

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 25 (241), FRIDAY, JUNE 19, 1953



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

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



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May 2017

CONTENTS

MARXIST-LENINIST EDUCATION IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES.....	5
PEOPLES DEMAND SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS.....	12
"Peace Week" In Italy.....	12
Against Military Agreement With U.S.A.....	12
Demands Of British Trade Unions.....	13
Session Of World Peace Council.....	13
MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY.....	18
GAMBLE OF FOREIGN HIRELINGS IN BERLIN FAILS.....	19
WORK OF HUNGARIAN PEACE COMMITTEES. Valeria Benke, Secretary of Hungarian National Peace Council	23
TOWARDS FURTHER ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FLOWERING OF SLOVAKIA. Viliam Stroky, Member of Presidium, Central Committee, Communist Party of Slovakia.....	27
IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES.....	38
X Congress of Communist Party of Slovakia....	38

British Communists Form Factory-Branch Libraries.....	38
Political Study of Communists In Brazil.....	39
Party Members—Leading Production Workers. .	40
For Better Ideological Work.....	43
Meeting of the Bucharest City Committee.	
Rumanian Workers' Party.....	43
IMPORTANT DECISIONS DECISIONS OF POLITICAL BUREAU, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY OF GERMANY.....	46
DECISION BY WOMEN'S WORLD CONGRESS.....	50
Declaration of Women's Rights.....	50

MILLION AND A HALF CHILDREN NOT GOING TO SCHOOL IN SPAIN.....	55
WORKERS OF MACHINE-TOOL PLANT IN SHANGAI. Photo: Controller Sun Wai-chien Verifies Quality.....	56
CONSTRUCTION OF POWER STATIONS IN CHINA.....	57
SUMMER VACATIONS OF BULGARIAN WORKING PEOPLE	58
FOR UNITED FRONT OF WORKING CLASS IN FRANCE. Maurice Thorez, General Secretary, French Communist Party.....	59
IN COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES.....	64
Struggle of People in Transjordan.....	64
SIGNIFICANCE OF SUCCESS WON BY PEOPLE OF ITALY. Pietro Secchia, Deputy General Secretary, Italian Communist Party.....	66
LATIN AMERICAN CONTINENTAL CULTURAL CONGRESS. Jorge Amado, Writer, Winner of International Stalin Prize "For Strengthening Peace Among Peoples", V. Teitelboim.....	73
BARE FEET BANNED IN TOWNS.....	82
FIVE YEARS OF HEROIC STRUGGLE BY PEOPLE OF MALAYA.....	85
SECOND CONGRESS OF YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF VENEZUELA.....	86
STATEMENT BY AMERICAN SCIENTIST.....	88
POVERTY OF WORKING PEOPLE IN PUERTO RICO.....	89
FACTS EXPOSE.....	90
Crime and... Encouragement.....	90
MINISTERIAL MERRY-GO-ROUND IN FRANCE. Drawing by J. NOVAK.....	92
POLITICAL NOTES.....	93
Military Bases On Japanese Islands.....	93
Two Advertisements.....	95

MARXIST-LENINIST EDUCATION IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

Just now in many Communist and Workers' Parties the academic year in the Party education network is nearing the end. Stock is being taken of the great and fruitful work of studying Marxist-Leninist theory, the documents of the XIX Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the histories and vital decisions of the Parties. The outgoing study year has shown that in organising Party education the Parties, on an ever wider scale, are using the experience of the C.P.S.U.

This experience teaches that the basic thing in Marxist-Leninist study is high ideological-theoretical level of the lectures and classes, a militant, offensive spirit in Party propaganda, irreconcilability in relation to anti-Marxist ideas and views, close and indivisible bonds of propaganda with the urgent tasks of the struggle for peace, for building Communism in the U.S.S.R. . The Rules of the CP.S.U. demand from every member that he deepens his political consciousness and masters the fundamentals of Marxism-Leninism.

The Communist and Workers' Parties in the countries of people's democracy regard ideological work, propaganda of Marxism-Leninism and ideological-political education of the members as one of their basic tasks. Year by year the Party education network in the Chinese People's Republic, in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Bulgaria, Rumania and Albania is

extended and the organisation of Party education is improved. The classics of Marxism-Leninism are published in big editions in these countries. A wide network of schools, courses, classes and seminars caters for the members. For the purpose of helping those engaged in independent study of Marxist-Leninist theory there are lectures, talks and consultations.

The selection and training of cadres for propaganda has improved. The current academic year saw a marked increase in the number of courses and permanently functioning seminars for propagandists, Hundreds of additional consultation centres, houses of Party education and libraries were opened in the towns and in rural localities.

Thousands of highly conscious and staunch fighters for the triumph of Socialism are growing and undergoing ideological tempering in the ranks of the Communist and Workers' Parties in the countries of people's democracy. It must be said, however, that, as stated more than once in the decisions of the leading organs of the Communist and Workers' Parties, there are serious shortcomings in the organisation of Party education. First, far from all the members have been drawn into the Party education network. In Hungary, for example, less than half the members and probationers in a number of big enterprises. Particularly, in the coal and iron and steel industries, studied during the academic year in the Party education network. In other countries of people's democracy, too, not a few members do not study and do nothing to raise their ideological-theoretical level.

Life confronts the Communist and Workers' Parties in the countries of people's democracy with more and more tasks in the sphere of building a socialist society. And those who lag ideologically and politically, who simply memorise passages and are incapable of discerning the new, cannot march in the van of the working people. It is vital for all Party members that they work perseveringly to master Marxism-Leninism.

Marxist-Leninist theory is not dogma, it is a guide to action, a powerful weapon in the struggle for peace, for democracy, for Socialism. Unfortunately, not everywhere have the mistakes of the past years been fully rooted out, when in some countries a number of Party organisations insufficiently linked the political study of the members with their practical activity. For example, the decision of the Political Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia concerning study points out that the leading Party organs do not take sufficient care to ensure a high level of propaganda, that it is live and of a fighting character, that it helps in the struggle for the new life.

Not infrequently Party organisations display a one-sided approach to Party education, concentrating mainly on organisational questions and forgetting the main thing—content and quality of the study. In Rumania the Party press recently reported that a number of Party organisations and Party committees confine themselves solely to collecting figures and statistical data concerning study and show no interest in the content of the education. Such a formal approach inevitably leads to lowering the ideological-theoretical level of the Party propaganda.

It is generally known that correct organisation of the Party education depends first of all on the leadership given by the Party organisations, on how they verify the study and on the help given by the Party press to those studying Marxism-Leninism. A city Party conference, held recently in Sofia, subjected to just criticism the functionaries of a number of leading Party organs who concentrated on economic work to the detriment of Party propaganda, who did nothing to raise their ideological-political level, a matter which seriously hampered them in giving genuine, deep-going ideological guidance to the propagandists. Guidance and verification by the Party organisations are often hindered by the altogether

complex system in some links of the education network, as was the case, for example, in the Hungarian Working People's Party.

Summing up the results of the academic year in the educational network the Communist and Workers' Parties in the countries of people's democracy fully disclose the shortcomings, outline concrete measures for further improvement in the ideological-theoretical training of the members, for enhancing the role and importance of the Party press in propagating Marxist-Leninist theory, in preparing for the new academic year. Taking to heart the example of the C.P.S.U. the Parties in a number of countries of people's democracy are planning for the slimmer period refresher courses for the propagandists. These courses will give the propagandists the necessary help in deepening their theoretical knowledge, in making a more profound study of the policy of the Communist and Workers' Parties—the leading and directing force in the countries of people's democracy,—in mastering teaching methods in the education network.

In the capitalist, colonial and dependent countries close attention is given to the Marxist-Leninist education of the members, to propagating Marxist-Leninist theory by the Communist and Workers' Parties. Much experience in organising Party education has been accumulated by the Communist Parties of France and Italy. Much literature devoted to questions of Marxist-Leninist theory is published in these countries. The press of the Communist Parties regularly publishes materials for the members engaged in independent study of Marxism-Leninism. In France the special "study days" have proved successful. Usually on these days Party leaders deliver lectures and talks on important theoretical and political problems. In the Italian Communist Party the greatest attention is devoted to independent study. Party education there is so organised that it takes into account the concrete conditions of

each organisation and the general political level and practical experience of the members; the network of Party schools and classes is widely developed in Italy.

It is important to note that more and more Communist Parties in the capitalist countries are conducting Party education in an organised way, according to programmes and plans. In a number of countries, as for example, in Italy, France, Britain, a unified study year has been established. The Austrian Communists recently completed their first study year. Organised independent study by the Party cadres is also practised in the Communist Party of Holland.

Irrespective of the conditions in which the Communists in the capitalist and colonial countries carry on their work they strive to master revolutionary theory and to apply it more widely in their struggle. In Spain and Portugal, Greece, Brazil, Argentina and other countries the Communists, in conditions of fierce terror and police persecution, are perseveringly studying and increasingly propagating the great ideas of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin.

The Communist and Workers' Parties in the capitalist countries are working to eliminate the shortcomings that exist in the system of Party education. This is all the more necessary since in many of these Parties a uniform academic year has not yet been introduced, the method of independent study by the members is insufficiently practised and not by a long way do the leading Party bodies and the Party press give the necessary assistance to those studying Marxist-Leninist theory.

The rich experience of the world Communist movement teaches us that any slackening of ideological work in the Party, any slackening of the Party's struggle on the ideological front leads to a weakening of the influence of socialist ideology among the broad working masses and to intensification of bourgeois ideology. In no country are the Communist and Workers' Parties insulated from penetration by bourgeois and

social-democratic ideology, alien views, ideas and thinking. The enemies of Marxism, the enemies of the working people utilise the slightest relaxing of ideological work by the Communist Parties for the purpose of disseminating all kinds of anti-scientific big and small “theories”. The Communist and Workers’ Parties wage resolute struggle against underestimation of ideological work, against liberalism and carelessness in relation to ideological mistakes and distortions.

Marxist-Leninist theory is the scientific expression of the cardinal interests of the working class. It arms the Communist and Worker’s Parties with great faith in the invincibility of the cause of Socialism and democracy, in the inexhaustible creative efforts of the masses. By improving the organisation of Party education, by working for a further advance in Party propaganda, raising the ideological and theoretical level of the members and their political activity, the Parties of the working class strengthen the unity and solidarity of their ranks and enhance their influence and prestige among the broad masses.

PEOPLES DEMAND SETTLEMENT OF INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS THROUGH NEGOTIATIONS

“Peace Week” In Italy

In connection with the third anniversary of the war in Korea and the session of the World Peace Council the Italian Peace Committee is holding a propaganda week “For Peace in Korea and Throughout the World”. The “week” will be marked by conferences, rallies and meetings at which the real possibilities for conducting a policy of peace, which have opened for Italy as a result of the new international situation and the outcome of the election of June 7, will be explained to Italian citizens.

The Peace Committee has addressed a call to all citizens which says in part:

“After three years of hostilities which have drenched Korea in blood and which seemed to extend to the whole world, the hour for a truce has struck for this long-suffering country. This truce is the prerequisite for world peace. Let the war in Korea be ended, let the ‘cold war’ be ended throughout the world.”

Against Military Agreement With U.S.A.

A meeting of the National Peace Committee of Uruguay held in Montevideo discussed questions arising from the continued struggle against the military agreement with the

U.S.A., for a Peace Pact between the five Great Powers and for an armistice in Korea.

The Committee decided to launch a large-scale campaign for the purpose of explaining the significance of the struggle against the military agreement; it called on peace supporters to address letters and telegrams to the Government of Uruguay demanding that it support the decisions of the Peoples' Congress for a Pact of Peace; for the purpose of expressing this demand it urged the sending of deputations to the National State Council of Uruguay and the embassies of the Great Powers in Uruguay.

