

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

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## IN INTERESTS OF PEACE AND WELL-BEING OF PEOPLES

The Communist and Workers' Parties, the leading and directing force of the countries of the socialist camp, in their policy and in all their work take as their starting point the vital interests of the popular masses and rely on their creative activity. Guided by the great teaching of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, the Communist and Workers' Parties are confidently leading the peoples of these countries along the pathway of powerful advance of the national economy and rapid blossoming of culture.

Great and indisputable are the economic and cultural achievements of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and all the countries of people's democracy. These achievements are a clear expression of the peaceful strivings of the peoples in the countries of the socialist camp. The reports about the fulfilment of the state economic plans for the first six months of the year vividly confirm that the peoples who have thrown off the yoke of the exploiters and have taken their fate into their own hands are possessed of inexhaustible creative energy, that the aim of the steady growth of socialist production is to ensure a constant rise in the well-being of the people.

Successfully translating into life the grand programme of Communist construction, the working people of the Soviet Union worked perseveringly during the past six months for the further development of heavy industry—the bedrock of the socialist economy—for carrying out the historical tasks advanced by the Party and the Government of securing a big advance by agriculture and a sharp improvement in the material well-being of the people.

The inspired labour of the Soviet people—builders of Communism—has yielded splendid results. In industry the half-year plan for gross output was fulfilled 102 per cent. This year, compared with the first half of 1953, overall output showed an increase of 14 per cent.

Output of all items vitally important to Communist construction is steadily rising in the Soviet Union—ferrous and non-ferrous metals, coal and oil, electric energy and first-class modern machines and equipment; significant quantities of mass-consumption goods were produced in excess of plan during the first six months, with the enterprises of light industry and the food industry increasing the output of high-quality goods which are most in demand by the population. The collective farms, MTS and state farms successfully carried out the spring sowing. The plan for the first six months was exceeded. The

first half of this year was fulfilled 102.8 per cent by socialist industry, 14 per cent more being produced than in the first half of 1953; the plan for sowing spring crops was overfulfilled. The gross output plans for industry were also overfulfilled in Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Rumania. Compared with the first six months last year, in Bulgaria, as in other countries of people's democracy, industrial production as a whole rose considerably and output of mass-consumption goods increased. In all these countries the spring sowing was conducted on a higher agro-technical level than was the case last year.

In all countries of the socialist camp there is an atmosphere of peaceful creative labour. Labour for the well-being and happiness of the people, in the name of progress and peace, such is the striving of the 900 million working people of the socialist camp today.

The consistent foreign policy of these countries is imbued with the noble ideas of peace and friendship between the peoples. The Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the countries of people's democracy are playing a vital role in the effort to ensure a stable peace, security for the peoples, and a lessening of the international tension.

In the statement issued by the Soviet Government about the Geneva Conference all mankind finds again and again the call for a peaceful settlement of all controversial and unsolved international problems. In this statement it is pointed out that the results of the Geneva Conference confirm the conviction of the Soviet Government that at the present time there is not a single outstanding question in international relations that cannot be solved by means of negotiations and agreements aimed at reinforcing international security, at easing the international tension and ensuring the peaceful co-existence of countries irrespective of their social system. Above all the Soviet Government calls for a final peace settlement in Korea, ending the arms drive and prohibiting atomic weapons, for collective security in Europe and for settling the German question on a peaceful, democratic basis.

Wide circles of international public opinion reacted with tremendous interest and understanding to the latest Note of the Soviet Government to the Governments of France, Great Britain and the United States concerning collective security in Europe. For the purpose of having an exchange of views on the question of creating a system of collective security in Europe the Soviet Government suggests

## S T A T E M E N T by the Soviet Government on the Geneva Conference

The Geneva Conference of Foreign Ministers, summoned in conformity with the decision of the Berlin Conference to examine the Korea and Indo-China questions, completed its work on July 21.

As a result of the Conference, which continued for almost three months, agreements have been signed which put an end to hostilities in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia. These agreements are designed to accomplish the important tasks connected with the restoration and consolidation of peace in Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia on the basis, as stated in the Final Declaration adopted by the participants in the Geneva Conference, of respecting the independence and sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of the three Indo-China states.

The cease-fire in Indo-China has opened up for the peoples of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia opportunities for economic and cultural progress in conditions of peace and at the same time lays the foundation for the development of friendly co-operation between them and France.

The decisions of the Geneva Conference prohibiting establishment of military bases by foreign states on the territory of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia and the obligations assumed by these three states not to enter into military alliances and not to allow themselves to be utilised for a resumption of hostilities or for purposes of an aggressive policy are vitally important.

The decision of the Geneva Conference on the holding of free elections in Viet Nam in July 1956 creates conditions for the national unification of Viet Nam in accordance with the national interests and aspirations of the entire Viet Nam people. This decision, adopted as a result of the persistent efforts of the democratic countries, signifies a defeat for those aggressive forces who sought to dismember Viet Nam with the object, thereafter, of converting South Viet Nam into one of the spring-boards of the projected new aggressive bloc in South-East Asia.

The agreement on holding general elections in Cambodia and Laos in the course of 1955, as stated in the Final Declaration, by means of secret ballot and observance of basic rights, is also of great significance.

It should be stated that the adoption of such important decisions was facilitated by the positive attitude of the French Government, dictated by the desire to act in accordance with the national interests of France and by the desire to take into account the interests of the peoples of Indo-China.

Notwithstanding certain reservations in the agreements signed at Geneva their enormous significance should not be underestimated, in particular, in view of the aforementioned circumstances and also because of the fact that the Geneva Conference succeeded in overcoming a number of difficulties which arose as a result of the attitude of the United States representatives who tried to prevent the work of the Conference being crowned with success. The United States showed no desire to participate jointly with France, Britain, the USSR, the People's Republic of China and other countries in the work of ensuring the restoration of peace in Indo-China. The Geneva agreements signify an important victory for the forces of peace and a serious defeat for the forces of war. At the same time the Geneva agreements constitute international recognition of the national-liberation struggle and of the great heroism displayed by the peoples of Indo-China in this struggle.

The fact of the Geneva Conference ending in agreements between the countries concerned provides further evidence of the fruitfulness of international negotiations, given goodwill by the parties concerned, evidence of the possibility of settling in this way major international issues still outstanding.

The Soviet Government welcomes the success achieved in Geneva in solving the highly important problem of restoring peace in Indo-China. The solving of this problem accords with the interests of the peoples who are upholding their freedom and national independence, and in equal measure, with the interests of all peace-loving peoples.

Along with the vital matter of securing a final peaceful settlement in Indo-China there is the urgent task of a final peaceful settlement in Korea.

The Soviet Government and the Governments of the People's Republic of China and of the Korean People's Democratic Republic, which earlier displayed noble initiative in the matter of bringing about a cease-fire in Korea, exerted every effort at the Geneva Conference to achieve a successful solution of the Korean question. However, as is known, the Geneva Conference failed to register positive results on this question owing to the obstacles put up by some delegations and chiefly by the United States delegation. The Soviet Government considers it imperative to ensure an early solution of the Korean problem in the interests of the national unification of Korea and in the interests of safeguarding peace in Asia and throughout the world.

The results of the Geneva Conference confirm the belief of the Soviet Government that at present there are no outstanding questions in international relations which could not be settled through negotiation and agreements designed to strengthen international security, to lessen international tension and ensure peaceful co-existence of the countries irrespective of social system.

The Geneva Conference and the results of its labours have shown the important role of the great Chinese people and their state—the People's Republic of China—in settling controversial international issues. The role of the People's Republic of China at the Geneva Conference is further proof of its influence and international prestige as a Great Power. At the same time the Geneva Conference has shown once again that the attempts by the aggressive circles of some countries, of the United States above all, to prevent the People's Republic of China from participating in solving the vital international problems are in complete contradiction to the interests of strengthening peace.

The Soviet Government considers that the agreements on the cease-fire and the restoration of peace in Indo-China reached at the Geneva Conference, by helping to lessen international tension, create favourable conditions for settling other unsolved vital international questions pertaining not only to Asia but also to Europe and, above all, such questions as ending the armaments drive and banning atomic weapons, ensuring collective security in Europe and settling the German question on a peaceful, democratic basis.

Steadfastly pursuing its policy of peace, the Soviet Government declares that it will continue, with the utmost persistence and determination, its efforts to secure a successful solution of these questions, since this would undoubtedly be a big step towards easing the international tension and strengthening peace and international co-operation.

## Big Step Towards Strengthening Peace

WORLD PUBLIC WELCOMES GENEVA AGREEMENTS ON PEACE IN INDO-CHINA

The world public continues to comment widely on the Geneva agreements on the restoration of peace in Indo-China. In numerous press comments and the statements of prominent personalities and statesmen from various countries the idea is generally recognised that now that the task of bringing peace to Indo-China has been successfully accomplished, favourable conditions are being created for the settlement of other im-

portant international problems. The stresses, is a triumph of the peace forces over war, a triumph of bold and patient negotiations. Only the U.S.A. stands aloof, adopting an attitude of fear and suspicion bordering on hysteria. The recognition of China as one of the five big powers and her admittance to Uno, the newspaper writes, will be the best guarantee of peace there has ever been in Asia.

The results of the Geneva Conference have been welcomed in other Asian

countries. Polish newspaper "Trybuna Ludu" emphasises that the security pact proposed by the USSR in the first place envisages that all European states undertake joint effort to prevent the resurgence of aggressive forces in Germany; second, it creates a favourable atmosphere for unifying Germany as a peace-loving and democratic state; third, it foresees collective aid for any victim of aggression in the event of an attack. The Rumanian newspaper

political come-down as a result of the Indo-China cease-fire. Denny, commentator of the Scripps-Howard newspaper concern, even went so far as to call the agreements on Indo-China "a catastrophe". He rudely castigates France for refusing to continue the hopeless colonial war in Indo-China and agreeing to an armistice in defiance of U.S. pressure. Baldwin, a correspondent of the "New York Times" also calls the peaceful settlement in Indo-China a defeat

programme of Communist construction, the working people of the Soviet Union worked perseveringly during the past six months for the further development of heavy industry—the bedrock of the socialist economy—for carrying out the historical tasks advanced by the Party and the Government of securing a big advance by agriculture and a sharp improvement in the material well-being of the people.

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The USSR has registered new significant success in the development of home and foreign trade, education and health services. The number of factory and office workers has increased considerably. The latest price cut for foodstuffs and manufactured goods, the seventh since the abolition of rationing, ensured the further strengthening of the rouble and a higher standard of living for the working people.

In the People's Republic of China the first Five-Year National Economic Plan is being carried out successfully. This year—the second year of the Plan—overall output of industry and agriculture is anticipated to increase by 12.6 per cent compared with 1953, with overall industrial output showing an increase of 18.3 per cent. The tried and tested leadership of the Communist Party, the strengthening of the people's state, the fraternal aid from the USSR and the People's Democracies enable new China to solve successfully its big economic tasks.

The European countries of people's democracy are, likewise, marching along the road of socialist construction, along the road of developing the economy, ensuring a blossoming of culture and raising the standard of living of the working people. In the Polish People's Republic, for example, the plan for gross industrial output in the

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Wide circles of international public opinion reacted with tremendous interest and understanding to the latest Note of the Soviet Government to the Governments of France, Great Britain and the United States concerning collective security in Europe. For the purpose of having an exchange of views on the question of creating a system of collective security in Europe the Soviet Government suggests the holding within the next few months of a Conference of all European countries desirous of taking part, and also the United States of America. The Soviet Government considers it desirable that the People's Republic of China be represented by an observer at this Conference.

The peoples of Europe are becoming more and more convinced that European security can become a reality only in the form of collective security for the sovereign states of Europe. All the nations of Europe are vitally interested in collective security. The proposal of the Soviet Government acquires all the greater significance in view of the fact that the attempts directed by the United States at forming in Western Europe—allegedly for “defensive” purposes—closed military groupings of powers similar to the North Atlantic bloc and the so-called European Defence Community, constitute a serious threat to peace, since these attempts pursue the aim of reviving German militarism behind the screen of the “European Army” and of creating a hotbed of aggression and war in Europe.

Life has shown that there are healthy forces in the world and that these forces constitute the overwhelming majority of mankind. These forces are the popular masses; they stand for preserving and consolidating peace; they restrain the aggressors who are seeking to unleash a new war. These forces are active in all parts of the world. A grand, inspiring example for them are the new outstanding successes of the peace policy of the countries belonging to the camp of democracy and Socialism, headed by the Soviet Union, successes which brilliantly confirm that Socialism and democracy are invincible.

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Notwithstanding certain reservations in the agreements signed at Geneva their enormous significance should not be underestimated, in particular, in view of the aforementioned circumstances and also because of the fact that the Geneva Conference succeeded in overcoming a number of difficulties which arose as a result of the attitude of the United States representatives who tried to prevent the work of the Conference being crowned with success. The United States showed no desire to participate jointly with France, Britain, the USSR, the People's Republic of China and other countries in the work of ensuring the restoration of peace in Indo-China. The Geneva agreements signify an important victory for the forces of peace and a serious defeat for the forces of war. At the same time the Geneva agreements constitute international recognition of the national-liberation struggle and of the great heroism displayed by the peoples of Indo-China in this struggle.

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### Fresh Victory for the Principle of Negotiations and Peaceful Co-Existence

According to the unanimous opinion of the press in many countries the main result of the Geneva Conference is that it showed once more that complex international problems can be solved by means of peaceful negotiations and that differences in ideology need not be a hindrance to the establishment of mutual understanding and peace between different countries.

In an editorial comment on the signing of the agreements on the Indo-China question, the Chinese newspaper “Jenmingjhpao” wrote that the success of the Geneva Conference was “a fresh victory for the principle of peaceful negotiations and co-existence”. The newspaper pointed out that the successful solution of the Indo-China question had frustrated the insidious designs of the U.S. aggressive circles who were seeking to repeat the “Korean experiment” in Indo-China.

The ending of hostilities in Indo-China, points out another Chinese newspaper “Ta Kung Pao”, means the establishment of peace in South-East Asia—this extensive and rich area. This victory for the peace forces brings fresh inspiration to the Asian peoples in the struggle against the aggressive intrigues of U.S. ruling circles.

Publishing special statements by the French Communist Party, the National Peace Council, the General Confederation of Labour, the Union of Republican Youth of France and other organisations, the French newspaper “l'Humanité” demands a peaceful settlement of other controversial international questions. The same is also emphasised by the British “Daily Worker” which calls upon the British people to demand that their Government makes a contribution to the settlement of European problems. Widely featuring the results of the Geneva Conference the Italian newspaper “Unita” writes that the Conference dealt a deadly blow to the U.S. policy of interference in the domestic affairs of other countries.

In the opinion of the newspaper “Neues Deutschland” (German Democratic Republic) the Geneva Conference demonstrated the triumph of peace.

The Indian press appraises the results of the Geneva negotiations as an impressive victory for the peace forces. The cease-fire in Indo-China, the “Times of India”

stresses, is a triumph of the peace forces over war, a triumph of bold and patient negotiations. Only the U.S.A. stands aloof, adopting an attitude of fear and suspicion bordering on hysteria. The recognition of China as one of the five big powers and her admittance to Uno, the newspaper writes, will be the best guarantee of peace there has ever been in Asia.

The results of the Geneva Conference were highly evaluated in other Asian countries. The Indonesian newspaper “Sulu Indonesia”, for example, stresses that the “Geneva agreements testify to the victory of the peace forces over the forces of war”. “The success at Geneva”, the Pakistani newspaper “Imroze” writes, “is clear confirmation of the fact that the Communist and non-Communist countries can settle their disputes through negotiations and that co-existence is quite possible.”

### Towards Further Relaxation of International Tension

Broad public circles in all countries express their deep confidence that the success of the Geneva Conference will contribute to further relaxation of international tension. The Czechoslovak newspaper “Rude Pravo” justly noted that if it was possible to reach an agreement on such a difficult question as the ending of the war in Indo-China why therefore could not “the negotiations on the reunification of Germany and Korea be successfully completed and an agreement reached for prohibiting atomic and other weapons of mass destruction and for the gradual reduction of armaments and for disarmament?”

The other day the Indian newspaper “Hindustan Standard” stated in an editorial that the ending of the inhuman war as a result of negotiations meant an enormous relief not only for the peoples of Indo-China but also for other peoples in South-East Asia and for the French people. The newspaper expressed the hope that the success of the Geneva Conference would be a “good omen of peace and the relaxation of tension in other spheres as well”.

The British newspaper the “Daily Herald” wrote in its editorial that the Geneva Conference shows the way forward to genuine peace which is eagerly desired by tens of millions throughout the world.

### For Collective Security in Europe

In connection with the restoration of peace in Indo-China the press of various countries, above all in the European countries, again returns to the question of ensuring collective security in Europe. Broad circles of public opinion greeted the recent Soviet Note to the Governments of France, Britain and the U.S.A. on the question of collective security in Europe with tremendous interest and attention.

The press in the democratic countries enthusiastically hails the Soviet proposals for consolidating peace in Europe. The

aggressive circles of some countries, of the United States above all, to prevent the Republic of China from participating in solving the vital international problems are in complete contradiction to the interests of strengthening peace.

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Steadfastly pursuing its policy of peace, the Soviet Government declares that it will continue, with the utmost persistence and determination, its efforts to secure a successful solution of these questions, since this would undoubtedly be a big step towards easing the international tension and strengthening peace and international co-operation.

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The French newspaper “Le Monde”, commenting on the negotiations in Geneva on the Indo-China question, stated that from now on the opportunity exists for Europe “to find as many reasons for negotiations as was done in relation to Asia. The collective security plan proposed by Molotov could serve as a basis for fresh discussions”.

Broad sections of the public, taking a resolute stand against the formation of the “European Defence Community” and the revival of German militarism, point out that there is now a real possibility of solving the German problem, which is of such importance for the cause of peace in Europe and throughout the world.

### Annoyance and Discontent in the U.S.A.

Now, when broad sections of the public throughout the world are voicing their profound satisfaction that hostilities in Indo-China have ceased, American propaganda frankly admits that the U.S.A. is dissatisfied with the decisions adopted by the Geneva Conference on the Indo-China question. The Government, comments a correspondent of the “New York Herald Tribune”, heard the news of the armistice in Indo-China with a marked lack of enthusiasm. Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, remarked, according to the “New York Times”, that the U.S. regrets many aspects of this decision and Wilson, U.S. Defence Secretary, declared that he experienced no great delight in this connection.

It is the opinion of many American newspapers that the U.S. policy in South-East Asia has suffered a great moral and

political come-down as a result of the Indo-China cease-fire. Denny, commentator of the Scripps-Howard newspaper concern, even went so far as to call the agreements on Indo-China “a catastrophe”. He rudely castigates France for refusing to continue the hopeless colonial war in Indo-China and agreeing to an armistice in defiance of U.S. pressure. Baldwin, a correspondent of the “New York Times” also calls the peaceful settlement in Indo-China a defeat for the U.S.A., and Hightower, an Associated Press correspondent, points out that the U.S.A. has lost a big battle on the Indo-China question.

The end of the war in Indo-China evoked alarm among the American monopolies. The “Wall Street Journal”, organ of the big stock exchange men, recently wrote, with some cynicism, that there were many in Wall Street who feared that the signing of the Indo-China truce might mean less expenditure for arms production in the U.S.A.

