

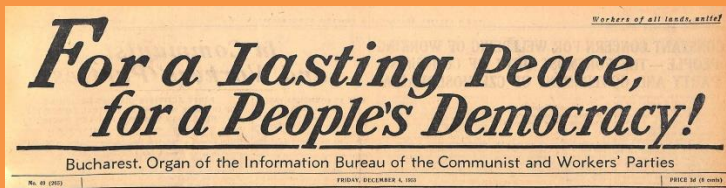
Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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



NO. 49 (265), FRIDAY, DECEMBER 4, 1953



**Source: Journal “For a Lasting Peace, For a People’s Democracy”,
No. 49 (265), Friday, December 4, 1953.**

Origin of language: English

Scanned, transcribed and prepared as an E-Book.

April 2024

**The Socialist Truth in Cyprus
London Bureaux**

**Direct Democracy (Communist
Party)**

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

www.directdemocracy4u.uk



CONTENTS

CONSTITUTION OF THE USSR IS THE MOST DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION IN THE WORLD.....	5
WORKS BY V. I. LENIN PUBLISHED IN BULGARIAN LANGUAGE.....	12
SESSION OF WORLD PEACE COUNCIL.....	13
MESSAGE OF WORLD PEACE COUNCIL TO ALL ORGANISATIONS AND PERSONALITIES WHO DESIRE RELAXATION OF INTERNATIONAL TENSION	13
GENERAL RESOLUTION OF WORLD PEACE COUNCIL	14
CLOSING MEETING OF WORLD PEACE COUNCIL	18
FOR TRIUMPH OF CAUSE OF PEACE. SORIN TOMA, PROFESSOR, MEMBER, WORLD PEACE COUNCIL	19
CONSTANT CONCERN FOR WELLBEING OF WORKING PEOPLE—THE FOREMOST DUTY OF COMMUNIST PARTY AND GOVERNMENT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA. JAROMIR DOLANSKI, MEMBER, POLITICAL SECRETARIAT, COMMUNIST PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.....	24
IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS’ PARTIES	35
CALL BY COMMUNIST PARTY OF ALGERIA.....	35
FOR DEMOCRATIC FRONT OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MEETING, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF PARAGUAY	36
PARTY ACTIVISTS DISCUSS DECISIONS OF OCTOBER MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, HUNGARIAN WORKING PEOPLE’S PARTY	37
1954 CARD EXCHANGE CAMPAIGN IN COMMUNIST PARTY OF ITALY	38
MEETING, CENTRAL COMMITTEE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL.....	40
PARTY ORGANISATIONS OF WUHAN WORK TO STRENGTHEN LABOUR DISCIPLINE....	41
FROM COMMUNIST AND WORKERS’ PRESS	45
CONCRETE EXPOSURE OF IMPERIALIST SLANDERS “SCÂNTEIA”—CENTRAL ORGAN OF RUMANIAN WORKERS’ PARTY	45
FREEDOM FOR ALVARO CUNHAL!.....	49
FOR LIBERTY AND INDEPENDENCE FOR MOROCCO. ALI YATA, SECRETARY, COMMUNIST PARTY OF MOROCCO	50

RADICAL CHANGE IN LIFE OF ALBANIAN PEOPLE. NINTH ANNIVERSARY OF ALBANIAN LIBERATION. BEDRI SPAHIU, CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEMBER, ALBANIAN PARTY OF LABOUR.....	60
IMPOVERISHMENT OF AMERICAN FARMERS (LETTER FROM USA)	67
STATEMENT BY NATIONAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY, USA.....	75
IN HONOUR OF SECOND CONGRESS OF POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY.....	77
SOCIALIST EMULATION AMONG WORKING PEOPLE OF POLAND	77
ITALIAN PEOPLE SUPPORT DECISIONS OF VIENNA SESSION, WORLD PEACE COUNCIL	79
COLONISERS' ATROCITIES IN KENYA	80
FACTSEXPOSE... ..	81
THEIR "HOME" IS A TRUCK	81
MEETING AT BOILING POT OF "EUROPEAN DEFENCE COMMUNITY"	82
ADENAUER: WELCOME TO DINNER, NEIGHBOUR! DRAWING BY E. TARU.....	82
POLITICAL NOTES.....	83
ADVOCATE OF BONN REVANCHISTS.....	83

CONSTITUTION OF THE USSR IS THE MOST DEMOCRATIC CONSTITUTION IN THE WORLD

Seventeen years ago, on December 5, 1936, the Extraordinary Eighth Congress of Soviets of the USSR enacted the new Constitution of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. Since then December 5th has become a great festival for the working people of the Soviet Union and all progressive people throughout the world. The peoples of the Soviet Union and the toiling masses the world over celebrate the enactment of the new Constitution of the USSR as one of the most outstanding dates in the history of mankind.

The Constitution of the Soviet Union which is based on the inviolable principles of the great and invincible teaching of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin has embodied the greatest gains of the Soviet people. The principles of Socialism constitute its foundation: socialist ownership of the tools and means of production, abolition of the exploiting classes and the exploitation of man by man, elimination of poverty for the majority and luxury enjoyed by the few, elimination of unemployment and constant improvement of the wellbeing of the popular masses.

On the basis of the victory of Socialism all the conditions have been created in the Soviet Union for the further all-round development of the productive forces of society, for the continuous rise in the material and cultural level of the people, for building communism. For centuries millions of oppressed people have dreamed of such a social system and this still remains a dream for millions of honest people in the capitalist,

colonial and dependent countries. The Constitution of the USSR testifies to the fact that that which has been accomplished in the USSR can definitely be accomplished in other countries also. Therein lies its paramount international significance.

The victory of Socialism in the USSR has made possible the realisation of broad democratic rights for the entire people. The Soviet Constitution does not confine itself merely to stating the rights and freedoms of the citizens, but it ensures that the working people exercise these rights in real life. This is genuine socialist democracy. All citizens in the USSR are ensured the right to work, to rest and leisure, the right to education and maintenance in old age. The Constitution guarantees freedom of speech, freedom of the press, of assembly and meetings, the right to unite in public organisations, the inviolability of the person and of the home.

Soviet socialist democracy is a genuine democracy for the whole of the people. In the USSR the broad masses participate in the governing of the country. The election system of the Soviet state ensures the genuinely free and democratic elections.

The feature of the Soviet Constitution is its profound internationalism. In the USSR the ideology of the equality of nations and races, the ideology of friendship among the nations has triumphed. Every opportunity has been created in the Soviet Union for an all-round and free development of personality.

The seventeen years of work and struggle of the Soviet people under the banner of the great Constitution have brought to the people of the USSR new historic victories. Having smashed in the second world war the sworn enemies of mankind—the Hitler

fascists and Japanese imperialists—the Soviet people, led by their heroic Communist Party, rapidly rehabilitated their national economy in the post-war years and are firmly and confidently marching along the pathway of building Communist society. The recent decisions of the Central Committee of the CPSU and of the Soviet Government, aimed at ensuring a steep rise in the material and cultural level of the population and creating, within two or three years, an abundance of consumer goods, strengthen further alliance of the working class and the collective-farm peasantry and invigorate the efforts of the peoples of the USSR in the struggle for carrying out the grand plans of Communist construction. The motive forces of Soviet society in the struggle for translating into life these vast and genuinely epoch-making tasks are the moral-political unity of Soviet society, Soviet patriotism and the inviolable friendship of the peoples—the motive forces which are developing in conditions of genuine socialist democracy.

The Constitution of the USSR has become the model for all countries of people's democracy confidently marching along the pathway of socialist construction. The working people of these countries, proceeding from the concrete historical conditions and from the tasks of laying the foundations of socialist economy, are widely utilising the rich experience of the land of Socialism. The people's democratic system guarantees the exercise of the broad rights and freedoms of citizens by creating the necessary material conditions.

Things are quite different in the camp of capitalism. While the working people in the countries of the socialist camp, liberated from the yoke of the bourgeoisie, are themselves running their states on a

genuinely democratic footing, the broad masses in the capitalist countries are kept out of active political life by all possible means. The ruling circles in these countries are resorting to all manner of intrigues, deceit and direct coercion in order not only to restrict as much as possible but to liquidate also completely the political freedoms of the working people. The process of fascisation of the state in the capitalist countries is making itself felt in increasing measure. Today various restrictions in the United States actually disfranchise nearly 20 million citizens. Eighteen states in the USA have educational qualifications, many impose property and residential qualifications and some states have introduced electorate taxes, etc. All this greatly restricts the right of citizens to vote.

The interests of the national minorities are grossly violated in capitalist countries. Savage nationalism is being fostered in every way and brutal discrimination is practiced against Negroes in the United States. Women and servicemen in many countries are deprived of the right to vote.

Denial of rights for the people is particularly manifest in the colonial and dependent countries. The imperialist colonisers are seeking to bar the oppressed people from participating in political life.

The many-mouthed imperialist press and propaganda machine, and together with it the hired lackeys of the monopolies—the Right-wing Social Democratic leaders—shout from the house tops that the capitalist world is a “free world” in which freedom of the individual and free initiative and other “freedoms” prevail. What then are the notorious “freedoms” of the capitalist world?

In the United States, for example, millions of unemployed and part-time workers are in dire straits

and are crowded in slums; the wages of millions of workers and the incomes of most of the farmers are below the official subsistence level. What then can “freedom of the individual” mean for the unemployed and poverty-stricken? What can freedom of the individual signify for the working people in a society where all means of production are in the hands of a tiny minority of capitalists? Freedom of the individual exists there only for the capitalists. It is they who enjoy all the blessings of life. They understand freedom as an unrestricted right to appropriate the results of labour of others and ruthlessly to plunder the working people of their own and foreign countries and as a right to oppress other nations.

What “freedom of the individual” can there be in the United States with forced labour existing in overt and covert forms virtually legalised by the anti-working-class Taft-Hartley Act? Of what “freedom of the individual” do the advocates of imperialism speak when they impose by force of arms a regime of slave labour in British and French colonies?

Has the verbiage about freedom any value in a society which allows freely to advocate only those policies which coincide with the interests of the monopolists, policies for the preparation of new wars, in a society where it is impossible to speak out in the interests of the people and freely fight for lessening international tension and for peace?

In the capitalist countries the banner of bourgeois-democratic freedoms, of national independence and national sovereignty has been thrown overboard by the bourgeoisie. The rulers in these countries are deliberately seeking to eliminate, or reduce to naught the remainder of parliamentarianism and bourgeois

democracy, for they hinder them in the pursuit of the policies of unrestrained exploitation of the working people and of preparations for war, the policies hated by the people.

The Communist Parties in a number of capitalist states, expressing and consistently fighting for the interests of the people, have been driven underground by the ruling classes, who subject progressive organisations to intensified persecution and openly resort to terror in an attempt to maintain their dictatorship.

The progressive and democratic forces in capitalist countries, headed by the Communist and Workers' Parties, are fully determined to defend the bourgeois-democratic freedoms and fight for the interests of the peoples, for their future happiness. The struggle of the working people in France, Italy and other countries demonstrates that the reactionary forces are forced to retreat under their pressure. The successful struggle of the popular masses in capitalist countries waged in defence of the democratic freedoms is a great contribution to the cause of peace and the easing of the international tension. The Communist and Workers' Parties in the capitalist countries have won the love and respect of all ordinary people and of all progressive forces by their selfless struggle for the vital interests of the working people, for the independence of their countries, for democracy and peace.

In the struggle against the menace of a new war, for a peaceful solution of the controversial international issues, for democratic rights and freedoms and for decent living conditions the peoples of all countries are inspired by the consistent peace policy of the Soviet Union which has won epoch-making victories under the

banner of the new Constitution. Working people throughout the world gaze on this immortal banner with the hope and confidence that they will triumph.

