

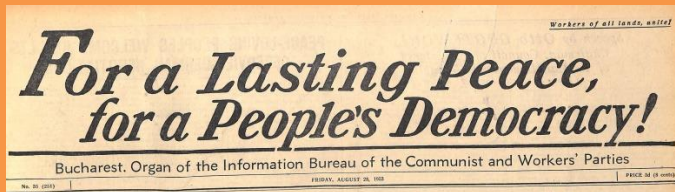
Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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



NO 35 (251), FRIDAY, AUGUST 28, 1953



*Source: Journal "For a Lasting Peace, For a People's Democracy",
No.35 (251), Friday, August 28, 1953.*

Origin of language: English

Scanned, transcribed and prepared as an E-Book.

December 2023

The Socialist Truth in Cyprus
London Bureaux

Direct Democracy (Communist
Party)

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

www.directdemocracy4u.uk



CONTENTS

HISTORIC TASK OF PEOPLE OF GERMANY	5
THIRD SESSION OF SUPREME SOVIET OF R.S.F.S.R.....	13
NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC.....	15
SPEECH BY G. M. MALENKOV, CHAIRMEN OF THE CCOUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE U.S.S.R. AT DINNER IN THE KREMLIN, AUGUST 22, 1953	18
SPEECH BY OTTO GROTEWOHL, CHAIRMEN, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AT DINNER IN KREMLIN, AUGUST 23, 1953	24
WAY OF NATIONAL UNITY AND PEACE	28
GERMAN PEOPLE WHOLEHEARTEDLY APPROVE RESULTS OF MOSCOW NEGOTIATIONS	28
PEACE-LOVING PEOPLES WELCOME RESULTS OF SOVIET-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS.....	31
CHINA.....	31
POLAND.....	32
CZECHOSLOVAKIA.....	33
HUNGARY.....	34
RUMANIA	35
BULGARIA.....	36
FRANCE	37
UNEMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY—INVARIABLE COMPANIONS OF BONN ECONOMIC POLICY (FROM MATERIALS IN GERMAN PRESS).....	39
TOWARDS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL ECONOMY, TOWARDS FURTHER RISE IN WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE!.....	46
SUCCESSSES OF WHICH ARE JUST PEOPLE OF RUMANIA ARE JUSTLY PROUD.....	47
OUR SHORTCOMINGS IN THE SPHERE OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIO –CULTURAL CONSTRUCTION	51
ABUNDANCE OF FOOD AND CONSUMER GOODS FOR THE POPULATION	53

SURPASS PREWAR LEVEL OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION	56
STEADILY RAISE STANDARD OF LIVING OF WORKING PEOPLE	58
POLICY OF PARTY ARISES FROM VITAL INTERESTS OF THE PEOPLE	61
POLITICAL SITUATION IN ITALY. MAURO SCOCCIMARRO SECRETARY, COMMUNIST PARTY OF ITALY	67
FASCIST TERROR IN SPAIN	73
MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, RUMANIAN WORKERS' PARTY	74
ANOTHER VICTORY OF FRENCH PEOPLE	75
"EXPLOITS" OF AMERICAN SEAMEN	76
GERMAN MILITARISM—GRAVE-DIGGER OF GERMAN NATION. DRAWING BY E. TARU.....	77
POLITICAL NOTES.....	78
EACH HAS THE FRIENDS HE MERITS	78
ILLITERACY IN YUGOSLAVIA	80
OIL CITY IN THE GOBI. LI CHI. CHINESE WRITER.....	81

HISTORIC TASK OF PEOPLE OF GERMANY

Germany is experiencing the most responsible phase in her history. Two pathways, two possible prospects are open to Germany: either to become one of the most important factors of peace and security in Europe or to be turned into the main centre in Europe of new aggression.

The international reactionary forces in collusion with the Adenauer group, which is the mouthpiece of the extreme German nationalists and revanchists, want to take Germany along the pathway of militarisation and military gambles. In pursuit of this aim they seek to perpetuate the dismemberment of Germany, to turn Western Germany into a military springboard, isolate it from the peace-loving peoples, kindle fratricidal enmity among Germans, revive German militarism and unleash an aggressive war which will turn Western Germany into a zone of destruction.

The other pathway is the pathway of ensuring peace for Germany and uniting it into a single, peace-loving, democratic state. This is the pathway of realising the national aspirations of the German people. Along this pathway the German people are given the opportunity of beginning a new era of peaceful development on their homeland, of realising the aspirations of its finest minds who dreamed of seeing Germany free and prosperous. Along this pathway the German people are ensured wholehearted sympathy and constant support of the powerful camp of peace and democracy headed by the Soviet Union, of all the progressive forces of the world.

The path of peace or the path of war, national utility or dismemberment of the homeland—this is the

question that confronts the German people today.

The historical task of the German people is to thwart the designs of the aggressive forces, to restore their national unity and to turn Germany into a peace-loving democratic state. Peaceful development alone will bring Germany unity, freedom, independence and national regeneration.

The German people have gone through a grim school of life. Their history enables them to draw valuable lessons for the future. The entire course of the recent history of Germany proves irrefutably that the pathway of militarism and war means the pathway of national suicide for Germany.

Indeed, in the period between 1900 and 1945, Germany spent not less than 20 years intensively preparing for two world wars and more than 10 years in waging these wars. Almost every German man and woman of our generation has experienced, to one degree or another, the horrors and burdens of war, many have experienced them twice. And what was the result? The first world war in the course of which the German people lost almost 2 million killed and missing ended, as is known, in national disaster for Germany. And hardly had German mothers dried their eyes for the sons who perished in the first world war than the German militarists, having rebuilt the war potential of the country with the help of the U.S. monopolies, unleashed the second world war. This war ended in an immeasurably greater national disaster for Germany, than the disaster of 1918. Millions of men women and children became victims of the war. Nearly 8 million Germans perished in battle. Numerous German towns were destroyed during hostilities.

Thus history convincingly proves that German

militarism, always a source of anxiety and misfortune for the people of Europe, acted at the same time as the grave-digger of the German nation.

The Bonn rulers have harnessed Western Germany to the “Bonn treaty” which, in point of fact, makes it an American protectorate and legalises the occupation regime for 50 years. Following in the foot-steps of the Hitlerites, whose ringleaders were condemned by mankind as war criminals, the Adenauer group is setting the Germans against the peoples of Eastern and Western Europe.

Will the Germans allow the irresponsible mercenary Bonn politicians once again to plunge them into the abyss of war and still greater tragedy? Is there a force Germany capable of averting a new national catastrophe?

This force can and must be the German people themselves, provided they learn the lessons of history, provided they take their fate into their own hands.

“If the entire German people want the German question to be settled in a peaceful way”, Comrade G. M. Malenkov points out, “no aggressive forces, neither transatlantic nor European, can prevent realisation of this lofty aspiration. Germany's destiny is in the hands of the German people”.

The German Democratic Republic is the mainstay of the struggle of the German people for a united, peace-loving, democratic Germany. During the four years of its existence the German Democratic Republic, led by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, has traversed a great path of democratic development; it has become an important factor in the struggle for peace and is the reliable foundation for a united, peace-loving, democratic Germany. The Socialist Unity Party of

Germany has rallied the working class and the working people of the Republic in the struggle to get rid of the consequences of Hitler rule, for the realisation of the democratic transformations, in the struggle against the provocations of the international reactionary forces and is confidently leading the German Democratic Republic towards further successes. The new course adopted by the Socialist Unity Party of Germany, and which it is successfully carrying out, the main purport of which is to secure speedy agreement between Germans and remove the obstacles in the way of the unification of Germany, has further strengthened its bonds with the masses and has further enhanced its prestige as the genuine champion of the interests of the German nation.

In its struggle for the re-unification of the country on a democratic basis the German Democratic Republic relies on the constant support and on the selfless and generous aid of the great Soviet Union. The Soviet Government throughout the entire postwar period has consistently and invariably pursued the policy of a peaceful settlement of the German problem, for the speedy signing of a peace treaty with Germany. for the unification of Germany into a united, peace-loving, democratic state.

Only recently, on August 15, the Government of the Soviet Union, by its Note to the Governments of France, Great Britain and the USA, made a tremendous contribution to the cause of a speedy settlement of the German problem. The Soviet Government made concrete and clear-cut proposals on such vital issues as the convening of a peace conference to consider the question of a peace treaty with Germany, participation of representatives of Germany at all stages or preparing

the peace treaty and at the peace conference and the formation of a Provisional All-German Government. World public opinion has acknowledged that the Soviet Note opens a new phase in the matter of settling the German problem by peaceful means, in the struggle for a united, peace-loving, democratic Germany.

Barely a week had passed when the Government of the U.S.S.R. took further serious steps along the way of a peaceful settlement of the German question. On August 20-22, negotiations took place in Moscow between the Soviet Government and the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic which culminated in political and economic decisions of invaluable significance for the cause of peace and which are a powerful blow to the forces of reaction and war. The Government of the U.S.S.R. once more displayed deep understanding of the national aspirations of the German people and a readiness to give them all possible aid.

In addition to other important decisions, concerning development of relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic as well as on the German problem as a whole, the Soviet Government decided substantially to ease the financial and economic obligations of Germany, connected with the consequences of the war. Beginning with January 1, 1954, the Soviet Government relieves the German Democratic Republic of all reparation payments, transfers without compensation to the possession of the German Democratic Republic Soviet enterprises in Germany, reduces the expenditure of the German Democratic Republic connected with the upkeep of Soviet troops on its territory, and so on. Apart from its ordinary trade obligations, the German Democratic

Republic will be fully released from all state debts to the Soviet Union accumulated as a result of the war. The Soviet Union will render aid to the German Democratic Republic in the form of supplementary deliveries of various goods.

This is genuine friendly aid which only a socialist state can grant another nation. It is striking proof of the ever-growing inviolable friendship between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, friendship in the name of peace and security of the nations. This aid is motivated by an ardent desire on the part of the Soviet people to help the German people not only to consolidate their economy but also to create the essential prerequisites for restoring unity and for establishing a united democratic German state.

After the Soviet Government, the Government of the Polish People's Republic, desiring to make a further contribution to the cause of settling the German problem in a peaceful and democratic way and also in accord with the interests of the Polish people and all peace-loving nations, has decided to forgo, beginning with January 1, 1954, the reparation payments due to Poland.

Is it possible after this not to see who are the real friends of the German people who it is that fervently wants to see them united in a democratic state, wish them peace and prosperity, and who are their enemies who think only of harnessing the German people to the war chariot of the North Atlantic pact in order to use the fruits of their labour and their blood in military gambles.

Along the way of peaceful development in a united democratic independent state (the prospect opens up for the German people of achieving a prosperity and might

such as they have never known in all their history. The diligence and talent of the German people their immense possibilities for developing the economy and culture are well known. Devoting all the power of their highly developed industry, all the achievements of science and technique, all their creative energies and their skill to improving the life of the population, the German people can, in a brief space of time, achieve bier success. The prospect of democratic development of Germany lies in peace with the peoples of the Soviet Union and France, Czechoslovakia and Poland, Britain and Belgium, peace with all nations; it lies in establishing close economic contacts with the peace-loving states, in acquiring the necessary markets, restoring traditional trade relations with the countries of Eastern Europe and with other countries.

Only in this way can Germany revive as a great power and take its appropriate place among the peoples of the world. For this way of development the progressive forces of Germany, in both its Eastern and Western parts, are fighting selflessly.

All German patriots to whom the destiny of their nation is dear are taking resolute action for a speedy settlement of the German problem by peaceful means, for convening a peace conference with the obligatory participation of German representatives, for the establishment of a Provisional All-German Government and for the holding of all-German free elections for the unification of the German people into a single peace-loving democratic state.

