

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

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In Defence of Peace and Security of Peoples

The Emergency Session of the World Peace Council, which was held in Berlin over May 24-28 and was followed by hundreds of millions of people throughout the world with the closest attention and hope, was a fresh and vivid demonstration of the increasing and strengthening unity of the peace-loving forces.

Expressing the united will of the peoples, their invincible striving for peace and firm resolve to multiply their efforts in the noble cause of protecting mankind from the encroachments of aggressive imperialist circles, the session of the World Peace Council focused its attention on the problems that are deeply stirring people of the most diverse political and religious beliefs, belonging to different social strata. The resolutions adopted by the session on atomic weapons, on security and the recommendation of the Cultural Commission are of extreme international importance. They signify a new and important step in the development of the mass peace movement. They rally all the supporters of peace and all honest people in the world to develop still further the struggle for peace, for the security of the peoples and the relaxation of international tension.

The striving of the peoples for peace has become a mighty and invincible force. New fighters are constantly joining the ranks of the peace supporters. The World Peace Council has won the confidence and support of millions of people of different nationalities. Each new session of the World Peace Council is a testimony to its growing influence, to its enhanced role in international life. Its calls are penetrating ever deeper among the millionfold masses and its decisions are meeting with increasing response. Millions of people are taking the defence of peace into their own hands. All the sound forces of the nations, demonstrating their firm determination to bar the way to aggression and war, are uniting in the name of peace and the security of peoples.

The Soviet Union, whose unswerving and consistent peaceful foreign policy has won universal recognition, is marching in the van of the great struggle of the peoples and the peace-loving states for peace, for easing international tension, establishing friendly relations and co-operation between all countries. The broadest sections of public opinion wholeheartedly support the Soviet proposal for the conclusion of an All-European Treaty on Collective Security in Europe. The Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the countries of people's democracy by all their actions in the international arena show in practice their unflinching endeavours to achieve a peaceful

weapons of mass extermination, the establishment of strict international control over the implementation of this ban and the peaceful application of atomic energy in the service of mankind. While in no way refusing to carry out this broad programme and confirming its urgency, the Soviet Union made a new constructive proposal last year. It suggested the conclusion of an agreement according to which the states that were parties to this agreement would give a solemn and unconditional undertaking not to use atomic, hydrogen or other weapons of mass annihilation. The US Government, however, stubbornly refuses to accept even this Soviet proposal which is supported by broad sections of public opinion. Instead of searching for reasonable decisions the USA disregards this main question and takes more and more measures to intensify the atomic armaments drive.

In these conditions the decision of the Emergency Session of the World Peace Council on atomic weapons is assuming great importance. On behalf of the peoples the World Peace Council demanded an international agreement committing the parties to it to refrain from further tests of atomic and hydrogen bombs and from using these types of weapons. Such an agreement would definitely facilitate the adoption of effective measures to ensure the complete prohibition of atomic weapons. It would help to bring about in the very near future the relaxation of international tension, would lead to a general reduction in armaments and pave the way for co-operation for the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

The World Peace Council called upon all organisations and all personalities that cherish peace, all political, trade union, religious and cultural organisations, men and women of all countries to search in common on a national and international scale for means to achieve agreement between the governments on the question of the prohibition of the production, storage and the utilisation of all types of weapon of mass destruction and the establishment of rigid control over this prohibition. This call will undoubtedly meet with a wide and effective response throughout the world.

Defining the next tasks of peace supporters, the session of the World Peace Council stressed that it is essential to achieve the successful conclusion of the work of the Geneva Conference, that is a cease-fire in Indo-China, the peaceful settlement of the conflicts in Korea and Indo-China, the repudiation of the Bonn and Paris treaties and the resumption of

CELEBRATION OF 300th ANNIVERSARY OF REUNION OF UKRAINE WITH RUSSIA— MIGHTY DEMONSTRATION OF GREAT FRIENDSHIP OF PEOPLES OF THE USSR

Jubilee Session of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR

The celebration of the 300th anniversary of the reunion of the Ukraine with Russia became a vivid and stirring demonstration of the indissoluble unity of the friendly family of the peoples of the Soviet Union and their monolithic oneness around the Communist Party and the Soviet Government.

The Jubilee Session of the Supreme Soviet of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic devoted to the 300th anniversary of the reunion of the Ukraine

with Russia was held in the Grand Kremlin Palace on May 29. On the occasion of this national festival the Kremlin buildings were decorated with scarlet banners. The state flag of the Russian Federation fluttered over the dome of the Grand Kremlin Palace.

At 1 p.m. the appearance in the presidium of Comrade L. N. Solovyev, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, together with the Deputy Chairmen, and the appearance in the boxes of Comrades G. M. Malenkov, N. S. Khrushchev, N. A.

Bulganin, A. I. Mikoyan, M. G. Pervukhin, N. M. Shvernik, A. I. Kirichenko, M. A. Suslov, P. N. Pospelov, members of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Government of the RSFSR, representatives of the delegations from the fraternal Union Republics, Moscow, Leningrad, Stalingrad and the Sejm of the People's Republic of Poland was met by the deputies and guests with tumultuous and prolonged applause.

A short opening speech was made by Comrade L. N. Solovyev, Chairman of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR.

With exceptional enthusiasm the Session greeted the news that the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR had received a message of greeting from the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Council of Ministers of the USSR and the Central Committee of the CPSU. The message was read by Comrade M. P. Tarasov, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR.

The message reads:

«To Supreme Soviet of Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic Council of Ministers of Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Council of Ministers of the USSR and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union wholeheartedly greet the workers, collective farmers, intelligentsia and all the working people of the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic and congratulate them on the great celebration of the friendly family of the peoples of our socialist homeland—the 300th anniversary of the reunion of the Ukraine with Russia.

Age-old ties of inviolable friendship bind the two great Slav peoples, the Russian and the Ukrainian peoples. The brother peoples carried this bright and indissoluble friendship through the severe trials of centuries. They developed and strengthened it on the basis of unity of origin, affinity of language, ancient economic, political and cultural bonds and in the joint liberation struggle against common enemies. The constant striving of the two fraternal peoples for close unity and eternal alliance was crowned by the outstanding historical act proclaimed by the Pereyaslav Rada.

The reunion of the Ukraine with Russia served the vital interests and aspirations of the Russian and the Ukrainian peoples and was of tremendous progressive significance for these brother peoples. The Ukrainian people rid themselves of the threat of foreign enslavement and were enabled to proceed with their national development. The Russian people found in the Ukrainian people their loyal friend. As a result of the reunion the strength, power and international prestige of the Russian state, which became the centre and mainstay of the fraternal peoples in their struggle against foreign enemies, immeasurably increased.

The Russian people won glory as the bearer of the great revolutionary ideas of freedom and progress in the struggle against tsarist autocracy, landlords and bourgeoisie. Under the leadership of the Communist Party founded by the greatest genius of mankind—Vladimir Ilyich Lenin—the Russian proletariat rallied the working people of Russia and brought them to the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The Ukrainian proletariat, one of the biggest and most militant detachments of the working class of Russia, took an active part in this heroic struggle. The victory of the socialist revolution freed the peoples of the country once and for all from social and national oppression and laid the foundations for the indissoluble friendship of the peoples, their close co-operation and mutual aid in building Communist society.

Loyal to the ideas of the Lenin-Stalin policy on the national question the Russian people have given generous help to all the peoples of the USSR in the creation and consolidation of their statehood, in the development of their economies and cultures. In alliance with the great Russian people and in the fraternal family of the peoples of the mighty Soviet Union the Ukrainian people realised their age-old striving for the reunion of all the Ukrainian lands in the single Ukrainian Soviet state. The Ukraine has become one of the advanced Soviet Republics, a Republic of coal and metal, a Republic with a

powerful engineering industry, the biggest granary of the Soviet Union, one of the biggest states in Europe.

As a result of the victory of Socialism the friendship of the peoples of our country has become a mighty and irresistible force. This friendship has become more tempered and strengthened in the crucible of the Great Patriotic War. The glory of the heroic deeds of the Russian people will never fade. Their unprecedented courage and firmness in defence of the socialist fatherland, the unprecedented heroism at the fronts and selfless labour in the rear have won them universal recognition as an outstanding people.

The magnificent achievements of the Russian people in the development of economy and culture arouse a feeling of pride in the hearts of all the Soviet peoples. During these remarkable celebrations the ever-increasing industrial power of Moscow and Leningrad, the Urals, the Volga area, Siberia, the Far East and the growing and strengthening socialist agriculture of the Russian Federation appear as the bright embodiment of the power of our socialist homeland which is advancing towards Communism.

The outstanding achievements of the Russian and the Ukrainian peoples and all the peoples of the Soviet Union, closely rallied around the Communist Party and the Soviet Government, inspire the working people all over the world in their struggle for liberation from capitalist enslavement and give them confidence in the victory of the forces of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.

The indestructible friendship of the Russian and the Ukrainian peoples and all the peoples of the USSR, sealed by the blood shed in the struggle against common enemies and cemented by constructive, creative labour and mutual aid, is the greatest achievement of our country, the powerful life-giving force in the struggle for Communism.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Council of Ministers of the USSR and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union express confidence that the Russian people and all the peoples of the Russian Federation will continue, without flagging, to consolidate the might of our glorious homeland and will devote all their strength, energy and initiative to the cause of the further growth of heavy industry, powerful advance in agriculture, in the production of articles of popular consumption and steady improvement in the well-being of the working people.

Long live the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic!

May the indestructible friendship of the Russian, Ukrainian and all the peoples of our country live forever!

Long live our glorious fatherland—the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—the invincible bulwark of world peace—and long may it flourish!

Beneath the banner of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, under the leadership of the Communist Party—onward, to the victory of Communism!

PRESIDIUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE USSR
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE USSR
CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION

By their enthusiastic ovation the deputies spirit of the Leninist friendship of peoples

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of millions of people of different nationalities. Each new session of the World Peace Council is a testimony to its growing influence, to its enhanced role in international life. Its calls are penetrating ever deeper among the millionfold masses and its decisions are meeting with increasing response. Millions of people are taking the defence of peace into their own hands. All the sound forces of the nations, demonstrating their firm determination to bar the way to aggression and war, are uniting in the name of peace and the security of peoples.

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The struggle of the peoples for preserving and consolidating peace has already resulted in a certain easing of international tension. This has found reflection in the armistice in Korea, in the convening of the Berlin Conference of Foreign Ministers and in the negotiations now taking place in Geneva with the object of settling the Korean question and establishing peace in Indo-China.

But the danger of a new war has not yet been eliminated. The inspirers and conductors of the "positions of strength" policy stubbornly refuse to relinquish their aggressive schemes. The reactionary forces in the USA and their hirelings in Western Europe and Asia are using every possible means to prevent the relaxation of international tension. As is stated in the Resolution of the World Peace Council, "the menace of a military intervention of the United States of America in the conflict in Indo-China, which might lead to an extension of the war, the pressure in order to set up the 'European Defence Community' which would legalise the rearmament of Germany, the division of Europe and Asia through the policy of military pacts, the tests of thermo-nuclear weapons resumed for the purpose of intimidation and blackmail—all this gives the peoples new reasons for anxiety after the first hopes of negotiations".

During the course of the nine years since the end of the war, the Soviet Union has invariably put forward the demand for a complete prohibition of atomic and other

of atomic and hydrogen bombs and from using these types of weapons. Such an agreement would definitely facilitate the adoption of effective measures to ensure the complete prohibition of atomic weapons. It would help to bring about in the very near future the relaxation of international tension, would lead to a general reduction in armaments and pave the way for co-operation for the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

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General security is the only guarantee for the security of all peoples. General security must be organised in the first place in Asia and in Europe by all the interested states no matter what the differences in their social and political regimes.

The session of the World Peace Council also expressed itself for the removal of all obstacles which prevent the peoples from fully utilising the achievements of man's mind, against the attempts at suppressing national cultures because such attempts are an encroachment on the sovereignty of countries. The desire of the peoples, says the recommendation adopted by the session, is that culture should be placed in the service of friendship and peace between people.

The demands of the World Peace Council for banning the use of atomic and other weapons of mass destruction, its appeal for the intensification of the struggle for a further lessening of international tension and the establishment of a system of collective security, its appeal for the development of cultural exchanges between the peoples correspond to the aspirations of all peace-loving peoples.

Progressive and democratic forces throughout the world which consider the fight for peace to be their central task see the guarantee of the success of the peace movement in the further strengthening of their unity. They will spare no effort to ensure that the striving of the peoples for the relaxation of international tension, for security and peace for all countries is crowned with complete victory.

Opening of XIIIth Congress of French Communist Party

The XIIIth Congress of the French Communist Party opened on June 3 in the city of Ivry (Seine Department). The Congress is attended by 960 delegates and hundreds of visitors.