WORKS BY V. I. LENIN PUBLISHED IN BULGARIAN LANGUAGE

The Publishing House of the Communist Party of Bulgaria has issued Volume 35 of V. I. Lenin's works. This completes the edition of V. I. Lenin's works in the Bulgarian language.

SESSION OF WORLD PEACE COUNCIL

Message of World Peace Council to All Organisations and Personalities Who Desire Relaxation of International Tension

The armistice concluded in Korea has given the world, held in anxiety for so many years, the hope of at last seeing an easing of the tension between the Great Powers. The negotiations which were opened, however, have come up against renewed obstacles. Agreement is proving difficult on other questions vitally important for the peace of the world.

But the peoples long for a relaxation of international tension. Economic barriers and political pressures arising from this tension are becoming increasingly difficult to bear.

We believe it is possible to rescue the world from this condition.

Today a wide range of political and social forces in all countries is working for a relaxation of international tension.

New voices among eminent scientists, religious and political authorities are condemning the use of weapons of mass exterminations. Public opinion is becoming alarmed at the growing accumulation of armaments of all types.

Every sensible person realises that it is not possible to settle problems of world importance or guarantee the full value of any agreement made without the participation of the Government of the Chinese People's Republic.

Responsible representatives of all political parties in most West European countries have made a public stand against the rebirth of German militarism in any shape or form.

In these conditions, we think an opportunity should be given for all organisations and personalities who desire a relaxation of international tension to unite their efforts. The Resolution passed by the World Peace Council on the 28th of last month is an expression of our point of view on this matter. Co-ordinated preparations for a meeting allowing the free exchange of all viewpoints and the examination of possible solutions are becoming essential. An international meeting of this nature, held as soon as possible, would in itself be an important factor in a relaxation of international tension.

General Resolution of World Peace Council

The Budapest Appeal for negotiation, launched by the World Peace Council, has had profound repercussions and has won the widest support. As a result of this campaign, the idea of settling international differences by agreements acceptable to all is daily winning ground and bearing fruit.

The end of hostilities in Korea was a victory for the cause of peace.

The latest exchange of Notes between the Great Powers proves that the holding, in the near future, of a Four-Power Conference on the German question is possible.

The idea of ending hostilities and reaching a peaceful solution in Indo-China is making progress both in France and in Viet Nam.

But the forces opposed to the easing of international tension are using the word “negotiation” to veil their plans for prolonging the cold war. Negotiations cannot be realised if one party is confronted by the other with accomplished facts; the desire for negotiations cannot be present if conditions are created to make it fail.

In Asia and in Europe, there are situations and conflicts which are especially endangering world peace.

In Korea, negotiations are in danger. The intention to exclude neutral nations, for instance, India, from a political conference dealing mainly with Asian interests could cause the failure of negotiations. The peoples will not allow hostilities in Korea to be resumed.

The interests of the security of Europe demand the quickest possible settlement of the German problem, a settlement which is only possible through an agreement between the Four Powers—the United States, the USSR, Great Britain and France. The main obstacle which stands in the way of this agreement is the intention of one side to rebuild German militarism and to bring Germany into the war coalition directed against the other.

The World Peace Council calls upon the peoples of Europe to prevent the ratification of the treaties on the “European Army” and the revival of German militarism in any shape or form. This would open the way to agreement on the German problem between the Four Powers, an agreement which would offer the German people the prospect of a peaceful future and give to all the peoples of Europe a guarantee against the revival of aggressive forces in Germany.

For the last seven years there has been a war between France and Viet Nam which can only be ended by direct negotiations between the belligerents. The World Peace Council welcomes the proposal made in this direction by the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and supported by the delegation of the Chinese People's Republic. This proposal, to which the French delegation made a favourable reply, could serve as a basis for a settlement.

The World Peace Council has always affirmed that foreign interference, occupation by foreign troops and the establishment of military bases on foreign soil constitute a threat both in the independence of the peoples and peace.

Such a policy is being developed in the Near and Middle East, Latin America and Africa. It shows itself in Europe, particularly, by the plan for the "European Defence Community" and by the installation of American atomic bases in Spain; in Asia by the foreign occupation and intensification of the rearmament of Japan, and by the US attempt to set up military bases in Pakistan. This latest effort threatens to bring about a war psychosis among hundreds of millions of peoples in yet another part of the world.

The armaments race and the manufacture of even more powerful weapons of mass destruction impose an intolerable burden on the world and constitute a frightful menace.

The World Peace Council has drawn the attention of the world to this problem by its Stockholm Appeal campaign and its Warsaw Resolutions. It regrets that the United Nations Organisation has not yet reached agreement on these matters and hopes that steps will

be taken to bring about the absolute prohibition of atomic and biological weapons and a substantial reduction of all armaments, under effective control.

The World Peace Council finally emphasises that whilst negotiation is necessary on any particular problem it considers, as it always has, that a Five-Power Conference is still the best method for achieving a relaxation of international tension.

This conference would be able, on the initiative on any of the powers, to take up any problem felt, and find general agreements acceptable to all.

The persistent refusal to grant the Chinese People's Republic her rightful place in the international institutions dealing with the settlement of international matters is an obstacle to this Five-Power Conference.

This refusal is contrary to the interests of all states and is condemned more and more severely by world public opinion.

The Charter of the United Nations gives the peoples an instrument for bringing about a lasting peace, and they should strive to ensure respect for the Charter. Infringements against it have plunged the world into great difficulties.

A return to the letter and the spirit of the Charter would help the peoples to ensure their security and independence. It would allow real co-operation between the nations to develop their economic resources, their wellbeing and their culture. The anxiety and fear, the misery and the difficulties of everyday life, imposed upon the peoples by the cold war and the armaments race, can and must be eliminated by the struggle of the peoples on which peace, in the last resort, is dependent.

Closing Meeting of World Peace Council

The closing meeting of the World Peace' Council on November 28 heard speeches by Abdallah Rahman Sharkavi (Egypt), former Reich Chancellor of Germany Joseph Wirth, Major General Sahib Singh Sokhey (India) and d'Astier de la Vigerie (France).

The speeches of the delegates were followed by the discussion and adoption of a Message to all organisations and personalities who desire the relaxation of international tension, a General Resolution, a Statement by the scientists—participants of the session—which calls on all scientists of the world to strive for the prohibition of weapons of mass extermination, and a Recommendation of the Cultural Commission of the World Peace Council "On the Promotion of Cultural Relations between Peoples". "The Recommendation reads: "The full support of the peace movement is assured for the various activities already achieved or planned, such as: visits, exchange of delegations, works of art, literary and scientific publications, international exhibitions, congresses and meetings and interchange of scientists, intellectuals, artists and sportsmen, etc."

The session elected new members to the World Peace Council and its Bureau.

Elected Members of the World Peace Council are: Aukati Djalal, employee, (Iraq); Castro Baltazar, Chairman of the House of Representatives, (Chile); Cianca Alberto, ex-Minister, (Italy); Gherasimov Serghei, film producer, (USSR); Guillen Nicolas, poet, (Cuba); Lefsnos Knut, lawyer, (Norway); Machta Abdul Karim, writer, (Iraq); Menotti Clarenzo, professor,

(Italy); **Scharf Erwin**, writer, Chairman of the Socialist Workers' Party (Left-wing Socialists), Austria; **Sorokin Valentin**, economist, (USSR); William Morrow, Chemist, (Australia), Elected Members of the Bureau of the World Peace Council are: **Amado Jorge**, (Brazil); **Monica Felton**, (Great Britain); **D. N. Pritt**, (Great Britain); **Surkov Alexei**, (USSR); **William Wainwright**, (Great Britain); **Oliver Maria Rosa**, (Argentina).

The session approved a Draft Resolution of the Bureau of the World Peace Council on the celebration in 1954 of the following jubilees: 200th anniversary of the death of Fielding, English writer, 50th anniversary of the death of A. P. Chekhov, 50th anniversary of the death of Dvorak, Czech composer, 2,400th anniversary of the death of Aristophanes.

FOR TRIUMPH OF CAUSE OF PEACE. Sorin Toma, Professor, Member, World Peace Council

The close interest shown by the peoples in the work of the Vienna Session of the World Peace Council is due to the powerful growth of the forces and influence of the World Peace Movement and to the great services it has rendered to all peace-loving mankind. "I think", said Pastor Niemöller "that the World Peace Movement has already done a great deal and has contributed in a large measure to the fact that a new conflict has not broken out, a conflict which would endanger the whole of humanity".

The Vienna Session once again demonstrated with particular force the broad and genuinely representative nature of the World Peace Council which is the true

expression of the aspirations and the will of all peace-loving people. The Council Session was a meeting of political figures, scientists, clergymen, industrialists and trade-union functionaries who are united by a common desire to work out measures to preserve and strengthen peace. As was the case at the previous sessions a particularly striking feature was the large number of representatives from colonial and dependent countries who arrived in Vienna, fully conscious that they would find respect and understanding and be able to speak as equals.

The World Peace Council focussed discussion on the main, vital question of the day: the easing of international tension. The delegates from countries of all continents quoted numerous facts which showed that the campaign that had been launched by the World Peace Council for a peaceful settlement of controversial international issues had been meeting with a wide response. The broad masses, leaders of various political and social organisations, eminent workers in the realms of science and art and representatives of the clergy demand that the governments of the Great Powers reach agreements for French Parliament easing international tension.

Strong of the people is aroused by the fact that the advocates of the policy of prolonging “the cold war”, headed by the US reactionary circles, persist in putting new obstacles in the way of reaching an agreement, of easing international tension. Numerous speakers at the session exposed the enemies of peace who have tried might and main to disguise their aggressive schemes with “peace-loving” statements. This was pointed out at the session by Ilya Ehrenburg, Soviet delegate, who exposed the attempts of the aggressive circles “to

hoodwink millions of peace-loving people and cloak the feverish preparations for a terrible war with words which are so-near and dear to all friends of peace”.

The decisions of the World Peace Council are a programme of action for the peace-loving forces who are working to ease international tension.

Voicing the determination of the peoples to prevent the resumption of hostilities in Korea the General Resolution of the World Peace Council calls on the peoples to display vigilance against the attempts to frustrate negotiations by excluding the neutral countries, for instance, India, from the Political Conference.

The General-Resolution stresses the need for an early settlement of the German problem in conformity with the interests of the security of Europe by means of agreement between the USA, the USSR, Britain and France.

Recent foreign policy debates in French Parliament revealed how strong is the resistance of the French people to the plans for reviving the revanchist Wehrmacht under the guise of the “European Army”. The call of the World Peace Council to the peoples of Europe to frustrate the ratification of the “European Army” agreements and the rebirth of German militarism in any shape or form will undoubtedly meet with a powerful response in all European countries.

The speeches of the delegates and the documents of the Council reveal the anxiety of the peoples in Europe and Asia, in the Near and Middle East, in Latin America and Africa in connection with the construction of numerous US military bases on their territories. These bases, which bring about foreign occupation and the risk

of involving the peoples in armed conflicts, are most dangerous to international security.

The Vienna Session revealed the opportunity for ending hostilities and for reaching a peaceful solution in Viet Nam through direct negotiations between the belligerents.

The decisions of the World Peace Council call on the peoples to intensify their struggle for an unconditional ban on atom and bacteriological weapons, for a substantial reduction of all types of armaments and “for effective control over the carrying out of these measures.

The World Peace Council stressed that a Five-Power Conference is the most effective instrument for lessening international tension. No sensible person can fail to see that this can be reached only with the participation of the Government of the People’s Republic of China. The session welcomed with profound satisfaction the proposal by the Soviet Government for a meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the USSR, the USA, Britain and France in Berlin.

