

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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STRUGGLE FOR UNITY OF WORKING CLASS—VITAL TASK OF COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

More and more the working people in the capitalist, colonial and dependent countries are broadening the scale of the struggle for their vital Interests for the preservation and consolidation of peace, for democracy and national independence. Unity of the working class is a vital prerequisite for the success of this struggle.

Divided and disunited the working class and the popular masses are incapable of withstanding the onslaught of imperialist reaction and of giving a resolute rebuff to the warmakers. Consequently, the policy of splitting the working-class movement plays a vital role in the arsenal of means and

methods of the imperialists in preparing for a new war, in strangling the forces of democracy and Socialism, in sharply reducing the living standards of the popular masses. The treacherous role of dividing the working class, of breaking the unity of the working people is assigned by the bourgeoisie to its agency inside the working-class movement—the leaders of the Right-wing Socialists—who nowadays, in addition to being the henchmen of their own bourgeoisie, function as obsequious lackeys of the transatlantic imperialists.

Wherever, despite the machinations of reaction and its Right-wing Socialist accomplices, the split is overcome and the working masses. Irrespective of Party affiliation, trade union organisation and religious belief, unite all their forces to give a decisive rebuff to the intrigues of the capitalists, wherever this is done their struggle is invariably crowned with success. The entire postwar experience of the working-class movement is clear testimony to this.

Historic success in the matter of rallying the working class has been achieved in the countries of people's democracy where there are now unified Parties of the working class, unified trade unions, co-operatives, youth, women's and other organisations. The unity of the working class and the unification of the Workers' Parties all the basis of Marxist-Leninist teaching played a decisive role in the tremendous successes registered by the countries of people's democracy in socialist construction, in radically improving the material conditions of the working people.

Unity of the working class and the rallying of the democratic forces in general are being developed on an international scale as well. Such large mass organisations as the World Federation of Trade Unions, the Women's International Democratic Federation and the World Federation of Democratic Youth are playing a vital role in rallying the working people in the struggle for their vital interests, in

defence of peace. A particularly vital role in the struggle for peace is played by the indomitable movement of our time, the peace movement.

The events of the recent past show that the idea of unity of the working class, despite the efforts of the bourgeoisie and its zealous lackeys—the Right-wing Socialist leaders—is taking on more and more in most capitalist countries. In France, Italy and in a number of other capitalist countries the Communist Parties have won big successes in rallying the working class and all the democratic forces in the struggle for satisfaction of immediate demand for democratic freedoms, for peace and national independence.

A feature of the growing strike movement in France is that unity of action of the working class is being forged increasingly in the struggle for economic demands and for democratic freedoms.

For the first time the trade unions affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour, the “Force ouvriere”, F.C.C.W. and autonomous trade union in the Renault works acted jointly in defence of immediate demands. This unity of action has already led to the abandonment of the lock-out invoked for the purpose of intimidating and splitting the workers who fought a month-long struggle. Numerous united actions by the workers compelled the Government to retreat and to release the three secretaries of the C.G.T. trade union.

In a number of places during the recent municipal elections in France the working people—Socialists and Communists—effected unity of action in order to bar the way to reaction. The combined lists of Communists and Socialists advanced on the basis of the minimum-programme put forward by the French Communist Party, won an absolute majority in scores of municipalities. Agreement was also effected between the Socialists and Communists in electing Mayors and their deputies in a number of big cities.

Day by day in Italy the unity of the working people in the struggle for satisfaction of immediate demands, in defence of democratic freedoms, is gaining in scale. Its basis is the ever growing unity of action between the Communist and Socialist Parties. Millions of working people of varied political convictions acted jointly against the enslavement of their country by foreign imperialism, against the fraudulent electoral law. Many members of the Christian Democratic and Social Democratic trade unions supported the recent 24-hour strike fought by the 2 million odd agricultural workers and peasants.

In March, two hundred thousand railway workers took part in the 48-hour general strike in Italy which was also supported by Social Democratic trade unions. The leadership of the Christian Democratic trade unions which sabotaged the strike, was isolated and many Christian Democratic workers took part in it. The bank employers' strikes in Italy during April and May were organised by an inter-trade union centre of bank clerks consisting of unions affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour, to the Christian Democratic and Social Democratic trade unions and others.

Strikes in support of immediate demands of the working people in Western Germany are also taking the form of united action. This was the case for example, with shipyard workers and employees in Bremen. Bremerhaven and Vegesack. The workers in Bremerhaven elected a strike committee of Socialist, Communist and non-party workers. In the Ruhr miners and workers in many enterprises have expressed themselves for united lists in the ejections for the production councils—a development which adds significantly to the united action front of Social Democratic, Communist and non-party workers.

Splendid examples of unity of action by workers—members of different parties and trade unions—were seen in Japan, India, Chile and in many other colonial and dependent

countries.

The May Day demonstrations, which rallied under the banner of the struggle for peace, for democracy, for Socialism large numbers of the popular masses in nearly all countries of the world, were striking testimony to the growing consolidation of the working class and of all working people.

These joint-action successes in a number of countries became possible only because of the irreconcilable and consistent struggle waged daily by the Communist and Workers' Parties against the Right-wing Socialist leaders and reactionary trade union bosses; they are the outcome of the systematic exposure of the splitters of the working-class movement and of their isolation from the masses. Experience shows that the best, the most effective means for successful struggle by the proletariat for economic demand for democratic freedoms, for peace and national independence is rank and file unity in action and constant broadening of this unity. In comradely fashion, patiently and persistently the Communists explain to Socialist working people the full importance of unity of the ranks of the working class, bring them into joint struggle for defence of vital interests.

The tremendous desire of the working masses for unity is striking testimony to the real possibilities that exist in many countries for ensuring unity of the trade union movement, for building a united front of the working class opposed to the united forces of reaction.

Unity of the working-class movement is the base for national unity of all democratic forces; it is the main prerequisite for successfully realising not only the everyday and immediate tasks of the working class and the working masses but also for solving the cardinal questions facing the proletariat as the class heading the struggle against the domination of monopoly capital, for the national independence of the country, for democratic freedoms, for a higher standard

of living, for peace.

Further success in the struggle for the unity of the working class and for rallying the democratic forces depends, above all, on improving the entire organisational and ideological work of the Communist and Workers' Parties. Constantly improving their organisational and ideological work the Communist and Workers' Parties wage irreconcilable struggle against the opportunist and sectarian tendencies—tendencies which act as a brake on the Party's struggle for unity of the working class, for the unity of the democratic forces in their countries.

“Never before in the history of the international working-class movement has the unity of the working class, both within individual countries and on a world scale, been of such decisive significance as at the present time”, said the November 1949, Resolution of the Information Bureau of Communist and Workers' Parties. These words are to the point at the present moment. Unity of all the democratic forces in the capitalist countries, established on the basis of unity of the working class, will contribute to the struggle for peace, to thwarting the criminal designs of the warmakers and the conspiracy of imperialist reaction against democracy and Socialism.

Regarding the struggle for unifying the ranks of the working class as their most vital duty the Communist and Workers' Parties will spare no effort in solving this great task.

FOR PEACE PACT

Reply Of Government Of Albania To Letter From Commission Of Peoples' Congress For Peace

Enver Hodja, Chairman of the Council of Ministers and Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Albania sent a reply to the letter from the Commission of the Peoples' Congress which reads: The Government of the People's Republic of Albania expresses complete solidarity with the Appeal of the Peoples' Congress for Peace and approves the suggestion for a Peace Pact of the five Great Powers, since this fully corresponds to its peace policy, the policy of friendship and co-operation with all the nations of the world based on equality of nations and respect for the national independence and sovereignty of all countries.

The people of Albania, by their peaceful and creative labour, have constantly demonstrated that they stand for preservation and consolidation of world peace, and the Government of the People's Republic of Albania, expressing the sentiments and aspirations of all the people of Albania, adheres to the view that the beginning of negotiation and the signing of a Pact of Peace between the five Great Powers would put an end to the international tension and open up new prospects for a peaceful solution of unsettled controversial questions.

Government Of Korean People's Democratic Republic Replies To Letter from Commission Of People's Congress For Peace

The Government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic has replied to the letter of the Commission of the Peoples' Congress. The reply, signed by Kim Ir Sen, Chairman of the Cabinet of Ministers, points out that the suggestion for a peace Pact of the five Great Powers fully corresponds to the policy of the Government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic which stands for equality of all nations, for consolidation of peace and friendship, respect for national independence and for the sovereignty of other countries; it corresponds to the will of all the Korean people fighting for the freedom and independence of their homeland and for world peace. The Government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic, true to its consistent peace policy and believing in the possibility of the co-existence of countries with different system, supported the resolution of the Peoples' Congress for Peace, including the Appeal for a Peace Pact, and continues to devote great efforts for a peaceful solution of the Korean question.

The Government of the Korean People's Democratic Republic, the reply goes on, is convinced that there is not a single controversial or outstanding question which cannot be solved by peaceful means on the basis of agreement between the interested sides, and holds that all international conflicts, including the Korean question, must be solved by means of peaceful agreement.

Demands of Peace Fighters In India

A Peace Congress of trade unions in Western Bengal, held

in Calcutta on May 8, was attended by 375 delegates from 92 trade unions—railway workers, dockers, city transport workers, bank employees and factory workers.

Those present adopted a manifesto which, in addition to other demands, called for prohibition of the atomic weapon, germ war and other means of wholesale extermination, for a Peace Pact between the five Great Powers, for an immediate peace in Korea and withdrawal of all foreign troops from the territories of the Asiatic countries.

A conference of peace supporters in the Hundjerat region took place a few days earlier. Unanimous resolutions were adopted at this conference calling for an immediate cease fire in Malaya and Indo-China, for an end to the repressions of the French authorities in Tunisia and the withdrawal of all foreign troops from the countries of Asia and Africa.

With the aim of maintaining world peace the conference demanded the abolition of foreign domination and military pacts such as the North Atlantic pact and the projected Middle East pact.

In a special resolution the conference called for a Five-Power Peace Pact.

Call To People Of Brazil

A recent meeting of the leadership of the Brazilian Peace Movement adopted the text of a call to the people of Brazil.

“The will of our people for peace”, says the call, “which found expression in the splendid campaigns must now be aimed at making our Government give a positive reply to the Appeal of the Peoples’ Congress Commission for a Five-Power Peace Pact.

“For the purpose of giving definite expression to these strivings of our people for peace we intend to make May a

month of struggle in support of the action of the Commission”.

The call stresses that successful carrying out of the “Month” will be a contribution by the people of Brazil to the cause of universal peace.

The meeting elected a commission which will submit the Peoples’ Congress Appeal, containing the suggestion for a Five-Power Peace Pact, to the President of Brazil for his signature; the commission will urge the Government to give its backing to the Appeal.

“It Is Essential To Negotiate In Order To Secure Peace”

The letter from the Commission of the Peoples’ Congress meets with the active support of broad sections of the French people.

The Peace Council in the Seine-el-Oise Department is busy distributing special “note-books” in all towns and villages in which the citizens say why they support the letter of the Commission and the suggestions contained therein.