The German question is closely linked with the security of the peoples of Europe, and, consequently, with international security. The aggressors' conspiracy against the German people is at the same time a

conspiracy against the cause of peace in Europe. Hence, the just struggle of the German people for unification and for the democratic path of development for their country meets with the warm sympathy of all the progressive forces of Europe and of the world. By unfolding a broad international campaign in favour of negotiations and for a peaceful settlement of controversial issues, peace champions in all countries will render the German people invaluable help and support in the struggle for realisation of their national aspirations.

THIRD SESSION OF SUPREME SOVIET OF R.S.F.S.R.

The Third session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic opened in the Kremlin on August 25.

The appearance in the Government boxes of the leaders of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet Government: Comrades **G. M. Malenkov, V. M. Molotov, N. S. Khrushchev, K. E. Voroshilov, N. A. Bulganin, L. M. Kaganovich, A. I. Mikoyan, M. Z. Saburov, M. G. Pervukhin, P. I. Ponomarenko, M. A. Suslov, P. N. Pospelov** and **N. N. Shatalin** was met with prolonged applause from deputies and guests.

The opening speech was delivered by; Deputy **L. N. Solovyev**, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the R.S.F.S.R.

After approving the report of the Auditing Commission, the Supreme Soviet adopted the agenda and began discussion of the first item.

The report on the State budget of the R.S.F.S.R. for 1953 and on the fulfilment of the State budget of the R.S.F.S.R. for 1951 and 1952 was delivered by Deputy **I. I. Fadeyev**, Minister of Finance of the Republic.

The new State budget of the R.S.F.S.R., submitted by the Council of Ministers of the R.S.F.S.R. for the approval of the Session, totals 57,552.2 million roubles, increase of 3,292.4 million roubles compare with 1952.

“In defining the budget”, said the speaker, “the Council of Ministers of the R.S.F.S.R. was guided by the economic plan and proceeded from the vital measure of the Government aimed at further raising the well-being of the Soviet people”.

More than nine-tenths of all the funds in the budget of the Republic in the current year are earmarked for financing industry, agriculture and other branches of the economy, and for socio-cultural undertakings. The bulk of the State budget of the Republic is allocated for socio-cultural undertakings.

A supplementary report was submitted by Deputy **S. P. Aanasyev**, Chairman of the Budgetary Commission.

The discussion of the State budget of the R.S.F.S.R. for 1953 was held on August 26-27.

On August 27 after unanimously approving the Law on the state budget of the R.S.F.S.R. for 1953 and endorsing the Decisions of, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the R.S.F.S.R., the Session ended.

NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN SOVIET GOVERNMENT AND GOVERNMENT DELEGATION OF GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

August 20-22 negotiations took place in Moscow between the Soviet Government and the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic.

In the course of the negotiations important questions were discussed pertaining to the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic as well as urgent questions pertaining to the German problem as a whole.

The negotiations took place in an atmosphere of friendly mutual understanding and cordiality.

Full agreement has been reached that the abnormal situation, when; eight years after the end of the war in Europe, Germany is without a peace treaty, remains divided into Western and Eastern parts and is in an unequal position in relation to other states, must be eliminated. For this purpose a peace conference must be called in the near future, with the participation of representatives of Germany at all stages of preparing the peace treaty as well as at the peace conference. With the aim of restoring the national unity of Germany on peaceful and democratic lines a Provisional German Government must be formed through direct agreement between Eastern and Western Germany, the chief task of which will be to prepare and hold all-German free elections as a result of which the German people themselves, without interference by foreign states, will settle the question of the social and state structure of a

united democratic peace-loving Germany.

The Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic received with satisfaction and gratitude the declaration of the Soviet Government regarding the easing of Germany's financial and economic obligations connected with the consequences of the war.

In the course of the negotiations both sides have reached agreement concerning the implementation of a number of political and economic measures aimed at rendering assistance in the further development of the national economy of the German Democratic Republic and in improving the well-being of her population.

A Protocol was signed releasing Germany from reparation payments and on other measures designed to ease the financial and economic obligations of the German Democratic Republic connected with the consequences of the war.

In the course of the negotiations agreement has also been reached on other questions pertaining to the strengthening and development of economic, cultural and scientific-technical co-operation between the U.S.S.R. and the German Democratic Republic.

Particularly, agreement has been reached on delivery by the Soviet Union to the German Democratic Republic in 1953, in addition to the present trade agreement, nearly 590 million roubles worth of goods.

The Soviet Government has granted the German Democratic Republic a loan of 485 million roubles, including 135 million roubles in free currency.

At the request of the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic the following agreement has been reached: measures will be taken in the constituted order to release German war prisoners,

sentenced for crimes committed during the war, with the exception of those serving sentences for particularly grave crimes against peace and humanity.

Striving to strengthen and further develop friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, which is the bulwark of the struggle of the German people for a united, peace-loving, democratic Germany, both sides have agreed to raise the Diplomatic Mission of the U.S.S.R. in Berlin and the Diplomatic Mission of the German Democratic Republic in Moscow to the status of Embassies and to exchange Ambassadors.

On August 22, G. M. Malenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., gave a dinner in the Kremlin in honour of the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic.

The dinner took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere. G. M. Malenkov and O. Grotewohl exchanged speeches.

**SPEECH BY G. M. MALENKOV, CHAIRMEN
OF THE CCOUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE
U.S.S.R. AT DINNER IN THE KREMLIN,
AUGUST 22, 1953**

Esteemed Prime Minister, esteemed Deputy Prime Ministers, members of the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic!

Allow me to extend to you and in your person to the German people greetings and wishes for decisive success in building up, a peace-loving democratic Germany, in re-establishing the national unity of your homeland.

We have discussed with you in an atmosphere of genuine cordiality, mutual understanding and friendship questions of essential significance for the cause of peace in Europe, for strengthening- relations between our peoples. This discussion has revealed corn pie le unanimity of views and has led to important decisions.

We are confident that the whole world will regard with attention our sincere desire to ensure a peaceful settlement of the German question, the new steps we are taking with you to help the German people firmly to embark on the path of peaceful development and to realise their national aspirations.

Germany is now passing through the most crucial stage in her history.

The reactionary international forces in collusion with the present Bonn Government are persistently carrying out a policy which endangers the very existence of Germany as a united and independent state. They want to perpetuate the dismemberment of

Germany, to turn Western Germany into a domain of the monopolists from across the ocean, to revive German militarism in order to accomplish their aggressive designs.

The conspiracy of the aggressors is simultaneously directed against the people of Germany and the cause of peace in Europe. It is but natural, therefore, that the peace-loving peoples link together the German question and the question of European and, consequently, of international security. Waging unremitting struggle for averting a new war the peace-loving forces are upholding the vital interests of all the peoples of Europe, including the interests of the German people.

Life demands that the German people take a definite stand in his struggle, that they say their weighty word.

The German people are confronted with an historic task-to frustrate the plans of the aggressive forces, to re-establish their national unity and to turn Germany into a peace-loving democratic state. For only peaceful development will bring Germany unity, freedom, independence and national regeneration.

The question now stands as follows: Germany can become either one of the most important factors for strengthening peace and security in Europe, or the main centre in Europe of new aggression.

Which of the two possible prospects do the German people intend to choose?

Which path, the path of peace or war, national unity or dismemberment of Germany, do they intend to follow?

The peoples cannot but learn from their own historical experience. This, of course, fully applies to the German people too who have passed through the

grim school of life.

What is the chief lesson for the German people from the entire development of Germany during the first half of the twentieth century?

It is that the path of militarism, aggression and war signifies for Germany the path of national suicide.

If we take the period from 1900 until 1945 it turns out that Germany spent at least twenty of the forty-five years intensively preparing for two world wars and more than 10 years in waging these wars.

Consequently, war was practically the basic content of the entire life of Germany for a period of half a century.

And what was the result? The national disaster of 1918 was followed by the immeasurably greater national disaster of 1945.

About eight million Germans paid with their lives because the militarists imposed their war plans on the German people. As for the crippled and maimed, they are numberless. The figures of the German Invalids Union, cited in the German press, show, that of every hundred Germans born in 1924, 25 were killed or listed missing, 31 maimed, 5 wounded and 3 incapacitated. One generation of the German youth after another was annihilated and maimed in the shambles of war.

Thus, history teaches that German militarism, by violating the peace and security of the European countries, acted as the grave-digger of the German nation.

And yet the aggressors are again trying to drag Germany along the old path of war adventures.

No camouflage can conceal the real strivings of the Adenauer group which represents the general staff of militarism and revanchism in Western Germany and

which is heading Germany towards a new war.

In pursuit of this criminal aim the German militarists are deepening the division of Germany and provoking fratricidal enmity among Germans.

In pursuit of this aim they are converting Western Germany into an instrument of the aggressive policy of the North Atlantic bloc.

In pursuit of this aim they have tied Western Germany hand and foot to the so-called "Bonn Treaty" which is more onerous and degrading to the German people than the Versailles Treaty. It is a matter of record that the Versailles Treaty did not dismember Germany and envisaged partial occupation of Germany for 15 years. The Bonn Treaty, however, dismembers Germany, turns Western Germany into a vassal province of a foreign state and legalises the occupation of all Western Germany for 50 years.

The Adenauer Government bears responsibility for Germany being without a peace treaty until now; it does not want a peaceful settlement of the German issue.

The Bonn rulers are impelling Germany onto the road of war. They again are inciting Germans against the peoples of Western and Eastern Europe. For The German people a policy of this kind is fraught with the same consequences which the policy of the Hitlerite clique brought upon the country. Mankind condemned the ringleaders of this clique as war criminals. But are not Adenauer and his group following in their footsteps?

Will German mothers watch silently while the militarists prepare another still more terrible carnage for their children? Will the German youth agree to be landsknechts and feed with their blood the war machine of the American aggressive circles? Will honest German

patriots allow the militarists to isolate Western Germany from the peace-loving peoples, to unleash an aggressive war which will inevitably arouse the great wrath of the nations, turn Western Germany into a zone of fire and destruction and end in the greatest tragedy for the German people?

If the entire German people want the German question to be settled in a peaceful way, no aggressive forces, neither transatlantic nor European, can prevent realisation of this lofty aspiration. Germany's destiny is in the hands of the German people.

We know that serious changes are taking place among the German people and that sober political leaders in Germany reject the path of war, the path of reviving militarism. The best forces of the German nation seek to ensure peace for Germany and to establish a united peace-loving democratic Germany.

The German Democratic Republic is called upon to play an historic role in attaining this lofty aim. The peace-loving peoples rightly see in it the beginnings of a new Germany, a Germany of peace and labour, democracy and progress.

Precisely because the German Democratic Republic is the bulwark of the peace-loving forces of all Germany the Soviet Union considers itself in duty bound to render it all-round support and assistance.

The possibility is being given the German people of creating a new era in their history, an era of Germany's peaceful development and prosperity. It was for this future that the finest minds of Germany aspired. The great Goethe dreamed of seeing "a free people stand on a free soil in all the glory of glad turmoil".

A real prospect is being opened to the German people of living in peace with the peoples or the Soviet

Union and France, Czechoslovakia and Poland, Britain and Belgium, of living in peace with all nations.

Over a long period many achievements of German thought and labour were used by the militarists for war. In conditions of peaceful development the German people will use the might of highly-developed industry, all the achievements of science and technique, all their creative forces and abilities to improve the living conditions of the population, to ensure the country's progress. Germany will be able to establish close economic relations with the peace-loving states, to get the necessary markets, to resume traditional trade relations with the countries of Eastern Europe and with other states. Only by following this path will Germany rise again as a great power and take an appropriate place among the nations of the world.

