

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**



NO 21(237), FRIDAY, MAY 22, 1953



Scanned/Transcribed by
The Socialist Truth in Cyprus-London Bureaux

<http://www.st-cyprus.co.uk>



&



www.directdemocracy4u.uk

January 2017

CONTENTS

PEOPLES DEMAND PEACE PACT.....	5
MILLIONS OF PEOPLE CALL LOUDER FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS.....	11
For Agreement Among Great Powers.....	11
Letter by Argentine Peace Committee.....	12
Government of Mongolian People's Republic Replies to Letter From Commission of Peoples' Congress for Peace.....	12
Congress of Action for Peace in Britain.....	13
"Peace Week" in Austria.....	14
Eve of Women's World Congress.....	15
CONCERNING TRUCE NEGOTIATIONS IN KOREA.....	16
British Press Sharply Critical of U.S. Obstruction Policy.....	16
AN UNFORGETTABLE DAY (Tamas Aczel, Writer, Stalin and Kossuth Prize Laureate).....	18
NEW ATTITUDE TOWARDS LABOUR IN PEOPLE'S POLAND (Wictor Klosiewicz, Member, Central Committee, Polish United Workers' Party).....	22
FOR PEACE AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE OF BRAZIL..	30
Meeting of National Committee, Communist Party of Brazil.....	30
IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES.....	32
Materials of XIX Congress of C.P.S.U. in Hungarian Translation.....	32
Growing Membership of French Communist Party.....	32
In Underground Conditions.....	33

Spanish Communists Popularise Materials of XIX Congress of C.P.S.U.....	33
Party Assignments in Factory Organisation, Rumanian Workers' Party.....	34
IN ALLIANCE WITH MASSES—AGAINST AGGRESSIVE BONN POLICY.....	37
Meeting of Activities, Communist Party of Germany.....	37
REINFORCING UNITY OF AUSTRALIAN WORKERS.....	39
Communists Head Struggle For Vital Interests Of Working People.....	39
FROM COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PRESS.....	41
Closer Attention to Letters from Working People "Rude Pravo"—Central Organ of Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.....	41
IN COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES.....	44
Atrocities Of British Colonisers In Kenya.....	44
People In Lebanon Against Aggressive Middle-East Bloc.....	45
Peasant Movement In Syria.....	47
PEASANTS IN VILLAGE OF LUMINO, LESZNO DISTRICT, POZNAN COUNTY, POLAND JOIN THE CO-OPERATIVE.....	48
TECHNIQUE SERVES PEOPLE.....	49
Mechanisation in National Economy of Albania.....	50
SOCIETY FOR DISSEMINATION OF POLITICAL AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE IN HUNGARY.....	51
GROWING UNITY OF ACTION OF WORKING PEOPLE IN FRANCE (Auguste Lecoeur, Secretary of French Communist Party).....	52
DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN FRANCE WIN FRESH SUCCESS..	57
STRUGGLE OF PEASANTS IN ITALY FOR LAND, FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS (Ruggero Grieco Member of Leadership, Italian Communist Party).....	58
SITUATION IN FINLAND AND STRUGGLE OF COMMUNIST PARTY FOR PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE (Ville Pessi, General Secretary, Central Committee, Communist Party of Finland).....	68
MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY OF GERMANY.....	74
HOW MINERS LIVE IN CHILE.....	76
TWO CULTURES.....	77

Artists Beg on Streets.....	77
Art and People.....	77
“HIS MAJESTY” BAO DAI (Drawing by J. Novak).....	79
POLITICAL NOTES.....	80
Latest Trick of Bonn Traitors.....	80
FACTS EXPOSE.....	83
One Thousand Casualties A Week.....	83
Revelations of Aggressors.....	83

PEOPLES DEMAND PEACE PACT

The fight for peace in our days is the cause of all ordinary people of the world.

War is hated by the peoples and they emphatically condemn governments or politicians who, by their activity, threaten the preservation of peace and cause international tension. The people want to be sure that the morrow will be a morrow of peace and they wholeheartedly welcome every effort made by any organisation or by any government aimed at strengthening peace.

The Appeal of the Peoples' Congress for Peace to the Governments of the five-Great Powers suggesting that agreement be reached for a Peace Pact met with a profound response all over the world. Millions and millions of ordinary people are deeply convinced that if the Great Powers reach agreement among themselves and work for the development of international co-operation peace will be ensured.

The Soviet Government, proceeding from the basic interests of its people, from the interests of peace and international security, has aligned itself with the Appeal of the Peoples' Congress to the Governments of the five Great Powers and with the suggestions contained therein; it affirmed once

again its firm conviction that there is no controversial or outstanding question which cannot be settled by peaceful means on the basis of agreement among the interested countries.

The Government of the Chinese People's Republic also expressed complete agreement with the suggestion and views contained in the Appeal, express resolute support for the suggestion. Also in the spirit of full support for the Appeal are the replies to the letter from the Commission of the Peoples' Congress by the Government of the Polish People's Republic, the Republic of Czechoslovakia, the Hungarian People's Republic, the Rumanian People's Republic, the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the People's Republic of Albania, the German Democratic Republic, the Korean People's Democratic Republic and the Mongolian People's Republic.

Thus, the countries of the democratic camp with a population of over one-third of humanity, immediately confirmed that on their part there has not been nor is there now any obstacle in the way of co-operation, mutual discussion and solid settlement of all controversial international questions. In this respect too the Governments of these countries acted in conformity with the will of their citizens who had unanimously signed the demand for a Peace Pact.

The Appeal of the Peoples' Congress for Peace to the Governments of the five Great Powers met with a wide response among public opinion in all countries. The communique issued by the Stockholm meeting of the Bureau of the World Peace Council reads: "As a result of recent events the idea of negotiations has won millions of new supporters. These events show to the peoples that they can, by their activity, secure an easing of the international tension which will benefit everybody and will be a source of prosperity". The Bureau resolved to convene a session of the World Peace Council in Budapest on June 15, which will "call special

attention to the need to ensure in all circumstances the triumph of decisions achieved by means of negotiation”.

Demands to find ways and means for peaceful regulation of the existing differences through negotiations, for the development of international co-operation have been voiced by congresses, conferences and meetings of peace supporters in many countries. To the accompaniment of popular support big representative gatherings of fighters for peace have taken place such as the congress of cultural workers of the countries of Latin America, attended by delegates from 15 countries of the American continent; the all-Japan peace conference attended by 600 delegates representing all the administrative regions of the country; in Britain the National Congress of Action for Peace attended by over a thousand delegates representing 712 various organisations including 250 trade union organisations — the most representative of all peace congresses held so far in Britain, The National Peace Councils in France, Italy, Brazil, Argentina, Austria have called upon peace supporters to ensure that the governments of their countries support the Appeal of the Peoples’ Congress to the Governments of the five Great Powers, and also the suggestion for a Peace Pact contained therein. Ever more insistent and in greater unison is the demand of the peoples of Scandinavia, the Near and Middle East, India and other countries for a Pact of Peace.

Multi-million, international democratic organisations such as the World Federation of Trade Unions, the Women’s International Democratic Federation and the World Federation of Democratic Youth, resolutely urged all working people, men and women, to act jointly for a Peace Pact, for an end to the arms drive, for the preservation and consolidation of peace among the peoples.

All progressive mankind stress the need for rejecting the policy of force in favour of the policy of negotiation. The mighty voice of the peoples cannot be ignored! Public opinion

in all the countries responded sympathetically to the words about peace contained in the recent statements made by the heads of the Governments of the U.S.A., Britain and several other countries. It justly saw in this fact the force of the influence of the peoples' movement for peace.

However, the peoples cannot be satisfied with mere statements about peace. These statements must be followed by concrete steps that would contribute to easing the international tension. In practice, however, the loud declarations of the heads of some governments about peace conceal steps aimed at further aggravating the international tension. In crying contradiction with the statements made by the President of the U.S.A. for instance, is the policy of obstruction, delay and the raising of artificial obstacles in the way of reaching agreement in the truce talks in Korea, the policy of the American side. In effect, the American so-called "counter-proposal" jeopardizes the prospects of a truce agreement since it clearly contradicts the Geneva Convention and international practice and is, therefore, absolutely unacceptable to the Korean-Chinese side. Condemnation of this "counter-proposal" in all countries reached such a stage that even Churchill, British Prime-Minister, Nehru, Prime-Minister of India, and other political figures intimated that in their view the 8-point Korean-Chinese proposal should be regarded as a basis for agreement. Many newspapers in the U.S.A., Britain and Canada openly say that should there be a break-down in the truce talks in Korea the blame for this will rest exclusively with U.S. leading circles.

In relation to the German question the U.S. is continuing the policy of no-Big Four negotiations aimed at a peaceful settlement of the German problem, a policy which ignores the interests of strengthening peace in Europe, ignores the vital interests of all the neighbours of Germany, and, above all, ignores the national aspirations of the people of Germany.

As hitherto, China, the biggest country in the world, is, due

to U.S. opposition, denied the opportunity of taking its rightful place in the Security Council and the General Assembly.

The positive replies of the Governments of the countries of the democratic camp to the communication of the Peoples' Peace Congress Commission were evaluated by world public opinion as a major and concrete contribution to the cause of preserving peace; the response would be no less favourable were similar statements made by the Governments of other countries.

The peoples' movement for peace is a powerful, invincible force. But, while conscious of their strength, the peace fighters are also conscious of the need for further, maximum mobilisation of their forces, of the need for tireless vigilance in relation to the machinations of the enemies of peace, against the tiny but influential reactionary groups who, in the future, too, would oppose any easing of the international tension, who are gripped with "fear of peace". The peoples realise that the armament makers and, the capitalist monopolies regard war and preparation for war and the arms drive as a profitable business, a means for obtaining the maximum profits.

There is a new and more favourable situation today in the world for preserving peace than was the case before. And this situation developed because the world peace movement has grown and become consolidated, because the main bulwark of and the main factor for maintaining and consolidating world peace—the Soviet Union—has consistently and invariably conducted, and is conducting now, a peace-loving foreign policy based on mutual trust, an effective policy based on facts and confirmed by facts. Such is the policy of the entire camp of peace, democracy and Socialism headed by the U.S.S.R.

Marching in the van of the peoples' movement for peace the Communist and Workers' Parties tirelessly expose the machinations of the enemies of peace and bring home to the entire population in their countries the noble aims of this

movement; they are uniting and rallying the working class, all working people and all genuine patriots in the selfless struggle for peace, democratic freedoms and national independence.

The great struggle of the peoples for peace, for a peaceful solution of controversial issues has won big success. This success is the result of the growing consolidation, activity and organisation of the peace movement, a result of the fact that additional millions of people from the most varied strata of society have been drawn into the ranks of the peace fighters. Today those participating in the peace movement are faced with a new task: they must redouble their efforts in the struggle for co-operation and friendship among the peoples, must strive for negotiations conducted in the spirit of peaceful settlement of international problems and, controversial issues in the relations between the states, for signing a Pact of Peace. All people of good will take as their militant slogan the words contained in the Appeal of the Peoples' Congress: "Agreement between the five Great Powers and the signing of a Pact of Peace would put an end to the international tension and save the world from the greatest misfortune.

"Such is the demand of the peoples".

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE CALL LOUDER FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS

For Agreement Among Great Powers

A meeting of the French National Peace Council, held in Paris on May 16-17, heard a report by Emmanuel d' Astier de la Vigerie on the carrying out of the decisions of the Peoples' Congress for Peace. The speaker pointed out that so far the French Government had not replied to the letter of the Peoples' Congress Commission requesting support for the Congress' Appeal to the five Great Powers for a Peace Pact.

The National Peace Council unanimously adopted a resolution urging French men and women to support every step, every act, initiative and desire for a general or partial agreement which would ensure a let-up in the international tension.

The overwhelming majority of the people of France, says the resolution, want an end to the wars in Indo-China and Korea, a settlement of the German problem by negotiations, disarmament, meeting and agreement between the leaders of the five Great Powers.