The appearance of Comrade Maurice Thorez and other members of the Presidium of the Congress was greeted with a standing ovation by all those present at the Congress.

The opening speech was made by Comrade Fernand Dupuy, member of the Central Committee and Secretary of the South Seine Federation, who presided over the first session. Comrade Fernand Dupuy welcomed the numerous representatives of the fraternal Parties and colonial peoples present at the Congress. He addressed words of cordial greeting and gratitude to the great Communist Party of the Soviet Union which serves as the model for the Com-

munist and Workers' Parties all over the world. The Congress greeted the CPSU and the land of Socialism with prolonged applause.

The following questions are on the agenda:

1) Report on the work of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party; 2) Organisational problems; 3) The Communist Party and French Youth; 4) Election of Central Committee and Financial Control Commission.

Comrade Jacques Duclos, Secretary of the Party, gave the report of the Central Committee. At the beginning of his report Comrade Jacques Duclos suggested that all should rise in homage to J. V. Stalin, great continuer of the cause of Marx-Engels-Lenin.

The report was followed by discussion. The Congress continues its work.

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By their enthusiastic ovation the deputies and visitors expressed their love for and loyalty to their own Soviet Government, glorious Communist Party and its Central Committee. The ovation broke out with renewed force when the Session heard the decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR on awarding the Order of Lenin to the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic.

The report on the tercentenary was delivered by Comrade A. M. Puzanov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR, who pointed out that in the postwar period the Soviet Union has made great strides in building Communism. Tremendous achievements of the socialist economy and the flowering of culture have become possible thanks to the firm alliance of the working class and collective-farm peasantry, thanks to the indestructible friendship between the peoples of the USSR and steady consolidation of the moral and political unity of the Soviet people.

The Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR, the Russian people and all the peoples of our Federation, Comrade Puzanov said, extend heartfelt gratitude to the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR and the great Ukrainian people for their fraternal message and warm greeting on the occasion of this national festival. Having congratulated the Ukrainian people on their high award, he wished the workers, collective farmers and intelligentsia, all the working people of the Soviet Ukraine happiness and prosperity, fresh notable achievements in the development of the economy and culture and the improvement of their well-being.

On behalf of the Supreme Soviet and Council of Ministers of the RSFSR Comrade Puzanov greeted and congratulated the representatives of all the fraternal Soviet Republics on the occasion of the 300th anniversary of the reunion of the Ukraine with Russia.

A motion to send a message to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Council of Ministers of the USSR and the C.C. of the CPSU met with great patriotic enthusiasm. The message was read by Comrade N. D. Kazmin, Deputy.

The speech of Comrade A. I. Kirichenko, first Secretary of the C.C. of the Communist Party of the Ukraine and head of the Ukrainian delegation, was warmly greeted.

On this ceremonial occasion, he said, the Ukrainian people cordially and wholeheartedly thank the Communist Party, the C.C. of the CPSU and the Soviet Government for their unflagging solicitude for state building and economic and cultural advance of the Soviet Ukraine.

Comrade Kirichenko said that the Ukrainian people, nurtured by the Party in the

spirit of the Leninist friendship of peoples and proletarian internationalism, will continue to safeguard and strengthen their sacred friendship with the great Russian people and all peoples of the Soviet Union. On instructions from the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR Comrade Kirichenko, on behalf of the Ukrainian people, in token of the age-old indissoluble friendship, presented the Supreme Soviet of the RSFSR and the great Russian people with a red and blue banner and a casket containing an address.

The deputies and visitors warmly greeted Comrade T. S. Gorbunov, Secretary of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Byelorussia and head of the Byelorussian delegation, who then took the floor.

On this notable anniversary, he said, the workers, collective farmers and intelligentsia, all the working people of Soviet Byelorussia, wholeheartedly greet the heroic Russian people, congratulate them on this outstanding festival and, with all their hearts, wish them fresh successes and further prosperity for the happiness of all peoples of the great socialist homeland.

The speech by J. Dembowski, head of the delegation from the Sejm of the People's Republic of Poland, who conveyed heartfelt greetings from the Polish people, was met with prolonged applause from the deputies and visitors. Dembowski

quoted facts testifying to the profound ideological ties binding the progressive people of Poland, Russia and the Ukraine at different stages of history. On behalf of the Polish people he concluded by wishing the Soviet comrades and friends further successes in building Communism.

Wholehearted greetings to the Session were conveyed by heads of delegations: Comrade N. A. Mukhitdinov, first Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Uzbek SSR; Comrade M. Beysebayev, Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Kazakh SSR; Comrade G. D. Djavakhishvili, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Georgian SSR; Comrade M. A. Ibragimov, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Azerbaijan SSR; Comrade Y. I. Paletskiis, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Lithuanian SSR; Comrade D. S. Gladky, Secretary of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Moldavia; Comrade K. M. Ozolin, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Latvian SSR; Comrade T. Kulatov, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Kirghiz SSR; Comrade D. Rasulov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Tajik SSR; writer N. Zarian, head of the delegation from the Armenian SSR; Comrade A. Saryev, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme

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Long live the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic!
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Long live our glorious fatherland—the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—the invincible bulwark of world peace—and long may it flourish!
Beneath the banner of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, under the leadership of the Communist Party—onward, to the victory of Communism!

PRESIDIUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE USSR
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE USSR
CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION

Soviet of the Turkmen SSR; Comrade E. K. Pusep, Deputy Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Estonian SSR, and by Comrade O. V. Kuusinen, Chairman of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Karelo-Finnish SSR. Comrade E. A. Furtseva, Secretary of the Moscow City Committee of the CPSU, read the message to the Supreme Soviet of the Ukrainian SSR and the great Ukrainian people. The Jubilee Session adopted this message with great enthusiasm and thus ended its work.

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In Moscow on May 30 amidst general enthusiasm there was a military parade and demonstration of the representatives of the working people devoted to the tercentenary. Popular festivities were held in the parks and gardens of the capital.

On the same day a great reception was held in the Kremlin by the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Council of Ministers of the RSFSR in honour of the 300th anniversary of the reunion of the Ukraine with Russia. Among those who gathered in the Georgievski Hall of the Grand Kremlin Palace were members of the Government of the USSR, members of the C.C. of the CPSU, members of the Government of the RSFSR, the Ukrainian delegation and the delegations from other Union Soviet Republics, who had been at the Jubilee Session, Deputies to the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and of the RSFSR; prominent workers from industrial enterprises and outstanding building workers of the capital, agricultural workers, eminent representatives of the Soviet Army, science, art and culture were also present.

The reception was a vivid expression of the fraternal unity of the peoples of the Soviet Union, an expression of the unity of the Communist Party, the Government and the Soviet people. In the evening Moscow sparkled with the lights of the celebration illuminations. In honour of the popular festival—the 300th anniversary of the reunion of the Ukraine with Russia—Moscow, capital of the USSR, fired a salute of 20 salvos. All the peoples of the USSR joyfully celebrated this outstanding occasion.

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Order of Lenin Awarded to the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic

In honour of the 300th anniversary of the reunion of the Ukraine with Russia and to mark the outstanding achievements of the Russian people and all peoples of the Russian Federation in state, economic and cultural upbuilding the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has awarded the Order of Lenin to the Russian Soviet Federative Socialist Republic.



Moscow, May 30, 1954. Celebration of 300th anniversary of reunion of Ukraine with Russia. Representatives of working people demonstrate on Red Square.

Tasks of State Apparatus and Councils in Hungary*

The experience of over three years that have elapsed since the Second Congress of the Party makes it necessary to discuss vital questions of work of the state apparatus and local councils.

For the successful solution of the tasks and problems facing our Party and the working class in the sphere of state building, it is essential to make use of the important and rich experience and the theoretical achievements by which the Soviet Union enriched the international revolutionary movement and the achievements which obtain in the People's Democracies of Central and South-Eastern Europe in state building and administration.

The laying down of correct principles for the state executive bodies and the state apparatus, proper clarification of the problems arising and the wide application of the teaching of Marxism-Leninism on the state in the practical work of state building—this is the urgent task of our Party.

The fact that our homeland was liberated by the Armed Forces of the Soviet Union decisively determined the entire subsequent development of the country. Thanks to this Hungary took the path of people's-democratic development ten years ago. After a historically brief period of time our country entered the stage of building Socialism.

In extremely complex social and political conditions, in the course of the sharpening class struggle, a struggle which daily grew more bitter and which developed first around the democratic agrarian reform, then around the question of nationalisation and later took the form of counter-revolutionary conspiracies, the working class of Hungary showed that under the leadership of the Party it is able to carry out its historical mission—to govern the country—and that it is able to defend people's democracy.

In 1945-46, following the smashing of the Horthy army, gendarmerie and police by the Soviet Army, possibilities were created in our country for gradual reorganisation of the remnants of the old state and administrative apparatus and the courts.

In 1945-50, as a result of the growing influence of the Hungarian Working People's Party, pressure by the masses from below and gradual liquidation of the reactionary forces and parties, we carried out, even before the setting up of local councils, a number of reforms for the reorganisation of the state apparatus. And thus we approached the task of setting up local councils. This meant a great step forward in the work of building the people's state by the working class. Through local councils the working class has drawn the broad popular masses, including working peasants, into the job of running the state.

The mere fact of the formation and functioning of local councils is a tremendous achievement in the work of our Party and the working class in building the state, a great stride forward along the path of developing the people's state. The local councils are the embodiment of the state of a new type and help to run the state without the bourgeoisie and against the bourgeoisie. Our local councils have solved tasks of exceptional importance and have contributed greatly to building Socialism.

The base of our people's-democratic state is the worker-peasant alliance. The social system of our people's Republic rests on the co-operation of these two classes. The leading force of this alliance—the base of the state—is the working class which in the course of building Socialism has increased its numbers and has become highly concentrated with the development of large,

In the conditions of people's democracy the People's Front is that broad and all-inclusive mass movement the backbone of which is the worker-peasant alliance and which embraces the overwhelming majority of the population. The People's Front is the manifestation of people's unity and the alliance of all working people and the working class. Due to the fact that it is organised, tempered in battle, has great experience and consciousness, the working class, led by the revolutionary Marxist Party, is the leading force of this great alliance of the people.

The programme-statement of the Hungarian Working People's Party at its First Congress in general took the correct path for further strengthening the alliance of the democratic forces when it declared that the Hungarian Working People's Party was working for the creation of a mass political organisation of the unity of the people, the new Independence Front in place of the former rather loose coalition of democratic parties. This aim, however, was not realised. The policy of the People's Front receded to the background and the Independence Front did not become a united, active mass organisation of the democratic, patriotic forces of the people.

The strength of the Party and the Government is in their close contact with the masses. With this in mind a new People's Independence Front must be set up, on the basis of the democratic principles of the Constitution of our Republic and of socialist construction, the Independence Front which, as a broad social and political movement of the people, must be based on democratic principles and have national and local organs; in determining the forms of these organs the initiative of the masses must be given full rein. This new People's Front must be wider and more democratic than in the past.

The new People's Front must become not only a creative movement, it must also be a militant movement. We must, in fact, create a front for the defence of the achievements of people's democracy, for the defence of our freedom, independence and national sovereignty, against the hostile intrigues and undermining work of the reactionaries and the imperialists, both from within and without—a front in defence of peace and against war.

Our people's-democratic state system has created immense opportunities for developing the capabilities of our working class and working peasantry in building the state, in solving public affairs and in running the state. It has released the forces constituting the firm foundation of our people's-democratic state. This explains why, in contrast to the state of the old regime, the state that oppressed the people and which was formed and strengthened throughout centuries, our young system of councils which has been in existence for barely three and a half years has devotedly, honourably and selflessly served the people, the cause of advancing the homeland and the cause of Socialism.

The carrying out of the tasks of the local councils in exercising state power was hampered by the fact that they were not, nor are they even today, subordinated to the State Assembly or the Presidium of the Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, although our Constitution gives explicit instructions on this point, but to state administrative bodies

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Imre Nagy

Member, Political Bureau, C.C.,
Hungarian Working People's Party,
Chairman, Council of Ministers,
Hungarian People's Republic

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the mass organisations. Notwithstanding this there is still much to be desired in this sphere likewise. Only close co-operation between the local councils and mass organisations can ensure the active participation of the broad masses of the working people in the management of state affairs.

The chief organisational principle of the state of a socialist type is democratic centralism, which must also be applied in our people's-democratic system. We have not consistently implemented this principle in the practical work of the local councils. Our central state apparatus is over-centralised and at the same time inflated and this is precisely the reason why it is too complicated and bureaucratic. The apparatus of our industry, agriculture, public health and of our entire economy is just as centralised, inflated and bureaucratic as the system of the state apparatus itself, and possibly even more so. These two facts have an extremely bad effect on local councils, retard their initiative and activities; they paralyse the activation of the working masses. The reorganisation of the system of state administration and the work of local councils and switching them over to socialist principles of work call for reorganising the economic apparatus, for doing away with over-centralisation, simplifying and pruning both state and economic apparatus.

