

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

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Path to Strengthening Peace in Europe

The preservation and strengthening of peace in Europe, and consequently throughout the world, are largely dependent on the successful solution of the problem of setting up a general European system of collective security. It is therefore natural that the plan for establishing an effective system of this sort, which was proposed by the Soviet Union at the Berlin Conference and once more thoroughly elaborated in the Note of July 24 addressed by the Soviet Government to the French, British and U.S. Governments, has attracted the attention of the entire world public and is being widely discussed in all countries.

The peace-loving forces in all countries, feel great satisfaction at the agreements reached in Geneva. The Geneva Conference has demonstrated that negotiations on outstanding international problems between the powers concerned can lead to positive results which correspond to the interests of easing international tension and strengthening peace. It is precisely in this connection that the Soviet Government proposed to the French, British and U.S. Governments the convening, within the next few months, of a Conference of all European states willing to take part, and also the U.S.A., a representative of the People's Republic of China attending as an observer, for the purpose of examining the question of setting up a system of collective security in Europe. The participants in the Conference would have the opportunity not only to state their attitude towards the proposals of the Soviet Government but also to submit proposals of their own.

The proposals of the Soviet Union correspond to the vital interests of all the European nations. The convocation of a Conference of all European states would be of great importance for the relaxation of the international tension and further development of international co-operation.

The Soviet Union has always proceeded and is proceeding now from the possibility of lasting co-existence of states with different social systems, from the need for international co-operation based on the collective effort of all European states concerned with safeguarding international security and peace. An important feature and the merit of the Soviet draft General European Treaty on Collective Security is, above all, that it is based on the general European principle, that all European states can become parties to this Treaty. The draft is based on the principle of collective action

of collective security and resolutely condemn the policy of dividing Europe. In France, Britain, Italy, Western Germany and other European countries the movement against the "European Defence Community" and against the revival of German militarism is embracing wider and wider sections of the population.

The lessons of history that become particularly clear to all mankind in connection with the 40th anniversary of World War I, which has just gone by, are further confirmation of the fact that groupings such as the North Atlantic bloc and EDC cannot serve the cause of strengthening peace and security of nations; on the contrary, they lead to the arms drive, intensified international tension, to new wars. The lessons of history teach us that whenever the militarists took the destinies of Germany into their hands it invariably took the path of aggression—its obligations with regard to the security of other states becoming mere scraps of paper.

Of particular danger to the peace-loving nations is the plan for establishing a military grouping under the false name of "European Defence Community". The establishment of this "Community", based on the resurrection of German militarism and restoration of the Wehrmacht, threatens the security of the whole of Europe and, in the first place, of the states neighbouring on Western Germany.

The organisers and inspirers of military groupings have long been seeking to convince the West European countries that they have no alternative but to reconcile themselves to the policy of a resurgence of German militarism. However, there are few who can still be taken in by this false "theory". The peoples are becoming increasingly aware that it is not a closed military grouping of the EDC type but only an international organisation covering all European states that can become a guarantee of peace and security in Europe.

The profound interest and attention with which the world public has responded to the Soviet proposals show how correct, justified and timely is the posing of the question of creating a system of collective security in Europe. The establishment of such a system would signify the rejection of the policy of reviving German militarism, of the arms drive, of creating closed aggressive groupings of certain European powers: it would signify recognition of the

WORLD PUBLIC WELCOMES AGREEMENT ON TRUCE IN INDO-CHINA

The world public wholeheartedly welcomes the agreement on the truce in Indo-China. The Secretariat of the World Peace Council has sent messages of greeting to the Viet Nam Peace Committee and the French National Peace Council, warmly congratulating them on the truce in Indo-China concluded at Geneva. Characterising this agreement as the common victory of all peace-loving forces the Secretariat of the World Peace Council stresses that "this achievement is an important phase along the path to lessening international tension and rapprochement between the peoples".

The World Federation of Trade Unions, greeting trade union organisations and the working people throughout the world, who by their active struggle for the cessation of hostilities in Indo-China helped to win peace, calls upon them to strive indefatigably for united international trade union action, which is an important factor in achieving success in the settlement of outstanding international issues and ensuring decisive victories in the fight for peace, independence and the freedom of the peoples.