Demands Of British Trade Unions

The annual conferences of a number of British trade unions held in the first half of June discussed questions relating to world peace. Delegates called for successful termination of truce negotiations in Korea and advanced demands for extending trade between the East and West, for higher wages in view of the falling living standards due to the huge armaments programme.

The annual conference of boilermakers held in Eastbourne (Sussex) adopted a number of resolutions calling for a Great Power conference, withdrawal of American troops from Britain, reduction in the term of military service in Britain and also the demand that the British Government should conduct an independent foreign policy.

Session Of World Peace Council

A session of the World Peace Council opened on June 15 in Budapest. In addition to the members of the Council, many

prominent public figures—leaders and representatives of different organisations and trends waging struggle in their countries for peace but who until now had no direct contact with The World Peace Council—are taking part in the session at the invitation of the World Peace Council.

The session unanimously approved the agenda consisting of two main items: negotiations and relaxation of the international tension; the role and composition of The World Peace Council.

The opening address was delivered by **Emmanuel D'Astier de la Vigerie**, member of the World Peace Council. The session of the World Peace Council, he said, will support every means capable of accelerating relaxation of the international tension. To achieve this goal it is necessary to draw additional millions into the struggle for peace. There can be no ready-made formulas and absolute rules in the sphere of negotiations. Two ways must remain open: the way of partial agreement which will lead to a general settlement and the way of general agreement—a Pact of Peace—which will facilitate solution of particular problems. The peoples and their peace-loving forces cannot act in isolation. They must reach agreement among themselves, define general aims and ways and ensure the triumph of these aims by influencing public opinion and governments. Herein lies the task of the World Peace Council.

Kuo Mo-jo, member of the World Peace Council, devoted his speech to the question of an armistice in Korea and the peaceful settlement of the Far Eastern problem.

All the peoples, he said, hold that an armistice in Korea is now one of the most vital and most acute international problems, one of the most difficult to solve. Settlement of this question would contribute to relaxation of the international tension. In order to ensure peace and security in the Far East and throughout Asia, Kuo Mo-jo said, it is necessary to resist

interference in the internal affairs of other countries whose independence and sovereignty must be respected. It is necessary to resume normal economic and cultural relations, to develop trade and, in this way, to create favourable conditions for raising the living standards of the people.

Pastor Marlin Niemoeller, who came from Western Germany at the invitation of the World Peace Council, pointed out that a new wave of hope had arisen among the German people, hope for successful negotiations and a peaceful settlement of the German question. Pastor Niemoeller called on all Christians to fight for the creation and preservation of peace and for peaceful co-existence.

James Figgins, representative from Britain, pointed to the sharpening of the contradictions between the interests of Britain, the countries of the British Commonwealth and all the countries of the sterling bloc, on the one hand, and United States of America, on the other hand. The possibility exists, said Figgins, for the European countries, above all, to extend trade with the Soviet Union and East European countries.

Ilya Ehrenburg, representative from the Soviet Union, after dwelling in detail on the successes of the peace movement said: We, Soviet people, want peace among all peoples and all states. We want peace based on mutual respect and equality.

Dr. Sing Sokhei, prominent leader of the peace movement in India and member of Parliament, was greeted with tumultuous applause. He said: I can state, without being afraid of being refuted, that India will never take part in a war against China or against the Soviet Union. India will never commit an act of aggression against any country.

In conclusion **Dr. Sokhei** said: On behalf of the Indian delegation I want to submit a proposal which, undoubtedly, corresponds to the desire of all the participants of this session.

Let the call go out from Budapest:

Negotiations, negotiations and negotiations on all questions

which today are giving rise to tension! Our call for negotiations addressed to the Great Powers must advance no conditions or reservations. Any settlement will be a step towards peace. We must welcome any call for peace irrespective of whence it comes. In our countries we must convince our own governments of the need to do all in their power to help open negotiations that would ensure peace for mankind.

Dr. Sokhei was followed by **D'Astier de la Vigerie** who supported the proposals advanced by the Indian delegate and suggested that the session should discuss them without delay.

On June 17 the delegates began discussion of the second item on the agenda in which **Eugenie Cotton, Jean Lafitte**, General Secretary of the World Peace Council, and other delegates took part.

Emmanuel D'Astier de la Vigerie, on behalf of the Presidium, suggested the formation of three commissions: one to deal with general political questions and which would discuss in detail the international political situation and the main aspects and tasks of the international campaign for negotiations between the Powers; one to work out forms and practical methods for conducting this campaign and the third—a cultural-exchange commission.

Speakers at the session included representatives from Brazil, Switzerland, Colombia, Canada, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Burma, Austria, Korea, Australia, Mexico, Argentina, Poland, Belgium, Japan, etc.

MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

An enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party took place on June 16-17 in Issy-les-Moulineaux attended by the secretaries of the Party Federations. Maurice Thorez, General Secretary of the Party, was present at a Central Committee meeting for the first time since his return from the Soviet Union.

A report delivered by Jacques Duclos, Secretary of the Party, was devoted to the struggle of the Communists for united action by the working class which will ensure a policy of peace, observance of democratic freedoms and social well-being. The question of united action by the working class and the organisation of the struggle was the main theme of those taking part in the discussion.

The appearance of the rostrum of Maurice Thorez, General Secretary of the Party, was enthusiastically welcomed by the Central Committee, Maurice Thorez summed up the results of the meeting.

GAMBLE OF FOREIGN HIRELINGS IN BERLIN FAILS

The recent decisions of the Government of the German Democratic Republic concerning the carrying out of a number of measures aimed at decisively improving the standard of living of all sections of the population and at strengthening law in the Republic—decisions adopted at the suggestion of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany—met with the whole-hearted approval of broad sections of the population both in the German Democratic Republic and in Western Germany. Proof of this, in particular, the fact that, according to German press reports, the number of citizens leaving Western Germany for the German Democratic Republic, has, in many places, exceeded the number who left the Republic for Western Germany.

This evoked the fury of the reactionary circles of the Western Powers and the Bonn rulers, who, in an attempt to prevent the realisation of the decisions of the Government of the German Democratic Republic, engineered provocative actions in Berlin. Availing themselves of the recent measures taken, for facilitating transport communication between Western and Eastern Berlin, large groups of fascist-minded hooligans, agents of foreign countries and their hirelings among the German monopolists entered Eastern Berlin where, they resorted to provocations. In some places elements who had run amok set fire to

shops and tore red flags. Although the provocateurs succeeded in causing work stoppages in a number of enterprises, they failed to achieve their aim. The provocations suffered fiasco. Thanks to the measures taken by the Government of the German Democratic Republic, measures widely supported by the population, order was restored in the democratic sector of Berlin.

In a message addressed to the population the Government of the German Democratic Republic called on the workers and on all honest citizens to expose the provocateurs, to turn them over to the state organs and to help in creating normal conditions for work in enterprises.

In connection with these provocations the Socialist Unity Party of Germany is carrying out wide-scale explanatory work among the population.

WORK OF HUNGARIAN PEACE COMMITTEES. Valeria Benke, Secretary of Hungarian National Peace Council

In Hungary the peace movement has become the most widespread movement, embracing all sections of the population. The work of the peace partisans is concentrated on two main tasks: acquainting the working people with the struggle of the peoples of the world for peace and rallying them for defence of peace.

The peace committees hold public meetings every fortnight which, as a rule, discuss the materials of the bulletin “Fighter for Peace”, published by the National Peace Council. “Fighter for Peace” dwells on vital events in the struggle of the peoples for peace.

Members of the county peace committee leading peace champions—engineers, stakhanovites, teachers and agronomists—deliver regular lectures for speakers and activists. These lectures aim at: thoroughly acquainting peace supporters with the international situation and the work of peace partisans in other countries.

The publications of the Hungarian National Peace Council are designed to explain the international situation. Probably, most significant in this respect are the brochures devoted, to political events in other countries. They include pamphlets on the heroic struggle of the Korean people, on the situation in Germany, Japan, Austria, Yugoslavia, India, Latin America, Malaya and the struggle for peace in these countries. “Beke es Szabadsag”, (“Peace and Freedom”), the Hungarian Peace Council’s daily publication, also helps to acquaint working

people with the struggle of the peace-loving peoples of other countries and with their outstanding peace fighters. Our publication "The peace movement in universities and colleges" features regular material on the life of the intelligentsia in other countries and their work for peace.

The peace movement gets great assistance from the mass organisations. The branches of the Hungary-Soviet Friendship Society systematically arrange exhibitions popularising the achievements of the Soviet Union and its fight for peace. Members of this society lecture frequently on the U.S.S.R. The peace committees and branches of the Women's Democratic League have, on several occasions, organised jointly aid to Korea collections and also days in defence of the children.

In their activity the peace committees devote close attention to cultural undertakings. Many committees arrange regular evenings in defence of peace with the participation of amateur theatrical groups of the Working Youth League and trade unions; readers' conferences are also held with the participation of teachers and writers.

The work of the peace committees has heightened the interest of working people in international affairs. For the purpose of satisfying the interest of working people in one or another problem some factory peace committees have put up boxes in the shops with the inscription "Ask and We'll Answer". The workers drop notes in these boxes on questions that interest them. The answers are given at meetings by members of peace committees.

The work of the peace committees inculcates in our people the feeling of international solidarity, the desire, by means of selfless work to help the cause of peace. In a speech delivered on May 10 Comrade Rakosi said: "In our country he who works well fights for peace", More and more this idea is permeating the minds of our people, During the peace campaigns and at nearly every meeting working people take

new labour pledges. They pledge to fulfil and overfulfil production plans in the interests of defence of peace and of strengthening our homeland.

On the eve of the Peoples' Peace Congress a movement developed in our country for "agreements in defence of peace". In, the agreement a member of the peace committee records the pledges of working people to fulfil ahead of schedule one or another assignment or to improve quality. Such agreements are particularly popular in the countryside where they became most widespread in the days preceding the session of the World Peace Council.

In some committees as many as 8-10 thousand peace agreements, have been concluded in honour of the session.

The "peace rallies" are further evidence that labour in our country is the most effective means of battling for peace. Such rallies have recently been organised by many county peace committees. The Pest and Fejer county peace committees each held a rally of leading peasants; in the Szclnok county there was a rally of peace activists from machine and tractor stations, state farms and producer co-operatives prior to the beginning of spring field work; other committees arranged gatherings of teachers and technical intelligentsia. The men and women attending these rallies discussed what they on their sectors of work could do to strengthen the country, and, in this way, the cause of peace.

With great joy the people received the news that the next session of the World Peace Council would be held in Hungary. The entire country prepared for this event. Our peace partisans regarded it their duty to mark the session of the World Peace Council with new labour victories.

Voicing their joy, their warm friendly sentiments, peace partisans write thousands of letters to the foreign guests visiting our country. In their letters they greet the fighters for peace, tell them why peace means so much to them and what

they are doing to preserve it. Many peace committees have prepared presents for their foreign friends. All these facts vividly express the striving of the Hungarian peace partisans for still closer friendship and mutual understanding between our people and peace-loving working people in other countries.

Our people hailed with wholehearted approval and great joy the new, serious efforts of the Soviet Union for upholding peace. The peace committees are acquainting the working people with the proposals of the Soviet Union which indicate ways and means for easing the present international tension; they tell the people how the governments of the chief capitalist countries reacted to these proposals.

The peace movement in Hungary gained considerably in strength during the preparation for the session of the World Peace Council. It will become still stronger and richer as a result of personal contact with the world's outstanding peace fighters.