It is essential to regulate relations between the organs of state administration, the economic bodies and the local councils.

A great number of new tasks have devolved upon the local councils since their inception but simultaneously with this extreme centralism has been coming to the fore more and more. This led to the intolerable situation in which, although the central administrative organs formally entrusted the local councils with many tasks, the independent activity of local councils, owing to the extreme centralisation, not only failed to develop but considerably diminished.

The struggle against bureaucracy, for simplification and a reduction in costs of the state apparatus, the struggle to bring the state apparatus closer to the masses is a particularly important task of the Party and the Government.

The reason for the spread and growth of bureaucratism should be sought not in the local councils but rather in the work of the higher organs of state administration.

The deluge of papers with which the higher administrative organs flood the council apparatus simply paralyse the work of the councils. One of the most important tasks of the Party and state bodies in the struggle against bureaucracy is to improve the check-ups, simplify the office work, coordinate the administrative system with the system of our national economy and with the demands which economic development makes on the state apparatus.

The work of local councils can be improved only if the Party workers representing the Party policy in the district and county Party organisations or in the higher organs of state power are familiar with the principles of building the people's-democratic state and its rules of operation. We have not yet achieved this aim, but must do so.

Party organisations have directed and

this that the strengthening of our rural Party organisations, the increase of their influence and the broadening of their mass basis constitute the important link in our socialist advance, a link which we must grasp in order to ensure a general advance along the entire front of socialist transformation.

Our local councils, their leaders and members must focus their attention on the decisive tasks which are the central feature of the policy pursued by our Party: a rise in the standard of living of the population, fuller satisfaction of the material needs and cultural requirements of the people, an upsurge in agricultural production, the socialist transformation of agriculture, strengthening of state discipline, ensuring the fulfilment of civic duties and intensification of the struggle against the class enemy.

To raise the standard of living of the population local councils must concentrate on intensifying the development and utilisation of local industries and resources. In order to improve the supply to the population of mass-consumption goods local councils must pay more attention to the work of local consumer co-operatives, individual handicraftsmen and to better supplies of goods by the retail trade network. Considerable attention must be paid to the work of repair shops and communal services so that the needs of the population are satisfied in all respects.

The implementation of measures aimed at the development of agricultural production, the application of the decisions of the October meeting of the C.C. of the Party to local conditions is the task of regional, district and rural councils.

The successful implementation of the Party and the Government decisions to ensure an upsurge of agricultural production calls for strengthening the leadership of agriculture at all levels of the councils—in regional, district and rural councils. The agricultural departments of the councils should be reinforced with qualified cadres.

Another responsible task of the councils in the sphere of developing agricultural production is to ensure that the specialists who have been sent to help agriculture—the agronomists, engineers and skilled workers—have suitable working and living conditions and that their social and material conditions are improved.

Alongside the general development of agricultural production local councils must pay close attention to the socialist reconstruction of agriculture. Local councils have an exceedingly important role to play in the implementation of the task of the economic and organisational strengthening and development of our producer co-operatives. A particularly important role belongs to the district councils in the sphere of assisting producer co-operatives to increase their incomes and in defending them against the undermining activities of the class enemy. Members of local councils must maintain constant and live contact with the producer co-operatives, they must become imbued with a feeling of responsibility for the work of these co-operatives.

The solid foundation for the functioning of our organs of state power and administration is socialist law which, while ensuring the rights of citizens, calls for the strict fulfilment of civic obligations and the observance of state discipline. That is why one of the most important tasks in the work of our local councils and other state organs is to improve state discipline.

The councils, as local organs of state power, must, heading the democratic patriotic popular forces, vigilantly stand guard

Emergency Session of World Peace Council

An Emergency Session of the World Peace Council took place from May 24-28 in Berlin. The Session discussed the following questions: 1. Prohibition of atomic and thermo-nuclear weapons; 2. Security of nations.

The Session adopted resolutions on atomic weapons and on the security of the nations and the recommendation of the cultural commission.

On the proposal of J. Laffitte the Session elected 23 additional members to the World Peace Council. The Bureau of the World Peace Council was replenished by new members—W. Elfes (Germany), James Endicott (Canada) and Nazym Hikmet (Turkey). Riccardo Lombardi (Italy) and Duncan Jones (Great Britain) were simultaneously elected members of the Bureau and the Secretariat of the World Peace Council.

The decisions of the Emergency Session of the World Peace Council are published below.

Resolution on Atomic Weapons

The blind means of total destruction menace all the peoples. The conscience of the world is awakening. Parliaments, statesmen, the highest religious and moral authorities are coming out in protest.

On behalf of the peoples we demand, as a measure of extreme urgency, the conclusion of an international agreement containing the commitment not to conduct any more atomic and hydrogen bomb tests and not to use these weapons. Such an agreement would prepare and facilitate effective measures ensuring total prohibition of these weapons. It would promote in the near future a relaxation of international tension, it would lead to a general reduction of armaments, it would pave the way to co-

operation for the utilisation of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

We call on all organisations and on all the personalities that cherish peace, we urge all political, trade union, religious and cultural organisations, the men and women of all countries to search in common on a national and international scale for means to obtain agreement between the governments on the following basis: prohibition of the production, the stockpiling and the utilisation of all weapons of mass destruction, and establishment of strict international control which is perfectly feasible.

Berlin, May 28, 1954.

Resolution on Security

The menace of a military intervention of the United States of America in the conflict in Indo-China, which might lead to an extension of the war, the pressure in order to set up the "European Defence Community" which would legalise the rearmament of Germany, the division of Europe and Asia through the policy of military pacts, the tests of thermo-nuclear weapons resumed for the purpose of intimidation and reasons for anxiety after the first hopes of negotiations.

The movement of public opinion in various countries which has secured the armistice in Korea and the opening of negotiations on the problems of Europe and Asia can achieve today:

the successful conclusion of the Geneva Conference, i.e. a cease-fire in Indo-China and a peaceful settlement of the conflicts in Korea and in Indo-China;

the rejection of the Bonn and Paris treaties and the resumption of negotiations for a peaceful solution of the German problem;

the agreement between the governments on the cessation of tests of atomic weapons and on non-utilisation of these weapons.

Notwithstanding the difference in the political and social systems all peoples have common interests. These common interests cannot be upheld, the security of every person and the independence of the peoples cannot be safeguarded through atomic blackmail and the division of the world in military blocs. These common interests are menaced through the repression of the national-liberation movement and through the intervention in the internal affairs of states.

Without guaranteeing the security of others, one cannot ensure one's own security. The common security must be organised in the first place in Asia and in Europe by all the interested states no matter what the difference in their social and political regime.

Berlin, May 28, 1954.

Recommendation of the Cultural Commission

1. The latest months have been marked by encouraging progress in the sphere of cultural exchanges. The numerous congresses of intellectuals, artistic and cinematographic undertakings, visits and delegations, celebrations of anniversaries of great people and famous works, meetings of great teachers, scientists, students, sportsmen, etc. have attested to the will of the peoples to exchange the fruits of their labour, the progress of techniques, the achievements of science and the arts.

2. At the same time broad national movements have arisen and grown for the purpose of developing the original culture of each country and disseminating knowledge among the broad masses of the people. Resisting any attempts of strangling national culture, for such attempts constitute an infringement of the sovereignty of the countries, these movements seek to facilitate the production of such works as would augment the treasure house of culture of

every people and would enrich international exchanges.

3. Though encouraging results have been achieved in the sphere of cultural exchanges and in the development of national cultures they do not correspond to the actual possibilities. Too many obstacles remain which prevent the peoples from fully utilising the achievements of man's mind. It is inconceivable that administrative or political obstacles could still be placed to the free expression of ideas, to the movement of persons and the circulation of works. These obstacles must disappear. They will disappear if every man who prizes culture realises his responsibility and firmly supports every initiative, no matter where it comes from, that aims at removing these obstacles, at further developing national cultural activities and extending reciprocal exchanges.

The desire of the peoples is that culture should be placed in the service of friendship and peace between the people.

Berlin, May 28, 1954.

INTERNATIONAL

out, even before the setting up of local councils, a number of reforms for the re-organisation of the state apparatus. And thus we approached the task of setting up local councils. This meant a great step forward in the work of building the people's state by the working class. Through local councils the working class has drawn the broad popular masses, including working peasants, into the job of running the state.

The mere fact of the formation and functioning of local councils is a tremendous achievement in the work of our Party and the working class in building the state, a great stride forward along the path of developing the people's state. The local councils are the embodiment of the state of a new type and help to run the state without the bourgeoisie and against the bourgeoisie. Our local councils have solved tasks of exceptional importance and have contributed greatly to building Socialism.

The base of our people's-democratic state is the worker-peasant alliance. The social system of our people's Republic rests on the co-operation of these two classes. The leading force of this alliance—the base of the state—is the working class which in the course of building Socialism has increased its numbers and has become highly concentrated with the development of large-scale industry; its consciousness has developed as a result of the educational work of the Party and trade unions.

The working peasantry has also undergone essential changes in its social position as a result of the agrarian policy carried out by our people's-democratic state and the socialist transformation of agriculture.

The worker-peasant alliance constitutes the social and political base of people's democracy which is a form of the dictatorship of the proletariat.

V. I. Lenin pointed out: "The dictatorship of the proletariat is a special form of class alliance between the proletariat, the vanguard of the toilers, and the numerous non-proletarian strata of toilers (the petty bourgeoisie, the small proprietors, the peasantry, the intelligentsia, etc.), or the majority of these; it is an alliance against capital, an alliance aiming at the complete overthrow of capital, at the complete suppression of the resistance of the bourgeoisie and of any attempt on its part at restoration, an alliance aiming at the final establishment and consolidation of Socialism."

* From report by Comrade Imre Nagy to Third Congress of Hungarian Working People's Party on May 28, 1954.

Close of Third Congress of Hungarian Working People's Party

On May 28 the Third Congress of the Hungarian Working People's Party heard a report on the second item on the agenda—"Tasks of state apparatus and local councils"—delivered by Comrade Imre Nagy, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. The report was followed by lively discussion. The Congress unanimously adopted and approved Comrade Nagy's report.

The Congress unanimously adopted the reports and proposals of the Central Control Commission and the Appeals Commission.

On May 28 and 29 the Congress warmly welcomed the greetings conveyed by: Comrade Abdallah el Madteri, member of the Secretariat of the Communist Party of Tunisia; Comrade Ehsan Tabari, member of the Political Bureau of the People's Party of Iran; Comrade Axel Larsen, Chairman of the Communist Party of Denmark; Comrade Staphas Lefteris, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Greek Communist Party; Comrade Pacco Giordano, member of the C.C. of the Communist Party of the Free Territory of Trieste; a representative of the Communist Party of Chile; Comrade Alcira de la Pena, representative of the Communist Party of

Argentina; Comrade Lars Gunnar Ochmann, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Sweden; Comrade Jacob Brandenburg, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Holland; Comrade Jacov Silber, member of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Israel; Comrade Emil Arnold, member of the Political Bureau of the Swiss Party of Labour; Comrade J. B. Miles, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Australia and Comrade Dalland Randulf Leonhard, Secretary of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Norway.

Our people's-democratic state system has created immense opportunities for developing the capabilities of our working class and working peasantry in building the state, in solving public affairs and in running the state. It has released the forces constituting the firm foundation of our people's-democratic state. This explains why, in contrast to the state of the old regime, the state that oppressed the people and which was formed and strengthened throughout centuries, our young system of councils which has been in existence for barely three and a half years has devotedly, honourably and selflessly served the people, the cause of advancing the homeland and the cause of Socialism.

The carrying out of the tasks of the local councils in exercising state power was hampered by the fact that they were not, nor are they even today, subordinated to the State Assembly or the Presidium of the Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, although our Constitution gives explicit instructions on this point, but to state administrative bodies and, in the long run, to the Council of Ministers, which, three years ago, relegated this matter to the Ministry for Internal Affairs.

The vital force of the local councils lies in extending their contact with the masses. An extremely important means of developing their activities along these lines is the sub-committees of local councils. There is a whole series of unsolved problems in this field too. The greatest shortcoming, however, is that less than half of these committees are actually functioning. One of the most important prerequisites for the consolidation of local councils is to develop the activity of the sub-committees.