The National Peace Council elected its Presidium which includes Gustave Monod, Mme Yves Farge, The National Assembly deputies Pierre Cot, Emmanuel d'Astier de la Vigerie, Laurent Casanova, Alain Le Leap, Secretary-General of the General Confederation of Labour, and Pierre Parmentier, leading Catholic.

Letter by Argentine Peace Committee

In a letter addressed to the Ambassadors of the U.S., U.S.S.R., Great Britain and France the Argentine Peace Committee requests them to inform their governments that the peace supporters in Argentina, who collected 3,5 million signatures to the Peace Pact Appeal, and all the people of Argentina are desirous that all the efforts needed to secure the signing of a Pact of Peace be made.

We also express to the Ambassador of the U.S.S.R., says the letter, our satisfaction with the news that the Government of his country, acting in accordance with its policy of peace and the peaceful desires of the entire Soviet people, has replied favourably to the Appeal of the Peoples' Congress Commission. We realise that the signing of a Peace Pact would be an act of great importance for the preservation, of peace and the principle that every country has the right, freely and independently to the way of life of its choice. And in keeping with this conviction the Argentine Peace Committee is conducting a broad campaign among the people for the purpose

of ensuring that Argentina, together with all other nations and countries, shall actively help in these efforts.

Government of Mongolian People's Republic Replies to Letter From Commission of Peoples' Congress for Peace

The reply of the Government of the Mongolian People's Republic to the letter from the Commission of the Peoples' Congress for Peace says that the Government of the Republic, true to the cause of peace and co-operation among the peoples; and expressing the desire of the people of its country for peace, wholeheartedly welcomes and resolutely supports the noble initiative taken by the Vienna Peoples' Congress for a Peace Pact of the five Great Powers. The Government of the Mongolian People's Republic and the people of Mongolia are firmly convinced that, given the sincere desire of the governments of all countries, the matters giving birth to the international tension can be settled by means of negotiation and co-operation.

Our people, jointly with all peace-loving peoples, the reply continues, will continue in the future, too, their unswerving struggle for the preservation of universal peace among the nations.

Congress of Action for Peace in Britain.

The National Congress, of Action for Peace, held in Manchester on May 16-17, attracted the attention of

progressive public opinion in Britain. The Congress brought together over one thousand delegates and observers from all parts of the country. 712 organisations were represented, including 250 trade union organisations. Its slogans were: “Negotiations, Not War!”, “Stop the Wars Now in Progress!”.

The report was delivered by D. N. Pritt, well-known public figure and President of the British Peace Committee. D. N. Pritt called for further intensification of the fight for peace and stressed that the British Government should take immediate action and propose a conference of the Great Powers now, without waiting for approval from Washington.

All the speakers expressed, the determination to fight actively for peace and urged an immediate meeting of the heads of the Big Powers for the purpose of putting an end to the “cold war” and establishing durable and lasting world peace. They called resolutely for an immediate truce in Korea and for an end to the war in Viet Nam and Malaya.

The Congress elected the General Council of the British Peace Committee and unanimously adopted the text of a declaration and a number of resolutions representing a programme of action for peace. The declaration calls on all Britishers, irrespective of political view or religious beliefs, to make strenuous efforts in order to secure an immediate end to the fighting in Korea and the opening of peace negotiations to work for these aims using every available means—in the trade unions, co-operative organisations, political parties, church, factory, office, mine, town and village, thus mailing the Government and all leaders know that such is the will of the people and that every sincere action of theirs for peace enjoys the support of the masses.

“Peace Week” in Austria

A call issued by the Austrian Peace Committee reads in part:

The Appeal of the Peoples' Congress for Peace calling on the Great Powers to negotiate for a Peace Pact met with a profound response both in the East and in the West. Increasing number of people understand that only, agreement between the Great Powers can guarantee world peace. The Government of the Soviet Union and the Government of the Chinese People's Republic have already replied favour ably to the Appeal of the Peoples' Congress.

The Austrian Peace Committee urges fighters for peace to conduct an explanatory campaign during the "peace week"—June 8-14—on the need for a Pact of Peace between the Great Powers.

Eve of Women's World Congress

Preparations are underway in more than 80 countries for the Women's World Congress scheduled for June 5-10 in Copenhagen. Preparatory and sponsoring committees and women's rights committees are being formed; national conferences of women workers, peasant women and housewives are being held as well as national congresses at which delegates to the Women's World Congress are being elected.

Winning and securing rights for women and children, the fight for national independence and for world peace—these are the key questions discussed at the meetings, conferences and congresses.

A few days ago a National Women's Conference attended by 315 delegates from all parts of India was held in Delhi. The Conference elected a delegation of 30 women to the Women's World Congress.

CONCERNING TRUCE NEGOTIATIONS IN KOREA

British Press Sharply Critical of U.S. Obstruction Policy

World public opinion is becoming more and more indignant at the obstruction policy of the American side in the truce talks in Korea. The governments of some countries-allies of the U.S.—have expressed disagreement with this policy. In this connection the press in many capitalist countries levels sharp criticism at the US.

As is known a lively discussion on foreign policy took place in the British House of Commons in the course of which the attitude of the U.S. representatives at Panmunjom was

subjected to sharp criticism. Replying to this criticism U.S. Senator McCarthy demanded that Britain should apologise for the speech made by Clement Attlee, leader of the Labour opposition. This demand met with an indignant rebuff in the British press.

—How long will Eisenhower tolerate McCarthy?—asks the “Sunday Pictorial”. McCarthy, it continues, is not only a bad man, he is a dangerous man. In the realm of policy, the newspaper goes on, he may become as dangerous as the noisy demagogue Adolf Hitler, became 25 years ago. McCarthy-ism, according to the “Sunday Pictorial”, is an evil phenomenon in American life.

The “People” writes that McCarthy is a Mussolini from the Middle West who is frantically hounding people and from whose mouth there erupts a Niagara of foul slander against liberal Americans. This pocket Hitler is not a mere amusement for the Americans. He poisons their minds, and in doing so worsens relations between America and other countries. He is a danger to the cause of peace.

Commenting on the truce talks in Korea, the “Observer” writes, that if a break-down in the talks were now to ensue, many honest people “would believe that the State Department, rather than the Communists, was to blame”. On this point the “Sunday Pictorial” says that there will be no negotiations should these methods prevail and that Attlee’s words that there are elements in the U.S.A. who do not want a settlement in Korea will be fully justified.

A Press Association report says that Labour M. P. Strachey, speaking at Oxford, declared that in relation to China America has taken an interventionist position. He added that the reaction of extreme Right elements in America shows, apparently, that they do not want a truce and are worried by the concessions made by the Communists. Another Labour M. P. Douglas Jay said: “Further delay in these talks on top of straw-in-the-hair

speeches like that of Senator McCarthy, will only convince the British public that some Americans really do not want a truce”.

Under pressure of public opinion the British press is demanding an end to the U.S. policy of dragging out the negotiations and calls for a speedy truce in Korea.

AN UNFORGETTABLE DAY (Tamas Aczel, Writer, Stalin and Kossuth Prize Laureate)

We shall remember this May day for many, many years—the bright sunny morning, the early awakened streets, the gay songs and the laughter of the pioneers—May 17, election day to the National Assembly of Hungary. It was a great day which will forever remain in the memory of the people—the day of unity, strength, life-giving vigour and militant will for peace.

Ninety-eight per cent of the electorate went to the polls and of these 98.2 per cent cast their votes for the People's Front. The victory, testified by the figures, was born in the flames of the blast furnaces, in the roar of machinery and the throb of tractor engines, in the laboratories of the scientists. The weighty word pronounced by our people on May 17 echoed far and loud and will be heard by all ordinary people on earth, no matter where they may be; it will also be heard by the bitter enemies of our new life.

I had the good fortune to see this inspiring labour. Prior to the elections I visited the Stalin Metallurgical Combinat in Sztalinvaros—the pride of our homeland, building Socialism. I was the guest of men forging the new life. It is difficult to describe this town which three years ago did not exist, this combinat the territory of which the eye cannot take in. In some of the huge shops work is already underway. The foundry is casting parts for the biggest blast furnace in the country. This blast furnace, which is scheduled to produce the first pig iron on August 20, is already taking shape.

I was told on my arrival that the builders on one section of this blast furnace were behind schedule. I attended the production meeting where the question of the lag was

discussed. I watched the faces of the men. Sparing of words and used to work they were concentrated in thought...

Very little was said. Those who rose to take new emulation pledges on the occasion of the election were brief and terse. A few phrases sounded and several figures cited. And I realised that therein lay the crux of the matter, that these brief statements, these quiet, thoughtful words of the men whose faces were furrowed with the worry and suffering of the past, reflected the pulse-beat of the entire country, the will of the entire nation. I have frequently visited this blast furnace since. The lag was reduced day by day. Work was proceeding in earnest and victory assured.

I often thought of them as I wandered amid the merry youth through the streets of the bustling young town; I thought of these men and women sparing of word, of the simple heroes of our people. They voted. Yes, they had already cast their votes then, in that semi-built hall, in the streets where on one side the lights in the windows of the newly-built shops glittered in the night, while on the opposite side scaffolding still surrounded the building sites.

In this way the entire country voted in advance. Open any issue of "Szabad Nep", take any copy. The photos, facts and figures all speak of the struggle which predetermined our great victory.

Take, say, Friday, May 15. Two days remained before polling day. The newspaper featured on its front page the reports of the factory managers, the secretaries of Party committees, the chairmen of factory committees—the representatives and educators of the working people: the pledges taken have been fulfilled and overfulfilled. Here are the victory reports. The men's Ready-Made Clothing Factory pledged to fulfil the export programme ahead of plan—the pledge was fulfilled. The Oroszlany pit, named after September 6, which pledged to produce 7,200 wagonettes of coal over and

above the plan, produced 7,700. One of the departments of the Lenin Metallurgical combinat which pledged to turn out 380 tons of rolled steel in excess of the plan produced 499 tons. The Chinoin Chemical Works pledged to provide three million forints worth of medicines above the assignment and overfulfilled the pledge... It was the same all over the country.

Was it surprising then that on the morning of May 17 the country so confidently, consciously, happily and with such militancy went to the polls?

Already at daybreak voices rang in the streets. Here and there songs were heard, bands travelled about town in trucks, bright-eyed boys and girls with glowing cheeks played outside the polling booths,—they knew that there, inside, their future, too, their life was being determined. With pride but somewhat moved the people entered the booths in order to cast their votes for peace, for construction, for the bright-eyed boys and girls,—for the future of the country. I arrived at the polling booth at ten minutes to seven, expecting to be the first but found that I was at least twelfth in the queue. In these early hours the streets were thronged with people, all hurrying to the booths, each wanting to be the first to vote. Not all, of course, succeeded in their quest. But in this aspiration there was manifested more powerfully and more vigorously than ever before the mighty **unity** so characteristic of our elections, of our liberated people.

The victory won by the People's Front is a vivid expression of this unity. All of us remember the difficult battles, the bold and courageous struggle in which this iron unity was forged by our Hungarian Working People's Party, by our wise and beloved leader, Comrade Matias Rakosi. The working people, led by the Communists, constitute an invincible force. No one, not even a stray observer, a disinterested tourist who, having visited the prospering regions in our country, the building sites and the producer co-operatives could have failed to sense this radiating force, this confident wisdom, this will for action. On

election day the hearts of millions of our people, men and women, young and old, beat as one, on this day all our people rallied together against the past, for the future.

A week prior to the elections Comrade Rakosi addressed the electors on Parliament Square. Opposite him stood the working masses of Budapest—hundreds of thousands of heads were seen, thousands of banners. Behind us towered the House of Parliament where for so many years sat counts and industrialists, where laws were adopted heralding nothing but denial of rights and exploitation for the people and a life of luxury for the masters.

I recalled the verse of our great poet Mihaly Vörösmarty. More than a hundred years ago he wrote: “The country has no Parliament since it is not the homeland of its sons!”. The bitterness in these words was justified and understandable... And now? Soon the newly elected National Assembly will convene—the representative Parliament of steel workers and turners, of agronomists and cotton pickers, of scientists and writers. It will convene to effect what the people want, the things of which Comrade Rakosi spoke on the square. Had the poet been alive today he could have written: The country has a National Assembly since it has become the real homeland of its sons! The poets living today will compose songs and odes about it. This is their honourable task.

