

Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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BULWARK OF PEACE-LOVING FORCES OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE

Four years have passed since the founding of the German Democratic Republic. Together with the advanced patriotic forces of the German people this important date was marked by all peace-loving people striving to consolidate European and international security and who sincerely desire the realisation of the national aspirations of the German people in the matter of re-establishing a united, peace-loving, democratic German state.

Two paths, two lines of development are clearly defined in Germany's post-war development. One is the path of peace, national unity, the path of transforming Germany into a peace-loving democratic state which can become one of the vital factors for strengthening peace and security in Europe. The other path is the Path of dismembering Germany, the path of reviving aggressive German militarism, or converting Germany into the main European centre for new aggression, into a centre for a third world war.

As is evident from recent political events in Western Germany the influence of the revanchist elements has grown considerably due to the growing pressure exerted by the U.S. reactionary circles who rely on the German monopolies. The Adenauer clique has begun to talk quite openly in the language of aggressive policy, threaten the cause of peace in Europe and greatly endangering the existence of the German people.

The Adenauer Government has tied Western Germany to the enslaving Bonn and Paris military "treaties." These "agreements" deepen the dismemberment of Germany, turn Western Germany

into a vassal province of a foreign state, legalise the occupation of the whole of Western Germany for fifty years, provide for the use of the West German Army, now in the making, as the battering ram of the North Atlantic bloc. Seeking to suppress the mounting resistance of the people to this criminal policy, above all the resistance of the working class in Western Germany, the Bonn rulers, following in the footsteps of the Hitlerites, adopt naked fascist terror methods against the partisans of peace and democracy.

The aggressive strivings of the West German imperialist and militarist forces are guided by the ultra-reactionary circles of the Western Powers and, in the first place, of the USA. Trampling on the international obligations previously assumed by them these reactionary circles persistently pursue a policy of dismembering Germany, of reviving German militarism with a view to using Germans as cannon fodder, and the territory of Germany as a springboard for the realisation of their aggressive designs.

But the German people who have passed through the grim school or life are becoming increasingly conscious of the fatal consequences of this pathway, of the fact that the new aggressive war which the U.S. imperialists and the West German militarists are plotting would inevitably evoke the great wrath of the peoples, would convert Western Germany into a zone of fire and slaughter and culminate in the greatest tragedy for the German people.

The advanced patriotic forces of the German nation are rallying in struggle to uphold the unity, freedom and independence of their country, to ensure its development along the pathway of peace and democracy, along the pathway of friendship and co-operation with the other nations. The noble aims of the struggle correspond to the vital interests of all the

German people, to the interests of all peace-loving peoples in Europe. The success of this struggle depends above all on the German people themselves. Should the German people as a whole want the German problem settled by peaceful means, then no aggressive force, neither from across the ocean nor in Europe, can prevent the successful culmination of this just cause in the interests of peace and inter-national security.

The German Democratic Republic is the reliable mainstay of the German people in the struggle for a peaceful settlement of the German question. It is called upon to play an historical role in the matter of creating a united, peace-loving and democratic Germany.

The four years' experience of peaceful development of the German Democratic Republic as a peace-loving and democratic state in which the decisive positions are held by the working class, where the old imperialist and militarist forces have forever been deprived of economic and political power is convincing proof of the truly unheard of possibilities for development that open up before a united, peace-loving and democratic Germany.

In conditions of peaceful development the German people will be able to use the full might of their highly-developed industry, all the achievements of science and technique, all their vast creative forces and abilities for improving the conditions of the entire population, for the progress of the country and be able to achieve unprecedented successes.

The experiences of the German Democratic Republic prove that the pathway of peaceful development opens up genuine opportunities for Germany for establishing close economic relations with the peace-loving states, for restoring the traditional trade relations with the countries of Eastern Europe and

with other countries of the world. Only along this path can Germany again become a Great Power take its rightful place among the nations of the world.

Peaceful construction in the German Democratic Republic has made big headway. Average monthly industrial output in 1953 was 164.4 per cent compared with 1936 and is growing steadily. Overall industrial output in the Republic from January to August 1953 was 11.3 per cent higher than in the corresponding period for 1952. Agriculture has already reached the pre-war level, with grain crops surpassing the level of the pre-war years. The head of cattle and hogs is also in excess of the pre-war figure. The continued improvement in the living conditions of the population of the Republic is the main concern of the Government of the Republic and of the Socialist Unity Party. For instance, at the suggestion of the Socialist Unity Party, work has begun on another 6,000 flats for the working people, in addition to this year's basic house-building programme. Science, future and art are experiencing a genuine blossoming.

At bedrock of the successes of the German Democratic Republic is the fact that a really democratic system has been established there, that power belongs to the people with the leading role played by the working class, the advanced class of modern society and the most consistent fighter for the social and national liberation of the working people, for peace and democracy. The Socialist Unity Party—the advanced organised detachment of the working people of the German Democratic Republic, guided in its activity by the all-conquering teaching of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, has rallied all the patriotic forces of the Republic and is confidently leading them towards further successes in the struggle for unity and peace, against the provocations of the international forces of imperialism.

The Socialist Unity Party stands at the head of the Democratic Bloc which, in addition to this Party, includes the other anti-fascist-democratic parties and mass organisations of the working people. The activity of the Democratic Bloc is aimed at ensuring successful realisation of the Government's new course which was elaborated and advanced by the Socialist Unity Party. This course is designed to ensure the further political and economic consolidation of the Republic, a further substantial rise in the standard of living, to ensure rapprochement and mutual understanding between the Germans in the two parts of the country and in this way to serve the cause of achieving the unity of Germany and peace.

The German Democratic Republic enjoys the all-round support and help of the great Soviet Union and the other countries of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism. This selfless help and support is one of the decisive prerequisites making for the economic advance and consolidation of the German Democratic Republic.

A striking example of this help is the recent decision of the Government of the USSR, adopted as a result of the negotiations in Moscow with the Government Delegation of the German Democratic Republic, to waive as of January 1, 1954, reparation payments, to transfer to the German people, without compensation, the main Soviet enterprises in Germany, to cut the expenditure arising from the quartering of Soviet troops in Germany and annul the postwar debits due to the Soviet Union.

The Notes of the Soviet Government to the Governments of France, Great Britain and the USA, of August 4th and 15th and of September 28th 1953, show the real way to the signing of a just peace treaty, with

Germany which would ensure the national unity of the German people in a peace-loving democratic state free from foreign occupation, reparation payments and enslaving debts.

The struggle for the realisation of these lofty aims is the main content of the activity of all German patriots. In this struggle the German Democratic Republic serves as the centre of attraction for the broad nationwide movement for peace and unity of the country.

The German Democratic Republic, by its consistent peace policy and its sincere striving for peace and mutual understanding with all countries, has won the confidence, and friendship of all peace-loving nations. Strengthening its democratic system and whetting the vigilance of the working people in relation to the machinations of the aggressive imperialist forces, the German Democratic Republic is confidently marching forward, winning more and more success in its peaceful construction and in raising the well-being of the working people. All progressive mankind regards the further consolidation of the German Democratic Republic as an important condition for the final settlement of the German problem in the interests of peace and international security.

COMRADE WILHELM PIECK, PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

BERLIN

On the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the founding of the German Democratic Republic, accept, Comrade President, the cordial congratulations of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and mine personally, together with wishes for the success of the German people in their efforts to build a united, peace-loving, democratic Germany.

May the friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic grow and develop for the good of our peoples and in the interests of strengthening world peace.

K. VOROSHILOV

October 6, 1953

COMRADE OTTO GROTEWOHL, PRIME MINISTER, GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

BERLIN

On the occasion of the fourth anniversary of the founding of the German Democratic Republic I ask you, highly esteemed Prime Minister and the Government of the German Democratic Republic, to accept my warm congratulations.

Four years ago the progressive patriotic forces of the German people assumed the noble mission of upholding the unity, freedom and independence of their country, of ensuring its development along the road of peace and democracy, along the road of friendship and cooperation with other nations. The German patriots are becoming increasingly aware that the policy of reviving German militarism pursued by the aggressive circles creates a tremendous danger for the German nation and aims at doing away with a united German state, at converting Germany into a centre for a third world war. The peace-loving policy of the German Democratic Republic is an expression of the national consciousness of the German people. The German Democratic Republic is the reliable bastion for all Germans standing for peace.

The historic act of founding the German Democratic Republic meets both the interests of the German people and the interests of all peace-loving peoples who are striving to strengthen European and international security. Progressive mankind regards the further consolidation of the German Democratic Republic as an important condition for the final settlement of the German problem in the interests of peace and

international security.

The Soviet people wish the German people success in restoring their national unity and establishing a peace-loving German state. In their just struggle for a united, independent, peace-loving, democratic Germany the German people will always have the sympathy and support of the peoples of the Soviet Union.

G. MALENKOV

**COMRADE LOTHAR BOLZ, MINISTER FOR
FOREIGN AFFAIRS, GERMAN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

BERLIN

On the occasion of the Fourth anniversary of the founding of the German Democratic Republic I ask you, Comrade Minister, to accept my friendly congratulations.

Accept also my heartfelt wishes of success for the German people in realising their national aspirations for a united, peace-loving and democratic German state which corresponds to the interests of peace and international security.

V. MOLOTOV

October 6, 1953

GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC CELEBRATES FOURTH ANNIVERSARY

The population of the German Democratic Republic joyfully celebrated their great festival—the fourth anniversary of the founding of the German Democratic Republic. For weeks the workers, working peasants and intelligentsia prepared for this outstanding event. A feature of the preparation was the wide-scale socialist emulation in honour of “Republic Day”. The keynote of this emulation was the fight for the further economic advance of the German Democratic Republic and the realisation of the new course.

On October 6 the workers of the light-section rolling shop in the “Willi Becker” works in Kirchmöser established a record for daily output. Tens of thousands of other workers, technicians and engineers also had new labour exploits to their credit. The members of the “October 7th” producer co-operative in Pesikendorf (Wanzleben district) were among the thousands of peasant co-operators and individual peasants who fulfilled the state deliveries ahead of schedule in honour of “Republic Day”.

*

On October 6, on the eve of “Republic Day”, a celebration meeting was held in Berlin to mark the fourth anniversary of the founding of the Republic.

The meeting was attended by President Wilhelm Pieck, members of the Government headed by Prime Minister Grotewohl, J. Dickman, Chairman of the People’s Chamber, representatives of the democratic parties and mass organisations, National Prize winners,

Heroes of Labour, prominent workers of science, art and literature and leading workers in production.

Also present were V. S. Semenov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Soviet Union in the German Democratic Republic, Tsi Peng-fei, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China, and the heads of the diplomatic missions of the countries of people's democracy.

A report dedicated to the fourth anniversary of the founding of the German Democratic Republic was delivered by Prime Minister Otto Grotewohl.

Otto Grotewohl began his report, by expressing profound gratitude to the workers, peasants and all working people of the Republic thanks to whose indefatigable and selfless labour the German Democratic Republic had achieved big success during the past four years.