Of great significance in the mass work of local councils is the question of the contacts they maintain with other big mass organisations. All the prerequisites for co-operation with these mass organisations exist inasmuch as the mass organisations—the trade unions, the Union of Working Youth and the Union of Democratic Women—are represented on the executive committee of the local council by their local representatives or leaders, and, conversely, the local councils, through their members, are represented in the local bodies of

Argentina; Comrade Lars Gunnar Ochmann, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Sweden; Comrade Jacob Brandenburg, member of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of Holland; Comrade Jacov Silber, member of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Israel; Comrade Emil Arnold, member of the Political Bureau of the Swiss Party of Labour; Comrade J. B. Miles, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Australia and Comrade Dalland Randulf Leonhard, Secretary of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Norway.

On May 29 the delegates heard the report "Amendments to the Rules of the Hungarian Working People's Party" given by Comrade Lajos Acs. After the discussion and concluding speech by Comrade Acs the Congress unanimously adopted the new Rules.

On May 30 the leading bodies of the Hungarian Working People's Party were elected unanimously by secret ballot. The Congress elected 71 members and 19 alternate members to the Central Committee and 13 members to the Central Auditing Commission.

the state apparatus and the struggle for the state apparatus closer to the masses is a particularly important task of the Party and the Government.

The reason for the spread and growth of bureaucratism should be sought not in the local councils but rather in the work of the higher organs of state administration.

The deluge of papers with which the higher administrative organs flood the council apparatus simply paralyses the work of the councils. One of the most important tasks of the Party and state bodies in the struggle against bureaucracy is to improve the check-ups, simplify the office work, co-ordinate the administrative system with the system of our national economy and with the demands which economic development makes on the state apparatus.

The work of local councils can be improved only if the Party workers representing the Party policy in the district and county Party organisations or in the higher organs of state power are familiar with the principles of building the people's-democratic state and its rules of operation. We have not yet achieved this aim, but must do so.

Party organisations have directed and are directing the work of the councils and their apparatus through the medium of one person—the chairman of the executive committee. With the adoption of the new Rules, which envisage the formation of Party groups within the local councils, this incorrect method of leadership and contact will be eliminated, and the question of Party guidance of local councils will thereby be solved correctly, in a Party-like manner.

The fact that our rural Party organisations have not grown stronger in proportion to the tasks confronting them but have actually become even weaker in some places has greatly affected the work of our rural councils.

The chief reason for this weakness and backwardness of our rural Party organisations is the lack of close contact with the peasant masses. This manifests itself in the relationship between the Party organisations and the local councils. Weak Party organisations are inevitably accompanied by weak rural councils as well and this is a serious threat to the socialist transformation of agriculture, to the job of directing our working peasantry along the path of social farming. It is clear from

Comrade Matias Rakosi, warmly welcomed by the Congress, then made a speech. The Congress closed with the "Internationale".

On May 30 there was a meeting of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Working People's Party which unanimously decided that the Political Bureau of the C.C. should consist of 9 members and 2 alternate members.

The members of the Political Bureau are Comrades Matias Rakosi, Imre Nagy, Ernő Gerő, Mihaly Farkas, Lajos Acs, Istvan Hidas, Antal Apro, Andras Hegedüs, Bela Szalai. The alternate members are Comrades Istvan Bata and Jozsef Mekis.

The Central Committee elected a Secretariat consisting of five members: Comrades Matias Rakosi, Mihaly Farkas, Lajos Acs, Bela Veg and Janos Matolesi. Comrade Matias Rakosi was elected first Secretary of the C.C. of the Party.

The Central Committee elected the Central Control Commission of 11 members and 2 alternate members. Comrade Karoly Kiss was elected Chairman of the Central Control Commission and Comrade Istvan Kris-

Alongside the general development of agricultural production local councils must pay close attention to the socialist reconstruction of agriculture. Local councils have an exceedingly important role to play in the implementation of the task of the economic and organisational strengthening and development of our producer co-operatives. A particularly important role belongs to the district councils in the sphere of assisting producer co-operatives to increase their incomes and in defending them against the undermining activities of the class enemy. Members of local councils must maintain constant and live contact with the producer co-operatives, they must become imbued with a feeling of responsibility for the work of these co-operatives.

The solid foundation for the functioning of our organs of state power and administration is socialist law which, while ensuring the rights of citizens, calls for the strict fulfilment of civic obligations and the observance of state discipline. That is why one of the most important tasks in the work of our local councils and other state organs is to improve state discipline.

The councils, as local organs of state power, must, heading the democratic patriotic popular forces, vigilantly stand guard over our people's-democratic system and its achievements. The class enemy—former figures of the Horthy regime, the lackeys of the old anti-popular regime, the kulak and capitalist elements—is still conducting undermining and wrecking activities. Towards the class enemy the councils, as organs of state power, must act with the might and severity of the dictatorship of the proletariat—socialist law, which persecutes and nips in the bud all disruptive activity and machinations of the enemies of the people.

The first elections to the local councils took place in October, 1950. The term of office of the deputies then elected is drawing to a close in October this year, according to the provisions of the Constitution. Our councils—their leaders and members—must again appear before the people and give an account of their work.

Despite the great number of shortcomings, our local councils have, during the three and a half years of their existence, traversed the great path of state building. The decisions of our Congress will open up a new chapter in the development of local councils, the first important stage of which will be the elections to the local councils.

of Chairman of the Central Auditing Commission.

On May 30 in Budapest, on the Gellert mountain, wreaths were laid at the foot of the "Statue of Freedom"—the memorial to Soviet warriors who fell in the battle for the liberation of Budapest.

A wreath with the words "Eternal glory to the heroes who gave their lives for the homeland" was laid by the delegation from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to the Congress, headed by Comrade K. E. Voroshilov, member of the Presidium of the C.C. of the CPSU.

Comrades Matias Rakosi, Imre Nagy and Ignaz Ploker laid a wreath on behalf of the Third Congress of the Hungarian Working People's Party.

Wreaths were also laid by the delegations from the fraternal Communist and Workers' Parties of various countries who took part in the work of the Congress. The laying of wreaths became a stirring demonstration of proletarian internationalism and international recognition of the great liberating role of the Soviet Army in the second world war.

Recommendation of the Cultural Commission

1. The latest months have been marked by encouraging progress in the sphere of cultural exchanges. The numerous congresses of intellectuals, artistic and cinematographic undertakings, visits of delegations, celebrations of anniversaries of great people and famous works, meetings of teachers, scientists, students, sportsmen, etc. have attested to the will of the peoples to exchange the fruits of their labour, the progress of techniques, the achievements of science and the arts.

2. At the same time broad national movements have arisen and grown for the purpose of developing the original culture of each country and disseminating knowledge among the broad masses of the people. Resisting any attempts of strangling national culture, for such attempts constitute an infringement of the sovereignty of the countries, these movements seek to facilitate the production of such works as would augment the treasure house of culture of

every people and would enrich international exchanges.

3. Though encouraging results have been achieved in the sphere of cultural exchanges and in the development of national cultures they do not correspond to the actual possibilities. Too many obstacles remain which prevent the peoples from fully utilising the achievements of man's mind. It is inconceivable that administrative or political obstacles could still be placed to the free expression of ideas, to the movement of persons and the circulation of works. These obstacles must disappear. They will disappear if every man who prizes culture realises his responsibility and firmly supports every initiative, no matter where it comes from, that aims at removing these obstacles, at further developing national cultural activities and extending reciprocal exchanges. The desire of the peoples is that culture should be placed in the service of friendship and peace between the people.

Berlin, May 28, 1954.

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY

On June 1, millions of people throughout the world widely celebrated International Day for the Protection of Children.

In the countries of democracy and Socialism June 1 was a day for reviewing achievements in bringing up the younger generation, a day of summing up the enormous work that has been done to create a happy and joyful life for the children. The young citizens of the Soviet Union are surrounded by the care of all the people. Just as a mother cherishes and guards her young, so the Soviet state gives the very best to the children. More than 34,000 children's doctors safeguard their health. There are more than 8,000 maternity and child welfare centres in the USSR, more than 3,500 milk kitchens and the network of kindergartens and creches, hospitals and sanatoria for children is growing year by year. In the summer every Soviet town is surrounded by a ring of pioneer camps in which millions of children spend their vacation.

The gates to knowledge are open wide to all children in the land of Socialism. Every child is guaranteed a place at the school desk. Incomplete secondary education (7 grades) in the USSR is compulsory and the transition to obligatory universal full secondary education (10 grades) is being realised. Hundreds of Pioneer Palaces, numerous children's technical stations, stadiums and theatres are available for the future builders of Communism.

Childhood in the countries of people's democracy is bright and joyful. The people's-democratic states grudge them nothing. The number of schools, kindergartens and creches is increasing year by year. During the field work, 148,200 creches and children's centres will be organised in the countryside of China. During the past five years the number of places in creches in Poland has increased by 96 per cent.

Children in the countries of people's democracy are growing up literate and cultured. In China there are now more than twice as many pupils as before the victory of people's power. There is universal compulsory and free education in Poland. In Hungary the number of pupils has increased two and a half times as compared with the pre-war period. Paternal solicitude for children is being displayed in Czechoslovakia, Bulgaria, Rumania, Albania, the German Democratic Republic, the People's Democratic Republic of Korea.

There are creches and kindergartens in all the large towns of our country, the Rumanian People's Republic, and seasonal kindergartens function in the countryside. In 1953 the number of places in creches increased six times and in kindergartens by more than seven times as compared with 1948.

All Rumanian children are given every opportunity to study. In 1953 twice the number of children were taught in the numerous schools of all grades as compared with 1948. Thousands of children of the working people spend their holidays in the mountains, by the sea, in children's camps and special playgrounds in towns. This year about 125,000 children will spend their summer holidays at the best resorts in Rumania.

The Council of Ministers of the Rumanian People's Republic and the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party recently adopted a decision on helping orphans. The decision is aimed at improving the material conditions of orphans and ensuring for them a healthy and cultured life.

The exact opposite is to be observed in the capitalist countries. The impoverishment of the working people tells in the first place on the younger generation. In Iran 85 per cent of the children die before they reach the age of fifteen. In South Korea 220 out of every 1,000 children born die in childhood. According to medical inspection data 61 per cent of the pupils in the elementary schools of Seoul and 35 per cent of the secondary school pupils suffer from tuberculosis. In Turkey the annual infant mortality rate is equal to 50 per cent of the birth-rate. More than 80,000,000 children in capitalist countries live in poverty.

The imperialist governments spend thousands of millions on preparations for war whereas appropriations for education are miserably small. In the USA, for instance, two-day's expenditure for military purposes is more than the yearly appropriation for education and as a result schools are becoming dilapidated, there is a shortage of teachers and millions of children are kept out of school. Militarisation in capitalist countries maims the children spiritually. The corrupters of children's souls are preparing the younger generation for cannon fodder.

The fight for the protection of children is inseparable from the struggle for peace. That is why people of different countries, all people to whom the life and interests of their children are dear, observed International Children's Day under the slogan of struggle against the aggressive plans of the imperialists, for the peaceful settlement of all controversial international problems, for easing tension in international relations.

STELA ENESCU
Chairman,
Committee of Democratic Women,
Rumanian People's Republic

In Communist and Workers' Parties

"GLUHLAMPENWERK" PARTY BRANCH CARRYING OUT DECISIONS OF FOURTH CONGRESS OF SUPG

After the Fourth Congress of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany the Party organisations unfolded active work among the working people of the German Democratic Republic to explain the Congress decisions and ensure their implementation.

The Party branch at the big publicly-owned factory "Gluhlampenwerk", in Berlin, called a meeting of active members of all organisations in the plant, with the delegates to the Congress from the factory taking part. The delegates spoke of what could be done in a practical way by the personnel of the plant to carry out the decisions of the Party Congress. They discussed the possibilities of the plant for increasing output and improving the quality of production. Those speaking at the meeting proposed that an emulation drive be launched in order to produce this year 4 million marks worth of mass-consumption goods above plan.

Those at the meeting thoroughly discussed the question of achieving united action by the working class and stressed the necessity of having friendly contact with the workers—Social Democrats, trade unionists and unorganised workers—in West Berlin. It was decided to invite Social Democratic workers from West Berlin to visit the plant, and this invitation did not remain unanswered. In one week alone 16 Social Democratic workers from West Berlin visited the "Gluhlampenwerk" factory.

After a friendly talk they declared that they would struggle more actively in West Berlin for united action of the working class.

The Party branch at the plant makes great efforts to explain in the best possible way the decisions of the Fourth Congress to the working people. Meetings are being held and individual explanatory work is extensively carried on.

Putting into practice the decisions of the Congress for further strengthening the alliance between the working class and peasantry, the personnel of the factory, on the initiative of the Party branch, took patronage over an agricultural producer co-operative in the village of Etzin (Naten district). Propagandists at the plant render effective assistance to the Party branch at the co-operative in conducting explanatory work among the peasants and in Party education. The workers at the factory have helped the co-operative to equip the piggery and the incubator.