The time has come to ensure this possibility to the German people, to open the way for re-establishing their national unity, for creating a democratic peace-loving Germany.

The Soviet Union will continue in the future too to strive persistently for the speedy victory of the just cause of the peace-loving forces of the German people.

I toast the friendship of the Soviet and German peoples in the interests of world peace, I toast the Government of the German Democratic Republic and the health of Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl.

SPEECH BY OTTO GROTEWOHL, CHAIRMEN, COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AT DINNER IN KREMLIN, AUGUST 23, 1953

The Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic feels a great urge to express to the Government of the U.S.S.R. and to the Soviet people as a whole its heartfelt gratitude for the warm and friendly reception and for the tremendous attention accorded our delegation and thereby the whole German people.

This evening you have once again drawn a picture of how the national self-destruction of the German people took place in the past. Our duty is to see to it that the German people do not take for the third time the path leading to destruction. That is why we have come to you, to the camp of peace.

During the sojourn of the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic we have discussed together with the Government of the U.S.S.R. national problems of great significance for the German people: the question of the signing of a peace treaty with Germany and the need to summon a peace conference for this purpose, the question of preparing a peaceful and democratic settlement with the aim of ensuring the unity of Germany through all-German free elections after the formation of a Provisional All-German Government. Also among the questions are the proposals of the Soviet Government for easing the economic and financial situation of the German Democratic Republic arising from the consequences of the war and the

dismemberment of Germany. The discussion of these questions, which are of vital importance for the German people, was highly successful. The Government of the German Democratic Republic and together with it all German patriots see in the decisions of the Soviet Government the firm desire of the Government of the U.S.S.R. to expedite the signing of a peace treaty. The fact that the alleviations it proposed for Germany as a whole were immediately granted to the German Democratic Republic affords the entire world and the whole of Germany indisputable proof of the resolve of the Government of the U.S.S.R. to achieve a final settlement of the German problem. The German people see in the Note of the Soviet Government of August 15, addressed to the Western Powers, the concrete proposal of the Soviet Union for peaceful settlement of the German question on a democratic basis. This Note has filled the hearts of all peace-loving men and women in Germany with joy and gladness because it shows the real way to the restoration of the unity of Germany and brings nearer the decisive stage of signing a peace treaty with Germany. The imperialist Western Powers—USA, Britain and France—do not recognise the right of the German people to a peace treaty. In support of this they say that an all-German government does not exist. After the Note of the Soviet Government and after our negotiations this pretext has lost all sense.

We hold that the proposal of the Soviet Government for establishing, through the Parliaments of the German Democratic Republic and of the Federal Republic, a Provisional German Government signifies the beginning of the solution of the German problem which can be effected in two ways. The pretext that an all-German Government does not exist now falls to the ground. An

all-German Government can be formed in Germany immediately if the Western occupying powers relinquish their opposition to the Soviet proposals and if the German people in West and East Germany reach agreement. We are convinced that for their part the German people as a whole will support the proposals submitted by the Soviet Union to the Western Powers and will demand the realisation of these proposals.

We also consider that Germany, like her neighbours and all peace-loving peoples, is interested in preventing the rebirth; as a result of the Bonn and Paris treaties, of German militarism and fascism. In order to prevent Western Germany from being transformed into a militarist state threatening peace in Europe we shall do all in our power to see that the will of the peace-loving democratic forces in Germany is carried out.

Our talks and negotiations have reinforced our unshakable belief that the Soviet viewpoint and the Soviet proposals for the settlement of the German question are based entirely on respect for the rights and national dignity of the German people. Today, after 8 years, the dismemberment of Germany can be ended by means of re-unification. This corresponds to the most heartfelt national strivings and aspirations of the German people.

The decisions of the Soviet Government concerning economic aid to the German Democratic Republic are, for the German people as a whole, proof of the selfless, friendly support of the Government of the U.S.S.R.

The negotiations of the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic with the Government of the U.S.S.R. took place in the spirit of peace and friendship of the peoples and helped in strengthening and furthering friendly relations between the German

Democratic Republic and the Soviet Union. Every measure envisaged and advanced by the Soviet Government signifies for us tangible assistance, brings the population of the German Democratic Republic essential relief and helps us to convince our compatriots in Western Germany that the Soviet Government is the very best and most reliable friend of the entire German people. This knowledge will prompt the German people to intensify the struggle for their national rights on the side of the great Soviet Union and the other countries of the great camp of peace and to promote the preservation of peace in Europe and throughout the world. That is why we once again express to the Soviet Government and the whole Soviet people our deep-felt, boundless gratitude.

Long- live the Government of the U.S.S.R.!

Long live the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., Comrade Malenkov!

Forward, in the struggle for peace, progress and democracy!

WAY OF NATIONAL UNITY AND PEACE

German People Wholeheartedly Approve Results of Moscow Negotiations

The German people enthusiastically welcomed the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic on its return from Moscow. All German patriots, all honest Germans warmly applaud the results of the negotiations between the Soviet Government and the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic. The radio stations in the Republic repeatedly broadcast the texts of the documents of the negotiations. In the towns and villages spontaneous meetings were held at which working people voiced their gratitude to the Soviet Union and their resolve to fight for a united, peace-loving, democratic Germany.

Meetings and rallies dedicated to the results of the Moscow negotiations are taking place in many enterprises in the Republic. Editorial boards are receiving a steady flow of congratulatory letters and telegrams from working people. The results of the Moscow negotiations are the main topic of the newspapers in both the East and West of the country.

On August 24 Wilhelm Pieck, President of the German Democratic Republic, received the Government Delegation which informed him of the results of its negotiations with the Soviet Government. Wilhelm Pieck made a speech at the reception, "Sincere joy and profound gratitude fill our hearts", he said. "This is

gladness occasioned by the fact that the negotiations between the Soviet Government and our Government Delegation have also brought exceptionally favourable results for the German people as a whole. This is gratitude to the Government of the U.S.S.R. which displayed such profound understanding of the national situation of our people and such generous readiness to aid our German Democratic Republic”.

Wilhelm Pieck stressed: “This is genuine aid free from any desire for profit. This is friendly aid which can be given to another nation only by a socialist state”.

Concluding W. Pieck said: “Our resolve is clear: we have chosen the path of national unity and peace!”.

On August 25 an extraordinary session of the People’s Chamber of the German Democratic Republic opened in Berlin. O. Grotewohl’s report on the negotiations which the Government Delegation conducted in Moscow was heard with keen attention by the deputies and was repeatedly punctuated with applause.

O. Grotewohl stressed in his report that the keynote of the negotiations between the Soviet Government and the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic was the resolve of the Government of the U.S.S.R. to build its relations with Germany on the basis of complete equality and respect for the rights and national dignity of the German people.

Grotewohl outlined in detail the content of the Moscow negotiations.

He emphasised that the German people must draw lessons from their history, and, in keeping with their vital interests, prevent the realisation of the disgraceful Bonn and Paris war treaties, must not permit the militarist and revanchist forces in Western Germany to

unloose a new destructive war against the peace-loving nations, a war which would bring the German people to even greater national disaster.

Grotewohl particularly stressed that the Soviet Union is rendering large-scale aid to the German people and the German Democratic Republic, for this is essential in the interests of defending peace in Europe, in the interests of all peace-loving nations.

In conclusion Grotewohl reaffirmed that the German Democratic Republic—the mainstay of the peace-loving forces throughout Germany—will, in the future too, strive to establish a united, peace-loving, democratic Germany.

Other speakers at the session of the People's Chamber included the Deputy Prime Ministers of the German Democratic Republic O. Nuschke, Dr. L. Bolz and Dr. H. Loch.

A grand meeting of the working people held in Berlin on August 26 and devoted to the results of the Moscow negotiations was attended by over 150 thousand people. Otto Grotewohl and Waller Ulbricht addressed the meeting. The meeting unanimously adopted a telegram of greetings to Comrade G. M. Malenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R.

PEACE-LOVING PEOPLES WELCOME RESULTS OF SOVIET-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS

CHINA

The Chinese newspaper “Kungjenjihpao”, in an editorial entitled “Important steps for peaceful solution of the German question”, says that the Moscow negotiations are of vital importance for peace in Europe and for the further development of friendship between the Soviet and the German peoples.

“Settlement of the German question and elimination of the threat of rebirth of militarism in Germany”, it continues, “is the cherished aspiration of the people of Germany and of all European countries. The peace-loving peoples, closely linking the German problem with European and international security, are successfully fighting to avert a new war; they are demanding a peace treaty with Germany and the establishment of a united, independent, democratic and peace-loving Germany”.

The newspaper “Laotungpao” states that the Soviet-German communique clearly testifies to the further development of friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Germany. The concrete decisions taken by the Soviet Government will benefit the German people. The communique advanced simultaneously a number of just measures for the solution of the German question as a whole and showed the sole correct path for

achieving this aim. The newspaper adds that the communique will be of great significance and an effective factor in consolidating universal peace.

POLAND

In an editorial headed "Invaluable contribution to the cause of consolidating peace and security in Europe", "Trybuna Ludu" writes that the decisions adopted as a result of the Moscow visit of the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic and the statement by Malenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R., are a big contribution to the cause of a peaceful settlement of the German question and are of great significance for frustrating the criminal designs of the aggressors and consolidating peace in Europe, and the security of the European nations and of the Polish nation.

The Polish nation, continues the newspaper, like the peoples of the Soviet Union and all peace-loving nations, is vitally interested in the unification of the German state on a democratic footing. In establishing a peace-loving, democratic Germany. The Polish people are aware of the significance of the struggle waged by the peace-loving democratic forces of the German people and fully support this struggle. The Polish people are confident that these forces, the forces of peace in Germany, will triumph over the forces of war. The bulwark and the stronghold of these forces is the German Democratic Republic, the first democratic and peace-loving state in the history of the German people,

a state which is linked to Poland with bonds of friendship across the peace border on the Oder and Neisse.

The decisions adopted in Moscow will lead to an upsurge of the national economy of the German Democratic Republic and will strengthen the forces of peace and democracy in Germany; they are directed against the machinations of the revanchists and the neo-Hitlerite revisionists; in this way they strengthen the security of Poland. Consequently, the Polish people warmly support these important decisions which they regard as a new contribution to the cause of consolidating world peace and the independence of their homeland.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Czechoslovak newspapers stressed editorially that the Czechoslovak people, neighbours of Germany, are vitally concerned in a peaceful solution of the German problem. Hence, they unanimously hail the just peace-loving moves of the Soviet Union aimed at ensuring a speedy peace treaty with Germany, at restoration of the national unity of Germany on a peaceful and democratic basis, and wholeheartedly welcome the results of the Moscow negotiations.

“Rude Pravo”, central organ of the Communist Party, published an editorial on the negotiations headed “Soviet Union—the best friend of the whole German nation”. It is impossible, it said, to overestimate the significance of the selfless economic aid given by the

peace-loving Soviet Union to the German Democratic Republic. This concrete generous aid will convince the millions of West German citizens that the Soviet Government is the true and reliable friend of the whole German nation. The peoples of the world see again and again that the Soviet Union, as has always been the case, accompanies its proposals for a peaceful settlement of controversial questions by genuinely peaceful actions. The peoples of the world with every justification await the contribution of the Western powers to the cause of the further solution of the German question. Day by day the voice of the millions of peace fighters sounds louder, resolutely demanding that the concrete proposals contained in the Soviet Note of August 15 be adopted, and condemning the path of militarisation and fascist provocation.