The country has made its choice. Firmly, unanimously, happily and proudly it voted for the future, for a happy life, for peace, for Socialism. We, who participated in the elections, who participated in the battle of labour which preceded it, will, years hence, tell our children and grandchildren about these wonderful days which we will never forget.

NEW ATTITUDE TOWARDS LABOUR IN PEOPLE'S POLAND (Wictor Klosiewicz, Member, Central Committee, Polish United Workers' Party)

I.

Together with the working people of the other People's Democracies the people of Poland, liberated from capitalist-landlord rule thanks to the historic victories of the Soviet Army over Hitler fascism, are engaged in the great work of socialist construction.

The grand programme of socialist industrialisation, charted by the Party and the People's Government, is being carried out successfully due to the fact that the new social system has released the powerful creative energy of the multi-million working masses.

The example of the first country of triumphant Socialism, the example of the heroic Soviet people, the people building Communism, the sincere, fraternal aid given to us by the Soviet Union, enable us to build more quickly; and make it easier for us to overcome difficulties, to avoid many errors and accelerate our annual rate of development.

"The Polish working people can be proud of the results of their labour in building the new life", said Comrade Bierut in his May Day speech. "The whole of Poland is rapidly being converted into a country of large-scale industry and modern technique. Never before in the history of our people has economic and cultural life flourished so vigorously as now".

These words of the Chairman of the Polish United Workers' Party, No. 1 builder of People's Poland and beloved by the entire nation, justly sum up our achievements at the

present stage of carrying out the Six-Year Plan.

In 1952, despite a number of grave difficulties we made big strides forward in all branches of our national economy. Industrial output rose 19.5 per cent compared with 1951. 450 large and medium-sized industrial enterprises were built. 111,600 apartments were built for the working people, and a number of schools and hospitals. Productivity of labour in industry rose 13 per cent; in the building-assembly enterprises it rose 17 per cent. The growth of industrial and agricultural output led to an increase in the national income of some 10 per cent compared with 1951. State allocations for social services and cultural requirements of the working people likewise increased.

The current year, 1953, is also a year of further big achievements by the working people. Our plants have produced the twenty-thousandth tractor and the ten-thousandth lorry. The national-economic plan for the first quarter was fulfilled 103.1 per cent. The number of producer co-operatives grew in the first quarter by more than 2,000 and now stand at 7,034.

The number of industrial workers and employees increased roughly 7 per cent compared with the first quarter of 1952, while capital investments amounted to 114 per cent compared with the first quarter of 1952.

II.

“The reliable, solid and inexhaustible source of the economic might of our country”, said Comrade Bierut, “is the selfless creative labour of the working masses”.

The new social system has strengthened among the masses a profound feeling of responsibility of the future of our country, has strengthened the new socialist attitude towards labour which, according to the Constitution, is the highest duty and at the same time a matter of honour for each citizen.

This new attitude to labour and social duty, arising from understanding of the complete harmony of personal and social interests, finds expression in the socialist emulation, one of the main levers of the development of our industry and of the national economy as a whole, an inexhaustible source for growth of labour productivity.

The socialist emulation organised and unfolded by the trade unions has become a general mass movement, embracing in many fields of our national economy over 85 per cent of the working people.

The heroic working class of the Soviet Union is a model for the Polish working people in developing socialist emulation. The initiative of the advanced Socialist stakhanovites found and finds now an immediate response in our enterprises.

The method of transmitting machines in full working order to the shifts taking over—the method initiated by the Soviet stakhanovite Zhandarova—is widely practised in our metal, textile and chemical industries. The clothing, leather and chemical industries save considerable quantities of raw materials by using the method of complex economy initiated by Lidya Korabelnikova. Polish metal workers are using the method of high-speed metal cutting on an ever wider scale, utilising the experience of the Soviet turners Bortkevich and Kolessov.

Polish iron and steel workers, using the experience of the advanced Soviet smelters, masters of high-speed smelting, are striving to reduce the average time needed for smelting and to master as quickly as possible the art of high-speed smelting.

In addition to the socialist emulation, the development of workers' initiative, manifested in the rationalisation movement, is a striking expression of the new attitude towards labour. The rationalisation movement in our country is a tremendous force. The scale of the rationalisation movement can be gauged by the

number of suggestions. Over 52,000 suggestions were made in 1951 and over 125,000 in 1952. Utilisation of a significant part of these suggestions enabled the state to economise more than 850 million zloty in the course of one year.

The spread of the rationalisation movement is facilitated by close co-operation of a number of higher educational establishments and research institutes with the workers in industry, with the rationalisation clubs and technical clubs in the factories. At the moment there are over 5,000 special engineer-worker teams in industry.

The alliance of science and industry has yielded good results both for the development of the national economy and for the further development of science.

Co-operation with the workers helps the scientists to overcome the false traditions of bourgeois science, to overcome the tendency to associate only with people of the same profession, and accelerates technical progress and growth of labour productivity.

III.

The steady development of socialist emulation and of the rationalisation movement is taking place on the basis of irreconcilable struggle against stagnation and routine, and particularly against the formal and bureaucratic attitude adopted towards the emulation and innovators. Our Party, the leading force of our people, devotes close attention to the danger of bureaucratic stifling of the vital socialist emulation and the rationalisation movement.

One of the biggest shortcomings was the isolation of socialist emulation from fulfilment of production plans, the drive for high percentages and cost indices without taking into account the concrete figures of fulfilling production tasks by a given enterprise and a given branch of industry. No less

harmful was the fact that the emulation was not of a permanent character, that the pledges were taken only from time to time, from anniversary to anniversary, and that nobody was interested in consolidating and multiplying the successes achieved in production.

The real reason, the source of all these shortcomings in the socialist emulation, lies in inadequate mass-political work and inadequate co-ordination of this movement with our struggle for peace and Socialism.

Underestimation of the significance of mass-political work in unfolding the socialist emulation by trade union functionaries often resulted in turning the production pledges into a formal declaration, the points of which were defined by the management in complete isolation from the healthy initiative of the personnel.

These shortcomings were aggravated also by insufficient understanding on the part of the management and technical personnel of their role in creating favourable conditions for fulfilling the pledges by means of ensuring systematic improvement in the organisation of labour and in eliminating the difficulties arising in the course of working on the pledges.

All this reduced the effectiveness of the socialist emulation, especially at the end of 1952, and this affected fulfilment of the 1952 national-economic plan.

The overcoming of the shortcomings in the sphere of emulation became possible thanks to the directives of the Party and to the wide political work carried out under the leadership of the Party, with the direct participation of Comrade Bierut.

The Party directives and Comrade Bierut's profound analysis of the sources of the difficulties, made in his speech at the meeting of mining activists in the Stalingrod region, were the subject of discussion at the XI Plenum of the Central Council of Trade Unions. The plenum outlined the tasks of the trade unions in further developing the socialist emulation.

Its decisions stressed that questions affecting socialist emulation should become the centre of attention of the main organisational link of the unions—the union group, which is directly responsible for fulfilment of the pledges.

In addition, it outlined measures designed to put an end to the campaign character of the emulation by introducing long-term pledges for a period of one year and also by means of monthly evaluation of their fulfilment and by upward revision of the pledges accordingly as more favourable conditions are created.

The pledges should be based on concrete figures expressing tons of extra output, the thousands of zloty-saved, the days and weeks economized as a result of pre-schedule fulfilment of the annual plan.

The bringing to the knowledge of the trade union groups in the enterprises the decision of the XI Plenum helped in overcoming the production difficulties still found in some of the vital industries. This marked the beginning of systematic and rhythmic fulfilment of plans, the overcoming, to a considerable degree, of the formalism and bureaucratism which retard development of the sound and valuable initiative of the workers.

IV.

The long-term pledges, taken on the initiative of the trade union organisers and expressing the growing consciousness of the masses, are aimed at ensuring a considerable reduction in time schedules for the tasks of the fourth year of the Six-Year Plan. These pledges are aimed at ensuring fulfilment of plans from the standpoint of quantity, quality and assortment, a more rigid economy regime, at lowering production costs and full utilisation of production reserves, better organisation of labour, reinforcing socialist labour discipline, improving skills by

organising factory training with the participation of the engineer-technical personnel.

A feature of the long-term pledges adopted in the enterprises is that in addition to production matters they take up such questions as better safety measures and hygiene and also questions relating to living conditions and to the cultural life of our workers.

The personnel, of the leading "Stalinogrod Mine" have pledged to exceed the 1953 coal target by 45,000 tons and to reduce cost of production by 1,840,000 zloty. They have undertaken to arrange refresher training for 40 workers with the help of the engineer-technical personnel, to improve safety measures, to cut 2 weeks off the time for repairing 163 worker apartments and to improve cultural-educational work in the club.

Long-term pledges are being taken by enterprises all over the country. Building workers on the Nova Huta site have undertaken to cut the schedules for commissioning 73 big installations; the personnel of the "Ursus" tractor plant undertake to produce 200 tractors ahead of schedule, before the end of the year, using for this purpose economized material; the workers of the Dubois textile combinat pledge to produce, before the end of the second quarter, an additional 5,360 kilograms of cotton yarn and 47 thousand metres of fabrics.

The long-term pledge taken by the personnel of the Baildon iron and steel works stipulates completion of the year's plan by December 22 with 1,750 tons of steel in excess of target. They have also undertaken to cut the schedules for major repairs to production aggregates, to improve the work of the production conferences and to popularise more widely the experience of the best workers and best groups.

Simultaneously, new forms of emulation, based on the big increase in the production activity of the masses, have made their appearance. For example, Wiktor Saja, electrician in the

Starachowice automobile plant, initiated emulation for better quality production, under the slogan "No defective material".

The first phase of the long-term pledges ensured overfulfilment of the first-quarter production plan by our industry and preschedule fulfilment of the April plan in the main industries find in the coal and iron steel industries in particular.

Along with regular fulfilment of long-term pledges substantial success was achieved in relation to the extra pledges taken for May Day. Thanks to the special May Day shifts our national economy received additional thousands of tons of coal and steel, hundreds of thousands of metres of fabrics, many tractors, railway cars and locomotives. Janosz and Weber, leading miners in the "Ridultova" pit chalked up a remarkable success while working the May Day shift, fulfilling the assignment 622.2 per cent.

While working on their May Day pledges the working class disclosed more and more production reserves, applied advanced labour methods on a wider scale, since the workers have become still more conscious that only by increased labour productivity and reinforced socialist labour discipline and by constantly developing socialist industry is it possible to achieve a steady rise in the standard of living and ensure the growth of the economic and defense might of our homeland and lasting peace.

The constantly growing achievements of the Polish working people in socialist construction ensure the further serious development of our economic base find the further progress of culture. At bedrock of these achievements is the patriotism of the working class whose enthusiasm expresses their class consciousness which is constantly deepening in the process of Socialist construction.

FOR PEACE AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE OF BRAZIL

Meeting of National Committee, Communist Party of Brazil

A meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil, held in April, discussed the political situation in the country and the Party tasks in the light of the materials of the XIX Congress of the C.P.S.U., J. V. Stalin's speech to the Congress and Comrade G. M. Malenkov's report. The text of the report by Comrade Luis Carlos Prestes, General Secretary of the Party, "The XIX Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and Our Tasks", was read at the meeting. In his report Comrade Prestes analysed the lessons of the XIX Congress of the C.P.S.U. for the Brazilian Communists and their tasks in the struggle for the immediate demands of the working people, for national independence and democratic freedoms.

The meeting also heard a report by Comrade Diogenes Arruda who stressed the need for recruiting more members and raising the ideological level of the Party.

The meeting unanimously approved Comrade Prestes report and urged all organisations and the entire Party membership to make a profound study of the report and to carry out the tasks outlined therein. Another decision makes study of the materials of the XIX Congress of the C.P.S.U. obligatory for all members. It was resolved also to conduct a Stalin recruitment campaign.