The founding of the German Democratic Republic and the formation of its Government, Otto Grotewohl said, demonstrated to world public opinion that the German people will never agree to the American policy of dismembering Germany and enslaving the Western part of their homeland. As against the splitting policy of the U.S.-British imperialists and their German accomplices, a policy which runs counter to international law, Otto Grotewohl, said, we created an indestructible barrier of national resistance, expressing thereby the genuine will of the people.

Dwelling on the stability of the state, economic and social system of the German Democratic Republic, Otto Grotewohl, pointed out that the people and the Government of the Republic constitute an indissoluble whole, a fact that was proved to the hilt by the shameful fiasco of the fascist provocation engineered by the U.S. and West German warmongers on June 17 in

Berlin.

Otto Grotewohl contrasted the peace policy of the Government of the German Democratic Republic with this aggressive policy of the U.S. puppets in Bonn. He spoke of the great achievements of the working people of the Republic in carrying out the new course of the Government. He stressed the significance of the great aid given to the German Democratic Republic by the Soviet Union and other countries for peace and Socialism and which contributes in a big way to carrying out the policy of the new course.

Concluding, Otto Grotewohl pointed out that the German Democratic Republic will strive still more resolutely for a solution of the German question and will do all in its power to achieve peaceful agreement between Germans and the democratic unity of the nation.

*

On October 7 columns of working people of Berlin marched through the streets to the Marx-Engels Square where a meeting took place attended by some 100,000 people from all parts of the city. Together with the flag of the Republic and the red banners of the working-class movement, the demonstrators carried life-size portraits of Wilhelm Pieck, Otto Grotewohl, Walter Ulbricht, G. M. Malenkov, Mao Tse-tung and outstanding leaders of the peace movement in their slogans the working people expressed loyalty to the Government of the Republic and their confidence in its new course.

Berlin and other towns, and villages of the Republic were gaily decorated. With loving care the people garlanded their houses with flowers, flags and slogans.

As a token for their heartfelt gratitude to the

glorious Soviet Army which, by liberating Germany from fascism, created the immediate conditions for the founding of the peace-loving, democratic German state, numerous delegations laid wreaths at the monument to the heroes of the Soviet Army who fell in battle.

*

The People's Chamber and the Chamber of Lands of the German Democratic Republic held a special joint session on October 7th for the purpose of electing, in accordance with the Constitution, the President of the Republic (in view of the expiry of the term of office).

Wilhelm Pieck was unanimously re-elected.

In the towns and village of the Republic the working people responded with profound joy and approval to the news of the re-election of Wilhelm Pieck as President of the Republic.

FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF CONTROVERSIAL INTERNATIONAL PROBLEMS

GROWING MOVEMENT IN FRANCE AGAINST BONN AND PARIS TREATIES

At a session of the French National Peace Council in Paris on October 3-4 Joliot-Curie, Chairman of the World Peace Council, stressed the great significance of the struggle of the French peace partisans in the effort to avert a new world war. Pointing out that, ending the bloodshed in Indo-China depends on France he said that the French people demand cessation of this war. Joliot-Curie also pointed to the serious danger of the revival of German militarism for France. But the rearming of Germany in any form, he said, cannot be effected without the preliminary consent of France.

In its declaration the National Peace Council called on all men and women in the country, irrespective of their views and of present or past differences, to unite in order jointly to demand rejection of the Bonn and Paris military treaties.

The movement against these treaties is gaining momentum throughout the country. Preparations are underway for 33 Department and regional peace congresses. The Secretariat of the French Committee for the Peaceful Settlement of the German Problem has decided to convene a national conference on the German question in Paris on November 8th.

Many municipalities have already voiced their opposition to Parliamentary ratification of the treaties. A declaration which is being circulated among the

population in Vendee and which was signed by prominent public figures—Communists, Socialists, Radicals, members of MRP and RPF—also calls for the peaceful settlement of the German issue and for an armistice in Indo-China.

PREPARATION FOR PEACE CONFERENCE IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

FOR PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF GERMAN ISSUE

In all districts and regions of Czechoslovakia preparations are in progress for a people's conference in defence of peace and for the peaceful settlement of the German question. The conference is scheduled to open in Prague on October 11. In cooperation with the National Front organisations the peace committees are arranging meetings in towns and villages, in factories and agricultural co-operatives at which delegates are being elected to the conference.

The delegates of the working people of Czechoslovakia are fully resolved to translate into life the main slogan of the forthcoming conference: "Together with the Soviet Union and all peace-loving forces for a united, democratic Germany".

DECISION OF ALL-INDIA PEACE COUNCIL BUREAU

The bureau of the All-India Peace Council, at the session held at the end of September, adopted a number of important resolutions. A resolution on India's role in international relations points out that all sections of the people of India support the policy conducted by the Government of India in the past few months in relation to Korea and also in relation to the

question of the People's Republic of China being allowed to occupy its rightful place in the United Nations.

The Bureau of the All-India Peace Council called on all the peace supporters and all peace organisations to launch a nationwide campaign in order to ensure that henceforth all international conflicts shall be solved by peaceful means.

In its decisions about foreign property, in India the Bureau called on all local peace committees and other organisations throughout the country to back the struggle waged by the population of the given territories against foreign oppression and against attempts to use it for war purposes.

The Bureau called for the prohibition of weapons of mass extermination and for extending India's trade relations with other countries on a basis of equality and mutual interest.

FORTHCOMING NATIONAL PEACE CONGRESS IN JAPAN

A recent meeting of the Japanese Peace Council decided to hold a national Peace Congress on November 23-24. In its decision the Council points out that the main task of Japanese peace partisans at the moment is to work for the peaceful settlement of international disputes.

Accordingly, it was decided to campaign for the establishment of normal relations with the USSR, the Chinese People's Republic and other countries in the Far East, to strengthen economic and cultural relations between Japan and other countries.

The Council calls for struggle to ensure the

successful outcome of the Political Conference on Korea
and for lasting peace in Korea.

RAISING LEVEL OF PARTY WORK—GUARANTEE OF SUCCESSFUL FULFILMENT OF TASKS OF SOCIALIST CONSTRUCTION.
Alexandru Moghioros, Secretary, Central Committee, Rumanian Workers' Party

Under the people's-democratic system, which is based on the alliance of the working class with the working peasantry, the leading force in the state is the working class, headed by its Marxist-Leninist Party.

In order to cope with the great and responsible job of leading the masses in the struggle for building the new society the Party must have a clear-cut and correct policy, subject it to the test of practice, frankly acknowledge the mistakes made in carrying out its policy and rectify them in good time; it must constantly perfect its organising work, reinforce the unity and solidarity of the Party, constantly strengthen and develop its contact with the masses and raise to greater heights their initiative and creative enthusiasm.

The Party, which is guided in all its activity by the all-conquering Marxist-Leninist theory and which has a clear and correct policy, is the acknowledged and beloved leader of the masses who regard Party policy as their own policy and are working enthusiastically for its successful realisation.

The enlarged plenum of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party held in August focused the attention of the entire Party on such tasks as eliminating the disproportion in the development of the different branches of the national economy, eliminating the serious shortcomings in the matter of satisfying the material and cultural needs of the working people, of effecting in the near future a substantial rise in the

standard of living.

The economic measures elaborated by the plenum, constitute a programme of action for our Party and for the working people as a whole. In order successfully to carry out these measures, we must improve Party work, rally all the working people and strengthen our contact with the masses.

For this purpose the plenum, after approving the decision of the tasks of the Party in developing the national economy and constantly improving the material and cultural standards of the working people, approved another decision which calls for “better Party work and closer contact between the Party and toe masses”.

I.

Adherence to the norms of Party life and to the principles of Party leadership elaborated by the great Lenin is the main condition for consolidating the ranks of the Party and raising the militancy of its organisations. Carrying out the Party line depends cm the organising and political work of its leading bodies, on how they rely in their activity on the activists on the membership and on the broad non-party masses, on how they activate them, utilise their creative initiative and on the attention they give to the criticism from below, which is of immense help in eliminating shortcomings and mistakes in the work.

It was in this fight that the Central Committee analysed its work. The activity of the leading Party bodies improved for the exposure of the Right deviators. The Political Bureau of the Central Committee bases its work on the principle of collective leadership. Criticism and self-criticism are being unfolded on a wider scale; the work of the local Party bodies and of the Party

organisations has improved. The plenum affirmed, however, that there are still big shortcomings in the matter of observing inner-Party democracy and the principle of collective leadership, which is the highest principle of Party leadership. The Central Committee meetings were held irregularly the Political Bureau did not systematically analyse the work of the regional committees and did not always regularly verify the realisation of Party decisions.

There are still not a few responsible functionaries who forget that only consistent realisation of inner-Party democracy can ensure active participation by all the members in deciding Party issues; there are functionaries who ignore the rich collective experience of the members of the leading body. There were also regional committee leaders (for example, the secretaries of the Bucharest regional committee and the regional organisations in Bacau and Oradea), who made their own decisions without consulting the other members of the bureau of the regional committee and without taking their views into account.

Instances are not wanting when—apart from members of the bureau—the other members of the regional and district committees only formally participate in deciding major questions of Party work. Recently the Party committee in the Magyar Autonomous Region convened a plenum to discuss the question of admitting probationer members. Apart from the members of the bureau of the regional committee not a single member of the regional committee was invited to study the matter in the localities and to submit a report on the subject. As a result very few members of the regional committee took part in the discussion and those who did confined themselves to generalities. The plenum was poorly prepared, it neither clarified nor adopted any decisions on the

matter; it resorted to the incorrect method still practised in some places of instructing the bureau to work out a decision. During the first half of this year the Party committee in the Stalin district in Bucharest did not hold a single plenum.

Meetings of activists in a number of Party organisations are held irregularly and are not used in full measure for discussing and deciding vital questions of Party and state life.

Some Party leaders, instead of giving careful attention to criticism and rectifying shortcomings and mistakes, suppress criticism or disregard it on the alleged pretext that it “undermines” their prestige. Such, for instance, was the attitude of the secretaries of the Arad and Pitesti regional committees.

Some Party organs do not pay due attention to involving the members in discussing the decisions of the leading organs, to activating them by means of giving each a concrete assignment in accordance with ability and training, and also to verifying the fulfilment of assignments; they forget that the main demand of inner-Party democracy is the participation by the membership in discussing and realising Party policy.

Verification of fulfilment of Party decisions in many organisations is not exercised systematically and sometimes it is effected superficially with the result that the leading bodies are not informed on time of the shortcomings in the work and about distortions of the Party line. Some of the leading bodies hold that the exercise of such control is a matter solely for the apparatus and not of the leaders themselves.

The plenum stressed that one of the main tasks confronting the Party bodies is the consistent exercise of inner-Party democracy.

The election of the leading Party bodies and

reporting-back by the elected bodies, the holding of regular branch meetings and Party conferences which verify and criticise the work of Party committees—such are the measures which ensure active participation by the membership in the work of the Party. In keeping with the decisions of the plenum the annual meetings of the branches and the district and city conferences will be held within the year, while regional conferences will be held once in two years. The Central Committee obliges the regional, district and city committees of the Party regularly to hold meetings of the activists and to rely on the activists in all their work.

The Central Committee demands strict observance of the period for which the Party bodies are elected, demands that the elected bodies report back to the Party organisations.