HUNGARY

The entire press in Hungary commented editorially on the Moscow visit of the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic and on the results of the negotiations. An editorial headed “For the future of the German people—for peace in Europe”, published in “Szabad Nep”, highly evaluates the significance of the Moscow negotiations and the aid given by the Soviet Government to the German nation. “By this great practical support for the national struggle of the German people the Soviet Union is strengthening peace in Europe and, consequently, throughout the world”.

The people of Hungary, the editorial continues, are in full agreement with those who hail the recent moves

of the Soviet Government, which are an Important contribution to the struggle for universal peace. Moreover, our people enthusiastically hail the results of the Moscow negotiations from the point of view of their vital national interests. Our people are fully aware that the security and international situation of our homeland depends now, as was also the case before, on how the German question is solved. Our people remember the lessons of the last 40 years... which for us were a period of two bloody national catastrophes; and in both cases German imperialism was the force which directly embroiled us in war.

The newspaper concludes: "Our people respect and support the persistent and resolute struggle of the Soviet Union for a peaceful settlement of the German question this common cause both of the German people and of all the peace-loving peoples of the world!".

RUMANIA

With great interest and profound satisfaction the Rumanian people welcome the highly important documents resulting from the negotiations between the Soviet Government and the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic.

In an article headed "Decisions of great importance for the German people and for the cause of peace", "Scanteia" commented: "These negotiations are a big contribution to the cause of peace in Europe and throughout the world. They are another vivid illustration of the sincere wish of the Soviet Union for securing a peaceful settlement of the German

problem”.

In contrast to the deal between the three Western powers and the Adenauer clique, which is known as the “Bonn treaty”, “Scanteia” continues. the proposals of the Soviet Government for a peace treaty with Germany stand out dearly, since they take into account the vital interests of the German people, their striving for freedom, unity and national independence and enable Germany to become a great power again and to take her place among the nations. How noble is the generous aid of the Soviet Union which will give a mighty stimulus to the national economy of the German Democratic Republic and greatly contribute to the constant improvement of the standard of living of her population!

The Rumanian people, writes the newspaper, have seen from their own experience the rich fruit of the all-round aid and support of the U.S.S.R. The Rumanian people are deeply interested in the success of the struggle of the peace-loving forces of the German people for the establishment of a united, peace-loving and democratic Germany.

BULGARIA

The communique on the negotiations between the Soviet Government and the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic was welcomed by the Bulgarian people with great enthusiasm. The press featured the full text of the communique and of the Protocol ending the German reparation payments and other measures for easing the financial-economic

obligations of the German Democratic Republic, the speeches by G. M. Malenkov and Otto Grotewohl, and reports on the visit of the Government Delegation to the U.S.S.R., etc. In addition, "Rabotnichesko Delo" published an editorial headed "For a united Germany, for peace and security in Europe", which points out that the Moscow decisions are brilliant and impressive results and at the same time another manifestation of the firm and consistent peace policy of the great Soviet state; these are further proof of the constant and persistent strivings of the Soviet Union for a peaceful settlement of all unsolved international problems, for lessening the international tension, for consolidating peace in Europe and throughout the world.

The entire press commented editorially on the results of the negotiations. "Narodna Mladej" in an editorial headed "For a united Germany, for world peace" commented:

"The Soviet Union is fighting for a speedy triumph of the just cause of the peace-loving forces of the German nation".

FRANCE

The Soviet-German negotiations evoked keen interest among public opinion in France, "l'Humanite" recalling the machination of the West German revanchists headed by Adenauer says that in these conditions the Soviet Government acted as the French Government should have acted had it displayed the slightest care for the interests of the country.

Subordinating our country to the Atlantic bloc, it continues, arming the Wehrmacht and maintaining the dismemberment of Germany aggravate the danger that the second alternative, pointed out by Malenkov, might triumph. The Bonn and Paris agreement mean that France will be dragged into a crusade of which Adenauer dreams. On the other hand, acceptance of the Soviet proposals can open up a new era of peace.

UNEMPLOYMENT AND POVERTY— INVARIABLE COMPANIONS OF BONN ECONOMIC POLICY (From Materials in German Press)

Lavishly financed by the West German monopolies and prompted by their masters from across the ocean the Bonn government coalition is sparing no effort, on the eve of the elections to the Bundestag, to paint the results of its four years domination in brighter colours.

Contrary to the fiction paraded by the reactionary press the West German patriotic and democratic forces are correctly evaluating the results of the anti-national, treacherous acts of the Adenauer government. They know that it was the policy of militarisation, the policy of preparing for war and dismemberment of Germany pursued by the Adenauer government which resulted in serious economic consequences, in a sharp fall in the standard of living of the working people in the Bonn domain of the USA.

Angling for votes in the last election the present Bonn rulers promised the West German population full employment, improved well-being, large-scale house building, a progressive social policy, land reform and many other things. In reality, docile to the will of the U.S. monopolies, the Adenauer government is turning Western Germany into the biggest U.S. military springboard in Europe, is pursuing an invariable policy of militarisation and waging a ceaseless offensive against the standard of living of the working people. At

the same time it is creating, by means of various machinations, all the prerequisites enabling the German monopolies to reap fabulous profits.

For the purpose of dodging tax payments, the big industrialists do not share part of the profits in the form of dividends, but allegedly plough them back into the concern. As was reported in the newspaper "Freies Volk" central organ of the Communist Party of 'Germany—official data show that alleged ploughed-back profits amounted in 1951 to about 14,200 million marks. In that same year the overall wage fund for factory and office workers comprised 19,400 million marks. This shows that the wages of working people could be raised by at least 50 per cent.

In the drive for maximum profits the monopolists are intensifying exploitation, using brutal methods of rationalisation and continuing to cut wages.

Prices for vital food products in Western Germany are soaring, leading to a steady decline in real wages. According to the journal "Wirtschaft und Statistik" the retail price for sugar in Western Germany in 1952 was one and a half times more than in the prewar 1938; bread and butter, almost double; potatoes, 2.3 times and meat 2.5 times more.

In 1950-52 alone the taxes squeezed out of the West German population soared 65 per cent. Simultaneously the wage tax was more than doubled and indirect taxation increased almost one and a half times. The total sum from taxes in the Bonn Republic rose from 10,800 million marks in the 1948-49 fiscal year to 26,400 million marks in the 1951-52 fiscal year. Rent is going up steadily and also the charges for communal services.

According to the data of the German Trade Union Association there are in Germany more than a million

widows whose husbands perished in the war, 1,400,000 fatherless children and 4,000,000 pensioners in need of urgent material aid.

Schäffer, the Bonn Finance Minister, declared in January 1953 that occupation expenditure in Western Germany in the period from 1945 to the end of 1952 swallowed over 44,000 million marks. In other words, every working man and woman in Western Germany has already parted with more than 2,000 marks to maintain the occupation troops. It follows that, with the average monthly wage being 300 marks, every worker has toiled nearly seven months for the upkeep of the occupation troops alone.

In its issue of August 18 "Freies Volk" pointed out that the realisation of the proposal of the Soviet Government for reducing the annual occupation expenditure so that this sum does not exceed five per cent of the state budget revenue would release for the German Federal Republic 8,200 million marks annually for satisfying the requirements of the working people. These 8,200 million marks, writes the paper, would suffice to increase by 50 per cent the pensions of war invalids, of the widows and orphans of those who perished during the war, to raise social insurance pensions, to build apartments for half a million people, to build 50,000 school premises and raise the wages of teachers.

But what does the Adenauer clique care about the privations suffered by the West German population. The U.S. ruling circles demand of their docile governments that they spend at least 10 per cent of the national income on armaments. During a recent visit to the USA Schaffer, Adenauer's Finance Minister, slavishly agreed to this demand. Addressing the X plenary meeting of the

Central Board of the Communist, Party of Germany on August 10 Max Reimann, Chairman of the Party said: **“For Western Germany this means that the formation of the mercenary units, would necessitate an expenditure of 19,000 million marks. This fact alone shows how false are all the election promises of the Government parties about raising the standard of living”**.

Adenauer’s anti-people’s economic policy is particularly ruinous for the industry and the working class of Western Germany. Under pressure of the U.S., which has disorganised the economy of Western Germany, output of enterprises producing for civilian needs is being curtailed and industry in Western Germany is taking on a one-sided character, which of course is to the advantage of the transatlantic plunderers. A consequence of this is a rapid rise in unemployment.

According to official data, obviously understated, there are about 15 million wholly unemployed in Western Germany, nearly 18 per cent more than in 1949 when the Adenauer government came to power. To this official number there must be added the one million so-called “long-term unemployed”, nearly half a million boys and girls without jobs and who are not studying, a million women who, because of the bad plight of the family, are forced to search for work. In addition there is a huge army of part-time unemployed.

Not long ago the Bonn rulers circulated rumours that the number of unemployed in Western Germany had declined (just on the eve of the election!) and was even under 1 million. But the press agency of the Social Democratic Party refuted this version, branding it as false and stating that in Western Germany there are

“from 4 to 5 million” unemployed. Thus there is one unemployed to every four or five people in employment.

The servile submission of the Bonn clique to the American monopolists has a particularly bad effect on the conditions of the youth. At present 1,625,000 boys and girls in Western Germany who have finished school are either unemployed or lack a profession. After onerous years of study, which were full of privations, 16,000 young doctors have no means of subsistence and no prospect of finding employment. Poverty, hunger and privation and the poisonous effect of the “American way of life” all have resulted in the fact that during the four years or the grim Adenauer reaction juvenile delinquency in Western Germany rose 160 per cent.

The ever-increasing tax burden, the preparation for a new war and the anti-people’s trade policy of the Bonn government all are resulting in wholesale ruination of the peasantry in Western Germany. Describing the situation in agriculture the newspaper “Freies Volk” wrote on July 31: “As is evident from the statement made by Niklas, Minister of Agriculture, at the agrarian congress in Bad Kreuznach, nearly 1 million small and middle farmsteads will be ruined by the ‘Green Plan’. The big landlords are waiting to lay hands on these, farms”.

At a time when the vegetable growers and market-gardeners in Western Germany cannot market their products and leave them to rot, the Adenauer government increased imports of vegetables by 40 per cent and fruit imports 30 per cent. The wine-growers in Phaltz, in the Rhine and other districts of Western Germany are more and more resolutely demanding that the Bonn rulers remove the obstacles placed in the way

of selling agricultural products on the old market (the territory of the German Democratic Republic). The market-gardeners of the Württemberg-Baden laender recently requested Otto Grotewohl, Prime Minister of the German Democratic Republic, to help them out of their plight by purchasing large quantities of plums, apples and other fruit, since they have no possibility of selling them in Western Germany.

The pro-American agrarian policy pursued by Adenauer has resulted in a situation in which large numbers of peasants are abandoning their plots, and this, in turn, is leading to a steady decline in the area sown to crops. For instance, it was officially admitted that, in the first six months, of this year, 25 thousand land tillers, cattle breeders and wine-growers in Western Germany had abandoned their holdings. During the years of Adenauer rule 23 thousand small and medium enterprises went bankrupt.

No easier is the plight of the vast mass of the intelligentsia in Western Germany. Distinguished scientists, engineers, doctors, composers and artists are, not infrequently, forced to work as labourers for next to nothing. The newspaper "Die Neue Zeituna" published by the Americans in Western Germany, cynically wrote early in August about the plight of composers in Western Germany: "Recently it was figured out, just how much composers earn. The result is appalling: 1,300 marks a year, that is, a little more than 100 marks a month". If we bear in mind that the average wage of the worker in Western Germany, which is a beggarly wage, amounts to 250-300 marks a month, it becomes clear that tens of thousands of intellectuals in Western Germany are doomed to starvation.