The Peace Council of the Seine Department has called upon the population of Paris to back the Appeal of the Commission by sending letters and deputations to the Government. The peace councils of the 5th, 6th and 7th districts in Paris held a mass meeting under the slogan “It is essential to negotiate in order to secure peace”. The speakers at the meeting demanded a positive reply from the Government to the letter of the Commission of the Peoples’ Congress.

The Permanent Commission of the peace movement addressed a letter to Rene Mayer, Chairman of the Council of Ministers, which says, in particular: “Now that the replies of other governments have been published the French people will not be able to understand the silence maintained by their

Government”.

People In Britain Demand Definite Action

At trade union conferences, conferences of co-operative organisations, women's guilds, of peace supporters and other bodies millions of working people in Britain have voted in favour of a Five-Power conference, for an immediate end to the war in Korea, for peace in Asia and throughout the world. More and more members of the Labour Party are taking part in the movement aimed at securing relaxation of the international tension and for a Five-Power conference. This movement includes the powerful Leeds City Labour Party. The Rotherham Labour Party has urged the National Executive and the Parliamentary Labour Party to take action for immediate acceptance of the proposals for ending the Korean war.

In a joint appeal issued by trade unionists in connection with the forthcoming National Congress of Action for peace in Manchester the former general secretary of the National Union of Railwaymen, the president of the Amalgamated Union of Foundry Workers, the general secretary of the Tobacco Workers' Union and the president of the Fire Brigades Union, say: “We need to take action to see that the resolutions we support are in fact carried out. We must launch the most powerful, united movement for peace this country has ever seen, bringing together workers of all trades and people of all parties and faiths”.

On May 7 eighty Labour M.P.s submitted a motion to the House of Commons welcoming the recent peace statements by a number of countries and urging the Government to “take the initiative with a view to bringing about the basis of agreement which will lead towards a Five-Power conference, strengthening of United Nations, and a world conference to

bring about large-scale expansion of world trade”.

FOR PEACE, FOR DEMOCRATIC EDUCATION OF YOUTH

Preparing for International Conference of Educational Workers

The Preparatory Committee for the International Conference of Educational Workers met in Vienna on May 5-6. Representatives from trade unions of educational workers in a number of countries and from other organisations interested in democratic education of the youth were present.

The Preparatory Committee resolved to convene in Berlin on July 23-26 an International Conference of Educational Workers which will discuss the following items:

1. Educational conditions and the teachers' struggle for improving their material and social conditions, for democratisation of the educational system and preservation of peace.

2. Pedagogical principles of democratic youth education.

The Committee stressed the broad character of the International Conference which is open to all organisations and groups—trade-union, professional and pedagogical.

There has been a wide response to the decision to convene the conference. Trade unions in a number of countries of Africa, South-East Asia and Iran, not affiliated to the World Federation of Trade Unions' educational section, have already expressed the desire to take part in the Conference. Large-scale preparatory work is underway in other countries of Asia.

Big success attended conferences of teachers from Latin American countries, held in Santiago (Chile), and the joint conference of teachers and other democratic organisations in

Algeria.

ELECTION CAMPAIGN IN ITALY

Ever since the opening of the election campaign (April 19) the Italian Communist Party has held thousands of meetings at which the Communists explain their election programme which calls for a government of peace and social reforms and for an end to the political monopoly of the Christian Democratic Party.

In the course of an election tour of Sicily, Palmiro Togliatti, General Secretary of the Italian Communist Party, addressed meetings in Catania, Messina, Agrigento and in other towns urging the electorate to ensure for Italy a government of peace, in keeping with the aspirations of the people. He said: "On June 7 there will be two ballot-boxes before the voter: the ballot-box of peace and the ballot-box of war".

Addressing a mass meeting in Milan, Luigi Longo, Deputy General Secretary of the Communist Party, said that for the preservation of peace in the country it was necessary to prevent the return of a Christian Democratic Government.

The Union of Italian Women is holding a national week (May 8-15) of women-voters under the slogan: "Women can overthrow the government of war".

"Unita" featured an article by Pietro Secchia, Deputy General Secretary of the Party, under the headline "Rally in Defence of Peace". The article stresses that daily propaganda work—house to house, canvassing of voters—is of decisive significance for combating the enemy's propaganda conducted through its organisations and through the medium of 27,714 parishes in Italy. "Every Communist must become an activist of the election campaign", wrote Secchia, "the Party federation" section and branch committees must become

leaders of the election campaign”.

The drive for election, funds initiated by the Party is yielding good results. For instance; the Rome Party federation has already collected about 12 million lire; the Turin federation 7 million, etc.

Striving to ensure a loyal and honestly-conducted election campaign the election committee of the Communist Party has approached all the main parties with the proposal to form an inter-Party election committee, to publish their election expenditure, to publish the sources of their election funds and regulate the question of issuing posters and using radio facilities.

At present the Christian Democratic Party is vigorously wooing monarchists and fascists,—a fact which has caused profound indignation and resolute protests on the part of the rank and file of the Republican and Social Democratic Parties. For instance, membership of the Social Democratic Party, in Turin declined during recent weeks by one-third in the “Lanca” enterprises; 160 members dropped out in the “Fiat-Mirafiori” works, and 60 in the “Grandi Motori” works. etc.

LIBERATION DAY IN GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The 8th anniversary of liberation of Germany by the Soviet Army from the Hitler yoke was celebrated in the German Democratic Republic on May 8th. On the occasion of the anniversary the Central Committees of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany sent a message to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

On behalf of the Government **Otto Grotewohl**, Prime Minister of the Republic, addressed a telegram of greetings to **G. M. Malenkov**, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., which reads: "I assure you, dear Comrade Malenkov, that the working people of the German Democratic Republic, linked in close friendship with the Soviet Union, great standard-bearer of peace, and with the People's Democracies, will continue to contribute to the cause of preserving peace and will fight resolutely for the unification of their homeland".

In a telegram to Otto Grotewohl, which was greeted with great enthusiasm in the German Democratic Republic, Comrade G. M. Malenkov wished "the German people success in the struggle for their national unification, for a peace-loving, democratic, independent Germany, for a speedy peace treaty corresponding to the vital interests of the German people and all peace-loving nations".

A meeting in Berlin on May 8 devoted to the anniversary was addressed by Luitpold Steidle, Minister of Health.

The ceremonial laying of wreaths at the memorial to the Soviet soldiers who fell in the battle of Berlin took place in the Treptow Park on Liberation Day. Thousands of people in West Berlin laid wreaths at the memorial to the Soviet soldiers in the Tiergarten (British Zone).

The democratic press in Germany featured articles and material devoted to the 8th anniversary of the Soviet Army's liberation of the German people from the Hitler yoke.

8th ANNIVERSARY OF LIBERATION OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA BY SOVIET ARMY

The 8th anniversary of the liberation of their homeland by the gallant Soviet Army was marked by the working people of Czechoslovakia with big achievements in their struggle for fulfilment of the first Gottwald Five-Year Plan. Miners and metal workers, building workers and members of producer co-operatives in different parts of the country wrote to the Communist Party and the Government during these days reporting achievements and the taking of new pledges in the socialist emulation.

The ceremonial laying of wreaths at the memorials to the heroic Soviet soldiers and Czechoslovak patriots—fighters against fascism—took place on the eve of Liberation Day. On the evening of May 8 meetings of the National Front Committees were held in all regional cities of the country.

Prime Minister **Viliam Siroky** addressed the anniversary meeting in Prague. “Celebrating our great state holiday”, he said, “we send first of all our sincere fraternal greetings to the heroic Soviet people and their glorious Army, who suffered immeasurable losses so that the peoples of our Republic might live in freedom”.

In friendship with the Soviet Union and the People’s Democracies. Continue V. Siroky, the Czechoslovak Government is consistently pursuing its peace policy, sparing no effort to ensure that controversial international questions be settled by peaceful means. The people of Czechoslovakia give every support to these efforts since they express their striving to devote all their energies to creative labour.

V. Siroky spoke of the successes in building the new life won under the leadership of the Communist Party, thanks to the fraternal aid of the Soviet Union.

On May 9, Liberation Day, Prague witnessed a parade of

the Czechoslovak armed forces, which was addressed by President **Antonin Zapotocky**. Pointing to the world-historic significance of the victory of the Soviet Union over fascism, a victory which brought liberation and independence to Czechoslovakia, the President said: Our alliance with the Soviet Union is based on mutual confidence, mutual economic aid and the common efforts of both sides to achieve maximum satisfaction of the constantly growing material and cultural requirements of their peoples. Consequently, we will never betray our motto: **With the Soviet Union forever!**

TOWARDS NEW VICTORIES, NEW FLOWERING!* Matias Rakosi, General Secretary, Hungarian Working People's Party

Four years ago, the patriotic, democratic forces of Hungary, united in the People's Independence Front, acted jointly in elections for the first time. In that election only the sons of the working people were candidates. There were no counts, no landlords, no bankers and other enemies of the people among the candidates. Anti glancing back over the path traversed during the past four years we can justly say that the unification of the democratic forces has justified itself, that the People's Front fulfilled all its promises.

Four years ago the main election slogan of the People's Front was: "Under the leadership of the working class, in alliance with the working peasantry, forward, along the pathway of people's democracy, for a socialist Hungary!" The People's Independence Front proclaimed the need of upholding peace and resolutely stressed its fidelity to our liberator, the mighty Soviet Union.

During the past four years the attitude of the Hungarian People's Republic to the Soviet Union has become deeper and more heartfelt. The friendly ties linking us with the countries of people's democracy, including the Chinese People's Republic born in the crucible of victorious battles, have become stronger. Unshakable and unanimous was the stand taken by our people in the matter of defending peace. We remained true to the slogan: "Our homeland is not a gap but a staunch fortress in the Peace front.

† From speech made by Comrade Matias Rakosi at election meeting in Budapest on May 10.

Although four years are but a brief period in the history of a nation our homeland has changed and developed more in these four years than in the long decades of the past. This change is significant not only in the sphere of economy and culture. As a result of this transformation the very composition of our people has changed. The main force of our socialist construction—our splendid working class—has changed. This change is manifested in the first instance in its numerical growth. Gone forever are the horrors of unemployment, gone are the three million paupers of the Horthy days, the “human market” has disappeared.

During these four years the working class has grown not only numerically, it has changed also in its consciousness, in its skill and culture. It suffices to say that today there are more than 70,000 stakhanovites in the country. This shows that an ever greater part of our working class is approaching in skill and knowledge the level of the technical intelligentsia. Today our working class is not what it was four years ago. It is more skilled, more educated, more conscious and more confident of its strength.

Four years ago, at the time of the election, we still found it necessary to stress particularly that the Hungarian working class was destined not only to lead our working people but that it was capable of doing so. Today it is no longer necessary to prove that the mission of our working class is to lead the nation because, on the basis of the sacrifices made by it and the results achieved since the liberation, the people, with firm conviction, look on the working class and on the working People’s Party as their leaders. Our gratitude and glory to the mainstay of our democracy—the working class of Hungary!