The plenum set itself the task of eliminating manifestations of the cult of the individual still to be found in Party propaganda and in the every-day activity of its organisations. Our Party teaches its members and the masses of the working people that only the great collective strength of the Party, the collective experience and collective wisdom of its leadership, which bases its activity on the Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin teaching and relies on the broad initiative of the Party cadres, can ensure the carrying out of the line of the Party and successful socialist construction.

The plenum demanded that the necessary measures be taken seriously to raise the level of the ideological work and particularly the political training of the cadres. We must fight against isolating theory from practice, against any, mechanical and dogmatic interpretation of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism. Our Party demands that its functionaries and members understand the creative character of Marxism-Leninism, that they assimilate the essence of the Marxist-Leninist

teaching.

The plenum also regards as the basic task of the Party organs the elimination of the serious shortcomings in carrying out Party policy in selecting, training and allocating the Party and state cadres, as well as thorough study of the cadres and their bold and timely promotion on the basis of their professional and political merits.

In order further to strengthen the Party organisations and enhance the Party's political and organisational work, particularly in the countryside, the Central Committee has set the task of forming around the Party committees numerous activists, of systematically drawing them into the work of solving economic-political tasks, of working with them all the time, of persistently working to raise their ideological and theoretical level.

This work must be organised in a way so as to train in the near future from among the activists mature Party members who thoroughly understand Party policy and are capable of working vigorously for its realisation.

Fulfilment of this task will help further to cement the Party and enhance its leading role. Such activists will, simultaneously, be a substantial reserve for promoting new cadres to leading work in the Party, state, economic and public organisations.

The cadres must display constant concern for raising the standard of living of the working people and rallying them in the struggle for the further well-being of our homeland.

The chief guarantee for the further strengthening of the organs of the people's-democratic state and their successful work is leadership and control over their activity by the Party.

II.

The strength of the Marxist revolutionary Party lies in its close contact with the masses. All the activity of our Party is permeated with profound faith in the creative forces of the people which are constantly and rapidly developing in conditions of the system of people's democracy.

By reinforcing its every-day contact with the masses, lending a ready ear to the demands and needs of the working people, explaining to them the import of its policy and its decisions, by teaching the masses and learning from them, our Party becomes invincible.

At the same time, the plenum pointed out that there are still serious weaknesses in the activity of some Party, state and economic organs as far as contact with the masses is concerned. There are still Party and state functionaries who confine themselves to their offices, seldom meet and talk with the working people, do not know how they live and display no interest for their needs and demands. As a result of their bureaucratic methods these functionaries isolate themselves from the masses and suppress criticism from below. Some regional committees of the Party (for instance, the Jassi and Ploești regional committees) did not for a long time answer letters in which working people submitted just complaints.

By means of such broad mass organisations as the people's councils, the trade unions, the Union of Working Youth, the co-operatives and a number of others, our Party is linked by thousands of threads to the working class, the working peasantry and the intelligentsia. Political leadership of these organisations by the Party ensures the carrying out of the Party line in all spheres of activity of the people's-democratic state.

Some Party organisations have not given due a

attention to the work of the mass organisations. This found expression in the substitution of the live work of persuading the masses by bureaucratic methods. The fact that some Party bodies did the work of mass organisations resulted in a lowering of their activity, in failure to fulfil their basic tasks. Some trade union committees and even the Central Council of the Trade Unions have not paid sufficient attention to observance of the Labour Code, to observance of the collective agreements, to house-building and socio-cultural development.

It is essential to activate the people's councils in order to make them broad mass organisations of the working people. In many places the people's councils work in a bureaucratic way; many of their deputies, members of the sub-committees, civil committees, etc., are not involved in active work. Such a great force as the more than 370 thousand women deputies, elected by 3.5 million women, is far from being fully involved in active work.

Led by the Party the Union of Working Youth has achieved significant success in its work. There are, however, serious shortcomings in the work of this important youth organisation, the chief reserve of the Party; some organs of the Union do not maintain close contact with the broad masses of young workers and with the student youth; they do not carry on the necessary political work, particularly among the broad masses of the rural youth, the plenum emphasised that in conditions of the struggle for strengthening the bonds between the working class and the working peasantry, the Union of Working Youth is confronted with a vital task: it must radically improve political work among the millions of rural youth.

The Marxist-Leninist training of young cadres is still

inadequately organised and their political vigilance is poor: The plenum demands from the Party organisations that they give better guidance to the Union organisations, that they verify its activity. It is necessary to conduct constant and concrete work with the youth organisations. The Party bodies must give every-day help in the matter of the Communist training of the Union's members, to help its organisations become an inexhaustible reserve of cadres for the Party, its firm pillar in the struggle for building Socialism.

Strengthening its contact with all the working people in our country, the Party devotes special attention to reinforcing its links with the intelligentsia. The Party organisations must give constant attention to the matter of providing the favourable conditions needed for creative activity by cultural workers, to improving their conditions, and educating them in spirit of Marxist-Leninist ideology.

Our Party is growing stronger by admitting into the ranks as members and probationers the best representatives of the working class, the working peasantry and intelligentsia, people who have developed and become tempered in the struggle for building Socialism and who fight with boundless loyalty for the cause of the Party.

Some Party organisations do not show due concern for giving systematic aid to the probationer members in the matter of acquiring knowledge, experience and the qualities of a Communist so that by the expiry of their probationer status they can qualify for the title of member of the Party.

The Party organisations must radically improve their work in raising the ideological and political level, in improving the training of their members and probationer members; they must give them concrete

assignments, give them more help and improve the verification over the carrying out of decisions.

III.

The plenum stressed how harmful to the building of Socialism is underestimation by some Party and state organs of the job of strengthening the bonds with the overwhelming majority of the population—with the masses of the working peasantry. Reinforcing the unity of the working class and the working peasantry under the leadership of the working class is the Party's most important job.

The strengthening of the rural district committees of the Party and the improved guidance given to them by the regional committees have resulted in better work by many of the rural branches. But a considerable number of the rural branches, as yet, works badly., Numerous activists could have been rallied around the Party organisations from the ranks of the working peasantry who are taking an ever greater part in the public and state life of the country.

Not infrequently some Party and state bodies do not take into account the just needs and demands of the working people.

They do not fight hard enough for strict observance of the laws of our state, do not see to it that the tax policy and the policy of state deliveries are correctly carried out; they do not wage a resolute war for defence of the interests of both the working peasants and the state, against those who violate the law.

In organising producer co-operatives and associations for joint cultivation some Party organisations, instead of mass-political work and methods of conviction, substitute bureaucratic

administrative pressure thereby violating the decisions of the Central Committee concerning the need to observe the voluntary principle.

On the other hand, a number of Party and state functionaries, instead of conducting the Party policy of restricting the kulaks, often substitute it by the policy of dislodging them.

These mistakes and distortion of the Party line create difficulties in strengthening the alliance between the working class and the working peasantry—the basis of our people's democratic state.

The Central Committee regards it as a prime task of the entire membership rapidly and resolutely to eliminate the tendency towards substituting explanatory work and the method of conviction by administrative and bureaucratic methods, constantly to consolidate the contact of the Party with the masses, and to pay special attention to reinforcing its contact with the working peasantry. To ensure realisation of this vital task it is necessary to strengthen the rural organisations of the Party, to give them not general but concrete leadership and to intensify mass political work in the countryside.

IV.

Better Party work is indissolubly linked with the task of enhancing the revolutionary vigilance of the Party and state bodies. The successes of the forces of peace, democracy and Socialism make the imperialist aggressive circles more and more furious. The imperialists are frantically rearming and are intensifying their provocations and subversive work against the countries of people's democracy.

On behalf of all the members of the Party and of all working people in Rumania the enlarged plenum of the

Central Committee expressed profound satisfaction with the resoluteness displayed by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in ending the criminal activity of Beria, foul traitor to the cause of Socialism, and called on the membership to draw the political lessons and practical conclusions from the intensified activity of the imperialists and their agents. More than ever before the members must strengthen the unity of the Party, treasure the purity of its ranks as the apple of the eye, be vigilant in relation to every deviation from and distortion of the line of the Party, be able to expose and frustrate the criminal work of the spies, saboteurs and, other agents of imperialism and strictly safeguard Party and state secrets.

Ahead of our Party is an event of tremendous importance both for it and for the working people as a whole. On the basis of the decision of the plenum of the Central Committee, the Congress of the Party will be convened next March.

The preparations for the Congress must be accompanied by a serious improvement in the work of all Party bodies, from the Central Committee down to the branch, by the elimination of bureaucratic methods in the work of the Party and reinforcing contact with the masses. In the struggle to eliminate shortcomings and mistakes in all spheres of our work, the Party organisations, utilising the tried, keen weapon of criticism and self-criticism, must learn to disclose all negative phenomena and nip them in the bud. Close attention must be devoted to developing rank-and-file criticism, to bringing all the working people into active struggle against all shortcomings and unhealthy

phenomena.

Developing inner-Party democracy and improving the ideological education of the members will result in raising the vanguard role of the members in all spheres of life, in better work both by the members and the organisations. Raising the Party work to a still higher level, reinforcing contact with the masses and strengthening the alliance of the working class and the working peasantry we will cement still more closely the inviolable unity of Party, Government and people, which is the guarantee of successful carrying out of Party policy, the policy of socialist construction, of raising the material and cultural level of the working people and of upholding peace.

IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

MASS-POLITICAL WORK IN COMMUNIST PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

Party meetings, talks in factories, and in the countryside and meetings of the population are being held throughout Czechoslovakia. At these meetings and talks the working people thoroughly familiarise themselves with the Government's statement of September 15th and with the measures aimed at effecting a substantial rise in the material and cultural level of the people.

The Party committees and organisations are conducting this mass political campaign fully conscious of their responsibility. The regional and district committees carried out far-reaching organisational preparation, briefing the activists and helping the branches in the factories and in the countryside to organise talks. During these talks Communist agitators acquaint the working people with the Government declaration.

For example, the Party organisations in the Plzen region organised talks in the factories and held open meetings after the publication of the Government's declaration and decision. The district committees sent their functionaries and activists to help the branches. Such talks were held, for instance, at the V. I. Lenin plant in Plzen.

In the Pardubice region talks are being conducted by activists of the regional and district committees; speakers in the big enterprises include members of the National Assembly. This work is also being conducted by

the Party consultation centres which prepare the necessary material for the lecturers and agitators.

At all meetings and talks organised by the Party measures are discussed for ensuring fulfilment of the tasks arising from the Government's declaration. Party members and non-party working people call attention, to the shortcomings which hinder fulfilment of these tasks. One such meeting was held in the "Dobre Sesti" pit, Prestice district. The miners have taken new pledges to fulfil the production assignment.

Open Party meetings and talks are also held in the countryside. Co-operative members, individual working peasants wholeheartedly approve the measures of the Party and Government for further enhancing agricultural production.

Members of the producer co-operatives are taking pledges to improve organisation of labour, to strengthen the co-operatives economically and to do better field work.

The Party organisations are endeavouring to develop mass-political work and to rally all citizens for fulfilment of the great tasks of going ahead with the building of Socialism, advanced by the Party and the people's Government.