Various organisations and many outstanding personalities of all countries who are working for the relaxation of international tension will undoubtedly highly appraise the important initiative of the World Peace Council in deciding to hold an international meeting in 1954 for the purpose of free discussion of the differing view-points and the consideration of possible solutions of the problem. This meeting can become a major factor for easing international tension.

The significance and the strength of the decisions adopted by the Vienna Session lie in the fact that they are based on the growing consciousness of the masses and the experiences gained in the great struggle for

preventing a new world war. Our duty, the duty of all who are fighting within the framework of national peace movements, is to see to it that the decisions become widely known in our respective countries, that the broad masses are drawn into the discussion of international problems, and that all possible forms of exchange of opinion, co-operation of organisations and persons willing to contribute to the easing of international tension, are combined with vigorous action by the masses. The success of this great meeting for peace depends on the work of us all. The whole of progressive mankind is on the side of those who are fighting for the life and future of the peoples and the salvation of civilisation. Let us devote all our efforts to this lofty cause so that peace and friendship between peoples triumph throughout the world.

**CONSTANT CONCERN FOR WELLBEING OF
WORKING PEOPLE—THE FOREMOST
DUTY OF COMMUNIST PARTY AND
GOVERNMENT OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA.
Jaromir Dolanski, Member, Political
Secretariat, Communist Party of
Czechoslovakia**

Constant concern for improving the well-being of the workers, peasants and the working intelligentsia is the foremost duty of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Government of our people's democratic Republic. The measures taken by the Party and the Government in the past few years, together with those now being carried out, were and are directed precisely to achieving this lofty aim. For the first time in their history the working people of Czechoslovakia have established a social system and have a Government, which set for themselves as their main task the greatest concern for the maximum satisfaction of the constantly growing material and cultural requirements of the working people.

The working people of Czechoslovakia have achieved great successes in developing and reconstructing their national economy. During the years of the first Five-Year Plan (1949-1953) the volume of industrial output will increase 96 per cent, according to the preliminary data, and will exceed the pre-war 1937 level by more than 100 per cent. Such a rapid rate of industrial

development cannot be registered by any industrially developed capitalist country.

A particularly high rate of development in the five-year period was achieved in producing of the means of production which this year, according to the preliminary data, will exceed the 1948 level by 217 per cent, with the output of steel increasing 72 per cent, generation of electric energy 71 per cent, coal output 34 per cent, the extraction of iron and manganese ores more than 85 per cent, the volume of the output of the chemical industry approximately 114 per cent, and the output of the machine building industry 350 per cent.

Alongside this development of heavy industry, the output of which will account this year for 62 per cent of the entire industrial output, the production of consumer goods is also growing. Output of such goods this year will be approximately 68 per cent higher than the 1948 level, including the output of woollen, cotton and linen fabrics which will increase 20 per cent, furniture will be more than threefold, soap will rise by more than 60 per cent, meat will almost double, milk will go up over 40 per cent, butter nearly 50 per cent, sugar and beer by approximately 45 per cent etc.

These data bear eloquent testimony to the strength of our people's democratic system and its superiority over the capitalist system. They show that our system is in a position to ensure not only the carrying through of the grand tasks of further industrialisation but also the improvement of the living standards of the working people.

The further increase in agricultural production is an important prerequisite for improving the wellbeing of the working people of our republic. The slow rate of development in agriculture leads to the break-down of

the proportionate development of the national economy of Czechoslovakia, to constant difficulties in supplying the working people with foodstuffs and the light and food industries with raw materials. In addition to other vital steps taken for ensuring the accelerated development of agriculture in Czechoslovakia, the amount of capital investments ensuring this development will be increased to 350 million crowns this year, for further strengthening and developing of state farms to 315 million crowns and the state credit for the capital construction of agricultural producer co-operatives to 1,000 million crowns.

The currency reform on June 1, this year, along with the complete abolition of rationing, increased the purchasing power of the crown, put an end to the abnormal situation of having two systems of prices of consumer goods, deprived the capitalist and speculative elements of the possibility of disorganising the market and restricted to the minimum the opportunities of the remaining capitalist elements to live on unearned income. At the same time these measures created the conditions necessary for a consistent reduction of prices on consumer goods and for developing socialist trade.

*

Under the leadership of the Communist Party and the Government of the regenerated National Front the working people of Czechoslovakia have achieved substantial victories in raising their wellbeing. These victories are particularly striking when we compare the present living standard of the working people with that in Czechoslovakia under capitalist rule.

During the 1933 economic crisis capitalist Czechoslovakia had, according to the official data, nearly one million unemployed. In January 1937 the army of unemployed, again according to official figures, numbered 677 thousand. Unemployment does not exist in people's democratic Czechoslovakia. On the contrary, the building of Socialism and the steady extension of production call for the continuous growth of the labour force. For example, the number of worker employed in industry and construction has increased approximately 35 per cent during the Five-Year Plan period and the number engineering and technical personnel by 80 per cent. A considerable growth was also registered of those employed in the network of public education, health services, etc.

Radical changes have taken place in conditions for women and youth of Czechoslovakia. They enjoy the right to equal pay with men, and are greatly assisted by the state to become better qualified workers, etc. Suffice it to say that in the middle of the current year women accounted for 36 per cent of the factory and office workers employed in the national economy.

The increase in the number of factory and office workers is accompanied by an increase in real wages, which are now approximately 33 per cent above 1937 level.

However, a mere recording of the facts that unemployment has been eliminated and real wages increased does not give a full picture of the living standards of the workers and the entire working masses in Czechoslovakia. We must add to this the government expenditure on the health services, public education, pensions for the aged and disabled, on children and

young people's welfare, etc. The achievements in this field are borne out by a number of facts.

All working people have the right to holidays with full pay and the duration of such holidays has been considerably extended. Miners and some other categories of workers have an additional one-week's holiday above the normal holidays due to all other working people.

The trade union organisations provide their members with an opportunity to spend their holidays in rest homes on highly favourable terms. Since 1951 the number of holiday makers in these rest homes reached approximately 300,000 per annum. Besides the rest homes belonging to the trade unions, many factories and offices have rest homes of their own. Some 1,300,000 working people have their lunch in factory canteens in which nearly 40 per cent of the cost is covered by the factory and office managements.

A high level has been reached in providing cultural services to the population. There are in Czechoslovakia today 53 permanent theatres compared with 46 in 1948, 3.650 cinemas (2,160 in 1948) which this year gave 920,000 cinema performances. This year there is one radio set to almost every 6 persons while in 1937 there was one radio set to every 15. This year the output of books will exceed the 1948 level by 85 per cent.

During the people's democratic rule the number of schools of all grades and the number of students have also shown considerable growth. The number of kindergartens increased by more than 250 per cent as against 1937; they are now catering for more than 250,000 children; the number of students in special schools (excluding general secondary schools) increased by over 60 per cent compared with 1957; the number of

higher educational establishments increased from 9 in 1937 to 32 in 1953 and the number of students from 19,000 to nearly 48,000 respectively. In addition we have 19,000 correspondence-course students this year in the higher educational establishments and over 17,000 working people attending evening colleges. In all educational establishments tuition is free of charge.

Considerable success has been achieved in the public health services as can be seen from the following data:—the number of hospital beds this year will exceed by more than 70 per cent the 1937 level. The creches this year cater for nearly 35,000 infants compared with 1,300 in 1937. The number of physicians this year is nearly 75 per cent above the 1948 figure. A particularly striking testimony to the essential improvement in the public health services is the fact that the infant mortality rate has decreased more than 80 per cent compared with 1937 and 1945. The working people, their dependents and all pensioners receive free medical treatment.

The people's democratic government shows great concern for children and families having children. The state makes to newly-married couples a long-term loan equal to the wages of a worker for six months. On the birth of the first child the couple are exempt from repaying the interest on the loan, and when the child is one year old one-sixth of the outstanding debt is automatically wiped out.

From the date of birth and throughout the whole of the time the parents are bringing up their children, they are paid a government subsidy which was almost doubled following the abolition of rationing. Children and young people receive constant medical assistance.

Great care is shown for children of school age. During the past educational year canteens in the people's schools catered for nearly 150,000 school children. Another feature of the school activities are the school "rooms" in which more than 150,000 children spend their leisure hours. This year nearly 350,000 children who live in the towns spent their holidays in special rest homes. As already stated, public education—from schools to universities—is free of charge. Moreover, the government will pay allowances to some 80,000 students in the middle and higher educational establishments this year.

The government allocates large sums for the training of skilled workers from among the young people, carried out as a rule in special training schools; it not only bears the cost of the upkeep of the workshops but generally provides the trainees with free food and accommodation in hostels. In some branches of industry, such as mining, the government supplies them with everything, including linen, clothes and footwear, as well as pocket money.

The people's democratic government shows great concern for the aged and infirm. The aggregate sum of allowances and pensions paid out by the state has increased 48 per cent over the 1949 figure. For instance, the government pays pensions to more than 300,000 old folk who would not have been entitled to any such aid under the capitalist regime and would have been left to eke out a miserable existence.

To give a clearer picture of the living standards in Czechoslovakia we must add that in the years of the people's democratic power the telephone service has been made available to every town and village in the Republic and much has been done in the work of

electrification with the result that electricity is now available to 93 per cent of the whole population of the country. Bus transport, particularly in the countryside, has been greatly extended, as is evident from the fact that this year it will carry almost 700 million passengers compared with 205 million in 1948.

All the facts and figures quoted above show the gains that have accrued to the Czechoslovak people as a result of the building of Socialism and the sharp contrast between their life today and their life in the days of capitalist rule in their country. The working people of Czechoslovakia are proud of their homeland and its successes; they take pride in their achievements and the results of their selfless labour in socialist construction.

*

The Party and the Government, on the basis of the achievements of socialist construction and in view of the enthusiasm for work and the abilities of the working class and the entire working people, have decided to speed up the rate of improving the people's living standards.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party and the Government are carrying out a series of important measures to ensure that the further development of the national economy is effected in full conformity with the requirements of the law of planned (balanced) development in the national economy and will ensure an accelerated rate of improving the living standards of the working people. They base all these on the development of industry and the positive results brought about by the reform of currency and abolition of rationing, and

proceed from an analysis of the development of the inter-connections between the basic branches of the national economy, particularly between industry and agriculture, the supply of raw materials and the manufacturing industry, and between the production of the means of production and the production of the means of consumption.

In accordance with the decision, which took effect on October 1, state retail prices were cut from between 5 to 40 per cent for more than 23,000 different types of goods, as a result of which the population will benefit to the extent of 4,500 million crowns a year.

To this must be added the fact that even before the October price reduction, i.e., in the third quarter of 1953 (the currency reform and abolition of rationing were effected prior to June 1), more consumer goods were sold to the population than during the corresponding period of 1952. There can be no doubt that the October price reductions will result in further expansion of trade. The Government of Czechoslovakia has announced that further substantial price reductions will be effected next year.

Measures have been taken to increase considerably the number of houses built in 1953 and particularly 1954. The state housing enterprises will complete the construction of 30 thousand flats this year and a further 6,000 will be under construction. No less than 40 thousand flats will be ready in 1954. In addition, the construction of 5 thousand cottages will begin this year, with the cost covered by loans granted by the Government to the working people who will also be given help in obtaining sites, transporting materials and in carrying out special building work. Another 10 thousand cottages are planned for construction in 1954.

Important measures have been taken for improving the standard of living of the rural population both of members of the agricultural producer co-operatives and individual peasants.

Purchasing prices for nearly all the basic agricultural produce of the 1953 harvest have been considerably increased and the rural population will benefit to the amount of nearly 900 thousand million crowns this year. The agricultural producer co-operatives have been given an extension of time for repaying long-term credits; credit has been raised to 1,000 million crowns this year and will be further increased by approximately 40 per cent in 1954.