The resolution adopted by the meeting reiterated the vow

of the Communist Party that “the Brazilian people will never go to war against the Soviet Union”. “Wide dissemination of this slogan among the masses”, reads the resolution, “is a basic task for the entire Party, because at the present moment the highest manifestation of proletarian internationalism and patriotism is unconditional support for the Soviet Union and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union marching in the van of mankind in the struggle for peace, for the independence of the peoples, for democracy, for Socialism”.

IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

Materials of XIX Congress of C.P.S.U. in Hungarian Translation

The "Szikra" Publishing has put out in Hungarian translation a symposium of the XIX Congress of the C.P.S.U. It contains J. V. Stalin's speech, the reports, speeches by delegates, the Congress decisions and the speeches of greetings by the representatives of the fraternal parties.

Growing Membership of French Communist Party

More and more working people in France are joining the Communist Party in response to the Stalin recruitment begun after the death of the great leader of the peoples. The rise in membership is taking place against the background of a broad movement for unity of the working class, of large-scale action by the working people for immediate demands. By the beginning of May, 827 new members had been made by the Party Federation in the Seine-et-Oise Department, 2,687 in the Seine Federation. Another 10 thousand members have been recruited throughout the country.

A big success has been won by the Party organisations in the Benches du Rhone Department, where one thousand four hundred and sixty new members were made by May 1st, in the course of the Stalin recruitment. Two hundred and thirty-six new members were made by the Party section in No. 1 canton, Marseilles in the course of 8 weeks.

“La Provence nouvelle”—weekly organ of the Party Federation in the Bouches du Rhone Department, devotes one or two pages of each issue to the recruitment, widely popularises the experience of the best branches and sections.

At the beginning of this year the Veran branch had only 24 members. As a result of a big recruitment effort by the branch members aided by political instructors, the membership had doubled by April, 10.

In the municipal election campaign a Communist woman in the Carmes district of Marseilles, who joined the Party only a few weeks ago, recruited 20 new members. The rise in membership is accompanied by the formation of new branches. In the La Timone section, for example, five new factory groups were formed in one day—the day Lucien Molino, André Stil and André Tollet were arrested.

In Underground Conditions

Spanish Communists Popularise Materials of XIX Congress of C.P.S.U.

Despite difficult underground conditions and ruthless Franco terror the Spanish Communist Party is popularising the historic documents of the IX Congress of the C.P.S.U. among the working people of Spain. A special issue of “Mundo Obrero”, Communist party organ, containing the full text of Comrade G. M. Malenkov’s speech at the XIX Congress, and a special issue of the theoretical journal “Nuestra Bandera”, containing J. V. Stalin’s “Economic Problems of Socialism in the U.S.S.R.”, are passing from hand to hand. The Party’s underground press featured numerous materials on the different questions discussed at the XIX Congress.

The Party leadership has placed before all organisations and members the task of widely disseminating the basic documents of the XIX Congress. All the organisations have been informed that it is necessary to use all opportunities and all means in order to acquaint the working people and all anti-Francoites with these documents.

In an article devoted to this question “Mundo Obrero” urges that close attention be paid to disseminating these materials among the anarcho-sindicalist and Socialist working people. These people, writes the newspaper, display “a growing interest in understanding what the dictatorship of the proletariat means, in getting acquainted with the gigantic victorious achievements of Socialism and the magnificent construction projects of communism”.

The newspaper called on all branches to take pledges for popularising the documents of the XIX Congress of the C.P.S.U. and to establish control over fulfilment of these pledges.

Party Assignments in Factory Organisation, Rumanian Workers' Party

The Party branch in the “Dynamo” plant (Bucharest) has had big success in rallying the workers, engineer-technical personnel and office employees in the struggle for fulfilling the Five-Year Plan. The plan for the first quarter of the year was overfulfilled by 13.2 per cent.

One of the basic factors of this success was the active work of the Communists in the plant. The branch bureau in the factory sees to it that each member is an active fighter for carrying out the decisions and that each has his Party assignment. Some of the members have permanent

assignments. These are the numbers of the bureaux of the shop groups, propagandists, agitators, members of the editorial boards of the factory's newspaper and its wall-newspapers, etc. A number of members are assigned for work in the trade union organisation and among the youth, while the remainder receive assignments connected with the carrying out of the decisions of the general meetings of the Party organisations in the shops and the decisions of the branch bureau.

The leadership of the branch sees to it that each member has an interesting assignment which enables him to display his abilities. For example, the bureau assigned a number of members—stakhanovites, leading workers, engineers and technicians—to popularise the working methods of Vasili Kolessov, the Soviet stakhanovite. Ion Mateica, a stakhanovite and Party member, suggested that a production school be organised in his shop. This was and the school is attended by 29 stakhanovites who are assimilating Kolessov's method.

The foundry was not fulfilling the plan and was giving a big percentage of waste. The branch bureau assigned a group of members headed by the Party organiser in the foundry to examine the reasons for this and to report to a general meeting. It was established, for instance, that more skilled workers were needed in the foundry. The Party meeting resolved that ten stakhanovites—Party and non-party people—would help 20 workers in the shop to improve their skills. Some months later, as a result of the improved skill, and due to the introduction of a number of organisational-technical measures, the percentage of waste was considerably reduced.

The branch bureau sees to the correct allocation of the members to the decisive sectors in the plant. Finding that in the turners' shop and in the assembly shop there were too few Party members the bureau reached agreement with the management and sent a number of Party members to these shops and thus helped them to fulfil their plans.

In order to ensure still greater activity by the Party members in this plant it is necessary to get rid of the shortcomings still observed in the distribution of Party assignments. Sometimes assignments are given without taking into consideration the ability and level of the members. Party members who lack experience do not always get the necessary help. The Party organisation in the factory rarely hears reports by the members about fulfilment of their Party assignments.

**Tiberiu TOROC,
Instructor, Central Committee,
Rumanian Workers' Party**

IN ALLIANCE WITH MASSES— AGAINST AGGRESSIVE BONN POLICY

Meeting of Activities, Communist Party of Germany

A meeting of activists of the Communist Party organisation in North Rhine-Westphalia held recently in Düsseldorf, discussed the question of “strengthening the Party in the struggle against realisation of the Bonn and Paris military treaties”, A similar meeting was held in Dortmund. Both meetings discussed the tasks of improving the work of the Communists in the enterprises, in the countryside and in the organisations of the patriotic movement on the basis of the “Programme for National Re-Unification of Germany”.

Those speaking in the discussion stressed the need for intensifying the work of the Party branches in the enterprises (by July 1st in accordance with a decision of the Central Board of the Party all members working in enterprises must join factory branches, with a corresponding consolidation of the leadership of these branches). The participants in the meetings emphasised the need for daily exposing before the members of the Social Democratic Party of Germany and the trade unions the shameful role of their leaders who playing at “Opposition” and sowing parliamentary illusions, seek to wreck the mass resistance movement.

It was stressed at these meetings that intensified struggle

against the military treaties and against the policy leading to the impoverishment of broad sections of the population of Western Germany is impossible without a solid alliance with the masses. Consequently, public meetings, demonstrations and protest strikes against the Bonn policy of war acquire a special significance just now. It is the duty of the Communists to work in all public organisations and particularly in the trade unions and to give active help to the organisations of the patriotic movement. By being active in the trade unions the Communists must help the workers shake off the influence of the Right-wing union leaders, help them turn the trade unions into militant organisations that will uphold the demands of the working class.

REINFORCING UNITY OF AUSTRALIAN WORKERS

Communists Head Struggle For Vital Interests Of Working People

The Australian working class is heroically battling for its vital interests. Railway workers throughout the country recently downed tools for 24 hours in protest against the refusal to concede their wage demands. Miners are also fighting for higher wages and against victimisation of militant leaders. Paper-mill workers stopped work for 24 hours in protest against speed-up. Building-trades workers are fighting against curtailment of civilian building.

Unity of the working class is being forged in the fires of this struggle. The activity of the Communists is directed towards all-round strengthening of this unity. More and more the Communists in Australia are getting rid of sectarianism and are achieving unity of action of the working class on separate concrete issues.

Joint action by Communist and Labour Party workers against the refusal of the Arbitration Court to grant the demands of the railway workers forced endorsement of the 24-hour rail stoppage even by the Right-wing leaders of the Australian Trades Union Congress. The Party's campaign against the anti-people's policy of the Menzies' Government,

conducted jointly by Communists and rank and file Labour workers in the enterprises and trade unions, has resulted in the formation of committees in many districts for the purpose of ensuring speedy defeat for the Menzies' Government. This movement, developing under the slogans "Down with the Menzies' Government!", "Peace Now!", embraces widely-varied sections of the population. In the recent elections for the State Parliaments the Menzies' party was heavily defeated.

The fight waged by the Communist Party for unity of the working class is adding to its prestige. The working people, recognise with growing readiness the leading role of the Communists in the struggle for a higher standard of living and for peace. "Tribune"—organ of the Communist Party of Australia—comments that this, in turn, is winning more members for the Party and more readers for the Party press. The Central Committee of the Australian Communist Party constantly calls upon its members to strengthen their contact with the rank and file of the Labour Party and to achieve unity on concrete issues.

FROM COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PRESS

Closer Attention to Letters from Working People "Rude Pravo"— Central Organ of Communist Party of Czechoslovakia



"Rude Pravo", in a leading article headed "Attention to letters of working people", raised a particularly vital question. The letters sent by Czechoslovak citizens to the editorial boards of newspapers, to Ministries, economic and other organisations—testify to the inexhaustible creative initiative of the masses, to the noble striving of the working people to get rid of the shortcomings still found in enterprises and in state and Party organisations. These letters reflect the firm determination to accelerate the onward march of the country and the profound confidence reposed by the working people in the Communist Party and in the people's power. Letters of this kind are unknown in the capitalist countries.

“Lenin and Stalin”, the newspaper writes, “highly evaluated letters from the working people. No matter how pressed by work they always found time for reading the letters received from the factories and from rural correspondents. Comrade Lenin looked on these letters as a barometer which helped in avoiding mistakes in policy and in directing it with maximum consideration for reality and the actual state of affairs. Comrade Stalin characterised the worker and rural correspondents as one of the main levers for disclosing shortcomings and improving the work of the Party and Soviet organs. Comrade Klement Gottwald always called on our press and on Party and public workers to devote the closest attention to letters from the working people”.

“Rude Pravo” cited an example showing the national significance of the criticism contained in the letters. Comrade Benda, a worker in a building-assembly enterprise, wrote to the “Rude Pravo” about a shortage of tools. Investigation confirmed the explanation given in the letter for the decline in labour productivity in the building industry. Subsequent discussion of this question in the Ministry of the Building Industry led to the launching of production of the required tools.

However, “Rude Pravo” points out, many administrative functionaries and also economic and Party functionaries are not carrying out the decision of the Central Committee of the Party concerning close attention to letters; they overlook the fact that behind every letter, report or complaint stands a living man or woman deeply concerned about our socialist construction, who, as master, closely guards the interests of the state, interests which, simultaneously, are his own interests.

“Rude Pravo” sharply criticises those who show no desire to get to the root of the matters raised in letters, who do not verify the facts cited in them, make no effort to eliminate shortcomings and who try in every way to dodge criticism.

While some of them, the newspaper continues, instead of furnishing business-like and self critical replies to the letters sent by working people, tend to give evasive, bureaucratic and empty explanations “just to get rid of the matter as quickly as possible”, others arrogantly rebuff the worker and rural correspondents who dare to write about the shortcomings encountered, and there are also those who have got into the bad habit of studying the letters only after receipt of subsequent inquiries as to the fate of the given letter, heedless of the fact that delay in the matter of investigating the facts cited in the letter may cause injury to the given work. Such, for instance, was the attitude taken by the first secretary of the Liberec district committee of the Party and by the secretariat of the Ostrava regional committee of the Party. In this connection “Rude Pravo” justly says: “This kind of approach frustrates development of criticism and self-criticism and prevents disclosure of shortcomings and exposure of dishonest people, weakening thereby the effect of the letters sent by the working people”.