The working people in Western Germany are

becoming increasingly aware of who is responsible for the sharp deterioration that has taken place in their standard of living, for disorganising the West German economy. An elderly peasant woman from the village of Ottersweier (Wurttemberg-Baden) expressed the thoughts of the majority of the working people in Western Germany when she said: “Never in all my life have I experienced anything like this. Who is to blame? Adenauer. No one else but Adenauer. All of us know this”.

There is but one way out of the situation—the overthrow of the Adenauer government which is precipitating the German people to another great national catastrophe, and its replacement by a government capable of conducting a policy in keeping with the interests of the working population. And this is what the Communist Party of Germany calls on the voters in Western Germany to do.

TOWARDS FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL ECONOMY, TOWARDS FURTHER RISE IN WELL-BEING OF PEOPLE!*

August 23, the great festival of the people of Rumania, stands out as the beginning of a radical turn in the life of our country from the bourgeois-landlord regime of brutal exploitation and oppression of the working masses, to the people's-democratic system in which the working people have become the genuine and sole master of the country, the builder of the new socialist life.

Our people will forever retain boundless gratitude to and profound respect for the Soviet people, for their valiant armed forces which, under the leadership of the glorious Communist Party of the Soviet Union, saved the peoples of Europe and Asia from the threat of fascist slavery and shed their blood for the liberation of Rumania and other countries from the imperialist yoke.

Gone forever are the times when Rumania was a semi-colony of international capital, when the wealth of the country was plundered by foreign trusts. The aim of the age-old struggle of our people and the dreams of their great patriots were realised: Rumania, for the first time in its history, became a genuinely independent and sovereign state. The wealth of the country became the property of the people. Filled with confidence in their

* From address delivered by Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej at meeting in Bucharest, on August 22, on the occasion of the 9th anniversary of the liberation of Rumania by the Soviet Army from the fascist yoke.

creative forces, led by their tried Party, the Rumanian people are firmly marching along the pathway of people's democracy, the pathway of Socialism.

Successes of Which are Just People of Rumania are Justly Proud

During the nine years that have passed since the liberation of the country our people have won a big number of big successes of which they can be rightly proud.

At bedrock of these achievements lie the selfless, patriotic labour of the working class, of the working peasantry, and the fraternal, selfless aid of the Soviet Union.

During the years of people's rule industrial output in Rumania considerably surpassed the peak achieved under capitalism. In 1953 it will be almost 2.5 times greater than in 1938 and 3.5 times greater than in 1948.

The base for the development of the national economy as a whole—heavy industry and especially machine-building, created during the years of the people's-democratic system—is constantly growing. Our country is producing oil, mining and building equipment, machine-tools, tractors, agricultural machinery, electric motors, turbines, ball-bearings, industrial installations and equipment for the textile and food Industries.

Especially big headway has been made by the oil industry. The known oil deposits in Rumania have considerably increased and are constantly growing. In addition to the oilfields in the Prahova valley a big oilfield is being developed in Moldova. Rich oil deposits

have been discovered and are being worked in Oltenia, in the Pitesti region and other areas. By the end of 1953 oil output will amount to nearly 9.3 million tons against 8.6 million in 1936 (the maximum reached during the bourgeois-landlord regime) and 3.8 million in 1947. By the end of 1955 the oil output will exceed 11 million tons.

With the opening of new mines and reconstruction of the older mines the output of coal in 1953 will amount to 6.1 million tons, that is, it will be 2.4 times greater than in 1938. By the end of the Five-Year Plan period coal output will be in the neighbourhood of 8.5 million tons.

The electrification of the country is proceeding successfully. By the end of this year the capacity of the thermo- and hydroelectric stations will increase by 350 thousand KWT and will reach a total of 1,050,000 KWT. The capacity of the electric stations in 1955 will be about 1,380,000 KWT compared with the (100,000 KWT generated in the days of bourgeois-landlord Rumania. The electro-technical industry is developing rapidly and is producing complex mechanisms and aggregates.

As a result of reconstruction and enlargement of the iron and steel enterprises and construction of new blast furnaces and steel furnaces, steel output during the current year will amount to 750 thousand tons, that is, four times more than in 1938. Output of steel in 1955 will exceed 1 million tons.

A substantial increase was registered in the output of cement which this year will amount to over 2 million tons, that is, 4.5 times greater times in 1938. Big headway has been made in developing the chemical and lumber industries.

Development of the industry producing goods for

mass consumption is also on the upgrade. Compared with 1938 the output of consumer goods in 1952 rose as follows: cotton fabrics, 90 per cent; wool fabrics, 110 per cent; silk fabrics, 40 per cent; cotton-knitted fabrics, 110 per cent; wool-knitted fabrics, 180 per cent; leather footwear, 167 per cent.

The capacity of the older enterprises in the food industry has been extended and new bakeries, creameries, mills producing tomato and fruit paste, canned vegetables and fish and new refrigerator installations have been built. The prospects for the development of local industry are good.

Radical changes have taken place in the life of the working peasantry. With the fraternal aid of the working class the small and middle peasant households in our country have achieved substantial success. The conditions of the small and middle peasants have improved. Individual working peasants receive from the state high-quality seeds, agro-technical aid as well as credits for purchasing livestock, and other privileges. The personal consumption of the working peasants has increased. The number of schools, cultural and health establishments in the countryside is growing.

Some 300 thousand working peasant families have formed, on a strictly voluntary basis, more than 1,980 collective farms (with a total of 732 thousand hectares of cultivable land) and nearly 2 thousand associations for joint cultivation (with a total of nearly 250 thousand hectares of cultivable land).

There are 218 machine and tractor depots disposing of 9,680 tractors, 2,850 seeders, 1,440 binders, 2,970 cultivators which work on the fields of the collective farms, of the associations for mutual cultivation and on the fields of the working peasants in a number of

districts of the country. The state farms, now disposing of 4,400 tractors and other machines, gathered good crops of grain in a number of places.

The area sown to technical crops and particularly to cotton, increased.

The material and cultural level of the working people has risen and the number of workers has increased during the years of people's rule. The abolition of unemployment in our country—the scourge of the working people, the terrible companion of the capitalist mode of production—must be regarded as one of the biggest successes of the people's-democratic system. In our country, due to the steady upsurge of the national economy, our problem is not unemployment but shortage of manpower.

The quantity of goods placed at the disposal of the working people is growing: 54 per cent more goods will be sold to the population in 1953 through the state and cooperative trade network compared with 1950.

Capital investments during 1949-1953 for the needs of socio-cultural construction exceeded 3 billion lei. 1,730,000 square metres of dwelling space have been put into commission. Many cultural establishments, schools, universities, houses of culture, theatres, cinemas, the state opera house, polygraphic combinat, etc., have been built.

Large sums are appropriated annually for the leisure of the working people, social insurance and labour protection. A total of 443 thousand people, including 118 thousand children, will benefit from rest and treatment at the expense of the state and the trade unions during the current year. The numbers spending—their holidays at health resorts during each of the years 1954-55 will be far in excess of one million.

Far more attention is being devoted to the public health service. New sanatoria, hospitals and other establishments have been built to protect the health of the people.

The number of pupils and students attending elementary, secondary, vocational and higher schools has doubled compared with 1938. Science, art and literature are blossoming in our country as never before.

Our Shortcomings in the Sphere of Economic and Socio –Cultural Construction

The enlarged plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party, held on August 19-20, analysed the work of the Party and the Government in the sphere of economic and socio-cultural construction and established that, alongside the considerable achievements registered in our economic policy, there were serious shortcomings. The Central Committee holds the view that the elimination of these shortcomings must be the main concern of the Party and the Government at the present stage of laying the foundations of Socialism in the country.

First of all the rate of industrialisation, particularly in the sphere of heavy industry, was excessively accelerated, resulting in excessive capital investments in relation to the national income.

An incorrect ratio was established between the two large social funds comprising the national income: between the accumulation fund and the consumption fund. This resulted in an unsatisfactory rise in the

standard of living of the working people compared with the general development of the national economy.

Second, the distribution of capital investments did not fully correspond to the demands of the proportionate development of the branches of the national economy. While very considerable funds were earmarked for the development of heavy industry and for the carrying out of certain constructions work, agriculture, one of the main branches of the national economy, and also the industry producing consumer goods, did not receive sufficient capital investments. This led to a lag in agricultural production and in output of consumer goods.

Agriculture in our country disposes of big reserves and possibilities for development. However, as was pointed out by the Central Committee of the Party at the Conference of Leading Collective-Farmers in May 1953, agricultural development in our country lags behind industrial development.

The Party and state organs did not devote due attention to the farmsteads of the individual working peasants who prevail in agriculture. The fact was ignored that these farmsteads yield 75 per cent of the total grain for the market. The small and middle peasant households did not get adequate credits.

The collective farms in general did get assistance from the state but they did not have sufficient support in the matter of developing the publicly-owned property. The credits allocated to them were not used in full since the building materials needed by them were not supplied in sufficient quantities.

The state-owned agriculture is not making satisfactory use of the technique at its disposal. Many state farms suffer from state farms from poor

organisation of labour and bad management.

Animal husbandry lags far behind the other branches of agriculture. Although the head of cattle was gradually restored and in 1952 reached the prewar level, compared with the growing requirements of the population, there is still a shortage of meat and other products of animal husbandry.

There are also shortcomings in developing wine-growing and horticulture.

There are serious shortcomings in satisfying the demand for textiles, knitted goods, footwear, food products and household wares.

The present volume of trade cannot be considered satisfactory. Due to numerous organisational shortcomings the goods received by the state and co-operative trading network do not always reach the consumer in good time or in good condition.

The state and co-operative trading network is still inadequately developed, particularly, in the workers' districts and in the countryside.

The volume of house-building does, not yet fully meet the requirements of the working people, especially in the towns.

Abundance of Food and Consumer Goods for the Population

In order resolutely to eliminate the shortcomings and to improve in the near future the standard of living of the working population in town and countryside we must focus our attention on overcoming the lag in agriculture, in the output of the food and light

industries, in the output of household and other consumer goods and achieve an abundance of food and consumer goods.

Rectification of the course of our economic policy must signify a more correct distribution of the material means, particularly capital investments, and harmonious development of all branches of the national economy. For the purpose of achieving this aim the Government and the Central Committee of the Party deem it necessary to reduce the accumulation fund for 1953-55 to 27.8 per cent and raise the consumption fund to 72.2 per cent.

Of the total volume of capital investments we shall allocate, at the expense of curtailing appropriations for heavy industry and other work, an additional fund of 5,000 million lei for developing agriculture, manufacturing consumer goods, for housing and for satisfying other sociocultural needs. In 1955, capital investments in industry producing consumer goods and in agriculture will be double the 1953 investments.

The corresponding means and capital investments must be used for work which in a short time will yield results in raising the standard of living of the people.

The rate of industrialisation and growth of output in the various branches of industry must be fixed in conformity with requirements for the proportionate development of the entire national economy.

In the sphere of heavy industry particular attention must be paid to branches of industry which dispose of a solid raw materials base. This raw materials base will be expanded and efforts will be made to find new resources.

Capital investments in the food industry in 1953-55 will amount to about 1,800 million lei compared with

the 980 million lei stipulated in the Five-Year Plan. Output of the food industry—meat, fish, vegetable oil and sugar—will rise 40-60 per cent in 1954 compared with 1953.

Roughly 1,200 million lei will be invested up to 1955 in the textile and footwear industries—i.e. twice the amount previously allocated.