At the same time steps have been taken to improve the repair of houses, effect urban improvements, repair and construct new buildings for public and cultural services in the enterprises, to increase the variety and improve the quality of consumer goods, to extend the trade network, particularly in the countryside, to extend and improve the work of public-catering establishments, to improve municipal services and reduce their cost, to further extend the network of hospitals, schools and student hostels, and to improve cultural services for the population.

*

For the purpose of further developing the national economy and accelerating the improvement of the living standards of the working people it is now essential to reduce capital investments, somewhat slow down the rate of development of the heavy industry and concentrate on the acceleration of building a basis of raw materials and power. At the same time it is

necessary to devote the maximum possible funds and efforts to ensure a substantial rise in agricultural production by speeding up mechanisation, building farm premises, increasing crop yields by the more efficient use of fertilisers and cultivation of land, and by raising livestock productivity and ensuring a sufficient supply of fodder.

The results achieved in the course of socialist construction, growing economic co-operation with the Soviet Union and the other countries of the democratic camp, the selfless labour of workers and the entire working people, their growing unity and their confidence in the policy of the Communist Party and Government of Czechoslovakia,—all this creates the conditions necessary for the successful solution of the tasks facing us at this stage of our development, and so will enable us to achieve further considerable successes in relation to a further improvement of the material and cultural level of the working people of people's democratic Czechoslovakia.

IN COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

CALL BY COMMUNIST PARTY OF ALGERIA

A call for a Democratic National Front in Algeria was issued by a meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Algeria. The main question of the day, “the question which can and must unite all Algerians who are concerned about {he future of their country”, says the call of the Central Committee, “is the question of the liquidation of the colonial regime that has brought so much suffering to Algeria and holds back the development of the material and cultural wealth of our people”.

The call sets out a draft programme for a Democratic National Front: amnesty for all victims of colonial repression; observance of democratic liberties; active support for the economic and social demands of the people; universal education and recognition of the Arabic language as the official language of Algeria; repudiation of the links with the North-Atlantic bloc; refusal to let the people of Algeria be used in any imperialist war; immediate withdrawal of Algerians from the expeditionary force in Indo-China; and the defence of peace.

“Apart from this immediate programme of action”, reads the call, “there is also the possibility of reaching agreement on broader aims common to all national organisations and parties, particularly on the prospects for an Algerian Democratic Republic”.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Algeria called on all patriots and democrats, all parties

and organisations to discuss these proposals with a view to achieving unity.

FOR DEMOCRATIC FRONT OF NATIONAL LIBERATION MEETING, CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF PARAGUAY

The international and internal situation and the tasks of the Party in the struggle for peace and for a democratic government of national liberation were discussed by an enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Paraguay recently held in Asuncion.

The resolution adopted by the meeting points to a deep stagnation and decline in production in the country.

The meeting noted the growing struggle of the workers, peasants and students against the anti-national policy of the Government headed by Chaves, against the rule of the US imperialists in the country, against high prices, hunger and poverty.

The meeting also discussed the situation in the Party and decided unanimously to expel from the Party the traitors Gammara and Juan Acosta; it called on all Party organisations and its members to raise their ideological level, to make a deeper study of Marxism-Leninism and persistently to expose alien ideology, The meeting called on the Communists of Paraguay to uphold resolutely the interests of all Sections of the population suffering from the anti-national policy of the Chaves dictatorship, to unite them under the banner of struggle for democracy and national independence, and to form,

together with them, a democratic front for national liberation.

PARTY ACTIVISTS DISCUSS DECISIONS OF OCTOBER MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, HUNGARIAN WORKING PEOPLE'S PARTY

Meetings of Party activists are taking place in regions, rural districts and all districts of Budapest, as well as in the big enterprises. They are discussing the decisions of the October plenary meeting of the Central Committee. The speakers described the successes achieved since the June meeting of the Central Committee. The wellbeing of the working people has increased and work in industry improved during this period. For example, the average wages of the workers and employees in the Győr region in the third quarter of this year increased 9.4 per cent compared with the first quarter. The personnel of the enterprises in this region fulfilled their production plan on the average by 104 per cent.

Meetings of Party activists in the Nograd region summed up the first successes in improving the supply of consumer goods to the population. Price reductions and other steps taken by the government have resulted in increasing the purchasing power of the working people and in a greater demand for agricultural implements. The inner-Party self-criticism are becoming an everyday feature of the Party work.

Serious attention has been devoted to the mistakes and difficulties which hamper the fulfilment of the decisions of the Party and the Government. There is a

certain lag in the matter of fulfilling the plan in some branches of industry, including such an important branch as mining. There are Party members who do not fully understand the Party policy in the countryside. Here and there criticism and self-criticism is of a formal nature and mass-agitation work is poor.

The speakers who took part in the discussion boldly disclosed and criticised these weaknesses and those who are guilty of them. Salgatarjan, Secretary of the Budapest Party Committee, pointed out that fluctuation of the labour force is still manifest in the building industry. Many speakers dealt with the problem of improving trade.

At the meeting in the Nograd region the Party activists advanced a great number of proposals. Life in the Party branches has become more active, the rate of elected bodies has taken on greater significance and criticism and of valuable proposals aimed at raising crop yields in agriculture and at ensuring a better use of machines and tractors.

1954 CARD EXCHANGE CAMPAIGN IN COMMUNIST PARTY OF ITALY

The leadership of the Communist Party of Italy has announced the opening of the campaign for exchanging membership cards for 1954. A communique on this question issued by the Organising Department of the Communist Party points out that during the campaign close attention must be devoted to strengthening and extending the unity of the working class and all working people, and to radically improving methods of work and

leadership in the Party and mass democratic organisations.

The communique stresses that the card exchange campaign must be closely linked and carried out simultaneously the work of winning new members for the Party from among the best workers and democratically-minded citizens who have distinguished themselves in the struggle for freedom, work and elimination of the political monopoly of the Christian Democrats.

The communique points out that active work among women, in particular among those employed in offices, the textile industry and the teaching profession, is of great significance for the success of the campaign.

All the Party organisations, reads the communique, must intensify their activity for winning over to their side those young men and women who gave their votes for the Communist Party and the democratic forces on June 7, and to help the Italian Communist Youth Federation to increase its membership to 500,000.

During the campaign, the communique stresses, the Party organisations must strain every effort to raise the ideological and political level of the Party members and above all of the new Party members.

The communique calls upon the Party organisations to complete the exchange of membership cards by the end of this year and not later than the end of January 1954.

MEETING, CENTRAL COMMITTEE COMMUNIST PARTY OF ISRAEL

An enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Israel held in Tel Aviv with the participation of Party District Secretaries heard a report “Political Situation and Tasks Ahead of the Party” delivered by Comrade Mikunis, General Secretary of the Central Committee.

The speaker pointed out that the recent bloody events along the Israeli borders are additional links in the chain of provocations by the American and British imperialists and their lackeys in the governments of Israel and the Arab countries. These provocations, as well as the intrigues in Korea and Berlin, are designed to aggravate international tension, to intensify the armament race and foster hatred between the people of Israel and the people of the Arab countries in order to simplify the carrying out of the military schemes of the warmongers.

Comrade Mikunis called upon the people of Israel to unite in a People’s Anti-Imperialist Front of struggle against intrigues, for peace and national independence, and for peace talks between Israel and the Arab states and for the complete solution of all controversial problems without foreign imperialist interference. He pointed out that the Communist Party advanced the slogan: “American Observers and Conciliators—go home!” and called for the promotion of Israel—USSR economic relations.

The speaker pointed to the necessity of strengthening friendship between the Israeli and Arabian working people, of unity of action by the Israeli

working class in repulsing the attack of the government and employers on the wages and living standards of the workers.

In his report Comrade Mikunis dwelt on the immediate tasks of the Party, stressing the need to enlarge its ranks, strengthen its bonds with the working class and win more subscribers for the Party newspaper "Kol Haam". The plan of the Party's work also envisages the intensification of the education of cadres.

The report on organisational tasks of the Party was delivered by Tawfiq Toubi, Secretary of the Central Committee.

Party Organisations of Wuhan Work to Strengthen Labour Discipline

Following the decision of the Wuhan City Committee of the Communist Party of China the systematic inculcation of labour discipline among all workers of the state-owned enterprises in the city was initiated in June 1953. At those factories where this important measure has been effected it not only brought about a considerable improvement in the organisation of labour, but has noticeably raised the labour consciousness of the workers and members of the staff. Factories and workshops which fulfil and overfulfil their production assignments. For instance, in the Fourth Motor Assembly Plant which failed to fulfil its production plan between January and May this year, production exceeded the plan in both June and July and absenteeism dropped to 0.81 per cent. In May this year the No. 208 Factory

fulfilled only 55.56 per cent of its plan. When the Party organisations began to devote close attention to inculcating labour discipline all the workshops of this factory fulfilled their July production plan 10 days ahead of schedule. There are many similar examples.

During the drive for raising labour discipline the Party organisations at the plants and factories gained valuable experiences.

What do these experiences show? First of all, Party organisations must draw all Party members and non-Party workers into the study of Party directives on the consolidation of labour discipline.

Factories systematically analysed their work in detail. They analysed the previous work of their enterprises, made comparisons by contrasting the present with the past. The Communists explained to the workers that each worker in new China has opportunities to receive education, to improve his qualifications and produce more for the people. At the same time the Communists emphasised that infringements against labour discipline meant losses for the state as well as for the workers themselves. All this helped the workers to realise that they should strictly observe labour discipline and raise labour productivity in order, on the one hand, to accumulate funds, for national construction and, on the other, to improve their standard of living steadily on the basis of the development of production.

Party organisations must develop the enthusiasm of all workers for labour by commending the advanced workers, while encouraging the backward to do better work. The method of taking advanced workers as examples for the other workers should be widely used. It is necessary to develop self-criticism among the

workers, to urge them to follow the examples set by the advanced workers who successfully fulfil their production assignments, observe labour discipline and are more developed politically.

The raising of the level of enthusiasm for labour is also promoted by the organisation of individual vocational training of the workers. The best of the advanced workers, Party members and Youth League members, tutors and activists were assigned to backward workers and gave them effective help by means of advice and personal example. Let us look at such an example, Chu Minchu, a woman worker in the spinning shop of the No. 1 Cotton Mill, frequently stayed away from work and did not fulfil her production assignments. Communist Tu Chien-chen was asked by the Party organisation to talk with her. Comrade Tu Chien-chen patiently proceeded to help Chu Min-chu to improve her qualifications and eliminate the difficulties that confronted her in the work. Eventually, Chu Min-chu improved and turned out to be a good worker.

The above-mentioned measures do not completely exhaust all the methods of raising labour discipline. The Party organisation is seeking to combine ideological education and training of the workers with the solution of all practical problems confronting the workers: problems relating to everyday life, individual cases of anomalies in wages, problems of industrial safety, improvement of sanitary conditions, labour protection and medical services. Work among the members of the workers' families must be intensified, While carrying out explanatory work the Party organisations must not suppress discussion of the problems which are not yet ripe for solution. These problems must be thoroughly explained to the workers.

At present, alongside the enhancement of the labour consciousness of the workers, enterprises are working out, on the basis of the proposals put forward by the workers themselves, new regulations dealing holidays and a system for inspecting the quality of finished products; they plan to hear periodical summarised reports on the merits of individual workers, on the encouragement and rewarding of advanced workers and the censure of negligent workers. After discussion and adoption by the workers and approval by the management, all such measures should be made public and must be observed as plant or factory rules. In order to ensure the fulfilment and overfulfilment of their production assignments the work-teams revise their labour pledges on their own initiative.