In conclusion, “Rude Pravo” writes:

“By paying close attention to the letters of the working people we shall develop to the stage where the working people will, with growing frequency, inform us about our shortcomings and, by doing so, help in eliminating them; in this way we shall develop to the stage in which criticism and self-criticism will be constantly developed and in which this vital form of contact with the masses... which, as Comrade Klement Gottwald said, enables us to feel the pulse of the masses, will become more and more widespread”.

IN COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES

Atrocities Of British Colonisers In Kenya

The people of Kenya are continuing their heroic struggle for restoration of the land stolen from them by the British colonisers, against the rule of the British imperialists. The recent frame-up of a group of leaders of this movement, headed by Jomo Kenyatta, sentenced for alleged relations with the so-called “Mau Mau” organisation, failed to yield the desired results for the British authorities. In reply to the terror of the British colonisers—daily raids, arrests and shooting of innocent people—the Africans took to armed struggle. Of late several armed clashes between Africans and British police units took place in the vicinity of Nairobi.

Enraged at the growing resistance of the people the British authorities perpetrate ever more savage atrocities. In the middle of May British planes dive-bombed and machine-gunned the Othaya location north of Nairobi. The operations of British police and military units more and more resemble an open war

against the African population.

These actions are aimed at enabling the British lords and financial magnates in the City to continue their unbridled plunder of this rich colony.

Many of the British settlers in Kenya, writes the "Labour Research", a progressive journal published in London, have close personal connections with influential circles in Britain. For example, a son of the Duke of Abercorn, Governor of Northern Ireland and director of a number of companies connected with the plunder of the African continent, has a "farm" of 30,000 acres in Kenya. Some 20 British companies, acting the master in Kenya, dominate all commercial operations of Kenya, Uganda and Northern Tanganyika. Among the directors and stockholders in these companies are Sir Evelyn Baring, Governor of Kenya; Sir Ulick Alexander, Treasurer to the Queen; cousin of Oliver Lyttelton, Colonial "Secretary, Viscount Cobham; Harold C. Drayton, director of 48 companies, including the powerful Midland Bank, and many others.

All honest and progressive people in the world condemn with shame the attempts of the colonisers to crush the just movement of the people of Kenya for their lawful rights, for land, for democratic freedoms, for the right to manage the affairs of their own country.

People In Lebanon Against Aggressive Middle-East Bloc

In a statement signed by workers, peasants and intellectuals, by representatives of women and students and also by Deputies and Moslem and Christian clergy, the Lebanon National Peace Committee lays bare the continued intrigues of the American-British imperialists and their

accomplices aimed at hatching an aggressive Middle-East bloc.

Another statement made by the Committee points out that 265 thousand people in Lebanon signed the World Peace Council's Appeal and calls on all patriots to intensify the struggle for a Five-Power Peace Pact.

The imperialist designs aimed at hammering together a Middle-East bloc have been denounced by the National Congress of Lebanon, a body which unites different political parties and public organisations. An "action committee" to combat the Middle-East bloc has been set up and a call sent out for the holding of popular meetings and rallies throughout the country. A number of Deputies and a large group of lawyers who sent a special statement to the press and many others have spoken against the designs of the imperialists.

Demonstrations and other mass actions took place in Beyrouth demanding annulment of the enslaving agreement signed on the basis of the Truman "Point IV" programme (the so-called "aid" for underdeveloped countries). In Saida a "committee of struggle" against the "Trans-Arabian Pipe-line Company" has been formed—an American company brazenly acting the master in the South of the country. Despite police terror the Committee organised a number of anti-imperialist demonstrations. Peasants in the villages of Beine and Gibrael drove American agents—Point IV experts—from their villages. The Executive Committee of the peasant federation in the Bekaa region has called on the peasants to fight against the French "Régie des tabacs" Company which uses its monopoly position in the tobacco industry to plunder the peasantry. Numerous petitions have been sent to the prime Minister and to Parliament demanding annulment of the "Point IV" agreement and an end to the domination of foreign monopolies in the country.

Not long ago a number of political organisations in Lebanon decided to hold a general protest strike against the

arrival of U.S. State Secretary Dulles, who is touring the countries of the Near East with aggressive aims in view.

Peasant Movement In Syria

The peasant movement for land, higher standard of living and for peace is gaining momentum Syria.

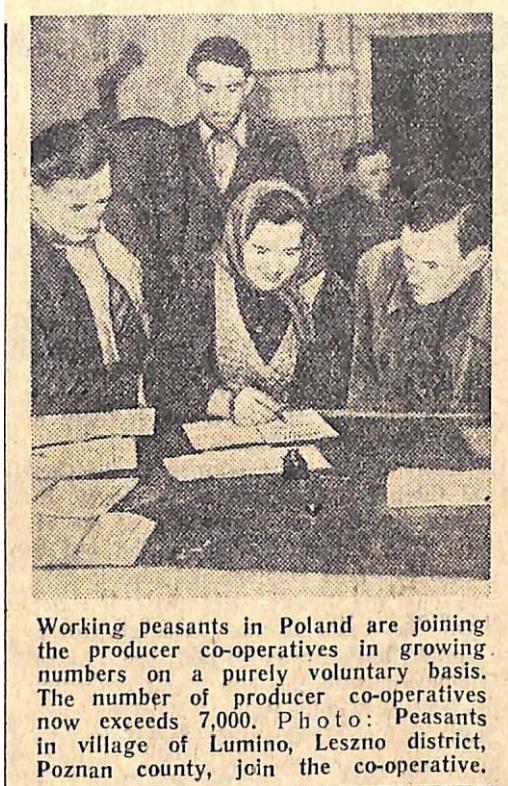
Four conferences attended by peasants and agricultural labourers from 200 villages were held recently in the Alaouites region. The delegates spoke of the dire plight of the peasantry, of the brutal, arbitrary actions of the feudal landowners and the police repressions. They stressed the harmony of interests of the urban and rural working people and the significance of peasant unity in the anti-feudal movement. The struggle of the peasants of the Missban region which resulted in the annulment of the crop tax and a 25 per cent reduction in the share of the crop going to the landowners, was cited as one of the numerous examples of successful peasant action.

The conference decided to form a peasant federation in the Alaouites region. The peasant representatives demanded distribution of the land held by the state and by big landowners, abolition of the tobacco monopoly owned by the French “Régie des tabacs” company and abolition of the dictatorial regime in the country; they condemned the U.S.-British imperialist project for a Middle-East bloc.

Peasants in the villages of Hardim, Karno, Kouz el Gharbi and others (Djesireh, North Syria) frustrated the attempts of the landowners to sequester their land and in a number of places distributed among themselves the land of the feudal owners.

Trying to crush the peasant movement the police are raiding villages and making wholesale arrests. Leaflets exposing the aggressive designs of the U.S., British and French imperialists were circulated recently in the villages in the Djesireh area. In retaliation the authorities arrested many workers and peasants in the Tigre region. Those arrested were subjected to brutal torture.

**PEASANTS IN VILLAGE OF
LUMINO, LESZNO DISTRICT,
POZNAN COUNTY, POLAND JOIN
THE CO-OPERATIVE**



Working peasants in Poland are joining the producer co-operatives in growing numbers on a purely voluntary basis. The number of producer co-operatives now exceeds 7,000. Photo: Peasants in village of Lumino, Leszno district, Poznan county, join the co-operative.

TECHNIQUE SERVES PEOPLE

Mechanisation in National Economy of Albania

The first Five-Year Plan in Albania provides for a significant development of mechanisation in all branches of industry and for further mechanisation of agriculture. Construction sites, coal mines, ore workings and, factories are being equipped more and more with up-to-date machinery from the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies.

In 1953, compared with 1952, there will be 80 per cent more up-to-date equipment on big construction sites, including excavators, bulldozers, scrapers. There will be a 60 per cent increase in the volume of mechanised work.

Mechanisation and electrification of the mining industry receive close attention. Electro-compressors and electro-conveyors will be installed in the Memalay coal mine this year. A thermo-electric station is under construction at the chromic mine in Bultize. Increase in output this year compared with the previous year and achieved mainly as a result of the new techniques, will be as follows: oil, 20 per cent; chrome 30 per cent; bitumen 50 per cent.

Mechanisation of agriculture is making steady headway. More and more machines are being received by the machine and tractor stations and state farms. Machine and tractor depots are doing eight times more work than in 1947. The area sown to spring crops by tractors was 20 per cent greater than last year's area.

A number of state farms will be wired for electricity during the Five-Year Plan period.

SOCIETY FOR DISSEMINATION OF POLITICAL AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE IN HUNGARY

Recently a representative organisation of the intelligentsia, the Society for Dissemination of Political and Scientific Knowledge, was founded in Hungary. Through the medium of lectures the society aims at disseminating scientific knowledge among the working people; it issues visual aids, publishes journals and scientific papers and arranges exhibitions.

The members of the society include prominent personalities in the realm of science and technique, workers in the realms of literature, art, the theatre, Party and administrative workers, school teachers, leading workers in industry and agriculture. Each member of the society will give not less than two lectures a year on vital themes to audiences of working people.

GROWING UNITY OF ACTION OF WORKING PEOPLE IN FRANCE (Auguste Lecoeur, Secretary of French Communist Party)

After the municipal elections which were distinguished by a strengthening of the positions of the French Communist Party, particularly among the working class, the “Nord-Eclair”, organ of the clergy and the textile manufacturers of Northern France, infuriated at the outcome of the elections, gave this appraisal of the political situation: “These are the first manifestations of the new popular front, as yet vague and timid, but which one fine day may become extremely powerful”.

The same newspaper wrote with alarm: “We must guard against’ such a development. It is necessary also to pose the question: Has not the conduct of our policy during the past two years facilitated, to put it mildly, this rapprochement which, as we know, is full of danger?”.

The apprehensions of the French bourgeoisie are not without good grounds. The need for unity of action of the working people and particularly of the Socialist and Communist workers—this is the great and powerful idea which is maturing in the minds of proletarians.

The municipal elections have confirmed this.

The strike movement of the working people “in defence of their economic demands, democratic freedoms and peace is developing at full speed.

Space does not permit enumeration of all the actions which have taken place since the beginning of the year, or those taking place at the present moment. The working people in the basic branches of industry participated or are participating in the strike movement, including the workers of the gas and

power enterprises, metal, and building workers as well as railwaymen and other transport workers, etc.

The scale and depth of the strike movement can also be gauged from the fact that, in addition to the working class, such categories as hotel and restaurant workers, officers of the merchant fleet and government employees took part or are taking part in it.

A feature of this movement is that it is taking place in conditions of complete unity not only in the struggle for economic demands but also in the struggle against the government conspiracy. The Department trade union organisations affiliated to the "Force ouvriere" and the Confederation of Christian Workers are demanding freedom for the imprisoned leaders of the General Confederation of Labour and for those now being persecuted.

Unity of action is extending far beyond the enterprises in which it had its origin. Despite the fact that it was banned by the splitters, the Social Democratic trade union leaders, unity is now being effected among different trade union federations in the different industries.

The municipal elections contributed to the development, on a political basis, of this big movement for unity of action expressed in the actions of the working people in defence of economic demands and democratic freedoms.

Ripping off the mask of "no politics" with which the parties of reaction sought to surround the municipal elections, the Communist Party contested the elections waging a struggle against the official policy of poverty, fascism and war.

Moreover, the Communists, as Frenchmen, as Republicans and as proletarians, proclaimed in the strongest terms, in keeping with the counsel of Maurice Thorez, their loyalty to the Soviet Union.

Finally our Party, contesting the election, called for unity of action, especially of the Socialist and Communist working

people, against the consequences of the official policy of war, poverty and fascism inaugurated by the Socialist leaders in 1947—a policy pursued by them up to this very day.

The successes registered as a result of united action found concrete expression in the following: in a number of instances the French Communist Party put forward election lists with the participation of the Socialist working people; joint lists were advanced in the second round of the elections; the elections for the leadership of the municipalities were fought jointly; in the second round, when Socialist Party candidates were openly supported by reaction, the lists advanced by the Communist Party were backed by a considerable number of the voters who previously voted for the Socialist Party lists.