Explaining the programme-document of the Fourth Congress of the SUPG "The pathway to solving the vital questions facing the German nation", the Party branch does everything possible to ensure that everyone at the plant links up his work in the factory more closely with the struggle of all German people for unity of the country and for peace.

RURAL AGITATORS OF HASKOV DISTRICT (BULGARIA)

The primary task of Party organisations in the Haskov district is to ensure high yields of cotton and tobacco, the main crops of the district. More than 2,000 agitators are engaged in agitation work in the district under the leadership of the district committee and branches of the Communist Party of Bulgaria. They are given every kind of assistance by the district Party committee. For the purpose of raising their theoretical and methodological knowledge 25 seminars were organised.

At the seminars the agitators studied experience in organising and conducting talks and explanatory work among the population as well as the most important international issues. In addition they attended the agrotechnical circles which were organised in 22 large villages. As a result, this year agitators were able better to organise explanatory work among the peasants and to rally them in resolute struggle for higher cotton and tobacco yields.

In the village of Krepost, for example, agitators explained the significance of the selection of cotton seeds and of the timely planting of tobacco seedlings, with the result that members of the co-operative have sown only selected seeds of cotton and tobacco.

Agitators tell the peasants about the experience of the advanced peasants. They

make known the experience of peasants renowned for high yields through the local radio station and local newspaper.

By means of talks and personal example and by popularising the experience of advanced peasants, the agitators of Golyamo Asenov, Radievo, Voivodovo, Podkrepa and other villages, under the guidance of Party organisations, mobilised not only members of agricultural producer co-operatives but also individual peasants for the struggle to ensure higher yields. As a result, the peasants of these villages, despite the late spring, carried out the sowing of cotton with selected seeds in an organised way and in a shorter space of time.

Personal example is of great significance in the work of the agitator. For instance, after carrying out two explanatory talks agitator Kera Georgyeva, from the village of Uzundjovo, took a pledge to harvest 300 kilograms of cotton per decar from a plot of 3 decars. She immediately began to fulfil her pledge, collected 400 kilograms of local fertilisers and carefully selected the seeds. She was followed by other members of her team.

At present agitators are explaining to peasants the need for exemplary cultivation of agricultural crops and are helping them to develop emulation on a wider scale in order that the struggle for ensuring higher yields is crowned with success.

VICTORY OF DEMOCRATIC FRONT OF ALBANIA

On May 30 the election to the People's Assembly of Albania took place. Election preparations and the election itself were held under the slogan of consolidating the indestructible unity of the Party of Labour, the Government and the people, under the slogan of further strengthening the friendship between the Albanian people, the Soviet peoples and all the peoples of the democratic camp.

people of the Republic elected as Deputies of the People's Assembly their foremost, loyal sons and daughters. Among them are Comrade Enver Hoxha, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania and General Secretary of the Party of Labour; outstanding workers, peasants renowned for their bumper yields, representatives of the intelligentsia and many others.

The election once more showed that the

Polish Trade Unions Work to Raise Living Standards of Working People

The Second Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party has opened up before the people the inspiring prospect of a rapid rise in the standard of living of the working people and of an ever greater satisfaction of their material and cultural needs.

The further improvement of the well-being of the working people in town and countryside has been put forward by the Party as the chief task of the present stage of socialist construction. This task envisages an increase in the real wages of industrial and office workers and the income of the working peasantry, within the next two years, to 15-20 per cent above the 1953 level.

The people's power has consistently carried out this policy. The two price reductions effected during the past six months mean a saving of more than 10,000 million zloty a year for the working people of the country. The 1954 state budget allocates 25,000 million zloty for social and cultural purposes. A decision for improving the housing conditions and communal services of railwaymen and workers on state farms and in state machine and tractor stations as well as teachers and other sections of the working people has been taken by the Government.

In order to raise the standard of living of the population it is essential first of all to develop agriculture, to eliminate the extreme lag in the development of agriculture as compared with industry. A rapid upsurge of agricultural production therefore assumes decisive significance. It is clear that this task concerns not only the rural population, not only the working peasantry. It is now a national task demanding the active participation of the working class and the entire people for its fulfilment.

The Second Party Congress strongly emphasised the decisive significance of the all-round strengthening of the worker-peasant alliance as the main prerequisite for carrying out our plans, as the most important motive force in our advance forward.

The trade unions, the biggest mass organisations of the working people, are called upon to play an important role in mobilising the masses for carrying out the tasks set by the Second Party Congress.

"Our trade unions", Comrade Bierut pointed out, "are the biggest mass transmitter of the ideas and slogans of our Party, as well as a powerful lever for freeing and organising in concrete forms the creative energy of the masses."

Guided by the decisions of the Second Party Congress the Third Trade Union Congress held over May 5-9 in Warsaw discussed in detail the work of trade unions and defined their tasks.

The Trade Union Congress put forward as the main task the need to make a decisive change in day-to-day trade union work so that the struggle for an increase in the productivity of labour and for the fulfilment of the economic plans becomes closely linked with constant all-round solicitude for improving the living and social conditions of the working people, for ensuring better conditions of labour and for making full use of the great gains and rights brought to the working class by the people's power.

To achieve the aims outlined by the Party and the Government it is essential on the one hand constantly to extend socialist production, thus providing the material resources needed by the state to enable it to accelerate the rise in living standards of the population—namely, steadily to reduce production costs and improve the quality of the goods turned out, system-

cultural conditions of the working people.

In their efforts to discover new sources of increasing the national income, the trade unions are continually perfecting their leadership of labour emulation.

The Third Trade Union Congress stressed that socialist emulation has become the pivot of activity in the trade unions. The trade unions widely popularise the methods of Soviet and Polish innovators such as, for instance, the method of Wiktor Saj who advanced the slogan: "I will not produce waste", the method of Wanda Sygdiak, initiator of the "production cycle without waste" in the textile industry, the proposal of Franciszek Klaja to make savings in time and materials at each stage of production, and many other proposals. New methods of labour applied on the initiative of the workers, particularly in the period before the Second Party Congress, show that socialist emulation is entering a new stage, characterised by the fact that alongside the struggle for the quantitative fulfilment and overfulfilment of the plans there is a continually growing conscious desire to improve the basic technical-economic indices. Thanks to the introduction of new technique and better organisation of labour the productivity of labour during the first four years of the Six-Year Plan rose 52 per cent.

The trade unions have widely popularised and developed the rationalisation movement. The scope of this movement is indicated by the 210,000 rationalisation proposals made in 1953. The implementation of these proposals will result in a saving of about 1,500 million zloty.

But despite these indisputable achievements in organising emulation there are serious shortcomings in the work of a number of trade unions. The main shortcoming is that our activists, especially in the trade union branches, still inadequately realise that the development of socialist emulation depends on the growth of the political consciousness of the masses, on the clear understanding by the working people of the advantages derived by both worker and state from better and more productive work. Rush methods of work, formalism and the liking for paper results still persist. The suggestions made by the factory personnel, their readiness to overfulfil planned assignments, to raise the productivity of labour, to effect savings and improve the quality of production are not given due attention.

The development of socialist emulation is very often seriously hindered by the sluggishness of the economic apparatus in ensuring the necessary materials and by shortcomings in the organisation of labour, etc. There are quite a few reserves in the enterprises. Instead of going in for general arguments we must point to the concrete advantages arising from the utilisation of available reserves for the workers and the national economy as a whole.

Realising the basic principle of socialist emulation—fraternal help to the lagging workers by leading workers in order to ensure a general advance—Party organisations and trade unions must concentrate on raising the bulk of the workers to the level of leading workers.

Displaying unflagging concern for improving the social and cultural conditions

Wiktor Kłosiewicz

Member, Central Committee,
Polish United Workers' Party,
Chairman, Central Council
of Trade Unions of Poland

placed at the disposal of the trade unions considerable material means for organising mutual benefit funds, providing allotments for the workers, organising recreation for the working people, etc.

Our people's Government devotes a great deal of attention to the constant improvement of labour protection and safety precautions. Between 1951-54 over 4,000 million zloty were spent for these purposes. The trade unions control the work of the 159,000 public inspectors of labour in factories, who last year alone made over 193,000 recommendations for eliminating the shortcomings which are still to be found in the safety precaution measures and industrial hygiene. Some 150,000 of these recommendations were accepted and put into practice. Labour protection commissions under the auspices of factory trade union committees (there are over 10,500 such commissions) control the way in which the management spends the sums earmarked for protection of labour, which last year totalled more than 1,939 million zloty. During last year the trade unions organised training to improve the qualifications of nearly 300,000 workers handling labour protection matters.

The trade unions, however, did not completely cope with their tasks in the field of protection of labour. This is particularly evident from the fact that last year they did not use to the full the funds for safety precaution measures and industrial hygiene.

The trade unions display constant concern for the health and living conditions of the working people. Last year on the initiative of the trade unions 1,502 free passes to sanatoria were issued each month to workers in the main branches of industry. About 500,000 industrial and office workers had their holidays arranged for them. Some 10,049 of them received free two-week passes, 5,300 special passes were issued for mothers and children, about 52,000 three-week passes for prophylactic treatment, etc.

Considerable achievements were made by the trade unions in the field of improving supplies and social services for the workers. In 1953 the number of factory supply departments almost doubled. The number of individual allotments last year increased 48 per cent and is now 307,000.

Mutual benefit funds organised by the trade unions are of great help to the working people. In 1953 mutual benefit funds made grants to the working people amounting to more than 67 million zloty and loans of 1,035 million zloty.

The trade unions display constant concern for the children of working mothers. They organise summer camps and clubs for them and through the social insurance commissions constantly supervise the work of establishments for children. Last year 22,200 children were taken into creches and 325,000 children attended kindergartens, that is 240 per cent more than in 1949. In addition 306,000 children went to summer camps.

A serious shortcoming in the work of the trade unions, however, is their inadequate participation in the annual planning of capital investments and funds for social security. They also do not always see to it that new dwelling houses are made available for the working people in good time, nor do they exercise adequate control over the quality of construction and repair works.

gress demonstrated the ideological unity of the trade unions and the entire working people around the Party and the Government. It showed that the central task set by the Second Congress—rapidly raising the living standards of the working people—rallies all the creative forces of the people.

The delegates boldly disclosed shortcomings in trade union work. They pointed out that some leading trade union bodies as well as some factory committees are frequently indifferent to the requirements and needs of the workers, that they do not react in time to complaints and criticism from below, tolerate cases of violations of the Labour Code and inadequately combat the bureaucratic deviations of some economic functionaries who infringe upon the interests of the working people. The delegates stressed that the reserves for lowering production costs and raising the productivity of labour are not made use of everywhere. They also stressed the necessity for greater solicitude on the part of trade unions for the everyday requirements of the working people.

The high degree of activity displayed by the delegates and the concrete criticism of trade union work testify to our strength. The working people of Poland are not willing to stop at the political, economic, social and cultural successes already achieved. They want to overcome the shortcomings still prevailing and unswervingly advance along the path of progress.

The task of the trade unions is to draw the working people into taking part, on a broader scale, in governing the country, to increase the sense of responsibility for the further development and flourishing of people's Poland. It is essential to enhance the role of the trade unions in the struggle for carrying through production plans, for raising the productivity of labour, for economy, for lowering production costs, for improving the quality of output and for strengthening socialist discipline. It is essential to transfer the centre of gravity of trade union work to the factories, constantly to broaden the ties of the trade union organisations with the people. It is essential to devote greater attention to everyday concern for improving the living conditions of the working people, the conditions of labour and for the strict observance of the Labour Code. The main task of the trade unions is to show everyday concern for the needs and requirements of the working people and react in time to all kinds of abuses and bureaucratism.

The trade unions are called upon to educate the working people in the spirit of boundless loyalty to the people's state, in the spirit of patriotism and internationalism, in the spirit of profound confidence in the PUWP.

It is necessary to observe the principle of collective leadership in the work of trade union bodies, intensify control over the fulfilment of decisions, unfold on a broader scale trade union democracy and develop in every conceivable way criticism and self-criticism, particularly criticism from below.

The trade unions now have a new weapon to raise their work to a higher level, that is, collective agreements. Collective agreements, which this year will embrace the workers in the main enterprises and next year the workers in the majority of the country's enterprises, must be made the basis of the entire trade union work. The conclusion of collective agreements and the formation of factory dispute commissions must be used by the trade unions as a new and important means for improving the working and living conditions of the working people.

The Polish trade unions have every possibility of fulfilling their tasks. We have the selfless working class and numerous trade union activists. Under the leader-

the agrotechnical circles which were organised in 22 large villages. As a result, this year agitators were able better to organise explanatory work among the peasants and to rally them in resolute struggle for higher cotton and tobacco yields.