The crude attacks which political figures and the bourgeois press in the U.S. are making on the Geneva agreements on the Indo-China question reveal not only the annoyance and discontent of U.S. aggressive circles, but also their intention to continue to oppose the relaxation of international tension with any and every means.

### No Violations of the Truce

To strengthen peace in Indo-China and thereby throughout Asia, all countries responsible must ensure the implementation of the agreements that have been reached and the observance of democracy and unity in all the Indo-China states, and frustrate any attempts to violate peace.

The Chinese newspaper “Jenmingjhpao” writes in this connection that the Government and people of China fully approve and support the agreements concluded in Geneva on Indo-China and together with the peace-loving peoples and states throughout the world will, with full assurance of success, strive for their consistent implementation, continuing the fight against the U.S. “positions of strength” policy, the fight for preserving and strengthening peace throughout the world.

The Indian press, assessing the victory of the ideas of peace at the Geneva Conference, calls on the peoples of all countries and, first and foremost, on the peoples of Asia to exercise vigilance, emphasising that far from all the problems menacing the security of Asia have been solved. The newspapers point, for instance, to the serious danger which the continued attempts of the U.S.A. to form an aggressive military bloc in South-East Asia represent for the Asian peoples.

The peoples of the world look toward the future with hope. The success of the Geneva Conference imbues them with confidence that the peace-loving forces in all countries will triumph over the forces of war, that the policy of peace will be victorious throughout the world.

## To Comrade HO CHI MINH

### President and Chairman of the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR and the Council of Ministers of the USSR extend friendly congratulations to the people of Viet Nam and the Government of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and you personally, Comrade Ho Chi Minh, on the occasion of the agreement reached in Geneva for a cease-fire and restoration of peace in Indo-China.

The Geneva agreements are an important victory for the forces of peace, and, at the same time, recognition of the selfless struggle of the people of Viet Nam for freedom and national independence.

The Soviet people and the Soviet Government greet the heroic people of Viet Nam and their Government and send their best wishes for early rehabilitation of the country and success in the sphere of its economic and cultural development in conditions of peace.

PRESIDIUM OF THE SUPREME SOVIET OF THE USSR

COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE USSR

# RESULTS OF FULFILMENT OF STATE PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL ECONOMY OF USSR IN FIRST HALF OF 1954

Report by Central Statistical Board of Council of Ministers of the USSR

The development of industry, agriculture, transport and capital construction, the expansion of home and foreign trade, the increase in the number of factory and office workers and the amount of cultural construction in the first half of 1954 are indicated by the following data:

## I. FULFILMENT OF INDUSTRIAL PRODUCTION PLAN

The plan for the first half of 1954 for gross output of industry as a whole was fulfilled 102 per cent. The various Ministries fulfilled their gross output plans as follows (given in percentages of the six-month plan for 1954):

Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR	100.5
Ministry of the Non-Ferrous Metallurgy of the USSR	102
Ministry of the Coal Industry of the USSR	101
Ministry of the Oil Industry of the USSR	101
Ministry of the Chemical Industry	103
Ministry of Electric Power Stations	104
Ministry of the Electro-Technical Industry	104
Ministry of the Radio-Technical Industry	105
Ministry of the Heavy Machine-Building Industry	103
Ministry of the Machine-Tool and Toolmaking Industry	103
Ministry of the Transport Machinery Industry	100.7
Ministry of the Motor, Tractor and Agricultural Machinery Industry	105
Ministry of the Machine and Instrument Making Industry	104
Ministry of the Building and Road-Building Machinery Industry	102
Ministry of the Building Materials Industry of the USSR	104
Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR	96
Ministry of the Paper and Woodworking Industry	101
Ministry of the Consumer Goods Industry of the USSR	104
Ministry of the Food Industry of the USSR	103
Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR	96
Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Products Industry of the USSR	90
Industrial enterprises of the Ministry of Railways	104
Industrial enterprises of the Ministry of Culture of the USSR	106
Industrial enterprises of the Ministry of Public Health of the USSR	105
Ministries of Local and Fuel Industry and Ministries of Local Industry of the Union Republics	105
Producer Co-operatives	105

Gross output of the whole of industry showed an increase of 14 per cent as compared with the corresponding period of the previous year, which in its turn was 10 per cent more than in the first half of 1952.

1954 saw a further development of heavy industry and steady rise in the output of articles of mass consumption.

The first six-month plan was overfulfilled as regards the output of coal, oil, natural gas, rolled metal, steel tubing, zinc, aluminium, various kinds of cable items, petrol, lignite, diesel fuel, electric power, mainline locomotives, lorries and coaches, motor cycles, ball and roller bearings, excavators, tractor-drawn bulldozers, metal-cutting machine tools, tractors, potato-planting machines for square-cluster planting, tractor-drawn seeders, sugar-beet harvesting combines, winnowing machines, self-propelled mowing machines, potato-picking combines, cotton-picking machines, compound threshing machines, electric light bulbs, electric vacuum equipment, mineral fertilisers, chemicals for combating agricultural pests and weeds, caustic soda, dyes and other chemicals, synthetic rubber, motor tyres, cement, roofing slate, window glass, paper, alcohol and other items of production.

The plan for the first half of 1954 has also been overfulfilled as regards the production of mass-consumption goods: cotton, linen, woollen and silk fabrics, rubber footwear, hosiery, wireless sets, watches and clocks, upright and grand pianos, confectionery, tea, grape wines, champagne, cigarettes, matches, soap and other manufactured goods and foodstuffs.

The majority of Ministries and industry overfulfilled the plan as a whole but did not take the necessary steps to ensure the fulfilment of the assignments set by the plan for the output of certain industrial products. For instance, the Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry failed to reach completely the target for pig iron, the Ministry of the Electro-Technical Industry—for certain kinds of generators and electric motors and the Ministry of the Heavy Machine-Building Industry—for steam turbines and oil equipment; the Ministry of the Transport Machinery Industry has not quite fulfilled the plan for freight cars nor the Ministry of the Motor, Tractor and Agricultural Machinery Industry for cars and some agricultural machines; the Ministry of the Machine and Instrument Making Industry—the plan for the production of chemical equipment and some kinds of textile machinery; the Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR—the plan for the haulage of timber and the Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR failed to fulfil the plan for the fish catch.

While there was a certain improvement in the quality of consumer goods, many enterprises of the Ministry of the Consumer Goods Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Food Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Products Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR and particularly the enterprises of local and co-operative industry still do not strive hard enough to ensure high-quality products with a good finish, violate the established technology of production and continue to turn out some goods of poor quality and assortment that do not meet the requirements of the population.

In many enterprises, particularly engineering factories, output over the month continued to be uneven; during the first ten days of the month they function at a lower level than during the rest of the month. Such uneven output led to equipment standing idle for a considerable period and to wastage of resources.

There was a considerable increase in the output of goods for cultural and everyday needs, including household goods, in the heavy industries in the first half of 1954. Although the Ministry of the Motor, Tractor and Agricultural Machinery Industry, the Ministry of the Machine and Instrument Making Industry, the Ministry of the Heavy Machine-Building Industry, the Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR and the Ministry of the Paper and Woodworking Industry increased the output of manufactured consumer goods, they failed to achieve their target for the manufacture of a number of items.

In the first six months of 1954 the factories of light industry and the food industry increased the output of high quality goods most in demand among the population. For instance, while the output of cotton fabrics increased 3 per cent as compared with the first half of 1953, that of multi-colour cotton fabrics increased 2.1 times and furnishing fabrics 36 per cent; while the total output of woollen textiles rose 19 per cent, output of pure woollen worsteds increased 2.2 times, and of fine woollen fabrics 3.5 times; while the output of socks and stockings increased as a whole by 10 per cent, output of "capron" socks and stockings went up 28 per cent and woollen and semi-woollen socks and stockings 48 per cent; while the output of knitted underwear in general increased 17 per cent, output of artificial silk underwear rose 44 per cent; while the output of knitted outer garments increased by 12 per cent, output of those made of pure wool rose 88 per cent; with a 10 per cent increase in the output of leather footwear, that of smart footwear went up 19 per cent. The output of better packed foodstuffs has also increased.

Greater efficiency was achieved in the utilisation of industrial equipment, raw materials and fuel. In the enterprises of the Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR utilisation of the useful capacity of blast furnaces has improved 2 per cent in the past six months as compared with the first half of 1953, while the production of steel per square metre of open-hearth furnace increased by 3 per cent. The productivity of the "Donbas" coal-cutting combines, the coal and rock-loading machines in the mines of the Ministry of the Coal Industry of the USSR was higher than in the first half of 1953. At the enterprises of the Ministry of the Oil Industry of the USSR the percentage of refined oil products extracted from crude oil has increased. In the enterprises of the Ministry of Electric Power Stations the fuel consumption per unit of electric power produced has been cut. At the enterprises of the Ministry of the Building Materials Industry of the USSR the productivity of cement kilns and cement manufacturing mills increased as against the first half of 1953. The factories of the cotton, wool, flax and silk industries have improved the use of industrial equipment.

At the same time industry has not as yet made full use of the production capacities at its disposal. Blast and open-hearth furnaces and rolling mills in the iron and steel industry are idle for considerable periods, a great deal of drilling time is lost in the oil industry, basic technological equipment is left idle in the building materials industry for periods not envisaged by the plan, unsatisfactory use is made of the available mechanisms in timber felling, machine tool and forge-press equipment is inadequately used in the engineering factories.

Certain Ministries do not do enough to introduce and make use of up-to-date techniques and do not fulfil the targets set by the plan for mechanisation of labour-consuming processes. The Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR is slow in introducing modern technique and technology in production thereby failing to use the available possibilities for a considerable increase in the productivity of blast and steel furnaces; the Ministry of the Coal Industry of the USSR makes insufficient use of mining technique and does not fulfil the target for cyclic organisation of work in drifts; the Ministry of the Oil Industry of the USSR is not doing enough to introduce advanced, more effective methods of oil extraction and is slow in mastering new methods of processing oil products; the Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR falls short of the target for the standards laid down for the cyclic method of organisation of timber-felling and the target for timber hauling; machine-building factories do not fully achieve the targets for mastering and manufacturing new types of machines, mechanisms, apparatus and instruments; the Ministry of the Building Materials Industry of the USSR is slow in mastering production of new kinds of effective building materials and items that would cut down the cost of construction.

The production costs of industrial output were cut by over 3 per cent in the first six months of this year; however, the target set out in the plan for cutting production costs has not been fulfilled. The Ministry of the Coal Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of Transport Machinery Industry, the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Products Industry of the USSR have fallen short, to a considerable extent, of the target for cutting the cost of production.

## III. AGRICULTURE

The collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms successfully carried out the spring sowing. The plan for sowing spring crops was overfulfilled.

The collective and state farms planted to spring crops 9.5 million hectares more than in 1953. The area sown to spring grain crops increased by 6.4 million hectares, including an extension of 3.6 million hectares sown to spring wheat and 756,000 hectares to maize for grain. The area sown to cotton was extended by 354,000 hectares and more sugar-beet, sunflower and other oil crops, annual grasses, fodder roots and silo crops have been sown than last year. Although bigger areas were sown than last year the planned targets were not fully reached for planting potatoes and other vegetables, nor was the plan for sowing fibre flax quite fulfilled.

In the collective and state farms in the Kazakhstan, Siberia, Ural, Volga and North

The half-year plan for freight turnover as a whole was fulfilled 91 per cent by the Ministry of the Merchant Navy and Inland Waterway Transport and the turnover of sea-borne and river-borne freights increased during the first half of 1954 by 4 per cent compared with the corresponding period of 1953.

Sea-borne transport fulfilled the plan for cargo turnover 102 per cent, and the plan for cargo transportation 93 per cent. The inland waterways cargo turnover plan was fulfilled 82 per cent, and the plan for cargo transportation 87 per cent.

The Ministry of the Motor Transport and Highways of the USSR fulfilled the cargo turnover plan by 103 per cent and the plan for cargo transportation by 101 per cent. The plan for the carriage of passengers by buses was fulfilled 108 per cent. However, the target plan for carriage of passengers and cargoes by individual Ministries of the Motor Transport and Highways of the Union Republics was not reached.

## V. GROWTH OF CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

The volume of state capital investments during the first half-year of 1954 amounted to 114 per cent compared with the corresponding period in 1953. In the first six months of 1953 the volume of capital investments was 104 per cent of 1952.

Capital investment during the first half of this year, compared with 1953, was as follows: in the iron and steel industry—103 per cent, coal industry—123 per cent, electric power stations—118 per cent, machine-building—116 per cent, building materials industry—110 per cent, timber and paper industry—125 per cent, light industry and the food industry—148 per cent, transport—108 per cent, agriculture—153 per cent, trade—230 per cent.

During this period extensive work has been carried on in the building of houses, schools, public health centres, kindergartens, creches, pioneer camps, cinemas and other cultural and communal services establishments. The volume of capital investments in house construction during the first six months of this year amounted to 120 per cent against the same period in 1953.

Although capital construction has developed considerably, the half-year plan for capital investments and the putting into operation of production capacities in the national economy was not quite fulfilled. In particular, the plan was considerably underfulfilled by the Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Non-Ferrous Metallurgical Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Coal Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Oil Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Chemical Industry, the Ministry of the Machine-Tool and Toolmaking Industry, the Ministry of the Food Industry of the USSR and the Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR.

Although the Ministry of Agriculture of the USSR, the Ministry of State Farms of the USSR and the Ministry for Procurements have considerably increased capital investments, they, to a great extent, did not fulfil the plan for building installation works.

The Ministry of Construction of the USSR fulfilled installation work for the first six months of 1954 by 22 per cent more than for the corresponding period in 1953, and the Ministry of Construction of Metallurgical and Chemical Industry Plants by 10 per cent more; these Ministries, however, underfulfilled their half-year plan.

During the first half of the year much loss of time took place at many of the construction sites, and machinery and mechanisms were not utilised to the full; this was fluctuation of man-power, the fulfilment of assignments for reducing building costs was not ensured.

## VI. EXPANSION OF HOME AND FOREIGN TRADE

In the first half of 1954 Soviet trade continued to expand. The further rise in industrial and agricultural output, the higher labour productivity and lower cost of production enabled the Government, on April 1, 1954, to reduce state retail prices for manufactured goods and foodstuffs for the seventh time in succession since the abolition of rationing. The new price reduction contributed to a further strengthening of the Soviet rouble and to a further improvement in the standard of living of the population in our country.

In the past six months the population purchased in state and co-operative stores (in comparable prices) 21 per cent more goods than in the corresponding period for 1953; at the same time the co-operative retail trade in the countryside rose 32 per cent for the same period. The plan for retail trade by the network of state and co-operative trading organisations was overfulfilled in the first half of 1954.

Sales of various food items in the first half of 1954 compared with the corresponding period for 1953 increased as follows: meat products—30 per cent, fish products—24 per cent, butter—28 per cent, vegetable oil and fats—13 per cent, milk and dairy produce—21 per cent, sugar—14 per cent, confectionery—14 per cent, tea—19 per cent, citrus fruit—47 per cent.

Among the manufactured goods showing a significant increase in sales during the past six months compared with the corresponding period for 1953 are: cotton fabrics—19 per cent, silk fabrics—45 per cent, woollen fabrics—56 per cent, ready-made clothing—24 per cent, knitted goods—24 per cent, socks and stockings—31 per cent, leather footwear—15 per cent, clocks and watches—36 per cent, sewing machines—31 per cent, furniture—37 per cent, vacuum cleaners—more than fourfold, gramophones—33 per cent, television sets—more than double, radio sets—more than double, cameras—53 per cent, bicycles—29 per cent, motor cycles—65 per cent, automobiles—70 per cent, refrigerator's—nearly threefold and washing machines a tenfold increase.

The first six months of 1954 compared with the corresponding period for 1953 saw a considerable increase in retail sales of goods for production and household purposes: timber, cement, window glass, roofing slate, roofing felt, nails, roofing iron, and lathes to the collective farms.

production of mass-consumption goods: cotton, linen, woollen and silk fabrics, rubber footwear, hosiery, wireless sets, watches and clocks, upright and grand pianos, confectionery, tea, grape wines, champagne, cigarettes, matches, soap and other manufactured goods and foodstuffs.

The majority of Ministries and industry overfulfilled the plan as a whole but did not take the necessary steps to ensure the fulfilment of the assignments set by the plan for the output of certain industrial products. For instance, the Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry failed to reach completely the target for pig iron, the Ministry of the Electro-Technical Industry—for certain kinds of generators and electric motors and the Ministry of the Heavy Machine-Building Industry—for steam turbines and oil equipment; the Ministry of the Transport Machinery Industry has not quite fulfilled the plan for freight cars nor the Ministry of the Motor, Tractor and Agricultural Machinery Industry for cars and some agricultural machines; the Ministry of the Machine and Instrument Making Industry—the plan for the production of chemical equipment and some kinds of textile machinery; the Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR—the plan for the haulage of timber and the Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR failed to fulfil the plan for the fish catch.

While there was a certain improvement in the quality of consumer goods, many enterprises of the Ministry of the Consumer Goods Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Food Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Products Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR and particularly the enterprises of local and co-operative industry still do not strive hard enough to ensure high-quality products with a good finish, violate the established technology of production and continue to turn out some goods of poor quality and assortment that do not meet the requirements of the population.

In many enterprises, particularly engineering factories, output over the month continued to be uneven; during the first ten days of the month they function at a lower level than during the rest of the month. Such uneven output led to equipment standing idle for a considerable period and to wastage of man-power, to production capacities not being utilised to the full, to an increase in output of defective goods and unproductive excess payment for overtime.

In a number of branches of industry, especially in the coal, oil, metallurgical, chemical, timber, paper and building materials, food, meat and dairy products, and fishing industries there was a considerable number of enterprises which did not reach the targets of the six-month output plan for 1954.

## II. GROWTH OF INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

Output of major manufactures in the first half of 1954, compared with the corresponding period for the previous year, increased as follows (figures are given in percentages of the results for the first six months of 1953):

Pig iron	106	Motor tyres	113
Steel	109	Haulage of timber	112
Rolled metal	109	Paper	109
Steel tubing	112	Cement	115
Zinc	107	Window glass	117
Lead	115	Roofing slate	121
Coal	108	Roofing felt	110
Oil	110	Bricks	113
Petrol	109	Prefabricated houses	102
Diesel fuel	140	Alcohol	114
Natural gas	112	Cotton textiles	103
Electric power	111	Linen textiles	110
Steam turbines	112	Woollen textiles	119
Large hydro-turbines	204	Silk textiles	157
Turbo-generators	104	Leather footwear	110
Hydro-generators	134	Rubber footwear	103
Large electrical machines	115	Hosiery	110
Electric motors	115	Knitted underwear	117
Mainline locomotives	131	Knitted outer garments	112
Mainline electric locomotives	104	Bicycles	130
Trolleybuses	109	Wireless sets	207
Lorries	110	TV sets	288
Motor-cars	127	Gramophones	132
Motor coaches	168	Sewing machines	125
Motor cycles	166	Clocks and watches	129
Ball and roller bearings	116	Cameras	142
Metallurgical equipment	108	Upright and grand pianos	124
Excavators	117	Domestic refrigerators	316
Big, heavy and unique machine tools	122	Vacuum cleaners	449
Chemical equipment	115	Metal bedsteads	172
Spinning jennies	114	Furniture	128
Looms	142	Meat and sausage products	102
Calculating Machines	139	Fish	113
Tractors	119	Dairy products	110
Tractor-drawn ploughs	111	Condensed milk	112
Self-propelled mowers	157	Vegetable oil	117
Tractor-drawn cultivators	101	Margarine	116
Cotton-picking machines	137	Cheese	105
Sugar-beef harvesting combines	201	Confectionery	105
Winnowing machines	117	Macaroni products	116
Caustic soda	111	Tinned foods	105
Soda	112	Tea	114
Mineral fertilisers	111	Soap	122
Chemicals for combating agricultural pests and weeds	131	Cigarettes	113
Dyes	102	Matches	122
Synthetic rubber	101	Grape wines	110
		Champagne	122
		Beer	113

more effective methods of oil extraction and is slow in mastering new methods of processing oil products; the Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR falls short of the target for the standards laid down for the cyclic method of organisation of timber-felling and the target for timber hauling; machine-building factories do not fully achieve the targets for mastering and manufacturing new types of machines, mechanisms, apparatus and instruments; the Ministry of the Building Materials Industry of the USSR is slow in mastering production of new kinds of effective building materials and items that would cut down the cost of construction.