TOWARDS FURTHER ECONOMIC AND CULTURAL FLOWERING OF SLOVAKIA*. Viliam Stroky, Member of Presidium, Central Committee, Communist Party of Slovakia

Our Congress meets at a time when the Soviet Government has made further great efforts aimed at easing and eliminating the international tension and at securing a solution of all controversial questions by peaceful means. These efforts have evoked a most powerful response, have already yielded the first practical results. And it is precisely this circumstance which shows that new elements have appeared in international developments, creating more favourable prerequisites for the success of our struggle for preserving peace.

Soviet foreign policy is a policy of preservation and consolidation of peace, a policy of international co-operation and development of trade relations with all countries, a policy based on the Lenin-Stalin thesis concerning the possibility of co-existence and peaceful competition of the two different systems—the capitalist and socialist systems.

This policy, like the policy of our Party and our People's Democratic Republic, relies on real facts.

* From Comrade Siroky's report to the X Congress of the Communist Party of Slovakia on the work of the Central Committee and the next tasks of the Party.

Every effort of our working people is directed towards ensuring a durable peace. Consequently, our Party and Government, in full conformity with the will of the people, are exerting every effort to ensure that controversial questions and, particularly the German question—a vital question for us too—are solved by peaceful means.

I.

The socialist industrialisation of Slovakia is being successfully carried out within the framework of the general socialist construction now underway in the Republic of Czechoslovakia. We have achieved remarkable results on every sector of our national economy and culture.

Compared with 1937 the volume of industrial production in Slovakia in the first quarter of the current year was 4½ times greater. Output of heavy industry had risen sevenfold compared with prewar.

As a result of the socialist industrialisation of Slovakia the structure of its industry has changed considerably. The share of the output of means of production, already in 1952, was 54.9 per cent of the total industrial output including the output of the food industry. This testifies to the fact that Slovakia, within a comparatively brief space of time, has ceased to be a backward agrarian country and is rapidly becoming an industrial country with production of means of production holding first place.

Rapid growth of industrial production became possible thanks to the extensive construction of new enterprises were commissioned or radically expanded in the course of the Two-Year Plan and during the four years of the Five-Year Plan. Construction is underway of dozens more industrial enterprises which will be commissioned in the next few months. Of vital significance for the growth of industrial production is the rise

in productivity of labour which in the course of the four years of the Five-Year Plan reached 54.2 per cent.

Substantial changes have taken place in agriculture. By April 30th, 1953 the number of agricultural producer co-operatives of the third and fourth types amounted to 1,709. Together with the state farms they account for 45 per cent of all the cultivable land. The socialist sector already has a bigger share in growing and supplying the products of agriculture.

The increased mechanisation has considerably influenced the development of agriculture. The machine and tractor depots in Slovakia at the beginning of 1953 disposed of 11 times more tractors, 6 times more harvester combines, 34 times more binder and 36 times more threshing machines than at the beginning of 1949. Last year machines did the work on a total of 1,697,131 hectares, that is, they did 8.5 times more field work than in 1949.

No small result have been registered in the sphere of cultural construction. Compared with the 1937-38 school-year the number of industrial schools has risen from 12 to 42, while the student body has risen six-fold since 1945. Since 1952 we have opened a large number of elementary and higher special agricultural schools. The student body in the higher educational establishments has grown fourfold compared with the prewar 1937-38.

We have created the material prerequisites for an unprecedented flowering of the many-sided and rich culture of the Slovak people, a culture national in form but which more and more is acquiring a socialist content. A significant event will soon take place in the scientific life of Slovakia—the founding of the Slovak Academy of Sciences. This will pave the way for the further development of scientific research and its close contact with production.

The results registered in the economic and cultural upbuilding of Slovakia have confirmed that our Party is

successfully carrying out the Lenin-Stalin national policy.

Consistently carrying out the line of industrialisation of Slovakia—the main task in the sphere of the national policy—our Party has reinforced and consolidated the unity of the Czechoslovak working class, has strengthened the friendship and fraternity of Czechs and Slovaks, and has ensured complete equality also for the working people of the Hungarian, Ukrainian and Polish nationalities, and, in so doing, has consolidated the solidarity and unity of the people's-democratic state.

Socialist industrialisation of Slovakia is accompanied by a steady rise in the standard of living of the working people. This is evident, in particular, from the big increase in consumption of foods and manufactured goods. The average wage during the past years rose 33.3 per cent. This is a considerable growth. The wages of the working people have risen still more as a result of the currency reform.

In the process of industrialising Slovakia we have received great aid from the Soviet Union. There is not a single branch that is not using the rich experience of socialist construction in the U.S.S.R., selflessly placed at our disposal by the Soviet people whose only desire is to help us to use it to the best advantage.

The feature of the past period and particularly of the past two years is the fact that in organising the economic apparatus, in planning and managing the national economy and in solving the numerous tasks we completely relied on the Soviet experience. Utilisation of the mature and tried forms of Soviet organisation, management and planning greatly facilitated our work and helped us to accelerate our socialist construction.

We shall study the Soviet experience with still greater thoroughness, utilise it still more persistently in our conditions, deepen and extend the economic and cultural co-operation on

every sector.

With deep gratitude we say that the selfless aid of the Soviet Union is of decisive significance for the successful construction of Socialism in our country and, consequently, for the success of the socialist industrialisation of Slovakia.

II.

Organising the labour efforts of the Czechoslovak people the Party had to wage an irreconcilable struggle against the overt and covert enemies of the people and of Socialism. We had to wage struggle against the survivals of capitalism in the minds of people, and for a new, socialist attitude towards labour. Large numbers of Communists came to the fore, were tempered in the course of this struggle and developed as remarkable organisers of Party and economic work, as genuine leaders of the working people. Additional hundreds of shock-workers and stakhanovites, masters of high crop yield and leading people in the sphere of animal husbandry have proved their mettle.

Despite the big successes in developing industry and in building up Slovakia we must frankly say that, due to the inadequate struggle waged by the Party and the trade unions for rhythmic fulfilment of the tasks of the Gottwald Five-Year Plan, for their fulfilment both quantitatively and qualitatively, we did not reach the goals envisaged by the plan for the development of the national economy. The biggest shortcoming is that not enough is being done to get rid of the disproportion in the development of the national economy caused by the Slansky gang's wrecking activity. This disproportion manifest itself in a systematic lag by such main branches as coal-mining, the mining of ore and non-ferrous metals, and in the construction of power stations. Elimination of this lag by means of consistently carrying out the directives of the National Conference of Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is

the vital task of the Party in the sphere of industry.

Some of our leading enterprises achieved big success in unfolding socialist emulation. Such forms of the socialist emulation as, for instance, the complex economising of materials, acceleration of the turnover of capital, perfecting technological processes, etc., are now being introduced.

But, as a whole, there are big shortcomings in the socialist emulation and of these the main one is that except for a few leading enterprises, the emulation is not sufficiently concrete and is not sufficiently directed towards fulfilment of the main tasks of the plan.

By introducing the new, stable Czechoslovak crown we have created a solid base for our economy. Our efforts must now be concentrated on consolidating the success of the currency reform so that it becomes the point of departure for carrying out the policy of steady and constant price reduction as is the case in the Soviet Union. From this point of view the introduction of a regime of economy throughout the national economy acquires vital significance. Its significance is that it calls for the highest production results with the minimum expenditure.

We are in the midst of a difficult and complicated process—the transition of the countryside from individual, small-commodity production to socialist co-operative large-scale production. Socialist construction in the countryside is being carried out in very day struggle against the kulaks. Our tasks in the immediate future are to strengthen the agricultural producer co-operatives politically and economically and in this way create the prerequisites for the further extension of the co-operative movement; considerably to improve the work of the machine and tractor depots and state farms; to fulfil the plan of agro-technical and zootechnical undertakings and in this way to ensure harvests and productivity of the stock according to plan. We must see to it that the producer co-operatives have their

own fodder base. Realisation of these tasks will open before us splendid prospects for the development of a highly mechanised and highly productive agriculture.

III.

The significant results achieved in economic and cultural construction, in consolidating our people's-democratic state and in satisfying the constantly growing material and cultural needs of the working people are the outcome of the fact that the creative efforts of our people are directed by our own Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, of which the Communist Party of Slovakia is a loyal detachment. Our Party is the soul and organiser of the socialist construction. Our Party can fulfil the great mission of builder of socialist Czechoslovakia because we built it as a Party of the new, Lenin-Stalin type. Comrade Gottwald gave all his strength to the building of such a party .

The period since the last Congress has been in the main a period of political, organisational and ideological consolidation of the Party.

In connection with the historical decision of the Party and the Government to carry out the currency reform and abolish rationing our entire Party, at the end of last month and at the beginning of this month, withstood a very serious test in both political maturity and propaganda and organisational ability. The overwhelming majority of the Party organs and organisations, as well as the members, were aware of the profound political significance of these undertakings, of their class content and orientation, and that they were essential for the further, still speedier development of the socialist national economy; the Party members were not only conscious of this, they successfully carried out these measures.

At the same time, however, it turned out that there were

Party organs and branches which did not devote due attention to mass-political work, did not develop inner-Party democracy, paid little heed to the training of Party members and did not strive to get Party members fulfil the duties obligatory for them under the Party Rules.

The influence of bourgeois ideology has not yet been eliminated from the ranks of our Party. There are Party members who are influenced by religious obscurantism, who have not yet rid themselves of superstition and prejudice. There are Party members who have not rid themselves of the ideology of bourgeois nationalism or of remnants of this ideology. In some Party organisations the influence of social-democratism has not as yet been overcome.

These and other manifestations of bourgeois ideology can be combated best of all by disseminating and by more profound study of Marxist-Leninist theory. The system of Party education in our country is many-sided and far-reaching. The level of the classes, however, in many cases, lags behind Party requirements. Much scholasticism still prevails in the Party education system; the schools are isolated from life, some subjects are studied without linking them concretely with practical problems.

We must devote special attention to proper organisation of the Party education, to the training of highly-skilled propagandists, we must take care that the classes are conducted on a high level and closely linked with practice.

The policy of the Party of the Lenin-Stalin type is a policy based on the scientific theses of Marxist-Leninist theory, a policy based on profound principle,—such must also be the work of all Party organs, of all Communists.

An important sector in the activity of the Party organisations is mass-political work. And although we have made definite progress in developing mass political work, particularly in the factories, the situation as a whole is as yet

unsatisfactory. In order considerably to improve mass-political work the Party must enhance the significance and role of the agitators, improve their training and raise their ideological level. Nothing can be finer or more honourable than explaining to the masses the policy of the Party. But mass-political work is not only the business of the agitator. The Rules impose upon all Party members the task of tirelessly strengthening contact with the masses.

The poorest results were recorded in work with cadres. The Party organs have not yet become fully conscious of the fact that correct selection and advancement of cadres are of decisive significance for carrying out Party policy. The main principle of a correct policy in relation to cadres is that method of selecting cadres which provides in the first place for verification of them in day-to-day work, while carrying out the policy of the Party.

We shall in the future, too, build the Party on the glorious model of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, we are arming the Party with the new Rules in order that it might be ready for the further struggle for the triumph of Socialism.

In the spirit of the new Rule, we shall train the members to be staunch and diligent fighters, ready at any moment to fulfil every assignment of the Party: we shall train educated Communists who have mastered the fundamentals of Marxist-Leninist theory, members who are irreconcilable towards shortcomings, vigilant and principled, modest and boundlessly loyal to the cause of the working class, the cause of Socialism and the great Soviet Union.

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This is the final year of the first Gottwald Five-Year Plan. We have acquired rich experience in the work of socialist construction. Ahead of us is the perspective of solving complex

and difficult tasks, and at the same time of further splendid economic and cultural flowering of our country.

We are happy to have brought the Slovak people side by side with the Czech people into the camp of peace, where, in inviolable unity and fraternity with the Czech people, they are building with them their joint state, where the life-giving force of the brilliant teaching of Lenin-Stalin about equality and friendship of nations is being displayed in full measure.