PLENUM, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF AUSTRIA

The meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria, held in Vienna on September 24, 25, discussed the political situation in the country and the tasks of the Party. A report on this question was delivered by Comrade Kopenig, Party Chairman. The meeting decided unanimously to accept Kopenig, Party chairman. The meeting decided unanimously to accept Kopenig's report as a directive for future work.

The meeting decided to convene a Party congress in the first half of 1954.

STUDY YEAR IN EDUCATION NETWORK IN COMMUNIST PARTY OF BELGIUM

September 18 marked the beginning of the new study year in the education network in the Communist Party of Belgium which will continue until June 1954.

The curriculum is based on study of the works of the classics of Marxism-Leninism and on the rich experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union. In an article on this subject "Drapeau Rouge", central organ of the Party, points out: "The main thing in the curriculum", says the paper, "is to ensure the ideological training of the members in the struggle for national independence and peace, for social progress, for unity of the people and especially for united action by the working class".

The members study in classes, evening schools and in the central Party school. This year the curriculums at all levels of the education network were revised in the light of the experience of previous years; they are accessible to a far larger number of members. Lectures have been published to help the students attending the evening schools.

POPULARISING MATERIALS OF 16th PLENUM, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, SOCIALIST UNITY PARTY OF GERMANY

The organisations of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany are conducting extensive work popularising the materials of the 16th Plenum of the Central Committee of the Party. Active discussion of the Plenum documents is now underway in light industry enterprises. The discussion is of vital significance for the realisation of the new course. For instance, during the talks conducted by agitators the workers in the publicly-owned “Activist” enterprise in Berlin made a number of valuable suggestions for improving supplies for the population.

After the first talks held by the agitators many workers in the “Mathias-Thesen” shipyard. Wismar, inspired by the decisions, took new production pledges: 140 engineering workers in shop No. 1 joined in the emulation. For the purpose of better explaining the Plenum materials the Part committee in the shipyard discussed the matter with the branch activists. In addition to the talks by the agitators, wall newspapers, the factory radio network, the factory paper and other means of agitation are used, for the purpose.

FROM COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PRESS

For Strict Observance of Party Principle in Selecting Cadres



Correct selection, allocation and training of cadres in the present phase of socialist construction in the countries of people's democracy is a matter of vital significance. In Bulgaria the Communist Party is actively helped by its press in the struggle for strict observance of Party principles in relation to cadres. In a recent leading article headed "For Strict Observance of Party Principles in Selecting Cadres" "**Rabotnichesko Delo**" noted the impressive success registered in this sphere of activity in recent years. The Party committees have not only promoted thousands of young skilled cadres, devoted to the people's power, from among the workers, working peasants and people's intelligentsia, to work in industry, in the state apparatus and in the agricultural co-operatives: they display constant concern for their training.

However, in some Party and state organs there are still instances of gross violation of the Party principles in the matter of selecting cadres. The newspaper pointed out that very often the cadres are selected either solely for political or for professional merits. Such a one-sided approach leads to mistakes in the

matter of promoting cadres and is one of the main reasons for the great fluctuation in personnel. Mistakes of this kind are met with most frequently in the district committees of the Party. “Rabotnichesko Delo”, by way of substantiating this fact, points to the Novi-Pazarski district committee in which the department heads, 7 sector heads and the instructors changed in the course of 1952 alone.

The cadres must be studied at their work and a check must be made on how they do the job assigned to them. However, “there are many Party leaders”, the article says, who, assigned to work in the enterprise or the village, tend to meet only with the secretaries of the Party branches or the heads of rural councils and do not strive for closer contact with the rank-and-file Communists and the non-party activists”. As, the newspaper justly pointed out, this narrow approach prevents the Party leaders from seeing in good time the young, growing workers and results in the fact that in the matter of selecting cadres the leaders often confine their activity to the small circles of only those they happened to know at the start.

“Rabotnichesko Delo” points out that the Party—the leading and guiding force in the country—devotes attention not only to strengthening the Party organisations but also to providing the state and economic apparatus with capable and honest Party and non-party personnel. Wherever Party organisations forge this, hostile elements frequently worm their way into the apparatus, nepotism and unhealthy relations are displayed, the vicious practice of mutual covering up of failings prevails, loyalty to chiefs and criticism and self-criticism are suppressed. We must, says the leader, resolutely and the state of affairs when honest and capable workers are persecuted for bold criticism of

shortcomings. Nor must we tolerate cases, warns the paper, such as those discussed at the Sofia regional Party conference. The former director of the machine and tractor station in the town of Breznik appointed his cronies to posts of agronomist, head foreman, workshop chief, mechanics for threshing machines and rate fixer. It goes without saying that there is no place for criticism and accuracy in work among cronies. The machine and tractor station systematically failed to fulfil assignments.

It is necessary vigorously to combat any deviation from Party principles, as well as carelessness and complacency in solving problems connected with selecting personnel.

Since the abolition of the personnel departments in the leading Party committees the Central Committee has obliged all departments and committee bureaus to display constant and all-round concern for cadres. The reason for all the shortcomings in the work with cadres, writes "Rabotnichesko Delo", is that a number of regional, district and town committees of the Party are not yet carrying out this vital decision of the Central Committee.

FACTORY BRANCH PAPERS OF FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY FIGHT FOR VITAL DEMANDS OF WORKING PEOPLE. Michel Vandal, Member, Central Committee, French Communist Party

Recently the working class of France fought an unprecedented strike battle for repeal of the emergency decrees and for higher wages.

All the links of the French Communist Party—from the Federation committees to the factory branches—responded to the call of the Party leadership urging all the members to be in the van of the struggle. However, in a number of enterprises affected by the strike, difficulties were experienced in getting the Party branches to conduct active work throughout the entire period of this great struggle. The reason was that some factory branches failed to conduct systematic and satisfactory work.

On the other hand, wherever factory branches systematically conduct active work and maintain close contact with the working people through the medium of leaflets and papers the strike, naturally, led to a further increase in their activity. The intensified work carried out by the entire Party led to an increase in the number of leaflets and papers issued by the sections and branches. For instance, a number of Party branches made up of railway workers issued leaflets everyday throughout the last week of their brilliant struggle.

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“The factory branches of the Party must disseminate

the ideas and slogans of the Party in the enterprises...”, comrade Maurice Thorez points out, “The Party branch plays the leading role in rallying the masses, in preparing and directing mass action”.

A vital task of the Party branch is systematic circulation of its leaflets and paper since the paper, in V. I. Lenin’s words, is not only a collective propagandist and collective agitator, but also a collective organiser.

There can be no justification for slackening in the work of the factory branches during organised actions of the working class. On the contrary, their activity must be intensified particularly in the interests of the struggle of the working people. Active work by the factory branches of the Party and explanatory work by their papers play a vital role in strengthening unity of action of the working class.

During August the workers of the state, communal and private enterprises launched a struggle to secure satisfaction of their demands. This struggle led to the strengthening of unity among the working people irrespective of their convictions and trade union affiliation. The strength of this unity compelled some Federations and organisations of the “Force Ouvrière”, the Confederation of Christian Workers and the independent unions to help the struggle and wage it together with the General Confederation of Labour. Our Party, while constantly following the development of the strike movement, succeeded in exposing the betrayal committed by the national leaders of the “Force Ouvrière” and the Confederation of Christian Workers and helped to further united action among the strikers. It succeeded in doing so as a result of its action and particularly as a result of the work done by the factory branches of the Party aided by the leaflets and papers put out by the sections and branches and widely circulated among the working people, thus enabling the

latter publicly to discuss the burning questions.

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During the strike battles the Party organisations had big success in the work among the working people and the population generally. They issued a large number of posters, leaflets and papers than they did previously. Many of them were distinguished for their high political level; they testify to the remarkable initiative and high sense of responsibility of those who produced them.

As a rule the content of the factory paper included: exposure of the anti-people's nature of the Government's emergency decrees and an analysis of the consequences of these decrees for every category of the working people and all sections of the population; the circumstances which gave rise to the emergency decrees in the light of the policy of war pursued by the Government; the laying bare of the class nature of the decrees, and the illegal action of the Government, testifying to the fascisation of the political regime in the country; the truth about the miserable real wages of civil servants and exposure of the lies and slander of the Government as well as popularisation of methods of struggle for securing satisfaction of the just demands of the working people. In addition, the factory papers denounced the Government press and urged support for "l'Humanite" and the entire democratic press: they called for solidarity with the strikers and explained to the population the reasons for the struggle waged by the working people.

Take, for instance, the August 17th issue of "**La Voix libre**" the paper of the Communist railwaymen's branches in Villeneuve-Saint-Georges. "**La Voix libre**" dwelt in detail on the Communist Party's attitude in regard to the reasons for the strike. In the article "Why

They Strike? it exposed the danger of the emergency decrees and the consequences arising therefrom. "La Voix libre" exposed the policy of Marshallisation of the country pursued since 1947, and adduced figures for the constantly increasing profits of the capitalists (colleagues of Prime Minister Laniel, himself a big manufacturer). The paper further stated:

"The Communists showed how the budget could be balanced and the demands of the working people satisfied... If France were to end the war in Viet Nam and pursue a policy of peace, which would enable it to cut the war budget by half, and if the trusts and the big manufacturers are made to pay, a sum ranging from 1,200 to 1,500 billion francs could be returned to the state treasury".

Finally, the paper outlined the perspective of the struggle which was designed "to ensure a policy which would uphold the interests of the working people, a policy of national independence, peace and freedom. The working class of our country, by means of unity, can and must smash all the barriers and enable us to emerge victorious".

The paper pointed out that strengthening unity is the path to victory in the present struggle. It hailed the "striving of the railwaymen for a strike fought in conditions of complete unity". "La Voix libre" stressed the significance of the united front of the working people and supported the proposal for unity of action in order to secure the convocation of the National Assembly, for unity in the struggle against the emergency decrees, contained in the open letter addressed by the Communist Party branch in Villeneuve-Saint-Georges to the branch of the Socialist Party.

"La Voix libre" also featured different items in the same issue testifying to the splendid fighting efficiency of the railwaymen and urged them to support the Party

press and particularly “l’Humanite”; it also reproduced the application form for Party membership.

Thus, the paper of the Villeneuve-Saint-Georges railway workers’ branches of the Party explained the main programme of the struggle of the working people, the attitude taken by the Party in relation to the questions arising from the Government’s policy of war and poverty.

Note should be taken, however, of certain serious shortcomings in the papers which appeared during the strike.

With the exception of a few Federations a large, number of leaflets and papers are published by the sections and not by the branches. This proves that if in this great battle the mobilised readiness of the Party as a whole was adequate, the work of the branches proved to be somewhat slack. The leading bodies of the sections did not devote due attention to the branches and frequently substituted them.

For this reason the content of the leaflets and papers was not always properly linked with local conditions, with the concrete conditions of the life of the working people whom the Party organisations seek to draw into the struggle. This was particularly felt when the Party addressed itself to the strikers. There is an obvious difference between section papers, the content of which is too general, and the papers of the factory branches which describe in concrete form the course of the struggle in the enterprises.

