the call of their hearts. He, who genuinely loves his homeland, undoubtedly wants to see it made strong, indestructible and worthy of the friendship and aid of

the great Soviet Union. And Hungary will be worthy of this.

The metallurgical combinat is scheduled to go into full operation during the second Five-Year Plan, but in the course of the current plan, for the construction of the combinat and the first socialist town, the port and rail network, the Government has allocated four billion forints, one-tenth of the total capital investments in Hungary.

The expenditure is enormous but fully justified. In 1954, when the first section goes into operation, the Danube combinat will yield one-third more pig iron than was produced by all the metallurgical plants in the country in 1949.

The new technique will make the combinat a highly profitable enterprise capable of utilising virtually all industrial waste. Scrap will be used for steel production, the steam and warm water of the power station will be used for heating the combinat and the town, the water used for cooling the furnaces will irrigate the fields in neighbouring agricultural co-operatives.

It was not fortuitous that Comrade Stalin said: "... Only great aims give rise to great energy". It is precisely this lofty and noble aim of turning the homeland into a highly industrial, socialist country that inspires the 14,000 builders of the Danube metallurgical combinat to labour exploits and gives birth to mass labour heroism.

Many builders have already distinguished themselves by a genuinely socialist attitude towards labour. Their names are known not only to the workers on the site but to: all working people in Hungary. Such is József Fabik, who won the title of champion bricklayer in the country and trained scores of master craftsmen from among the

youth. Combining work and study József Fabik is preparing to become an engineer. Then there is Béla Boér who learnt the rapid method of bricklaying from the Soviet stakhanovite Maximenko, and is now doing the work of six. It was these people who set the example for the youth now acquiring skill in the numerous courses and stakhanovite schools, created, on the model of the Soviet Union, right on the construction site and which, at short notice, help to make good the shortage of skilled hands.

I should like, in particular, to dwell briefly on the youth who form a large section of the workers. Working with tireless energy and enthusiasm the youths and girls very soon developed into a leading force among the builders. Old hands, seeing the staunchness with which they stand up to hardships, and their exemplary work, even begin to take example from them. Take, for instance, the Sandor Levi youth team which came to the site from one of the Budapest factories by way of giving socialist aid. This group of young workers is a model of exemplary discipline and consciousness; it regularly overfulfil the day's quota.

József Matola and his sixteen mates came from the village of Tóyszerdahely, on the Yugoslav border. They formed a shock-brigade on the site of peace fortress and gave it the name "Partisan". This team is working on two buildings. There were times when these youths and girls would work for several days in heavy rain and always fulfil their quota by 285 per cent each. Many other teams are following their example.

These are but a few of the scores and hundreds of examples of the socialist attitude towards labour inculcated in the people of new Hungary. Although they reveal convincingly enough the secret of the

unprecedented tempo of construction, another important detail should be added. In May this year the personnel of the “Mavag” locomotive and wagon building works addressed an appeal to all factories supplying the site, which reads: “The machines ordered at our plant for construction of the Danube combinat will be made ahead of schedule... We are confident that our initiative will meet with a warm response among all who supply plans, materials, equipment and machines”.

This call was taken up by a number of enterprises. The workers of a ventilation plant, for example, pledged to produce the equipment ordered for the combinat two months before schedule. The socialist emulation which embraces thousands of building workers, the help rendered by skilled workers to the non-skilled and the enthusiasm with which scores of enterprises are working on orders for the great undertaking, all these are the guarantee that the combinat will go into operation in the stipulated time.

By the time the new plants begin to function, the dwelling houses will also be ready for occupation. The workers of the combinat will not be cooped up in damp cellars, ramshackle barracks or in crowded attics. By the end of 1954 Hungary’s first socialist town will have spacious and bright apartments with accommodation for 4,000 families and hostels for 500 single men and women. The buildings will be well-provided with flower-beds, gardens, squares and parks. A broad, straight highway will run through a grove of saplings direct to the combinat.

This is what the tiny, muddy hamlet of Dunapentele will look like three years hence. It is for this that thousands of building workers, engineers and technicians are working so diligently. Staunchly braving

the hardships they already see the contours of the new bright life.

The 34th anniversary of the Great October Socialist Revolution was a great day for the working people in Dunapentele, they kept their promise to Comrade Rakosi. On November 7, the first foundry of the future combinat gave its first production, which the moulders used for making bas-reliefs of Comrades Stalin and Rakosi—those to whom the Hungarian people owe their happiness.

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On that day another momentous event occurred. The first-born of the Hungarian Five-Year Plan was named after Stalin. Dunapentele was renamed Sztalinvaros—the town of Stalin. In honour of this solemn and happy event, the building workers took additional socialist pledges before the working people and Comrade Stalin. The men and women working on this historic undertaking, as genuine patriots, are working with greater discipline and selflessness.

At night, the banks of the wide Danube, flooded with light, reflect the outlines of the town of Stalin—Hungary's first socialist town. Day by day its contours stand out more clearly, testifying to the peaceful aspirations of the freedom-loving Hungarian people.

**P. FARKAŞ**

## **EDITORIAL BOARD**

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