Output of cotton fabrics in 1954 will be roughly, 210 million metres and in 1955-250 million metres; woollen fabrics—30 million metres in 1954 and 32.5 million metres in 1955; silk fabrics—17 million metres in 1954 and 19 million metres in 1955. Production of leather footwear in 1955 should exceed 10 million pair, rubber footwear will be produced to the amount of approximately 4 million pair.

In order to ensure this growth in output we must utilise to the maximum the capacities of the industrial enterprises and intensify mobilisation of all their internal resources.

Measures will be taken to re-equip some of the branches of local industry and a definite quantity of materials will be allocated to them from the central stocks with a view to encouraging production.

Producer co-operatives, the production departments of consumer co-operatives and handicraftsmen can, to a considerable degree, contribute to ensuring greater output of consumer goods. Producer cooperatives will receive, credits for capital investment and also materials and equipment. Handicraftsmen will be given aid in the form of long-term, low-interest credits and also supplies of raw materials and auxiliary materials.

Surpass Prewar level of Agricultural Production

In order to improve the supplies for the population and to ensure raw materials for the light and food industries we must reach and surpass the prewar level of agricultural production, substantially increase production of grain, maize, potatoes, vegetables, meat and milk. The attention of the Party and Government must be focused on the grain question. Conditions must be ensured for further raising the yields of all crops, in the first place, by means of mechanisation, wide-scale introduction of up-to-date agro-technique and the training of the necessary agro-technical cadres.

In 1953-55 some six thousand million lei, i.e., more than twice the 1950-52 allocation, will be invested in agricultural development.

Constant attention will be devoted to increasing the productivity of animal husbandry, to expanding the fodder base, wine-growing and horticulture.

In order to boost agricultural production greater assistance than hitherto must be given to tile individual working peasants. The state will help the small and middle peasant households with tractors and other agricultural machinery, will provide cheap credit, agro-technical and zoo-technical aid, help them to acquire chemical fertilizers, building materials, encourage stock breeding and cultivation of technical crops. Prices for some trade-exchange goods will be reduced.

All this must lead to raising the incomes of the working peasants, to the development of their farmsteads and to a higher living standard and cultural level of the working peasants.

The plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party stressed that in going ahead with the socialist reorganisation of the countryside unflinching attention must be devoted to the organisational and economic strengthening of collective farms and associations for joint cultivation and to organising new collective farms and associations to the extent that the technical prerequisites permit, to training medium and higher cadres and convincing the individual working peasants of the superiority of socialist agriculture.

Collective farms and associations for joint cultivation will be helped so that they can become big producers of grain for the market as well as of potatoes and vegetables, that they should breed cattle, poultry and develop agriculture.

With this aim in view they will be granted long-term low-interest credits for capital investment and construction. They will be allocated credits in 1954 to the amount of 100 million lei, and in 1955- 200 million lei, and the conditions for using these credits will be ensured.

During the years 1953-55, the sum of 360 million lei will be allocated for irrigation in the drought-afflicted areas.

State farms must really become models of socialist farming.

The task of the state farms is to provide collective farms, the associations for joint cultivation and individual working peasants with selected seeds, pedigree stock, selected the seeds and fruit trees. Specialised state farms will be organised for production of grain, vegetables and potatoes, meat, milk, wool, etc.

In order to raise the role of the machine and tractor stations in the mechanisation of farm work and in organising agricultural production we must ensure, in the forthcoming years, consolidation of existing machine and tractor stations by supplying them with more machines and tractors and by opening new fully equipped depots. To provide agriculture with the necessary machinery and spare parts the tractor plant will produce, in addition to KD-35 caterpillar tractors, also wheel tractors, while a number of enterprises will be switched to large-scale manufacture of tractor-drawn machines and spare parts.

The working class is helping the working peasants in their struggle against kulak exploitation. Continuing the policy of restricting the kulaks the Party and Government at the same time condemn instances of violation of people's law and the abuses in imposing deliveries and taxation which result in a decline in agricultural production for the market and cause injury to the national economy. The Party and Government will give all possible aid to peasant households which, without exploiting hired labour, promote agricultural production.

The Central Committee has also charted a number of important measures designed to improve the system of state deliveries, contracting and purchasing.

Steadily Raise Standard of Living of Working People

Growth of consumer-goods production—food and manufactured goods—and increased output of

agricultural products for the market will lead to a significant increase of trade in the state and co-operative trading network the volume of which will reach 22,000 million lei in 1954 and roughly 26,000 million lei in 1955, and also in the trade done by collective-farms, collective-farm members and individual peasants.

It is necessary, simultaneously with strengthening state and co-operative trade, also to bring private trade into such spheres as sale of vegetables, fruit, dairy produce, eggs, poultry, fats, confectionery, the public feeding network, and sale of cottage-industry goods.

We must work perseveringly to reduce production costs and raise labour productivity in all spheres of production. The more significant the successes in raising labour productivity and the lower the cost of production, the more prices will fall and the higher will be the standard of living of the people and real wages of factory and office workers. A higher standard of living will also help to improve the system of wage rates in accordance with the economic-political significance of the given branch of industry.

The necessary improvements in remuneration for labour will be gradually introduced, before the end of 1953; in the following branches of industry: food industry, textiles and furniture making, the building materials industry, the oil industry (including geological survey), mining, the power industry, chemical industry, telecommunications, automobile transport, building and paper industries. In remuneration for labour, existing incentives such as progressive piece work and piece-work bonuses will be used on a wider scale.

During the years 1953-55 important measures will be taken in the sphere of socio-cultural construction.

Before the end of the Five-Year Plan the state will build and commission dwellings for more than 50,000 families. In addition working people can build houses on a co-operative basis or individually. The state will facilitate the building of these houses with credits and building materials.

Health services and labour protection, will be improved and allocations increased for construction of new schools, hostels and apartments for students; construction of new clubs, houses of culture, cinemas and sports grounds. will be stepped up, utility and communal services for working people improved and the charges for communal services reduced by 25-30 per cent.

Wages of the medical-sanitary personnel will be increased. Material conditions will be improved for scientific personnel in the institutes of the Academy of the Rumanian People's Republic and in the ministries, for workers of press and radio and for art workers.

We have everything necessary for the fulfilment of these tasks. The national economy of our country is developing along the pathway of steady advance. The achievements in the sphere of industrialisation, economic co-operation with all countries of the democratic camp and particularly the all-round aid of the great Soviet Union, the creative effort and initiative of the workers, the working peasants and intelligentsia make us confident that the task of steadily raising the material and cultural well-being of the working people will be successfully fulfilled.

Our confidence in the successful fulfilment of the new tasks advanced by the meeting of the Central Committee is derived from the fact that our people regard the policy of the Party as their own policy and,

resolutely and with unremitting energy, are fighting for its realisation.

Policy of Party Arises from Vital Interests of the People

The strength of the policy of the Party lies in its correctness, in the Party being guided by the great teaching of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, in the fact that all the decisions and measures taken by the Party come as a result of the collective work of its Central Committee.

In elaborating its policy the Party protocols from the vital interests of the people and relies on the support of the people. Life shows that utilisation of the Communist principle of combining the experience of the leaders with the experience of the masses ensures that the policy of the Party embodies in itself not only the wisdom and will of the Party but also the wisdom and will of all the working people. Life shows that the better and deeper the working people understand the policy of the Party, the higher their consciousness, the more actively they strive for its realisation and the greater their successes in building the new economy and culture.

The main task of the Party is to consolidate the alliance of the working class and the working peasantry—the basis or the people's-democratic system. Consolidation of the alliance with the working peasantry, given the leading role of the working class, is the guarantee for successful advance along the pathway of Socialism. We must constantly remember the counsel of the great Lenin to the effect that Socialism cannot be

built without a solid alliance with the million-fold masses of the working peasantry. Strictly to follow the tried Lenin policy—this is the first and foremost duty of our Party and the Government.

A serious improvement in the work of the Party organisations, trade unions, youth organisations and people's council in the sphere of economy, in the matter of rallying the popular masses of town and countryside for fulfilment of the assignments of the state plan, is indispensable for the realisation of the programme of the economic measures advanced by the plenary meeting of the Central Committee of the Party.

The people's-democratic system in our country disposes of tremendous possibilities for ensuring a further upsurge in the national economy, for the blossoming of culture, for a steady rise in the well-being of the people.

Our people's-democratic system and people's power are the greatest gain of the working people. Never before have the millions of working people in our country enjoyed such rights and freedoms, such opportunities for developing their creative initiative, their talents and abilities, for participating in the leadership of public affairs as in the years of people's rule.

The task of our Party is persistently to consolidate people's rule and the people's-democratic state—the chief instrument of building Socialism.

The state organs are obliged loyally to serve the working people, to display solicitude for the needs of the working people, ensure strict observance of people's law.

A feature of the Marxist revolutionary party is bold disclosing of shortcomings and open criticism of these

shortcomings before the people. In criticism and self-criticism we see the guarantee of our onward march, the tried method of eliminating shortcomings, for improving the Party and state work and the living expression of boundless confidence of the Party in the mighty creative forces of the people.

Our people can rest assured that the Rumanian Workers' Party and the Government of the Rumanian People's Republic will spare no effort in order to ensure for them a happy life, in order to realise the great aim of building a socialist society in our country.

We are celebrating the 9th anniversary of the liberation of our homeland in conditions of the successes registered by the entire camp of peace and democracy headed by the Soviet Union, in the struggle for easing the international tension, for peace, for averting a new world war.

The new peace initiative of the Soviet Union wrought profound changes among broad circles throughout the world in favour of easing the international tension, of settling controversial questions by means of negotiations and in favour of developing business relations among the countries.

Of all the international questions solution of which is demanded by the peoples, the German question is one of the vital questions for peace and security in Europe and throughout the world.

Despite the fact that more than eight years have passed since the war in Europe ended, Germany is without a peace treaty; it is dismembered while the Western Powers and the revanchist Adenauer

Government in Western Germany manoeuvre In every way trying to deepen and perpetuate the dismemberment of Germany. The path taken by the Western Powers leads to the revival of German militarism, to a more ominous threat of a new war.

The recent Note of the Soviet Government to the Governments of the three Western Powers is of particular significance since it proposes exactly what the peoples are now persistently demanding concrete measures and proposals for reaching agreement and easing the international tension. The people of Rumania and their Government hail the latest Soviet proposals for signing a peace treaty with Germany and settling the question of the unity of Germany because they fully correspond to the requirements of the security of the European peoples and to the vital interests of the German people.

Since the failure of the fascist gamble in Berlin the aggressive forces, attempting to frustrate the cause of strengthening peace, are doing their utmost to intensify the cold war; they are organising international provocations and underground activity in the countries of the democratic camp. The history of international relations has never known such arrogant interference in the Internal affairs of sovereign states.

Subversive gangs are being recruited from the off-scouring of society for the dollars appropriated by the state budget of the USA and attempts are being made to send saboteurs and terrorists to the territory of our country and to send pirate airplanes with provocative leaflets.

Attempting to cover up the failure of the notorious "policy of force" the slanderers and liars on the American radio disseminate lies about our country and

the other countries of people's democracy.

The people of Rumania know full well that behind the provocations directed against our country are the notorious oil, telephone and other trusts which to this very day have not become reconciled to the idea that they have lost the right to plunder and rule the roost in Rumania and who want to do nothing more nor less than "persuade" the workers and peasants of Rumania to renounce the historic gains won by them for the sake of restoring the rule of the landlords and capitalists.

Clearly, these circles simply make themselves look ridiculous.

The peoples who have tasted the fruits of genuine freedom, who have learnt to build their happiness will never again allow the yoke of exploitation to be foisted on them.

The Party and the Government must, undoubtedly; learn the political lessons and draw concrete practical conclusions from the activation of the imperialists and their agencies. We must display constant concern for the defence capacity of our country, for the armed forces of our Republic. The vigilance of the Party and the people must be constantly on the alert in order to frustrate any provocations by the enemies.