At the same time we should note as a most positive fact, the striving of the sections and territorial branches to issue leaflets and papers designed for the working people in those enterprises where there are no Party branches.

Many shortcomings prevail also in the content of the

papers. When the papers disclose the tie-up between decrees and the Government policy of war they do so more often than not in too general a form, without taking into account the specific nature of the problem in the enterprise (unemployment, dismissals, etc.). While the reasons for the present situation are, on the whole, explained well, there are explained well, there are certain shortcomings in interpreting slogans and defining means of struggle, and this at a time when the branch papers are called upon to play an important role in organising the struggle and must help the working people in choosing the forms of struggle.

These somewhat general remarks about the papers of our branches acquire still greater significance now that—after the big August strike—the struggle for repeal of the emergency laws, for a general wage increase is assuming new forms. The success of the unfolding struggle for changing the political course of France depends, in considerable measure, on increasing the number of papers put out by the Party branches and on how successfully they fulfil their role in rallying the masses and organising their joint struggle.

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This question calls for tireless attention on the part of every Federation. The big increase in the number of branch papers during the August struggle showed that the Party has thousands and thousands of worker editors, and that the material problem of issuing papers can always be solved provided the branches are convinced of the importance of the task with which they are confronted.

The task at, present is not to lose this experience but, on the contrary, to further it, since it represents a big political contribution to the struggle.

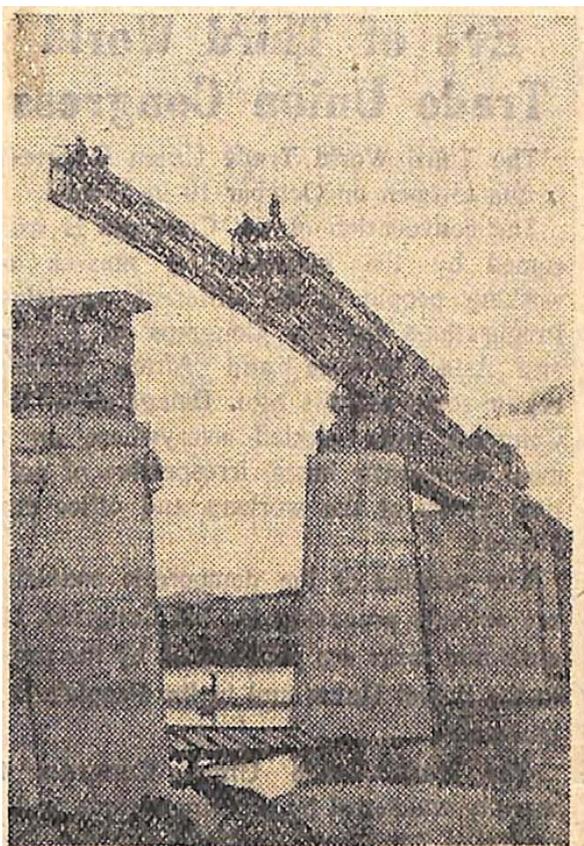
The leading bodies of the Federation must organise political help to the thousands of branch papers, criticising these papers in a comradely way, giving advice and effectively helping the editors to improve their work.

Can we say that this practice has become the rule for the leading bodies of our Federations? The example of the Seine-et-Oise Federation, which, apparently, is typical, shows that an affirmative answer cannot be given to the question. We have been receiving branch papers throughout the year. Comrades analyse and evaluate them and as a rule report to the respective section or branch. But this is not enough. Often we get the papers long after they have been issued, when they have already lost their significance. In addition, they are not examined quickly and for this reason criticism of these papers becomes a formality. The practice is to analyse only one issue without relating it to the others. Consequently, the analysis of the branch paper is far from complete and does not facilitate serious improvement of its content. This critical analysis is assigned to one or another comrade and is not the result of collective work on the paper as a whole. The leadership of the Seine-et-Oise Federation confines itself to an evaluation of the papers. Lacking an accurate list of organisations which do not issue papers it cannot help them in the matter of producing their own papers.

We are in duty bound to eliminate all these shortcomings. At present every endeavour must be made to enable our branches, and particularly the factory branches, to live a still fuller life. Regular publication of leaflets and papers is an important means for achieving this aim. Persistent work in this direction will, without doubt, help considerably to improve the

agitation and organising work of all organisations of the French Communist Party.

KOREAN AND CHINESE RAILWAYMAN REBUILD BRIDGE NEAR KAESONG



Korean and Chinese railwaymen rebuild
bridge near Kaesong.

POPULARISATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE IN CHINA

The All-China Association for the Dissemination of Scientific and Technical Knowledge has arranged a series of lectures which will describe in detail the national economic construction in the country.

For factory workers the branch of the association in Chekiang Province has organised lectures on machine-manufacturing and electrical engineering. The Shanghai branch has held an exhibition and sponsored lectures on high-speed cutting methods. The Tientsin branch has arranged lectures on textile techniques at the No. 8 State Textile Mill. These lectures and exhibitions have been most successful in helping the workers solve a number of technical problems.

The Association's head office in Peking has started a series of lectures on scientific knowledge concerning capital construction. Lectures are given once a week on such subjects as planning, prospecting, designing and actual construction work. Other topics include geology, meteorology, surveying, architecture and information on building materials. Moreover, the Peking branch held a Science Film Month during which the film "Nervous System and Conditioned Reflexes" was shown to acquaint medical and health workers as well as students of biology throughout the city with the theories of I. P. Pavlov, the great Russian scientist.

Since the establishment of the Association in 1950, twenty-five branches and sixty-four sub-branches have been set up throughout China. According to statistics up to the first quarter of 1953, the Association has already held 20,000 lectures and over 800 exhibitions on scientific subjects. The lectures were attended by more than 16,000,000 people. The branch and sub-branches

in Chunking and other cities report good results.

NEW LIFE IN HUNGARIAN REGION

In the Pest region of Hungary the working people formerly lived in terrible conditions.

A new life began in the Pest region with the establishment of the people's democratic system. During the first Five-Year Plan good roads were built in 107 villages of the region. 54 villages were electrified. The public health service has been improved and the number of social-service establishments is constantly growing. In 1953 the number of creches in the region rose to 55. Piped water-supply has been installed in many places and wells, are being sunk. The medical network is being extended; anti-cancer and anti-tuberculosis centres are being opened; the medical establishments are equipped with modern instruments.

The Five-Year Plan provides for the construction of a number of big enterprises in the region.

125 village and 8 district reading rooms will be opened in the region this year the number of cinemas will reach 166. The libraries of the Pest region have more than 100 thousand volumes on their shelves.

CULTURAL CO-OPERATION OF BULGARIA WITH U.S.S.R. AND PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES

Bulgaria's cultural co-operation with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies is extending year by year. One form of such co-operation is the sending of young people, graduating from school with excellent marks, to the higher schools of learning in the U.S.S.R. and the People's Democracies. A total of 1,100 Bulgarian students and postgraduates will study in the Soviet Union during the 1953-54 academic year. Students in the Soviet Union include the Hero of Socialist Labour Penyu Genchev, initiator of heavy train haulage; Marusya Todorova and Olga Naidenova, distinguished weavers, and others.

This year 160 Bulgarian students completed their course of study in the U.S.S.R. Four of them defended dissertations, acquiring the degree of bachelor of science.

A large number of Bulgarian students are studying in the higher educational establishments in the People's democracies. In the 1952-53 academic year, there were 440 Bulgarian students in higher schools in the People's Democracies, in the German Democratic Republic and in the Chinese People's Republic.

Last year the higher educational establishments in Bulgaria were attended by 115 students from the People's Democracies and by 8 from the Soviet Union.

In the current study year the student body in Bulgaria will include 318 from the fraternal countries, among them 155 Korean and 8 Chinese students.

SOME QUESTIONS OF ORGANISING WORK IN THE POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY. Antoni Alster, Member, Central Committee, Polish United Workers' Party

The regional conferences of the Polish United Workers' Party, held during April-May this year, discussed the activity of the Party-organisations in rallying the masses for fulfilment of the national-economic plan. The organising and mobilising work of the Party branches ensured overfulfilment of the plan for the first half of 1953. At the regional conferences close attention was devoted to developing the agricultural co-operatives. As a result of the intensified campaign the number of co-operatives rose from 5,000 to 8,000. These substantial achievements, however, prevented many delegates from noticing facts of underestimation of work among individual peasants in some districts, as well as, the serious shortcomings in the matter of implementing the directives of the Party concerning the strengthening of the bonds between town and countryside, in carrying out the tried Lenin policy of alliance between the workers and peasants.

The regional conferences demonstrated an indisputable growth in the strength and prestige of the Party and its better handling of organisational problems. But the organising work of the Party branches was not always accompanied by adequate political-educational work among the masses.

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The Central Committee pointed out that one of the main shortcomings in the work of the Party

organisations was inadequate co-ordination of everyday work with the main political tasks of the Party as well as with international events. Standard methods, still manifested in many districts, were criticised by a number of delegates at the conferences. The delegates also criticised those organisations which do not sufficiently direct the mass-political work towards fulfilment of production plans, and which do not ensure adequate leadership of the state and administrative apparatus.

The regional conferences disclosed serious shortcomings in the work of the branches, such as a narrow “utilitarian attitude”, inability to lead the mass organisations correctly and influence them politically. These shortcomings are aggravated by the fact that the Party committee fail to give sufficiently concrete and systematic guidance to the local Party organisations, particularly in the villages.

The regional conferences criticised the bad style of work of a number of Party committees arising from the violation, of the principle of collective leadership. Many regional and district organisations of the Party tended to belittle the role of Party committee meetings. As a result, the delegates to some of the district conferences suggested that the newly elected committees should be obliged to hold a plenary meeting at least once every two months, whereas the Party Rules envisage one plenary meeting every month. Such things happened only because plenary meetings of the district and city committees were held very seldom, sometimes one meeting in five or six months. The leaders of some of the district committees relied solely on the bureau of the committee. The outcome was that plenary meetings in such district committees were considered unnecessary. Clearly, some leaders of the Party

committees still fail to understand the significance of the principle of collective leadership and do not draw into the work other members of the committee in addition to the members of the bureau.

After the district conferences the Central Committee obliged the Party committees to adhere strictly to the Rules and to hold regular plenary meetings.

In the past meetings of the district committees were held seldom and were of a superficial nature. Criticism was not adequately developed. There were too many invited comrades at the meetings. This detracted from the role of the committee members and the dividing line between the plenary meeting of the committee and the activists meeting tended to disappear. This made it impossible to stress the significance of the Party committee as the political leader of the district organisation of the Party and, at the same time, prevented it from fully relying on the activists who, provided there are regular meetings, could display initiative and criticise the shortcomings in Party work.

This practice also militated against creating the right atmosphere for an active exchange of views by the members of the Party committees, against thorough preparation of the draft decisions. It resulted in the fact that very often a large number of hasty decisions were adopted which did not always correspond to the demands of life.

In these conditions political content was emasculated from Party work, leading to bureaucratism and to the methods of "commandism".