The peasantry likewise has changed in the past four years. An ever growing part of our working peasantry is taking to socialist large-scale farming. Four years ago the producer co-operatives embraced a mere 15,000 peasant households, while

during the spring sowing this year nearly 30,000 households belonged to the producer co-operatives, with membership of the cooperatives approaching the half million mark. Today the producer co-operatives and state farms account for 40 per cent of the cultivable land.

Life has confirmed the correctness of the policy of our Government which did not tolerate any coercion in forming the co-operatives and strictly adhered to the voluntary principle. Today no one can have any doubts about the further rapid development of the co-operatives since increasingly bigger sections of the peasantry are becoming convinced of the superiority of large-scale socialist farming.

The transition to large-scale farming means at the same time both strengthening the worker-peasant alliance and its further consolidation. There is hardly any need to say that the member of the producer cooperative, the state farm worker or worker in the machine and tractor depot is more conscious and more deeply aware of the significance of this alliance from the stand-point of the interests of the nation, is more aware of the importance of this alliance from the standpoint of the future and of the vital interests of the entire people of Hungary.

Completely different too from what it was at the time of the liberation, or, say, four years ago, is that party of the peasantry which has not yet decided to take the pathway of large-scale socialist farming. Simultaneously with the political gains won by our people's democracy, with the economic and cultural advance made by our nation, a significant change has taken place in our working peasantry. Electricity, radio, the telephone, the network of houses of culture and libraries, the growing mechanisation of agriculture and better transport facilities—all these, naturally, have also influenced our working peasantry. It is also adopting the better methods used on the state farms and producer co-operatives. The fact that despite a bad harvest last year our peasantry in the main

fulfilled their quotas for state deliveries and ensured public supplies sufficient until the new harvest, testifies to its solid civic discipline and loyalty to the homeland. Today the worker-peasant alliance is more cemented than ever before.

Our intelligentsia has also changed in these four years. Four years ago many among the old intelligentsia were still hesitant and looked with doubt on our grand plans for remaking the country. A significant part was not sure that it could find a place within the framework of people's democracy. But in the past four years the decisive part of the intelligentsia became convinced that its doubts were groundless. The intelligentsia became convinced that people's democracy was capable of raising the nation from its downtrodden position, that it respects and highly evaluates the work of the intelligentsia loyal to the homeland and provides opportunities for the application of ability and talent of which it could not even dream under capitalism.

The composition of the intelligentsia has also changed in the course of the past four years. The higher educational establishments are graduating in ever increasing numbers students educated by people's democracy, mainly workers and peasants. In our colleges and universities there are three times the number of students of the days of the Horthy regime and we can proudly say that in this respect we have left such developed capitalist countries as Britain, France and Holland far behind.

The figures testifying to the rapid growth of the intelligentsia reflect the genuine cultural achievements of the homeland. The bulk of the new intelligentsia is flesh and blood of the working people. This intelligentsia owes its existence and its culture to people's democracy. This rapidly growing section of the new intelligentsia, which is fusing with the patriotic old intelligentsia loyal to the people, will take part in all spheres of the life of the nation and carry much more weight

and exercise a much bigger influence. Whereas the old regime sought to divide the intelligentsia from the working people, we are uniting them into one organic whole. So far even we ourselves have not fully realised the new significance which the intelligentsia acquires as a result of the cultural revolution of the past years, the like of which our people have never experienced before, or the vistas it opens up before the intelligentsia.

In a word, we can say that today our working people are more united than ever before. They are more united in their political aims, in their loyalty to the camp of peace. This unity is reflected in the fact that they are upholding and multiplying the achievements of people's democracy.

Consolidation of National, Democratic, Socialist Forces

The fact that today our people are more united than ever before, that the inter-party wrangling, which in the years immediately following the liberation divided the forces of the nation, causing such harm to the country, is now a thing of the past, does not minimise the significance of the People's Independence Front. The spirit of the unification of the national, democratic, and socialist forces thanks to which four years ago the People's Independence Front was founded is alive today. And today too it is the motive force of our further development. This unification which consolidates in one camp all honest Hungarian patriots is the guarantee of our further success. We are, therefore, determined steadfastly to carry forward the banner of the People's Front under the leadership of which we have won such great victories. In conditions of the great transformations taking place in all spheres of our life, the principles of the People's Independence Front are the solid

foundation on which we are confidently building our future. The composition of the candidates nominated by the People's Front for the State Assembly is one of the factors showing what the unification of the people's-democratic forces really means. Of the 453 candidates 188 are workers, 143 are peasants and agricultural workers; 96 belong to the intelligentsia, 26 are office workers and others. Among the candidates there are 87 women, 36 Kossuth Prize winners, 230 stakhanovites or people decorated by the Government for exemplary production records.

The consolidation of the unity of our people is, to a degree, not fully manifested due to the fact that, in connection, with the successes achieved by our people's democracy and the progress made in our socialist construction, a sharpening of class struggle is taking place. The remnants of the capitalism in town and countryside are being ousted on an increasing scale. But the more this base narrows the more frantic the attempts to cling to what they still possess.

It is clear that these enemies of our people are trying to injure our cause in order to slow down our development. No less damage is caused by our own mistakes, which are often seen not only in the sphere of production but also in our state life. Everyone of us realises that as yet labour discipline leaves much to be desired. Labour productivity can be raised considerably also. In many places the percentage of waste is impermissibly high. We did not reach the target for lowering production costs. Economising materials, time and state wealth is inadequate. There is no rhythm in our work of fulfilling the plan. We are still a long way from fulfilling our plan rhythmically, from day to day, week to week, and month to month. Still widespread is the practice of a slow rate of work at the beginning of a month or quarter, of overcoming the lag at the end of the planned period by means of rush work and overtime. In town and countryside, in equal measure, socialist

property is not adequately protected. Not infrequently there is inadequate vigilance in relation to the enemy. And there are frequent instances of gullibility and smugness, there are cases when shortcomings are not brought to the fore or when they are slurred over and when criticism expressed. All these are things which retard our development.

We made mistakes also in relation to the peasantry. Our system of purchasing agricultural produce is too complicated. It is changed practically every year, preventing the working peasantry from planning their work for years ahead, from knowing in advance what their obligations will be. We must see to it that this does not obtain in the future, that the purchasing system is defined for a number of years ahead so as to give the peasantry the opportunity of selling their surplus on the free market. This will mean bigger incomes for the peasantry and will act as an incentive for greater production.

Last year's poor crop temporarily slowed our development; it also retarded raising the level of well-being of the working people. It was a year of serious trials for our entire political and economic system. And for the fact that last year's frosts and drought did not cause still greater damage we are indebted to the stability and the organisational strength of the system of our people's democracy. We are indebted also to the Soviet Union which, as always the case when we found ourselves in grave situations, this time too gave us support. In this connection I must point to Yugoslavia where drought similar to that experienced by us resulted in real catastrophe, which is further aggravated by the fact that the Yugoslav working peasantry hates its masters and is resisting the Tito gang. As a result the Yugoslav Government was forced to postpone the elections, scheduled for spring, until after the harvest.

Second Five-Year Plan Will Transform Our Country Into A Country Of Prosperity, Might and Culture

Calmly and confidently Hungarian People's Democracy is preparing for the election, for fulfilment of the tasks facing us. The most urgent of these tasks is successful completion of the remainder of the Five-Year Plan. The election is, simultaneously, action for successful completion of the Five-Year Plan. Conscious of this, our working people have unfolded a wide pre-election peace emulation aimed at accelerating fulfilment of our plan. As a result of this emulation our industry fulfilled the April programme 103 per cent.

One of the vital tasks of the new State Assembly will be the enactment of the second Five-Year Plan of the Hungarian national economy as a law. With the completion of this plan we shall have socialist society in our country. The preliminary figures for the plan reveal the magnificent goal we have set ourselves. The plan pre-supposes that in 1955-59 we shall double the output of coal, pig-iron, steel and electrical energy compared with the first Five-Year Plan.

More coal, steel and electric energy signifies a further rise in the standard of living, more food and clothing and a flowering culture. In the sphere of agriculture we shall extend the area under irrigation, in order to remove the threat of drought, to 650-700 thousand holds. As in industry so too in agriculture we must go ahead with the mechanisation of labour-consuming work. We must build approximately a quarter of million of new apartments.

As a result of the completion of the second Five-Year Plan real wages will go up at least 50 per cent. In conformity with this we shall take measures to ensure an abundance of foodstuffs and consumer goods. On this basis we shall, as is the case in the Soviet Union, begin to reduce prices in the new

five-year period.

With fulfilment of the new plan Hungary will have left far behind in all spheres the majority of the developed capitalist countries. Successful completion of the plan will transform our country into a prosperous country, into a powerful, cultured country.

Have we got the prerequisites for carrying out our plans? Yes, we have. We have a conscious and selfless working class, a diligent peasantry and an educated intelligentsia. One of the guarantees for the realisation of our plans is the fact that, as in the past, we shall have alongside us in the future, too, our liberator, the mighty Soviet Union which supports us and places at our disposal the rich treasury of its experience. In carrying out these daring tasks we are led by the motive force of our entire development, our united great Party, the organiser of our many successes and victories—the Hungarian working People's Party.

He Who Works Well Fights For Peace

Preservation of peace is another decisive prerequisite for fulfilment of the Five-Year Plan. And this is a matter of concern not only for us—it is a matter that concerns all mankind. War has been raging in Korea for almost three years. Over 2 million U.S. soldiers have already seen service on the Korean front. Tens of thousands of them have been killed and considerable numbers have returned to America sick, wounded and maimed. American mothers fear that their husbands and sons will be sent to the Korean front. Hence the growing aversion for the war in Korea and the ever louder demands for ending this war.

Among the allies of the U.S. too there is a growing aversion not only for the war in Korea but also for the frantic arms drive

arising from the cold war, and in general, against the role of satellites. This explains why the consistent peace policy of the Soviet Union, the Stalin peace policy, attracts more and more attention throughout the world. In the middle of last month, President Eisenhower, in reply to the systematic steps taken by the Soviet Government in the interests of peace, delivered a speech on the international situation.

In President Eisenhower's speech there is a number of points which closely concern us. He said that it is the inalienable right of any nation to establish the form of government and economic system or its choice, and added that any nation's attempt to dictate to other nations their form of government is indefensible.

For us, Hungarians, the implementation of these two points would signify a fundamental change in the policy of the United States of America, because during the past eight years and, it can be added, since these statements were made, we, at each step, have encountered the very opposite. The Hungarian people chose for themselves their own form of rule in which power is in the strong hands of the working people. The Hungarian people themselves elaborated an economic system in which there are no idle rich and no masses living in poverty, in which there is no unemployment and no fear for the morrow. And despite this our people's democracy must be always on the alert in relation to conspiracies, sabotage and espionage which in all cases, without exception, are initiated, organised and financed by the U.S. The aim of these unfriendly acts is to change the Hungarian form of ruling the country so that, instead of the rule of the working people, there should be restored the rule of the former exploiters, fascist capitalists and landowners.