The production costs of industrial output were cut by over 3 per cent in the first six months of this year; however, the target set out in the plan for cutting production costs has not been fulfilled. The Ministry of the Coal Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of Transport Machinery Industry, the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Products Industry of the USSR have fallen short, to a considerable extent, of the target for cutting the cost of production.

## III. AGRICULTURE

The collective farms, machine and tractor stations and state farms successfully carried out the spring sowing. The plan for sowing spring crops was overfulfilled.

The collective and state farms planted to spring crops 9.5 million hectares more than in 1953. The area sown to spring grain crops increased by 6.4 million hectares, including an extension of 3.6 million hectares sown to spring wheat and 756,000 hectares to maize for grain. The area sown to cotton was extended by 354,000 hectares and more sugar-beet, sunflower and other oil crops, annual grasses, fodder roots and silo crops have been sown than last year. Although bigger areas were sown than last year the planned targets were not fully reached for planting potatoes and other vegetables, nor was the plan for sowing fibre flax quite fulfilled.

In the collective and state farms in the Kazakhstan, Siberia, Ural, Volga and North Caucasus areas 13 million hectares of new land are to be brought under cultivation during 1954-55 with a view to extending the area sown to grain crops. By July 10 this year about 10 million hectares of new land had already been ploughed for this year's and next year's crops. Against the 2.3 million hectares envisaged by the state plan for the spring of 1954, the collective and state farms have actually sown 3.6 million hectares of virgin and unused land to grain crops.

13 million hectares more of autumn-ploughed land were sown to spring crops this year than in 1953. A considerable portion of the potato, maize, sunflower and other inter-row crops have been planted according to the square and square-cluster methods.

In the first six months of this year agriculture received 92,000 tractors (in terms of 15 h.p.), 52,000 lorries, 18,000 grain combines, of which 8,500 are self-propelled, and 15,000 tractor-drawn and self-propelled mowers, including about 4,000 self-propelled, as well as a large number of cotton-picking machines, beet combines, flax combines, winnowing and other machines. Agriculture has also been provided with more than 5,000 potato-picking combines, which began to be mass produced this year.

65,000 tractors (in terms of 15 h.p.) and more than 9,000 grain combines and over 6,000 lorries were supplied to the areas where new land is being brought under cultivation.

The growth in the technical equipment of agriculture made possible an even higher level of mechanisation of spring sowing and care of the crops. Spring sowing in collective farms was mechanised this year to the level of 86 per cent; over 40 per cent of the potato planting was mechanised.

In the first six months of this year the machine and tractor stations carried out work in collective farms on 26 million hectares of land more than in the same period last year.

The number of commonly-owned livestock on the collective farms as of July 1st had increased as follows, compared with July 1, 1953: cows 10 per cent, pigs 5 per cent. In consequence of the had organisation of the wintering of collective-farm sheep on distant pastures, the number of sheep fell by three per cent. The head of cattle in the state farms of the Ministry of State Farms of the USSR during this period increased by 9 per cent, pigs by 3 per cent and sheep by 2 per cent.

The head of cattle owned individually by collective farmers, factory and office workers increased considerably; the number of cows individually owned by the collective farmers increased between July 1, 1953, and July 1, 1954, by 7 per cent, young cattle by 15 per cent, pigs by 26 per cent and sheep by 35 per cent.

As of July 1st the total number of productive livestock for all categories of farming compared with July 1, 1953, increased as follows, according to preliminary data: cows 8 per cent, pigs 13 per cent and sheep 4 per cent.

## IV. GROWTH OF RAILWAY, WATER AND ROAD TRANSPORT

The overall plan for average daily car loadings during the first six months of this year was fulfilled by the railways 101 per cent; however, due to the loading capacity of the cars being insufficiently utilised, both by railways and consignors, the loading in terms of tonnage was but 99.7 per cent of the plan.

The target was reached and exceeded for the loading of ferrous metals, coke, metal scrap, peat, agricultural machinery, tractors, motor vehicles, chemical and mineral fertilisers, grain, cotton, wool, flax and hemp, salt, sugar, meat, butter, cheese, eggs and dairy produce, vegetable oils, fruit and vegetables, potatoes, fish, canned goods, confectionery, macaroni, tea, tobacco and tobacco goods, textiles, knitted goods, clothing, underwear and other articles, furniture, soap, perfumery and matches.

The plan for loading coal was not fulfilled. In the first half-year more than 3 million tons of coal were not loaded. Nor was the plan quite fulfilled for the loading of timber, wood fuel, cement, fireclay, building materials, ores, fluxes, footwear and household hardware.

Average daily loadings of all rail freight during the first six months of this year increased by 6 per cent compared with 1953.

The average turnaround time of freight cars during the first half-year was reduced somewhat compared with the first six months of 1953; however the target for speeding up the turnaround of freight cars in the first six months of 1954 was not fully reached. The commercial speed of goods trains likewise did not reach the target figure.

goods and foodstuffs for the seventh time in succession. The new price reduction contributed to a further strengthening of the Soviet rouble and to a further improvement in the standard of living of the population in our country.

In the past six months the population purchased in state and co-operative stores (in comparable prices) 21 per cent more goods than in the corresponding period for 1953; at the same time the co-operative retail trade in the countryside rose 32 per cent for the same period. The plan for retail trade by the network of state and co-operative trading organisations was overfulfilled in the first half of 1954.

Sales of various food items in the first half of 1954 compared with the corresponding period for 1953 increased as follows: meat products—30 per cent, fish products—24 per cent, butter—28 per cent, vegetable oil and fats—13 per cent, milk and dairy produce—21 per cent, sugar—14 per cent, confectionery—14 per cent, tea—19 per cent, citrus fruit—47 per cent.

Among the manufactured goods showing a significant increase in sales during the past six months compared with the corresponding period for 1953 are: cotton fabrics—19 per cent, silk fabrics—45 per cent, woollen fabrics—56 per cent, ready-made clothing—24 per cent, knitted goods—24 per cent, socks and stockings—31 per cent, leather footwear—15 per cent, clocks and watches—36 per cent, sewing machines—31 per cent, furniture—37 per cent, vacuum cleaners—more than fourfold, gramophones—33 per cent, television sets—more than double, radio sets—more than double, cameras—53 per cent, bicycles—29 per cent, motor cycles—65 per cent, automobiles—70 per cent, refrigerators—nearly threefold and washing machines a tenfold increase.

The first six months of 1954 compared with the corresponding period for 1953 saw a considerable increase in retail sales of goods for production and household purposes: timber, cement, window glass, roofing slate, roofing felt, nails, roofing iron, and lorries to the collective farms.

However, the demand for certain articles is not yet fully satisfied in a number of areas.

As regards foreign trade there was a further extension of economic relations with foreign countries during the first half of 1954 and foreign trade increased by 80 per cent compared with the corresponding period for 1953.

## VII. INCREASE IN NUMBER OF FACTORY AND OFFICE WORKERS AND GROWTH OF LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY

In the first half of 1954 compared with the corresponding period last year, the number of factory and office workers in the national economy grew considerably: in industry, building and transport, by 1,200,000; in educational establishments, scientific research and medical establishments by more than 300,000; in trade, housing and communal services by 200,000.

In agriculture, as a result of the transfer of the tractor-team personnel to the permanent and seasonal staffs of the MTS and in view of the growth of the number of workers and specialists in the districts where new land is being brought under cultivation, the number of the personnel employed in the MTS and state farms grew by 2,300,000, compared with the first half of last year.

During the first half of the current year 338,000 skilled young workers graduated from factory and mining schools and from the agricultural mechanisation colleges and began to work in industry, building, transport and agriculture, including over 228,000 by machine operators in agriculture. By means of individual and group instruction and by means of training courses over 3,600,000 factory and office workers acquired skills or improved their qualifications.

Compared with the corresponding period last year, labour productivity rose during the first half of this year by 7.5 per cent in industry and by 7 per cent in building; however, the target for raising labour productivity in industry and construction was not fully reached.

## VIII. CULTURAL UPBUILDING AND PUBLIC HEALTH

Compared with last year, the number of pupils completing seven-year and secondary schools, including the schools for the working and rural youth, rose 14 per cent in the current year. The number of pupils completing the tenth form in the secondary schools and receiving diplomas rose 69 per cent in the towns and 82 per cent in rural districts.

The higher schools and technical colleges (including correspondence courses) are graduating this year more than 550,000 young specialists.

By the end of the first half of the current year the number of cinema installations increased by about 2,000, compared with the corresponding period last year.

In the first half of 1954, compared with the first half of 1953, there was an increase in the number of school pupils catered for by the pioneer camps and tourist hostels and also in the numbers catered for by the kindergartens, child centres and nurseries in the countryside. A large number of children's playgrounds were opened in the countryside for the summer months.

The first half of this year saw a further improvement and development of the system of medical assistance, which, as is known, is available free of charge to the population in the USSR. The network of hospitals, maternity homes, sanatoriums and holiday homes was enlarged and they received more apparatus for diagnostic and treatment purposes. Compared with the first half of 1953, the manufacture of medical supplies, equipment and instruments increased by 23 per cent in the first half of 1954.

During the first half of the year some 22 million people enjoyed annual holidays on full pay, which are accorded all factory and office workers. More working people spent their holidays in sanatoriums and holiday homes free or at reduced rates.

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The results of the fulfilment of the plan for the first half of 1954 testify to a further rise in the entire national economy of the USSR, to the successful fulfilment of the assignments of the Five-Year Plan (1951-55) for the Development of the USSR.

## Latest Economic Successes of People's Democracies

### ✳ ✳ POLAND

As is reported by the Central Statistical Board of the People's Republic of Poland the plan for gross output of socialist industry in the first six months of 1954 was fulfilled 102.8 per cent.

The plan was overfulfilled for the output of steel and rolled metal, for the extraction of iron, zinc and copper ores, for the output of coke, electric power, metal-cutting machine tools, lorries, mining and chemical equipment, cotton, linen and silk fabrics, ready-made clothing, furniture, motor cycles and wireless sets. The plans for the fish catch and smoked foodstuffs, etc. were also overfulfilled.

The report stresses that the spring sowing was carried out better this year and that the plan for sowing spring crops was fulfilled 101 per cent. The area sown to wheat increased by 6 per cent and that to sugar 4 per cent, compared with last year. In producer co-operatives and state farms the sowing was carried out on a higher agrotechnical level, the criss-cross method of sowing and the square-cluster method of planting potatoes being used over a considerable area.

Further successes were registered in animal husbandry; in particular the assignments were overfulfilled for increasing the head of cattle and sheep.

The quantity of machines and agricultural implements, selected seeds and

artificial fertilisers available in the first half of 1954 increased considerably. Agriculture received over 4,000 home-produced tractors and 555 combines.

By June 30 the state machine and tractor stations and producer co-operatives numbered 406 and 9,037 respectively.

Compared with the first half of 1953, the total amount of capital investments increased in comparable prices by approximately 9 per cent, including industry 7 per cent, agriculture 28 per cent, social and cultural construction 48 per cent and housing 10 per cent.

Compared with the corresponding period of the previous year the turnover of retail and public catering establishments in the first six months showed an increase of 18 per cent. The latest price reduction will benefit the population to the tune of some 6,000 million zloty a year. The sale of meat and meat products increased by 2 per cent, fish 49 per cent, bakery items 6 per cent, wheat flour 48 per cent, sugar 22 per cent, cotton fabrics 6 per cent, woollen fabrics 50 per cent, leather shoes 13 per cent, etc.

The number of factory and office workers employed in socialist industry was almost 4 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of the previous year. Labour productivity increased by more than 9 per cent.

### CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A report on the fulfilment of the national-economic plan for the first half of 1954 was published recently. The gross output plan for industry was fulfilled 101.4 per cent. Compared with the corresponding period last year industrial output registered an increase of 3.5 per cent; output of mass-consumption goods rose 5.2 per cent.

The plan was overfulfilled for numerous items: oil, coal, diesel engines for vessels, tractors, tractor-drawn ploughs, locomotives, coaches and trolleybuses. The production plan was also overfulfilled for mass-consumption goods and foodstuffs.

Industry has begun the production of new types of machines, for instance, special machines for blast furnaces; a trial series of the "Spartac" passenger car, intended for mass production, was produced. The range of textile goods was supplemented by some hundreds of new patterns.

During the first half of the year industry supplied agriculture with 953 wheeled and 1,044 caterpillar tractors, 589 combines,

2,930 tractor-drawn mowing machines, 2,312 tractor-drawn seeders, 804 five-share ploughs, 1,057 manure sprayers, etc. Compared with the corresponding period last year agriculture received in the first six months 22 per cent more fertilisers.

Purchasing power has risen. Sale of fabrics rose by 30 per cent, footwear 18 per cent, washing-machines 450 per cent, refrigerators 500 per cent and building materials 100 per cent. Compared with the first half of 1953 there was also an increase in the sale of basic foodstuffs: butter 44 per cent, rice 200 per cent, beans 400 per cent, sugar 20 per cent, tinned meat 100 per cent, coffee 72 per cent, and so on.

The number of beds in hospitals and maternity homes increased by more than 1,900 and in special nursing homes and medical establishments by over 1,700. Dispensaries were opened in another 36 enterprises.

### HUNGARY

The Central Statistical Board reports that industry fulfilled the plan for the second quarter 104 per cent and the plan for the first six months 101.1 per cent.

Compared with the corresponding period last year industrial output in the second quarter was 4.4 per cent greater, with light industry showing an increase of 8 per cent and the food industry a 17 per cent increase.

The plan was overfulfilled for extraction of oil and for production of aluminium, rolled metal, artificial fertilisers, harrows, seeders, mowing-machines, wireless sets, penicillin, cotton and woollen fabrics, knitted-goods, women and children's footwear, men's suits,

crop area by 30,000 holds (one hold—0.52 hectare). Early in July harvesting and threshing of grain began all over the country. According to data so far received the yield of grain is expected to be above the average, despite unfavourable weather in the spring.

In the first six months socialist industry turned out 1,379 tractors for agriculture—mainly for the machine and tractor stations. The head of livestock increased considerably.

As a result of the successive price reductions purchasing power rose substantially. The volume of retail trade increased 29 per cent in the second quarter compared with the corresponding period last year.

## THE QUESTION OF ENSURING GENERAL EUROPEAN COLLECTIVE SECURITY

All the countries of Europe, big and small, irrespective of social system, are confronted with the most urgent and burning question of the day, the question of further lessening the international tension, strengthening peace and ensuring the security of the peoples.

As is known, the agreements reached in Geneva for restoring peace in Indo-China on the basis of observing the independence and sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of Viet Nam, Laos and Cambodia evoked the deepest satisfaction and were warmly approved by the peace-loving forces throughout the world. The Geneva agreements, which are a big success for the peace forces, have been warmly welcomed by the working people of Czechoslovakia. Our people, like all people of goodwill, see for themselves that the policy of negotiations between the countries interested in strengthening peace and international security can yield positive results.

Of truly inestimable significance in this respect is the latest initiative of the Soviet Government expressed in its Note of July 24, 1954 to the Governments of France, Great Britain and the United States of America on the question of collective security in Europe.

This highly important document, which has been the subject of widespread comment throughout the world and is unanimously approved by all true friends of peace, poses the vital questions of the present international situation. Peace and security in Europe, peace and security throughout the world, the end of the armament drive and further development of international economic co-operation depend on the correct and timely solution of these questions.

For the purpose of exchanging views on the question of establishing a system of collective security in Europe the Soviet Government suggests in this Note the convening within the next few months of a Conference of all the European states willing to take part, and also of the United States of America. In the view of the Soviet Government it is desirable that the People's Republic of China should be represented at this conference by an observer.

It goes without saying, the Note reads, that the participants in this Conference would have the opportunity not only to state their attitude towards the Soviet proposals but also to submit proposals of their own on the question of creating a system of collective security in Europe.

In its consistent and invariable foreign policy of peace the Soviet Union has always proceeded and proceeds now from the possibility of co-existence between countries with different social systems, the necessity of international co-operation based on the collective efforts of all European countries concerned with ensuring general security and peace.

At the Berlin Conference, in keeping with this important principle of its foreign policy, the Soviet Government advanced its proposal "On Safeguarding Security in Europe" and submitted its draft for a "General European Treaty on Collective Security in Europe". The important feature and merit of this draft is that it is based on a general European principle and that all European states, regardless of social system, can be parties to the treaty. Both the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic could be parties to it, and after the reunification of Germany the united German state could become a party.

And so, in advancing its proposals for collective security in Europe, the Soviet Union proceeds from the fact that, although in relation to social structure the countries of the world are divided into two camps,

The Soviet proposals for a General European Treaty are based on the principle of collective action by the parties to the Treaty against the threat of an armed attack upon one or more of the European member states.

Each party to the Treaty undertakes, in the event of an attack on any other party, to assist the state or states so attacked, by all means at its disposal, including the use of armed force, for the purpose of re-establishing and maintaining international peace and security in Europe. At the same time the parties undertake not to enter into any coalition or alliance or conclude any agreement which would contradict the purposes of safeguarding collective security in Europe.

A system of collective security set up on the basis of a General European Treaty can provide effective prerequisites for security in Europe since it would facilitate the neutralisation of Germany and the settlement of the German problem on the basis of establishing a united Germany as a peace-loving, independent and democratic state and would help to solve the Austrian question and play a decisive role in lessening the tension in international relations.

Furthermore, the Soviet Government, in its Note of July 24, added to the draft of the General European Treaty on Collective Security another important proposal on economic co-operation. It stipulates that the parties to the Treaty shall undertake to adopt measures for developing trade and other economic relations between the states, which correspond to the vital interests of the peoples and are in accord with the purposes of strengthening peace and international co-operation.

The Soviet plan for safeguarding collective security in Europe is spearheaded against the chief threat to lasting peace in Europe—against the restoration of German militarism.

The experience of history teaches us that whenever the militarists and revanchists took the destinies of Germany into their hands the country invariably took the path of aggression—its agreements and obligations with regard to the security of other states becoming mere scraps of paper. It is particularly necessary to recall these lessons of history now that reactionary circles in a number of capitalist states and, above all, in the U.S.A. are intensifying their attempts to build up closed military groupings of powers under the pretext of safeguarding security in Europe, such as NATO, which was formed five years ago and which was a major factor in intensifying the international tension, or EDC based on the idea of reviving German militarism.