The incorrect decision taken by the Koszalin regional committee on the question of grain procurements serves as an example of "narrow practicism" and "commandism". Anxious to ensure rapid fulfilment of the grain procurement assignments this committee

increased the state plan for August more than twofold without paying any heed to the real possibilities. This tendency towards administrative and mechanical acceleration of carrying out tasks set by the Party and the Government stemmed from the fact that the leadership of the regional committee lost sight of the political aim of the campaign, with the result that the policy of further consolidating the alliance of the workers and peasants in the Koszalin region was seriously distorted.

In the absence of collective methods of leadership the main burden of the work is generally shifted from the Party committee to the apparatus. This inevitably leads to a departmental approach to the work of the apparatus, to underestimation of criticism, to administrative methods and “commandism”.

“A departmental approach”, Comrade Bierut points out, “is a typical opportunist, phenomenon, bureaucratic distortion of the methods of Party work, an expression of “narrow practicism”, which wrests the concrete tasks from their ideological-political foundation. It is a typically opportunist narrowing of the scale of our tasks and a change in the orientation of our Party work which, naturally, in serious measure, results in a bad approach by the activists to practical fulfilment of these tasks in the localities”.

A typical example of this departmental approach as the system of work, practised by the district committee in Kamienna-Gora (Wroclaw region). The economic department of this committee displayed no interest in the election of the Party bodies in the factory organisations with which it maintained close contact, assuming that it should occupy itself with economic problems and that the organising department should handle questions of the Party organisations. It is not

surprising, therefore, that the instructors of the economic department appropriated the right of issuing orders to the managers and of exercising control over industrial enterprises, that they ignored the branch organisations and acted over their heads. Such facts are also manifested in the regional committees where some departments display little interest in the life of the Party organisations, forgetting that their main task is to help them.

The departments of a number of regional and district committees do not show sufficient concern for improving the work of the Party organisations, for the political education of the members, but often devote all their attention to direct interference in production matters.

The recently held plenary meetings of the regional committees showed that the leading active workers are not only becoming increasingly more aware of the need to combat faulty methods of work but are taking concrete measures to improve methods of leadership and, in the first place, to ensure collective leadership. Many committee members who do not work in the Party apparatus took part in preparing the recent plenary meetings of the regional committees. The regional committees and the secretaries of regional committees were criticised far more boldly and more concretely.

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Some district committees have improved their work with the activists, giving more concrete guidance to the branches not only in the towns but also in the countryside.

It should be acknowledged, however, that if work has improved somewhat in the party organisations of the state farms and in the producer co-operatives the activating of the work of all the Party organisations in

the countryside is still slow and unsatisfactory.

The guidance given by the district and rural Party committees to the rural branches is not sufficiently concrete and flexible and the committees do not always give them the necessary help. It is known that tens of thousands of industrial workers reside in the countryside. But so far the district committees have failed to utilise in due measure this great force for raising the activity of the rural organisations of the Party. Despite the fact that considerable experience has been accumulated in strengthening contact between town and countryside many of the worker-brigades sent by urban organisations are not properly used for constantly improving the work of the rural Party organisations among individual peasants.

A serious task confronting the leading Party bodies is that of making a better study of agriculture, of thoroughly acquainting themselves with the needs and requirements of the peasants, of reinforcing their ties with the working peasantry, helping the small peasants and countering the kulak exploitation.

To achieve this the secretaries of the district committees and all the activists must, boldly and politically correctly, solve the questions relating to the countryside and, in practice, contribute to consolidation of the alliance of the workers and peasants.

The crowded meetings recently held in thousands of villages and devoted to the significance of the armistice in Korea and to the proposals advanced, by the Soviet Union on the German problem aroused deep interest among the working peasantry. The signing of the armistice in Korea was hailed by the peasants as a big achievement for the world peace camp. They see in the proposals advanced by the Soviet Union on the German problem the sole correct pathway towards establishing a

democratic, peace-loving Germany, and, consequently, the pathway to strengthening peace and the security of Poland. The peasants demonstrated the patriotic unity of the National Front and their deep hatred of the neo-Hitler revanchists. These meetings also showed that wherever the rural activists are surrounded, with care and helped by the regional and district committees they are able correctly to explain to the peasants the development of international events in towns of the growing superiority of the peace camp and successfully rebuff the enemy propaganda,

What is the explanation for the fact that many regional and district committees are isolated from the branches not only in the countryside but also in the factories? How to explain the state of affairs in Biala Podlaska, for instance, where members of the regional committee's propaganda department spend little more than 2.5 days a month in the localities?

All this stems from the lack of understanding by some regional and district committees of the fact that the correct carrying out of Party policy depends on correct work by the Party committees and branches and on raising the political level of the cadres.

The complaints made by lower Party functionaries against members of the leading Party committees who seldom visit the branches and who do not give them effective help are well grounded. It often happens that a member of a higher Party committee confines himself to issuing formal instructions but fails to give a satisfactory answer to the multitude of questions worrying the members.

The recently held plenums of the regional and district committees show that our Party bodies persistently disclose shortcomings, always endeavour to perfect the methods of leadership by the Party organisations, to raise their activity, enhance the

consciousness and develop the initiative of each member. The leading Party bodies are becoming increasingly aware that the growth of the Party organisations is the result of their ideological and political work, the criterion of the fruitfulness of their ideological and political work, the criterion of their contact with the masses. Hence, wherever our organisations correctly unfold mass-political work, they succeeded, despite the unsatisfactory growth of membership in the countryside as a whole, in forming some 400 new probationer groups during the past year.

The problem of close contact between regional and district committees and the Party branches' in the countryside is of particular importance now that more than 1,500 new producer co-operatives are engaged in their first sowing. The Party committees and the rural organisations must skilfully combine activity in the co-operatives with extensive political work among the individual peasants, with solicitude for the further development of agriculture and with effective help to the middle and poor peasants both on the part of the state and by those co-operatives which are making a success of things.

That is why the Central Committee of our Party is devoting special attention to the matter of equipping the personnel of the Party apparatus with political knowledge. This is understandable, since the level and the methods of work of the personnel of the apparatus define to a considerable degree the level and quality of the work of the Party organisations.

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Recent experience and particularly the successful carrying out of the wide-scale and complicated

campaign for switching the more than a million workers in the building and metal-processing industries to higher output norms, effected in June and July, showed that wherever Party organisation worked correctly, wherever they carried on active agitation and organising work, positive results were obtained. In the course of the campaign the Party bodies established close contact with many of the branches, and this in turn led to better contact with the factory workers.

During this period the Party organisations in many enterprises of the metal-processing and building industry carried out political work on a wide scale. In this way they ensured the introduction of the new norms, explaining to the workers not only the principles on which the norm revision is based but also its importance for further socialist construction and for ensuring better satisfaction of the material and cultural requirements of the working people. It is particularly important that the introduction of new norms was accompanied by the struggle for mobilising the reserves of the enterprises, for higher productivity of labour.

It was proved once again that in the big campaigns, both political and economic, our Party organisations display high organisational efficiency in carrying out the directives of the Party and the Government, provided the Party members entrusted with assignments clearly understand the political purpose, means and methods of action.

Far from all local organisations of the Party correctly guide the work of the unions or focus attention on the struggle for observing collective agreements, for proper use of funds earmarked for social needs, for training workers and improving their skills, and for improving the work of the supply departments whose numbers are multiplying and which, in many instances, have achieved success.

As yet not all Party committees and organisations properly guide the activity of the people's councils in the matter of building and repairing houses, despite the fact that the Government allocates ever increasing sums for the purpose, of ensuring efficient operation by the trade network which is called upon fully to satisfy the growing requirements of the working people. The recent plenums of the regional committees, particularly the plenum of the Lodz committee, testify to a certain progress registered in this vital sphere of Party activity.

The Central Committee constantly focuses the attention of the Party organisations on the need for thoroughly combining the day-to-day struggle for fulfilment of production assignments with solicitude for the people, with satisfying their material and cultural requirements.

At present our efforts are directed towards utilising the rich experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, towards consolidating and developing the successes achieved in improving the style of work of the Party committees, and towards strengthening their everyday contact with the lower Party organisations.

The changes now taking place in the work of the Party committees are helping to enliven the political life of Party organisations, stimulate the initiative of the broad Party and non-party activists, enable the Party committees to listen attentively to the voice of the masses and, relying on the activists, to make a better study of their needs, to react more quickly to their demands and more actively mould their consciousness.

Following this path our Party organisations are raising the level of political and organising work among the masses and are working more actively for the growth of the might of the people's state and for raising

the wellbeing and culture of the working people of town and countryside.

DEAL BETWEEN U.S. AGGRESSORS AND SPANISH FASCISTS. Vicente Moreno

On September 26 a bilateral military agreement was signed between the U.S. Government and fascist dictator Franco. Thus, Franco Spain is, in fact, incorporated into the ranks of the European mercenaries of American imperialism. This obvious fact is acknowledged in one form or another even in the bourgeois press of the Atlantic bloc countries. The French newspaper "Monde", for instance, points out that this agreement signifies "de-facto" recognition of Spain as an "ally of the Western world".

The mounting struggle of the peoples of the European countries in defence of peace and national independence, and their growing resistance to the policy of reviving militarist Germany, to the plans for establishing a "European Defence Community", forced the American aggressors to look out for new allies in pursuit of their criminal designs. Today the closest allies of U.S. imperialism in Western Europe are revanchist Adenauer and the Hitler nurtured Franco.

The military agreement between the U.S. imperialists and the blood-thirsty Caudillo signifies the sale of Spain to the U.S. monopolies and is a serious threat to Spain, to the people of Spain as well as to the cause of peace in Europe and throughout the world. The agreement signifies, in the first place, military occupation of Spain by the armed forces of the USA and the complete economic enslavement of the country by the American monopolies. The agreement provides that naval and air bases will be placed at the disposal of the U.S., that American military brass will control the railways and highways linking these bases and that the

U.S. will have the right to build and use military installations on Spanish territory. The agreement converts Spaniards into cannon fodder for the American warmongers.

The Spanish military bases will have American garrisons. U.S. army personnel, headed by General Kissner, atom-bomb carrier expert, will be on the staff of the U.S. Embassy in Spain, that is, they will enjoy extraterritorial rights.

The Franco clique has gone much farther in kow-towing to the U.S. aggressors and in monstrous national betrayal than any of the other rulers of the “Marshallised” countries of Europe. Thus a number of newspapers, including “The New York Journal American”, commenting on the agreement, specially underlined that its secret clauses provide unrestricted rights for the Americans to establish atom and hydrogen bomb dumps in Spain and to use the bombs from the bases in Spain.

Franco has bartered Spain in exchange for support by the U.S. imperialists. In doing this he calculated on suppressing the mounting struggle of the Spanish people for freedom, on finding a way out of the deep crisis which is rending the fascist regime Spain in of terror, hunger and war and on overcoming the isolation to which it has been doomed by world democratic opinion. The foul deal or the buying and selling of Spain provides for a grant to Franco of 226 million dollars, to be used exclusively for military purposes (85 million on military construction and 141 million on payment for military supplies). Clearly, the further militarisation of fascist Spain will bring the Spanish people greater privations and greater poverty, and will’ aggravate the economic crisis in the country.