We are happy to be active participants in the titanic, world struggle, headed by the great Soviet people, the struggle for establishing lasting peace among the peoples.

We are confident that we are following the correct path. We have confidence and wide perspectives. Therefore with still greater enthusiasm and inspiration we shall go ahead with our work for fulfilment of the tasks of the final year of the first Gottwald Five-Year Plan, for a still more powerful development of our economic and cultural life.

IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

X Congress of Communist Party of Slovakia

The X Congress of the Communist Party of Slovakia was held in Bratislava on June 13-15. A delegation from the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, headed by Comrade A. Zapotocky took part in the proceedings.

The report on the work of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovakia and the next tasks of the Party was delivered by Comrade V. Siroky.

The Congress elected the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovakia. The report was approved and adopted as a directive for further work in the matter of fulfilling the decisions of the National Conference of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia.

British Communists Form Factory- Branch Libraries

Factory branches of the British Communist Party have begun to form branch libraries. The factory-branch libraries are meeting with big success among the workers.

For instance, one such library commenced functioning recently in one of the factories in the Midlands with twenty books by progressive writers and a set of the Selected Works of Marx-Engels—all collected by the branch members. To date

forty workers have borrowed the books and donated money for the purchase of new books.

The workers in the factory are displaying more interest in political literature.

In another factory the branch members followed the practice of loaning their own books to workers. This considerably stimulated sales of progressive books and Party literature. The branch has now decided to establish an organised library.

Political Study of Communists In Brazil

A meeting of the National Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil critically analysed the state of political study of the members. While noting the successes achieved during the past two years, the meeting pointed out that on the whole, the level of political study does not yet correspond to the serious demands advanced by the Party. Few Party schools function regularly. The number of courses is very limited. Tutors are scarce and not all of them have the necessary theoretical background or the necessary experience for tutorial work. Independent study was not conducted in an organised way and it was not subjected to the necessary verification.

As a positive example, the meeting singled out the initiative displayed by the municipal committee of the Party in the town of Sao Paulo which recently organised 48 classes for the branches in the big enterprises.

The meeting stressed that for the purpose of raising the ideological-political level of the Party members it was essential to consolidate the Party schools now functioning and to open new ones, to organise under National Committee auspices a seminar group to study the basic theoretical and political

problems; to have, attached to the National Committee, a staff of well trained tutors. The meeting also decided to accelerate publication and circulation of the classics of Marxism-Leninism, to arrange study courses and classes in all Party organisations, and properly to organise the independent study of the members.

Party Members—Leading Production Workers

Factory Party Organisation In Struggle for Fulfilment of Plan

The Party organisation of the building site of the nitrogen plant in Kedzierzyn (Opoiskie Region) devotes close attention to improving the skill of the workers, the majority of whom come from the countryside. Along with political and professional training of the engineer-technical personnel, training of workers after working hours is widely practiced and is combined with systematic political-educational work. Considerable results have already been registered in this sphere. Thus, Marian Cink, formerly an illiterate peasant, learnt to read and write, mastered the trade of welder and has become an exemplary worker. Joseph Wilert, Party member, finished a technical school. Many such examples could be mentioned. When the plant is commissioned its builders will form a considerable part of the skilled personnel.

The Party committee on the site and the section organisations of the Party devote special attention to the work of the Party groups, many of which are successfully rallying Party members and non-Party for fulfilment of production assignments. For example, the Party group in the carpenters shop systematically verifies fulfilment of the plan on its sector

and assigns corresponding Party work to its members: This group recently initiated the introduction of the streamline method and carried on corresponding explanatory work in this connection. Output in the shop rose considerably as a result of this method. The Party group of the No. section of the apparatus shop is also doing good work. In April when difficulties arose in production, Party members conducted wide-scale agitation among the non-party workers. They took the initiative in forming shock-brigades and showed an example of a socialist attitude towards labour.

Party members are conducting, on the assignments of their organisations, mass-political education work on their respective sectors. Close attention is devoted to visual propaganda and collective reading of newspapers. Party members train non-party workers also to conduct group talks independently.

The bureaus of the section organisations verify fulfilment of the Party assignments and periodically discuss fulfilment of Party assignments at their meetings. At the general meetings of the section organisations the members tell how they fulfil the assignments given them. All this helps in deepening the political consciousness of members, in making them more active and in improving Party discipline.

Undoubtedly, much remains to be done. Our shortcomings include, in particular, our failure to give adequate help to the Youth League organisation with the result that political work there is weak. Nor can we be satisfied with the cultural and educational work done in the collective. As yet we devote too little attention to getting the workers—Party members and non-Party—to become active fighters for developing producer co-operatives in the countryside where they reside.

Josef CHWALEK

First secretary of Party Committee, Polish United Workers' Party, in the nitrogen plant in Kedzierzyn.

For Better Ideological Work

Meeting of the Bucharest City Committee. Rumanian Workers' Party

The meeting of the Bucharest City Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party held, in mid-June discussed the state of the ideological work in the Party organisation in the city and measures for improving it. The meeting noted a number of successes registered in this sphere. The bulk of the membership of the Bucharest Party organisation and thousands of non-party people are studying in various links of the Party education network. Six departments have been opened at the evening university of Marxism-Leninism including one—for scientific workers and one for the workers of literature and art. The number studying Marxism-Leninism independently has grown. More than 500 tutors deliver lectures and hold seminars and consultations on J. V. Stalin's work "Economic Problems of Socialism in the U.S.S.R." and the materials of the XIX Congress of the C.P.S.U.

The newspaper "Viata Capitalei", organ of the Bucharest Party Committee, gives far more space now to questions relating to Party life and Party propaganda.

The results achieved in the ideological work contributed to raising the vanguard role of the Communists in production. This finds expression in the fulfilment and overfulfilment by the Bucharest enterprises of the state plan, in the development of the stakhanovite movement and in the success registered in the sphere of public education, science, literature and arts.

At the same time the meeting established that ideological work still does not get the necessary attention from the Party organisations. Serious shortcomings still obtain in this sphere.

Over a long period the Bucharest Party committee has not paid much attention to questions relating to Party education. In those instances when this question appeared on the agenda of district committee meetings discussion was confined solely to organisational aspects, the matter of the content and quality of the Party propaganda was ignored.

Members of the City committee and of the district committees in Bucharest never spoke at meetings of the Party active, and never wrote propaganda articles for the press. The City committee failed to verify selection of students for the Party schools and the evening university, the selection of cadres for the Chairs of social sciences in the universities and higher educational establishments and the work of these Chairs, did not verify the lecture propaganda conducted by the Society for dissemination of scientific and cultural knowledge, did not verify the work of the Society for friendly relations with the Soviet Union (ARLUS) and other organisations.

Although the bureau of the Bucharest City committee analysed the work of the Party organisations in the system of elementary, middle and higher education and in the sphere of art and literature and adopted necessary decisions.

Serious shortcomings obtained in the leadership of the Party press.

Nor did the City Committee devote adequate attention to the question of systematically raising the ideological level of the work of the cadres in charge of ideological questions. Few workers and few representatives of the advanced intelligentsia were promoted to responsible work in this sphere. There were instances of objectivism and cosmopolitanism and of distortion of Marxist-Leninist theory in the propaganda work.

The meeting outlined concrete measures aimed at eliminating these shortcomings. The decision particularly stressed the need to ensure the leading role of the Party members in all spheres of ideological work, to give daily help

to the Party branches in the scientific and cultural bodies in order to put an end to the underestimation of ideological work and to raise it to the level of the political tasks.

IMPORTANT DECISIONS DECISIONS OF POLITICAL BUREAU, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY OF GERMANY

Important decisions were adopted at the recent meeting of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany.

The Political Bureau, says the communique issued after the meeting, has decided to recommend to the Government of the German Democratic Republic a number of measures aimed at decisively improving the conditions of all sections of the population and for strengthening the legal system in the Republic. The Political Bureau proceeded from the fact that in the past the Socialist Unity Party of Germany and the Government of the German Democratic Republic made a number of mistakes expressed in such decision and orders as, for example, the decision concerning the new system of issuing ration books, about placing abandoned farmsteads under trusteeship, in the extraordinary measures in relation to state purchases, in the rigid tax collection, etc. The interests of such strata of the population as individual peasants, retail traders, artisans and intelligentsia were neglected. In operating the above-mentioned decisions and orders serious mistakes were committed in addition in the regions, districts and villages. A consequence of this was that many people left the Republic.

In adopting these decisions, says the communique, the Political Bureau has in view the great aim of restoring the unity of Germany, which require from both sides the carrying out of measures that would concretely facilitate the drawing together of the two parts of Germany.

For these reasons the Political Bureau considers that, in addition to revising the plan for developing heavy industry, it will be necessary in the near future to carry out a number of measures for the purpose of rectifying the mistakes and improving the living conditions of the workers, peasants, intelligentsia, artisans and other middle strata of the population. The Political Bureau outlined the measures to be taken in the sphere of trade and supply, in the sphere of agriculture and also in relation to facilitating contact between the German Democratic Republic and Western Germany.

In order to expand output of consumer goods produced by small and middle private enterprises and in order to extend the trading network adequate credits shall be made available without delay to artisans, retail and wholesale traders privately-owned industrial building and transport enterprises. The compulsory measures taken in relation to small, middle and well-to-do peasants, artisans, retail and wholesale traders, private owners of industrial, building and transport enterprises, that is, in relation to the private sector of the national economy as a whole, for tax arrears and social insurance dating from the end of 1951, must be abandoned.

Should owners of enterprises, who in the recent period closed their enterprises or gave them away, express the desire to reopen them, this desire must be immediately taken into consideration. Moreover, the organs of the state commercial trade shall, on a more extensive scale and on the basis of agreement, utilise private retail traders for the purpose of ensuring a better supply system for the population.

The Political Bureau further suggests that the decision concerning trusteeship for abandoned farmsteads be abrogated and that the establishing of trusteeship for failure to fulfil state delivery quotas or for tax arrears on the part of the peasants be prohibited. Peasants (small, middle and well-to-do) who, due to the difficulties encountered in running their farmsteads,

abandoned thorn and went to Western Berlin or Western Germany must be given the opportunity to return to them. If in exceptional cases this is impossible, then they must be fully compensated.

Those peasants who return must be granted credits and the agricultural implements necessary for working their farms. It is necessary to revise the penalties for non-fulfilment of the obligatory deliveries of tax obligations. The Political Bureau suggests that the Minister of Agriculture and Forestry be instructed to carry out the necessary measures so that the interests of agricultural producer co-operatives are observed.

The Political Bureau further suggests that all citizens who left the Republic and who are now returning to the German Democratic Republic or to the democratic sector of Berlin shall have their confiscated property restored to them. In instances where this is impossible, they must get compensation. Those who return shall not be subjected to any form of discrimination for the fact of their flight. With the help of the competent organs, of the regional and district councils they shall, in accordance with professions and skills, be drawn into economic and social life and shall have full civic rights (German passport, ration books, etc.).

The Political Bureau, further considers that the question of issuing permits for residence in the German Democratic Republic to Citizens of Western Germany and Western Berlin, as well as of inter-zonal passports be revised with a view to facilitating contact between Eastern and Western Germany. When considering applications for residence in the German Democratic Republic from citizens in Western Germany and Western Berlin family circumstances should be taken into account. Scientists and art workers, in particular, should be granted facilities for attending meetings in Western Germany and also art workers from Western Germany for attending meetings held in the German Democratic Republic.