After the second world war the correlation of forces on the international arena changed in favour of the forces of Socialism and to the detriment of the forces of capitalism.

While the imperialist camp is rent with antagonisms and internal strife the democratic camp draws strength from the granite unity and fraternal co-operation of the member countries headed by the great Soviet Union. The democratic camp, comprising one-third of mankind, is a powerful factor for the preservation and

consolidation of world peace.

The people of Rumania and their Government, boundlessly loyal to the cause of peace, are straining every effort for peaceful construction and for improving the well-being of the working people. They will do all in their power in order to make their contribution to the cause of defending peace.

Fulfilment of the tasks advanced by our Party and Government will lead to a still more powerful upsurge of the national economy, to a rise in the well-being of the people, to strengthening the homeland.

The oneness of the Party, the Government and the people, is the guarantee of our march forward!

Our pathway is illumined by the great teaching. of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin.

Our Party, the Party dear to all working people, will confidently lead them to the victory of Socialism.

POLITICAL SITUATION IN ITALY. Mauro Scoccimarro Secretary, Communist Party of Italy

The June 7 general election marked a turn in the political situation of Italy and the beginning of a government crisis the solution of which to this day remains an unknown quantity.

The electoral success of the democratic forces and of the Communist Party in the first place was so significant that it led to real consternation in the conservative and reactionary ranks. Reaction received such a setback that for more than two and a half months it was unable to form a stable government and, while waiting for the political situation to clear up, it resorted to a subterfuge—to form a provisional government with a restricted programme. Such precisely is the nature of the Pella Government. Therefore it succeeded in getting a majority in Parliament. But the formation of this government means that the crisis has not been solved, it has simply been postponed.

In order to grasp the significance of the political crisis in Italy it is essential to recall the situation that prevailed prior to the June 7 election. During the past five years there had been created a political and social state of affairs in which the privileged capitalist groups and the most reactionary social forces, those who held sway in the days of fascism, believed that they had again won permanent and unquestioned domination

under the clerical and American protection. On the orders and under pressure of these protectors Italy has been forced into the strait-jacket of the Atlantic pact to which the political and economic independence of the country has been sacrificed. In internal life the way was paved for a thoroughly reactionary clericalism which, over a period of five years, prevented and sabotaged the realisation of the democratic principles of the republican Constitution and, in the final analysis, went so far as to demand its revision. With this aim in view a new electoral law was concocted which, in the opinion of reaction, was to ensure the monopoly of political power for the Christian Democratic Party. This law was designed to pave the way for the onslaught of reaction, for a real coup by means of which reaction hoped to block the popular movement and to exclude from the national life the parties of the working people and the Communist Party in the first place.

Confident of success, the clerical party and its Right-wing Socialist, Republican and Liberal allies plunged into struggle. They all believed that, after so many futile attempts, they would succeed, at last, in finding a method of smashing and throwing back the Communist and Socialist movement, of splitting the unity of the working class and creating a solid anti-Communist front. But they miscalculated. It turned out that the popular forces were able not only to rebuff the onslaught of reaction but to inflict heavy defeat on the enemy: the new electoral law was rejected, the Christian Democrats lost their absolute majority and their allies suffered serious defeat. The popular forces (Communists, Socialists and Left Democrats) made big strides forward, polling a million and a half votes more than in the previous general election. The Communists

polled more than six million of the ten million votes cast for the candidates of the Left opposition. This result caused panic and consternation among the ruling circles; at the same time it was gladly welcomed by the broad popular masses who experienced the feeling of the man who has just avoided serious danger.

What, then, has taken place since the general election? The Christian Democratic Party, after losing its absolute majority but still holding a relative majority and relying on it, declared that the voting of June 7 had not changed the situation one iota, that everything remained as it was, just as if the popular vote had not taken place at all. This shows that the reactionary forces, while conscious of the blow suffered by them, have not disarmed and have not relinquished their designs. Behind them stand the Vatican and the USA who resort to all kinds of intrigue in order to save their position. Expressing their intention and acting on their orders the Christian Democrats undertook to form a new government.

But the allies of the Christian Democrats, aware of the significance of the defeat, are more cautious. The Social Democrats, while demanding a change in policy in relation to the Left forces, are trying to get the Italian Socialist Party to break with the Communists. This is an attempt to split the unity of the working class and to pave the way for restoring the positions of the conservative and reactionary forces after the blows suffered by them. But this manoeuvre failed.

Then there are in Parliament the monarchist and fascist groups which, by using their vote, could have ensured a parliamentary majority for the Christian Democrats. But such an operation entailed the risk of splitting the parliamentary group of the Christian

Democrats and of bringing about a still more serious crisis. The clerical party keeps an eye on the Right, but does so in hypocritical and concealed form, lest it should expose itself and its reactionary policy.

These were the conditions in which de Gasperi tried to form a government. His first aim was to preserve for the Christian Democrats the monopoly of political power, and so he begged votes everywhere. A clerical government consisting exclusively of members of the Christian Democratic Party was formed. Everything had been taken into account... everything but the results of the popular vote of June 7. This attempt was made in such a brazen and arrogant way that it led to the fall of the government even during the discussion of its programme in the Chamber of Deputies.

After this an attempt was made to form a government headed by Piccioni—Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers in the de Gasperi government. But this government, too, failed even before it had time to submit its programme to Parliament. The reason was exactly the same: reluctance to take into account the outcome of the election and the new political situation in the country. Finally, a third attempt was made to form a government headed by Christian Democrat Pella, former Minister of the Budget in the de Gasperi government. This time the Christian Democrats acted more cautiously: it dawned on them in the end that they could not challenge public opinion with impunity: The clerical government which is being formed for the third time was presented under the signboard of a “provisional government” with a restricted programme envisaging the most urgent and burning problems; it is being formed “out of necessity” in anticipation of a possible clearing of the political horizon for the

formation of a stable government which would enjoy a stable majority in Parliament.

In order not to suffer disaster on the reefs which wrecked de Gasperi and Piccioni, the most discredited and the most hated clerical elements are being removed from the government; it attires itself in the toga of a government of truce, avoiding, even in words, any anti-Communist polemics. The programme contains phraseology which in a way reflects certain demands of the Left parties. However, these are but formal concessions. In essence, its policy is the policy of the former clerical governments. The chief aim is the same: to preserve the monopoly of political leadership in the hands of the Christian Democratic Party. With the aid of this government the Christian Democratic Party hopes to gain time in order to bring about the conditions that would enable it to by-pass the outcome of June 7. The directive is the same directive: nothing must be changed in the political leadership of the country.

However, the facts show that the clericals have abandoned their high and mighty manner, and that something very serious took place on June 7. The entire political and social state of affairs established in the country during the past five years is now in a state of crisis and also in a state of crisis is the Atlantic policy, as is the case in the other countries of Western Europe.

The voting of June 7 demonstrated to the privileged groups that the Christian Democrats had not established anything stable and that, without the unlawful interference by church and state in the election, this party would not even have a relative majority. The voting also showed that the arbitrary rule of the clericals threatens to undermine some of most effective means with which the ruling classes maintain their grip,

on the people. The Pella Government, by its new, outward attitude, also reflects this concern of the ruling classes.

But this in itself signifies that, from the government crisis, which has been postponed for the time being but not solved by the vote of confidence given to the Pella Government, there arise elements of a more profound crisis the development of which might become even dangerous should the vigilance of the masses be lessened in relation to the intrigues of the clericals who want to distort the will of the people.

The Communists know that the profound crisis now maturing has its source in the contradiction between the firm intention of the reactionary group to give up none of their privileges and the need now becoming more and more fully realised by big sections of the people for economic and social reforms in the interests of the economic and social progress of the country. The unity and co-operation of all the popular forces are the main prerequisite for overcoming this crisis and removing the grave consequences with which it is fraught. To uphold the present unity and fight for its extension—this is the main task of the Communist Party. This task can be solved only by struggle—in Parliament and in the country—for the realisation, even partially, of the election programme of peace, freedom and work with which the Communists won the confidence of such a considerable part of the people of Italy.

FASCIST TERROR IN SPAIN

The fascists in Spain are continuing their brutal repressions in an attempt to crush the rising struggle of the Spanish people for peace, against Franco's bloody dictatorship and against bartering the country to the U.S. imperialists.

Lopez Raimundo, Sebastian Zapirain and Santiago Alvarez are still languishing in prison even though their unjust sentences have expired. The falangist butchers refused to release them, thereby trampling on their own laws.

Thousands of men and women charged with fighting for peace and against Franco's policy of terror, hunger and poverty are subjected to savage torture in prisons and penitentiaries.

Thirty-two anti-fascists have been held for eleven months in a penitentiary in Ocana. The prosecutor is demanding the death penalty for the anti-fascist Telesforo Torres and his comrades, and long-prison sentences for the remainder of the patriots. Thirty-four miners arrested in Asturia were brutally tortured. Arrests were made also in Barcelona, San Sebastian, Gerona and Madrid.

The popular protest movement against the fascist terror is growing throughout the country. The demand for an amnesty for all the political prisoners resounds louder and louder.

MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, RUMANIAN WORKERS' PARTY

An enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party, held on August 19-20, heard, discussed and unanimously approved the report of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee submitted by Comrade Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej. The report was entitled: "The Tasks of the Party in the Sphere of Developing the National Economy and Ensuring a Steady Rise in the Well-Being and Cultural Level of the Working People". Proceeding from the interests of consistently carrying out the political line of socialist construction, the highest law of which is ensuring on an ever greater scale the material and cultural requirements of the working people, the meeting adopted the programme of economic measures outlined in the report. The meeting recommended that the Council of Ministers of the Rumanian People's Republic work out concrete steps necessary for carrying out the programme for a further rise in the well-being of the working people.

The meeting unanimously adopted a decision on the tasks of the Party in improving Party work and resolved to convene a congress of the Rumanian Workers Party in March next year.

ANOTHER VICTORY OF FRENCH PEOPLE

The French people have won another important victory in the struggle for the liquidation of the government plot directed against democratic freedoms and peace. Alain Le Leap, General Secretary of the General Confederation of Labour, Lucien Molino, Secretary of the G.C.L., Andre Stil, chief editor of "l'Humanite", Guy Ducolone and Paul Laurent, leaders of the Union of the Republican Youth of France all of whom had been held in prison for several months for their part in the struggle for peace and the interests of the working masses-have been released.

People of different political convictions and social status, public figures of varied trends-all took part in the powerful campaign for their release. The demand for the release of the patriots was voiced by many working people during the strike movement.

Thus, the popular masses secured the release of all the patriots arrested in the autumn of 1952 and in spring this year.

“EXPLOITS” OF AMERICAN SEAMEN

The calamity that overtook the inhabitants of the Greek islands of Kephallenja, Ithake and Zakynthos as a result of the devastating earthquake evoked heartfelt sympathy among all sincere people in the world. Many organisations and the Red Cross of the Soviet Union in the first place sent money to aid the victims. But “helpers” of another kind also turned up, whose “exploits” will long be remembered by the people of Greece and will be recalled with wrath and contempt.

At the moment the islanders were desperately battling against the consequences of the earthquake U.S. naval ratings landed on the islands.

Those naive islanders who believed that the seamen had come to help the victims clear away the debris soon had reason to become convinced of the contrary. The seamen, without losing a moment, began... looting. They ransacked the ruined houses and took with them to their ships everything they laid hands on, gold and other valuables.