The U.S. economic and military domination in Spain sharpens the antagonisms among the imperialists in this

part of the world. It is an open secret that the American imperialists are feverishly fortifying their positions not only on the Iberian Peninsula but also in the Eastern part of the Atlantic, in the Western part of the Mediterranean and in North Africa. The London "Times", betraying the anxiety felt by British ruling circles, wrote shortly after the signing of the agreement, that with the acquisition of bases in Spain the USA will become a big naval power in the Mediterranean. There are, clearly, good reasons for this anxiety, especially if one takes into account the comments in the American press and particularly the view recently expressed in the "Washington Star". According to this newspaper the most important result stemming from the establishment of American bases in Spain is that the United States becomes firmly established as the leading power in the Mediterranean, replacing Britain in this role.

The U.S.-Franco Spain military agreement is also a serious and direct threat to France. To say nothing of the intensified U.S. penetration of her North African colonies, France finds herself wedged between the Hitler "Wehrmacht", which is being revived by Adenauer, and the Franco clique, which is being armed by the Americans. "The French working people, democrats and patriots", "l'Humanite" wrote in connection with the signing of this agreement, "have not forgotten that the Hitler aggression began with the destruction of the Spanish Republic".

World democratic public opinion resolutely denounced the aggressive deal of the U.S. imperialists with the blood-thirsty butcher of the Spanish people. All who treasure peace and security indignantly protest against the machinations of the U.S. aggressive forces in Spain. Incidentally, the war deal between the U.S. and

Franco Spain came in for sharp criticism at the Labour Party Conference in Margate—a resolution put forward by 5 national trade unions denouncing the agreement was unanimously approved. Even the bourgeois press of the West European countries, usually docile to U.S. diktat, is forced to reflect the growing discontent among big sections of public opinion over the policy of the U.S ruling circles. The Swedish “Morgen Tidningen” writes that for the USA “the fact that its ally is a totalitarian fascist state is nothing compared with how many divisions it can supply or how many suitable military bases it can provide”.

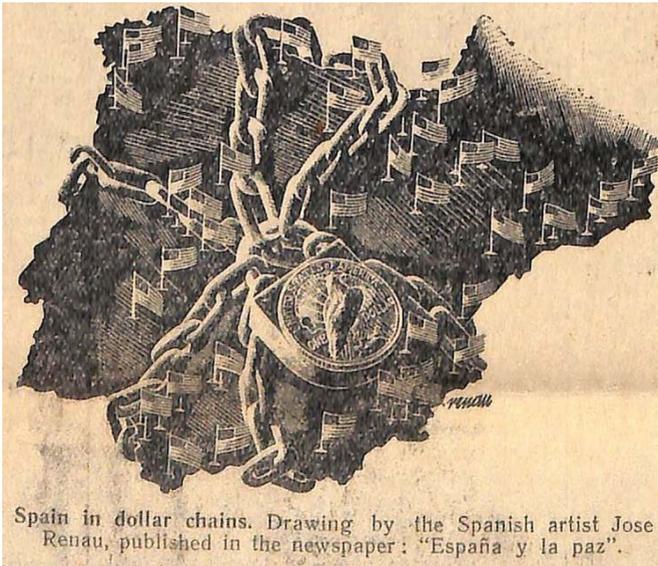
Protests against the criminal deal with Franco resound louder and louder in the United States also. The “Veterans of the Abraham Lincoln Brigade” organisation issued a statement which points out that this act represents a dangerous step bringing nearer a destructive atomic war... By now, the statement says, we have made a complete circle from the programme of defeating fascism and preventing war to the programme which recognises fascism and encourages military gambles. Even the “New-York Times” was forced to characterise the agreement as a “bitter pill”.

The people of Spain refuse to recognise the military agreement signed by their butchers with the U.S. aggressors. They are going ahead with and intensifying their courageous struggle against the Franco fascist dictatorship and against American imperialism which has seized Spain in its talons and is seeking to turn it into a Mediterranean Puerto Rico. “Spain refuses to sign! Spain says: ‘No!’”, wrote the underground “Mundo Obrero”, central organ of the Communist Party, on behalf of the people of Spain.

Throughout Spain there resounds the militant call which was heard in the streets of Barcelona during the glorious events of the spring of 1951: “Americans clear

out of Spain!”

All honest Spaniards, all patriots both in the country and abroad, irrespective of their political views, are taking to struggle for the freedom and independence of their homeland. The people of Spain will follow their heroic vanguard—the Communist Party which calls for the formation of a broad national, anti-Franco front whose slogan is: “Peace, freedom, national independence!”



Spain in dollar chains. Drawing by the Spanish artist Jose Renau, published in the newspaper: "España y la paz".

BONN MILITARISTS RUN AMUCK

After nearly all the war criminals had been released from the prisons in Western Germany and after they had actively joined in the work of creating the “European Army” the Adenauer clique decided to go a step farther. As is known, certain fascist criminals had punishment meted out to them which the Bonn rulers’ have no right to annul. These criminals included the Hitler General Jodi, who was hanged on the basis of the sentence passed by the Nuremberg international military tribunal which found Jodi guilty of bloody, crimes against the peoples of the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Norway, Albania, Greece and other countries. World public opinion regarded the sentence of’ the international tribunal as the just sentence of the peoples. But !he West German militarists, who dream of new military gambles, do not like the way the war criminals were treated. And recently the organs of Bonn “justice” posthumously ... “rehabilitated” Jodi.

Judging by the way things are shaping in Western Germany the process of “rehabilitating” the fascist butchers, convicted by all the peoples, has not ended. A publishing house, opened recently in Luneburg with the blessing of the Bonn authorities, has put out a book with the eloquent title: “We justify Hitler”. Incidentally this book hints that the Hitler war was ... “the beginning of the rise of the European Army”“. And the SS troops are regarded by the author as the forerunner of the “European Army”. This is indeed a worthy argument in favour of the notorious “European Defence Community”.

BOOK REVIEW

Unrestricted Exploitation of Peasants in Italy. Booklet “An End to the Feudal Agreements in the Villages of Southern Italy”



The “Activist’s Note-Book”, published by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Italy, issued a booklet as supplement, entitled: “An End to the Feudal Agreements in the Villages of Southern Italy”. In a scrutiny of thirteen of these agreements the authors expose the system of the medieval slavery in the Italian countryside imposed by landlords, barons and other big landowners.

An idea of the nature of land distribution in Southern Italy can be obtained from the example of two regions. In Calabria 326 thousand smallholders own an average of 0.15 hectare each, while the farms of 1,100 big landowners average 330 hectares; Baron Baracco

owns 22,000 hectares, Baron Berlingerie 15,000. In Basilicate 141,000 small peasant households own between them 24,000 hectares, while 3 big latifundists own 24,800.

In addition to the land-hungry peasants in Italy there are over 5½ million landless peasants, including 15 million tenants, nearly 1,800,000 sharecroppers and about 1,200,000 farm labourers.

The peasants in the South live in appalling poverty. Often one can see entire families sharing a shelter with their cattle. From 25 to 30 per cent of the population of the South, mainly peasants, is illiterate due to lack of money and school facilities; tuberculosis and trachoma are rife in the towns and especially in the countryside.

Taking advantage of the plight of the peasants the landowners, by means of enslaving agreements, are, in fact, turning the share-croppers into serfs.

The booklet cites the terms of the agreement dictated by Marquis Bisogni to a landless peasant in the village of Panacconi. According to this agreement the share-cropper, for the use of a small plot, is forced to pay annually 10,000 lire as a guarantee against violation of the agreement and 13,500 lire in rent, the latter to be paid strictly in July each year and at the home of the landowner. Moreover, the share-cropper must give the landowner "20 eggs and 1 hen at Christmas and Easter and one hen in August", 40 kilos of tomatoes and, twice weekly, he is obliged to deliver to the home of the landlord as much green vegetables as he may demand.

For the use of a strip of land the tenant L. N. on the basis of an agreement must, at his own expense, manure the garden of Marquis Bisogni, look after 140 citrus trees, 6 peach trees, 7 fig trees, 4 olive trees, 2 nut-trees, 5 other trees and two rows of his vine-yard. The landlord appropriates the entire yield of fruit and even the leaves of the fig trees "which the sharecropper

cannot use until he has paid their cost”.

What is left to the share-cropper from the fruits of his labour, on what does he live and support his family? At best, the landowner may give him (and may not) the yield from one citrus tree and half the yield of the fig tree after he has picked the best fruit. In case the victim demands revision of the agreement or fails to live up to one of its points the landowner appropriates the guarantee money paid by the peasant. Should the share-cropper during harvesting dare to eat a single one of the oranges grown by him, the landlord deducts 100 lire for each orange.

The booklet points out that the arbitrariness of the landowners is such that Signor De Siena insisted that S.M., a peasant in the village of Rombiolo, should pay him for a plot which he rents more than 20 centners of grain, 96 eggs and two chickens at Easter and Christmas. But the total grain yield from this plot was not more than 20 centners. In addition to the extortionate rent the Signor obliged this peasant to look after 35 olive trees without any compensation.

The greed of the landowners is indeed boundless. Signorina Angela Nicastrì insisted that S.U., a share-cropper in the town of Cozenza, should “raise and feed a pig at his own expense and when slaughtered give half to her”. Prince Scrugli found a way for forcing the wife of a share-cropper to toil for them without compensation, insisting that during holidays she should cook at her own expense *l'alolone* (an Italian dish) and do the family washing.

Foreseeing that this ruthless exploitation might arouse the indignation of the peasants and a demand for observation of the law, Maruca, a landlord, included in the contract dictated to share-cropper V. N. from the village of Conflenti a clause which “prohibits the share-

cropper from applying to court in case of a conflict..., remembering that his only judge is his master or the master's, representative”.

The instances quoted in the booklet, do not, by a long way, say the authors, exhaust all the methods and machinations to which the landowners in Italy resort in plundering and ruining the peasantry. Seeking to put an end to this state of affairs, the democratic forces submitted to Parliament in 1948 a bill for reform of the agricultural agreements, which corresponded to the demand of the peasants renting land. However, the Christian Democratic majority in Parliament and the Government refused even to discuss the bill. On the contrary, the Government employed the full strength of its police apparatus for merciless suppression of the peasants' struggle for land and for their rights in the South. Many peasants who fought against the arbitrary acts of the land-owners were killed and wounded or thrown into prison.

Notwithstanding the brutal repressions the Government failed to break the will of the peasants and was forced to adopt a number of laws restricting the arbitrary rule of the owners. Nevertheless, the lot of the peasants has hardly changed since the landowners, backed by the Government evade the law in every way and violate it. Consequently, the peasants are continuing their fight for agrarian reform and for reform of agricultural agreements, for a bigger share of the harvests, for giving effect to the law providing for abrogation of all kinds of “levies” and non-paid labour and for the realisation of the laws already adopted by the Government.

The peasants and the entire population in the South are becoming more and more convinced that the sole concern of the Government is to ensure the interests and maximum profits of the big landowners and that it

is doing nothing at all to relieve the unbearable-conditions of the rural population. The growing peasants' movement, which enjoys the support of the working class, makes it increasingly clear to the peasants in the South that there is only one correct way to the solution of their vital needs, namely, the way of struggle indicated by the Italian Communist Party.