The leaders of the municipal councils were elected jointly not only in places where we voted for a Socialist Mayor who was in a better position than the Communists in the first round, as was the case for instance in Boulogne-sur-Mer, but also in the places where Socialist municipal councillors voted for a Communist Mayor as was the case in Ales (Gard Department) or in Thiais (Seine Department).

It goes without saying that in all cases these agreements were reached contrary to the will of the Socialist leaders who expelled or threatened to expel those members who agreed to unity of action. The leaders of the Socialist Party, naturally, are against unity of the working people—Socialists and Communists. Even more obvious is the fact that the French bourgeoisie banked on the Socialist Party with a view to putting obstacles in the way of united action.

Whereas in the period after the liberation of France from Hitler occupation the bourgeoisie, striving “to bar the way to Communism”, pinned its hopes mainly on the MRP and the RPF, this time the bulk of the votes lost by the RPF went to the Socialist Party which, in the main, explains the degree of success achieved by the Socialist Party in the elections.,

Trying to perpetuate the split in the working class and to prevent the working people from rallying around the Communist Party, the leaders of the Socialist Party embarked on a policy of so-called opposition, trying to give the impression that they are opposed to the government policy. In practice, however, they support this policy in order to save the capitalist chariot entangled in the Atlantic pact policy—the policy of poverty, fascism and war.

At the moment, the bourgeoisie, trying to save its class privileges, is making desperate efforts. Its foreign policy of subordination to the U.S. imperialists and its home policy of poverty and war are cracking up. Democratic freedoms and national independence—slogans which in the old days were the bedrock of the propaganda of the bourgeois parties, have been trampled underfoot. The present policy of the bourgeoisie, which demands from the working people ever greater sacrifice, can be continued only by forcible imposition. And this, precisely, is the aim of the conspiracy, this explains the jailing of trade union leaders and the persecution of the Communist deputies.

The working class and the working people realise that the attempts of the bourgeoisie to switch to an even more reactionary policy will threaten them with great danger if they do not fight resolutely in order to thwart this policy.

The working class is striving to defeat this policy and ensure the carrying out of a new policy.

The working class has not forgotten the events of 1934-36—the years of the success of the Popular Front. The socialist workers realise that in order to secure the changes for which they are fighting it is necessary first of all to ensure united action by the Socialist and Communist working people.

There can be no doubt that in the weeks ahead the movement for united action in the struggle for vital demands will develop on a greater scale and, simultaneously, on a higher

political level.

In upholding its demands the working class is fighting mainly against the Government, which, in the interests of big capital, exploits hundreds of thousands of working people in public utilities and in the nationalised factories. The ruinous policy of the Government-employer prompts the working people to oppose this policy.

The Government-employer refuses to grant the demands of the miners. The Government-employer refuses to grant the demands of the railway and transport workers; it refuses to grant the demands of the workers employed in gas and power undertakings and in municipal enterprises. The Government-employer rejects the demands of the metal workers in the Renault plant. The Government-employer places under the most serious threat the salaries and the rights won by civil servants. The Government-employer freezes the wages of workers in private industry.

For the people of France it is now clear that this policy is motivated not by economic but by political reasons. The funds which by right should go to wages, salaries, pensions, family allowances and rehabilitation work are used by the Government for monstrous military expenditure and for the “dirty war” in Viet Nam.

It is against this rabid reactionary policy of the Government that the united movement of the working class of France is spearheaded.

DEMOCRATIC FORCES IN FRANCE WIN FRESH SUCCESS

On May 17 elections took place for 60 members of the General Council in 80 communes of the Seine Department (excluding Paris). These elections resulted in another victory for the democratic forces. Of 743,180 people participating in the elections 341,723 (that is 45.88 per cent) voted for the Communist Party. The Communist party won 29 of the 60 seats, that is, three more than in 1945.

The overwhelming majority of the electorate in the working class districts in the Paris suburbs approved the programme of the Communist Party. In a whole number of workers' centres more votes were polled by the Communist Party than in the municipal elections on April 26. In Saint-Ouen the Communist Party polled 67 per cent of the votes (compared with 60 per cent in the municipal elections), in Ivry 68.9 per cent (against 61.6 per cent), in Montreuil 60 per cent (against 53 per cent), in Saint-Denis 69.4 per cent (as against 61.1 per cent), in Gennevilliers 67 per cent (against 64 per cent), in Aubervilliers 65 per cent (against 60 per cent).

The bourgeois parties suffered another reverse. The Socialist Party lost one seat in the General Council.

STRUGGLE OF PEASANTS IN ITALY FOR LAND, FOR DEMOCRATIC RIGHTS (Ruggero Grieco Member of Leadership, Italian Communist Party)

The struggle of the Italian peasants for land grew in intensity and scale after the workers' parties were excluded from the Government (middle of 1947) and particularly after the general election of April 18, 1948. The struggle assumed a particularly sharp character in Southern Italy and on the islands—regions where the big latifundia are concentrated and where there are enormous numbers of unemployed agricultural workers. The struggle took the traditional form of seizure of the landowners' estates by landless and land-hungry peasants—farm labourers, small sharecroppers, small tenants, etc.

The peasant struggle which developed simultaneously in other districts, although aimed at securing satisfaction of immediate demands (more working days per week for farm labourers and higher wages, guaranteed permanent work on the fields cultivated by the working people, a bigger part for sharecroppers to surrender too great a share of the harvest), had, nevertheless, one and the same aim: the securing of land. The question of land was the main thing, the essence of the struggle that developed in recent years in the Italian countryside; it remains and will remain the basic question of the peasant struggle for the near future.

The movement for land in Italy has two aspects. Firstly,—for redistribution of the land now in the possession of big landowners by its direct and immediate transfer to the peasants; secondly,—for changing the principles on which even to this day the agricultural agreements are based and which at times represent an even worse heritage of the Middle Ages than the

existence of the large latifundia themselves. However, the fight for land is a united fight and aims at bringing about a profound transformation in the present system of land ownership in Italy, that is, abolition of large-scale parasitic land ownership, ensuring work for the peasants. developing agriculture on a new basis and ensuring peasant incomes greatly in excess of those obtaining today.

It is an old movement which way back in the period after World War I (1919-20) led to sharp conflicts, when the Italian peasants, enraged by the bourgeoisie abandoning its promise of “land for the peasants”—a promise given to the soldiers on the battle fronts—seized the latifundia in Southern Italy and on the islands. Fascism, acting on the orders of the big landowners and agrarian bourgeoisie, crushed the peasant movement and restored the old order of things in the countryside.

It was obvious that the struggle of the peasant masses against fascism, for democracy and peace would have profound social content. The aim of the struggle was to deliver the countryside from fascism and from one of the factors which gave birth to it—from big land ownership—to eradicate the roots of unemployment and chronic poverty. This is why at the time the catastrophe to which fascism precipitated Italy loomed on the horizon, the peasants decided that, with the liberation of the country from the German invaders and fascist traitors, it would be necessary to build a solid democratic system based on the strivings for peace and social justice, a system which would, at long last, ensure the carrying out of a deep-going agrarian reform.

If the country had been “liberated” not by the British-American troops, a deep-going agrarian reform would have been carried out in Italy way back in 1915-16.

The British-American authorities fully shared the views of the Italian reactionary groups and the Vatican and saw to it that no reform was carried out prior to the convening of a

Constituent Assembly, the election of which they did their utmost to put off. And finally, when the Constituent Assembly was elected and got down to work, the American controllers backing the Italian reactionaries took good care to see that the elaboration of reform was postponed until the election of the first Parliament of the Republic of Italy. At the same time they worked to get the agreement of the conservative, reactionary groups to the economic, political and military subordination of Italy to American imperialism, and impelled them onto the pathway of excluding the working-class parties from the coalition Government.

The exclusion of the working-class parties from the Government was meant to imply that the carrying out of social reforms had been put off, as the saying goes, to the Greek calends, and that agrarian reform would remain the unsatisfied longing of the working people of the countryside. This was done despite the fact that Article 44 of the Constitution of the Republic obliges the Government and the legislative bodies to carry out agrarian reform and to define the basic criteria for transforming the system of land tenure by way of general and steady restriction of property in land.

During the past five years the peasant struggle, especially in the South, pursued the main aim of compelling the Government to prepare an agrarian-reform law based on restricting landed property and the distribution of the surplus land among individual peasants or peasant associations.

Way back in 1944, that is, two years prior to the election of the Constituent Assembly, Fausto Gullo, then Communist Minister for Agriculture, secured the adoption of a law according to which all uncultivated or inadequately cultivated land would be subject to distribution among peasant co-operatives on the basis of temporary agreements. This was an important and timely law which, although not pretending to solve the land problem in entirety, immediately provided the

unemployed agricultural workers with the opportunity of work and created certain conditions which gave a sense of reality to the hopes of the peasants for land reform in the future. The Gullo Law was particularly effective in South. But it was sabotaged by the very commissions assigned the job of translating it into life.

By the end of 1950, 122,278 landless peasants and those with small plots submitted applications for land in keeping with the provisions of the law. A total of 1,801 thousand hectares of land should have been distributed on the basis of the law. Actually, fewer than 5,000 associated applicants received a total of 21,1027 hectares, that is, about 12 per cent of the amount stipulated by the law. Had the Gullo Law been fully implemented and had those peasants entitled to land on the basis of this law, been helped with credits for purchasing seeds, agricultural implements, with agro-technical consultations and machinery, they would have awaited the carrying out of the agrarian reform, more calmly. The sabotage of the Gullo Law infuriated the peasants. They saw a danger of further delay in solving the land question. The Communists warned the peasants that another deception threatened them on the part of the Christian Democrats.

In December 19-17, on the initiative of the Communist Party, a national Land Constituent Assembly of representatives of the democratic forces and mass organisations from all parts of the country was held in Bologna. This assembly confirmed the need for a land reform and revision of the agricultural agreements and marked the beginning of a nation-wide movement for setting up **land committees**—representative organs of the entire population in the rural districts,—directly or indirectly interested in solving the land question, that is, broad committees representing not the peasants alone.

The land-committee movement, which spread throughout the country and especially in those districts where the question

of land was most acute and which received the vigorous support of the unified trade unions, directed and headed the peasant struggle for land.

The Christian Democratic Government which came to power after the general election of April 18, 1948, instead of the promised agrarian-reform law resorted to brutal repressions against this movement. During the past five years 68 working people were killed. 4,264 wounded and 139,000 working people who fought for peace and social demands were sentenced to a total of 16,308 years of imprisonment. Two-thirds of those killed, wounded and jailed were working people who had fought for land.

The Land Constituent Assembly worked out, publicised, and, through the medium of the deputies and senators supporting it, submitted two bills to Parliament: one providing for revision of the agricultural agreements, the other, for land reform. Only after this, in autumn of 1948, did the Christian Democratic Government hasten to submit a bill of its own calling for revision of the agricultural agreements. This draft was the subject of a long debate but it failed to become a state law. A year later, in the autumn of 1949, when the police, in retaliation for the seizure of land in the Calabria region, opened fire on the peasants, killing 3 in Melissa, and when, after the seizure of land in Fucino (Abruzzi region) and in the Apulia and Lucania regions, another six peasants were killed, only then did the Government submit to the Senate a draft law for land reform which applied only to the Calabria region. In 1950 the Government submitted to Parliament a wider, but still partial, draft, a sort of "instalment" of a future agrarian law.

This is not the place to analyse these two agrarian laws (the Calabria law and the "instalment", or, as it is called, the abridged law) with the endorsement of which the Government as it stated recently, regards its obligations under the Constitution already fulfilled. These agrarian laws fail to

realise a single one of the principles concerning a general and permanent restriction of landed property. They envisage only the taking of insignificant part of the land from the big owners on the basis of arbitrary criteria, with the aim of establishing a strata of rich peasants, dividing thereby the peasant masses and splitting the land movement.