In his speech the President depicted the arms drive in a way that made it appear that the leaders of the U.S. are worried mainly by the fact that instead of building schools, hospitals

and highways they are forced to build bomber planes and warships. To lend greater conviction to his speech he adduced calculations testifying to what could be produced for the civil population with the sum spent on producing one or another weapon of destruction. The only trouble is that the U.S. capitalists, and the capitalists in general, produce in the first instance not the goods of which the working masses are in the greatest need but the goods which ensure them the highest, maximum profit. And the greatest profit comes from war orders. This explains why wars, including the cold war, are, for the owners of the war plants, the merchants of death, golden rain.

And so it is understandable why, after the serious steps taken by the Soviet Union in the interests of peace, quotations on the New York Stock Exchange slumped 6 billion dollars in two days. The capitalist press in the United States wrote about a real “peace panic”. “What will happen should peace break out?”—such were the headlines in the capitalist press. The merchants of death regard peace every bit as much a disaster as the working people regard war .

With growing frequency voices are heard in the capitalist countries calling on the leaders for definite action in the interest of peace instead of “crafty manoeuvres” and “successful stunts”. The results of the elections which took place in recent weeks in a number of countries also testify to the growing determination of the people for peace. In Japan a Government which supported the arms drive suffered defeat. In Denmark the Government which planned to allow U.S. bomber aircraft to use the country’s airfields found itself in a minority. Victory in the French municipal elections was won by the Communist Party. The parties supporting rearmament were defeated.

Summing up it can be said that in recent weeks, thanks to the persevering, consistent and tireless peace strivings of the

Soviet Union, the camp of peace supporters has become stronger. Stronger too is the hope that the pressure of the hundreds of millions insisting on peace will bar the way to those fomenting the cold war and speculating on a new war.

What can we, the Hungarian working people, do for defence of peace, for the further growth of the forces of the peace camp? In what way can we best ensure the most successful defence of the sector of the peace front entrusted to us? In our country everyone who works diligently is a direct fighter for peace. As in every good cause, so it is in the cause of upholding peace, the interests of the individual and the noble cause of the homeland, the cause of the progress of mankind, coincide. All of us become active fighters for peace when at our place of work, at our posts, we work diligently, fulfil and overfulfil the plan of socialist construction in our country, display vigilance and resolutely and firmly act against all machinations of the agents of the warmongers. Keeping watchful guard over the gains won by people's democracy, combating acts of indiscipline, fighting against waste and gullibility—in doing these things we are working for the great cause of peace. We fight for peace when we strengthen still more sincere, friendly relations with our liberator, the mighty Soviet Union, with the fraternal countries of people's democracy, with every soldier of the multimillion camp of peace which embraces the whole world.

The election under the slogan of the People's Front is also a great battle in the struggle for peace. Consequently, our election on May 17 is not only the internal affair of the Hungarian working people, it is also of exceptionally great international significance, first of all from the standpoint of strengthening the camp of peace. If our people rally enthusiastically and in serried ranks under the banner of the People's Independence Front, if, they vote as one man for our happy, socialist future and for the great cause of upholding

peace, then this will be another victory for us and a heavy defeat for the enemy. This victory will give added strength to the soldiers of the camp of peace both in our country and throughout the world.

Let this election be the new milestone of our peaceful socialist development, the source of more victories, more success and more prosperity!

IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

Stalin Recruitment In Italian Communist Party

On March 9 the Central Committee of the Italian Communist Party called for a Stalin recruitment of 100,000 working men and women in honour of J. V. Stalin, great leader of the international proletariat. The recruiting drive is gaining momentum and is facilitated by the active struggle waged by the Communist Party heading the democratic forces against the fraudulent electoral law.

By the end of March, 20 days after the beginning of the

Stalin recruitment, according to incomplete data. 15,357 progressive working people had joined the Party, considering it an honour to fight for peace, democracy and Socialism, of which Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin was standard-bearer.

Many of the Party federations have registered big successes in this period. However, while taking note of the successes, the Secretariat of the Party, in a communique issued on April 27, pointed out that the Party organisations must devote special attention to the growth of the Party in those places and enterprises in which its influence is still weak. The communique also stresses the vital significance of drawing women workers into the Party.

Further successes were achieved by the Party organisations during April.

In the space of seven days, 14 of the 130 Party sections in Naples recruited 200 working men and women. Many new Party sections have been formed in the course of the Stalin recruitment.

For Better Political Agitation

Decision Of Central Committee, Rumanian Workers' Party

The Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party recently decided on measures in improving mass-political agitation. The decision points out that as a result of the mass-political work carried out by the Party, the political and cultural level of the working people has risen considerably and likewise their civic consciousness. Political agitation has played a very important role in strengthening the bonds of the Party with the masses, in developing the labour upsurge, in ensuring the decisive achievements in the sphere of socialist industrialisation, in the further socialist transformation of agriculture and in consolidating the people's-democratic

system.

However, despite these successes, the Central Committee is of the opinion that the mass-political work is not keeping up with the increased demands of the working people and the great tasks facing the Party in building Socialism. This is manifested in the fact that in a number of regional, district and city committees of the Party for example, the Bacau and Oradia regional committees, the town committees in Sibiu, Craiova, etc.) and also in some Party branches political agitation is carried on only during campaigns. The instruction classes for agitators are often of a formal character.

Many Party branches do not devote serious attention to selecting agitators. Explanatory work among the working people is often replaced by administrative methods.

In a number of cases Party branches do not combine production tasks with the general questions of the policy of the Party and the Government, do not acquaint the working people with the decisions of the Party and the Government and do not explain the significance of international and internal events.

Insufficient vigilance and the negligence observed in relation to mass-political work on the part of some Party organisations prevent mobilisation of the working people for the struggle against the machinations of the class enemy.

Underestimation of mass-political work is the result of the bureaucratism and conceit displayed by some Party workers who do not look on political agitation as a powerful means for strengthening contact with the masses and who very rarely address the working people with talks on international and home events, do not personally lead the work of the agitators, regarding this as the duty solely of the propaganda and agitation departments.

The decision enumerates concrete measures for improving the mass-political work. For example, it envisages correct selection of agitators, the holding of regular conferences for the

purpose of popularising the advanced experience of the agitators, consultations in Party consultation centres on questions relating to mass-political work and for timely supplies of newspapers and political and other literature to agitators.

Study In Communist Party Of Netherlands

In his report to the XVI Congress of the Communist Party of Netherlands Comrade Gerben Wagenaar, Chairman of the Party, pointed to the lag in ideological work. He stressed that it was necessary first of all to raise the quality of training of cadres and to begin organised independent study.

In January “De Waarheid”, central organ of the Party, published an editorial calling on the leaders of all groups and district organisations to give every support to the campaign for raising the level of the ideological work and to regard “the job of raising the ideological level of the Party as part of the general struggle”.

The suggestion for organised independent study by the Party cadres aroused great enthusiasm, as can be seen from the numerous letters received by the Central Committee. The study began on March 1 in accordance with the study plan on the “trade unions”. The study plan consists of nine sections. The material for five of the sections has been published in special syllabuses. Some 2,200 members are taking part in the study, 700 of them in Amsterdam. Consultants, specially trained for the purpose, are helping the students. At the beginning of May a meeting of consultants discussed the study plan for the subject: “the fight for national independence”.

FROM COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PRESS

Concrete Leadership to Rural Party Branches. “Einheit”, Magazine of Theory and Practice of Scientific Socialism (Organ of Central Committee, Socialist Unity Party of Germany)



The press of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany constantly stresses the urgent need for raising the organisational work of the Party to the level of its political tasks. A recent issue of “Einheit”, magazine of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, contained an editorial headed “Correct leadership—the task of the district organs of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany”. The editorial cited a number of serious errors made by the district organs in guiding the lower organisations of the Party. In order correctly, and with full knowledge of the matter, to lead the Party organisations and conduct activity among the working population, the district bodies, writes the magazine, should thoroughly study and take into account the political, economic and social conditions of the district, its enterprises and towns and villages.

However, writes the magazine:

“Some leading functionaries in the district Party organisations think that they can lead from their office chair’s by means of circulars and telephone calls, i.e., without taking into account the concrete conditions on the sector entrusted to them”.

This relates in particular to the district committees in rural areas. Some of the leading functionaries in rural areas work on only among the Party, branches in the industrial enterprises, the number of which may be very small in the region, while the Party branches in the agricultural producer co-operatives, in the machine and tractor depots, the publicly-owned estates and in the villages—the very bodies most in need of daily attention—are neglected.

The magazine points out that alarm signals of this nature were received from Gotha, the biggest agricultural district in the Erfurt region. Verification of the work of the district committee revealed that it had not correctly understood the significance of Party work in the countryside that it had not given adequate leadership to the village branches and had worked almost exclusively with the industrial enterprises. The short-sightedness displayed by those Party leaders who underestimate the policy of the alliance of the working class with the working peasantry is often utilised by hostile elements entrenched in the district council. They encouraged the kulaks, and infringed the interests of the working peasants with impunity.

This underestimation of work in the countryside and of the alliance of the working class with the working peasantry is a manifestation of the hangovers inherited from Social Democracy”, concludes the “Einheit”.

A direct result of this underestimation is the fact that in some of the agricultural regions of the German Democratic Republic not a single working peasant was recruited as a probationer member in the period from January 1st to

September 30th last year.

The Second Conference of the Party demanded from the Party organisations that they give all-round support to the producer co-operatives and see to it that they are strengthened organisationally and economically. However, some of the district committees do not pay due attention to this important sector. Disclosing this serious weakness “Einheit writes:

“The agricultural producer co-operatives are not given the necessary support and leadership. Acts of sabotage and attacks by kulak and other hostile elements, spearheaded against the peasant-members of co-operatives and their property, are not properly evaluated by some Party and state organs. This facilitates the hostile activities of these elements. The matter of forming Party organisations in the producer co-operatives is neglected, the struggle against Social Democratic underestimation of the peasant question is not waged satisfactorily. Such methods represent a gross violation of the general line of the Party”.

A weakness of the organisational work of some of the district committees says the magazine, is that all the work is entrusted to the secretariats and functionaries, while the rank and file members elected to the leadership are pushed to the background. The magazine qualifies this as direct violation of the Lenin-Stalin principles of collective leadership and points out:

“To lead means, first of all, to draw all forces into the work. In order to ensure effective and correct leadership it is necessary to facilitate all-round development of self-criticism and criticism from below”.

The concrete and sharp criticism of shortcomings in the work of some of the Party organisations in the press of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany will, undoubtedly, play a big role in raising the level of the entire Party-political and organisational work.

IN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

New Constructions Sites

Work is in full swing on 98 major construction projects in South-West China. The foundations have been laid for a big power plant which is scheduled to begin operations this year—supplying power to industrial enterprises in the region. Many of the industrial enterprises now under construction will also be ready by the end of this year. The commissioning of the new enterprises and the reconstruction of a large number of old plants in this area, which is two and a half times the size of France, will help already this year to increase steel output by 59 per cent, rolled steel by 37 per cent, copper 54 per cent, iron 12 per cent and cotton fabrics 46 per cent.

Day and night freight trains and road vehicles move towards the construction sites in North-East China, carrying steel and iron girders, cement and other building materials. This year's construction programme in the region exceeds that of last year by 84 per cent. The bigger sites have their own workshops and even mills for pre-fabricated production of concrete slabs timber items, complete stair cases, etc.