In the village of Krepost, for example, agitators explained the significance of the selection of cotton seeds and of the timely planting of tobacco seedlings, with the result that members of the co-operative have sown only selected seeds of cotton and tobacco.

Agitators tell the peasants about the experience of the advanced peasants. They

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On May 30 the election to the People's Assembly of Albania took place. Election preparations and the election itself were held under the slogan of consolidating the indestructible unity of the Party of Labour, the Government and the people, under the slogan of further strengthening the friendship between the Albanian people, the Soviet peoples and all the peoples of the democratic camp.

According to the Central Electoral Commission over 99 per cent of the total electorate took part in the election. The Democratic Front has won an outstanding victory throughout the country—99 per cent of those who went to the poll voted for the candidates of the Democratic Front. The working

people of the Republic elected as Deputies of the People's Assembly their foremost, loyal sons and daughters. Among them are Comrade Enver Hoxha, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Albania and General Secretary of the Party of Labour; outstanding workers, peasants renowned for their bumper yields, representatives of the intelligentsia and many others.

The election once more showed that the Democratic Front led by the Party of Labour is successfully working for an upsurge in the economy and in culture, for a steady advance in the well-being of the people, for the defence of national independence and sovereignty, for peace and Socialism.

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To achieve the aims outlined by the Party and the Government it is essential on the one hand constantly to extend socialist production, thus providing the material resources needed by the state to enable it to accelerate the rise in living standards of the population—namely, steadily to reduce production costs and improve the quality of the goods turned out, systematically to raise the productivity of labour and disclose new production reserves; on the other hand it is essential to use in a more rational and well-considered manner the sums allocated each year by the state for improving social as well as living and

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Displaying unflagging concern for improving the social and cultural conditions of the working people the people's state has vested the trade unions with broad powers in the field of public control over the condition of safety precautions, protection of labour, conditions of life and supplies to the population. The state has

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The Third Trade Union Congress was held in an atmosphere of great activity. The speeches of the delegates were imbued with deep patriotic solicitude for the further development of people's Poland. The Con-

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The Polish trade unions have every possibility of fulfilling their tasks. We have the selfless working class and numerous trade union activists. Under the leadership of the Polish United Workers' Party and in close unity with the working people the trade unions will firmly carry out the task advanced by the Second Congress of our Party.

POLITICAL SITUATION IN FRANCE

The present political situation in France is characterised first of all by the absolute gap between the disastrous government policy of reaction and war, which is being pursued on the orders of the dollar magnates, and the firm will of the people for a lasting peace, for national independence and social progress.

The anti-popular policy of subordination to the American imperialists has had dire effects on the economy of France and the standard of living of the people. And, in fact, the war economy has swallowed up and is continuing to devour the greater part of the resources available and this is hampering the rehabilitation of the country. The total sum of military expenditure and the cost of maintaining the police force has reached 50 per cent of the budget, whereas appropriations for social and cultural needs are being cut and the housing conditions for the ordinary people of France continue to remain the worst in Europe. Production is in a state of stagnation; many branches of the national economy are undergoing great difficulties or are completely stifled by American competition.

In the face of the gloomy bankruptcy of the reactionaries in power, profound changes in the behaviour of the social classes in France have taken place and are continuing to take place, which are exerting considerable influence on the position and correlation of the organised political forces within the country. Not only the working class is becoming more and more deeply convinced of the correctness, foresight, perspicacity and wisdom of the genuinely national policy pursued by the French Communist Party which has incessantly pointed and continues to point out to the country the path to prosperity and well-being. The working peasantry, too, are becoming more convinced of this, as well as the middle classes of the town and an important part of the bourgeoisie who themselves suffer from the consequences of the harmful government policy which runs counter to the vital interests of the nation.

★
Florimond Bonte
Member, Central Committee,
French Communist Party

All this has helped to bring about a situation in which profound differences have arisen on all the principal questions of French life, and irreconcilable contradictions have been revealed within all the bourgeois parties, including the Social Democratic Party.

Under pressure from the popular movement considerable changes have also taken place in Parliament. At the beginning of May, for instance, the Government was twice compelled to seek a vote of confidence within the space of eight days. By resorting to camouflaged manoeuvres and shabby tricks the Government received a majority of 49 votes the first time and a majority of only two the second time. It is becoming quite obvious that the Government of Laniel, Bidault and Plevin no longer represents France, that its ministers can on no account speak on behalf of the homeland either inside the country or outside it. Under the pressure of the people indignant at the pernicious behaviour of Georges Bidault, Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Government has now been compelled to agree to a fresh discussion of the key problem of the "dirty war" being waged against the interests of France and against the people of Viet Nam who are successfully fighting for their national liberation.

The innermost forces of the nation are coming out against the Government. Workers and peasants, intellectuals, writers, artists, sculptors, technicians, teachers, professors and scientists, irrespective of their political views, religious beliefs and social status are with indomitable energy speaking at mass rallies to voice on behalf of the entire people a categorical "no" to the revival of German militarism.

I will cite just two examples which testify to the unswerving opposition of the French people to the ratification of the Bonn and Paris military treaties.

The first example—the charge made by Marshal Juin, Commander-in-Chief of the French Army, against the "European Defence Community". In fact Marshal Juin loudly proclaimed the determination of a number of French generals resolutely to prevent the liquidation of the national army of France and the submission of the country to the domination of the Kesselrings, Ramckes, Oergs and the other sanguinary butchers of France.

The second example is the pamphlet prepared by the majority of Socialist Deputies against the "European Defence Community" and twice sent to the activists of all branches of the Socialist Party.

No one was able to put forward a single serious and weighty objection to the indisputable arguments advanced by the opponents of the "European Defence Community" at the Congress of the Socialist Party on May 29-30.

Although the most elementary standards of democracy were trampled underfoot with the help of a pre-arranged majority from the four main federations of the Socialist Party, Guy Mollet could only with difficulty get 1,969 votes whereas in 1952 he collected 2,537. 1,215 delegates voted against EDC, which a delegate characterised as the "Europe of blast furnaces and clericalism", and 265 abstained. 1,500 delegates, i.e. more than 43 per cent of those who voted, refused to support the criminal policy of reviving German militarism, the age-old enemy of the French people. Many Socialist deputies, under the pressure of activists and Socialist electors, will be inclined to listen to their conscience and the voice of the real majority of their Party and refuse to support the ratification of the Bonn and Paris military treaties.

If to these examples are added the Conference of opponents of the "European Defence Community" from seven western countries, which was held in Paris and in

which outstanding politicians and highly-placed persons, representing the most varied trends of public opinion, took place, and the whole series of subsequent meetings, a pretty clear picture will be obtained of the rapid growth of the patriotic movement in France against the "European Defence Community".

At present the struggle against the ratification of the ruinous Bonn and Paris agreements is being combined with the struggle for an all-European system of collective security. In fact, the moment the French people got to know about the Soviet draft of the All-European Treaty on Collective Security in Europe, they immediately expressed their deepest satisfaction. They have grasped the historical significance of this proposal. The French people understand that the implementation of the principles contained in this draft would give them, as well as all the other peoples of Europe, a real guarantee of peace as it would end the division of the nations of Europe into opposing groupings, would effectively promote fruitful co-operation, would eliminate the possibility of the resurgence of German militarism and would lead to the formation of a united, democratic, independent and peace-loving Germany.

Many French politicians of the most varied trends, including Edouard Herriot, Honorary President of the National Assembly, have expressed their complete agreement with the articles of the Soviet draft which has been put forward for examination and discussion. Speaking at an emergency meeting of the Radical Party, Edouard Herriot declared: "In this document one can find the solution that must be achieved if peace in Europe, and not only in Europe, is really desired".

The idea of collective security is dear to the hearts of the French people. They have always fervently defended this idea. That is why the Soviet Note of March 31 this year has met such profound approval among them.

If after the Berlin Conference honest French patriots who had been deceived and duped by the systematic campaigns of misinformation conducted by the hirelings of American agencies still remain-

ed in some doubt or were not quite clear on the matter, it is incontestable that such doubts and misunderstandings have now been dispersed by the additional clear-cut specifications contained in the Soviet Note of March 31, especially on the question of the Atlantic Pact and the participation of the United States of America in an All-European Treaty on Collective Security in Europe.

However all that has been stated above—all of which is in strict conformity with the facts—does not as yet give a complete idea of the situation in France inasmuch as no mention has been made of the event which was the last drop in the cup of the people's wrath. This event was the defeat sustained at Dien Bien Phu, which brought home to the French people still more clearly the great harm involved in the policy pursued by the Government. This has become so obvious that even "Les Echos", a newspaper of financial and industrial circles, wrote in this connection on May 25: "Dien Bien Phu was the last drop to make the cup overflow, the bitter cup of almost complete political and, alas, military failure."

The repulsive attitude of submission towards Foster Dulles adopted by Minister Bidault has intensified this bitterness.

Against the background of these events the policy of peace which is being persistently defended at the Geneva Conference by the representatives of the Governments of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam stands out in sharp relief. There is not a single sober-minded and honest French patriot who does not admit that it is precisely in this policy of peace that an equitable peaceful solution is to be found, a solution that corresponds to the interests of both the Viet Nam and French peoples.

Numerous delegations are daily arriving at Geneva to demand the cessation of hostilities in Indo-China and a peaceful settlement of the Indo-China problem. To date these delegations number several hundred. Only one group of women from Marseilles collected 34,000 signatures which were taken to the premises occupied by the American delegation.

In order to give an impression of the development of united action of the working class in the struggle for peace in Indo-China, I shall cite the example of a splendidly organised strike which was conducted by 3,000 workers at a large metallurgical works in Fives-Lille in the north of France. The strike call was issued by a trade union branch affiliated to the CGT but was signed by 60 workers of the most varied outlooks, including workers belonging to the French Confederation of Christian Workers, two Socialist municipal councillors, two Socialist workers, former members of the Expeditionary Corps, brothers of those killed in Indo-China and youths in the reserve who are in danger of being called up. The organisations of the French Communist Party and the Union of Republican Youth of France also signed this strike call.

To get a complete picture we must point to the mobilisation of the masses in defence of their standard of living, a mobilisation which has already shown that the working people are becoming increasingly conscious of the fact that the struggle against war and for national independence is closely linked with the fight for economic demands.

This all testifies to the fact that there are numerous indications of the re-grouping of forces in France with the object of radically changing the government's present policy. All this is the dominating feature of the present situation in the country.

The honour and merit of the French Communist Party consists in the fact that by its persistent work, by its policy of united action and unity of national and democratic forces it has been able to rally the majority of citizens in the struggle for the final repudiation of the Bonn and Paris military treaties, for an immediate cease-fire in Indo-China.

The decisions which the French Communist Party will adopt at its XIIIth Congress, which has just opened, will undoubtedly render it even more powerful, even more capable of accomplishing its historic mission—of bringing about the triumph of peace, social progress, democracy and national independence, of making France a free, strong and happy country.

PRESS REVIEW

On Eve of Tenth Congress of Communist Party of Czechoslovakia

"Rude Pravo"—Central Organ of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia

June 11 will see the opening of the Xth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. The columns of "Rude Pravo" constantly reflect the active preparations of Party organisations, Party members and all working people for this remarkable event. The paper has published a great number of articles and reports devoted to the reporting-back meetings, district and regional Party conferences which demonstrated the unity and oneness of the Party ranks, growing activity of Communists, sharp criticism and self-criticism and irreconcilability towards shortcomings.

Successes achieved by the working people of Czechoslovakia in the course of fulfilling the Five-Year Plan for the national economy have made it possible for the Communist Party and the Government to realise measures for a further considerable rise in the material and cultural standards of the working people.

The statement made by the Government last September and further measures of the Party and the Government indicate the consistent implementation of the Party's general line proclaimed by the IXth Party Congress in 1949. In the course of the preparations for the coming Congress "Rude Pravo" criticises shortcomings which made their appearance in some organisations in the course of carrying out the Party's general line.

"Some comrades and some Party organisations", writes the paper, "erroneously believed that it was a question of some kind of campaign. The result was that when new tasks were put forward by the Central Committee and by the Government these comrades ceased to pay attention to fulfilling the tasks arising from the Government's statement and did not even carry out a proper check-up on the fulfilment of the plans they themselves had adopted.

"Misunderstandings usually arose where comrades concentrated on only one of the points put forward in the statement of the Government—concern for the working people—and failed to see the other side of the medal—unceasing concern for a constant increase in industrial and agricultural production."