The World Federation of Democratic Youth, greeting the youth of Viet Nam, France and other countries, called for a "continuation of the fight for new victories in the sacred cause of the defence of peace".

Peace supporters throughout the world have developed large-scale explanatory work on the results of the Geneva Conference. In Italy there have been gatherings, meetings and demonstrations devoted to the cessation of hostilities in Indo-China, and the campaign for elucidating the Soviet proposal on the General European Treaty on Collective Security is assuming greater proportions. Similar gatherings and meetings, devoted to the truce agreement in Indo-China, have also been held in China, Rumania, India, Holland and other countries.

VOICE OF GERMAN PEOPLE

The Committee for Unity of Germany (German Democratic Republic) issued a statement which reads in part: The Soviet proposal that a Conference of all European countries on the question of establishing a system of collective security in Europe should be convened within the next few months has aroused the attention of all Germans in both the East and the West.

A Treaty on General European Collective Security, the statement reads, would unite the two parts of the country in a common organisation for joint work in the interests of peace. This would undoubtedly result in

ALL-UNION AGRICULTURAL EXHIBITION OPENS IN MOSCOW

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Remarkable School of Advanced Experience

Sunday, August 1, was an outstanding day for Muscovites, thousands of their guests and workers of socialist agriculture. At 12 noon the gates of the All-Union Agricultural Exhibition were hospitably flung open and a garden city with beautiful buildings, the work of thousands of artists, sculptors, architects, gardeners, designers and decorators, confronted the visitors. The popular survey of the achievements of socialist agriculture commenced, a survey of the achievements of advanced collective and state farms, MTS and peasants renowned for their bumper yields and highly-productive husbandry.

I. A. Benediktov, Minister of Agriculture of the USSR and Chairman of the Chief Committee of the All-Union Agricultural Exhibition, said at the crowded meeting on the opening of the Exhibition:

"The Exhibition is commencing its work at an important time, when the struggle for implementing the splendid programme for a steep upsurge of socialist agriculture laid down by the Communist Party and the Soviet Government is assuming ever greater proportions."

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A historic task has been set in the Soviet Union and is being successfully carried out: to reach such a level of agricultural production as would enable the growing needs of the population for food to be amply satisfied and light industry and the food industry provided with raw materials within the next two or three years. All the pavilions with their remarkable exhibits clearly illustrate how the practical realisation of this gigantic task is progressing, demonstrate the really unlimited opportunities, the inexhaustible reserves of socialist agriculture. The Exhibition graphically reflects the triumph of the policy of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union in the sphere of the socialist transformation of the countryside.

All of the 169,000 exhibitors—leading collective farms, state farms, machine and tractor stations, regions, scientific research and scientific establishments, peasants renowned in socialist agriculture and animal husbandry—can be justly proud of the results of their labour.

Visitors to the "Grain" Pavilion see the achievements of the collective farmers of the Kirov collective farm in the

yield from the 500 cows on the farm is an average of 5,485 kilograms per cow.

Soviet farming and livestock breeding comprise a large-scale mechanised and electrified industry. The Pavilion of "Mechanisation and Electrification of Agriculture" is one of the biggest in the Exhibition. It is built of granite, steel and glass and occupies 18,000 square metres. Some 1,200 home-produced machines are exhibited in its 26 halls, in 12 outdoor displays and in the MTS section. Soviet factories exhibit 15 different types of tractors, 156 types of soil-cultivating implements, 219 sowing and planting machines, 204 harvesters and many other agricultural machines.

More and more visitors from different parts of the vast Soviet Union are arriving at the All-Union Agricultural Exhibition. They justly call it a school of advanced experience and a people's academy. They make a detailed and thorough study of the means and methods by which the exhibitors achieved their brilliant results; they attend lectures and talks by people renowned in the countryside and by the best agricultural specialists and showings of special films. The knowledge they acquire at the Exhibition will help them to achieve further successes in their work in the collective and state farm fields and on their livestock sections.