The Political Bureau further recommends that the Government of the German Democratic Republic should instruct the judicial organs immediately to release persons sentenced, on the basis of the law for defence of public property, to a term of 1-3 years, with the exception of cases involving heavy consequences. The recommendation also envisages the release of persons undergoing preliminary examination, charged on the basis of the law for defence of public property and whose crime is not liable to severer punishment than the minimum of 1-3 years of imprisonment.

The Political Bureau has decided to recommend to the Government of the German Democratic Republic to renew, beginning with July 1, the issuing of ration books to all citizens in the German Democratic Republic and in the democratic sector of Berlin in accordance with the legitimate nature of their work, to abolish, beginning with June 15, 1953, the higher prices established in April this year for a number of confectionery items, and also to effect a further substantial reduction of fares for definite categories of the working people.

DECISION BY WOMEN'S WORLD CONGRESS

The World Congress of Women, which ended on June 11, brought together representatives from 67 countries, including 611 delegates, 1,187 guests and 65 observers.

At its final session the Congress discussed and unanimously adopted the Declaration of Rights of Women, a resolution endorsing the work of the Women's International Democratic Federation, a protest resolution against repressions by the reactionary authorities in relation to peace fighters and an Appeal to the women of the world.

The Congress Appeal called on the women of the world to unite in resolute struggle to secure a settlement of international problems by means of negotiations between the interested states, for a Pact of Peace between the five Great Powers, for banning production and utilisation of all types of weapons of mass destruction, for prohibition of war propaganda and the fostering of hatred among the peoples, for realisation of the demands laid down in the Declaration of the Rights of Women.

The Congress elected the Council, Executive Committee and Secretariat of the Women's International Democratic Federation. The Council of the W.I.D.F. admitted into the Federation women's organisations in Portugal, Venezuela and Trinidad.

Declaration of Women's Rights

We the envoys of hundreds of millions of women from 70 countries, representing different races and nationalities, varied social strata, professions, political and religious beliefs, assembled in Copenhagen for the Women's World Congress. This is the first time in the history of women's movement that women from so many countries of the world have raised their voices in order once again to stress the need for a radical change and improvement in the present economic, political and civic status of women in a majority of the countries of the world.

Millions of women get less wages for doing the same work as men. Married women are often denied the right to work. Millions of women are denied maternity leave, while expectant mothers are frequently dismissed. The lack of inadequate numbers of creches and kindergartens in many countries make things worse for working mothers, thereby virtually restricting their right to work and participation in public life. With the growth of unemployment women are the first to be dismissed. They comprise a considerable part of the army of unemployed. In many countries women are denied the right to hold a number of public offices, both by election or by appointment. They are restricted in their rights to education and to acquiring a profession. They do not have the same civic rights as men. All this deprives women of the opportunity actively to participate in the political and economic life of their countries.

In quite a few countries women are denied all rights, suffer from oppression and have their dignity constantly trampled upon. Particularly tragic are the conditions of the millions of peasant women. In conditions of preparing for war, with the economic conditions of the working people deteriorating and attacks launched on the democratic rights and freedoms of women, life becomes even more difficult for women. Consequently, today as never before, it is essential to fight in defence of and to secure rights for women. Expressing their

aspirations and strivings the World Congress of Women proclaims this Declaration of Women's Rights.

All women, irrespective of race, nationality and social status, shall be guaranteed the following rights:

A guaranteed right to work.

The right to freely to choose any profession or job.

The right to hold any administrative and public post.

Equal opportunity for advancement in any sphere of work.

Equal pay for equal work. Equal social insurance rights.

The right of women to state protection of mother and child.

The right to paid maternity leave. The opening of a sufficient number of maternity home, mother and child welfare centres, creches and kindergartens in towns, industrial centres and villages.

Granting to women engaged in agriculture the rights enjoyed by women worker in industry as regards wages, labour protection and protection of mother and child.

The right of peasant women to own and use land.

The right to education and particularly to professional training.

The right of all women to elect and be elected to all organs of power without restriction or discrimination.

Equal civil rights with men in relation to property, marriage and children.

The right to form women's democratic organisations, to the free functioning of those organisations and the right to participate in other democratic organisations.

All these rights must be guaranteed by legislation and the necessary conditions created for their actual implementation.

It is also essential to expand housing construction, to increase funds for social services by cutting military appropriations since the life of the women can be improved and happy homes ensured only on the basis of higher standard of living for the population and preservation of world peace.

The demands contained in this Declaration for which whole generations have fought are quite real and feasible. This is evident from the experience of a number of countries where the governments, acting in keeping with the will of the peoples, have not only granted all rights to women by legislation but have created the conditions which enable women to exercise these rights.

The World Congress of Women calls on the women of the world to strive for closer co-operation, for organised and persistent struggle for their rights as mothers, working people and citizens.

Let us unite our efforts in this noble struggle. Unity is the guarantee of our victory!

MILLION AND A HALF CHILDREN NOT GOING TO SCHOOL IN SPAIN

From time to time the Franco press is forced to report the plight of the schools in Spain. According to these reports of 115,754 children of school age in Granada Province only 75,000 that is, less than 65 per cent, go to school. This province alone lacks 1,506 schools.

The Franco newspaper “ABC”, published in Madrid, admits that the problem of schools “is also serious and is in the same plight in all other provinces”. This was also confirmed by Ruiz Jimenez, Franco “Minister of Education”, who said that “Spain needs another 35,000 schools to cater for 1.5 million children”.

The same issues and the same pages of the Franco newspapers write about the billions of pesetas spent on war preparation, on extending the police force of the fascist regime and for building war bases for the U.S. militarists.

**WORKERS OF MACHINE-TOOL
PLANT IN SHANGHAI. Photo:
Controller Sun Wai-chien Verifies
Quality.**



Workers of Machine-Tool Plant in Shanghai, making their contribution to the national construction, strive for high-quality production. Photo: Controller Sun Wai-chien verifies quality.

**Workers of Machine-Tool plant in Shanghai, making their contribution to the national construction, strive for high-quality production.
Photo: Controller Sun Wai-chien verifies quality.**

CONSTRUCTION OF POWER STATIONS IN CHINA

The newspaper “Jenminjihpao” reports that power stations are being built in many districts of China to meet the needs of industry and the population. The capacity of the power plant under construction in North-West China will be half that of all the power stations in the district. This power unit will facilitate swift development of the textile, machine-building and other branches of industry in the district.

In Chungking construction has begun on the biggest power station in South-West China. Big power plants are also being built in Chengchou, Taiyuan and Tihua. The big power station now under construction in North-East China will have the most up-to-date equipment.

In addition to the power stations work is in progress on hydro-electric stations in the Szechwan, Yunnan, Chekiang and Fukien provinces. The equipment for the majority of these hydro-electric stations will be made in China.

The newspaper points out that “in this large scale construction of power plants, extensive selfless aid is rendered by our great ally—the Soviet Union—the equipment for some of the major stations being completely supplied by the Soviet Union”.

SUMMER VACATIONS OF BULGARIAN WORKING PEOPLE

This summer thousands of working people in people's Bulgaria are going to rest homes and sanatoria, situated in the most picturesque districts of the country. The leisure and sanatorium treatment of the working people of Bulgaria are organised by the trade unions and other public organisations with the all-round aid of the state.

The network of health resorts is being extended year by year. Whereas in 1945 just over 10,000 people spent their vacations in rest homes, the number in 1952 increased to over 190,000. This year approximately 225,000 workers, office employees and working peasants will spend their vacations in rest homes. In addition, the Ministry of Education together with the people's councils and the trade unions, is opening over 600 camps where 126,700 pioneers and school children will rest.

Vacationists pay but a third of the cost of their maintenance in the rest home. A large number of working people go to rest homes free of charge.

FOR UNITED FRONT OF WORKING CLASS IN FRANCE*. Maurice Thorez, General Secretary, French Communist Party.

The decisive factor at the moment is the spread of the idea of unity among the popular masses.

Many actions of the workers and big strikes are already taking place under the banner of the united front. The first agreements were already concluded during the election, The peace movement is developing and embracing new sections of the population.

This spread of the idea of unity is due to the fact that all the contradictions of the policy stemming from the “Marshall Plan” and the Atlantic Pact are rising to the surface. Economic regress, the chaos in the state finances, impoverishment, unemployment, the manifold difficulties encountered by the working people of town and countryside, the policy of war, the rearming of Western Germany, the resort to fascist methods: extraordinary decrees, extraordinary powers, repressions against the working class and intensified oppression of the colonial peoples—all these facts stand out as the bitter fruit of the decision taken in 1947 to rule the country against the working class, against the people.

The great service rendered by the French Communist Party is that even then it revealed to all what the “Marshall Plan” contained in embryo, that it foresaw the fatal consequence for

[†] Closing speech at Plenum of Central Committee, French Communist Party, held on June 16-17.

the country of the policy of subordination to the U.S. imperialists, a policy pursued by the big bourgeoisie in France with the backing of the Socialist leaders.

At present the people are becoming convinced of the need for a complete change in the policy of France.

The working people realise that such a change can only be wrought by means of unity and by struggle as a result of this unity.

The working class and the people of France remember the fruitful experience of the Popular Front, initiated and inspired by us. They remember that the united front made it possible to frustrate the attempts to establish fascist rule. They remember that the Popular Front enabled them to obtain the abrogation of the extraordinary decrees of the notorious Laval, the adoption of social legislation, collective agreements, a forty-hour working week, paid holidays, the establishment of an organisation for fixing fair prices for grain purchased from the peasants.

The Popular Front upheld and developed working-class and democratic freedoms, particularly in the enterprises.

The Popular Front inspired in the working class greater faith in its strength and won for it the effective solidarity of the ordinary people from the medium strata whose interests were ruthlessly infringed by the reactionary policy of the Governments of so-called national unity.

The ruling circles of the bourgeoisie and their accomplices—the Socialist leaders—preserve an equally lucid recollection of those years, when the inspired struggle of the masses throughout the country brought about changes in Parliament and in the Government.

Hence, as we see, they are stricken with panic fear at the thought that the numerous manifestations of unity observed of late may prove but the beginning of a broad and mighty popular movement which will make it possible to change the

situation in France.

Therefore, just as vice pays homage to virtue, the Socialist leaders are trying to snatch at the slogan of unity in order to fight against unity. At the same time they are not in the least interested in changing the line of French policy.

The talk about “renovation” and simultaneously of continuing, on the orders of the American imperialists, the Atlantic policy of reaction, the arms drive and war, the old disregard for the will of the working class and the people, the old ostracism in respect to the French Communist Party—all this signifies presenting in a new array the old political goods which our people no longer wish to hear about.

It is our duty to frustrate the manoeuvres of the opponents of unity. It is our duty to criticise the splitting policy of the Socialist Party and its leaders, without abandoning at the same time our fraternal and sympathetic attitude towards the Socialist workers whom we have never confused with those who deceive them.

The united front of the working class encounters and will encounter numerous obstacles. But, as was the case 20 years ago, we shall fight again and again with all our passion, with all our energy to make it inevitable. We shall strengthen the alliance of the workers and working peasants. We shall win over to the side of the united working class the youth of our country, the intelligentsia and all the middle strata.

The united front of the working class will bring about solidarity of the democratic and national forces which will sweep aside reaction and finally give the country a stable government, a government of democratic unity relying on the confidence of the people.

This great task demands resolute and persistent work on the part of each organisation and each member of our Party in every place, and first of all in the enterprises.

The Communists will remember that a united front means

struggle and organisation of the struggle for concrete aims under slogans which correspond to the interests of all working people; they will remember that negotiations between leading bodies are both possible and welcome provided they lead to action.

And finally, the Communists will remember that united front agreements concluded from the top are not sound and are little effective if they do not rely on the activity of numerous lower committees elected by democratic means at meetings open to all working people.