Equipment flows in a steady stream to the site of the gigantic Anshan iron and steel combinat. In the past 10 months

Shanghai enterprises alone have shipped to Anshan over 1,000 types of modern equipment. China's first fully automatic blast-furnace is already in operation.

Throughout the country new enterprisers are being commissioned one after the other. For example, the first automatic textile machinery plant in China is now in operation in Taiyuan. Annual output of each shift in this plant alone amounts to 80 per cent of the total annual output of textile machinery in China prior to the commissioning of the plant.

Large-scale open cast mining—the first in the country—will begin on June 1.

State and Working-Class Aid to Peasantry

The Central People's Government gives daily aid to peasantry in their efforts for a bumper harvest in 1953. This year's state credits to the peasantry doubled compared with last year. These loans enabled the peasants to purchase large quantities of farm implements and fertilisers and to dig hundreds of irrigation canals.

Thousands of agricultural experts have been sent to the rural areas. Over 500 experts arrived recently in the rural areas of Hunan province. They will help the peasants to improve cultivation, acquaint them with the implements and instruct them in planting and cultivating orchards, in combating pests, etc.

Substantial aid to the peasantry is given by industrial workers. Over 60 big farm implements and agricultural machinery factories are in operation. In North-East China every province has one or two of these state-operated factories. The implements produced by these factories help considerably in making peasant labour more productive. An improved type of plough, for example, makes ploughing 80 per cent more

efficient and considerably raises yields. Chinese workers are also making equipment for the irrigation projects.

Growing Well-Being of Chinese Workers

The workers' standard of living is rising steadily in the Chinese People's Republic. For example, the real wage of workers in Chungking has more than doubled compared with pre-liberation days. Monthly consumption of meat by workers' families has increased nearly threefold, lard—twofold, purchases of eggs, sugar, clothing, footwear and woollen fabrics have increased three-four times. Workers in the towns who in the past rarely could make ends meet, now have growing savings.

New apartments with modern facilities are being built for the workers all over the country. Working-class families have moved into the 4,000 new houses in China's first "workers' settlement", in Shanghai. Dwelling space for workers doubled in Anshan last year. This year the Anshan workers will get an additional 100,000 square metres of dwelling space. In Canton 26,000 workers moved into new houses on the eve of May Day.

Hundreds of workers' rest homes and sanatoria are being opened in picturesque parts of the country.

CO-OPERATION BETWEEN SCIENTISTS AND INDUSTRIAL WORKERS IS DEVELOPING APACE IN THE HUNGARIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC



Co-operation between scientists and industrial workers is developing apace in the Hungarian People's Republic. Industrial enterprises and higher educational establishments enter into socialist mutual aid agreements. Photo: Prof. Imre Veres, Kossuth Prize winner, giving consultation to workers in Budapest cogwheel plant.

ANGLO-AMERICAN RIVALRY IN THE MIDDLE EAST. R. Palme Dutt, Deputy Chairman, Executive Committee, Communist Party of Great Britain

Recent events, especially in Iran and in Egypt and the Sudan, as well as in relation to the question of the so-called Middle East Command of the Atlantic coalition, have demonstrated the sharpening of the conflict between United States and British imperialism in the Middle East. The formerly dominant power of British imperialism in this region is in decline, while United States imperialism, taking advantage of the difficulties of the British rulers, is pressing forward active measures to establish its predominance, not only economically and financially, but also in the political and strategic sphere. This conflict is, however, complicated by the rapid advance of the popular movement for national liberation against both British and American imperialism and the consequent simultaneous endeavours of the American and British ruling circles to coordinate their policy in opposition to the peoples of the Middle East as well as in relation to the plans which seek to use the Middle East as a place d'armes.

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The Middle East has long been a centre of rivalry between the West European powers. During the nineteenth century Britain and France contended for the control of Egypt; Gladstone's bombardment of Alexandria in 1882 made Egypt in practice a British colony under military occupation; and at the beginning of the twentieth century Britain entered on the penetration of Iran by the opening of an oil concession and the establishment of the Anglo-Persian (later Anglo-Iranian) Oil

Company. By the early years of the twentieth century German imperialism replaced French as the most menacing rival to British interests in the Middle East. Anglo-German rivalry for the domination of the Middle East was one of the serious predisposing causes of the first world war.

By the end of the first world war, with the defeat of German imperialism and the dissolution of the Turkish Empire, British imperialism had carved out for itself its new Middle Eastern Empire, while Syria and Lebanon were in the French orbit, Britain dominated either directly or indirectly Egypt and the Sudan, Cyprus, Malta, Palestine Trans-Jordan, Iraq and Iran.

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During the second world war, with the positions of French imperialism seriously weakened, the British imperialists were able to extend their dominance also in Syria and Lebanon. However, by the end of the second world war, a new and stronger rival than German and French imperialism had begun to undermine the position of Britain in the Middle East. American imperialism had already established itself in Arabia by backing Ibn Saud against the Hashimite dynasty maintained by British power in Iraq and Jordan, and built up the Aramco or Arabian-American Oil Company as a rival to the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company, as well as having secured one quarter of Iraq oil by the Four Power Agreement on Mosul.

After the second world war the advance of the U.S. monopolists was rapidly pressed forward. In 1938 Middle East Oil output totalled 16 million tons of which the United States controlled two million. By 1950 Middle East oil output had increased to 87 million tons of which the United States controlled 40 million or nearly one half. The increased dependence of the Middle Eastern countries on United states imports was shown by the fact that in 1949 Iran imported

nineteen times more from the U.S.A. than it exported to that country. Egypt imported nearly four times more from the U.S.A. than it exported to that country. Egypt imported nearly four times more; Iraq nearly 3.6 times; Israel seventeen times; Syria and Lebanon over thirty times more than they exported to the U.S.A.

The American claim to political and strategic control in the region was announced by the “Truman doctrine” in March 1947 which took Greece and Turkey under American suzerainty. Britain, after the barbarous war to crush Greek democracy, was too weak to maintain the results of its aggression and found itself compelled to make way for the Americans.

In 1948 the U.S. pressed forward, its offensive against the British control of Palestine. For this purpose the United States took Zionism under its wing. Zionism, ever ready to serve the stronger power, and financed mainly from American sources, deserted its former British patrons and swung over to the service of American imperialism, Britain sought to utilise the Arab League for war against the establishment of the State of Israel, and supplied arms, military officers and finance to the States of the Arab League, while the United, States financed and equipped the Israeli forces.

Thus the Anglo-American conflict in the Middle East at this point look the shape of open war, but indirectly waged through the subsidiaries of Israeli and the Arab League puppets. The war ended in the collapse and defeat of the armies of the puppet rulers of the Arab League States and the establishment of the State of Israel as an American satellite dependency in the Middle East. This outcome represented a severe defeat for Britain.

Subsequent events were to show that the policy of Anglo-American “co-operation” in the Middle East did not by any means signify a diminution of the contradictions of interest and

real conflict, or a halt in the American expansionist policy. On the contrary, the U.S. pressure on Britain's position in the Middle East has sharply increased in the recent period. The rising popular revolt against British imperialist domination has created a situation of sharp political changes and instability in most of the Middle Eastern countries, in which the United States imperialists have sought to take advantage of Britain's difficulties in order to advance their own interests.

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In Iran the united demand for the nationalisation of the oil industry achieved a resounding success in 1951 with the enforced withdrawal of Britain from Abadan and with the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company deprived of its "right" to plunder the people of Iran. Previous bellicose British declarations of the determination never to withdraw from Abadan, and ostentatious concentration of naval and military forces ended in a fiasco in face of the American rejection of the repeated entreaties for support for the proposed military and naval measures.

The Soviet-Iranian Treaty served in those days as a powerful protection for the Iranian people.

Britain had counted on American support for such measures in Iran, corresponding to the British support for American military measures in Korea. This only showed that the British rulers had not yet understood the relations of master and satellite. At the point of crisis the United States Government made clear that the support desired would not be forthcoming, and British imperialism sustained a heavy defeat in Iran with the loss of the main resources of the Anglo-Iranian octopus.

During the subsequent prolonged negotiations, deadlock and crisis over the question of Iranian oil, the Anglo-American

conflict has been unconcealed. Britain imposed a boycott on any oil going out from Iran. The first endeavour of the tanker Rose Marie to break the blockade during 1952 was made nominally on behalf of an Italian company, but the British press reported that American monopolies were behind the Italian company. The Rose Marie was stopped and its cargo seized at Aden.

In August 1952 British intrigue attempted to stage a coup in Iran with the establishment of the Saltaneh Government to replace Moussadek: but the immediate mass resistance led to the downfall of Saltaneh within 24 hours.

By December 1952 the United States Government officially announced that it would not oppose the purchase by American companies of oil from Iran. This announcement caused deep “disappointment” in Britain, as the “Observer” pointed out; and Mr. Eden declared publicly that Britain would continue to insist on the rights of the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company “whatever point of view any other government might take”.

In 1953 the tanker Miriella transported a cargo of Iranian oil to Venice. The United States Ambassador in Teheran has put new proposals to the Iranian Government, formally on behalf of the United States and Britain jointly, for the purchase of oil from Iran by the United States and the supply of American finance to Iran, subject to acceptance of a formula for arbitration on the question of compensation to the expropriated Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

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In Egypt the intensification of Anglo-American conflict in relation to the deepening internal crisis has been also conspicuous. Following the high point of advance of the national liberation struggle in the second half of 1951 with the

repudiation of the Anglo-Egyptian treaty of 1936, the declaration of the union of Egypt and the Sudan, and the demand for the immediate evacuation of Britain from the Suez Canal and from the Sudan, a situation arose in which only Martial Law held up the advance of the popular movement.

When the Neguib coup and coup and dictatorship was established in July 1952, United States official and semi-official expression immediately declared its "satisfaction", and the United States widely circulated magazine "Life" devoted lavish publicity to Neguib.

American pressure was directed to ensure a settlement between the British Government and Neguib, by which Britain should surrender its hold on the Sudan, and should carry out a token "evacuation" of the Canal Zone in order to hand it over as a base under the Middle East Command controlled by the United States. After prolonged negotiations the first part of the programme reached an outcome in the Sudan Agreement concluded between Neguib and the British Government on February 12, 1953.

This agreement aroused widespread criticism in British conservative ranks as equivalent to the surrender of British power in the Sudan. Nevertheless it is evident that British imperialism does not regard the battle as finished.

Negotiations on the Canal Zone have followed the Sudan Agreement. Britain has at present very large armed forces in the Canal Zone, as well as military installations variously estimated at the value of £180 million upwards. It has been widely reported in the press that evacuation has been agreed "in principle". But stalemate has again overtaken the Anglo-Egyptian negotiations. After negotiations both sides failed to reach agreement even in relation to the conditions of evacuation of British troops. World public opinion characterises this as complete failure of the attempts to reach an agreement concerning the withdrawal of British troops. It is

evident that here also British imperialism is manoeuvring to endeavour to maintain the strongest possible hold. The Observer of February 22, 1953, reported that the British Government's military advisers are demanding as the minimum conditions for withdrawal of British troops that Egypt shall be brought into the Middle Eastern Command, that "the existing base should remain under British administration" and that "R.A.F. Squadrons should continue to operate from Egyptian airfields and should have their own ground staff for maintenance and control". Neguib has declared that no previous commitments in respect of the Middle Eastern Command could be accepted as a condition for evacuation, but that once evacuation is agreed "we shall show ourselves loyal allies of the West".