According to the proposals advanced by the Land Constituent Assembly the general restriction of landed property to a maximum 100 hectares (in a number of rural districts and zones 50 hectares), would provide 4 million hectares of land for redistribution. Although this figure is insufficient, if we take into account that the number of landless peasants and those with small plots amounts to 4,200,000, it is, nevertheless, incomparably bigger than the 600,649 hectares taken over by the Government in keeping with its agrarian laws. The land taken from the landlords by the Christian Democrats is sufficient for only 100-150 thousand peasants, being hedged in by many reservations and exceptions which make it impossible to extend the number of peasants eligible for land. And the peasants who qualify for land become its owners **only after 30 years** in the course of which they must pay to the bodies responsible for implementing the reform the price of the land and the heavy expenditure connected with preliminary and current cultivation (use of farm machines and implements, fertilisers, seeds. etc.). Naturally, in these conditions only few peasants can become owners of the tiny plot allocated under the land reform.

But things cannot continue in this way. The peasants are battling for a deep-going agrarian reform that would provide both land and the opportunity to cultivate it not only to peasant associations (co-operation for joint cultivation is an old tradition in a number of regions in Italy), but which would enable smallholders and landless peasants really to settle on the land, that is, provide them with conditions for acquiring land

and cultivating it and thus enabling them to become **complete** and **permanent** owners of plots. This signifies that the peasants are continuing their fight for land, **for a general and permanent restriction of landed property (up to 100 hectares), for redistribution of the land surplus among landless peasants and those with small plots, both among individual peasants and those united in co-operatives or other associations.** The peasants are fighting for a distribution of land that will enable them to get rid of their poverty and backwardness, to achieve material well-being and cultural development, that will guarantee them from a return to the serfdom which threatens those peasants now getting land, arising from the restrictions imposed by the bodies implementing the Government agrarian reform. These bodies go the length of demanding from the peasants that they... join the Christian Democratic Party.

The bodies implementing the agrarian reform must be democratised; they must include representatives of the peasant masses, representatives who would be interested in implementing the reform, which would give a surer guarantee of just distribution.

All Italian peasants, and above all the peasants in the South, regard solution of the land problem as one of the basic questions of Italian democracy. This explains why the fight for land in the South was accompanied by a considerable swing of the peasant masses to more advanced democratic positions. This advance was manifested in striking fashion in the 1952 municipal elections.

In the general election held on April 18, 1948, the parties of the left polled 1,900,000 votes in the South, the Christian Democratic Party—4,200,000 and the other government parties—1,300,000. In the 1952 municipal elections the Christian Democrats polled only 2,700,000 votes, that is, a fall from 50 to 33 per cent in the total vote; the other government parties

polled 900,000. The poll of the left Parties exceeded 2,500,000—a rise from 23 to 30 per cent.

It was precisely these results that impelled the Christian Democrats and their allies to dictate to the country an electoral law designed to give them all the seats in the government despite the fall in the number of votes, that is, to translate the fall in the vote into... a greater number of seats in Parliament. Such is the essence of the fraudulent electoral law worked out by the Christian Democrats for the election scheduled for June 7.

The peasants in the South have taken the road of democracy and there is no force that can divert them from their road. There is no doubt, and the results of the coming election in the South will confirm this that the experience acquired in the fight for land in recent years has deepened the political consciousness of the peasants and that the violence and fraud practiced by the clerical government and its foul allies have failed to smash the peasant front of action in the struggle for a government of peace, for freedom and social reforms.

*

The struggle for land and for agricultural agreements cannot be separated from the struggle for peace and for a change in the economic policy both inside the country and in relation to other countries, a policy which would correspond to the interests of developing our industrial and agricultural production. The interlacing of industrial and agricultural crises, intensified as the outcome of the disintegration of the single world market, of the disastrous policy of bringing Italy into the sphere of U.S. “aid” and into the Atlantic Union, puts the country in an extremely difficult position. This explains why the peasants, while fighting for their own social demands, are at the same time, fighting **for another policy, for another**

government—for a policy and a government of peace, work, social reforms, of defence and furl her extension of democratic freedoms.

In the election on June 7 the Italian peasants will once again demonstrate their unity and their strength. They will not allow the stranglers of democratic freedoms to get the 50 per cent plus one vote (which would give clerical reaction the “right” to steal three and a half million votes from the opposition). They want the seats in Parliament to be distributed in accordance with the actual strength of each party or group contesting the election.

After the general election of April 18, 1948 and especially after the upsurge in the struggle of the peasants for land in 1949, a trend set in the Christian Democratic Party and in the Government, supported by U.S. propaganda, which raised a furore about the need and urgency of agrarian reform. From the standpoint of the need for agrarian reform the noise was absolutely superfluous, since the Constitution **obliged** Parliament and the Government to carry out agrarian reform and outlined its basic principles. Reaction needed this noise for other purposes. The Government and U.S. propaganda asserted that agrarian reform was needed in Italy in order to combat Communism, for the purpose of “cutting the ground from under Communism”, for putting an end to Communism in the Italian countryside.

However, these gentlemen were not in a position to effect a radical agrarian reform. The paltry agrarian reform of the Christian Democrats has but weakened their influence in the countryside, and has strengthened the influence of the Communist Party and the sympathy for it.

Only a government of peace, which includes representatives of the working-class parties, and past experience confirms this, can consistently uphold the interests of the people and of the nation. In the election on June 7 the

Communist Party will demonstrate once again that it is the genuine leader of the working masses, that in the future, too, it will be in the van of the workers, peasants, intelligentsia and of the middle sections in the towns, rallying them in the struggle, for peace, democratic freedoms and national independence.

SITUATION IN FINLAND AND STRUGGLE OF COMMUNIST PARTY FOR PEACE AND INDEPENDENCE (Ville Pessi, General Secretary, Central Committee, Communist Party of Finland)

The postwar policy of capitalist Finland is most contradictory. In view of the fact that the war ended in victory for the democratic forces and in the defeat of fascism, the bellicose Finnish bourgeoisie were forced to abandon the path of naked anti-Soviet intrigues. The armistice agreement signed in September 1944 banned the fascist organisations and the population was granted democratic civic rights. For the first time in its history the Communist Party won the right to function legally. Other democratic organisations also won this right. At present, in contrast to former times when those who advocated friendship between Finland and the Soviet Union were persecuted and jailed, we now have a Finland-Soviet Society in the Central Board of which there are always several members of the Government.

This change in Finnish policy is also reflected in the sphere of foreign trade. Before the war trade between Finland and the Soviet Union was practically non-existent. Now, however, the Soviet Union's share in the foreign trade of Finland is significant. While the Western countries, experiencing economic difficulties, sharply cut their purchases of products of the Finnish woodworking industry last year and again this year, trade with the Soviet Union has expanded considerably. In 1952 the share of the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy amounted to 20.3 per cent of Finland's foreign trade. This year, according to the new trade agreement,

it will be about 30 per cent; the Soviet Union will occupy first place in the foreign trade of Finland.

The grain, fuel, industrial and agricultural raw materials supplied by the Soviet Union were of decisive significance in ensuring food for the Finnish people and in restoring the war-ravaged economy. Our country would have experienced extremely grave difficulties last year, for example, and also this year had it not been for trade with the Soviet Union. Beginning with April 1952 the curve of industrial output in Finland began to decline, this year the decline is still more pronounced. As a result, the number of unemployed, even according to official statistics in March this year exceeded 65 thousand. In reality the number was greater because many sections of unemployed were not listed. Thus, it is clear how difficult the conditions of the working people in Finland would be without the Soviet orders which ensure employment.

Although the ruling bourgeoisie in Finland were compelled to change their attitude towards the Soviet Union, they, however, consider it advantageous not only to preserve but to strengthen their bonds with the capitalist West. Despite the fact that the President and members of the Government in Finland repeatedly stressed the priority in Finland's foreign policy of good-neighbourly relations with the Soviet Union, there is in practice a tremendous difference in the attitude of the bourgeoisie to the Soviet Union compared with their attitude to the capitalist countries. The bourgeois and Social Democratic press and also the radio are filled with U.S. and "Western propaganda. On all issues of international policy the bourgeois and Right-wing Socialist press and the radio parrot the falsehoods disseminated by the openly anti-Soviet Western news agencies and newspapers.

Although a large number of fascist organisations was dissolved in Finland the ruinous fascist activity was not ended. After the war the fascists organised arms dumps on a large

scale. More recently fascist activity is being unfolded by the bellicose reserve officers' union and by some reactionary student organisations.

As was the case in the past fascist elements occupy important positions in the army, in the civil service, in the police and in the juridical apparatus, in universities and in other educational establishments. Only slight changes for the better have taken place in these establishments in the postwar years.

The leading posts in the Social Democratic Party are held by people who not so very long ago, occupied leading positions in fascist organisations. The Social Democratic Party is even more brazen than the Right-wing bourgeois parties in its advocacy of a pro-American policy. The leaders of the Social Democratic Party outstrip the bourgeois reactionaries in slandering the Soviet Union and do everything in their power to undermine cooperation between Finland and the U.S.S.R.

Despite the fact that extension of trade between Finland and the Soviet Union is of decisive significance for the entire national economy of our country and especially for the working population, Tervo, Social Democratic Minister of Trade, at public meetings and in the press, disseminated evil and utterly false statements alleging the unprofitability of this trade for Finland. Vaine Leskinen, Minister of Social Welfare and Secretary-General of the Social Democratic Party, supplied the "International" of Right-wing Social Democrats with a false report of the same character, which was afterwards published by the French "Populaire". In this report Leskinen, in particular, promised the leaders of the "International" of the Right-wing Socialist traitors that Finnish-Soviet trade would not be extended beyond the present scale. ("Populaire", quite naturally, interpreted this as implying that a reduction in Finnish-Soviet trade can be anticipated).

Nor do the leaders of the Right-wing Socialist Party of Finland confine themselves to hindering trade with the Soviet

Union which is so vital for our people. They were at the head of those Right-wing circles in the country who entered into relations with the countries of the aggressive Atlantic bloc.

As early as 1947 Vaine Leskinen belonged to that group of the Right bourgeoisie which urged Finland's adherence to the "Marshall Plan"—a demand that was rejected by a majority in the Seim. In April this year when, at the invitation of capitalist exporters, Finland was visited by Robert Schuman, former Premier and Foreign Minister of France, notorious travelling salesman for the Atlantic alliance, who suggested that Finland should join the "Schuman 'Plan", he was welcomed with open arms by Tanner and also by Ministers Tervo and Leskinen. They gathered the chieftains of their party for special talks with the agent of the "European Coal and Steel Community". The Right-wing Social Democratic leaders and, particularly, Fagerholm, Chairman of the Seim, are the most rabid advocates of bringing Finland into closer relations with the Scandinavian partners of the aggressive Atlantic bloc.

Taking into account the important strategic position of Finland, the U.S. warmongers display a heightened interest in our country and are striving to convert it into an instrument of their policy. For this purpose they use, in particular, the Scandinavian countries of which Denmark and Norway are direct members of the Atlantic alliance, while Sweden in point of fact, is no longer a neutral country. Although officially Sweden is not a member of the Atlantic alliance, she in numerous military matters is collaborating with the countries of the Atlantic bloc. As explained by the Swedish Government, her present formally "neutral" position is necessary to Sweden because of Finland. Ruling circles in Sweden reason thus: if Sweden were to become a direct member of the Atlantic bloc the attitude of Finland and the Soviet Union towards Sweden would become sharper, whereas Sweden's present "neutrality" contributes to winning Finland from cooperation with the

Soviet Union.

The peace-loving people of Finland have nothing whatever against co-operation with the peoples of the Scandinavian countries aimed at ensuring peace in the Northern countries and throughout the world. But broad sections of the Finnish people, the Communist Party and the democratic movement in Finland are resolutely against Finland joining the Nordic Council and other similar blocs aiming to take our country through the backdoor into the aggressive Atlantic alliance.

Peace and the independence of the people of Finland are, as before, faced with a serious danger. Thanks to the resolute resistance of the democratic movement the reactionary forces were unable to entangle Finland in the "Marshall Plan" network. It was, however, brought into the orbit of the International Reconstruction Bank in which, as is known, American capital holds sway. Now the Americans control the allocation of the credits received by Finland through this bank. This gives them the opportunity to meddle in the economy of our country.