New changes are taking place throughout the world. At the plenum of the Central Committee in September 1950 we again voiced our conviction that war is not inevitable. Since then war has begun to retreat. For this we are indebted to the peace policy persistently conducted by the Soviet Union with the support of peace champions in all countries.

The overwhelming majority of the French people understand the possibility and the need for beginning negotiations for a peaceful and democratic settlement of all international differences and, in particular, for ending the war in Indo-China and settling the German problem in conformity with the interests of all peoples.

The camp of Socialism is becoming stronger and stronger whereas the decadence of the old capitalist world is becoming more evident day by day. Not very far from us, in Italy, the working class recently registered a victory which so timely underlines the fruitful effects of united action.

In his last work Comrade Stalin advised us to see not only the "outward phenomena" but also the profound forces "which, although they are so far operating imperceptibly, will nevertheless determine the course of developments".

And now in France the "profound forces" of the nation are beginning to rise, forces which determine the new course of developments, which will achieve the triumph in our country of

the policy of peace and national independence, the policy of freedom and social progress.

Our Party will strive to cope in a worthy manner with the great historical responsibility resting on it.

IN COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES

Struggle of People in Transjordan

Transjordan, formally proclaimed an independent state in 1946, is actually in political and economic dependence on the British colonisers. The Transjordan “Arab Legion” is maintained with funds supplied by The British treasury and is under the command of the British General Glubb. The feudal leaders who rule the country, headed by the Hachemite dynasty—an old-time agency of British imperialism in the Near East—are also in the pay of the British imperialists. On the basis of enslaving treaties signed in 1946 and 1948 Britain has the right to keep an unlimited number of troops in Transjordan and to build military bases there.

74 per cent of the budget is swallowed by military expenditure and upkeep of Police and prisons. Savage arbitrary feudal rule prevails in the countryside. The peasants go hungry for a considerable part of the year. The nomad Bedouins are in a similar plight. A 12 hour day is worked in the enterprises.

The British colonisers, by means of savage repressions, seek to stifle the growing anti-imperialist movement in Transjordan. Many patriots have been thrown into jails and concentration camp in Bayir and Al Jafr. A ten-year sentence was imposed on Fouad Nassar, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Transjordan. Seven thousand patriots were arrested on the basis of so-called emergency laws during 1952.

Despite the terror, tens of thousands of Transjordan citizens

signed the appeal for a Peace Pact among the five Great Powers.

Of late popular demonstrations have taken place in different parts of the country. The demonstrators demanded the expulsion of the British occupationists and their agents—the Hachemite dynasty—and took action against the U.S-British plans for forming a Middle East aggressive bloc, against the repressive laws aimed at stifling the democratic and peace movements and demanded the release of the imprisoned patriots. Big anti-imperialist demonstrations took place in Amman, the capital, in Naplouse, Beit-Lahm and other places. Many workers refused to do compulsory work in the British-owned war enterprises. The workers are demanding the annulment of laws banning their organisations including the trade unions; they are demanding democratic freedoms, an eight-hour working day, social insurance and are resolutely fighting against colonial slavery.

SIGNIFICANCE OF SUCCESS WON BY PEOPLE OF ITALY. Pietro Secchia, Deputy General Secretary, Italian Communist Party

The victory won by the Italian people in the general election on June 7 is of vital significance for the country and of serious international significance. By their voting the working class and the people of Italy condemned not only the fraudulent electoral law and the internal reactionary policy of de Gasperi, they also condemned his foreign "Atlantic" policy. The people of Italy confirmed that they stand for peace and support the policy, of peace, consistently conducted by the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy, confirmed their solidarity with all who wish to put an end to the cold war, to secure agreement for the preservation of a stable world peace and to establish friendly relations with all countries.

This fact was dearly acknowledged by political and even by Government circles in France and Britain who, in the verdict of the Italian people of June 7, saw condemnation of de Gasperi's unconditional fidelity to the "Atlantic policy. A few weeks ago, when the possibility of a relaxation in the international tension and of the signing of an agreement for ending the hostilities in Korea appeared on the horizon, the Chairman of the Italian Council of Ministers was one of the few who displayed open hostility to the policy of mutual

understanding, co-operation and peace among the nations and went ahead with venal attacks against the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy.

The U.S. State Department could not conceal its rage over the failure of the fraudulent electoral law and the heavy defeat suffered by de Gasperi. This law, which would give the clerical party and its allies two-thirds of the seats in the Chamber of Deputies, should have enabled de Gasperi to secure ratification by the Italian Parliament of the treaty on the "European Army" and the rearmament of Western Germany.

Two links in the Atlantic chain forged by the American imperialists in Europe seemed to be most solid: Italy and Western Germany, De Gasperi and Adenauer are the two standard-bearers of the Atlantic policy in Europe. Today one of the links is in danger of falling apart; one of the standard-bearers sustained a serious blow.

Two years ago the peace supporters in Italy collected 17 million signatures to the Appeal for a Five-Power Peace Pact. Some people doubled their significance. Now the 10 million citizens who voted for the Left parties, the 13,600,000 citizens—the majority of the electorate in Italy—who voted against de Gasperi, have confirmed that these signatures (taking into account that not all who signed the Appeal were voters) express the genuine, undoubted and resolute will of the people of Italy for peace. This international aspect of the results of the voting by the Italian people is clear to all.

No less significant are the results of the election for the internal policy of the country.

First, there has been saved—at least for the time being—the Republican Constitution. The leaders of the clerical party openly proclaimed that their aim was to secure, through the medium of the fraudulent electoral law, a majority of the seats in Parliament in order to abolish the right to strike, to freedom of the press and other democratic freedoms of the working

people and, in particular, to bury reform of the economic structure (agrarian and industrial reform) envisaged by the Constitution. The results of the voting of the Italian people on June 7 prevent the Government from rushing through Parliament the already prepared laws which constitute a mortal threat to the democratic freedoms.

It is clear, however, that we are dealing with an enemy who is ready for anything and who is not going to respect the will of the Italian people and adhere to the Constitution, even though the majority of the working people voted for this. Consequently now that the election is over, the people of Italy must, as before, be vigilant, active and militant, since today, more than ever before, the best guarantee for defence of the Constitution and the independence of the country lies in the strength of the working class and the entire working people, in the strength of their Parties and particularly of the Communist Party.

Second, the people of Italy, for the first time in seven years, succeeded, by their voting, in smashing the political monopoly of the clerical party in altering the situation which, in Parliament at least, seemed to be assured. The majority enjoyed by the Christian Democrats in Parliament did not correspond to the actual relation of forces in the country. But the leaders of the clerical party and their masters were concerned with something different. Today the Christian Democratic Party, taken singly, is no longer has a majority in Parliament. In order to retain its position the clerical government needs the support of the Liberals, Republicans and Social Democrats. And even with the support of these small parties the Government will have a majority of only a few votes both in the Chamber of Deputies and in the Senate.

It will, likewise, be impossible for de Gasperi and his clique to form a stable government or to achieve a stable majority in Parliament if they try to throw overboard the Social Democrats and the Republicans and seek allies among the

extreme Right elements—the Monarchists and fascists. Such a government would be an insult to the clear will of the advanced sections of the Italian people and the working classes expressed by them on June 7. The result of such a manoeuvre would be a shift of new forces to the Left and the further narrowing of the base of the Christian Democratic Party and its allies.

In the present situation not a single movement in Italy can have a solid base, be stable and able to conduct a constructive policy, a policy of peace, if it does not take into the account the will, the interests and aspirations of the working class, the working people and the parties representing them.

What are the perspectives arising from this new situation in Italy? They have been precisely indicated by Comrade Togliatti. If the Christian Democratic Party does not take into account the clearly expressed will of the people “then a more or less prolonged period of major confusion and political crisis—covert and overt—will ensue in Italy. It is essential for the Christian Democratic Party to understand that it has the duty of functioning within the framework of democracy; or at the very least it is necessary that new forces should appear in its ranks capable of understanding that the country and all the Parties need precisely this”.

To function within the framework of democracy means putting an end to the “cold war” against the working classes; it means that Italy needs a government that would take into account the will of the people and which would not conduct a home and foreign policy subordinated, to the demands of big monopoly groups and to the interests of American imperialism, a government which would reject the policy that is seriously threatening the independence and peaceful existence of the country.

Naturally, this clearly expressed will of the people of Italy is counterposed by the striving of the leading reactionary clique and the American imperialists whose plan is to turn Italy into

their colony, into a strategic war base.

What were the forces that prevented the Christian Democratic Party and its allies from receiving the 50 per cent plus one vote needed by them in order to get an absolute majority in Parliament? These are the forces of the Left, the decisive forces which defeated the fraudulent electoral law and the government parties, upsetting all the calculations of the government, of the civic committees of "Catholic Action" and of the zealous organisers of election manipulations.

The increased vote of the extreme Right parties, while not a surprise, turned out to be less than had been expected. The monarchists and fascists polled a total of three and a half million votes, but the fascists lost 100,000 votes compared with the municipal elections of 1951-52. What did not enter into the government calculations was the increased votes cast for three Left parties and particular by the striking advance of the Communist Party which increased its vote from 4,336,86 in 1946 to 6,120,709. Government circles openly predicted that the Left parties would poll seven million votes, whereas ten million men, women and young people enthusiastically voted for the Communist and Socialist Parties.

These ten million voters represent the motive force of the nation, labour, the entire life of the country. The Socialist Party also made good headway and practically regained the positions held by it before it broke with the Saragats.

The youth voted for the Left parties as is clearly testified by the figures. Five age groups (from 21 to 25) which voted in the election for the Chamber of Deputies did not vote in the election to the Senate. Hence, it is easy to make the comparison. In the election for the Chamber of Deputies the fascists polled only 3.5 per cent of the youth vote—a fact which reduced the total cast for them from 6.1 per cent for the Senate to 5.8 per cent for the Chamber of Deputies. In the Senate election the Christian Democrats and their allies got 50

per cent of the votes but they did not get that figure in the election to the Chamber of Deputies. The Left parties, however polled far more votes in the election to the Chamber of Deputies than for the Senate. This confirms that the youth orientated themselves on the Left parties and refutes the more or less widely spread allegation that the youth orientates on the fascists.

The parties aligned with the Christian Democrats suffered complete fiasco. The Republicans have only five seats in the Chamber of Deputies. The positions of the Liberals have also weakened considerably, while the Social Democrats lost 600,000 votes, a considerable part of which went to the Communist Party, since it waged the fight for peace and freedom With unfurled banners, under the sickle and hammer, which express the strength of the working people and which, at the same time, are hated by the conservative and reactionary forces.

Reaction once more mobilised all its forces having in mind but the single aim contained in the fraudulent election law and openly advocated throughout the election campaign: the smashing of the Communist Party and the striking of a decisive blow at the working class and the working people. All means were employed for the achievement of this aim—"economic pressure, bribery, intimidation, forgery and excommunication from the church. The higher clerical leaders even went to the length of denouncing as non-Italians and traitors all who voted against the Christian Democrats. "We are Italy" was the obvious claim of the Christian Democratic rulers. However, over 50 per cent of the electorate revolted against the fraud, against the political, economic, religious and moral violence. Ten million voters (something like half the Italian families) showed that they pay no attention to excommunication. They realised that religion, being in the hands of a monopoly group

and the Vatican hierarchy, becomes the instrument of not very pure earthly interests.

The election results of June 7 once more confirm the correctness of the policy of the Communist Party and testify that the present situation in Italy not only must be changed but that it can be changed. Even the doubters can say today that the corresponding conditions prevail for the formation of a Government of peace, that the working class, the working people and their parties are capable of frustrating the designs of reaction.

These conclusions must serve as a stimulus for intensifying our activity, for further consolidating the unity of the working class and all democratic forces. The victory won imposes on us the duty of further strengthening the Party, of improving its cadres, intensifying its growth winning as quickly as possible 100,000 new members for the Party on the basis of the Stalin recruitment and of strengthening the democratic organisations.