Through all these complex manoeuvres it is evident that the U.S. is pursuing a twofold aim. On the one hand, to weaken Britain and step by step oust it from its key position in the Middle East; on the other hand, to avoid thereby giving scope to the popular liberation movement in the Middle Eastern countries.

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No survey of the Anglo-American contradictions and conflicts developing in the Middle East can reflect the true forces of the situation unless it is made against the background of the profound popular ferment and upsurge, the deepening of conditions of economic crisis in all the countries of this region, the universal anti-imperialist sentiments of the peoples and the rapid advance of the national liberation movement.

The most barbarous measures of oppression have not been able to arrest the development of the popular movement, and the resort to method of military dictatorship in a wide series of Middle Eastern countries is a measure of the instability of the

political situation. The powerful national-liberation movement in these countries is making the Anglo-American imperialist hold increasingly unstable.

The Tudeh Party of Iran, the Communist Party in Iraq, Trans-Jordan, Syria, Lebanon and Israel express the vital interests of the peoples of the Middle East. The militant popular movements in these countries, in Egypt and the Sudan, point the way to the future for the peoples of the Middle East.

While, the ruling circles of the U.S. and Britain continue their manoeuvres for domination of the Middle East, press forward their penetration, arms and finance and technical missions, and seek to build up subordinate reactionary regimes as a buttress of their interests, the last word rests with the peoples of the Middle East who are advancing to the future victory of their struggle for national independence and freedom.

IMMORTAL WORK OF MARXIST PHILOSOPHICAL THOUGHT

(65th Anniversary of Publication of F. Engels' "Ludwig Feuerbach and the End of Classical German Philosophy")

Dialectical and historical materialism constitute the philosophy of the proletariat, the theoretical foundation of Communism. Dialectical and historical materialism form the theoretical basis of the Marxist-Leninist Party. Marxist philosophy not only scientifically explains the world, it also equips working mankind in the struggle for the revolutionary transformation of the world. Illuminating their road with the unfading light of the Marxist-Leninist ideas, the Communist Parties march in the van of the hundreds of millions of fighters against imperialist denial of rights and oppression, for peace, for democracy, for Socialism.

The rise of Marxism as the scientific world outlook of the proletariat signified the greatest revolutionary upheaval in the social sciences. Ever since the great discoveries made by Marx and Engels a completely new period began also in the development of philosophy, which, for the first time became a genuinely scientific philosophy. The founders of dialectical and historical materialism, of Marxist political economy and scientific Communism linked scientific theory with the struggle of the proletariat and placed science in the service of the vital interests of the working people. Marxism became the teaching of the broad popular masses. It is this which, in principle, gives to Marxist philosophy a new role in social life and in the development of society.

Numbered among the immortal works of Marxist philosophical thought is Friedrich Engels' work, "Ludwig Feuerbach and the End of Classical German Philosophy", first published 65 years ago. In this work Engels gives a systematic exposition of the foundations of the Marxist world outlook, supplying answers, brilliant in their profundity and clarity, to the main questions of Marxist philosophical materialism, materialistic dialectics, the theory of cognition and historical materialism. Engels' book is a guide and militant weapon for the working class, for all progressive forces of mankind in their struggle against the depraved bourgeois ideology.

In his work Engels gives an all-round and detailed characterisation of the philosophy of Hegel and Feuerbach and shows that pre-Marxian philosophy had reached a blind alley. Hegel elaborated on an idealistic basis many of the elements of dialectics, but his metaphysical idealistic system practically invalidated this dialectics. Feuerbach opposed Hegel's idealism but he, as Engels points out, "was incapable of disposing of Hegel through criticism; he simply threw him aside as useless". Feuerbach failed to see beyond the restricted metaphysical materialism which in his case was linked with an idealistic view in relation to the history of mankind. Engels showed the gulf between the philosophy of Hegel and Feuerbach and the Marxist philosophy.

Expounding the essence of Marxist philosophy J. V. Stalin wrote that the dialectics of Marx and Engels is not identical with the dialectics of Hegel. Marx and Engels took from the Hegelian dialectics only its "rational kernel" casting aside its idealistic shell. They developed dialectics further and lent it a modern scientific form. J. V. Stalin further wrote that the materialism of Marx and Engels is likewise not identical with Feuerbach's materialism. They took from Feuerbach's materialism its "inner kernel" developing it further into a scientific-philosophical theory of materialism and casting aside

its idealistic and religious ethical encumbrances.

Engels' great service is that in his book "Ludwig Feuerbach" he formulated the main thesis of the basic question in philosophy. This thesis reads:

"The great basic question of all philosophy, especially of more recent philosophy, is that concerning the relation of thinking and being... The answers which the philosophers gave to this question split them into two great camps. Those who asserted the primacy of spirit to nature and, therefore, in the last instance, assumed world creation in some form or other... comprised the camp of idealism. The others, who regarded nature as primary, belong to the various schools of materialism".

Engels demands the evaluation of every philosophical theory first and foremost from the point of view of how it answers the basic question of philosophy, the relation of thinking to being, what is primary—matter—mind.

Lenin in his brilliant work, "Materialism and Empirio-Criticism" proved with particular force that there is not and there cannot be a non-partisan philosophy. "Recent philosophy", Lenin wrote, "is as partisan as was philosophy two thousand years ago". The contending parties are materialism and idealism. The latter, Lenin pointed out, is merely a subtle, refined form of fideism which all the time exercises its influence all the masses, turning the slightest vacillation in philosophical thought to its own advantage.

Engels also showed that there is yet another side to the basic question of philosophy: what is the relation of thinking to the world surrounding it, is our thinking capable of the cognition of the real world Marxist philosophy gives a positive answer to this question. The enemies of dialectical materialism, the enemies of science deny cognition of the world. The bourgeois philosophers assert that man is incapable of knowing anything beyond his sensation and experience. Engels exposed

these utterly pseudo-scientific fabrications and showed that they are smashed to smithereens by practice itself, by experience.

In “Ludwig Feuerbach” Engels reveals the limitation of the old pre-Marxian materialism. This materialism was limited by the historical conditions of its development, its class nature and it is precisely this that explains its contemplative nature, its inability to draw all the conclusions for history from the general materialist world outlook, its failure to understand the role of the revolutionary practical transforming activity of human beings. In the sphere of social phenomena all pre-Marxian materialists stood on the positions of idealism.

Marx and Engels not only developed materialism and gave to it a genuinely scientific character, they, for the first time, extended the materialist world outlook to the sphere of social life. Therein lies their historical service.

The metaphysical materialists as well as the idealists asserted that in social life the determining significance belongs to the idea, to the desires and to the will of the people, especially to the will of outstanding individuals. Marxist philosophy proved that this approach to historical phenomena is unscientific and groundless. Engels stressed that when it is a question of investigating the driving forces of history we should take into account not the motives of single individuals, however eminent, but rather those motives which set in motion great masses, whole peoples, and, again whole classes of the people in each people. And here, too, what is important is not the transient flaring up of a straw fire which quickly dies down but the lasting action resulting in great historical transformation. Marxism teaches that the motive force of the development of antagonistic society of the class struggle, that at bedrock of the development of society lie the productive forces and the production relations corresponding to them, that there are objective laws of social life operating independently

of the consciousness and will of man.

Before Marx and Engels the most diverse philosophical schools alleged that it is the state, political power and law that determine the entire life of society, including the economic relations of the people. Marxist philosophy brushed aside these views as false and proved that the main force characterising the social system is the mode of production of material wealth. The state, in the words of Engels, is only a reflex, in comprehensive form, of the economic needs of the class controlling production.

However, Marxism in no way belittles the role of the state in the life of society. Marxism teaches that the state is a means for safeguarding the economic interests of the ruling class and represents a tremendous political force in the hands of this class. From this it follows that the struggle against the ruling class is a political struggle. This thesis of Engels is particularly true of our time. Again and again it exposes the Right-wing Socialist leaders in the service of imperialism who allege that the state is above classes, a force standing above the classes and defending equally the economic interests of all classes.

Engels' "Ludwig Feuerbach" is spearheaded against bourgeois philosophy which zealously serves the reactionary classes, it helps to disclose the real aims of bourgeois sociology and philosophy which at the present moment disseminate the most reactionary and insane "theories" in defence of the exploiters, national inequality, colonial slavery, in defence of the instigators of war and imperialist brigandage.

All the numerous "schools" and "groups" of contemporary bourgeois philosophy such as "pragmatism", "personalism", "realism", "phenomenalism", "relativism", etc., act as armour-bearers of imperialism. The advocates of these trends are rabid enemies of dialectical and historical materialism, enemies of science and progress. No exercises in semantics, no word-spinning in philosophical terminology can conceal the fact that

all the philosophising apologists of modern capitalism parrot the old idealistic theories of Berkeley, Hume, Kant, Hegel, Nietzsche and others which were smashed long ago.

The aim of contemporary bourgeois philosophy is to disseminate obscurantism, fideism and mysticism, to propagate rejection of rational cognition of the world. Carryng out the will of imperialist reaction the bourgeois philosophers—the Deweys, Santayans, Whiteheads, Russells, Ayers and their ilk fall over themselves in their striving to belittle the ability of the human mind, to prove that man is powerless in the face of allegedly the “unknowable” world and therefore must obediently submit to the existing social order.

There is no force in the world nowadays capable of halting the onward march of the all-conquering ideas of Marxism-Leninism. Dialectical and historical materialism develop in close contact with the practice of the world revolutionary working-class movement. Lenin and Stalin, the great continuers of the cause of Marx and Engels in the new historical setting, in the epoch of imperialism and proletarian revolutions, enriched and developed further the Marxist philosophy, raised it to a new, higher level.

Of great significance in the ideological and theoretical struggle against the reactionary bourgeois ideology is J. V. Stalin’s “Economic Problems of Socialism in the U.S.S.R.”. In this work J. V. Stalin subjected to devastating criticism the subjective-idealistic views on the laws governing the development of nature and society, gave a further all-round substantiation of the objective character of the laws of nature and society.

The works of Lenin and Stalin go deep into the heart of phenomena, into the very essence of the process of the development of society, teach us to foresee the course of historical events.

Marxist philosophy is the ideology of the proletariat, of the

class whose world-historic mission is to put an end to the society of exploiters and build a new Communist society. Marx, in his well-known Theses on Feuerbach, stressed that the task of philosophy is not simply to interpret the world, the point is to change it. In the hands of the proletariat Marxist philosophy has become a mighty force for the revolutionary, practical transformation of the world.