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The Exhibition has been visited by numerous delegations and guests from abroad. Their comments in the Soviet press testify to the tremendous impression the Exhibition makes on the visitors.

Li Shu-cheng, Minister of Agriculture of the People's Republic of China, said: "None of our delegation will ever forget their first visit to the All-Union Agricultural Exhibition. Never, I think, has there been an exhibition in human history so large and so rich in interesting material."

"Each time we met the exhibitors", he went on, "or talked with Soviet people we became convinced over and over again that the people and the Government of the Soviet Union are linked in unshakable unity, that they are united by one and the same aim—peaceful construction."

Edward Hopkins, manager of the Canadian agricultural experimental station, stated that he thought he would be expressing the general opinion of the delegation if he said that the Exhibition enchanted them in the full

MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, RUMANIAN WORKERS' PARTY

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party held on August 2 agreed upon the following agenda for the Second Party Congress scheduled for October 30:

1. Report of the Central Committee.
2. Report of the Central Auditing Commission.
3. Directives for the development of agriculture within the next two or three years.
4. Report on amendments to the Rules.
5. Elections of the Central Committee and the Central Auditing Commission.

The meeting endorsed the draft amended Rules of the Rumanian Workers' Party and draft directives of the Second Party Congress for the development of agriculture during the next two-three years.

The meeting also decided on the basis of representation for delegates to Congress.

Meeting of Central Committee, Communist Party of Australia

The C.C. of the Communist Party of Australia recently met in Sydney. Reports were given by Comrade Sharkey, General Secretary of the Party, Comrade Dixon, President, and by Comrades A. Aarons and J. Bailes.

Referring to the international situation Comrade Sharkey stressed the great significance of the Soviet draft General European Treaty on Collective Security and pointed to the growth of the world peace movement.

It is quite clear, he said, that the ideas of peace and the possibility of co-existence of the two social systems were gaining support and growing in development. Peace in Indo-China, following the Korean armistice, he went on, would very considerably contribute towards lessening international tension. He called on the Party members, together with all patriots of the country, to proceed energetically with the struggle for peace, against U.S. intrigues in Australia and especially against the aggressive South-East Asia pact now being planned by Washington and supported by the Menzies Government.

Comrade Dixon reported on the situation

China attending as an observer, for the purpose of examining the question of setting up a system of collective security in Europe. The participants in the Conference would have the opportunity not only to state their attitude towards the proposals of the Soviet Government but also to submit proposals of their own.

The proposals of the Soviet Union correspond to the vital interests of all the European nations. The convocation of a Conference of all European states would be of great importance for the relaxation of the international tension and further development of international co-operation.

The Soviet Union has always proceeded and is proceeding now from the possibility of lasting co-existence of states with different social systems, from the need for international co-operation based on the collective effort of all European states concerned with safeguarding international security and peace. An important feature and the merit of the Soviet draft General European Treaty on Collective Security is, above all, that it is based on the general European principle, that all European states can become parties to this Treaty. The draft is based on the principle of collective action by states, the principle of averting aggression by joint effort. At the same time the parties shall undertake not to enter into any coalition or alliance or conclude any agreement which would contradict the purposes of safeguarding collective security in Europe.

The Soviet Government, as can be seen from its Note of July 24, supplemented the General European Treaty on Collective Security by a new important proposal on economic co-operation. It is envisaged that states participating in the Treaty shall undertake to adopt measures for developing trade and other economic relations.

The formation of a general European system of collective security would ensure the neutralisation of Germany and would thus prevent the restoration of a hotbed of war in the very heart of Europe, which would be the inevitable outcome of the revival of German militarism. The setting up of such a system would facilitate the settlement of the German problem and help to unify Germany as a peace-loving, independent and democratic state. The conclusion of a General European Treaty on Collective Security in Europe would, undoubtedly, also contribute to solving the Austrian question.

The idea of this Treaty has met with government support from Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria, Albania as well as the German Democratic Republic. These countries, true to their peace-loving policy, are vitally concerned with ensuring peace in Europe. Their interests, which are linked up with strengthening peace and security, coincide with the interests of the peoples of other European countries who have suffered severely from the aggression of the German militarists during the first and second world wars, and also with the interests of the people of France which in the last hundred years has thrice been invaded by the German militarists. The realisation of the idea of general European collective security will, to a great degree, depend on the resolute effort and active participation of all the peoples of Europe in the struggle for strengthening peace.