The work carried out by Party organisations makes it necessary for us not only to take into account their valuable experiences, but also to consolidate the successes achieved in raising labour discipline. It is on this basis that we shall further develop labour emulation, strengthen planned control so as to link the Party's political work closely to the tasks in the economic field: Only thus can we ensure the overfulfilment of state plans and attain fresh successes in the development of the national economy of the country.

TSENG TUN
Vice-Director of the
Department of Propaganda,
Wuhan City Committee,
Communist Party of China

FROM COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PRESS

Concrete Exposure of Imperialist Slanders “Scânteia”—Central Organ of Rumanian Workers’ Party

Hardly a day passes without the press and radio of the US monopolies disseminating the most absurd fabricated slanders about the Soviet Union and the countries of people’s democracy, whereas life in the capitalist world is described by the US propaganda machine as a kind of super-paradise. All the means at their disposal; from pseudo-scientific “theories” to hypocritical verbiage about the “genuine freedom”, which is supposed to prevail in the USA, are used to conceal from world public opinion the catastrophic deterioration of the standard of living of the working people, the unemployment, heavy tax burdens and increased cost of living, and other calamities inherent in capitalism which are aggravated by the feverish arms drive and by the signs of crisis which are making themselves felt in the economy of the US.

“Scânteia”, as well as other newspapers of the countries of people’s democracy, is waging a resolute and consistent struggle against the ideological diversion of the imperialists and is constantly exposing the slanderers.

A commentator of the “Free Europe” radio station—the mouthpiece of the US aggressive circles—recently

used false figures in an attempt to prove that the workers in the capitalist countries live in better conditions than in people's democratic Rumania.

In reply "Scânteia" published an article by Ilie Băncescu, trade-union functionary in Rumania, who dealt a strong rebuff to the attack of this radio liar. Relating his impressions of the International Insurance Conference, in which he participated, Ilie Băncescu writes:

"On my visit to Vienna I had an opportunity to become convinced that hundreds of millions of the working people in capitalist countries are doomed to desperate straits."

The case is different in Rumania: "In the past four years", Băncescu writes, "the Rumanian Government allocated nearly 4 thousand million lei for social insurance including over 1.5 thousand million lei for pensions 850 million lei for cash subsidies and about 900 million lei to prevent diseases and for other measures. Last year the Government and trade unions gave material aid to enable 340 thousand people to stay in rest homes and sanatoria, and in 1953 this figure reached 443 thousand, including 118 thousand children".

The newspaper has also exposed another lie, this time of the US station "Voice of America".

Among other stuff the "Voice of America" brought to light a pamphlet by a certain Zelomek. With a courage worthy of Tartarin of Tarascom this "scientist" asserts that American capitalism is as far removed from the capitalism whose laws of development were formulated by Marx in his time, as heaven is from earth and that economic crises are not at all typical of American imperialism since it is not governed by the

objective economic laws of capitalism. The “Voice of America” radio liars, encouraged by this powerful “scientific” support, enthusiastically praised certain miraculous “automatic stabilisers” which are proposed by Zelomek for the salvation of capitalism from crises.

The article, “It is impossible to conceal under cover of words the signs of crisis in the US economy”, published in “Scânteia”, bitterly ridicules the scientific lackeys of American imperialism and their notorious “automatic stabilisers”. One of the “stabilisers” proved to be insurance... against what do you think?... unemployment!

“Do not think”, writes “Scânteia”, “that this means the elimination of unemployment. This is not the aim of the ‘automatic stabilisers’. What is involved is the payment of money to workers who have become victims of unemployment, payments that are not enough to keep them above starvation level”.

Another “stabiliser” which is allegedly “saving” America from crises is the arms drive. The “Voice of America” speaks outright: “An economic crisis is also impossible in the United States because the US Government will continue allocating large sums for armaments”.

Thus the mouthpiece of the US ruling circles openly admits that the arms drive is one of the vital elements of US policy, that they see in it the way out of the crisis. But the arms drive leads to further impoverishment of the working people and the growth of unemployment. On the basis of concrete examples taken from life in the USA the paper exposes slanderous allegations of the American propaganda.

“What lies behind these allegations?, writes “Scânteia”, “is clear from the news reported from the

United States. The International Harvester Company, for example, has sacked 15 thousand workers and is threatening to close down 19 of the 21 factories under its management. This means the dismissal of another 40 thousand workers. In a period of one month alone the Chrysler Company dismissed 4,000 workers”.

The author of the article published in “Scânteia” quotes the reluctant admission of the “United States News & World Report” that the US industry manufactures more goods than can be absorbed by the market.

“Why then are there so many unsold goods in the United States?” asks “Scânteia”, “Why do grain prices in the US go up by 28 per cent, although stocks of wheat are double the 1952 figure? The “Voice of America” does not and will not supply an answer to this fact”.

By exposing the imperialist ideology, ripping the demagogic mask from it and revealing its true misanthropic nature “Scânteia” gives great help to the Rumanian working people in their struggle for peace and socialist construction.

FREEDOM FOR ALVARO CUNHAL!

The Portuguese Communist Party has published a statement in defence of the leader of the Party, Álvaro Cunhal, who was arrested in March 1949 and in May 1950 sentenced to a lengthy term of imprisonment. Cunhal's courageous stand in the Salazar court raised the militant spirit of the Portuguese people who despite the fascist tyranny do not stop their struggle for peace, for democratic freedoms and for national independence.

Recently the Brazilian newspaper "Voz Operaria" was seriously ill and that his life was in danger. Throughout Portugal numerous committees have been set up in defence of Alvaro Cunhal and other imprisoned leaders of the Communist Party, Manuel Guedes, Francisco Miguel, Manuel Rodriguez da Silva, Antonio Dias Lourenco and Joaquim Campino, who are subjected to torture and insults. Public opinion in Brazil and other countries of Latin America also demands the release of Alvaro Cunhal and, other Portuguese fighters for peace. This demand is supported by the progressive forces in all countries.

FOR LIBERTY AND INDEPENDENCE FOR MOROCCO. Ali Yata, Secretary, Communist Party of Morocco

In August last the French, imperialists engineered a coup d'état in Morocco. They deposed Sultan Sidi Mohamed ben Youssef, who in conditions of the powerful growing national-liberation movement had over a number of years given a certain amount of backing to the desire of the Moroccan people for independence. The imperialists put in his place as Sultan of Morocco their puppet, Moulay Mohamed ben Arafa—a nonentity, lacking any feeling of national dignity and known for his constant servility to the colonisers. In the very first weeks of his “rule” ben Arafa put into effect reactionary reforms against which the Moroccan people had fought for a number of years, and which were aimed at the further intensification of the colonial yoke in Morocco.

In engineering their criminal coup d'état the colonisers undoubtedly had in mind as their primary object the defeat of the national-liberation movement in Morocco and the suppression of its growing activity. But they failed to achieve this end. The preparations for this criminal coup d'état evoked powerful action on the part of the people. The struggle developed into mass demonstrations and bloody clashes “with, the French troops and the police and spread to the majority of cities and towns. In the town of Oudjda the punitive troops were forced to retreat and only after the arrival of powerful reinforcements succeeded in changing the situation in their favour, In Marrakesh, patriots attacked the palace belonging to the feudal traitor El Glaoui who

had played an active part in carrying out the coup d'etat.

There is a number of characteristic features in the anti-imperialist activity of our people which it is particularly worthwhile stressing.

Firstly, everywhere the workers were in the van of the struggle. Fighting for the interests of their homeland and displaying genuine heroism they courageously went into the streets unarmed to face the tanks and armoured cars of the army and the machine guns of the police.

In December 1952 the workers were the body and soul of the demonstrations in Casablanca, when over 2,000 of them were killed by the colonisers. Though our country is a colony, its young working class is constantly growing in strength and is learning from the experience of this struggle. It acts as the force of the future, as a growing force.

The second characteristic feature of the popular struggle is that it drew into action a considerable number of peasants, particularly in Eastern Morocco, This fact has alarmed the colonisers that they chose Eastern Morocco as the place for their annual military manoeuvres. The manoeuvres, held in the presence of the War Minister of France, were a kind of warning to the Moroccan people and were aimed of intimidating the peasant masses who are being increasingly drawn into the struggle for the country's independence.

The third characteristic feature is the active participation of the youth in the struggle. This was a feature in the past too, for example, in November 1951, during the demonstrations in Tangier, Safi and Mrirt in March 1952 as well as in the demonstration of December last in Casablanca. The press of the colonisers especially

emphasised that those of the demonstrators who were arrested or killed were young people.

Finally, the fourth characteristic feature of the anti-imperialist actions is the participation of our women in the struggle. In Oudjda, Rabat and other places women took part in the demonstrations and the clashes with the troops.

After the August coup d'état the colonisers cherish hopes that the intensified barbaric exploitation of the Moroccan people will yield greater profits to French financial companies and will help American imperialists to transform Morocco into a base for aggression against the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy.

In order to give a correct lead to the struggle of our people and completely to frustrate the schemes of the imperialists we must analyse the August events in detail and learn from them the necessary lessons.

It is necessary, naturally, to take into account the atmosphere of terror created by the colonisers. Since December last all Moroccan newspapers have been banned. The major political Parties of the country such as the "Istiqlal" party and the Moroccan Communist Party have also been banned. The trade unions have been deprived of any opportunity to carry out their trade-union activity. All the trade-union premises have been occupied by the police while dozens of trade-union leaders have been thrown into jail. Any attempt on the part of the people to organise themselves or hold a meeting is brutally suppressed. Any protest sent to international organisations or given to the state organs of France entails heavy punishment.

The August struggle of the patriots was suppressed with unprecedented savagery. Over 300 of our

compatriots have been killed in Oudjda alone. On August 2 the newspaper "La Vigie Marocaine" reported that over 4,000 Moroccans—men and women—were interrogated by the police. And how the colonial police conduct their "interrogations" is well known. They widely resort to Gestapo methods, and even employ some of the former Gestapo agents!

The terror resorted to by the colonisers played not a small part in carrying out the August coup d'état. But it would be a serious error to regard the colonial terror as a decisive reason for the colonisers' temporary success. The success was determined in the main by other reasons which will be examined further below.

First of all it should be noted that of late a feature of the national-liberation movement has been the tendency to wait for an opportunity, despite the persistent efforts of the Moroccan Communist Party to ensure united action by the masses.

The masses, undoubtedly, do not lack fighting capacity. They have repeatedly proved this during the past three years by shedding their blood in the resolute struggle against the colonial regime. And today, too, they demonstrate their militant spirit in actions taking place in different parts of the country.

Some Moroccan political figures and certain parties were alarmed and frightened by this militant activity of the masses. However, instead of furthering its development in the name of the noble interests of the country they attempted to damp down the activity of the masses. For example, the Deputy General Secretary of the Democratic Independence Party publicly acknowledged his satisfaction with the statement by General Guillaume, French Resident-General in

Morocco, to the effect that this Party had not participated in the demonstrations of December last.

The “Istiqlal” party in turn preached inactivity. The development of the militant activity of the patriots was also hampered by the vacillating stand taken by Sultan Sidi Mohamed ben Youssef.

Inactivity and the tendency to wait play willy-nilly into the hands of the enemy. None of this can be justified either by acts in the realm of foreign policy or by expectations that the Moroccan question will be solved by the United Nations Organisation. The support expressed by many Uno member-countries for the desire of the Moroccan people for independence is a valuable help in our struggle. However, united and organised activity within the country remains the decisive and indispensable factor for winning their liberation. The Moroccan Communist Party has repeated this time and again for many years. And recent events have once more proved the correctness of this stand.