Engels' work "Ludwig Feuerbach" served as a text-book of Marxism for many generations of proletarian revolutionaries, champions of the cause of the working class. And now, too, the numerous cadres of the Communist and Workers' Parties of the world, progressive people in all countries, while assimilating the Marxist-Leninist world outlook, learn and will continue to learn from this outstanding work of Engels—one of the founders of scientific Communism.

A. DUBINA

STRUGGLE FOR SOCIALIST REALISM IN LITERATURE AND ART IN PEOPLE'S POLAND. W. Sokorski, Candidate Member, Central Committee, Polish United Workers' Party

The profound economic, political and cultural transformations which have taken place in People's Poland, the laying of the foundations of Socialism in our country have advanced new and great tasks before literature and art. The continually rising ideological and cultural level of the working class and the growing political consciousness of the intelligentsia and working peasantry make ever greater demands on the ideological-art work of writers and artists.

The first phase of the struggle for socialist realism in literature and in art based on the experience of the advanced art of the Soviet Union and especially on what Comrade Zhdanov said in this respect, marked a turning point in "the People's Poland; these were years of sharp struggle against formalism, for an art with ideological content, for subjects taken from life, from the struggle for Socialism of the Polish working class as the vanguard force of the people.

But in conditions of acute class struggle, particularly in the sphere of ideology, the process of overcoming formalism, based on subjective idealism could not be an easy one. Even when the writer had correctly chosen his subject he would, time and again, get involved in the cross-currents of

schematism and naturalism, substituting accidental phenomena for typical phenomena, taking from the class struggle and from the every-day life in the new Poland phenomena of secondary and minor importance.

Consequently, notwithstanding substantial achievements in the sphere of the development of art and literature the ideological-artistic level of many productions, as pointed out by J. Berman, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party, at the conference of Polish writers and artists on October 21, 1951, lagged behind the political and cultural development of our people.

We have still too few good works of literature and art alive to the demands of our time, said Comrade Berman, too few productions compared with the talents and creative possibilities. Who knows, maybe the main reason for our lagging in the different spheres of art lies in the inadequate and immature understanding of the profound significance of the struggle now taking place, and of the forms of this struggle. Maybe this explains the schematism and vulgarism in interpreting modern themes (and not only modern themes), the not always successful choice of theme and unreality of the characters?

The problem of realistic art was, in these circumstances, solved in struggle against the remnants of formalism and against naturalistic, schematic, slipshod work, against a "literature" and "art" without living, real people and actual events, against declamatory statements which merit criticism and rejection by working people.

One year and a half have passed since then. During this period literature and art were enriched with experience. The problem of a high-ideological socialist ad was formulated with crystal clarity by Comrade Malenkov in his report at the XIX Congress of the C.P.S.U.

“The strength and the significance of realistic art”, said Comrade Malenkov, “are that it can and must bring to the fore and disclose the lofty spiritual qualities and must bring to the fore and disclose the lofty spiritual qualities and typical positive traits of character of the ordinary man, create a vivid artistic image of him that would be worthy of being an example and an object of emulation to others.

“In creating art images, our artists, writers and art workers must always remember that the typical is not only that which is most frequently encountered but that which most fully and pointedly expresses the essence of the given social force. In the Marxist-Leninist understanding, the typical by no means signifies some sort of statistical average. Typicalness corresponds to the essence of the given social-historical phenomenon; it is not merely the most widespread... The typical is the basic sphere of manifestation of the Party approach in realistic art. The problem of typicalness is always a political problem”.

In the light of this, statement how do our shortcomings and achievements look?

It should be pointed out that the biggest achievements in our development along the road of socialist realism were registered by artistic prose. The books by Julian Strykowski, Igor Newerli, Jerzy Putrament, Tadeusz Breza, Bogdan Czesko and Kazimierz Kozniewski represent a big stride forward towards profound and truthful portrayal of the man of our epoch in typical environments. Both “Flight to Fragal Valley” by Strykowski and “A ‘Cellulose’ Factory Diary” by Jgor Newerli are mature productions which at once won the sympathies of the reader. The latter, for example, was published in four editions of 100,000 copies in the course of the year. These works have, undoubtedly, played and will continue to play a big role in the struggle for the formation of the new man in Poland. Newerli’s book has played a

particularly important, role in moulding the consciousness of the youth. The novels and short stories published in the monthly journal "Tworczość" ("Creation"), including "Compatriots" by Stanislaw Zielinski, "Red River" by Mirosław Zulawski and "Citizens" by Kazimierz Brandys testify to the further steady development of Polish literature. Brandys' "Citizens", for example, which portrays our daily life—the days of the great construction in Warsaw—draws a deep and true picture of the new man of our youth.

It would be a mistake, however, not to see, along with these undoubted achievements, the phenomena in Polish literature which testify to the influence exerted by the alien and hostile bourgeois aesthetics which always seeks to infiltrate wherever we have relaxed our vigilance. Not infrequently the ideologically weaker groups of our creative intelligentsia mistakenly understand the struggle for high quality in artistic works as a sort of return to an art devoid of ideological content, to an art the value of which is determined exclusively by formal aspects. This bourgeois aestheticism was particularly felt in poetry last year, which in a number of works, turned away from the living truth and which, for example, under the mask of being "popular", frequently seeks to inculcate a false style the coldness and insincerity of which the authors even observe themselves. The flight from topical themes to historical, politically remote subjects, which are not always correctly portrayed historically, is also observed quite frequently in dramaturgy.

However, greatest misunderstanding of its role in the light of the present day tasks reigns in the sphere of literary criticism which often reacts coldly to any work genuinely realistic and close to the people and which, under cover of combating schematism and naturalism, metes out praise for some queer kind of psychologism.

This problem is even more acute in painting. Polish

painters have good achievements to their credit of late. The active contribution of our artists to the decoration of the Marszalkowska residential quarter has opened wide perspectives for co-operation between artists and architects. The sculptures "Lenin" by Marjan Wnuk, "Beloyanis' Mother" by Gorno-Poplowski and "Miners" by Magdalena Wiencek, the drawings by Kulisiewicz and Browczyk, the canvasses "Korean Mother" by Fangor and "Koje Island" by Majewski and also the realistic nature of Pomorski's industrial landscapes testify to the profound ideological level and real truthfulness of the leading Polish artists. At the same time some artists mistakenly understood the struggle for quality as an amnesty for the old, impressionistic arsenal of artistic means. Their application of the anti-realistic arsenal" of the means of the epoch of bourgeois decadence in relation to the new subject matter yielded in the final analysis, not only undesirable results but was, objectively, an attempt to orientate the struggle for realistic art along the old pathway of formalistic exploration.

This explains the vigorous and resolute rebuff of this phenomenon by the Party at the all-Poland art conference, held in December 1952 in connection with the all-Poland exhibition, as well as during the numerous discussion which took place in the art unions and societies.

The pressure of the alien concepts of bourgeois aesthetics is felt, although not so pronounced, also in the Polish theatre and Polish music, notwithstanding their really good achievements, best proof of which was the grand concert of Polish music given in Moscow when, together with Polish and Russian classical productions, arias and songs by contemporary Polish composers were sung.

What do these phenomena testify?

They testify that we must never remain content even with the greatest and unquestioned achievements, that we must not lose sight of the political and class character of the process of

the formation of socialist realistic art. The old aesthetic concepts, the old formal habits will, for a long time, make themselves felt and always re-appear on sectors where we regard them with tolerance, where we relax vigilance, and particularly in the realm of literature and art criticism.

They also testify that without a correct, clearly defined and consistent approach to the question of traditions—realistic and progressive traditions—to the question of high artistic skill, without which socialist realistic art is impossible, we shall make no headway.

They testify that headway will not be made without the study of advanced Soviet art.

They testify that without a tireless drive on two fronts—against naturalistic and declamatory slipshod tawdriness and against decadent formalistic “aesthetics”—we shall not be able steadily and rapidly to advance either in art, literature or music.

They testify finally that unless the art worker constantly seeks to enhance his ideological knowledge, unless the worker in the realm of literature or art is supported by the Party, unless he takes into account the Party spirit in art, its ideological essence, unless he comprehends that socialist realistic art can only arise through the medium of realistic means of expression, there can be no question of creating a highly-ideological and a highly-artistic art of our time, socialist in content and national in form.

The workers or literature and art in People’s Poland are eager to make 1953 a year of still greater advancement.

We recall that this is the year of preparation for the tenth anniversary of People’s Poland, which we must celebrate in a manner worthy of the occasion, that this is a year of further struggle for peace, further socialist construction, further victories of the free people building their happy socialist future with the fraternal aid of the Soviet Union.

FAILURE OF COLONIAL AUTHORITIES IN TUNISIA

On May 3rd, in an attempt to weaken the national-liberation movement in Tunisia, particularly by means of so-called reforms, the Government of French colonisers' staged a parody of municipal elections in Tunisia. The colonisers spared no effort to ensure the success of their undertaking. The "election" took place in an atmosphere of terror, in conditions of a state of siege. Scores of leaders of the national movement were arrested in the early hours of May 3. But these measures did not yield the anticipated results.

In the city of Tunis nearly all Tunisian voters (91.17 per cent, according to official data), responding to the call issued by the Communist Party of Tunisia and the entire national movement, boycotted the "election". More than 70 per cent of the electorate throughout the country refrained from voting. Due to the fact that no voters turned up at the polling booths there was no election in Soliman where two weeks earlier the authorities arrested Mohamed Sahabou, the Secretary of the Tunisian Communist Party, nor in Menzel and Bouzelfa where

last year the colonisers staged a massacre.

The failure of the May 3 “election” is obvious even to the colonisers. As acknowledged by the reactionary “Monde” this failure was “more grave than had been anticipated even by the extreme pessimists”.

TWO CULTURES

Illiteracy Spreading in Greece

Hundreds of schools in Greece have been closed due to school-buildings being unlit for use and to the scarcity of teachers. Illiteracy is spreading in the country. While prior to the war the percentage of illiterates in Greece amounted 36 per cent, now it reaches 40-45 per cent.

In order to ensure normal lessons in elementary schools it is necessary according to official data, to build 6,254 new classrooms and to repair over 2 thousand old rooms. But the Greek rulers do not think in terms of expenditure on public education since military expenditure claims 53.6 per cent of the budget.

EDUCATION IN PEOPLE'S ALBANIA

In people's-democratic Albania, Greece's neighbour, all conditions have been created for developing public education. In 1953 expenditure for culture and education will rise 28.5 per cent compared with the previous year.

A sum of over 2241 million leks will be spent on building new educational establishments and extending those functioning.

The Five- Year Plan envisages a still further development of education: the number of students in secondary and vocational schools in 1955 will be roughly elevenfold greater than in 1938.

FACTS EXPOSE...

Paradise for Dogs

The New York Herald Tribune enthusiastically reports that the canine population in the U.S.A. is fed and clothed better than ever before! The rich, wallowing in wealth, spend 175 million dollars annually on special meals for their dogs. But this is not all. In 1951, according to data supplied by the National Council for Defence of Dogs (there is even such an organisation in the U.S.A.), 5 million dollars were spent on “luxury goods” for dogs including blankets, scissors and toys...

At the same time millions of people in the country are hungry. In 1952 real wages dropped 48 dollars. According to

far from complete data from 10 to 15 million Americans live in slums!