We must march forward, work and fight in order not to let down the Italian people, to realise the aspirations of the working people, to give Italy a Government of peace which would pledge itself to carrying out the provisions of the Constitution, effect reforms which would guarantee progress and freedom in our country.

**LATIN AMERICAN CONTINENTAL
CULTURAL CONGRESS. Jorge
Amado, Writer, Winner of
International Stalin Prize “For
Strengthening Peace Among
Peoples”, V. Teitelboim**

The Continental Cultural Congress, held in Santiago (Chile), on April 26-May 2, was a big victory for the forces of peace and democracy in America.

More than 220 delegates took part in the work of the Congress, representing 16 American countries: the U.S.A., Mexico, Guatemala, Costa Rica, Haiti, Cuba, Venezuela, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru, Bolivia, Chile, Argentina, Uruguay, Paraguay and Brazil. The biggest delegations came from Argentina, Brazil and Chile.

The delegates included not only men in the realms of literature and art, but also scientists, teachers and journalists. It was a Congress of representatives drawn from all branches of mental work.

I.

Over a long period the U.S. monopolists have regarded Latin America as their domain and enforce their pseudo-culture in these countries. In recent years the imperialist offensive in the realm of culture, aimed at ideologically preparing our peoples for war, has gone a very long way. From Mexico to Chile a systematic campaign has been conducted to trample on the national cultures and in some cases they were threatened with complete liquidation. In these countries we see the enforcing of the “American way of life”—this gigantic machine for stupefying the masses—with its cult of crime and war psychosis.

Not long ago an American “Rotary Club” representative jeeringly suggested that the Lyceum in Valparaiso should substitute study of the Spanish classic “Don Quixote” by the “Reader’s Digest” on the pretext that it would be of more practical value. The literary supplement of “A Manha”, a Rio de-Janeiro daily, published an article by the cultural attache of the US. Embassy, dictating what the Brazilian novel should be. According to this gentleman it should be psychological, should proclaim unrestrained cult of the individual and absolutely avoid social problems. In other words, he called for ending the rich realistic tradition of the best works of Brazilian literature.

The line for abolishing national culture in the Latin American countries is accompanied by a stream of “comics”, poisoning the mind, by glorification of gangsterism, murder and pornography. The U.S. imperialists and their accomplices in these countries seek to corrupt the masses and advocate violence against other peoples.

In recent years more than half the publishing houses in Brazil have closed their doors. The same thing has taken place in Argentina and Chile. National journals and magazines are squeezed out by Spanish editions of American reactionary magazines such as “Reader’s Digest”, “Life”, “Vision” whose motto is: “read less but try to know more”. Actually they want

people to read as little as possible and, naturally, to have as little knowledge as possible.

Here are examples of “Western civilisation” in the sphere of education. In Haiti only six people in every thousand can read and write. In the countries of Latin America there are more than 70 million illiterates, that is, 45.8 per cent of the total population. In order to have people who can read and write the continent needs 195,477 schools and 462,339 teachers.

But there is no money for schools and teachers since it is pumped out of our countries by the big American concerns, and what is left goes mainly for military expenditure.

Nearly all the cinema have been seized by the big American companies which pursue the aim not only of poisoning the minds of the masses but also of crushing the national film industry and the national film art. A gloomy symbol testifying to the state of our cinema is the advertisement for three-dimensional films in Santiago: “See murder in all its aspects”. Naturally, American film magnates do this kind of thing with an eye to business. Jose Ortiz Monteiro, one of the Brazilian delegates to the Congress, vice-chairman of the Film Association of Sao Paulo state, stated that the annual profits of American film magnates are the equivalent of 2 million sacks of coffee, i.e. one-third of the total coffee output of the Sao Paulo state (practically the entire coffee output of Brazil is concentrated in Sao Paulo).

The press, radio, television and other branches of culture are in the same position. In order to achieve their aims the U.S. imperialists use the foulest means: bribery, pressure, blackmail and unbridled slander; they divide the intelligentsia and erect barriers for the purpose of preventing cultural exchange.

II.

The wide-scale preparation for the Congress was helped along by the growing protest of the different strata of the population of the American continent against this intolerable situation. The Congress was convened precisely for the purpose of forming a permanent and broad movement on a continental scale for defence of the national cultures.

This patriotic initiative, as was to be expected, encountered bitter opposition on the part of the imperialists. Particularly undesirable to them was the presence at the Congress of workers in the realm of culture from the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.

Claude Bowers, U.S. Ambassador in Chile, brought crude pressure to bear on the Chilean Government in an effort to get it to refuse visas to the delegates from the Soviet Union, from the countries of people's democracy and the Chinese People's Republic who had been invited as honoured guests.

However, the popular support and the scale of the preparations which embraced even those intellectuals linked with the government parties—all helped to win the "battle for visas", although the impatiently awaited delegation of Soviet intelligentsia, unfortunately, encountered visa delay and was unable to be present at the Congress.

The Chilean and other representatives of the peoples of the Americas and the intelligentsia present at the Congress wholeheartedly welcomed the representatives of the great Chinese and Polish cultures.

Although the President of Chile, Carlos Ibanez del Campo, openly opposed the Congress and tried to drive it underground, the popular struggle prevented him from doing this. The Congress was held legally, in the municipal theatre—the major theatre in Chile.

Basically, the following factors determined the undoubted success of the Congress: it corresponded to the real, vital and urgent demands of the peoples and of the national cultures of

the countries of America; its agenda correctly expressed these needs, being based on the immediate demands of the intelligentsia—demands for ensuring conditions for the development of national culture closely linked with the struggle for peace, national independence and, democratic freedoms. The broad programme of the Congress ensured for it the support of representatives of the entire progressive intelligentsia; it had the backing of the working class and other classes and sections oppressed by imperialism in the semi-colonial countries of Latin America.

The Congress was neither an academic tournament nor a congress of aesthetic or literary schools, groups and trends. Lively discussion took place around the questions on the agenda the first item of which concerned stimulating free development for the culture of the American peoples. In furtherance of this goal practical measures were advanced aimed at upholding and developing the national peculiarities of our cultures, at facilitating their popularisation, at stimulating research and at using the achievements of culture for the good of the peoples. The second item on the agenda dealt with the question of promoting cultural exchange between the countries of the continent and the rest of the world and also with the question of establishing more direct and closer contact among the intelligentsia. The third item was devoted to the question of defending the economic, political and moral rights of the intelligentsia, their specific demands in each sphere of activity or speciality of defending freedom of opinion, creative work and research.

This agenda contributed effectively to ensuring a broad composition for the Congress. It brought together Socialists, Communists, Radicals, Catholics and many personalities connected with the governments of the American countries as well as a large number of non-party intellectuals. Varied political, ideological, aesthetic and philosophical trends were

represented. All the delegates approved the agenda and actively discussed its items. The Congress was unanimous in recognising the close link between the question of culture and the need for defending peace, national independence and democratic freedoms.

Even the enemies of the Congress, who, after the failure of their attempts to prevent it from being held, sought to ignore it, had to acknowledge, although reluctantly, its significance. To a considerable degree this was due to the broad contact maintained by the Congress with the people by means of mass rallies in the municipal theatre, the venue of the Congress, and in the premises of the students federation.

The Congress was a big festival for the national cultures. Lectures and concerts were given, there were talks with poets exhibitions of books and of folk art, art forums and meetings were held in trade unions and in higher educational establishments during the Congress. The cultural values of the people, of national and folk art, were the centre of attention everywhere.

An analysis of the content of the national peculiarities of our cultures led the Congress resolutely to reject all forms of cosmopolitanism. Speaking to the first item on the agenda the Chilean writer Fernando Santivan called on the delegates resolutely to counteract the flow of “publications” from the U.S., permeated with the venom of cosmopolitanism, and to use on a broad scale, in literature and art, the many-sided richness of our folklore and our national cultural legacy.

All speakers dwelt on the struggle for democratic freedoms as the basic condition for cultural development. The Argentine writer Hector Agosti said that “nothing is more vital for co-operation of the peoples and their intelligentsia than safeguarding the basic freedoms of humanity”. The same idea was expressed by his compatriot, Omar Estrella, poet.

III.

The Congress was held in an atmosphere of free exchange of opinion. Its decisions were the result of broad and free discussion of the questions on the agenda.

The delegates enthusiastically adopted a “call to the intelligentsia and the peoples of America” urging cultural workers to devote themselves to promoting and elevating the culture of each of their countries and, by means of their activity, to foster their development. To achieve this the Congress considers it “essential that our countries should win genuine independence, that they should be real masters of their destiny”.

Referring to the main problem of our epoch—the problem of peace, the Congress solemnly declares: “We, intellectuals, want peace on our continent and throughout the world. Only in conditions of peace can our national cultures develop”.

The resolution on cultural exchange regards it as impermissible that for political and ideological reasons artificial barriers are erected between countries by enacting laws of restrictive measures, by means of economic control, discrimination in issuing visas, government pressure and restricting the free circulation of books and literature.

The Congress also addressed itself to the governments of the American continent, to cultural organisations, to the free professions and the intelligentsia saying that “culture must not be subjected either to open or secret censorship by police or administrative bodies”. The Congress called on the intelligentsia to unite, in order jointly to act in defence of their right to a life of dignity, in defence of the elementary right to earn a livelihood from the profession of one’s choice, since this is in the interests of culture and of society as a whole.

Each of the professional groups represented at the Congress advanced and approved proposals touching on its

specific issues, which include: convening of an all-America Writers' Congress in La Paz (Bolivia) at the end of this year; convening of a Film Workers' Congress in Sao Paulo (Brazil) early in 1954. The Congress recommended convening national cultural congresses in the different American countries.

To ensure continuation of the work begun and to verify fulfilment of its decisions, the Congress elected a liaison committee of intelligentsia on the continent, to be located in Santiago.

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The Continental Cultural Congress opened in all countries of the American continent a new front of struggle for peace, for national independence and for democratic freedoms—the Front of Intelligentsia which aligns itself with the battle-tempered armies of the proletariat, peasants and all progressive forces in America. This Congress of intelligentsia manifested its organising abilities and its inextinguishable will to fight for national culture, for the interests of their respective peoples, for peace and freedom.

Today we are confronted with the great, task of organising the masses of the intelligentsia, of drawing them into the national and social liberation front, of leading them to fresh triumphs in the struggle for their own interests, in defence of national cultures. This task is vitally linked with the noble fight for peace, national independence and freedom.

BARE FEET BANNED IN TOWNS...

Of late the police in the Dominican Republic have been keeping a close watch on the feet of passers-by. They spring to attention at the sight of a thick-soled pair of American boots. They gaze with deference at the flawless footwear of the native aristocracy. They look, suspiciously at but let by the sandaled feet which strive to shuffle past unnoticed. But, let a shoeless pair of feet appear in sight and the guardian of law and order is immediately on the alert. There is no room for bare feet on the city pavement!—such is the diktat of Signor Trujillo.

As reported by “Orientación”, organ of the Dominican Popular Socialist Party, published in Guatemala, all municipalities in the country, acting on government orders, have prohibited barefooted citizens from appearing in the streets. The government press published an official notification on this score.

Trujillo can now rest content: not a single barefoot will desecrate the pavement with its touch.

The Russian satirical writer, N. Shchedrin, once colourfully portrayed Dementi Brudasty, Governor of the town of Glupov, known as the “music box”, whose head was screwed on in a way that it could only perform two simple tunes: “I’ll do for you!” and “I won’t stand it!”. Does not this resemble also Trujillo, actual dictator of the Dominican Republic. “I’ll do for you!”, he screams, and is in fact ruining the country, having bartered it completely to his patrons—the U.S. monopolists. “I won’t stand it!”, he bawls and strictly abides by the declaration.