In August the colonisers, with the backing of feudal traitors, succeeded in deceiving part of the Moroccan people, especially the rural population. In this they took advantage of the unprecedented impoverishment of the peasant masses and the ignorance and medieval terror prevailing in the countryside, in other words, they made use of everything the countryside had suffered as a result of the rule of French imperialism. By taking advantage of all this the colonisers succeeded, to a certain extent, in dividing the town and country populations and in isolating town from countryside.

The history of the peoples, who have by now won their liberty, shows that the cause of national liberation cannot be triumphant until a firm alliance of the working class and the peasantry has been built.

Henceforth, an immediate task of the Moroccan national-liberation movement and, above all, of the Moroccan Communist Party is to make peasants and share-croppers the allies of the working class and bring them under the banner of the liberation struggle.

The August events showed that the national-liberation movement was not genuinely united. The responsibility rests on those who rejected the calls for unity repeatedly made by the Communist Party of Morocco, on those who handicapped its persistent work to form a national anti-imperialist front and in April 1951 formed the League of Nationalist Parties.

The League could not be an effective weapon since, in the first place, it excluded from the national movement the Moroccan Communists—the most persistent and active patriots without whom it was impossible to form a firm and lasting union; secondly, because the League was a union of leaders of the nationalist parties and lacked organisational support among the people; thirdly, it did not proclaim the immediate aims of the movement and ignored the struggle of the masses as a means to achieve these aims in general. The collapse of the League is now an irrefutable fact, We wish our warning might have done good without the need for this costly experience.

The leadership of the “Istiqlal” party which sponsored this abortive league is also fully responsible for the fact that to a large degree it facilitated the undermining of trade-union unity and the dispersal of the working-class forces. We can firmly declare that had the workers been united, as they were before, in the General Union of Confederated Trade Unions of Morocco on the basis of genuine trade union democracy and equality, irrespective of political creeds, they could

have successfully opposed the December repressions and prevented the August coup through their solidarity and their militancy.

As a result of their anti-Communist and anti-Soviet stand certain nationalist leaders are evidently anxious to curry favour with the American masters and win their friendship and confidence. Is this not the reason why they have never denounced the growing penetration of American imperialism in our country, the construction of American atom bases on our territory and the great danger which is menacing the people of Morocco against their will.

The USA have given full support to the French colonisers, without which the criminal coup would have failed. The Communist Party of Morocco foretold this fact and events have proved time and again that it was right. The dangerous illusions of certain nationalist leaders who dreamed of getting American “aid” proved quite worthless. This should teach them a lesson.

And great was the mistake committed by these political leaders who discounted the USSR and even attacked it! The Land of Socialism has liberated the former tsarist colonies and turned them into free, sovereign, flourishing republics which are more advanced than the most developed western capitalist countries. In Uno it has invariably given selfless and effective support to the enslaved peoples. The USSR upheld the interests of the Moroccan people in Uno in 1951 and 1952 and continues to defend them now. The foresight of the Communist Party of Morocco has proved to be correct! Consequently, it is necessary to rely on the USSR—the bulwark of freedom,—on the countries of people’s democracy following their example and on the peoples of colonial and dependent countries,

particularly the peoples of the Near and Middle East and of Asia, and not to rely on the governments of the imperialist states who deny the right of the peoples to self-determination.

The nationalist leaders were profoundly mistaken when they ignored the loyal allies of our people—the heroic French working class and its great Communist Party headed by Maurice Thorez. As far as France was concerned, they tried to have dealings only with the representatives of that section of the French bourgeoisie which preaches more “flexible” methods of colonial domination in order to save their basic privileges in the colonies.

The consolidation of unity with the French people against the common enemy is of exceptional importance to us, the Moroccans. In this connection, Ferhat Abbas, leader of the Democratic Union of the Algerian Manifesto, wrote a few weeks ago: “Fascism in France and in North Africa has one and the same roots and one and the same ringleaders. Those who do not believe in the need for a united struggle with the French democratic forces are profoundly mistaken”.

*

Our basic task for the next period is to help all Moroccan patriots to draw correct conclusions from the recent actions of the people.

We now see more clearly than ever before that our main enemy is French imperialism (we should not however forget about its master, American imperialism, and its ally, France’s fascism which also oppresses the Moroccan people). That is why we must wage a most determined struggle against French imperialism and

resolutely expose its machinations. We must demand an end to the police terror, the release of all political prisoners, the return of Mohamed ben Youssef and of all who have been deported or exiled, the guarantee of all democratic rights, and the formation of a genuinely representative Moroccan Government which could be trusted to hold democratic elections to the National Assembly, and with the participation of the Security Council begin negotiations with France for establishing new relations based on the recognition of the genuine sovereignty of Morocco.

We must systematically fight against the tendency to wait; we must tirelessly develop the militant activity of the people by means of clear-cut slogans of mass struggle proclaiming definite and attainable goals. We must strive to overcome the isolation of the urban from the rural population and for strengthening the worker-peasant alliance as a necessary prerequisite to our victory.

We must spare no effort to reorganise workers' organisations on a sound basis of trade-union democracy, equality and unity, relying on the support of the World Federation of Trade Unions—the sole international trade-union organisation which is a genuine fighter against the colonial yoke.

We must vigorously consolidate our national unity which will be closed only to traitors such as El Glaoui and Mokri. The members of the "Istiqlal" party, Democratic Independence Party and patriots who belong to no organisation are brothers of the Communists in their struggle, and the Communists, on their part, treat them as brothers. Just criticism in relation to any decision of their parties and of their leaders, which the

Communists will not give up, is prompted only by the highest interests of our homeland.

We must encourage our people to strengthen their bonds with the working people of France and rely only on their genuine friends, headed by the USSR.

The national-liberation movement in Morocco will further develop on the basis of these great lessons and will win a victory which will bring about freedom, sovereignty and independence to our homeland.

RADICAL CHANGE IN LIFE OF ALBANIAN PEOPLE. Ninth Anniversary of Albanian Liberation. Bedri Spahiu, Central Committee Member, Albanian Party of Labour

On November 29 the Albanian people celebrated the ninth anniversary of their liberation from fascist occupation and feudal-capitalist yoke.

November 29, 1944, marked a great turn in the history of our people. The people won power—the decisive factor in developing the people’s revolution. They built up the People’s Army, tempered in the heroic battles for national liberation, which now stands on guard over the gains of the people’s revolution.

The revolution has opened up for our people a new, happy era their history. Feudal and capitalist ownership has been abolished and socialist ownership created. Lands once belonged to the landlords together with their implements and machines have been distributed among the peasants. Private foreign and large-scale internal trade have been abolished and the banks nationalised. Enslaving concessions, treaties and agreements with imperialist states have been annulled and foreign capitalists driven from our soil.

Albania has ceased to be a colony for the imperialists, a puppet of the imperialists and an object for expansion on the part of aggressive governments of the countries neighbouring Albania. The people have at last become the masters of their destiny and of their country.

The expropriation of the expropriators has given rise to and opened up a broad vista for new production relations based on publicly-owned or co-operative property. The national economy, seriously damaged as a result of the occupation and the criminal activity of the traitors, was rehabilitated in an unprecedentedly short period of time thanks to the tremendous labour enthusiasm of the workers and peasants. The socialist sector of the national economy soon became strong and the country has entered the stage of planned economy, the stage of laying the foundations of Socialism.

Gone for ever is the Albania of the past where the people suffered from unemployment, hunger, brutal exploitation, crises and poverty, living in constant fear for the morrow; where its oppressed and despised people lived in ignorance and darkness and were deprived of the most elementary human rights.

A new Albania has come into being, the Albania of people's democracy, of the people's revolution. The working class is at the head of the working masses in our country. The profound democratic principles of our Constitution reflect the actual state of affairs, the real life of the free people whose further development is barred by nothing and who march confidently along the bright pathway of Socialism. Power is entirely in the hands of the people. The democratic rights of the citizens, labour protection, protection from industrial accidents, old-age pensions, free medical treatment and education, holidays with full pay, insurance etc.,— all this has firmly become part and parcel of the life of the Albanian people.

Albania has firmly embarked on the course of laying the foundations of Socialism. At present our people are working on the carrying out of their first Five-Year Plan.

Under feudal-bourgeois rule it was impossible even to dream about what has been already achieved and built in our country. During the first six years of the people's power the pre-war level of industrial production has not only been reached, but considerably surpassed. In 1950 the gross industrial output (including handicraft production) was four times greater than in 1938. In 1952 the pre-war level was exceeded nearly tenfold. Agricultural output surpassed the 1938 level by 30 per cent. In 1950 industrial production accounted for 40.56 per cent of the country's entire output compared with 18,3 per cent in 1938, and in 1955—the last year of the First Five-Year Plan—the gross industrial output will be 12 times the amount it was in 1938, while agricultural output will increase by 121 per cent. Such is the success of the new Albania which by the end of the first Five-Year Plan, will have been transformed from a backward agricultural country into an agrarian-industrial country.

This economic development has been accompanied by revolutionary transformations in public, education, science, literature and the arts, as well as by the improved material wellbeing of the working people.

The new Albania has put into effect compulsory 7-year education. In our country, in which in the past 85-90 per cent of the population were illiterate, we shall have completely abolished illiteracy by the end of the Five-Year Plan. In the past nine years we have opened four times as many schools and trained four times as many teachers than in 25 years of the feudal-bourgeois rule. Today the number of students attending higher educational establishments within the country and abroad equals the number of all secondary-school pupils in 1938. A similar rate in the development of public health services can also be seen.

As regards the development of culture and science in the new Albania it cannot even effect be compared with what we had in the past, when the country had neither cultural nor scientific establishments. Public education and culture have been placed at the service of the people and serve the needs of building Socialism. Our Republic is already using cadres of the new intelligentsia who have graduated from the higher educational establishments or trained in the great battle for laying the foundations of Socialism. The people's traditions and everything connected with the history of the people are being carefully studied and preserved.

Our Party and our Government invariably display great concern for improving the living conditions of the working people. The Government recently adopted a number of decisions ensuring a further rise of the material and cultural level of the people, as well as a further strengthening of the alliance between the working class and the working peasantry.

These decisions envisage a considerable and accelerated advance in agriculture, greater help to the co-operatives and individual peasants by the machine and tractor stations, granting of privileges in taxation, price reductions on many agricultural implements. Considerable new capital investments will be allocated for agriculture at the expense of a certain slowing down of the construction of the less expedient objectives envisaged by the Five-Year Plan.

The advance registered in the entire national economy enabled us to increase the output of consumer goods in 1952 to nearly seven times the 1938 figure.

The Government and the Party are taking measures to ensure the further development of state and co-

operative trade, small private trade and handicraft production which will help to extend considerably the trade turnover between town and countryside, to improve supplies of consumer goods and foodstuffs to towns and villages.

In our country the feudal landlords and the bourgeoisie have suffered defeat in the political, ideological and economic spheres. The Marxist-Leninist ideology—the ideology of the working class—has won victories on all fronts. A new man is being moulded in the great battle for laying the foundations of Socialism, the man with a new world outlook and Communist morality; the struggle against the survivals of the bourgeois ideology and morality, doomed to perish; is being intensified.

It is impossible to appreciate fully the vast scale of the remarkable economic and cultural advances attained in the People's Republic of Albania if we do not take into account the following factors.

In the first place, our country is at the transition stage not from capitalism to Socialism but from the feudal-capitalist system to Socialism; secondly, this tremendous step forward is taking place in conditions of capitalist encirclement, in conditions of continuous imperialist provocations; (thirdly, our country emerged from the anti-fascist war, devastated and exhausted as never before.

The working class in alliance with the working peasantry have been victorious because they are led by the Party of Labour, by the Party founded on the basis of Lenin's organisational principles and equipped with the advanced theory of Marxism-Leninism.