The period of preparations for the recent elections to the National Committees, which was at the same time also the period of preparations for the Xth Congress of the Party, witnessed a considerable increase of the initiative and activity of the broad working masses who became even more convinced of the fact that in people's democratic Czechoslovakia they enjoy all democratic rights and are themselves the creators of their life. This was seen most strikingly in the large-scale socialist emulation, in the thousands of labour pledges undertaken in honour of the Xth Congress of the Party, the fulfilment of which will save billions of crowns for the national economy. "Rude Pravo" widely features the political and labour upsurge in the country. The paper published, for instance, a letter from the miners of the Ludvik coal mine in Ostrava-Radvanica, in which the miners took a pledge to produce 27,000 tons of coal in excess of plan before the Xth Congress, and to cut 50,000 tons of coal and lay out additional hundreds of metres of workings before the end of the year.

Miners of the Ostrava and other coalfields achieved significant successes in the pre-Congress emulation. The shock brigade headed by Comrade Szafarczyk cut a drift of 488 metres during February. In March this record was beaten by the shock brigade headed by E. Owcarzy, which cut a drift of 620 metres.

On May 25 the miners in the brigade headed by the Labour Order bearer Fr. Kosiņa, one of the best brigades in the Duchovsk Trust, reported that they had

in February and in April increased its production to 15,000 tons. In this connection "Rude Pravo" writes: "If 50 'Dónbas' combines were working at the level of productivity achieved by Krejci's brigade, the annual coal output of our country could be raised by one-third."

The workers of the Centrum mine in Jiretin pledged themselves to produce 22,974 tons of coal in excess of plan from the

RUDÉ PŘÁVO

beginning of this year but in fact, writes "Rude Pravo", they had already produced more than 24,000 tons above their planned assignment before the end of May.

In the Klement Gottwald "Nova Huta", the biggest construction of Socialism in Czechoslovakia, a heavy forge shop will be built and a big press put into operation. In honour of the Xth Party Congress the workers and employees in the forge shop decided to turn out production worth more than 3 million crowns above the plan before the end of the year.

Socialist emulation for increased production, for thrift and higher quality of goods turned out is under way at all industrial enterprises and in the countryside where thousands of pledges have also been taken. Leading agricultural producer co-operatives, state farms and individual peasants are doing their utmost to ensure an increase in yields and in the productivity of animal husbandry.

The pre-Congress emulation is marked by labour heroism and brilliant new innovations of the workers. "Rude Pravo" helps Party members to make this valuable initiative the property of all. The importance of this task, which however is insufficiently carried out in practice, was pointed out by the paper in the article "Make better use of initiative of masses". The author of the article Comrade B. Köhler, Secretary of the C.C., writes about an innovation of the workers of the V. I. Lenin plant which will help save one million kilowatt-hours a year and points to the need of backing up this experience in a practical way. What we need is not resolutions applauding this valuable innovation, writes the author, but live organisational work for a wider application of this innovation.

"Rude Pravo" features articles directing the attention of Party organisations to the solution of the main tasks of the Congress preparations. The paper particularly emphasises the significance of consistent compliance with the Party Rules and the need for further developing and improving political agitation to help rally the working people for the fulfilment of production plans. In preparing for the Congress, the paper has begun to pay more attention to the exchange of experiences in Party work. It has published an article devoted to the collective method practised in work of the Blovic district Party committee. By means of concrete examples "Rude Pravo" shows in this article the essence of collective Party leadership and stresses the principle of personal responsibility for carrying out Party tasks.

The strengthening of ideological work in all links of the Party is an important part of the preparations for the Xth Congress. "Rude Pravo" makes a contribution to the fulfilment of this task. During the past few weeks it has published articles on the alliance of the working class and the working peasantry, on the attitude towards small and middle peasants, on the role of the popular masses in history, on the

In the article "Role of popular masses in history", "Rude Pravo" writes that Party propaganda in the press and in lectures often committed mistakes when it underestimated the role of the masses and overestimated the role of certain individuals. The correct, scientific explanation of the role of the popular masses and of individuals in history is therefore of great importance for the entire work of the Party, from both the theoretical and practical point of view.

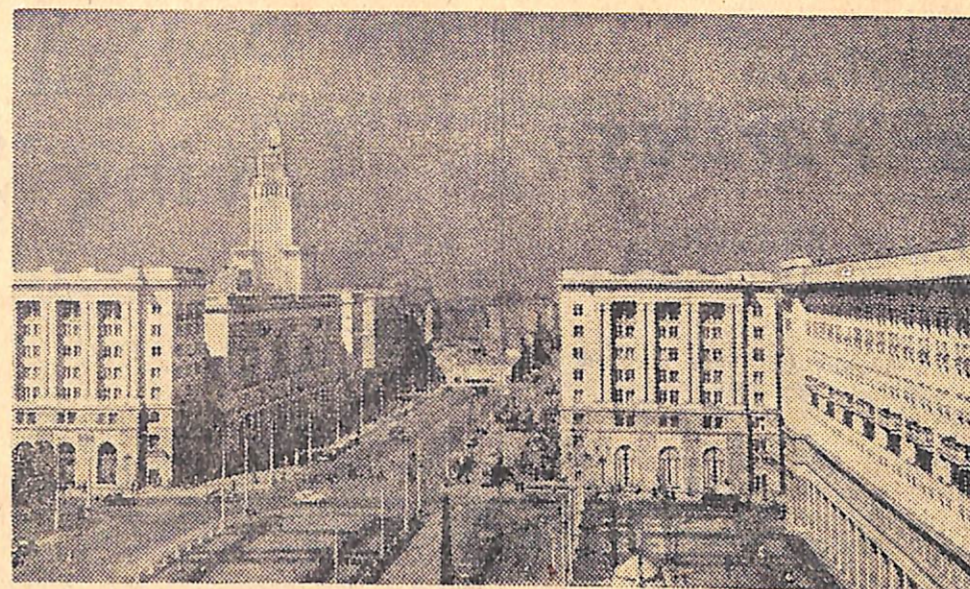
The consistent struggle against all types of bourgeois ideology which hostile imperialist propaganda and the remnants of the Czechoslovak bourgeoisie—both emigrés and those still living in the country—try to implant is an inseparable part of socialist education of the working people. The December Meeting of the C.C. stressed the need for uncompromising exposure of the true essence of Masarykism, which is the most widespread type of bourgeois ideology in Czechoslovakia. During the days of preparations for the Congress "Rude Pravo" published an article "Masarykism—ideology of pseudo-humanism and pseudo-democracy" which says: Masaryk's "philosophy of humanism" and his interpretation of democracy were aimed at hindering in every way possible the transfer of power by revolutionary means from the hands of the bourgeoisie into the hands of the proletariat. The article points out that hangovers of Masarykism are the ideological pillar of the enemies of the people and hamper the building of Socialism.

★

Since May 23, when the Party press published the draft "Directives of the Xth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia on the essential increase in agricultural production within the next 2 or 3 years" which "at present is one of the main tasks of the Party", active discussion of this important document has developed in the regional and district Party committees and at the meetings of Party branches. In connection with this the paper published a number of articles in which the workers in agriculture wrote about what they were doing and what they had decided to do within the next few months for further developing agriculture. In his article entitled "In struggle for developing collective farming" A. Zuzr, chairman of the agricultural producer co-operative in Staro Mesto (Jicin district), writes that the Party and the Government express the vital interests of the people, "the proof of which is also the draft directives of the Xth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia. In the course of the spring field works we are therefore devoting all our attention to our fields in order to increase the yields. As for sugar beet, each of us will cultivate his plot right up to the harvest in order to obtain an average of 33 tons per hectare."

According to the draft directives by 1957 the amount of land ploughed annually by each tractor must be increased to an average of 342 hectares. However, even now the people in the countryside are advancing higher tasks. For instance, J. Kral, agronomist in a section of the Micechvosly MTS, writes to the paper: "Our tractor team is organising its work in such a way that even this year each tractor can plough, on the average, at least 400 hectares."

The warm approval and high sense of responsibility with which Communists and all working people of Czechoslovakia greeted the draft "Directives of the Xth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia on the essential increase in agricultural production within the next 2 or 3 years" and the close attention paid everywhere in the discussion to this important Party document, as well as the vigorous participa-



More and more new dwelling houses with all modern conveniences are appearing in the streets of Warsaw, capital of people's Poland. Photo: View of the rebuilt Marszalkowska Street and the J. V. Stalin Palace of Culture and Science now under construction.

GENEVA CONFERENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTERS

The Conference continued its work at Geneva from May 28 to June 3.

On May 28 the delegations participating in the discussion of the Korean question met at their regular plenary session after an interval of five days. A. Eden presided.

The speech made by Bedell Smith, the US representative, at this meeting was further confirmation of the reluctance of the US delegation to make a contribution to the solution of the Korean question on the basis of recognising the national rights of the Korean people; it provided further evidence of the attempts of the USA to achieve at the Geneva Conference what it failed to attain by armed aggression against the Korean people.

Smith's entire speech was a monotonous reiteration of the false arguments by which the USA and the delegations in its wake are attempting to force on the Korean people the unlawful decisions on the Korean question adopted by the General Assembly of Uno.

The representatives of Colombia, Turkey, Thailand, Greece and Australia took up the same position at the meeting as the American diplomats, who do not want a peaceful settlement of the Korean question and the establishment of a united, independent and democratic Korean state.

Police Persecution in Western Germany

The Adenauer clique has recently launched a new campaign of police persecution directed first of all against the Communist Party of Germany. Using nazi-like methods the Bonn police arrested members of the Board of the Party—Comrades Fritz Rische, Walter Fisch, Richard Scheringer, Karl Zemke—as well as some other leading functionaries. Simultaneously the police in Western Germany searched the homes of well-known patriots and champions of peace. In the city of Karlsruhe the police confiscated copies of the "Communist Manifesto" and pamphlets containing the text of the Potsdam decisions.

On the occasion of the unlawful arrest of the prominent Party leaders the Secretariat of the Board of the Communist Party

The following communique was published on May 29 after the meeting of the nine delegations who continued discussion on the restoration of peace in Indo-China:

The nine delegations met at a restricted meeting on May 29 and continued discussion on the restoration of peace in Indo-China. The meeting adopted the following proposal made by the United Kingdom delegation:

In order to promote the speedy and simultaneous cessation of hostilities it is proposed that:

- Representatives of the two commands should meet immediately in Geneva, and contact should be established on the spot.
- They should study the dispositions of forces to be made upon the cessation of hostilities, beginning with the question of regrouping areas in Viet Nam.
- They should report their findings and recommendations to the Conference as soon as possible.

It was agreed that the date of the first meeting of representatives of the two commands in Geneva would be determined by June 1.

Closed meetings were held on May 31 and June 2 and 3 at which discussion on the restoration of peace in Indo-China was continued.

of Germany issued a statement demanding that the terror against honest German patriots be stopped. The statement reads in part:

"This new wave of terror began at a moment when the American policy 'from positions of strength', the policy of atomic threats and war provocations, is more and more obviously suffering fiasco... The bitter experience of our people teaches us: weak governments resort to means of terror in order to suppress freedom of thought, they resort to the means of persecutions and violation of the law."

A number of factory councils and many trade unionists in Western Germany have protested to the Bonn authorities against the unlawful arrests, demanding the release of the victims of the police terror.

Dire Plight of Working People in Pakistan

Over a period of some months a special commission appointed by the Government of the Sind province carried out an investigation of the living conditions of the population in this province. The Commis-

lators of the province are landless peasants. Some 9,000,000 of the 11,100,000 acres of arable land are owned by landlords, while 500,000 peasants possess only 2,000,000

POLITICAL NOTES

Campaign of Slander and Threats Against Guatemala

Attacks on the democratic system in Guatemala have been greatly intensified of late in the US. Diplomats, congressmen and senators, the vernal imperialist press and, of course, Mr. Dulles are participating in the campaign of lies and threats against Guatemala. With one voice they keep on talking about the "threat to democracy" and about the "Communist danger" emanating, so they say, from Guatemala.

The Latin American menials of the American monopolies have also joined the chorus of calumniators. The rulers of Honduras are shouting from the housetops that the 70,000-strong strike of the working people of Honduras against the colonial arbitrariness of the United Fruit Company was inspired by "agents" from Guatemala. The Government of Nicaragua has broken off diplomatic relations with Guatemala presumably on the grounds that the latter was allegedly "spreading propaganda"; Mr. Facio, the Costa-Rican Ambassador in the USA, is calling for "resolute action to stop the threats to democracy and freedom..."

Precisely what "resolute action" is in question may be seen from a France Press Agency report. At the end of May this agency reported from Washington that the USA was insisting that the governments of all the Latin American countries should "as soon as possible" express their views on the "programme of action" against Guatemala devised by leading circles in the USA. This programme, according to the agency, includes four items: 1) Breaking off diplomatic relations; 2) Breaking off consular relations; 3) Economic sanctions and naval blockade; 4) Military intervention.