Both NATO and EDC arose from the American "positions of strength" policy, an aggressive policy built on the idea of knocking together military blocs and alignments of one group of states against others. Although the EDC is pretentiously called "European" for the sake of camouflage, in fact the "Europe" united by the EDC integrates only 6 out of 32 European states. Although it is called "defensive" on paper, in fact it constitutes an aggressive plot, under U.S. aegis, which is spearheaded against the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia and other peace-loving states of Europe.

It is worth noting that none other than

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in the Note of the Soviet Government, the formation of such alignments which become aggressive alliances leads inevitably to the armaments race and intensified international tension, the more so in view of the fact that the sponsors of these groupings are seeking to make use of the revenge-seeking German militarism as their shock force.

It is perfectly clear that the implementation of the schemes for creating EDC cannot but increase the threat of another war in Europe, can only lead to the restoration of a hotbed of aggression and war in the very heart of Europe, whose first victims will undoubtedly be the countries neighbouring on Western Germany. The people of Czechoslovakia, who experienced all the horror of the Hitler occupation and the bloody violence of German militarism in World War II, cannot forget this.

The interests of safeguarding and strengthening peace in Europe and throughout the world, the interests of developing international co-operation from which the Soviet Government proceeded and by which it was guided in submitting the draft Treaty on Collective Security in Europe are near and dear to all peace-loving peoples. It is not accidental, therefore, that the Soviet draft has met with a positive response on the part of a whole number of countries in Europe, and not only in Europe. Even in those countries in which the rulers, blindly following the beat of the U.S. conductors, have adopted an unfavourable attitude towards this draft, wide circles of public opinion more and more persistently demand that the European states act together in the interests of safeguarding collective security in Europe.

In this connection the pamphlet "It Need Not Happen" (Tribune Publications), written by six members of the National Executive Committee of the Labour Party—Aneurin Bevan, Barbara Castle, Richard Crossman, Tom Driberg, Ian Mikardo and Harold Wilson—deserves attention as a reflection of the sentiments of wide public circles in Britain.

Condemning the policy of reviving German militarism and laying special stress on the danger it represents for Britain the authors demolish the arguments advanced by the right-wing Labour leaders in support of rearming Western Germany. "We challenge the whole doctrine that German rearmament, in any form, is inevitable", states the pamphlet. "Tens of thousands of Socialists all over Britain", it goes on, are convinced that the rearmament of Germany would make impossible any negotiated settlement of the German problem and would increase the danger of a military catastrophe; they suggest that the Soviet proposal for a General European Treaty for Collective Security in Europe be taken as a basis for the settlement of the German question.

Opposition to the "European Defence Community", the movement for genuine all-European collective security and in support of the Soviet draft are embracing ever broader sections of the population in Western Europe, including the German people. The masses and big sections of the bourgeoisie are resolutely opposed to the EDC, to this closed military grouping

by the USSR, on the part of the influential circles in the U.S.A. who do not want agreements on reduction of armaments and the banning of atomic weapons and who are mortally afraid of the possible unification of the efforts of all the European states for the purpose of preventing war, are perfectly understandable and explicable, inasmuch as such an all-European unification would signify the death blow to their aggressive plans in Europe.

As reported by the press, the Soviet Government's Note of July 24 met with a hostile reception in Washington: the State Department, upon hearing about it, immediately told the press that the proposal would resolutely be rejected. The "New York Times", in line with the rubber-stamp practice established in the American press, described the new Soviet proposal as "propaganda". Other American newspapers announced with cynical candour that the Soviet proposal was "unacceptable" to the ruling circles of the U.S.A. since it would obstruct the formation of the "European Defence Community".

Hence, it is confirmed over and over again that the ruling circles of the U.S.A., adamantly adhering to their "positions of strength" policy, see as the main purpose of this policy in Europe the revival of German militarism, for which the infamous "European Army" is to be the camouflage.

But, as "Pravda" justly commented, the international situation is taking shape now not in favour of the advocates of war, but in favour of those who proceed from the possibility of the peaceful co-existence of states with different social systems, and from the necessity of joint collective effort to uphold and consolidate security and peace.

The people of Czechoslovakia unanimously condemn the policy of reviving German militarism being carried out by the United States and by the obedient governments in certain Western countries. They resolutely reject all attempts aimed at maintaining the present division of Germany and at including its Western part in the military bloc menacing peace and security in Europe. On the other hand they desire the establishment and development of such really good neighbourly relations with a united, peace-loving Germany as they maintain at present with the German Democratic Republic. As already stressed in the well-known statement issued in March by the Czechoslovak Government on ensuring collective security in Europe, the Government and all the people of Czechoslovakia welcomed with feelings of gratitude the Soviet proposals for a European system of security, the adoption of which would signify the elimination of the danger of a new world war and would lead to the establishment of new, sound relations between the European states.

"The Government of the Republic of Czechoslovakia", it is stated in this document, "in complete conformity with the sentiments of the entire people, declares that the Czechoslovak Republic is ready to participate in the General European Treaty on Collective Security and will support the efforts made to conclude such a treaty."

The statement issued by the Government of Czechoslovakia on July 24, welcoming the agreements reached in Geneva for restoring peace in Indo-China, once again emphasises that the signing of a Treaty on Collective Security in Europe, as proposed by the Soviet Government, would be an important factor in strengthening universal peace and ensuring a peaceful

new types of machines, for instance, special machines for blast furnaces; a trial series of the "Spartac" passenger car, intended for mass production, was produced. The range of textile goods was supplemented by some hundreds of new patterns.

During the first half of the year industry supplied agriculture with 953 wheeled and 1,044 caterpillar tractors, 589 combines,

#### HUNGARY

The Central Statistical Board reports that industry fulfilled the plan for the second quarter 104 per cent and the plan for the first six months 101.1 per cent.

Compared with the corresponding period last year industrial output in the second quarter was 4.4 per cent greater, with light industry showing an increase of 8 per cent and the food industry a 17 per cent increase.

The plan was overfulfilled for extraction of oil and for production of aluminium, rolled metal, artificial fertilisers, harrows, seeders, mowing-machines, wireless sets, penicillin, cotton and woollen fabrics, knitted-goods, women and children's footwear, men's suits, bakery products, cigarettes, etc.

In keeping with the decision of the Party and the Government on the development of agriculture the acreage under grain crops was extended this spring by 6.9 per cent compared with last year, under potatoes 18.4 per cent and fodder crops 16.1 per cent. With the Tiszalök Dam being commissioned the acreage under rice was increased 53.5 per cent and the irrigated

#### RUMANIA

The Central Statistical Board reports that the plan for gross output by socialist industry for the first half of 1954 was fulfilled 100.14 per cent.

In the first half of the year industry turned out many new types of machines and mechanisms. High-voltage electro-transformers have been produced in Rumania for the first time. The MTS and state farms received 1,509 new tractors, 802 tractor-drawn ploughs, 341 combines and other home-produced machines and implements.

The targets for the spring sowing were reached and in the case of a number of crops exceeded. Planned assignments for the MTS were fulfilled 101.4 per cent. The head of cattle and pigs in agricultural

#### BULGARIA

A report issued by the Central Statistical Board of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria states that the state plan for overall output by industry for the first half of 1954 was fulfilled 98 per cent. Compared with the first six months of 1953 output increased by 7 per cent, including electric power 2 per cent, iron ore 14 per cent, machine-tools 57 per cent, nitro fertilisers 5 per cent, meat products 16 per cent, sugar 18 per cent, lard 48 per cent, radio sets 137 per cent, etc. Labour productivity has risen and production costs have been reduced about 3 per cent.

The plan for spring sowing was fulfilled and for a number of crops the target was exceeded. During the first half of the year agriculture received 1,267 tractors, 217 grain combines and 12 other type combines. The MTS received the first eight home-produced grain combines; 15.6 per cent more fertilisers were delivered to agriculture.

per cent, beans 700 per cent, sugar 20 per cent, tinned meat 100 per cent, coffee 72 per cent, and so on.

The number of beds in hospitals and maternity homes increased by more than 1,900 and in special nursing homes and medical establishments by over 1,700. Dispensaries were opened in another 36 enterprises.

crop area by 30,000 holds (one hold—0.52 hectare). Early in July harvesting and threshing of grain began all over the country. According to data so far received the yield of grain is expected to be above the average, despite unfavourable weather in the spring.

In the first six months socialist industry turned out 1,379 tractors for agriculture—mainly for the machine and tractor stations. The head of livestock increased considerably.

As a result of the successive price reductions purchasing power rose substantially. The volume of retail trade increased 29 per cent in the second quarter compared with the corresponding period last year.

The sale of foodstuffs showed a considerable increase. Confectionery sales, for instance, rose 72 per cent, butter 36 per cent, eggs 32 per cent, etc.

In the second quarter the state and co-operative sectors of the retail trade network sold 56 per cent more manufactured goods than in the corresponding period for the previous year.

collective and state farms increased substantially.

The number of factory and office workers employed in socialist industry rose by 5 per cent and labour productivity increased 4.8 per cent.

Wages rose 15 per cent in the first half of the year. Allocations for social and cultural needs constituted 9.7 per cent more than in the first half of 1953.

The consumption of bread in the last quarter of 1953 and in the first six months of 1954 was up 4.8 per cent compared with the first three-quarters of the previous year, consumption of flour products rose 7.2 per cent, tinned meat 21.8 per cent, meat products 18.6 per cent, confectionery 41.8 per cent and so on.

The volume of capital investments increased by 14.3 per cent for the Ministry of Heavy Industry, by 8 per cent for the Ministry of Electrification, 24.5 per cent for the Ministry of Agriculture and 74.8 per cent for the Ministry of Health.

Capital investments for housing rose 42.5 per cent as against 1953.

The number of workers employed rose by more than 25,000 compared with the corresponding period last year; the wage fund increased 11 per cent.

The working people bought 28.9 per cent more goods compared with the corresponding period last year.

The co-operative markets sold 52.1 per cent more agricultural products than in the same period last year.

The number of hospital beds rose 6.8 per cent. The number of working people who spent their holidays in rest homes was double that of the same period last year.

In its consistent and invariable foreign policy of peace the Soviet Union has always proceeded and proceeds now from the possibility of co-existence between countries with different social systems, the necessity of international co-operation based on the collective efforts of all European countries concerned with ensuring general security and peace.

At the Berlin Conference, in keeping with this important principle of its foreign policy, the Soviet Government advanced its proposal "On Safeguarding Security in Europe" and submitted its draft for a "General European Treaty on Collective Security in Europe". The important feature and merit of this draft is that it is based on a general European principle and that all European states, regardless of social system, can be parties to the treaty. Both the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic could be parties to it, and after the reunification of Germany the united German state could become a party.

And so, in advancing its proposals for collective security in Europe, the Soviet Union proceeds from the fact that, although in relation to social structure the countries of the world are divided into two camps, as far as the defence of peace and the security of the peoples are concerned, one camp must prevail, because all want peace and are against war. One cannot but note that the Soviet proposals are based on the principle of respect for the independence and sovereignty of the European countries and on non-interference in their internal affairs. The observance of this principle guarantees independence in policy for each country that is a party to the treaty and freedom for all European countries, without exception.

The Geneva Conference has ended. We have won a big victory in the diplomatic field.

On behalf of the Government I cordially address myself to all compatriots, soldiers and cadres.

1. For the sake of the peace, unity, independence and democracy of our homeland our people, the army, cadres and the Government, closely united, enduring hardship and overcoming numerous difficulties, resolutely fought during the past eight-nine years and won brilliant victories. On this occasion I convey, on behalf of the Government, my cordial congratulations to all compatriots, soldiers and cadres throughout the country, from the North to the South. I respectfully bow before the memory of the fighters and all patriots who heroically sacrificed their lives for the homeland, and convey sincere condolences to the sick and wounded servicemen.

Our great victories are also due to the fact that our fight for a just cause enjoys the support of the peoples in the friendly countries, the people of France and the peace-loving peoples of the world.

Negotiations were opened between our Government and the Government of France at the Geneva Conference thanks to these victories and to the efforts of the delegation of the USSR at the Berlin Conference. The efforts of our delegation and the aid from the delegations of the USSR and the People's Republic of China enabled us to achieve a big victory at the Geneva Conference. The Government of France has recognised the independence, sovereignty, unity and territorial integrity of our coun-

try and agreed to withdraw the French armed forces from our land, etc.

In the future too we must strive to consolidate peace, ensure unity and achieve independence and democracy throughout the country.

2. In order to achieve peace the first thing is the cessation of hostilities by the armed forces of both sides.

To ensure cessation of hostilities it is necessary to regroup the armed forces of the two sides in the two separate zones, that is, to readjust the areas occupied by the armed forces of each side.

The establishment of a military demarcation line is a temporary and transitional measure for carrying out the armistice, restoring peace and for making progress towards national unification by means of a general election. The demarcation line does not mean in any way a political or territorial boundary.

During the period of the armistice our armed forces shall be concentrated in Northern Viet Nam and the French Union armed forces in Southern Viet Nam. This means that there will be an exchange of zones: a number of localities occupied by the French will become liberated areas; on the other hand, French troops will be quartered temporarily, before their return to France, in a number of our liberated areas.

This is a necessary measure. But Northern, Central and Southern Viet Nam are integral parts of our territory, and our country will undoubtedly be unified and our

of aggression—the agreements and obligations with regard to the security of other states becoming mere scraps of paper. It is particularly necessary to recall these lessons of history now that reactionary circles in a number of capitalist states and, above all, in the U.S.A. are intensifying their attempts to build up closed military groupings of powers under the pretext of safeguarding security in Europe, such as NATO, which was formed five years ago and which was a major factor in intensifying the international tension, or EDC based on the idea of reviving German militarism.

Both NATO and EDC arose from the American "positions of strength" policy, an aggressive policy built on the idea of knocking together military blocs and alignments of one group of states against others. Although the EDC is pretentiously called "European" for the sake of camouflage, in fact the "Europe" united by the EDC integrates only 6 out of 32 European states. Although it is called "defensive" on paper, in fact it constitutes an aggressive plot, under U.S. aegis, which is spearheaded against the USSR, Poland, Czechoslovakia and other peace-loving states of Europe.

It is worth noting that none other than Dulles himself characterised the U.S. agreement with Franco Spain as a supplement to the NATO system. Washington also regards the Turkey-Pakistan treaty and other projected blocs in the Mediterranean region and in other areas as a supplement to this system.

All these big and small blocs have been formed without the participation of the countries of the camp of peace and democracy. Consequently they are directed exclusively against this camp. As pointed out

circles in Britain. Condemning the policy of reviving German militarism and laying special stress on the danger it represents for Britain the authors demolish the arguments advanced by the right-wing Labour leaders in support of rearming Western Germany. "We challenge the whole doctrine that German rearmament, in any form, is inevitable", states the pamphlet. "Tens of thousands of Socialists all over Britain", it goes on, are convinced that the rearmament of Germany would make impossible any negotiated settlement of the German problem and would increase the danger of a military catastrophe; they suggest that the Soviet proposal for a General European Treaty for Collective Security in Europe be taken as a basis for the settlement of the German question.

Opposition to the "European Defence Community", the movement for genuine all-European collective security and in support of the Soviet draft are embracing ever broader sections of the population in Western Europe, including the German people. The masses and big sections of the bourgeoisie are resolutely opposed to the EDC, to this closed military grouping counterposed to the other European states. It will be recalled that in France, for instance, apart from such prominent personalities as Edouard Herriot, Daladier, Marshal Juin and others, the "European Defence Community" has been denounced by three parliamentary commissions of the National Assembly.

In this connection the fierce attacks levelled against the General European System of Collective Security, as proposed

with a united, peace-loving Germany as they maintain at present with the German Democratic Republic. As already stressed in the well-known statement issued in March by the Czechoslovak Government on ensuring collective security in Europe, the Government and all the people of Czechoslovakia welcomed with feelings of gratitude the Soviet proposals for a European system of security, the adoption of which would signify the elimination of the danger of a new world war and would lead to the establishment of new, sound relations between the European states.

"The Government of the Republic of Czechoslovakia", it is stated in this document, "in complete conformity with the sentiments of the entire people, declares that the Czechoslovak Republic is ready to participate in the General European Treaty on Collective Security and will support the efforts made to conclude such a treaty."

The statement issued by the Government of Czechoslovakia on July 24, welcoming the agreements reached in Geneva for restoring peace in Indo-China, once again emphasises that the signing of a Treaty on Collective Security in Europe, as proposed by the Soviet Government, would be an important factor in strengthening universal peace and ensuring a peaceful and happy future for Czechoslovakia.

The people of Czechoslovakia warmly welcome, approve and support the proposals set out in the July 24 Note of the Government of the USSR. In these proposals they see a new and valuable contribution by the Soviet Government towards easing the international tension and creating favourable conditions for solving urgent international problems, a contribution to ensuring a durable peace and security for the peoples.

## Long Live Peace, Unity, Independence and Democracy in Viet Nam!

★  
**Ho Chi Minh**  
President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam

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compatriots throughout the country liberated.

Our compatriots in the South were the first to launch the patriotic war and displayed a high degree of consciousness. I

am confident that they will place the interests of the whole country above local interests, and permanent interests above present ones, and hand in hand with the rest of our people, do everything to consolidate peace, ensure unity and achieve independence and democracy throughout the country. The Viet Nam Working People's Party (Lao Dong), the Government and I personally have always followed the efforts of our compatriots in the South, and we are confident that they will achieve success.

3. The fight for the consolidation of peace, for effecting unity, for achieving independence and democracy is also a long and hard struggle. To ensure victory the entire people, all soldiers and cadres in the country, from North to South, must still more enhance their solidarity and be unified in thought and action.

We are fully determined honestly to adhere to the terms we have signed with the French Government and at the same time urge the French Government honestly to observe the terms it has signed with us.

We shall do our utmost to consolidate peace and shall be vigilant in relation to encroachments by the enemies of peace. We shall do everything for the holding of a free, general election throughout the country in order to achieve national unity.

We shall do our utmost to rehabilitate, build up, consolidate and develop our forces in all spheres so as to ensure the complete independence of the homeland.

We must strive to carry out social reforms in order to improve the conditions of our people and ensure genuine democracy.

We shall strengthen further our fraternal contact with the peoples of Laos and Cambodia.

We will reinforce still more the great friendship between Viet Nam and the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and other friendly countries. We shall strengthen our solidarity with the people of France, the peoples of Asia and the world for the sake of safeguarding peace.

4. I wholeheartedly call on the entire people, all soldiers and cadres, correctly to carry out the political line and policy of the Party and the Government, to work for the consolidation of peace and achieve unity, independence and democracy throughout the country.

I earnestly call on all who sincerely love their homeland, irrespective of social status, religious beliefs or political conviction, irrespective of the party they supported in the past, sincerely to cooperate with each other and work for the good of the nation and homeland, and to fight for the realisation of peace, unity, independence and democracy in our beloved Viet Nam.

Given nation-wide unity, given the monolithic solidarity of the entire people we will, undoubtedly, win victory.

Long live peace, unity, independence and democracy in Viet Nam!