The Party of Labour embodies the most cherished aspirations: of our people and has picked up the banner

of national independence and sovereignty thrown, overboard by the bourgeoisie. It has united the people in the people's-democratic front and is ceaselessly strengthening the alliance of the working class and the peasantry. The Party constantly educates the working masses in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, in the spirit of unquenchable vigilance against the intrigues of internal and external enemies, It conducts a tireless and consistent struggle for building Socialism in our country and a continuous rise in the material and cultural level of the working people.

The Party of Labour has educated our people in the spirit of unbreakable friendship with the Soviet Union. This friendship inspired us in the struggle for freedom and independence and continues to inspire us in building Socialism. Our people cherish friendship with the Soviet Union as the apple of the eye. Friendship with the Soviet Union is the guarantee of our freedom and independence, the guarantee of our peaceful labour.

The people of Albania have escaped the plight of the countries of the West and the colonies and for this they are deeply grateful to the Soviet Union. The people of Albania have not experienced the fatal consequences of the so-called American "aid" which brings ruin and slavery in its train. Our country has received and is constantly receiving selfless aid from the Soviet Union. This is not material help alone. We widely utilise the experience accumulated during the building of Socialism in the USSR in all spheres of our economy, culture, arts and science. This help and this experience are the sure guarantee of the successful building of our new life. Considerable aid in laying the foundations of Socialism is

also rendered to our people by the countries of people's democracy.

In his greetings to the XIXth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union comrade Enver Hoxha pointed out that the miracle of a small people numbering only 1,200,000, living in freedom, independence, and building Socialism under the conditions in which our country finds itself, could take place only thanks to the selfless aid of the Soviet Union, only in the epoch of the triumph of the ideas of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin.

The Party, the Government and our people have always resolutely stood for peace. Our Government spares no efforts in the struggle for easing international tension and wants to establish normal and good neighbourly relations with all states provided they will respect the freedom, sovereignty and independence of Albania. The people of Albania are waging a resolute struggle for ensuring peace in the Balkans and throughout the world.

Celebrating the 29th of November we sum up the results of our victories and pledge ourselves to spare no efforts in strengthening the alliance of the working class and the working peasantry, in rallying the working people of Albania round the Party of Labour, in strengthening in every way the friendship of our people with the Soviet Union the other countries of people's democracy and to spare no efforts in multiplying our victories in building Socialism.

IMPOVERISHMENT OF AMERICAN FARMERS (Letter from USA)

When nearly a year ago Ezra Benson, one of the apostles of the American Mormon religious sect, was invited to the White House and offered the post of Secretary of Agriculture, President Eisenhower told him: "Surely you believe the job at hand is spiritual. We must rekindle the faith of the American people in their government".

The events of the past few months, however, clearly prove that not only has Benson failed "to rekindle" the farmers' faith in the government but, on the contrary, the sharp deterioration of their living conditions has led to quite the opposite result. The impoverishment and ruining of the farmers in the USA during the past months have assumed catastrophic dimensions.

"Farm prosperity is fading", the "Doane Agricultural Digest", recently wrote. "Some farmers are already in debt over their heads. Short-term debt exceeds mortgage credit and is going up at an alarming rate". The increase in short-term debts is due to the soaring prices of the goods the farmers buy and an increase in production costs on their farms. According to official data, the short-term credit the farmers owe to the banks and government credit organisations increased during the past two and a half years by 40.3 per cent. The aggregate debt of the American farmers had sky-rocketed to 13 billion dollars at the outset of 1952. The Bureau of Agricultural Economics recently reported that by the end of this year the total farm debt will rise by another 800 million dollars.

The capitalist monopolies, which are exploiting the small and middle farmers, are trying in every way to force down the prices for agricultural products. Today the farmers are compelled to sell their produce to the purchasing organisations at prices which are, on the average, 13 per cent below the 1952 level and 19 per cent below the level of February 1951. In the past 12 months purchasing prices for potatoes dropped 67 per cent, cattle 33.7 per cent, cotton 13.6 per cent and corn 14.5 per cent, etc. At the same time prices for fertilisers, agricultural machines, fuel and other manufactured goods are constantly rising.

Thus the American farmer becomes a victim of the growing gap between the purchasing prices for agricultural products and the prices he has to pay for manufactured goods. The purchasing power of the average farm family has dropped nearly one-third compared with 1942, As the "U.S. News & World Report" writes, the farmers' share in the national income in 1953 will account for a mere 6.5 per cent. Some 500,000 farmers went bankrupt during the first five years after the war. Some of the ruined farmers become tenants renting land from the agricultural monopolies which had ruined them, while thousands of others swell the army of farm workers roaming the roads in America in search of work and bread.

The US official statistics, operating on average figures, distort the picture of the social division in the countryside. Hidden behind the average figures is the dire poverty of nearly 3.5 million families of American farmers. To this day in the USA there are areas of permanent poverty including the cotton growing South, Southern Appalachian Range, the Ozark Plateau in Missouri and Arkansas, the mountain areas of New

Mexico and a number of others. Particularly difficult is the lot of the Negroes, Puerto-Ricans, Mexicans, Indians and those coming from other countries, who comprise the bulk of farm workers. The super-profits of the big agricultural monopolies from the exploitation of the farm workers amount to about 8 billion dollars a year.

The enslaving credit and state taxes play a major role in robbing the small and middle farmers. The federal income tax alone paid by the farmers in 1952 was 15 times the 1942 level. The decline in the purchasing prices for agricultural products and the drop in the farmers' incomes do not lead in the domain of "free initiative" to the lowering of prices paid by the consumer. On the contrary there has been a continued rise in prices for goods for mass consumption ever since July this year. For instance beef prices have risen by 6 per cent since the end of July. Prices have also increased for milk and other products.

A huge part of the agricultural produce remains in farmers' barns, with trading organisations and in the state stores. In April this year there were over three billion dollars' worth of farm products in the state stores, farmers' barns and with trading organisations. The "farm surplus" sharply increased in the second half of this year since a great part of it finds no "demand" on the American market. On August 31 the government owned 2.4 billion dollars' worth of "farm surpluses"—twice as much as it did at the same date the previous year.

The serious difficulties in American agriculture are connected in the first place with the policy of the arms drive, which enables the monopolies to net fabulous profits while the working people are becoming increasingly impoverished and their purchasing power is

deteriorating. Today the average American spends more on repaying debts than on, buying food. In 1951 the total sum of debt repayments was 20 billion dollars more than the population spent on food. Even according to official figures of the Department of Agriculture food consumption per head in 1952 was 6 per cent below the 1946 level.

In order to keep retail prices at a high level the state buys up from farmers huge quantities of their produce which rot in the state stores 'or are dumped on other countries. Not infrequently millions of tons are destroyed by the state. The destruction of "food surpluses" at a time when poverty and hunger are rife among the masses reveals better than anything else the true make-up of the American system of "free initiative".

The American cattle breeders are now in particularly dire straits. Prices for cattle dropped 50 per cent during the past 18 months and continue to decline at a catastrophic rate. Between September and November alone this year they dropped from 23 cents a pound to 15 cents and are now 75 per cent of "parity". ("Parity" is the relation of prices between manufactured goods and farm products prevailing in 1910-14.—H.B.). The Eisenhower Administration while spending tens of billions of dollars on preparations for war "did not find" money to give aid to the cattlemen in the areas which particularly suffered this year from drought, In Missouri, cows normally worth 300 dollars are now selling for 50. "We", a California cattleman said, "can't sell them and we can't keep them".

The farmers' plight was vividly described by Dennis Driscoll, one of the spokesmen for the "Caravan" of 350 cattlemen who visited Washington at the end of

October. The farmers, from 32 states, set out for Washington in order to obtain help from the “Central administration” in checking the ‘catastrophic decline in cattle prices. “They are going broke and going out of business”, Dennis Driscoll told the Agricultural Secretary. “There are many in this hall now who are broke and unless the government does something when they go home they will have to sell out and quit”.

As was to be expected President Eisenhower, who during the election campaign promised the farmers “prosperity” for many years, refused to meet their demands since it would mean a direct blow against the profits of big monopolies which stand between the farmer and the consumer. Under the present system of robbing the working people the capitalist monopolies pocket 39 cents of each dollar the American consumer pays for meat and meat products.

The farmers demanded that the Government should buy cattle directly from them, by-passing the meat-packing monopolies and other go-betweens. -Aware of the fact that this would deal a serious blow to the profits of the monopolies, President Eisenhower rejected point-blank the farmers’ proposal, declaring that it smacked of “Socialism” and was not workable in ‘the American system of “free initiative” (or to be more exact– the system of “free” plunder of the American working people by the monopolies). “This is not a free enterprise, competitive economy”, said president of the National Farmers Union James Patton... “There are those in high places who say the farmer should be put in the wind tunnel of free enterprise and have the rest of his pants blown off”. On the horizon there were clouds, he said, reminiscent of the storm which broke out after 1920, hitting the farmers first.

The monopoly press guarding the profits of its masters raised a hue and cry to the effect that any aid to the cattlemen would lead to “overproduction” and create great surpluses of meat. But it is common knowledge that far from there being any “surpluses” there is a scarcity of meat in the US. In the US today per 1,000 Americans there are 361 cattle and calves less than there were in 1885, that is 67 years ago.

“We don’t have too much beef”, Paiton stated. “The problem is that we have not had enough distribution of income to realise that there is something wrong with the economic system itself” when it faces a steadily climbing spiral of consumer prices in a period of declining wholesale prices for farm products and of declining farm income. Some of them are beginning to give quite sober explanations as to the reason for the present serious difficulties in US agriculture. “Inability of the population to buy food”, said recently a citrus fruit grower in California, “is the only thing that causes so-called surpluses”.

Contrary to its solemn pledges the Eisenhower, government, pie-occupied with the policy’ of the intensified arms drive and war preparations, far from remedying the agricultural crisis, has aggravated it. There is growing discontent among the farmers with the policy of the present’ American Government, the government of big bankers and manufacturers. Typical of this was the way the farmers reacted to the arrival of “a special Congress Committee touring the seven mid-west states in the second half of October to “investigate” things on the spot. The small and middle farmers demonstrated their open hostility towards the Eisenhower government. A Minnesota farmer Richard Herbitz openly told the members of the Committee that

“farmers lost faith in Washington”. In Des Moines, Iowa, the Congressmen found themselves staring at hundreds of lapel badges with the slogan “I LIKE full parity, IKE!” (in order to win farmers’ votes Eisenhower, during the election campaign, promised them 100 per cent “parity”).

Farmers particularly demonstrated their discontent with the policy of President Eisenhower by defeating the Republican candidate in the Congress by-election in one of the districts in Wisconsin, a long-standing “fortress” of the Republican Party. Following the announcement of the results of the election the defeated Republican candidate Padrutt had to admit that “the results show very clearly that the farmer and labouring men do not like the present Administration’s policy and took this opportunity to show their displeasure”.

Today ever growing numbers of farmers are demanding the extension of international trade and a policy of peace. It must be pointed out that as a result of the policy of the us Government, discrimination in international trade and the “dollar deficit” in the satellite countries US exports of agricultural products are declining and in 1952 were already 15 per cent below the 1951 level.

“Farmers”, said Bryant Chandler of a local farm bureau at a recent meeting of farmers, “must insist on a national policy of increasing international trade... In doing so we must recognise that the US, as well as various other nations, must co-operate in cutting down artificial restrictions on healthy international trade”.

“There are three things the farmers fear” said the head of the Illinois Youth branch of the American Farmers’ Association, Warren Newberry, at a

conference of the Illinois Agricultural Federation held in November “They are war, crisis and loss of freedom from within. It is young farmers who must fight the war and that is why they .more than anyone else are concerned about their future”. Those present at the gathering demanded a policy of peace and advanced a programme of unity of action with other farm organisations of the country.