The outrageous behaviour of the American seamen, their looting which was even admitted indirectly by the monarcho-fascist government of Greece, evoked indignation and protest among the people of the islands. So bitter was the indignation that the U.S. naval command hastened to withdraw the seamen and sailed away.

**GERMAN MILITARISM—GRAVE-DIGGER
OF GERMAN NATION. Drawing by E. Taru**



POLITICAL NOTES

EACH HAS THE FRIENDS HE MERITS

It is highly improbable that anyone would suspect a man like ...Lord Beaverbrook, capitalist press baron in Britain, of displaying any particular lack of respect for the U.S. "friends" of Great Britain. Yet the New York "Daily Mirror" recently discovered even Lord Beaverbrook fomenting... a "monstrous anti-American campaign". The paper complains that the campaign has assumed such proportions that U.S. variety artistes in Britain are booed "because they are Americans".

It is indicative that the wave of discontent and hatred of the people in Western Europe mounts the more the U.S. ruling circles cry about "a community based on common beliefs and common aims" in the Western world. Even capitalist newspapers and magazines in the U.S. such as "United States News and World Report", "Newsweek" and others have to confess that U.S. leadership has been seriously shaken in all European countries and that Washington is very much worried at the tendency in the countries of the "non-Communist world" to sever the bonds which linked these countries with the USA in the joint conduct of the "cold war".

This, for instance, was the unhappy conclusion drawn by Malcolm Muir, Chairman of "Newsweek's" editorial board, following his tour of "inspection" in Western Europe. "It is not pleasant to have to report this, but American prestige abroad is at an all-time low since the war", he wrote. The average European, says

Muir, “is no longer willing to follow Washington’s policies blindly”.

Seeking to halt, at least to a degree, the growing unpopularity of the U.S. abroad American ruling circles hastened to work out All manner of “measures” designed to justify their aggressive policy. Wall Street does not grudge dollars to trying to hold old “friends” in rein. For this purpose “militant funds” are created for achieving “understanding of the U.S. by Western Europe”, various “enlightening groups” and information services popularising the “American way of life”, and “regional committees” formed for studying ways for easing relations between Americans and the population of the European continent...

But all in vain!

The American diktat and gross violation of national sovereignty, the arrogant attitude towards other nations, the “cold war” policy, the policy of international provocations and sanguinary adventures never had any popularity and indeed cannot be popular will, the freedom-loving peoples. And today this policy is yielding its short-sighted inspirers particularly bitter fruit. The dollar is regarded as the symbol of dishonour all over the world.

No dollar doles by American bankers can help the U.S. win the sympathies of the peoples. True, dollar doles can keep on their feet a few bankrupt blackmailers and provocateurs of the type of Syngman Rhee, Chiang Kai-shek, Adenauer and their ilk. But these are about the only “friends” of the U.S.

Well, each has the friends he merits.

Jan MAREK

FSCTS EXPOSE...

Illiteracy in Yugoslavia

According to the census carried out in Yugoslavia last March every fourth citizen is unable to read and write. Women constitute 72 per cent of the illiterates.

2,362 illiterates—40 per cent of them women—work in three enterprises in the Zenica region (centre of the war industry). This, however, does not prevent the workers from knowing about the tags glued to the boxes containing the goods produced in their factories and from resolutely protesting against the rising war expenditure and militarisation of the country, one of the results of which is the illiteracy.

OIL CITY IN THE GOBI. Li Chi. Chinese Writer

Beyond Chiayukuan, the westernmost pass of the world-famous Great Wall, lies Northwest China's vast Gobi Desert which fades into the horizon. There are no trees and hardly any grass in this immense desert...

Like a long ribbon of silvery silk, the highway bears westward, linking the flat Gobi Desert with the Chilien Mountains that tower above the clouds. Travelling by car you gradually realize the atmosphere is getting rare and a little chilly. Take a look ahead as far as the eye can see. At the foot of the Chilien Mountains a forest of smoke-stacks, tall and grey factory buildings, and row after row of neatly-arranged workers' homes come into view. As the car pulls up at the big arch-shaped gate with the signboard "Yumen Oilfield" and you see the neat and straight avenue lined with bright, green poplars, the numerous oil derricks scattered over hill and plain, the streams of lorries and groups of workers singing on their way to work then you really experience a feeling of surprise at what you see in the Gobi at the foot of the Chilien Mountains, over 2,400 metres above sea level.

The first impression is that of the greatness of the labour and creative power of the Chinese working class.

The Yumen Oilfield is the pride of our country. Its rich oil deposits and the fact that it is typical of the many new oilfields that are being drilled and exploited in Northwest and Southwest China completely explode the nonsensical claims of the imperialists that "China is poor in oil". Now we can proudly say that this vast land of ours has not only inexhaustible resources of coal, iron

and various non-ferrous metals, but also abundant deposits of oil. We have all the material resources required for the industrialisation of our country.

Under the Kuomintang reactionary regime, the predatory management of the bureaucratic capitalists and feudal warlords ravaged the Yumen Oilfield in the full sense of the word. They took no care of the oilfield and paid no heed to preserving the oil wells. They drilled wells at random with the result that oil often gushed out uncontrolled, and there were frequent fires. In 1942, a fire virtually destroyed more than half of the oilfield. When a well ceased to flow naturally, the management never sought to repair or clean it by scientific methods, they simply abandoned it. They never treasured crude oil, spilling it all over the place and even allowed drums and tanks of oil to be washed away by flood waters. In those dark days the oil workers were subjected to severe exploitation—so severe they could hardly eke out a living. Honest geologists and oil specialists were likewise made victims of repressive measures and given no opportunity to display their technical abilities.

In September 1949, the reactionary Kuomintang regime was overthrown and the people's-democratic system was established. The workers became masters of the oilfield. Thousands and thousands of oil workers who lived in cave-dwellings or pits dug in the hills warmly supported their own state power and the new social system. With their oil-stained hands they immediately began to restore the wrecked oilfield. Working under the leadership of the Communist Party and the Government these real masters of the oilfield, displaying amazing labour enthusiasm, completely changed the face of the oilfield in the less than four

years since the liberation. One after another, abandoned and sealed wells have been put back into exploitation. As a result of joint efforts by geologists and oil workers under the everyday leadership of the Party and the Government, the area of the oilfield has been increased several times. Many new derricks have been erected in the hills and in the plain. The amount of crude oil produced now exceeds that produced in Kuomintang days by more than three times. Many new oilfields are being exploited in the vicinity of the Yumen Oilfield. "Finding new oilfields for the homeland" is no longer the dream of thousands of oil workers, it has become a reality.

The superiority of the people's-democratic dictatorship under the leadership of the working class has enabled the working class to fully develop its creative powers. It is this decisive factor which makes it possible to change the face of the oilfield almost daily. Our Party and Government, in their decisions, have called on one and all to make bold efforts in achieving the great task of industrialising our motherland. New labour heroes emerge regularly in every working learn, in every workshop and in every small group. Their names are made known to the whole country by newspapers and the radio and become household words. One of them is the veteran driller Kuo Meng-ho who suggested the use of an additional "mud-collecting device" while drilling wells. Because of his rationalisation proposals, the drilling of wells saves the country 160,000,000 yuan a year. Liu Kungchih is an expert in bringing abandoned wells back into operation. He is a repairer of wells. Although he is quiet, seldom saying a word all day long, his heart burns with enthusiasm. Once he drilled six shallow wells in one and

a half months.

Large-scale construction requires the services of a large number of new and young skilled workers. In this connection, our older workers have made a special contribution to our motherland. Liu Kung-chih trained six young workers to master the technique of drilling wells in the short space of 20 days.

We must not leave out the young workers who are full of vitality and who constitute the majority of the oil workers. The No. 3 Wutzutemu well-drilling team, well-known in the oilfield, is headed by 23-yearold Fu Chihlung. The Wang Kuan team of the petroleum-department of the oil refinery, composed mainly of young workers and members of the Youth League, has been awarded the honoured title; “model team”. Some small transport groups have been formed by young peasant women, who until recently lived in remote villages. There are also young women-surveyors imbued with the vigour and enthusiasm peculiar to youth. They have set production records which are by no means inferior to those of their male colleagues.

Praise, should also go to the men of the Chinese People’s Liberation Army. Fighters with weapons in hands only yesterday, they have now become workers skilled in drilling wells and extracting oil. Chang Chuanti, skilled repairer of Diesel engines, was a combat hero known for resourcefulness and bravery. He was wounded twice in the War of Liberation. Cheng Ching, a hero who won renown as a “tank-killer” in the Huaihai Battle, is now a driller, standing on the derrick with the feed lever in his hand and watching the pressure gauge.

Our national construction for a prosperous and happy life is fully supported by the entire camp of

peace and democracy. Here, in particular, we should mention the fraternal and selfless aid of the Soviet people. This aid plays an invaluable role in the construction and development of our oil industry. We have received, warm help from Soviet experts in all fields, ranging from installation of equipment and machinery to introduction of working methods, from carrying out geological surveys, drilling and extracting of oil to such work as storage of raw materials and equipment. The names of the Soviet experts, like dear friends, are on the lips of every worker in the oilfield.

To study advanced Soviet experience this resounding slogan is common among oil workers and technicians.

*

“Make the most of every minute!” This is the most popular slogan in the oilfield. The drillers exert every effort to drill deeper with each passing minute; workers engaged at the refinery, builders, mechanics and transport workers—all strive to do more work every minute. The oilfield is growing and developing minute by minute with each passing second. Today things are different from yesterday. The production record of the second team is different from that of the first. New things happen every day. Following the example of the oil-pumping department which fulfilled the oil-extraction plan for May 1953 one and a half days ahead of schedule, the model drilling team headed by Vang Teng-hsueh fulfilled the drilling plan for the month of June nine days ahead of schedule. Having drilled to a depth of 138.63 metres in one working day, the team thus set a national record. Driller Li Chih-ming aptly remarked:

“Not only each minute counts. Every second is, also valuable for us because every second makes, us advance one step nearer to Socialism.”

Inspired by the grand prospects of China's industrialisation, the oilmen are working selflessly day and night to overfulfil the first-year production quota, of China's Five-Year Plan of national-economic construction. At the same time, they are getting ready for a much more important and glorious job in 1954, the second year of the Five-Year Plan. Next year, the number of derrick engines to be used for drilling wells will be more than doubled. The number of oil producing wells will be about four times more than the present figure. Crude-oil production will be increased by more than 250 per cent over this year's. Many new workers' homes and a palace of culture for oil workers will be built next year. The oil district will double in size. Imagine what the once desolate and forsaken Gobi will look like on the completion of the first Five-Year Plan.

“By that time, the entire part of the Gobi Desert at the foot of Chilen Mountains will be dotted with oil derricks; electricity will be installed. At night the mountains will be brilliantly lit. The socialist reconstruction of our motherland will have taken a big stride forward” says 60-year-old worker Liu Chun-ho. This veteran worker, who has worked for 40 years, always speaks about Socialism with the enthusiasm of youth no matter with whom he may talk. His age entitle him to retire. He has invariably turned down the suggestion that he should retire.

Standing on an elevation outside his house and grazing at the oilfield illuminated by thousands of electric lights, he told the trade union chairman who was persuading him to retire:

“Every day you people advise me to retire But you never give it a thought... How can I rest when work on the oilfield is going on day and night?... I also want to take part in building the new life and I will work as long as I can!”

These are the proud words of an ordinary worker. They reflect the confidence and determination common to everyone who lives and works in this oil city. How can we fail to be successful when we have men like these—and we have thousands upon thousands of such people.

EDITORIAL BOARD

**Journal "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy"
appears every Friday. Address of Editorial Office and of
Publishing House: 56, Valeriu Braniște, Bucharest.
Tel. 5. 10.59.**