# SIGNIFICANT VICTORY OF PEACE FORCES

July 20 and 21, 1954, will remain memorable days. These were the days when the cease-fire in Indo-China was signed in Geneva. This tremendous event was awaited with impatience. The French people hailed it with joy. One more conflagration, which the incendiaries of war sought to fan, has been extinguished. This is a great victory for the peace forces.

For France it means the end of an unjust war that has been waged for eight years against a people who, fighting for their independence, battled against brutal attempts at colonial enslavement and tirelessly strove for peace and friendship with France.

The war opened with the bombardment of Haiphong by the warship "Le Suffren" on November 23, 1946, which resulted in over 6,000 deaths. This was one more of a series of brutal violations of the agreement of March 6, 1946, which recognised the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam as a free state and the legality of the Ho Chi Minh Government. Despite the terrible sufferings, despite an absurd attempt to label it a "rebel" government in its own country, the Viet Nam Government continually advanced peace proposals. Between 1946 and 1954 the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam made dozens of appeals and precise proposals for peace. Last November Ho Chi Minh's proposal for negotiations evoked a wide response.

The past few years have shown that the movement of Asian peoples for national independence is irresistible. The victory of the great Chinese people exercised a tremendous influence on the national liberation fight of hundreds of millions of Asian people. It has become evident that peaceful relations can be established with these peoples provided their lawful rights are respected.

But the colonisers stubbornly refused to recognise these obvious facts and continued the war in Indo-China. They hastened to fall into line with the plans of the U.S. advocates of war, while General Chassain, former Commander of the French Air Force in the Far East, blurted out the aims of this crazy strategy by declaring in a journal that a single atomic raid would do away with some 20 million people in Asia!

Shameful means are generally used to achieve nefarious purposes. According to the revelations of Minister Letourneau (MRP Party) who directed this venture of the French colonisers for 44 months, a new state was manufactured in Indo-China. This state got the emperor it deserved—the despicable Bao Dai. This bloody venture was covered with filth. Big scandals such as the scandal which flared up around the speculation in cheques and piastres revealed the incredible corruption which encouraged and supported such a criminal policy.

This was a terrible and unbearable policy for France. It meant, above all, appalling bloodshed not only for the Viet Nam people who had gone through much suffering, but also for the people of France and Africa the soldiers of which were sent by the colonisers to fight against the Viet Nam people. According to official estimates the expeditionary force lost 100,000 dead, including 2,000 officers and over 6,000 NCOs, and 114,000 wounded. During this war, about which General Rene Cogy, one of the commanders of the expeditionary force said recently: "So many deaths for nothing", the cadres of the French army suffered heavy casualties.

According to the same official data, the war cost over 3,000,000 million francs, more

which demanded the exposure of the unjust war against the Viet Nam people; it fought unceasingly for peace, just as it has done ever since its formation; it upheld the genuine interests of France, seeking to rid it of mourning and poverty.

The French Communists can be proud of the correct policy of their Party for peace in Indo-China, which our Party unswervingly and consistently carried out. Despite slander and rabid repression our Party pursued this policy in action at the head of the masses. In this struggle our Party proved to be a reliable guarantee of the future of our country, the worthy standard-bearer of democratic freedoms and of France. The popular masses are grateful to our Party for its struggle for peace in Indo-China. This was one of the main reasons why over 5 million French men and women supported the programme of our Party in the 1951 elections.

The French working class participated on a large scale in the mass political struggle called for by our Party.

The dockers were in the van of the fighters for peace in Indo-China, repeatedly refusing war work and courageously demonstrating their will for peace at the cost of great sacrifice. The dockers acted in Marseilles, Port-Vendres, Bordeaux, La Pallice, Bastia, Nantes, Rouen, Calais, Boulogne and other French ports.

The crews of the "Pasteur", the "Lyon" and the "Belfort" expressed in action their opposition to the war in Indo-China.

An active struggle against this war was waged by the railwaymen in Bercy, la Chapelle, Vaugirard, Ivry in the Paris Region, Nantes, Lyons, Brest, Saint-Pierres-Corps and other railway centres.

The metallurgical workers and workers of other trades, the workers in the Renault plant, in factories in Fives-Lille, Toulouse, Grenoble, Nice and in many other centres won renown in the great struggle for peace.

The working people in the enterprises voiced their protest against the war in Indo-China in the form of petitions, demonstrations and delegations; in response to the call of the World Trade Union Congress, the General Confederation of Labour held a Day of Struggle for Peace on December 19, 1953.

The struggle waged by the working class resulted in a broader unity of all working people and, in particular, unity of Communist and Socialist workers. The number of joint actions taken by the workers for peace in Indo-China increased.

In Troyes the re-establishment of peace in Viet Nam was celebrated on July 23 by a joint demonstration of Socialist and Communist workers, workers affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour, to the "Force Ouvriere" and of other patriots under the banners of their organisations. It is clear that this demonstration was the result of the great efforts for unity if we recall the stand taken by the right-wing Socialist leaders, who often voted in support of war measures against Viet Nam. Guy Mollet even sought to justify the war in Viet Nam in the name of anti-Communism. The common will of the working people, however, found expression in the statements against the war at the recent Congress of the Socialist Party. Recently, following the announcement of the Government's intention to send conscripts to Indo-China there were numerous joint demonstrations of Socialist and Communist workers. The development of united working-class action is a sign of the mounting struggle of the entire

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peace. Subsequent developments clearly showed that the "plot" of which the peace fighters were accused was in fact a plot by Plevin-Bidault and company against peace.

The youth and its organisations participated in all the popular actions. French women held a place of honour in this struggle. They gave support to the struggle waged by the working people. Of great importance were the moving demonstrations of the mothers of soldiers in the expeditionary corps and of those who were killed.

After the National Peasant Conference in 1952 the peasantry played a bigger part in the struggle for peace in Indo-China. The will of the peasants in struggle against war in Viet Nam was strongly voiced at the congresses held in the autumn of 1953 and in all peasant actions.

The intelligentsia—university professors, artistes, writers, scientists, doctors and lawyers—came out more and more vigorously with numerous calls for a cease-fire in Viet Nam, while literature and art contributed to the people's fight.

The Peace Movement waged an effective campaign for peace in Viet Nam. Meetings, demonstrations, petitions, delegations, the activity of the peace committees in the course of these past years helped to enlighten public opinion in the country and helped to rally French men and women on a wider scale for the restoration of peace in Viet Nam.

The national and democratic forces rallied closer and closer in this struggle. Dozens of personalities—former Socialist and de Gaulist Ministers, Radical Members of Parliament, Catholic writers and writers of various opinions, eminent university professors and senior officers—worked side by side with Communist activists on the committee for unity and struggle for a cease-fire and peace in Viet Nam.

Thus, the national demand invariably put forward by our Party found expression, met with response and the cause of peace triumphed with the help of the peace-loving forces.

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The re-establishment of peace in Indo-China became a reality because it was desired by the peoples, because they fought for a cease-fire. This outcome was achieved in the teeth of the pressure and manoeuvres of the warmongers. In the recent period, marked by the Dien Bien Phu events, delegations from all parts of our country went to Geneva to express the will of the French people. Everywhere meetings of workers, peasants and people of all opinions and professions took decisions to inform the participants in the Geneva Conference of the demands of French men and women. Very often collections provided the fares for the journey and the delegations really represented the vast majority of the French people.

Popular action was a decisive element in bringing about the cease-fire in Indo-China. Once again the effectiveness of the struggle of the peoples for peace was demonstrated. According to Mendès-France himself, this struggle "forced the hand of destiny".

The agreements concluded in Geneva also testify that in order to have an independent policy, conforming to the national interests, France must get rid of the pres-

istent struggle resulted in the release of the imprisoned activists.

Before securing peace in Indo-China the people had to fight for the right to defend themselves clearly

ments and their refusal to participate in the elaboration of these agreements and their unilateral declaration expose their evil intents.

Such politicians in France as the Bidaults and Duponts who blindly follow the categorical commands of the White House have now revealed themselves as people of the war party. The MRP is in the forefront of the war supporters.

It was precisely in the struggle against these forces that it became particularly clear in France that it is possible to settle all conflicts by means of negotiations. Now, however, in view of all the difficulties that had to be overcome, the observance of these agreements must be watched all the more closely since John Foster Dulles is continuing his attempts to form an aggressive bloc in South-East Asia.

It is possible for France to pursue an independent policy. France requires a programme such as was traced in main outline by the XIIIth Congress of our Party. Comrade Jacques Duclos pointed this out in his speech on July 22 at the magnificent meeting held at the Winter Velodrome. In its broadest outlines this programme envisages: reduction of war expenditure, reducing the term of military service to 15 months, increased wages and salaries, a rapid increase in house-building and better teaching of children by providing them with new schools and teachers. In a word, the main immediate demands of the working people and the entire people must be satisfied. With the ending of the war in Indo-China it is also essential to renounce completely the policy of force and repression against the peoples of North Africa.

Finally, after the rejection of the "European Defence Community" treaty, the deadly menace which the rearmament of the German revanchists represents for France must be eliminated.

The victory of the cause of peace in Indo-China calls for other victories and in order to win them it is necessary to advance along the path of unity of action of the working class, which is a prerequisite for uniting the democratic and national forces.

Such are the perspectives opened up for France by the Geneva Conference.

Certain important aspects of this Conference which brought about a cease-fire in Indo-China have made a great impression on all French people: the presence at the Conference and the big part played by the great Chinese nation, represented by Chou En-lai, and the necessity for such representation in the peaceful community of nations.

At Geneva, Britain, in the person of Eden, adopted an attitude that differed from that of the U.S.A. Mendès-France expressed his gratitude to him; likewise expressing his gratitude to V. M. Molotov, he said: "He used his influence for the aims of conciliation. His efforts were particularly successful during the last hours of the Conference." The Conference particularly emphasised the decisive significance of the efforts of the USSR, the friend of peace and of France.

And so changes have taken place. The popular struggle, above all, contributed to this, and, as Maurice Thorez said in this connection, this struggle influences the activities even of Parliament and the Government. It cannot be otherwise, because all these changes reflect, ultimately, the objective processes taking place in the different sections of society.

The first but decisive step has been taken along the path to a favourable change in French policy.

No one can validly hold that it is impossible to achieve in Europe what has been achieved in Asia. If it was possible to secure

## In Communist and Workers' Parties

### RAISING IDEOLOGICAL LEVEL OF PARTY AND ECONOMIC CADRES IN CHINA

Since the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China issued its "Directive Regarding the Theoretical Education of Cadres in 1953-54", the local Party committees have made considerable progress in organising theoretical training for cadres. Up to now more than 13,000 lecturers and tutors have been trained to conduct the advanced, intermediate and elementary courses for raising the ideological level of Party and economic cadres. The lecturers and tutors have given the students help in studying Marxist literature; they took part in organising broad theoretical discussions and helped the students in exchanging study experiences; they also helped the students to acquire the habit of individual study and arranged a great number of consultations for them.

### FOR CARRYING OUT DECISIONS OF SECOND CONGRESS OF POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY

The district and city organisations of the Polish United Workers' Party have held reporting-back conferences which drew up concrete measures for realising the tasks advanced by the Second Party Congress. The course of these conferences testified to the political development of Party organisations and showed that activists understood the tasks facing the Party. At the same time the conferences disclosed shortcomings in the work of Party organisations.

The report of the Rawa Mazowiecka district committee and the speeches of the delegates were concentrated on the question of fulfilling state deliveries. Those taking part in discussion pointed out that in rural Party organisations there are still members who have not fulfilled their obligations in this respect.

It was pointed out that 5 branches and 43 probationers' groups have been set up in this district during the period under review and that the social composition of the district Party organisation has improved. The delegates stressed the need to improve the leadership given by the district committee to rural Party organisations and to intensify mass political work in villages where there are no branches.

At the district conference in Tarnowskie Gory delegates drew attention to the fact that the district committee and the district people's council gave insufficient help to the state machine station that has recently been

### MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF ALGERIA

A recent meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Algeria heard a report by Comrade Bachir Hadj Ali, Secretary of the Party. Having dwelt on the international and internal situation he pointed to the need to establish militant unity of the proletariat and the whole people of Algeria with the proletariat and the entire people of France.

Comrade Bachir Hadj Ali said that the Party had to conduct extensive work to popularise the Party policy on the national question and to fight for the national independence of the country. At the present time, he said, there is nothing more important than the continuation of our vigorous and persistent struggle for forging the unity of the people in the Algerian Nation.

Along with selecting and training lecturers and tutors the Party committees devote constant attention to improving the study system.

Before the students began to study Chapter Nine of the History of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, Short Course, and the decisions of the Communist Party of China, defining its general line in the transition period, the local Party committees worked out study plans and the list of recommended books and defined the main points of the study. When the study of these points was concluded, students attending the advanced course took written examinations and those going through the intermediate and elementary courses passed oral examinations.

set up and pay little attention to the organisation of producer co-operatives.

The delegates of the district conference in Miechuw (Cracow region) vigorously criticised the district committee and some activists for serious shortcomings in the development of producer co-operatives and for relaxing the struggle against the kulaks. Many delegates sharply raised the question of the morals and behaviour of Party members in the villages in connection with the struggle for the socialist transformation of the countryside.

Among delegates to the district conference in Augustow (Bialystok region) there were 30 peasants, including 20 individual peasants. The delegates criticised the district committee for inadequate attention to the activity of co-operatives in certain counties.

The delegates to the district conference in Zoliborz (Warsaw district) devoted much attention to the work of scientific establishments. They pointed out that some ministries, central boards and trade union bodies underestimated the role of scientific establishments and paid little attention to their work.

The district conferences in Warsaw devoted serious attention to work among youth. The delegates pointed to the need to intensify the bonds between schools and enterprises, display greater concern for young teachers and draw the best of them into the Party.

tasks of the Party: organising joint struggle for amnesty, for the observance of democratic freedoms and the implementation of progressive principles of the political statute of Algeria (equality for the Arab language, freedom of worship, ending the system of mixed communes, that is of the domination of the French colonial administration in the communes, electoral rights for Muslim women); solidarity with the peoples of Tunisia and Morocco, and the return of the Expeditionary Corps from Indo-China, the struggle for banning the H-bomb, against EDC and for satisfaction of the demands of the working masses.

The concluding speech was made by

state was manufactured in Indo-China. This state got the emperor it deserved—the despicable Bao Dai. This bloody venture was covered with filth. Big scandals such as the scandal which flared up around the speculation in cheques and piastres revealed the incredible corruption which encouraged and supported such a criminal policy.

This was a terrible and unbearable policy for France. It meant, above all, appalling bloodshed not only for the Viet Nam people who had gone through much suffering, but also for the people of France and Africa the soldiers of which were sent by the colonisers to fight against the Viet Nam people. According to official estimates the expeditionary force lost 100,000 dead, including 2,000 officers and over 6,000 NCOs, and 114,000 wounded. During this war, about which General Rene Cogny, one of the commanders of the expeditionary force said recently: "So many deaths for nothing", the cadres of the French army suffered heavy casualties.

According to the same official data, the war cost over 3,000,000 million francs, more than two-thirds of which was shouldered exclusively by France despite all the talk about the "blessings" of American aid. Having regard to the situation in France this is a monstrous burden.

Hence it is quite obvious that the war ran counter to the interests of France. The whole nation demanded that it be stopped. By the time the Geneva Conference opened this general desire for peace had become the firm will of the people. This will roused the forces which swept out Bidault, Pleven and the whole Laniel government and brought to power a Prime Minister who put the question of peace in Indo-China first. The struggle of the popular masses in France and all over the world was victorious over the forces of war and was decisive in securing a cease-fire in Indo-China.

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One can now understand the scope and the successful results of this struggle in France. One can appreciate the role of the French Communist Party as the Party of the working class and the leading force in the struggle of the masses. Our Party has been loyal to its principles since the first days of the war; it has served France and the cause of peace. Our Party has been unshakably loyal to its proletarian duty

resulted in a broader unity of all working people and, in particular, unity of Communist and Socialist workers. The number of joint actions taken by the workers for peace in Indo-China increased.

In Troyes the re-establishment of peace in Viet Nam was celebrated on July 23 by a joint demonstration of Socialist and Communist workers, workers affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour, to the "Force Ouvriere" and of other patriots under the banners of their organisations. It is clear that this demonstration was the result of the great efforts for unity if we recall the stand taken by the right-wing Socialist leaders, who often voted in support of war measures against Viet Nam. Guy Mollet even sought to justify the war in Viet Nam in the name of anti-Communism. The common will of the working people, however, found expression in the statements against the war at the recent Congress of the Socialist Party. Recently, following the announcement of the Government's intention to send conscripts to Indo-China there were numerous joint demonstrations of Socialist and Communist workers. The development of united working-class action is a sign of the mounting struggle of the entire people.

Each time the people go into action, men and women who serve as an example to others come to the fore. Leo Figueres, member of our C.C., who was sentenced to seven years imprisonment because, after a visit to Viet Nam, he made a statement on the possibility of establishing peace and who has been forced underground, is now recognised by our people as the true champion of their aspirations. Conditions must be provided without delay for Leo Figueres to carry on normal and unhindered activity.

The heroic examples of Henri Martin and Raymonde Dien are well-known in France and beyond her borders. With the imprisonment of Jacques Duclos, Alain le Leap, Guy Ducolone and others our people have seen the lengths to which the ruling circles go in their scorn for liberties, in their arbitrary actions against the leaders of our Party, of the CGT and youth organisations for the sake of continuing the unjust war.

It is less than a year since Henri Martin was released from penal servitude. It was only at the end of last year that the demand to lift the parliamentary immunity of the Communist leaders was rejected and the

desired by the peoples, because they fought for a cease-fire. This outcome was achieved in the teeth of the pressure and manoeuvres of the warmongers. In the recent period, marked by the Dien Bien Phu events, delegations from all parts of our country went to Geneva to express the will of the French people. Everywhere meetings of workers, peasants and people of all opinions and professions took decisions to inform the participants in the Geneva Conference of the demands of French men and women. Very often collections provided the fares for the journey and the delegations really represented the vast majority of the French people.

Popular action was a decisive element in bringing about the cease-fire in Indo-China. Once again the effectiveness of the struggle of the peoples for peace was demonstrated. According to Mendès-France himself, this struggle "forced the hand of destiny".

The agreements concluded in Geneva also testify that in order to have an independent policy, conforming to the national interests, France must get rid of the pressure and constraint to which she is subjected by American imperialism. The Geneva Conference has confirmed that she can get rid of this pressure.

The success of the Geneva Conference is the more significant because prior to the opening and in the course of the Conference violent attempts were made to "restrain" France. Frantic preparations were made to extend the war, to "internationalise" it. Bidault and his acolytes brought France to the verge of the abyss, coolly contemplating open and massive American intervention.

Morton, State Department official, cynically proclaimed the desire to extend the war, declaring that the U.S.A. would not be a party to an agreement based on appeasement.

Mendès-France, the present Prime Minister, said to Bidault: "You have been trying since 1950 to turn the Indo-China drama, which ought to have been localised and, if possible, minimised, into a subject of serious differences threatening world peace, just for the purpose of obtaining American subsidies."

The Geneva Conference has shown that the American representatives have not abandoned their manoeuvres against peace; their reservations with regard to the agree-

En-lai, and the necessity for such representation in the peaceful community of nations.