As a “means” to avert the impending catastrophe the government advanced a programme of reducing the area under cultivation while Agricultural Secretary Benson openly advocated the need to -eliminate “uneconomic partners”, that is, to ruin hundreds of thousands of small and middle farmers.

Just to keep the farmers quiet the Government has announced the re-organisation of the Department of Agriculture and the setting up of various committees to investigate the situation. Attempts are also being made to explain the serious difficulties in agriculture as being due to the personal “inability” of Agricultural Secretary Benson to meet the situation. Many farmers, however, are beginning to realise that even if Eisenhower is compelled to fire Benson their conditions can hardly improve if the Government indulges monopolies and continues its policy of preparing for war, which falls heavily on the shoulders of the American people.

The American farmers are beginning increasingly to realise the need for joint struggle with the workers in order to bring about a change in the present fatal policy of the arms drive and the plunder of the working people, and an end to the policy of discrimination in international trade.

H. BROWN

New York. November, 1953.

STATEMENT BY NATIONAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY, USA

The National Committee of the Communist Party of the USA issued a statement signed by William Z. Foster, Elizabeth Gurley Flynn and Pettis Perry. The statement says that the anti-Communist hysteria which has recently been intensified in the country emphasises afresh the growing fascist danger in the United States. The National Committee urges the rout of “the McCarthyite pro-fascists and warmongers”.

The statement points out that McCarthyism has an organic relationship with the frenzied preparations for aggressive war now going on in the United States. It is an effort to blind the people to the developing economic crisis.

The statement further reads: “Now is the time to deal a smashing blow at this monster. The sharp stand of the recent CIO convention against McCarthyism sounds the right note. The whole labour movement should, without delay, take up a similar position.

But the gravity of the situation demands far more than merely the passage of convention resolutions, however good. The issue must be taken to the great masses of the people. It should be raised in every trade union, in every Negro organisation, in every farmer group, and in all other organised bodies of the masses. Every step should be taken to rouse the people to the grave danger and to prepare them for a vast political movement that will defeat every candidate in the 1954 elections who does not specifically repudiate McCarthyism and all its filthy works.

An organic part of the fight against McCarthyism is the fight to defend the Communists now being indicted and tried under the Smith, McCarran and Sedition laws, and to free Gene Dennis, Ben Davis, and the many others imprisoned under these laws. The fight to defend the legality of the Communist Party is the first line of the whole struggle to defend the Bill of Rights". In conclusion, the statement emphasises that the situation is ripe for organised workers and their allies to rout the pro-fascist McCarthyites and warmongers and to score a great political victory.

IN HONOUR OF SECOND CONGRESS OF POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY

SOCIALIST EMULATION AMONG WORKING PEOPLE OF POLAND

The working people in Poland are preparing to mark the Second Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party with new production achievements. A meeting in Warsaw, attended by delegates from leading enterprises, called on all workers, working peasants and intelligentsia to launch a campaign of socialist emulation in honour of the Second Party Congress. This appeal has met with widespread response throughout the country. Workers and employees are taking pledges towards overfulfilling the 1953 production plans, raising productivity of labour, economising in materials, more efficient use of all the reserves, producing high-quality goods and improving the style and methods of socialist trade.

The personnel of the "Motor-cycle" factory in Warsaw pledged in honour of the Second Congress of the Party to produce 1,700 motor-cycles above the plan before the end of the year.

The personnel of the Radom shoe enterprises resolved to produce new styles of footwear and improve the quality of their goods. Apart from their pledges taken earlier the shoe workers decided to turn out by January 15, 1954 another 4,300 pairs of footwear from leather and other materials they will save as a result of economy.

The personnel of the Marchlewsky cotton enterprises in Lodz pledged to produce hundreds of thousands of metres of fabrics in excess of the plan and to begin production of new types of fabrics. The fulfilment of these pledges will save some 60 million zloty over and above the plan.

The appeal of delegates from leading enterprises is being enthusiastically supported by the working peasantry of Poland. At meetings, held in villages, at producer co-operatives and state farms in the Poznan region, the peasants discussed the statement issued by the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party for the Second Congress and took pledges in its honour.

ITALIAN PEOPLE SUPPORT DECISIONS OF VIENNA SESSION, WORLD PEACE COUNCIL

The decisions of the Vienna Session of the World Peace Council have met with a wide response in Italy. A great number of peace committees, workers in factories and various eminent public figures have sent messages to Joliot-Curie and Pietro Nenni expressing the determined will of the Italian people to develop the struggle in support of the decisions.

Concrete steps have already been taken in this direction. A meeting of the provincial peace council held in Rome resolved to launch a broad campaign under the slogan: "For peace, for the national independence of our country, against the revival of German militarism, for sparing no efforts to prevent parliamentary ratification of the 'European Defence Community' treaty.

In Florence peace supporters held a number of meetings which discussed, the question of intensifying the struggle against the rebirth of German militarism. For example, a meeting held by former partisans, war veterans, including disabled ex-servicemen, and former prisoners in Hitler's concentration camps discussed the development of the campaign against the ratification of the "European Defence Community" treaty. Eminent public figures and local leaders of "Catholic Action" took part in the discussion, Meetings in Empolio, San Florentino and Monto Lupu were addressed by Andrea Gaggero, a clergyman. Numerous meetings are being held by peace supporters in other parts of Italy.

COLONISERS' ATROCITIES IN KENYA

The British colonisers intensify their bloody terror against the defenceless African population in Kenya. The British Government has recently decided to launch mass bombing attacks on concentrated areas in the colony. This fresh outrageous act of the colonisers running amuck brings in its train death and suffering to thousands more defenceless women and children.

The Political Committee of the Executive Committee of the Great Britain called on the Labour and progressive movement in Britain to develop a struggle to secure the end of mass bombing in Kenya, the withdrawal of all British troops, the lifting of the ban on the Kenya African Union and for the release of the African leaders.

The Communist Party of Great Britain has announced December 9th as a National Day of protest against the bloody atrocities of British colonisers in Kenya.

FACTSEXPOSE...

Their “Home” is a Truck

Not long ago the police in Detroit (USA) evicted Mrs. Marion, a Negro mother with three children, from her “residence” in an abandoned truck. Mrs. Marion told the police that during daytime she hid in the truck while at night she went out into a local market area and picked up scraps of vegetables and rotten fruit to feed her family. What she got at night was the only food she could give to her children.

Here, in Detroit, the city of the American auto kings, as in other American cities, side by side with the fashionable mansions and villas of the rich, tens of thousands of Americans, who like Mrs. Marion are deprived of all means of subsistence, are living in the rat-infested basements, garrets or establish their “residence” under railway bridges, in abandoned trucks and other places. All this is part and parcel of the “American way of life”.

MEETING AT BOILING POT OF "EUROPEAN DEFENCE COMMUNITY"

ADENAUER: Welcome to dinner, Neighbour!
Drawing by E. Taru



ADENAUER: Welcome to dinner, Neighbour!
Drawing by E. Taru

POLITICAL NOTES

Advocate of Bonn Revanchists

Differences are becoming more and more pronounced in the French Socialist Party on questions of world politics and above all on the question of the “European Defence Community”. While a considerable number of the rank and file, numerous activists, many Deputies and other elected representatives of this party express themselves against the “European Defence Community”, some leaders and Guy Mollet, the General Secretary himself, are driving France onto the pathway of suicide.

In the debates in the National Assembly Guy Mollet showed himself the most zealous, if not the most cunning advocate of the “European Defence Community”. Whom and from what is this notorious community supposed to defend? What will a “Europe”, so enthusiastically advocated by Guy Mollet, look like? The unequivocal answers to these questions were provided by Deputies of different political trends, including those from among Socialists, in their statements before and during the debates in Parliament.

This Europe of yours, they said to the champions of the Bonn and Paris treaties, is the Europe of Hitler, the Europe of the Ruhr magnates, a colony and arsenal for the Wall Street money-bags, a prison and military barracks for the working people.

From this it appears that not a few bourgeois politicians are aware that France's entry into the "European Defence Community" would mean the subordination of the country to the diktat of the German revanchists, the arrival of Wehrmacht divisions in French towns and, in the long run, the disappearance of France as a sovereign state. Henceforth, he who champions the Bonn and Paris military treaties betrays the interests of the French people and digs a grave for France.

However, Guy Mollet has no concern whatever for the national interests of his country. He sees his enemy not in German imperialism but in the great camp of peace and democracy. He is prepared to enter an alliance against the USSR with the most rabid militarists, no doubt in the name of ... "freedom, democracy and Socialism".

And woe betide those who dare to think differently! With his leanings towards the Bonn revanchists Guy Mollet has assimilated their brutal dictatorial methods. He refused to allow the Socialist Deputies opposing the "European Army" to express their point of view to the National Assembly. He threatened expulsion from the Party for all who cast their votes against the "European Defence Community". He also made similar threats against the Socialist workers who joined the national campaign of the French people against remilitarisation of the Bonn Reich.

Guy Mollet tries "to prove" that London and Washington can guarantee France's security. Taking advantage of his close relations with influential circles in London he resorted to a manoeuvre to force the British Government to issue a "clear" statement concerning these guarantees. But who doesn't know

that the British rulers prefer to keep themselves aloof while doing their utmost to fling France into the clutches of the Bonn militarists so as to strangle it as soon as possible? As regards Washington, the sole guarantee it intends to give is a guarantee ensuring for its Bonn protégé priority in the “European Army” and freedom of action in Western Europe.

Guy Mollet’s threats and manoeuvres notwithstanding, the policy of rearming Western Germany meets growing opposition within the Socialist party. This is borne out by one of the latest facts: 42 Socialist Deputies have decided to renounce their membership in the “Socialist movement for the United States of Europe which is more or less and ideological appendage to the “European Defence Community.”

The other outstanding fact is the voting on Guy Mollet’s proposal on the resolution concerning the “European Army” which took place at the meeting of the Parliamentary group of Socialist Deputies and resulted in the defeat of his proposal by 35 votes to 24.

The members of the Socialist Party are becoming increasingly aware that Guy Mollet’s “European” policy is fraught with fatal consequences and paves the way for a third world war. That is why, despite the threats of the General Secretary and some other leaders of the Socialist Party, an ever growing number of Socialist working people join the movement for the security and dependence of France.

The French Communist Party has more than once declared and declares now that in this struggle it will fight side by side and in fraternal co-operation with the Socialist working people upholding the national interests of the French people.

There can be no doubt that the strengthening of the united action of the Communists and all other patriotic forces in the country will be an important prerequisite for frustrating the criminal designs of the grave-diggers of France.

John MAREK

EDITORIAL BOARD

Journal "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy"

appears every Friday.

Address of Editorial Office and of Publishing House:

56, Valeriu Braniște, Bucharest. Tel. 5. 10.59.

THE BOOKSELLING AGENCY, "CENTRE FOR DISTRIBUTION OF BOOKS, 'MIR'"
ACCEPTS SUBSCRIPTIONS FOR THE JOURNAL

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

for 1954
THE JOURNAL APPEARS IN

RUSSIAN	POLISH	ALBANIAN
CHINESE	CZECH	SWEDISH
FRENCH	SLOVAK	KOREAN
ENGLISH	BULGARIAN	JAPANESE
ITALIAN	HUNGARIAN	ARABIC
GERMAN	RUMANIAN	DUTCH
SPANISH		

SUBSCRIPTION RATES: 52 copies post free airmail

dollars	3.12
shillings	13
francs	470
marks	15.60
lei	23.40

Subscriptions should be addressed to "MIR", BUCHAREST, RUMANIA