THE SOUTHERN KOREAN WARRIOR. Drawing by J. Novak

Syngman Rhee has announced that in event of a truce he would continue the war in Korea “to the bitter end”. (Press item)

Syngman Rhee has announced that in event of a truce he would continue the war in Korea "to the bitter end".
(Press item)



THE SOUTH-KOREAN "WARRIOR"

Drawing by J. Novak

POLITICAL NOTES

Austrian Right-Wing Socialist Leaders Curry Favour With Tito

Not long ago, at the invitation of the Austrian authorities, the Titoites sent a group of former partisans to Austria to celebrate the tenth anniversary of the formation of the first partisan battalion in Carinthia. Genuine partisans who fought against the Hitler Invaders took advantage of this opportunity to flee from the unbearable Tito-Fascist regime. The moment the train carrying the partisan delegation crossed the Austrian border six of them jumped from the train in order to get away from Titoite Yugoslavia. When detained by the Austrian police they declared that they did not want to return to Titoite Yugoslavia and requested asylum in Austria.

How did the Austrian Government react to this?

Time there was when Helmer, the Minister for Home Affairs, a Right-wing Socialist, boasted that Austria, would never deny asylum to political emigrants.

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In point of fact Austria has provided, and provides now, asylum... for rabid reactionaries, fascist politicians, saboteurs

and spies, in a word, far all the scum who scuttled from the countries of people's democracy to the Western Zones of Austria. This type of "emigre" always found and finds now asylum under the hospitable protection of the Austrian authorities. Moreover, this scum is surrounded there with the most touching solicitude.

But when it was a matter of granting asylum to genuine anti-fascists who fled from Titoite Yugoslavia, Helmer granted "asylum" to the Yugoslav partisans... in a quarantine camp in Klagenfurt. What the people who find themselves in such camps are subjected to is well-known: they are given certain "treatment" by the U.S. and British military authorities; they are subjected to all kinds of coercion in order to enlist them for the espionage network of the U.S. and British intelligence services. Moreover, the six partisans at are threatened with being handed over to the mercy of butcher Rankovic. It goes saying that either of these decisions fully corresponds to the wishes of the Titoites.

Such in practice, is the "asylum" for political emigres granted by the Right-wing Socialist Helmer and his henchmen. This, incidentally, is not the only fact that Helmer, like other Right-wing Socialist leaders, long ago aligned himself with the Tito spies and assassins, that he has been helping them for a long time.

Jan MAREK

FOR NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE AND PROGRESSIVE DEVELOPMENT OF GUATEMALA (Letter from Guatemala City)

The past few weeks in the political life of our country have been rich in events. A foreign-inspired conspiracy against the Government of President Arbenz failed. Guatemala broke with the Organisation of the States of Central America (ODECA), and its Government was forced to complain to Uno about repeated encroachments on the sovereignty and national independence of the country and repeated threats to intervene in its internal affairs by high-ranking U.S. figures and the rulers of some of the countries of Latin America.

All these events are closely linked, and, as pointed out in the statement issued by the Central Committee of the Party of Labour of Guatemala, they show that “American imperialism intends to intervene in the internal affairs of Guatemala for the purpose of abolishing the principle of self-determination of the people of Guatemala”.

Attempts at foreign intervention in the internal life of our country are far from being new. Over 30 conspiracies have been organised in Guatemala, by the foreign imperialists, supported by the native latufundists, since 1944, all of which pursued the aim of overthrowing the democratic governments.

Richard Patterson, when U.S. Ambassador to Guatemala, openly advocated the overthrow of the Government headed by Dr. Juan Jose Arevalo and fomented subversive action against the constitutional regime. He was expelled from the country for this activity. As recently as March 12, the same thing was advocated by Spruille Braden, formerly U.S. Assistant Secretary of State for Latin America, big shareholder in the powerful American copper monopoly and holder of an

important post in the “United Fruit Company”.

In their attempts to meddle in the internal affairs of our country the U.S. imperialists also use the fascist puppet governments in some of the countries affiliated to the so-called Organisation of the States of Central America (Honduras, Salvador, Nicaragua, Costa-Rica and Panama)—the countries which at the beginning of February in Tegucigalpa entered into an alliance against Guatemala. A Washington-inspired slander campaign alleged that Guatemala is the “bridgehead of Soviet Communism on the American continent and a “threat to the security of the countries of the Western Hemisphere”.

What is the reason for this slander against Guatemala and the repeated attempts to interfere in its internal affairs?

Guatemala is a small, backward country with a population of little more than 3.5 million. For tens of years foreign monopolies held sway in the country.

Nearly all the import and export trade is transported by ships belonging to the U.S. “United Fruit Company” which nets huge profits from this, “United Fruit Company”, directly or indirectly, controls the three ports of Guatemala and also the bulk of the shares of the “International Railways of Central America” company (IRCA) which in its turn has a monopoly of rail transport in the country and fixes both tariffs and freight charges.

“United Fruit Company”, known in Central America as the “green monster”, controls vast banana plantations, ruthlessly exploits agricultural labourers, and taking advantage of its monopoly position, dictates enslaving conditions to Guatemalan peasants. Like other monopoly companies “United Fruit Company” does not observe the Labour Code and other social laws enacted by the democratic governments since 1944; it provoked conflicts with the workers, seeking to create anxiety in the country; it tried an economic boycott of the Government and even threatened to discontinue transport of

goods on its ships in order to cripple the trade of the country. Guatemala had long been a country with a predominantly semi-feudal economy which doomed the peasants to poverty and starvation and which retarded development of the national industry the rural population accounts for 80 per cent of the total). This state of affairs was to the liking of the landlords who are the pillar of the U.S. monopolies, since this enabled them, by means of rapacious plunder of the wealth of the country and exploitation of its people, to amass fabulous profits. However, the popular masses, driven to the extremes of poverty, could no longer tolerate this situation.

Ever since 1944, as a result of the overthrow of the dictatorship of General Ubico and the election of Dr. Arevalo as President, the Government of Guatemala, under pressure of the popular masses, began to carry out a policy aimed at putting an end to the arbitrary rule of the foreign monopolies, to compel them to observe the laws of the Republic and also aimed at stimulating the independent economic development of Guatemala of transforming our country from a semi-colonial country into an economically independent country.

This aim is in keeping with a decision recently adopted by the Congress of the Republic: to build with its own means, without enslaving credits from the U.S. banks, a national port in Santo Tomas, and in this way break the "United Front Company's" monopoly grip on the country's ports; to build a hydro-electric station in Jurun (Escuintla Department) and in this way get rid of the monopoly of the American-dependent "Empresa Electrica", to build one thousand kilometres of highways, including the highway to the Atlantic coast which will get rid of the monopoly of rail transport dependent on the Americans.

The Congress enacted an agrarian reform which, although slowly, is being carried out; it also decided to form a National Agrarian Bank which will provide credits for the peasants.

986 agrarian committees have been formed throughout the country for the purpose of carrying out the agrarian reform; these committees include nearly 4,000 peasant members. They define what land is affected by the agrarian reform. In the eight months since the agrarian reform was enacted, 103,522 hectares have been expropriated and of this amount 22,193 hectares have been transferred to the peasantry.

In their resistance to the reform the big landowners resort to every possible means beginning with “juridical” jugglery and ending with assassination of peasants, arrests of members of many committees with the help of the reactionary alcaldos, eviction of peasants, victimisation of farm labourers for backing the agrarian reform, and setting fire to peasant homesteads.

The peasant masses, however, are intensifying their struggle for land, demanding that the Government carry out the agrarian reform consistently and in full measure. Not long ago it was decided to nationalise, with compensation in accordance with the reform, the “Compania Agricola de Guatemala” (branch of the “United Fruit Company”) 89,929 hectares of uncultivated land and to transfer it to nearly 10,000 peasants and farm labourers for use in perpetuity.

The activity of the Government, within the framework of the bourgeois republic, is aimed at doing away with the economic backwardness of the country, at safeguarding the national independence against the rule of the foreign monopolies. Modest attempts are being made to save the landless peasants and farm labourers from poverty and starvation.

But it is precisely these measures that led to the fierce reaction of the American monopolies, used to acting the master in Guatemala. The Government measures were proclaimed a “Communist danger”. All the secret wires with the help of which the powerful American monopolies bossed the whole

show in the countries of Latin America, were switched into operation.

Towards the end of March 200 notorious reactionaries organised a putsch in Salama. They seized its offices and the airport and installed landing signs for the foreign troops which were expected by air. The participants in the putsch whose leaders included Juan Cordova Serna, lawyer of the United Fruit Company”, and Carlos Simons, high-ranking official and political agent of the company, were armed with modern weapons and were well equipped. It was soon established that they had accomplices in other parts of the country as well. Some of the arrested leaders of the ill-starred conspiracy stated that the Governments of Salvador, Honduras, Nicaragua and the Dominican Republic had equipped them with arms for the purpose of overthrowing the Arbenz Government.

Early in April, after the army supported by the population quickly smashed the conspiracy, the Government, in view of the clear facts of foreign interference in the home affairs of Guatemala, announced its withdrawal from the ODECA. This corresponded to the interests of the people.

The Government’s decision to withdraw from ODECA and the complaint lodged with Uno were supported by all the democratic parties, the trade unions and by influential groups of public opinion.

The people of Guatemala replied to the attempts at an armed coup by closing their ranks, by whetting their vigilance and their readiness to rebuff every attempt against their national independence.

Prior to the attempted coup an Anti-Feudal and Anti-Imperialist Democratic Front had been formed in Escuintla Department: its leadership includes three representatives from the Party of Revolutionary Action, three representatives from the Party of National Renovation, three representatives from the Party of Labour, one trade union representative, one

peasant union representative, one representative from the Women's Union and one representative from the Democratic Youth Union. The inaugural meeting of the Front attended by over 1,000 delegates represented all democratic parties and organisations in the Department, adopted a decision for joint struggle against the subversive activity of reaction, for defence of the Constitution, democratic freedoms and the agrarian reform. It also resolved to form committee of revolutionary defence, which will function under leadership of the Anti-Feudal and Anti-Imperialist Democratic Front and the Governor of the Department.

An outstanding role in the struggle of the popular classes against feudal imperialist reaction is being played by the Party of Labour. It exposes the aims of the imperialist manoeuvres and stresses the significance in these circumstances of the unity of the democratic forces, it stresses the need for more help by the working class to the peasantry in their struggle for land; it is helping to organise them, to educate and lead them and in this way to establish the unbreakable alliance of the working class and peasantry. The Party teaches the masses that it is necessary to sharpen vigilance, to keep the working class and the people mobilised, and that the working class must rally and head the entire people in their struggle to uphold the democratic freedoms, for consistent realisation of the agrarian reform and defence of national independence.

As pointed out by our newspaper "Octubre" when the peoples unite and rise against the interventionists they are able to thwart their designs and march forward along the road of progress and national independence. In their struggle the people of Guatemala are not alone. Their struggle finds and will always find the ardent sympathy and solidarity of the peoples of the world.

R. S.

Guatemala, April.

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