At Geneva, Britain, in the person of Eden, adopted an attitude that differed from that of the U.S.A. Mendès-France expressed his gratitude to him; likewise expressing his gratitude to V. M. Molotov, he said: "He used his influence for the aims of conciliation. His efforts were particularly successful during the last hours of the Conference." The Conference particularly emphasised the decisive significance of the efforts of the USSR, the friend of peace and of France.

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The first but decisive step has been taken along the path to a favourable change in French policy.

No one can validly hold that it is impossible to achieve in Europe what has been achieved in Asia. If it was possible to secure peace in Asia by means of negotiations, the security of Europe can be ensured in the same way.

What Edouard Herriot, Honorary President of the National Assembly, once said can today be read in the newspaper "Le Monde": "After six months Molotov's plan for collective security and his concept of reunification of a neutralised Germany... take on a new sound."

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The conclusion may be drawn that our Party has honourably fulfilled its duty in the struggle to halt the war in Indo-China. Its role was the determining factor in developing the victorious popular struggle. Even in Parliament it was our Party which, by its fight and its vote, pre-determined the departure of Bidault. In voting for Mendès-France, it wanted to end the war. It is now intensifying its struggle for securing peace, for ensuring the national independence and progress of France demanded by her people.

How right the Communists were in rejecting the gloomy prophecies of the enemies of peace and the people, dooming France to decadence!

No one can prevent France from playing once again an outstanding role in the world if it assures its independence and promotes the cause of peace.

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intensify the bonds of enterprises, display greater concern for young teachers and draw the best of them into the Party.

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Comrade Bachir Hadj Ali said that the Party had to conduct extensive work to popularise the Party policy on the national question and to fight for the national independence of the country. At the present time, he said, there is nothing more important than the continuation of our vigorous and persistent struggle for forging the unity of the people in the Algerian National Democratic Front. He then set out the

tasks of the Party: organising joint struggle for amnesty, for the observance of democratic freedoms and the implementation of progressive principles of the political statute of Algeria (equality for the Arab language, freedom of worship, ending the system of mixed communes, that is of the domination of the French colonial administration in the communes, electoral rights for Muslim women); solidarity with the peoples of Tunisia and Morocco, and the return of the Expeditionary Corps from Indo-China, the struggle for banning the H-bomb, against EDC and for satisfaction of the demands of the working masses.

The concluding speech was made by Comrade Larbi Bouhali, Secretary of the Party.

## 32nd ANNIVERSARY OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF JAPAN

July 15 marked the 32nd anniversary of the founding of the Japanese Communist Party. A meeting attended by more than 1,000 people, devoted to this historic date, was held on July 14, in Tokyo. Leading figures of the Party took the floor at this meeting. Comrade Shyoichi Kasuga, Chairman of the Central Leading Bureau, made a report on the situation in the

Party and the contribution of the Communists in the struggle for peace.

The 32nd anniversary of the Communist Party has been widely celebrated in all the Party organisations. Many posters and pamphlets have been produced in this connection reflecting the fight of the Japanese Communist Party for the interests of the working people of their country, for peace and independence.

## FROM COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PRESS

### Communist Party of India in Struggle for Peace and National Independence

"New Age"—Weekly of the Communist Party of India

The progressive press in India continues to devote close attention to the questions discussed during the talks between Chou En-lai, the Premier of the Government Administration Council and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China, and Jawaharlal Nehru, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of India. Progressive circles lay particular stress on the five principles advanced by the two Prime Ministers in their joint communique.

"New Age" recently published a statement by the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of India, which welcomed the joint communique and stressed that "...this communique is in marked contrast to the policy of threats and bluster pursued by the American imperialists".

Touching on the principles which shall govern the relations between the two countries, namely—mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty; non-aggression; non-interference in each other's internal affairs; equality and mutual benefit and peaceful co-existence—the Political Bureau points out that all who love peace will agree that "...these are principles which are applicable not only to the relations between India and China but to all problems of international relations".

The Communist Party appeals to the people of India and all their organisations to build a powerful movement in support of the principles so that imperialist designs on Asia can be effectively combated.

In a recent issue "New Age" featured an article by its editor, Comrade Ramamurti, member of the Political Bureau, in which stress is laid upon the need to build in India a broad national platform for peace and freedom.

"The Chou-Nehru and Chou-Nu declarations are important", says the article, "not only because they signify the change

in the relationship of forces in Asia, but also because they are the first steps taken by Asian countries in the direction of thwarting the designs of the imperialist Powers which are still bent upon dictating to the Asian peoples, continuing the enslavement and brutal exploitation of Asian peoples... The task of mobilising mass popular support for the principles of the declarations lies not only on Congressmen, but on all patriots, on all those who love peace and liberty. This task must transcend all narrow party barriers and a broad national platform can and should be developed, which alone can rally the millions of our country."

The author calls for greater vigilance in relation to moves by the enemies of peace. "Any lack of vigilance", he stresses, "any slackening in the task of mobilising support for the principles of the Chou-Nehru declaration, any failure to brand those who refuse to accept these principles as enemies of peace and freedom, will heighten the danger to the peace of Asia and the world, as well as to our own freedom and sovereignty."

NEW AGE  
WEEKLY

## Another American Provocation in Far East

Peace-loving mankind learnt with indignation of the latest grave provocation on the part of the U.S. militarists in the Far East. American military aircraft violated China's air limits and committed an act of piracy in attacking and shooting down two Chinese planes in the neighbourhood of the Island of Hainan on July 26. On the same day, Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, made a statement in which he endeavoured to justify this act of piracy by American airmen and set the tone for intensified war hysteria in the U.S.A.

The attack on the aircraft of the People's Republic of China was carried out from U.S. aircraft carriers which had been sent to the area of the Island of Hainan on the pretext of "rescue operations". The falsity of this assertion is obvious, since it is perfectly clear to anyone in his right senses that aircraft carriers intended for war purposes are not adapted for rescue work.

As a pretext for their latest provocation the U.S. ruling circles utilised the incident of

the British passenger plane which had been shot down by Chinese fighter planes who had mistaken it for a plane belonging to the Kuomintang gang. The moment the error was established the Government of the People's Republic of China at once expressed its regret for this accidental and lamentable incident and voiced its readiness to consider the question of paying necessary compensation in connection with the people who had perished and the material losses incurred. The statement made by the Government of the PRC was favourably accepted by the British Government. Clearly, however, this turn of events was not to the liking of certain American circles who are aiming at straining relations between the People's Republic of China and Britain and at stepping up aggressive actions in relation to Asian countries.

Despite the fact that the plane belonged to Britain which had not asked help from anyone, the American militarists hastened to the Island of Hainan. They did not take into account the fact that the British

authorities had by this time ceased the search for victims of the crash. It is quite clear that the American planes, having received orders to "shoot at sight", took to the air from the aircraft carriers not for the purpose of searching for victims of the incident, but in search of... skirmishes with aircraft of the People's Republic of China, engaged on patrol service.

This provocative act on the part of the American pirates, carried out thousands of miles from the U.S. borders, can only be regarded as a premeditated and carefully prepared attack, as a new manifestation of the aggressive actions by the U.S.A. Proof of this is that the 7th and 1st American Fleets, together with a special task force, including four aircraft carriers, appeared near China's coast. This provocation is calculated to undermine peace in Asia and maintain in the Far East a state of tension.

The Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China has made a most resolute protest to the Government of the U.S.A. against the criminal activities of

the American Air Force. Wide circles of the public throughout the world condemn provocative acts of the American militarists in the Far East. Prominent statesmen in different countries are speaking out against American aggressive actions. Even the press in the United States is forced to admit this. The "New York Times" correspondent reported that diplomatic circles in Britain regard the despatch of two U.S. aircraft carriers to the area where the passenger-plane came down as an unnecessary act of provocation. According to political circles in Japan, the actions of the U.S.A. in Asia are aimed at "nullifying the success achieved in Indo-China". British newspapers, characterising the actions of the Americans as "rash", state that this can lead to more and graver incidents, while the Associated Press correspondent calls it a threat to "universal peace".

By their acts of piracy the American provocateurs again expose themselves as violators of the peaceful life of the peoples of other countries, as warmongers.

T. SAMBOR



# Budget of People's Republic of China— Budget of Peace and Construction



## On Eve of Opening of All-Union Agricultural Exhibition

The All-Union Agricultural Exhibition opens in Moscow on August 1. "Pravda", "Izvestia" and other Soviet newspapers are publishing numerous articles and illustrations giving a vivid picture of the Exhibition.

The grounds with spacious squares, alleys and flower-beds, lakes and fountains are in the nature of a garden city. In size, the number of pavilions, number of exhibitors and their exhibits, the 1954 Exhibition has no equal in the world; it suffices to say that compared with the 1939-41 Exhibition, the area has been extended one and a half times and comprises 207 hectares. There are 76 pavilions and about 300 special buildings, subsidiary and service premises. More than 30 designing organisations, as well as academicians, professors, leading architects, sculptors and artists took part in the work.

The Main Pavilion is the heart of the Exhibition. Its three-tiered building, decorated with bronze emblems of the sixteen Union Republics and a huge gilded emblem of the Soviet Union, introduces one to the whole thing. The first of its nine large halls is dedicated to the Great October Socialist Revolution. The second hall testifies to the powerful industry of the great land of Soviets—the bedrock of the national economy. The third and fourth halls are devoted to the victory of the collective-farm system in the USSR. These halls illustrate the theme "The USSR—the country of the large-scale, most advanced and highly mechanised agriculture in the world". The fifth—central hall—is devoted to the Constitution of the USSR; halls six, seven and eight illustrate the constant

The sixteen pavilions of the Union Republics are located in the central square. Their architecture reflects the national architecture. Each is a kind of palace. These pavilions strikingly reflect the great friendship of the peoples of the Soviet Union, the flowering of the economy and culture of the fraternal Soviet Republics.

More than two thousand guides will acquaint visitors with the exhibits. An anticipated 3,500 visitors will arrive in Moscow daily from the Republics and regions of the Soviet Union. Among the exhibitors who have already arrived are Heroes of Socialist Labour, people renowned for high crop yields, famous livestock breeders, and renowned machine operators. Thousands of natural exhibits continue to arrive at the pavilions.

Collective-farm workers will demonstrate their remarkable achievements, the results of their indefatigable effort for further advancing agriculture.

The Exhibition will be a genuinely people's school of the advanced experience accumulated by the socialist agriculture of the Soviet Union.

On July 25 the leaders of the Party and the Soviet Government, Comrades K. E. Voroshilov, L. M. Kaganovich, G. M. Malenkov, A. I. Mikoyan, V. M. Molotov, M. Z. Saburov, N. S. Khrushchev, and N. N. Shatalin, visited the Exhibition and looked over the pavilions, auxiliary buildings and the show plots, the garden and livestock sectors.

The leaders of the Party and the Government expressed their conviction that the Exhibition would promote the further advance of all branches of agriculture and help in securing rapidly

Big successes were recorded in the 1953 national-economic plan and state budget under the leadership of the Communist Party and the Central People's Government of China. This was the result of the joint efforts of all the democratic classes, democratic parties, people's organisations, the people's governments at all levels, all economic and financial departments and the trade unions. It resulted from the growing labour enthusiasm and creative endeavour of the working people and from the many-sided aid of our great friend, the Soviet Union.

Taking the 1952 level as a base, total industrial and agricultural production in 1953 rose 11.4 per cent.

Of the total industrial and agricultural production 31.6 per cent came from large-scale industry (in 1952 it was 28), 7.8 per cent from handicraft workshops, 6.2 per cent from individual handicrafts and 54.4 per cent from agriculture and subsidiary occupations. This is clear proof of the rising proportion of modern industry in the national economy and indicates another step towards socialist industrialisation.

In 1953—the first year of our large-scale economic construction—the total value of industrial production was 28 per cent more than 1952. The value of production by state industry increased 33.7 per cent, co-operatives 48.5 per cent, joint state and private enterprises 39 per cent, and private enterprises 18.5 per cent. The target for most of the main products of state industry, especially heavy industry,—the basis for the development of the national economy—was surpassed. The plan for pig iron was fulfilled 102.4 per cent, steel 107.4 per cent, coal 111.6 per cent, electric power 103.1 per cent and crude oil 109.7 per cent. Production of items of daily necessity in general also reached or exceeded the target.

During 1953 there were 173 major projects under construction. Many of them, such as the Anshan heavy rolling mill, seamless tubing mill and blast furnaces No. 7 and No. 8, were completed in 1953 and started production.

In the sphere of agriculture, 1953 was a year of more serious natural calamities for the country than any year since the liberation. Consequently, agricultural output did not reach the original target. Nevertheless, the value of its total production was 1.5 per cent more than 1952. The correct way to ensure agricultural development is to carry out its socialist transformation and at present it is especially important to develop the co-operatives and mutual-aid teams. Last year considerable success was achieved in this respect.

Successes were also registered in the sphere of transport. Last year 589 kilometres of new railways were laid. Total rail freightage was 19.9 per cent and passenger traffic 36.8 per cent more than in 1952.

In home trade retail sales were about 20 per cent higher than in 1952, with state-owned trade showing an increase of 56.8 per cent. With a view to ensuring the peo-

country's grain front, especially for the progress of the socialist transformation of agriculture.

With the development of industry and agriculture and the growth in labour productivity, the material and cultural level of the people has also risen. This reflects the solicitude of the Communist Party and the People's Government of China for the people. The 1953 enrolment in the higher education establishments was 109.3 per cent of the original plan. For senior secondary schools it was 113.6 per cent, training colleges for secondary teachers 104 per cent and for junior secondary schools 128 per cent. There was also a significant expansion in other cultural and scientific fields. There were 25,000 more hospital beds than in 1952. As concerns individual income, in 1953 the average yearly real wage of workers in the state-owned enterprises was more than five per cent higher than in 1952. Purchasing power of society as a whole was some 20 per cent higher than in 1952.

On the basis of this development the 1953 state budget was successfully carried out. We fully met all necessary expenses for economic and cultural development of the country, for education and national defence.

However, there were not a few mistakes and shortcomings in our work. Some of the mistakes arose from lack of experience in compiling the budget. However, the mistakes and shortcomings were quickly corrected as a result of the corresponding directives issued by the Central Committee of the Party.

In 1954 our tasks are to increase revenue and accumulate capital by extending production, expanding the circulation of commodities, raising labour productivity and reducing costs, strictly practising economy and properly carrying out a series of measures, including the tax revenue plan and tax policy, so as to ensure the country's requirements for the second year of the first Five-Year Plan, particularly the needs of industrial construction. This will strengthen our national defence and, on the basis of developing production, result in a further rise in the material and cultural level of the working people.

Total revenue in the 1954 state budget amounts to 274,708,600 million yuan, while expenditure is fixed at 249,457,800 million yuan, that is, income exceeds expenditure by 25,250,800 million yuan.

In the budgetary revenue, taxes from industry, trade and other sources account for 45.05 per cent of the total, 12.9 per cent more than in 1953. Receipts from state-owned enterprises amount to 35.94 per cent of total revenue, 10.46 per cent more than in 1953.

The 1954 national-economic construction bonds to the amount of 8,160,000 million

Teng Hsiao-ping

Vice-Premier  
of the State Administration Council  
and Minister of Finance, People's  
Republic of China

Income from socialist enterprises holds first place in the revenue side of the state budget. The proportion of tax payments and profits from state economy rises from 62.6 per cent in

1953 to 63.58 per cent in 1954; the proportion from co-operative economy rises from 2.48 per cent to 2.56 per cent, while that of the joint state and private enterprises goes up from 1.23 per cent to 2.93 per cent. Combined income from these three sources rises from 66.31 to 69.07 per cent. While peasant income is rising rapidly the proportion of agricultural taxes in the 1954 budget falls from 13.48 to 13.43 per cent.

Our state budget is a budget of construction, a budget for the development of a peace economy. Allocations for economic construction amount to 113,227,000 million yuan, 45.39 per cent of the total expenditure, and 31.63 per cent more than in 1953. According to the state plan the total value of industrial and agricultural output in 1954 is scheduled to rise 12.6 per cent compared with 1953.

National-economic construction is centered around the development of industry, especially heavy industry. The allocations for such heavy industries as coal, electric power, petroleum, iron and steel, chemicals and machine-building constitute 78.3 per cent, while light industry allocations make up 21.7 per cent. These appropriations not only ensure the fulfilment of the 1954 construction plan, centered around 141 projects, but also ensure this year's development of industrial production. Compared with 1953 the total output of large-scale industry in 1954 is scheduled to go up 18.3 per cent, including pig iron 31.1 per cent, steel 18.8 per cent, electric power 14.9 per cent, cotton yarn 6.2 per cent, paper 14 per cent and sugar 23.2 per cent.

The plan and the budget likewise foresee further development this year of agriculture, forestry and water conservancy. Allocations for this are 5.53 per cent more than in 1953. The current year will see an increase in grain and cotton output; the 1954 plan envisages the setting up of 54 new state-owned mechanised farms, organisation of about 59 per cent of the total peasant households in mutual-aid teams and co-operative farming and the addition of over 80,000 producer co-operatives.

1954 will also see increased commodity circulation to meet the requirements of national construction and consumption needs. In 1954 the total volume of retail sales of commodities is to be increased by 13.8 per cent compared with 1953. State retail trade is to increase by 8.2 per cent and that of co-operatives by 35 per cent. The volume of private retail trade for the country as a whole is, likewise, scheduled for a rise.

Considerable sums are allocated for developing railways, motor and water communications, post and tele-communications. 603 kilometres of railway will be laid this year. Railway freightage increases 15.5 per cent compared with 1953 and passenger

strengthening of the socialist sector, it also reflects the concern of the state for culture, education, science, public health and social welfare.

36,692,000 million yuan are allocated for social, cultural, educational, scientific and health work (excluding labour insurance funds). These make up 14.71 per cent of the total expenditure, a 15.2 per cent increase compared with 1953.

The average wage of workers in state enterprises, cultural and educational establishments and government offices is to rise 5.2 per cent in 1954 on the basis of higher labour productivity. Purchasing power is to be 13.8 per cent higher than in 1953.

While carrying on large-scale construction, our state, at the same time, pays close attention to the strengthening of our national defence, since this is an important factor in safeguarding the peaceful labour of our people. Although we have pursued a policy of peaceful construction right from the first day of the founding of our Republic, we must be vigilant in relation to the aggressive policy of the United States of America. That is why the expenditure on national defence in the 1954 budget is 52,670,000 million yuan, 21.11 per cent of the total expenditure.

Chairman Mao Tse-tung has pointed out that: "To increase production, practise economy and accumulate more reserves are three trustworthy defence lines in consolidating the state budget." This must be soberly carried out in our financial work.

To guarantee the carrying out of the 1954 budget the following tasks must be accomplished:

First, general fulfilment and overfulfilment of the 1954 national-economic plan; this is the basis for successful fulfilment of the budget. The workers and the people must go ahead with the movement to increase production and practise economy so as to increase output, improve quality and reduce costs. Another important task is the strengthening of the financial control in enterprises.

Second, fulfilment of all items of tax revenue is the key to successful fulfilment of the budget.

Third, reducing administrative expenditure in government establishments and simplifying the administrative structure are important for accumulating capital for industrialisation.

Fourth, strengthening financial supervision and enforcing rigorous financial discipline. Supervision of finance is vital in helping the enterprises and government establishments to improve management, to have thorough cost accounting and to practise rigid economy.