It goes without saying that the thousands of Dominicans who no longer wear shoes, do so not because they think them needless, but because they cannot afford to buy them. The insistent realisation by Signor Trujillo, of the first item on his

programme—"I'll do for you!"—is making itself felt. The unemployed who day after day assemble outside the factory gates in search of work, cannot afford the luxury of a pair of boots. The peasants, too, reduced to dire poverty, cannot afford them. What, then, is the purpose of Trujillo's crusade against the barefooted?

The idea is simple enough. Fearing to appear barefoot in the towns, the peasants are forced to sell their meagre harvest to middlemen who can, of course, afford the luxury of a pair of shoes, and who will make good profit on the resale. And if it so happens that the poor should be able, by going without food, to buy themselves a pair of boots,—who will be the gainer?

None other than Trujillo. The fact of the matter is that he is not only the Commander-in-Chief, Foreign Minister, the Dominican Republic representative to Uno, etc. He, Trujillo, in addition to his official posts also owns the "Fa-doc" Boot Factory which has a monopoly of selling footwear in the Dominican Republic.

A. Sh.

FIVE YEARS OF HEROIC STRUGGLE BY PEOPLE OF MALAYA

June 15 marked the fifth anniversary of the heroic independence struggle waged by the people of Malaya. For five years the Malay patriots, with arms in hand, have withstood, with exceptional steadfastness, all the attempts of the British colonisers to crush their national-liberation struggle. Bombs, napalm, chemical warfare, head-hunters and, the deportation of hundreds of thousands of peaceful citizens to concentration camps have failed and will never succeed in crushing the just struggle of the people against the plunder of the country by the British and U.S. monopolists, against the colonial slavery.

In a message of greetings to the Communist Party and people of Malaya on the occasion of the anniversary the Executive Committee of the Communist Party of Great Britain says that the British Communists will do all in their power to awaken the British Labour movement to its responsibility for ending the dirty war against the Malay people and for upholding the cause of Malayan independence. The message ends with the call: "Long live the heroic people of Malaya!"

All honest people in the world insistently demand: End the war against the people of Malaya! Give the Malaya people the right to decide their own fate and to dispose of the wealth of their country!

SECOND CONGRESS OF YOUNG COMMUNIST LEAGUE OF VENEZUELA

The 2nd Congress of the Young Communist League of Venezuela took place last month in underground conditions. The Congress discussed the situation in the country arising from the fascist military coup of November 24, 1948, effected on orders from the U.S. monopolists who are extremely interested in Venezuela's oil.

The Congress particularly stressed the need to combat the sectarianism in the work of the Young Communist League and the need for mass work for organising and rallying the young generation in struggle for their demands, in defence of their rights, for the cause of peace, democratic freedoms and national liberation. In this Connection the Congress adopted a resolution calling on the youth of the country to consolidate unity and organisation.

In its decisions the Congress expressed unbending loyalty to the cause championed by the Communist Party of Venezuela headed by Comrade Jesus Faria. The adoption of a new programme and new rules also testifies to the great significance of the Congress in the history of the Young Communist League of Venezuela. The concluding session of the Congress elected a new Central Council of the Young Communist League of Venezuela.

STATEMENT BY AMERICAN SCIENTIST

According to the “New York Times”, Professor Einstein, prominent American scientist, sent a letter to a school teacher who is facing dismissal from his post because he refused to testify before the Senate Internal Security Sub-Committee. In this letter Dr. Einstein said that the problem of the situation of intelligentsia in the U.S. of a very serious character due to the fact that reactionary politicians have managed to instil into the public suspicion of all intellectual effort. These politicians, says Einstein are now “proceeding to suppress the freedom of teaching and to deprive of their positions all those who do not prove submissive”.

Under present conditions, Einstein writes, the intellectuals must refuse to testify before the inquisitors, “must be prepared for jail and economic ruin”. Dr. Einstein concluded: “If enough people were ready to take the grave step, they would be successful. If not, then the intellectuals of this country deserve nothing better than the slavery which is intended for them”.

POVERTY OF WORKING PEOPLE IN PUERTO RICO

The working people of Puerto Rico, enslaved by the U.S. imperialists, are in dire straits. According to a report on public health in Puerto Rico, published by the newspaper "El Mundo", 61.5 per cent of the population never eat meat.

Particularly grave is the plight of the people in rural areas where tuberculosis is on the increase due to chronic malnutrition.

The people live in foul hovels in insanitary conditions; 64 per cent of the population is illiterate.

Widespread unemployment and poverty force thousands to emigrate to the U.S.A. in search of work. In 1952 sixty-seven thousand people, including 44 thousand workers, drawn mainly from the rural areas, left for the U.S.A. According to the press the Puerto-Rican emigrants in the U.S.A. fare no better than in their own country.

FACTS EXPOSE...

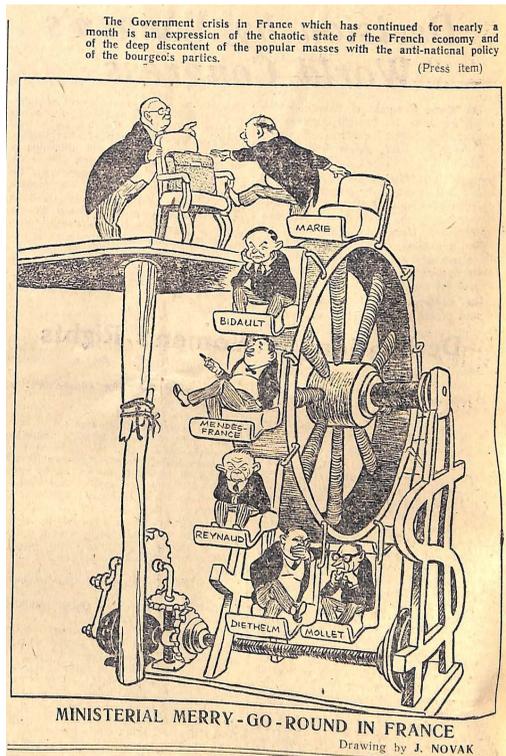
Crime and... Encouragement

Gerard Dupriez, a degenerate residing in Paris, murdered his parents. The crime, naturally, shocked and horrified the residents of the town but evoked the deep interest of the bourgeois press. According to the Swiss newspaper "Voix Ouvriere" one publisher immediately offered the killer a million francs for his "memoirs".

MINISTERIAL MERRY-GO-ROUND IN FRANCE. Drawing by J. NOVAK

The government crisis in France which has continued for nearly a month is an expression of the chaotic state of the French economy and of the deep discontent of the popular masses with the anti-national policy of the bourgeois parties.

(Press item)



POLITICAL NOTES

Military Bases On Japanese Islands

The residents of the village of Uchinada (Ishikawa prefecture) recently learnt that the Japanese Government had decided to turn their land over to the U.S. occupation troops for a permanent training ground. The villagers resolutely resisted this arbitrary action of the Government. At a protest meeting they demanded that the barbed wire be immediately removed from their plots and declared that they would continue their struggle until this was done.

This protest met with support in many districts throughout the country. A committee was formed to head the struggle against requisitioning the land in the village of Uchinada.

Things took a turn not to the liking of the Yoshida Government. In its efforts to calm public opinion and to break the resistance of the peasants the Government fabricated a statement to the effect that the authorities had reached “complete understanding” with the residents of Uchinada. The value of this report is seen from the fact that a few days ago when the Americans practiced gunnery on the “firing range”, the peasants declared a sit-down strike on the range. A clash with the police followed. Some 1,500 police were rushed to the place.

What took place in Uchinada is but one of many facts testifying that the Tokyo rulers are continuing the wholesale bartering of the country’s independence. Currying favour with their masters they forcibly alienate large areas from the peasants for the purpose of building U.S. military bases, airfields, places for manoeuvres and training grounds. They sanctioned, for example, the turning of the area in the vicinity

of the Ashama and Miogi mountains into training grounds for the U.S. occupation troops. They also regarded with favour the demand of U.S. military for an additional 51 places for manoeuvres and 28 tracts for building airfields.

For the working people of the country the ever increasing number of U.S. military bases in Japan means boundless hardship and privation. It suffices to say that 210,000 fishermen have lost their means of livelihood because many of the fishing grounds are being used by the U.S. for military purposes. As a result, the fishermen lose about 250 million kilograms of fish annually.

The U.S. occupation troops have already taken over 68,000 hectares of farmland and forest area for airfields and for manoeuvres. Recently the Japanese authorities disclosed that they would get another 76,000 hectares. In addition, the land used by the Japanese "National Security Corps" will be increased from the present 1,600 to 15,600 hectares. The use of land by the U.S. troops and the "National Security Corps" has already caused an annual decline of 3,525,000 kilograms in rice production.

How the working people live in the areas taken over for U.S. military bases can be judged from the example of Okinawa. Three of every four workers on the island work on U.S. military installations. Before the second world war peasants comprised 76 per cent of the population of Okinawa. This figure has shrunk to 20 per cent since the land was forcibly seized by the U.S. militarists. The U.S. authorities established a regime of arbitrariness and terror on Okinawa. All democratic and progressive press organs have been banned. Recently a youth named Codzl Oyama was sentenced to three years hard labour and a heavy fine—his crime being that he dared to sell the newspaper "Heiwa" (Peace).

The building of military bases has evoked a wave of protest all over the country. Mass demonstrations took place in

the Gumma and Miogi mountains as a training ground, by professors and students of Tokyo University, by residents of Osaka and of many other towns and villages throughout the country.

The protests against the seizure of land by the Americans in Uchinada, in the neighbourhood of the Ashama and Miogi mountains, on the island of Okinawa and in many other places are merging into a powerful movement of the Japanese people for the liquidation of the U.S. military bases. Many trade unions, mass democratic organisations and parties have demanded repeal of the unequal treaties and the administrative agreement with the U.S. which serve as the basis for the selling of Japanese territory to the U.S. occupationists.

Yoshida's fifth cabinet, formed with the help and approval of the U.S. authorities, demands that, the so-called "National Security Corps" be extended and that the Americans grant armament "loans". Militarist literature is published in editions of millions of copies. Former generals, war criminals, are conducting an hysterical campaign for rearmament...

But the Yoshida clique will not succeed in suppressing the growing movement of the Japanese people for the liquidation of the U.S. military bases. This movement is developing on an ever wider scale. The people of Japan are rising to full stature, they are confident of success in their struggle against the foreign slavery, for the right to live in freedom.

Jan MAREK

Two Advertisements

The French newspaper "Usine nouvelle" recently published the following advertisement: "I am an engineer, age 58, unemployed due to my plant having closed. I have no

means of subsistence: I have 30 years organising experience in workshops and other enterprises. In addition, I can cook, look after horses and use my hands generally... I am ready to take any job”.

*

At approximately the same time the following announcement appeared in the Hungarian newspaper “Magyar Nemzet”:

“Wanted. Large numbers of workers for the coal trust in Komlo. Those taken on will get three months training and will be able to qualify as skilled hewers within one year. Wages are paid, in accordance with the collective agreement. Underground workers are entitled to 20-30 per cent extra pay and, in addition, will be supplied, in accordance with regulations, with overalls and boots. Workers taken on before May 1 will receive on Miners’ Day in September (provided there is no absenteeism), and thereafter an annual bonus, amounting to 3-5 per cent of their annual pay, and at the end of each year a good quality suit. Each worker who signs a contract for 12 months work will get a special bonus of 400 forints. For 8.70 forints, says the advert, we guarantee three good meals a day. Hostels for men and women are free of charge. At the end of the year or early next year the best workers will be provided with comfortable apartments”.

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