The American press reports that the US has begun big deliveries of arms to the countries neighbouring on Guatemala.

Why have the US ruling circles adopted such a position in relation to Guatemala?

It is not difficult, of course, as Mr. Dulles does, to call the Government of Guatemala "Communist", but the obvious inconsistency of such an allegation with the facts is clear to anyone with even the minimum of impartiality, who wishes to find out what is happening in Guatemala. There are also very few simpletons in the world who are prepared to believe that Guatemala is "threatening" the Panama Canal.

The point is that with the coming to power of the Government of President Arbenz, which has carried out a number of democratic and progressive reforms, one of the biggest American monopolies, the United Fruit Company, was deprived of the opportunity of bossing the country at will. The Arbenz Government confiscated land which belonged to this company and which was not cultivated, divided it amongst labourers and peasants with small plots and compelled the United Fruit Company to respect the laws of the country. This circumstance started a rumpus among the American monopolists and ruling circles of the USA. They saw a dangerous precedent in the fact that the people of one of the Latin American countries have dared to live by their own brains without regard to the interests and plans of the American monopolies.

At the tenth Pan-American Conference in Caracas the US dictated their notorious anti-Communist resolution spearheaded against Guatemala. The "New York Times", letting the cat out of the bag about the impatience of the American imperialists, stated soon after the Caracas Conference that the trouble was that although the resolution had been adopted and the conference was over, the situation in Guatemala remained unchanged.

Yes, the situation "remains unchanged"... The people of Guatemala are determined to defend their freedom and independence. They enjoy the growing support and solidarity of all the peoples of Latin America and the entire world.

lections to the National Committees, which was at the same time also the period of preparations for the Xth Congress of the Party, witnessed a considerable increase of the initiative and activity of the broad working masses who became even more convinced of the fact that in people's democratic Czechoslovakia they enjoy all democratic rights and are themselves the creators of their life. This was seen most strikingly in the large-scale socialist emulation, in the thousands of labour pledges undertaken in honour of the Xth Congress of the Party, the fulfilment of which will save billions of crowns for the national economy. "Rude Pravo" widely features the political and labour upsurge in the country. The paper published, for instance, a letter from the miners of the Ludvik coal mine in Ostrava-Radvanica, in which the miners took a pledge to produce 27,000 tons of coal in excess of plan before the Xth Congress, and to cut 50,600 tons of coal and lay out additional hundreds of metres of workings before the end of the year.

Miners of the Ostrava and other coal-fields achieved significant successes in the pre-Congress emulation. The shock brigade headed by Comrade Szafarczyk cut a drift of 488 metres during February. In March this record was beaten by the shock brigade headed by E. Owcarzy, which cut a drift of 620 metres.

On May 25 the miners in the brigade headed by the Labour Order bearer Fr. Kosina, one of the best brigades in the Duch-covsk Trust, reported that they had over-fulfilled their pledge according to which the brigade should cut a drift of 3,000 metres before the Xth Congress. Working with a Soviet coal combine the shock brigade led by V. Krejci produced 11,200 tons of coal

of this innovation.

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Over a period of some months a special commission appointed by the Government of the Sind province carried out an investigation of the living conditions of the population in this province. The Commission recently finished its work and produced a preliminary report.

The facts cited in the report give a picture of the exceptionally hard conditions of the working people. Nearly 2,600,000 people or 75 per cent of the entire popu-

lation of the province are landless peasants. Some 9,000,000 of the 11,100,000 acres of arable land are owned by landlords, while 500,000 peasants possess only 2,000,000 acres of land. The peasants are doomed to hunger, poverty and ignorance. The literacy rate among the rural population is no higher than 3 per cent.

The conditions of the working people in other provinces are no better.

BOOK REVIEW

Colonisers Exposed

Joop Wolff's Book "From the Land of a Thousand Islands"*

In their press statements as well as in their speeches in Uno and at various international conferences representatives of the Dutch ruling circles constantly assert that following the end of World War II the people of Indonesia have been granted "complete freedom" and that they are no longer oppressed by foreign monopolies. These fairy tales of the Dutch colonisers, persistently backed up by the US and British imperialist circles, were more than once exposed by many progressive figures and organisations of the Indonesian people. A further exposure of these falsehoods was recently made by J. Wolff, leading Dutch tradé unionist, in his book "From the Land of a Thousand Islands" published by the Amsterdam Publishing House "PEGASUS".



As one of the two delegates of the "mission of good will" of the Dutch people to the Indonesian trade unions at the end of 1952, Wolff visited enterprises employing Indonesian workers, many working-class settlements—"kampongs" notorious for their poverty. He also visited the miserable huts of peasants, talked with rank and file as well as with leaders of the majority of the trade unions and with representatives of various political parties in Indonesia. On the basis of a rich factual material collected in this way J. Wolff came to the conclusion that "Dutch imperialism still rules Indonesia"

* "Uit Het Rijk Der 1000 Eitanden", Joop Wolff. Uitgeverij PEGASUS, Amsterdam 1954.

and continues to bring countless hardships and privations to the people of Indonesia.

Already after his brief acquaintance with the life of the Indonesian people the author was struck by the appalling poverty of the popular masses. "Here there is everything man needs, above or below the richest countries in the world. But when one enters the kampongs or the dessa's (villages) where the people live, one is impressed by their poverty." "One of the poorest peoples is living in one of the richest countries on earth", the author exclaims regretfully.

During his numerous trips through the country the author saw for himself that the riches of this country are still enjoyed mainly by foreign monopolies, and by the Dutch monopolies in the first place. Every day dozens of ships belonging to foreign monopolies leave Indonesian ports loaded with rice, cocoa, tea, cane-sugar, palm oil and other agricultural produce. At the same time nearly all peasants—the producers of these valuables—"have large debts, so that they are bound hand and foot to the usurers and landlords". In 1951 the profits of the Dutch monopolies in Indonesia surpassed the 1929 level—a peak year for Dutch imperialism. The sum extracted in 1953 by the foreign monopolies operating in Indonesia in the form of "invisibles" alone exceeded 2,300 million rupiahs, that is a sum nearly equal to the total budget deficit of the Indonesian Republic in the same year. At the same time according to the grossly underestimated data of

the Indonesian Bureau of Statistics the average wage of the native worker is sufficient to cover only one-sixth of his most necessary expenditure. Many even bourgeois Indonesian newspapers admit that one-fifth of the population suffers from chronic malnutrition.

On the basis of numerous examples the author shows that the contrast between the poverty of the native population and the wealth of the foreign enslavers of this country is common literally to all cities and towns. In Djakarta, for example, in one part of the town are the beggerly kampongs with small huts of bamboo—here the people live; in another part of the town are splendid new districts where the "houses look more like palaces"—here foreign businessmen, prominent employees of foreign trusts and high-ranking civil servants live.

At night, when in the palace-like houses of the foreigners wine flows and music sounds, on the Taman Tjut Mutian Square, at the pedestal of the monument to Van Heutsz—one of the first Dutch colonisers—on the bare ground "many tens of people are lying asleep, men, women and children who have no other place to go to". In Palembang, one of the most beautiful towns in Indonesia, the town which has been sung about by many poets, 30,000 inhabitants have to live beneath the houses, between the poles, in the mud. There are 34,000 inhabitants with no house at all; 10 to 20 per cent of the town's population suffer from tuberculosis. For the population of 300,000 there is only one hospital.

After visiting various parts of the country the author writes: "Although the climate is very different from ours and the country and the people don't look the same at all, now and then we imagine ourselves to be in Holland." In the harbour Tandjong Priok,

for instance, everything reminds one of Holland. On the big stone walls, on the long sheds and booths the names of the same firms are painted in large, insolent letters. "Announcements are made by loud speakers in the Dutch language. The management of the whole harbour is in the hands of Dutch shipping companies. It is a small state, completely surrounded by military police, who admit no one unless he has a special pass..." And it's the same in all the big ports.

In Tandjong Priok he visited a kampong which is "the property of the three biggest Dutch shipping companies". Some 14,000 people live in the kampong in incredible poverty. In rooms of two by two metres, called "chicken coops" by the workers, 7 people have to live. There is one tap in the kampong which provides water from 4 till 7 each morning. During these three hours 14,000 people must get water. And this is in a tropical climate! "Is it to be wondered that the Indonesian workers living here hate the Dutch businessmen", the author exclaims.

The riches of Indonesia are also attracting American and British imperialists like flies round a jam-pot. "Strategic materials like oil, tin and bauxite are mainly in the hands of the Americans", writes the author. The Americans are gaining control over the extraction of uranium in West-Irian. "This explains why the Americans are in favour of the Dutch occupation of this important territory."

Before embarking on his "mission of good will" Wolff studied in detail the history of the life and struggle of the Indonesian people. It helped him to see that notwithstanding all this the present situation in Indonesia radically differs from that of the prewar years; that the people of Indonesia not only do not wish to live in the old way, they have learnt to fight for their rights. The peasants of Sumatra, for example, categorically refuse to return to the foreign companies the land they took over during the days of the 1945 revolution. The author witnessed

how peasants in the region of Langkat put to flight the representatives of the Deli-Planters Company who arrived under the protection of soldiers to evict the entire population of the village. "Such incidents are happening again and again in the apparently quiet territory of Northern Sumatra", writes the author, "they are part of the fight for the riches of this island." The workers of the Pangkalan Brandan oil field continue to work it, refusing to return the enterprises back to the Dutch. "That's a settled question for them", concluded the author after a talk with the workers.

"Many people", writes Wolff, "fail to understand the influence which the August revolution (1945) has had on the consciousness of the Indonesian population. The foreign imperialists and their Indonesian accomplices come in contact with it at every step; the whole thoughts of the people have been revolutionised. So it is almost impossible for the imperialists to execute their colonial measures directly and without any camouflage." On the island of Java, especially in its western part, the Dutch, British and American imperialists, for example, to further their interests are giving every kind of support to the armed gangs of local reactionaries (Darul Islam group), which are terrorising the population. They are doing this in order, firstly, to "intimidate... the peasant population on West Java where there are very large foreign enterprises" and "to prevent the masses of peasants from organising still more" in their struggle for land; secondly, the chaos caused by the terrorist gangs "can always be used as a pretext for foreign, especially Dutch, intervention. It is possible to say: the Indonesians can't manage, we have to help".

But the popular masses are ever more resolutely resisting the foreign oppressors. In the struggle against the foreign colonisers and their Indonesian accomplices the unity of the working people is growing stronger and firmer; national progressive organisations are gaining in strength. The trade union amalgamation "SOBSI" now

ed Fruit Company, was deprived of the opportunity of bossing the country at will. The Arbenz Government confiscated land which belonged to this company and which was not cultivated, divided it amongst labourers and peasants with small plots and compelled the United Fruit Company to respect the laws of the country. This circumstance started a rumpus among the American monopolists and ruling circles of the USA. They saw a dangerous precedent in the fact that the people of one of the Latin American countries have dared to live by their own brains without regard to the interests and plans of the American monopolies.

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Yes, the situation "remains unchanged"... The people of Guatemala are determined to defend their freedom and independence. They enjoy the growing support and solidarity of all the peoples of Latin America and the entire world. The present attempts to accuse Guatemala of "aggressive action against her neighbours" in order that an open military intervention can be started against her are absolutely transparent. The whole of this undertaking too obviously bears the stamp "Made in USA".

Jan MAREK

unites 34 trade unions with nearly 2.5 million members. The past few years have witnessed the birth of peasant organisations which are becoming stronger and are fighting in unity with the workers. The membership of the Communist Party of Indonesia—the most staunch and consistent champion of the unity of the working people in the struggle against foreign domination, for genuine national independence—has grown considerably. Last year the united national front of all democratic, anti-imperialist and anti-feudal forces of the country ensured the coming to power of a government with a rather democratic programme.

"All groups of the population", writes the author, "display resistance to the colonial measures and customs which for centuries were considered normal and which the Dutch planters thought eternal and unchangeable. The colonial elements are now faced with a reality which they do not like very much."

"Away with Dutch colonisers!", "Full independence!"—these slogans the author saw in many towns and villages in Indonesia. The Dutch and other imperialists are seriously alarmed at this. "The loss of Indonesia with its 80 million inhabitants", says Wolff, "would be a destructive blow at the power of the imperialists in South-East Asia... No wonder the Dutch and other foreign imperialists pay so much attention to Indonesia."

Joop Wolff's book "From the Land of a Thousand Islands" is not only a document exposing the colonial yoke and the criminal policy pursued in Indonesia by the Dutch imperialists. It likewise helps the millionfold masses of the countries of South-East Asia and all peace supporters still better to understand the reason for the persistence with which the imperialist circles of the Western powers are endeavouring to arrest the development of the countries of this region and to suppress their desire for national independence.

V. MIKHAILOV

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