Fifth, the personnel of the financial institutions must improve their political understanding and vocational level, link theory and practice, extend criticism and self-criticism, overcome pride and complacency and conscientiously carry out their duties in

times and comprises 207 hectares. There are 76 pavilions and about 300 special buildings, subsidiary and service premises. More than 30 designing organisations, as well as academicians, professors, leading architects, sculptors and artists took part in the work.

The Main Pavilion is the heart of the Exhibition. Its three-tiered building, decorated with bronze emblems of the sixteen Union Republics and a huge gilded emblem of the Soviet Union, introduces one to the whole thing. The first of its nine large halls is dedicated to the Great October Socialist Revolution. The second hall testifies to the powerful industry of the great land of Soviets—the bedrock of the national economy. The third and fourth halls are devoted to the victory of the collective-farm system in the USSR. These halls illustrate the theme: "The USSR—the country of the large-scale, most advanced and highly mechanised agriculture in the world". The fifth—central hall—is devoted to the Constitution of the USSR; halls six, seven and eight illustrate the constant concern displayed by the Communist Party and the Soviet Government for the well-being of the people. The tour of the Main Pavilion ends in the ninth hall, which depicts the struggle waged by the Soviet people for peace.

They are heroes of Socialist Labour, people renowned for high crop yields, famous livestock breeders, and renowned machine operators. Thousands of natural exhibits continue to arrive at the pavilions.

Collective-farm workers will demonstrate their remarkable achievements, the results of their indefatigable effort for further advancing agriculture.

The Exhibition will be a genuinely people's school of the advanced experience accumulated by the socialist agriculture of the Soviet Union.

On July 25 the leaders of the Party and the Soviet Government, Comrades K. E. Voroshilov, L. M. Kaganovich, G. M. Malenkov, A. I. Mikoyan, V. M. Molotov, M. Z. Saburov, N. S. Khrushchev, and N. N. Shatalin, visited the Exhibition and looked over the pavilions, auxiliary buildings and the show plots, the garden and livestock sectors.

The leaders of the Party and the Government expressed their conviction that the Exhibition would promote the further advance of all branches of agriculture and help in securing rapidly an abundance of agricultural products in the Soviet Union.

**Photo:** Main Pavilion of the All-Union Agricultural Exhibition which is opening in Moscow.

seamless tubing mill and blast furnaces No. 7 and No. 8, were completed in 1953 and started production.

In the sphere of agriculture, 1953 was a year of more serious natural calamities for the country than any year since the liberation. Consequently, agricultural output did not reach the original target. Nevertheless, the value of its total production was 1.5 per cent more than 1952. The correct way to ensure agricultural development is to carry out its socialist transformation and at present it is especially important to develop the co-operatives and mutual-aid teams. Last year considerable success was achieved in this respect.

Successes were also registered in the sphere of transport. Last year 589 kilometres of new railways were laid. Total rail freightage was 19.9 per cent and passenger traffic 36.8 per cent more than in 1952.

In home trade retail sales were about 20 per cent higher than in 1952, with state-owned trade showing an increase of 56.8 per cent. With a view to ensuring the people's grain requirements, in keeping with the policy of steadily raising the standard of living, planned buying and distribution of grains were started in the winter of 1953. This work yielded pronounced results, results which constitute a major victory on the

production, expanding the circulation of commodities, raising labour productivity and reducing costs, strictly practising economy and properly carrying out a series of measures, including the tax revenue plan and tax policy, so as to ensure the country's requirements for the second year of the first Five-Year Plan, particularly the needs of industrial construction. This will strengthen our national defence and, on the basis of developing production, result in a further rise in the material and cultural level of the working people.

Total revenue in the 1954 state budget amounts to 274,708,600 million yuan, while expenditure is fixed at 249,457,800 million yuan, that is, income exceeds expenditure by 25,250,800 million yuan.

In the budgetary revenue, taxes from industry, trade and other sources account for 45.05 per cent of the total, 12.9 per cent more than in 1953. Receipts from state-owned enterprises amount to 35.94 per cent of total revenue, 10.46 per cent more than in 1953.

The 1954 national-economic construction bonds to the amount of 8,160,000 million yuan had been subscribed by the end of April, exceeding the estimates by 36 per cent. This also makes up a part of budgetary revenue and testifies to the people's active support for national-economic construction and their full confidence in the People's Government.

Further development this year of agriculture, forestry and water conservancy. Allocations for this are 5.53 per cent more than in 1953. The current year will see an increase in grain and cotton output; the 1954 plan envisages the setting up of 54 new state-owned mechanised farms, organisation of about 59 per cent of the total peasant households in mutual-aid teams and co-operative farming and the addition of over 80,000 producer co-operatives.

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Considerable sums are allocated for developing railways, motor and water communications, post and tele-communications. 603 kilometres of railway will be laid this year. Railway freightage increases 15.5 per cent compared with 1953 and passenger transport 14 per cent. Inland water freightage and marine freightage are scheduled for a considerable increase.

The 1954 budget not only reflects the development of the national economy and the

must to meet the requirements of the national economy so as to increase output, improve quality and reduce costs. Another important task is the strengthening of the financial control in enterprises.

Second, fulfilment of all items of tax revenue is the key to successful fulfilment of the budget.

Third, reducing administrative expenditure in government establishments and simplifying the administrative structure are important for accumulating capital for industrialisation.

Fourth, strengthening financial supervision and enforcing rigorous financial discipline. Supervision of finance is vital in helping the enterprises and government establishments to improve management, to have thorough cost accounting and to practise rigid economy.

Fifth, the personnel of the financial institutions must improve their political understanding and vocational level, link theory and practice, extend criticism and self-criticism, overcome pride and complacency and conscientiously carry out their duties in exercising financial discipline.

We believe that if these requirements are fully realised there can be no doubt about the successful fulfilment of the 1954 state budget.

## Italian Communists Fight for New Direction in Italian Policy\*

Province conferences of the Italian Communist Party took place in the period between January 30 and June 20. These conferences were preceded by about 50,000 branch meetings and by approximately 10,000 section conferences. At these conferences and meetings there spoke in discussion some 400,000 Party members, who, by expressing the feelings and aspirations of the working masses, by means of criticism and self-criticism, by their ample documentation characterising the conditions of the Italian people, by means of their original studies of the problems facing our country, made a big and direct political contribution. The average age of the delegates to the Province conferences was 32 years; 39.5 per cent of the delegates were workers and 11 per cent agricultural labourers.

The membership of the Communist Party on June 30 stood at 2,130,095 (30,000 more than on June 30 last year). To this number there should be added 423,522 members of the Communist Youth Federation. In the course of the campaign for exchanging Party cards 160,685 new members were recruited, including 53,031 women.

The Communist Party has deep roots all over the country and among most sections of Italian society. Ten years after Comrade Togliatti placed before the members the task of building a genuine Party of the new type, our Party has grown into a big, popular mass party: today one in every three persons met on the street is either a member, sympathiser or ally of the Communist Party. Proof of the steady growth of the new forces of the Party is the fact that 30 per cent of the members of the Federation committees are new.

A big and powerful mass Party has grown up around the small core of veteran

\* From report to meeting of C.C., Italian Communist Party, July 16.

**Giorgio Amendola**  
Member of the Leadership,  
Italian Communist Party

activists who waged the underground struggle during the fascist regime. The Party grew in the course of the liberation war and in the postwar period, and particularly since 1947, in the course of relentless struggle against the clerical governments. New leading cadres have come forward in this struggle. For instance, on the Federation committees there are 330 members who joined the Party in the years between 1921 and 1926, 409 who joined between 1927 and 1942, 2,706 who joined in the years 1943-46 and, finally, 509 whose membership dates from 1947.

All in all the conferences confirmed the profound ideological and political unity of the Party. The young generation, brought up on the heroic traditions of the Party, in the spirit of gratitude to and admiration for the fighters against fascism in the period of illegality and for the heroes of the war of liberation, together with the veteran cadres of the Party, have taken, naturally, without division and without differences, leading posts in the Party. The Communist Party has been able at all times to stress with great force its national character, and, despite the long and difficult years as the Party of the opposition, has not restricted itself to criticism and propaganda, but always emphasised its role as the Party of the new leading class, capable of ruling, the Party which studies and poses all the questions agitating the Italian people and shows the way to their solution.

At the conferences held this year efforts were concentrated on those problems the solution of which would ensure the economic development and regeneration of our country. Many Federations sought

to link their specific tasks with the main aim for the purpose of making their own contribution, a new contribution in posing in a concrete way the general problem of the political and economic regeneration of Italy. At the present moment it is necessary to extend this discussion and to pose some of the problems on a broader plane, on a regional and national level, to ensure deeper consideration of them and afterwards to take measures which would rally the entire Party.

The elections which took place on June 7 last year gave a powerful impulse to the movement of the working masses. By-election results have shown that the Left forces are marching forward, slowly but surely. This is expressed in the maturing of new opposition forces, awakened by the political experience gained since the elections.

The political situation in Italy is unstable. There is general dissatisfaction in the country, profound discontent and widespread demand for a change. Apart from a small group of the privileged, the people as a whole are discontented. This political crisis arises from the grave economic situation in the country which makes it impossible for the majority of the people to secure satisfaction of their urgent, elementary needs. Features of the situation are the low wages, the growing burden of unemployment and low level of consumption. All this reveals the inability of the capitalist economic system to guarantee employment and even elementary conditions of life. The fact that the average annual income per head of the population, after rising 12 per cent in the first ten years of the century, has remained more or less at the same level, and the fact that the percentage of the employed population in relation to the total population has declined in the period 1901-51 from 49 to 41.7 per cent, show that the past 50 years have been lost years so far as Italian economic development

is concerned. The clearest expression of the standstill in economic development is the absence of any progress in the industrialisation of the country. In 1951, of the total employed population, consisting of 19,490,000, only 7,033,000 were employed in industry, transport and communications, and of these only 4,166,300 were in industry (in 1937 the figure was 4,162,500). In the course of the first half of the century the growth in the numbers employed took place at a progressively slower rate—from 2,304,000 in 1911 to 3,303,000 in 1926 and then to 4,162,500 in 1937. This growth came to a complete standstill in the period 1937-51.

In the conditions of this relative standstill in the Italian economy there took place a sweeping growth of the monopolies. The ten biggest companies (Edison, FIAT, Montecatini, Pirelli, Snia-Viscosa, Eridania, Italcementi, Liguaggi, Cucirini-Cantoni, SIP), which own 25 per cent of all industrial shares, officially announced profits of 38,700 million lire in 1953, compared with 28,600 million in 1952, that is, an increase of 35 per cent. The growth of these monopoly groups took place at the expense of the small and medium owners as a consequence of the credit and financial policy pursued by Pella, the policy which is the basis of the Scelba-Saragat Government. At the same time the clerical governments pursued and are stubbornly pursuing a policy of restricting the IRI (state-controlled industry). Between 1946 and September 30, 1953, a total of 46,276 workers were sacked in 32 factories which have cut production.

To the discontent of the working class and farm labourers there should be added the discontent of the peasant masses, handicraftsmen and office workers. There is also discontent among traders, small and medium manufacturers and among some other groups of the bourgeoisie.

The working class is seething with great anger and with tremendous will to struggle. The Italian workers, precisely because they are politically mature, want to know, to consider and democratically solve the questions relating to the progress and results of this struggle. This testifies to the growth of trade union

democracy, but at the same time it places big tasks before the activists of our Party even if they are not trade union organisers; they must raise the level of the leadership so that it corresponds to the growing militancy and political consciousness of the working class.

At the same time within the working class there is an ever-growing conviction that, with the given correlation of forces, the solution of many questions depends on the main problem of the structural transformation of Italian society. The question of restricting the all-powerful monopolies arises from the situation in which the Italian economy finds itself. The struggle must pursue three aims: the reorganisation of the IRI, nationalisation of some of the monopolies (electric power and Montecatini) and the establishment of democratic control over the monopolies.

In the countryside, too, there are forces which can be mobilised but which are not involved in the struggle. The peasant masses are in ferment. New demands have made their appearance.

The conferences have shown that the Party now has a deeper knowledge of peasant problems and that its contact with the peasant masses has improved in all areas. It is essential above all to give a new scale to the struggle for the main aim: general and constant restriction of landed property. At the Province conferences this aim was not sufficiently stressed, nor was there a deep searching for the methods needed to bring the peasant masses into the struggle to give a new impulse to the development of agrarian reform. The fight for agrarian reform should be linked with the struggle for reform of the agrarian agreements, which has made progress in the South and which acquired a new scale in the zone where the sharecropping system exists. At the same time the greatest help must be given to the small peasant owners and to organising them.

These processes are expressed politically in the steady growth of the Left forces, in the crisis of the Government bloc, in the political paralysis and in the disintegration now setting in in the right monarchist-fascist parties. Although with the forma-

tion of the Scelba-Saragat Government a brake was temporarily put on self-criticism, a violent manifestation of which occurred in the Social Democratic camp following the election of June 7, 1953, and although the united trade union front was split, it was impossible to stifle criticism within the different parties of the Government bloc. In spite of a resumption of the anti-Communist campaign by the Government, many barriers have been destroyed and the Government's policy of discrimination between citizens, a trivial and prejudiced administrative policy of "minor matters", has, in fact, been condemned by all people of common sense.

The demonstrations in connection with the tenth anniversary of the Resistance Movement confirmed the vitality of the common, anti-fascist and republican efforts of the Italian people. Even the Congress of the Christian Democratic Party in Naples revealed a leftward turn in Italian society, including the Catholic camp. Convinced that this swing cannot be held back or diverted either by a blatant right-wing policy or under the flag of anti-Communism, the Christian Democratic leaders are attempting to restrain it by intrigue and equivocal manoeuvres. Fanfani made these intentions clear as early as last January. But little benefit derives from these intrigues and equivocal manoeuvres. And since at the Congress of the Christian Democratic Party Fanfani was concerned only with changing the leadership without undertaking any definite obligations, he set Christian Democrat La Pira the task of inspiring "hope" in the rank and file.

But the rank and file want concrete facts? at least the reorganisation of the IRI, the adoption of measures against the monopolies, advancement of agrarian reform, the reform of agrarian agreements, a reduction in unemployment. And these things cannot be achieved if the powerful united action of the working people as a whole is not developed around these and other problems. The Congress of the Christian Democratic Party in Naples revealed how the "Democratic Initiative" (the group led by Fanfani, present Secretary of the Party) were ready to re-

(Continued on page 6)

## PRESS REVIEW

# Drive for More Mass-Consumption Goods—National Cause

"Scinteia"—Organ of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party, "Romina Liberă"—Organ of People's Councils and "Munca"—Organ of the Central Council of Trade Unions of the Rumanian People's Republic

The enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party held in August 1953 thoroughly discussed questions of further developing the national economy and raising the standard of living of the working population. The decisions of the meeting, envisaging further development of heavy industry, particularly of those branches which are securely based on home-produced raw materials, place as the immediate task a powerful advance of agriculture, light industry and the food industry and increased production of mass-consumption goods.

The decisions met with a wide response and wholehearted approval among the working people. The drive for turning out more mass-consumption goods has become the cause of the entire people. In the period since the August meeting production of such goods rose considerably. The output of cotton fabrics, for instance, increased by 10 per cent, silk fabrics 12 per cent, poplin 84 per cent, shoes 7 per cent, leather goods 104 per cent and iron utensils 21 per cent.

A big job is being done by the central and local press in mobilising the working people for carrying out the Party's programme for the quickest possible advance of the people's well-being. The newspapers "Scinteia", "Romina Liberă" and "Munca" have done much to popularise the decisions. They have published numerous articles, letters and other material which help to improve the political and organisational work of Party and trade union organisations and people's councils. They generalise the best experience of Party and trade union work and popularise the initiative of enterprises turning out consumer goods and the labour successes of innovators.

In its concern to meet the growing requirements of the population the Party and the people's-democratic Government have almost doubled the amount of capital investments envisaged in the plan for industries producing mass-consumption goods. In the food industry, for instance, capital investments will go up from 980 million lei in 1953 to 1,800 million lei in 1955 and in the textile and footwear industries there will be an increase of 1,300 million lei.

These capital investments are a powerful base for further increasing the production of articles of mass consumption. Alongside this, the successful fulfilment of this important national-economic task depends to a considerable extent on the utilisation of internal reserves in every enterprise and on large-scale development of the working people's initiative. With this in mind the newspapers resolutely denounce the tendency of some leaders of Party organisations and state establishments to rely entirely on building new enterprises for increasing production. Each day the central press, in various forms, shows the working people that to achieve an increasingly higher standard of living it is essential that they themselves strive to increase production, raise labour productivity, lower production costs and improve quality.

The editorial boards of "Scinteia", "Romina Liberă" and "Munca" have held several meetings of leading officials from ministries, managers of enterprises, engineers and workers, which helped to analyse

ing mills met with a wide response up and down the country. The implementation of the proposals put forward at the meeting particularly helped the Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej factory to increase considerably the production of ready-made clothing without any additional capital investments. The initiative of the factory which launched a large-scale



socialist emulation campaign for the utilisation of internal reserves was taken up by many enterprises of light industry in the country.

"Scinteia" regularly features articles showing how regional, district and city committees and branches of the Party lead the enterprises of light industry and how they achieve an increase in the output of goods of popular consumption. In addition to editorials and other articles these questions are analysed in articles by secretaries of Party organisations, engineers and technicians in enterprises and by others. In her article the secretary of the Party organisation in the G. Gheorghiu-Dej sewing factory, Elena Stoica, wrote that the internal reserves of each enterprise can be revealed and utilised to the full only when all Communists and non-party workers and specialists are drawn into this cause.

Since the disparity between the production capacities of the spinning and weaving mills is still felt "Scinteia", "Munca" and "Romina Liberă" have prominently featured the drive for bringing out and utilising internal reserves and for better use of spinning machines. "Scinteia", for example, widely popularised the working experience of the spinners' team led by Antuana Alexovici ("7 November" textile mill) which increased the productivity of the machines by some 9 per cent. The weaving factories, footwear and leather industries were confronted with the urgent need to exercise economy in raw materials. In articles by Al. Stefanescu, foreman weaver from the fulling mill in Buhusi, by the manager of the "Proletarul" fulling mill in Bacău and others "Scinteia" told its readers how advanced methods of labour make it possible to turn out more goods by exercising economy in raw materials.

"Scinteia" considerably helped the managers of enterprises and Party organisations in the development of production of metalware for consumer use, mainly at the large metal processing and electro-technical enterprises. The newspaper criticises those managers who did not want to understand that alongside the fulfilment of the plan for the output of machines and equipment on all indices they can and must turn out metalware for the needs of the population.

Trade unions play a significant role in the national drive for increasing the production of mass-consumption goods. They are entrusted with the task of encouraging the creative initiative of the working people and organising socialist emulation throughout the country. The newspaper "Munca" carried a number of articles analysing and generalising the good working experience of the trade unions at the "Transylvania" fulling mill in Cisanadie, "Tehnometal" factory in Timisoara, and some other factories. An article in "Munca" which featured a meeting of the workers from the "Industria Bumbacului A" factory with representatives of the supply factories, interested trade organisations and representatives of the Ministry aroused widespread comment in light industrial enterprises.