In their efforts to restrict the independence of Finland first fiddle is played once again by the Social Democratic leaders. Analysing the new Social Democratic programme at their Party Congress last summer, Oittinen, Right-wing Socialist Minister for Education, openly admitted that the leaders of the Party are ready, should it be necessary, to retreat from the principle of sovereignty of Finland.

The Communist Party of Finland and our working people, steadfastly upholding the vital interests of the country, calling for friendship between Finland and the Soviet Union, are resolutely fighting for closer bonds, with the Soviet Union. The firm demands of the working masses have favourably influenced the development of trade between our countries, which has been of great benefit to our people. The Finland-Soviet Union Society has done much to acquaint the working

people with the splendid economic, social and cultural achievements of the U.S.S.R. Today the Finland-Soviet Union Society has more than 200 thousand members. A wide field for activity is available to it and conditions are favourable for its functioning.

The popular-democratic movement in Finland which polled nearly 400 thousand votes in the last election, is also unfolding work on a large scale in the spirit of the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance signed between Finland and the U.S.S.R. It is on constant guard against attempts by the reactionary circles to violate this Treaty.

The fact that good progress has been made of late in building the United Front of the working people is also of special significance in the struggle for peace and the independence of our country. It is becoming more and more difficult for the leadership of the Social Democratic Party to prevent the working people from uniting their forces in the struggle for their common interests.

The Communist Party of Finland is aware of the dangers threatening our people from the Atlantic war bloc; it sees its main task in indefatigable struggle for peace and for the independence of the country, for the strengthening of friendship and co-operation between Finland and the Soviet Union. Therein lies the guarantee of the well-being, the guarantee of a better future for our people.

MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY OF GERMANY

The 13th plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, with Otto Grotewohl in the chair, was held in Berlin on May 13-14.

The meeting heard and discussed a report, "New tasks in industry. delivered by Heinrich Rail and a report by Elli Schmidt "New tasks in sphere of trade and supply". The meeting adopted a decision on the question of higher productivity of labour and strict economy.

Hermann Matern, Chairman of the Central Control Commission of the Party, informed the Central Committee of the results of the investigation carried out in regard to Franz Dahlem and also in relation to Lena Fischer and Fritz Uchner.

On the basis of facts emerging from a preliminary investigation, the Central Committee, with the aim of strengthening the leadership of the Party, decided to remove Franz Dahlem from the Central Committee and simultaneously from the Political Bureau and Secretariat of the Central Committee for political blindness in relation to the activity of imperialist agents and for his non-party attitude towards the mistakes made by him.

The Central Committee expelled Lena Fischer from the Party. The investigation disclosed that in 1935, on orders from the Gestapo, she engaged in treacherous activity. The Central Committee also expelled Fritz Uchner, formerly alternate member of the Central Committee, for moral corruption. The Central Committee approved the suggestion put forward by the Restock Regional Committee of the Party and reprimanded Comrade Mewis for violation of inner-party democracy. It also approved the suggestion of the Political Bureau and

reprimanded Comrade Wilhelm Koenen for not displaying the necessary political vigilance.

HOW MINERS LIVE IN CHILE

The miners in Chile are waging a stubborn struggle for better conditions. Not very long ago the 320 workers in the Las Condes mine fought a 40 days strike which ended in them winning higher wage, family allowances and other economic demands.

Nevertheless, the conditions of the Las Condes miners, which are typical not only for Chilean miners but also for the other countries of Latin America enslaved by the U.S. monopolies, are bad in the extreme. The Chilean press recently published a report signed by an official of the Ministry of Labour who investigated conditions in the Las Condes mine. The mine workings are located at an altitude of 3,800 metres. According to the report the canteen, first-aid station and the shacks in which the miners live are filthy and overcrowded. The food served in the canteen is of bad quality. There is no qualified doctor in the first-aid point which has but 4 beds, while due to sickness and accidents caused by inadequate labour protection and bad conditions, there were 666 cases of sickness or accidents between January and October 1952.

All told in the shacks there are 273 beds for 320 workers with the result that what is known as the "warm bed" system is practiced, that is, workers on one shift occupy the beds just vacated by the other shift.

The miners work in streams of water, without overalls and with primitive tools. The report adds that because of lack of elementary labour protection the miners are "constantly threatened with being crushed by masses of coal".

Such are the conditions of miners in Chile. Out of their sweat and blood the foreign monopolies pocket each year up to

50 billion pesos in profits!

TWO CULTURES

Artists Beg on Streets

In Westphalia (Western Germany) Werner Warsinsky, winner of a Literary Prize, earns a living by making stoves. Talented painters work for next to nothing for advertising agencies, in signboard shops or draw on the pavements for coppers thrown to them by onlookers.

In Western Germany with its frantic preparation for war, where millions are spent on laying out of airfields and military training grounds, there is no money for art and science. The twenty-four year-old violinist Karl-Heinz Frank, from Niederlahnstein (Rhineland) , having no desire of becoming, at Adenauer's will, stove-maker or broom-seller, moved to the democratic sector of Berlin where he found every opportunity for fruitful creative work.

Art and People

Art workers in the German Democratic Republic are surrounded with love and respect. The interest displayed by the working masses in art is growing daily. Scores of groups of workers from enterprises all over the German Democratic Republic visited the third German art exhibition (1953) in Dresden.

Art workers in the German Democratic Republic are not

handicapped by material worries. Many painters sign agreements with the big enterprises. For instance, Michaelis, a Weimar painter, in addition to his ordinary income as an artist, signed an agreement with the Wilhelm Pieck artificial fabrics plant which guarantees him a large salary. At present Michaelis has the post of assistant professor in one of the art schools.

Wolfgang Taubert, an Erfurt painter, stated: "Art in the German Democratic Republic lives a full-blooded life. The working masses as a whole are taking part in its development. The workers see in art workers people who today depict the morrow in words and pictures, in sculptures and music".

**“HIS MAJESTY” BAO DAI (Drawing
by J. Novak)**

Along with Chiang Kai-shek and Syngman Rhee the puppet emperor Bao Dai, known as "the night-club emperor", is a stooge of the foreign colonisers in Asia.

(Press item)



"HIS MAJESTY" BAO DAI

Drawing by J. Nowak

POLITICAL NOTES

Latest Trick of Bonn Traitors

Difficult times have set in for the Bonn clique. The transatlantic masters are insisting on speedy ratification of the militarist treaties. But this is far from being an easy matter, and, as month succeeds month, it becomes more and more difficult. Hardly has Adenauer overcome one obstacle than another takes its place. Not even his years of inglorious activity as traitor and demagogue—Adenauer, rabid separatist, way back in 1919 strove for Presidency of the puppet “Rhine Republic”!—not even this almost 35 years’ experience is of any avail.

Many fevers were pulled by the Adenauer clique in trying to rush the Bonn and Paris treaties through the Bundestag. Using all kinds of craft and direct pressure the clique finally succeeded, on March 19, in getting the Bundestag to approve these treaties in a third (final) reading. But more bad luck awaited Adenauer in the Upper Chamber—the Bundesrat. On April 24, the Bundesrat resolved, by a majority vote, to postpone ratification until it heard the verdict of the Federal Constitutional Court in Karlsruhe as to whether the treaties conformed or not with the Bonn Constitution. Thereupon Adenauer resorted to, another trick. After long behind-the-scenes negotiations he got Mayer, Chairman of the Bundesrat, to table a compromise motion to the effect that the principal texts of the treaties which bear a political character do not require the approval of the Bundesrat and for this reason the Bundesrat is not competent to ratify them. After a long, back-stage rehearsal, a new farce was staged—the Bundesrat admitted that it “lacked the authority” to ratify such “high policy” documents and ratified... the two accompanying supplementary agreements.

In carrying through this decision the Adenauer clique was aided by the Right Social Democrats. This is not the first time that they have come to the aid of the reactionaries with a

helping hand. The Social Democrats have a majority in the Government coalition in Baden-Wurttemberg. The decision depended on the vote of the Baden-Wurttemberg representatives, headed by Mayer, in the Bundesrat: Aware of this the Right Social Democrats kindly agreed that Mayer, acting for them, would vote for this decision. Incidentally, this is not the first time that the Right Social Democrats have acted in this way in the Bundesrat. It was not accidental that the "Freies Volk" commented recently that the "Bundesrat is the mirror of treachery of the Social Democratic Party of Germany".

In this way the Adenauer clique succeeded in removing one more of the obstacles preventing them from pulling into operation the pacts of war, destruction and death hated by the people.

And yet the goal is still not in sight! The President of Western Germany, Heuss, declared a long time ago that he would not put his signature to these treaties until the Constitutional Court had recognised their Constitutional validity. But the Court is in no hurry to do this. According to the West German press the decision of the Constitutional Court is expected in June. The question is what decision it will adopt. Some West German newspaper write with alarm that should the Court declare the Bonn and Paris military treaties to be unconstitutional, then the efforts of Adenauer will have been in vain. Should the Constitutional Court adopt such a decision then the Bonn Government will be compelled to submit the treaties once more to the Bundestag and afterwards to the Bundesrat and then for the ratification in the Bundestag there will be needed not a simple majority but a two-thirds majority.

So once more Adenauer had to think up way and means of getting round this obstacle, how to appease and mould his colleagues who are becoming more and more "truculent". There is a simple explanation for this truculence—it is difficult,

without revealing their treachery to the people, to put the stamp of law on and to sign documents of national betrayal. It is impossible likewise to ignore or to dismiss as “nothing” the fact that in the course of the popular referendum over 15 million citizens of Western Germany expressed themselves against ratification of the Bonn and Paris war treaties.

And so Adenauer goes ahead with his foul machinations. Maybe he will succeed in “winning over” one or another of his “intractable” colleagues in national betrayal. Maybe he will succeed with one or another of his vile manoeuvres. Be that as it may, one thing is absolutely clear, namely that the German people will not recognise either the juridical or moral right of these war treaties, no matter how frantically Adenauer and his masters press for them and no matter the machinations to which they resort.

There is, incidentally, one interesting point in Adenauer’s biography. In 1919, under the aegis of foreign imperialists and relying on the reactionary circles, he tried to establish a separate “Rhine Republic”. But one bright morning the peace of mind of the newly-hatched “President” was completely upset by a report to the effect that unknown persons had dug a grave-like pit in the Cologne Park surmounted with a tombstone bearing the inscription: “Here lies Konrad Adenauer—first President of the Rhine Republic”.

There can be no doubt that the broad patriotic movement of the German people which is growing day by day, will dig a grave also for the Bonn and Paris War treaties and bury these foul pacts of treachery and betrayal.

Jan MAREK

FACTS EXPOSE

One Thousand Casualties A Week

“We have one thousand industrial casualties a week in Illinois”, declared Soderstrom, President of the Illinois State Federation of Labour, “and the lives of thousands of workers are in constant peril”.

Not long ago an explosion in the Chicago “Haber Manufacturing” plant took a toll of 34 killed and a large number of workers seriously injured—all because of lack of safety precautions. Only a week before the disaster a safety bill sponsored by the Federation was killed in the Illinois Legislature as a result of pressure by the Illinois Manufacturers Association and similar big business groups...

Thousands and thousands of victims of capitalist super-exploitation—such is one of the inalienable features of the “American way of life”.

Revelations of Aggressors

The following item appeared in the “Wall Street Journal”, mouth-piece of the American monopolists:

“Labrador Iron Ore

“Steel Producers Push Into Wilderness To Get At 2-Billion-Ton Lode...

“Enough Ore For 4 Big Wars”.

Apparently the U.S. monopolists are incapable of thinking in terms of any other “unit of measure”...

EDITORIAL BOARD



Journal “For a Lasting Peace, for a People’s Democracy” is printed and published in Bucharest, Rumania, and appears every Friday. Address of Editorial Office and Publishing House: – 56, Valeriu Braniste, Bucharest, tel. 5.10.59