“Abolition of the disgraceful injustice of these agreements”, say the authors in conclusion, “would signify the removal of one of the main reasons for the backwardness of the South and the impoverishment of the population, would signify the removal of one of the biggest obstacles in the way of the regeneration of the South”.

Julio BERNARDI

EVE OF THIRD WORLD TRADE UNION CONGRESS

The Third World Trade Union Congress is due to open on October 10 in Vienna.

The convocation of the Congress is welcomed by the multi-million masses of working people in the different countries. Preparations for the Congress in Europe and Asia, America and Africa already began some months ago. Delegates to the Congress were elected everywhere on a most democratic basis, irrespective of political views of the workers and office employees.

The peoples of the democratic countries are actively preparing for the Congress. Its aims and tasks are popularised by the press in the Soviet Union and in the People's Democracies.

The World Trade Union Congress is warmly welcomed by working people in the capitalist countries. Special Congress Preparatory Committees have been set up in Finland, Mexico, Brazil, Chile and many other countries. Good work has been done by the French General Confederation of Labour. Its organ "People" featured articles, describing how working people in France are preparing for the Congress.

Preparations for the Vienna Congress are also underway in the colonial and dependent countries. In August a World Federation of Trade Unions week was held in India. Conferences were convened and delegates elected in the countries of North, West and Equatorial Africa.

Preparations for the Congress were marked by a vigorous drive for unity among various trade unions.

STRIKE MOVEMENT IN CAPITALIST COUNTRIES

USA

On October 1, 60 thousand dockers on the eastern coast of the USA struck work demanding a wage increase. The strike has paralysed work in all ports on the Atlantic coast.

JAPAN

On, September 28th, 170 thousand Japanese miners began a 24-hour strike for higher wages.

The strike involved 110 thousand miners on Kyushu Island: the miners of 7 big coal mining companies, of medium and small pits.

CANADA

Workers on strike in the Timmins goldfields, Canada, are demanding higher wages and better conditions of labour. The strike is spreading to other goldfields.

On September 22nd when the 1,200 workers employed in the McIntyre pit struck work they brought operations to a standstill. Two days later, on September 24, the 1,500 workers in the Hollinger goldfield, which holds second place in Canada for gold output, joined the strike.

The number of miners now on strike in the goldfields amounts to 4,000, and with the Noranda strikers totals

6,000.

CHILE

In Chile 15,500 nitrate workers have been on strike for several weeks. Protesting against their wretched conditions the strikers are demanding higher wages. The Government has proclaimed a state of emergency in the nitrate mines.

POLITICAL NOTES

1. New U.S. Aggressive Acts Against Peoples of Asia

On September 30 the communique on the signing of the French-U.S. agreement was published in Washington and Paris. According to this agreement the USA allocates an additional 385 million dollars for intensifying the war in Indo-China. On the very next day—October 1—the so-called “mutual security” pact was signed in Washington between the USA and the Rhee puppet government in South Korea.

These two events are closely linked and not only in respect to time. The factor common to them is, above all, that they are the result of the dangerous aggressive policy of the U.S. ruling circles aimed at aggravating the tension in Asia and throughout the world, at frustrating a peaceful settlement of outstanding international problems.

The “dirty war” against the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam, against the national-liberation movement of the peoples of Indo-China has long since become a national disaster and a shame for France. This futile war saps the economy of France, leaving it disarmed in face of the Hitler “Wehrmacht” which is now being revived. Broad circles of public opinion in France—ranging from workers to some bourgeois deputies—persistently demand an end to the war in Viet Nam and the withdrawal of the expeditionary corps from Indo-China. And everyone agrees with the view that had it not been for U.S. pressure and the notorious American military “aid”, the Viet Nam war would have been ended long

ago. Only recently Professor Bernard Lavergne of Paris University wrote in the weekly "Le Tribune des nations": "What grounds have we for continuing the war in Indo-China? Undoubtedly we are acting there as mercenaries of the United States... We are now in a scandalous position: it looks as if we were selling the lives and sufferings of our soldiers to the American rulers for 300 or 400 million dollars a year... We are continuing this futile war only because this is demanded by the United States whose vassals we have become". Commenting on the report about the forthcoming dispatch of another nine French battalions to Indo-China, "Le Monde" wrote that Washington provides the money and France-the soldiers. In a word, blood in exchange for dollars.

What is it that makes the U.S. rulers dictate their "aid" to France? Their arithmetic is exceedingly simple. To the American dollars France must add a much bigger sum squeezed out of its tax payers and all this is then paid to America for the armaments supplied to the French expeditionary corps. Thus the dollars find their way back to the coffers of the American "benefactors" with big interest and, of course, the Wall Street moneybags do not care a hoot if after this profitable operation more blood and dirt stain their dollars...

The USA is also using its dollar handouts to facilitate penetration of Indo-China by the American monopolies. What is more, this policy enables them to keep Asia in a state of tension and alarm so dear to the hearts of the U.S. merchants of death.

And so no-one has any doubt as to the real aggressive aims of the latest American interference in the war in Indo-China, aims which are profoundly hostile to the peoples of Asia and all peace-loving nations. These aims become all the more evident in the light of the "mutual security" pact signed in Washington between the USA and South Korea, which is aimed

wholly and completely at frustrating a peaceful settlement of the Korean question and at backing the Rhee clique whose corruption is a common topic even in the American press. Indeed, Rhee does not only not conceal his coveted desire to wreck the truce agreement and again to launch aggression against the Korean People's Democratic Republic, he shouts about this from the housetops, boasting the while of the aid promised by his highly-placed benefactors.

It was only natural that State Secretary Dulles, should have tried, as usual, to shroud this latest aggressive act in a series of nice phrases to the effect that the agreement, allegedly, is "wholly and completely devoted to peace", "completely corresponds to the aims and principles of the Uno Charter". But it is said and not without reason that it is easier to catch a liar than a lame man. While the truce agreement calls for the earliest withdrawal from Korea of all foreign troops, the Washington agreement gives the Americans the right to maintain their land, air and naval forces in South Korea for a long indefinite period. Thus, South Korea is to remain, as before, a military springboard for the USA.

While the peace-loving forces seek an early convocation of the Political Conference on the Korean question and the creation of all the necessary conditions for its success Dulles and Rhee, even when the agreement was just being initiated, issued a statement threatening "to withdraw" from the Political Conference after the expiry of 90 days and to begin unilateral consultations for creating a "united" Korea, that is, for preparing new aggression against the Korean People's Democratic Republic. Consequently, one can see the reason for the manoeuvres of the USA and its docile majority at the 8th session of the General

Assembly of Uno, designed, to by-pass discussion of the Korean question and, in this way, to frustrate the summoning of the Political Conference on Korea. Can there be any doubt that both the constant violations of the truce agreement by the U.S. military and the provocations by the Rhee and Chiang Kai-shek agents against the Indian custodian forces in Korea are all links in the same chain by means of which the U.S. reactionary circles seek to frustrate a peaceful settlement of the Korean question.

Rhee in Korea, Bao Dai in Viet Nam, Chiang Kai-shek on Formosa... All that is most foul and corrupt is used by the U.S. reactionary circles for their aggressive aims. But no matter how hard the U.S. rulers try to array themselves in the toga of enemies of the "old colonial policy" they will not succeed in concealing the fact that their latest colonial policy leaves far behind all hitherto known examples of expansion, that their policy is aimed at aggravating the tension in international relations and at turning Asia into a centre for a new world war.

2. A Vile Undertaken

The chiefs of the "Friends of the Holy Trinity", a Swedish religious sect, have so far never won fame as seafarers. Seeking, apparently, to make good this failing they recently purchased the "Eolus", a ship owned by a certain company. It is said that the ship-owners were worried, at first, fearing lest the new-born seafarers might prove to be competitors. But this apprehension lacked any grounds. The "Friends of the Holy Trinity" had no intention of venturing on long business voyages. They, as soon became clear, decided to dedicate themselves to the less dangerous occupation of

“educating human souls” and, naturally... “in the countries of Eastern Europe”. They outfitted the “Eolus”... and turned it into a floating radio station.

Then the “Friends of the Holy Trinity” acquired a comfortable villa in Saltshebaden, not far from Stockholm and began to “work miracles”, that is, they began to fabricate forgeries and foul broadcasts about “communist conspiracies” and the “aggressive designs of the East”. Receiving both moral and material encouragement from the other side of the ocean the adherents of the “Holy Trinity” soon acquired another vessel also for use as a floating radio station, ploughing the waves off the Swedish coast and emitting vilifications about the countries of the democratic camp.

Dr. Ernst Schmidt, Minister of the Evangelical Church in Nuremberg, is another who has lately occupied himself with the problem of “saving the souls” of the peoples of Eastern Europe. Not wishing to copy blindly the “seafaring methods” of his Swedish colleagues, he decided to distinguish himself in the “air”. As reported in the West German press, one fine day in the outskirts of Nuremberg, Schmidt and his henchmen, after a noisy ceremony, discharged five thousand air balloons with cellophane bags attached containing the Bible. This was nothing but cynical speculation on the religious sentiments of the faithful. The chief content of these bags was “literature” containing the most foul incitement, printed in the German, Czech, Polish and Russian languages and designed “for christians in Eastern Europe.

The circumstances in which these “sea” and “air” operations of the Swedish and West German enemies of peace and democracy were carried out become clear if one but takes into account that all the expenditure

connected with the Rev. Schmidt's foul undertaking was borne by the hierarchy of the United Lutheran Church in America and that these operations coincided with large-scale manoeuvres by forces of the North American aggressive bloc and the occupation troops in Western Germany.

Thus, combining lechery and prayer, the Swedish "Friends of the Holy Trinity" and the chiefs of the Evangelical Church in Nuremberg have joined the "cold war" fomented to the extreme by reactionary circles in the USA. But this undertaking, this foul anti-people's enterprise, which has nothing in common with religion but is directly related to the anti-people's war-mongering activity of international reaction, is foredoomed to utter failure on land; sea and in the air.

Jan MAREK

FACTS EXPOSE...

Fate of Turkish Children

As reported by the Turkish newspaper “Aksham”, 40,000 homeless children roam the streets in Turkish towns. “Hunger”, writes the newspaper “Akyn”, “prompts them to rummage for food in the garbage, to steal and to resort to all manner of petty demeanours for the sake of getting a crust of bread. During the day they sleep in the parks, they spend the nights in railway stations, in abandoned wagons, in the docks, in all-night cafes, in the yards of mosques and even in public baths”.

The majority of the peasant children are brought up in appalling poverty. Many have never known what it is to have a pair of shoes, writes the newspaper “Hurriet”. Children share cowsheds with the animals.

Lauro, Moretti Goes to his Death

The Italian press recently reported that anyone willing to take part in a certain test at the artillery range in West Point (USA) would qualify for an award of seven million lire. The experiment is such a dangerous one that the chances of remaining alive are very small. On previous occasions animals were used.

The 34 year old Lauro Moretti, an Italian, who accepted the offer, when asked why he decided to take the risk, replied:

“What can I do? I have no work, my father who is 75, is a pensioner. Only my other earns a little spending

nights at the bedside of sick people. I can't live this way any longer".

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