The central newspapers attach great importance to letters and short items from the working people dealing with the development of production of mass-consumption goods. The newspaper "Munca" for example, introduced a special column "Emulation Forum". The material published in this column is closely followed but unfortunately does not appear often enough.

Recently "Scinteia" justly criticised "Munca" for the lack of initiative and its poor organisational role in the socialist emulation, especially in the branches of industry turning out consumer goods.

Many articles on the production of mass-consumption goods also appear in "Romina Liberă" which concentrates the attention of its readers mainly on the question of increasing the output of consumer goods by local industry. The newspaper has carried a number of articles by I. Tăbirca, I. Vantiu, Paul Bugyi—chairmen of the executive committees of people's councils in the Ploesti and Baia Mare regions and the Hungarian Autonomous Region respectively—and others, containing criticism and self-criticism.

"Romina Liberă" has regularly carried articles under the title "As many goods as possible from raw materials economised". A shortcoming of the newspaper is that it rarely publishes letters from the workers.

Despite the fact that "Scinteia", "Romina Liberă" and "Munca" have carried a great deal of material, including articles by its correspondents, the attention they devote to questions of increasing output of consumer goods and improving their quality is still spasmodic. True, in recent times they have improved their work in this respect in connection with preparations for the tenth anniversary of the liberation of the country.

A big shortcoming of these newspapers is that they do not check with due persistence on the effect of the material published, especially critical articles. The editorial boards cannot, however, remain indifferent as to whether proper measures were taken to eliminate shortcomings, whether the leadership of enterprises or economic bodies forgot their production pledges published in the press and what difficulties are encountered by the enterprise which took the pledge.

By intensifying their participation in the common struggle for increased output of mass-consumption goods and better quality,

## INDONESIAN PEOPLE DEMAND ELIMINATION OF SURVIVALS OF COLONIAL REGIME

Indonesia is actively preparing to celebrate her national holiday, the 17th of August—Day of the Proclamation of the Republic of Indonesia. The Secretariat of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Indonesia issued a statement calling upon the people to mark the holiday with ever-growing national unity and pointing to the need to set up a genuine National Front; it also urges a broadening of the celebration committees to enable them to rally the masses in the struggle for the chief national tasks, for independence, better living conditions for the working people and for peace throughout the world.

Mass meetings are being held all over the country. The broad public opinion of Indonesia resolutely demands the elimination of the remnants of the colonial regime. In the town of Bandung (central Java) thousands of people attended a meeting organised by the National Party, Labour Party, Communist Party and trade unions and demanded the immediate renunciation of the Dutch-Indonesian Union, that West Irian be brought into the Republic and also that the privileges of the Dutch and American colonisers in Indonesia be abolished.

In Chepu, Javan oil centre, a 50,000-strong meeting was attended by Comrade Lukman, deputy Secretary-General of the C.C., who explained the basic points of the Communist Party programme. The meeting approved the programme and adopted a resolution to fight against colonialism.

A congress of the trade union of agricultural workers (Sarbupri) affiliating more than 500,000 people was held in Jakarta. The congress urged the Government "to take all measures for the liberation of the country from the chains of foreign capital, restoration of the national economy, for a trade policy free from U.S. pressure".

## SOARING PRICES IN CAPITALIST COUNTRIES

The living standards of the working people are deteriorating from day to day in capitalist countries. Increased taxes, mounting unemployment and high prices have become a commonplace. In Spain, for instance, the price of bread went up recently by about 10 per cent, while charges for gas have gone up 20 per cent and for electric power 10 per cent. According to official data the cost of living in Sao Paulo (Brazil) in January last was 710 per cent of the January 1939 level.

Food prices have substantially increased in Uruguay, Israel, Norway and in a number of other capitalist countries. In Norway, for instance, since 1949 cheese and margarine prices have increased twofold, and those for milk, butter and eggs have also risen sharply. "No matter where you go", comments the Norwegian newspaper "Friheten", "whether in a shop, bus, tram or street—people complain about the terrible price increases. Living has become so expensive that it is impossible to exist—these words are to be heard everywhere. People are asking: When will this madness end?"

The fall in the standard of living of the working masses is a direct consequence

## FEUILLETON

## "Respectable Businessmen"— Sleuths and Informers

Of late a new species of the "prosperous businessman" has begun rapidly to multiply in the United States of America, namely the professional informer and the private sleuth. These agent-provocateurs, who stop at nothing for personal gain, derive substantial profits from bearing false witness and indulging in utterly false denunciations and vilification.

Lawrence, the "New York Times" correspondent in Washington, reports that giving information is becoming a big and ever-expanding "business" in the U.S.A. because the Government lavishly subsidises "witnesses" testifying against "Communists". Even the "Wall Street Journal", organ of the Stock Exchange, has admitted that the profession of "private detective" has become "highly esteemed", a "respectable business" in the U.S.A.

Appearing as indispensable, primed "witnesses" for the prosecution in all the legal farces inspired against the "un-Americans", or as chief "heroes" of the rabid McCarthy campaigns against progressive citizens, the informers and sleuths have been elevated to the rank of the most prominent figures on the American scene. The following testifies to this: 5,000 detective agencies are functioning in the U.S.A. at present; they are part of several monopolies.

The detective agencies train and supply cadres of drilled sleuths for the monopolists, they "hunt Communists" in the factories and have agents in all "key positions" to spy out "Reds"; they sign lucrative agreements with the big industrialists to shadow workers, to carry out wrecking activities in trade unions and to persecute those who dare fight for the rights of the working people, who oppose wage cuts, the armament drive and who advocate lessening the international tension.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation carefully collects the reports made by the professional informers and sleuths who know neither conscience nor honour. According to the authentic statement made by Biddle, former U.S. Attorney General, the files of the F.B.I. contain millions of reports on citizens who are under surveillance. Carey McWilliams, well-known American journalist, reported that in the conditions of secret records in which U.S. citizens live a man can no more get rid of his dossier than his shadow.

It will not be amiss to say that the morals of the "respectable businessmen", who become rich by bearing false testimony, comply fully with the present-day American standards of "heroes". The U.S. press is not in a position to conceal their "adventures". In a number of towns in New Jersey, for instance, the paid F.B.I. agents have been caught in gangster raids and burglary. In Detroit, after the workers had booted out stool-pigeons from the trade unions, they were afforded shelter by the Ford Motor Company. Hired agents and sleuths get up to 25 dollars a day for

"testifying" against workers under "suspicion". It was revealed in court in the State of Connecticut that the father-son team of F.B.I. stool-pigeons by the name of Mosher, "earn" from 75-100 dollars a month for their "services". These are, so to say, the small fry. As concerns the big detectives, they have amassed fortunes out of their dirty operations.

A huge and ever expanding police apparatus is used to carry out an all-embracing shadowing of U.S. citizens, keeping track of their thoughts, conversations and views. The "Saturday Evening Post" admits that agents engaged in investigating the political "reliability" of Americans, especially of civil servants, are scouring every town, big and small, every village, establishing the past and connections of office employees right from the cradle. The House of Representatives has approved a Bill which legalises telephone tapping.

And that is not all. Top-rank representatives of the ruling circles of the U.S.A. demand the enactment of more laws and the provision of "additional machinery" in order to keep every American within the limits of the much vaunted American "freedoms". Apparently it is with the purpose of upholding these "freedoms" that the U.S. Government is getting out a programme for extending Federal prisons, while James Bennett, Director of Prisons, has requested Congress to hurry up with a grant of additional hundreds of thousands of dollars for this purpose. Apparently it is with the purpose of maintaining the "blessings of the American way of life" that Herbert Brownell, Attorney General, has

been instructed to compile a list of measures against the "Communists", and the monopoly press briefed to treat "Communists and Communism as a most important subject". In an agony of sweat, the Department of Justice is laboriously drawing up further lists of "subversive organisations" and, in conjunction with the F.B.I. and the Immigration and Naturalisation Service, is passing sentences on "suspicious" persons and deporting as "undesirable aliens" people who have lived all their thinking life in the U.S.A.

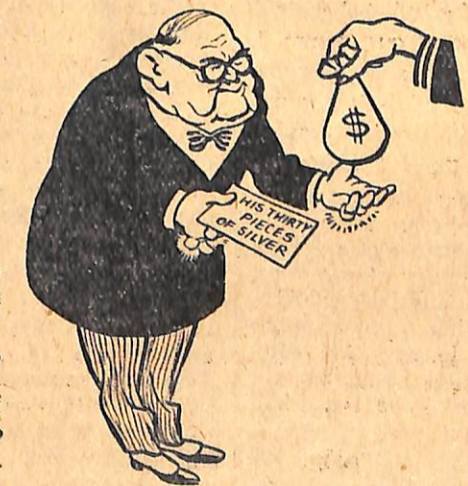
Observing the different sides of American life, Mark Twain wrote in his day with bitter irony that the Americans had three invaluable gifts—freedom of speech, freedom of conscience and the good wisdom not to make use of them.

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J. SMITH

## AGAINST REPRESSIVE MEASURES AND SUPPRESSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS IN PAKISTAN

The dismissal of the Legislative Assembly of East Pakistan, enforcement of... suppressing civil liberties. This is borne out



ments will go up from 980 million lei in 1953 to 1,800 million lei in 1955 and in the textile and footwear industries there will be an increase of 1,300 million lei.

These capital investments are a powerful base for further increasing the production of articles of mass consumption. Alongside this, the successful fulfilment of this important national-economic task depends to a considerable extent on the utilisation of internal reserves in every enterprise and on large-scale development of the working people's initiative. With this in mind the newspapers resolutely denounce the tendency of some leaders of Party organisations and state establishments to rely entirely on building new enterprises for increasing production. Each day the central press, in various forms, shows the working people that to achieve an increasingly higher standard of living it is essential that they themselves strive to increase production, raise labour productivity, lower production costs and improve quality.

The editorial boards of "Scinteia", "Romania Liberă" and "Munca" have held several meetings of leading officials from ministries, managers of enterprises, engineers and workers, which helped to analyse more deeply the work of enterprises of light industry and the food industry, to generalise their experience and disclose shortcomings.

Reports published in "Scinteia" about a meeting of personnel from the Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej sewing factory, of advanced workers and managers of big weaving and spinning

ing experience of the spinners' team led by Antaneta Alexovici ("7 November" textile mill) which increased the productivity of the machines by some 9 per cent. The weaving factories, footwear and leather industries were confronted with the urgent need to exercise economy in raw materials. In articles by Al. Stefanescu, foreman weaver from the fulling mill in Buhusi, by the manager of the "Proletarul" fulling mill in Bacău and others "Scinteia" told its readers how advanced methods of labour make it possible to turn out more goods by exercising economy in raw materials.

"Scinteia" considerably helped the managers of enterprises and Party organisations in the development of production of metalware for consumer use, mainly at the large metal processing and electro-technical enterprises. The newspaper criticises those managers who did not want to understand that alongside the fulfilment of the plan for the output of machines and equipment on all indices they can and must turn out metalware for the needs of the population.

As a result of the publication of critical articles the "23 August" plant reorganised the workshop turning out articles of mass consumption while the "Mao Tse-tung" factory took measures to extend the types of goods produced from 12 to 21 and increased by 59 per cent the production of mass-consumption goods in the second quarter.

possible from raw materials economised. A shortcoming of the newspaper is that it rarely publishes letters from the workers. Despite the fact that "Scinteia", "Romania Liberă" and "Munca" have carried a great deal of material, including articles by its correspondents, the attention they devote to questions of increasing output of consumer goods and improving their quality is still spasmodic. True, in recent times they have improved their work in this respect in connection with preparations for the tenth anniversary of the liberation of the country.

A big shortcoming of these newspapers is that they do not check with due persistence on the effect of the material published, especially critical articles. The editorial boards cannot, however, remain indifferent as to whether proper measures were taken to eliminate shortcomings, whether the leadership of enterprises or economic bodies forgot their production pledges published in the press and what difficulties are encountered by the enterprise which took the pledge.

By intensifying their participation in the common struggle for increased output of mass-consumption goods and better quality, and surrounding themselves with a wide network of worker and peasant correspondents the newspapers "Scinteia", "Romania Liberă" and "Munca" will become more powerful weapons of the Rumanian Workers' Party in its drive for further raising the standard of living of the working population of the country.

in capitalist countries. Increased taxes, mounting unemployment and high prices have become a commonplace. In Spain, for instance, the price of bread went up recently by about 10 per cent, while charges for gas have gone up 20 per cent and for electric power 10 per cent. According to official data the cost of living in Sao Paulo (Brazil) in January last was 710 per cent of the January 1939 level.

Food prices have substantially increased in Uruguay, Israel, Norway and in a number of other capitalist countries. In Norway, for instance, since 1949 cheese and margarine prices have increased twofold, and those for milk, butter and eggs have also risen sharply. "No matter where you go", comments the Norwegian newspaper "Friheten", "whether in a shop, bus, tram or street—people complain about the terrible price increases. Living has become so expensive that it is impossible to exist—these words are to be heard everywhere. People are asking: When will this madness end?"

The fall in the standard of living of the working masses is a direct consequence of the armament drive. Vast military expenditure makes it impossible to balance budgets, makes the burden of taxation still heavier and leads to a steady rise in prices.

The working people are everywhere demanding a halt to the armament drive, are demanding wage increases, price reductions and lower taxes.

## Facts Expose...

"Nevertheless..." According to Drew Pearson, Washington correspondent of the "Daily Mirror", General Donovan, U.S. Ambassador to Thailand, has stated that the Thai Government are the most corrupt in South-East Asia and that high-ranking officials are avid bribe-takers. Nevertheless, the correspondent writes, General Donovan recommended to Washington that Thailand be maintained as a stronghold of the West and suggested an "emergency" programme to accelerate the flow of arms to this country.

Thus, a well-informed American diplomat admits that only such venal rulers can serve as the bulwark of the aggressive policy of the U.S. ruling circles in South-East Asia. With this one can only agree.

**Why Japanese Children Miss School**

A check on attendance in primary and secondary schools between April and June this year carried out by the teachers' trade union of the Nagasaki Prefecture revealed that out of 30,000 pupils, 845 for various reasons did not attend lessons for more than a month and 4,500 pupils missed school for periods ranging from a week to a month. Over 780 children stayed away from school because their families were constantly in dire straits; 2,400 children had nothing to eat; 2,800 were unable to pay education fees.

The Yoshida Government, fully preoccupied on the U.S. orders with schemes for increasing the armed forces, are not concerned with public education, which is simply an obstacle to the aggressive plans of the U.S. monopolists and their Japanese lackeys.

independent state in international negotiations for the purpose of reviewing the question of the "European Defence Community" and searching for other systems which would guarantee national security and co-operation with all European countries.

It is essential that the people, by means of their struggle, be able to prevent Italy from participating in the American manoeuvres which are aimed at maintaining the division of Europe and at creating a permanent centre for preparing war. In order to avert irrevocable steps in this direction and to prevent Italy from being made a prisoner of the "European Defence Community" system, it is essential to change the course of Italian policy. In a situation in which the left forces, having won the fight against the election law swindle, have not yet become a Parliamentary force capable of preventing the different "centrist manoeuvres", in a situation in which the government parties, having suffered defeat in the June 7 elections, remain deaf to the need for changing Italian policy, the final outcome depends on what the popular movement can accomplish.

The struggle to uphold our national independence is a task incumbent on all Communists and is not just the job of any single mass organisation, even of such an important body as the peace movement. Rendering this powerful, united movement all the necessary assistance does not relieve the Party organisations from the obligation of undertaking directly the task of fighting for peace and national independence.

In this way the fight for peace becomes more and more a national fight, a fight for the independence of Italy. The main question of the day is that of changing the direction of Italian policy. This change cannot take place without a mighty popular struggle, without the participation in it of those new forces that have not yet been brought into the struggle.

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J. SMITH

## AGAINST REPRESSIVE MEASURES AND SUPPRESSION OF CONSTITUTIONAL RIGHTS IN PAKISTAN

The dismissal of the Legislative Assembly of East Pakistan, enforcement of military dictatorship, suppression of elementary democratic rights, mass arrests of progressives and the ban on the Communist Party in this province—all these brutal, unconstitutional acts which have followed the signing of the U.S.-Pakistan military pact are giving rise to indignation among all genuine patriots in Pakistan.

Comrade Firozuddin Mansur, Acting Secretary-General of the Communist Party of Pakistan, recently issued a statement which said that the Muslim League saw in its defeat at the elections to the Legislative Assembly of East Pakistan a warning of danger in other provinces and in order to prolong its rule resorted to a policy of

suppressing civil liberties. This is borne out by the mass arrests, suppression of trade unions and peasant organisations and the ban on the Communist Party in East Pakistan. Protesting against this ban Comrade Mansur stressed that acts of tyranny have become a daily occurrence in Pakistan and that the elected representatives of the people are deprived of freedom of speech. The Muslim League rulers of Pakistan, the statement goes on, have resorted to these repressive measures because the Communist Party fights for sovereignty, national independence and for the well-being of the country.

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Centrul de Difuzare "MIR"

## Italian Communists Fight for New Direction in Italian Policy

(Continued from page 5)

place the old, compromised leadership which has lost all prestige, and to continue basically the same policy. This became clear from the attitude taken by the Congress on the political problems of the South—no undertakings being given to promote agrarian reform and industrialisation, and, particularly, to promote democratic reforms in the Southern areas.

One thing is already clear, it is impossible to carry on a policy of economic and social progress without the support of the entire working class and consequently without establishing new relations with the left-wing parties. And here it is essential to discuss with the Catholics the main problem of the struggle for peace and freedom: agreement on the need for social reforms would be in fact incomplete and doubtful if it is not supplemented by agreement on the need to defend peace and democratic rights, if such agreement bypasses the central political problem—participation of the masses in leadership of the political life of the country.

The need for united action with the Catholic masses must not however make us forget about the rank-and-file Social Democrats and groups and trends in the Liberal and Republican Parties. In these groups and trends there are also signs of discontent and demands for a critical revision of the policy of their parties.

Nor should we forget the millions of electors who voted for the monarchist and fascist parties, in the main, poor and backward people now nursing their disappointment, people who can and must be won for democracy.

Among all political trends processes are developing of critically reviewing policy, processes which must be followed more

attentively than is the case at present. These processes now taking place in the camp of our adversary, the appearance of new political forces, the slow and painful maturing in this camp of a left-democratic trend, which must shed its anti-Communism, demand from the Communist Party concrete and joint measures for solving the more urgent local and general problems, with the aim of extending the democratic unification and achieving a change in the political situation. Above all it is necessary to point to the existence of new forces which can be drawn into struggle for peace and national independence.

The Atlantic policy of boundlessly slavish subordination pursued by the clerical governments has placed Italy in the humiliating position of standing by at the very moment when throughout the Atlantic system, which is experiencing a crisis, new tendencies are asserting themselves on an international scale, fighting for a lessening of the international tension.

In this situation Italy is deprived of initiative and ignored; the Anglo-American statements and assurances, which the Anglo-Americans themselves systematically refute, place her in a ludicrous position.

It is not only a matter of Trieste, it is a question of Italy's place in the world, its security and its ability to compel respect for its own interests which once again are being gambled by the ruling classes who are incapable of expressing the general interests of the nation.

In these humiliating conditions the attempts of the Government to hasten ratification of the "European Defence Community" treaty signify relinquishment by Italy, with great loss to the national interests, of its right to take part as an