It is quite understandable that the public in Europe and those government circles who clearly realise the incalculable disasters inherent in a new war, in particular in view of the threat of the use of atomic and hydrogen weapons, and who are conscious of their responsibility to the peoples for safeguarding peace in Europe, are coming out in support of the idea

of this "Community", based on the resurrection of German militarism and restoration of the Wehrmacht, threatens the security of the whole of Europe and, in the first place, of the states neighbouring on Western Germany.

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Taking into consideration the importance of the Conference of all the European powers on the question of creating a system of collective security in Europe, the Soviet Government, in its statement of August 4 on the convocation of a Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the four powers addressed to the Governments of France, Britain and U.S.A., pointed out that it would be helpful if the Governments of France, Britain, the U.S.A. and the USSR, as a preliminary step, would jointly discuss the question of convening such a Conference and the measures that would contribute to its success. With this aim in view the Soviet Government proposed that a Conference of the Foreign Ministers of France, Britain, the U.S.A. and the USSR should take place in August or September this year, also having in mind continuation of the examination of the German question.

The statement of the Soviet Government on convening a Conference of the Foreign Ministers of the Four Powers points out that the Soviet Government takes into account the consideration that agreement has not yet been reached on the main aspects of the German problem, namely, on the question of restoring the unity of Germany and the conclusion of a peace treaty with Germany inasmuch as, apparently, the necessary conditions have not yet been created for this. In such circumstances it is the view of the Soviet Government that new efforts should be made to reach agreement, first and foremost on certain individual aspects of the German problem on which it is already possible to find solutions that are acceptable to the interested parties.

There is no doubt that this new proposal of the Soviet Government, which testifies to the consistent and unshakable nature of the peace-loving principles of the foreign policy of the USSR and its persistent struggle for the relaxation of international tension, will meet with complete understanding and the wholehearted approval of all sincere champions of peace, that it will find support among the broadest public circles, among all to whom the interests of peace and the security of the peoples are dear.

Peace supporters throughout the world have developed large-scale explanatory work on the results of the Geneva Conference. In Italy there have been gatherings, meetings and demonstrations devoted to the cessation of hostilities in Indo-China, and the campaign for elucidating the Soviet proposal on the General European Treaty on Collective Security is assuming greater proportions. Similar gatherings and meetings, devoted to the truce agreement in Indo-China, have also been held in China, Rumania, India, Holland and other countries.

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A Treaty on General European Collective Security, the statement reads, would unite the two parts of the country in a common organisation for joint work in the interests of peace. This would undoubtedly result in lessening tension between the two parts of the country, thus clearing the way for the formation of a united German state.

The Presidium of the West German Committee of Fighters for Peace also appealed to the population of Western Germany to strive, with all their might, for a peaceful reunification of the country. The appeal, made in connection with the Soviet Note, says: By concluding the truce agreement in Indo-China the Geneva Conference satisfied the demand of the world peace movement. This emphasises the necessity of initiating talks on Germany and inviting to meetings of the big powers the representatives of the Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic. There is no other way for a peaceful solution of the German problem. We call upon all peace committees, all champions of peace and mutual understanding to discuss the demand for negotiations with the people of town and countryside in order that it become the demand of the entire German people.

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Visitors to the "Grain" Pavilion see the achievements of the collective farmers of the Kirov collective farm in the Krasnodar Territory. Last year this collective farm gathered an average of 2,360 kilograms of winter wheat per hectare over an area of 6,250 hectares. This pavilion displays records of the achievements of 29 collective farms in the Genichesk district, Kherson region. In the course of two years they gathered an average of 2,000 kilograms of grain per hectare from an area of more than 37,000 hectares. The Upper Ural district, Chelyabinsk region, gathered almost 2,000 kilograms of spring wheat per hectare in 1953 over an area of 60,000 hectares.

And what splendid achievements are demonstrated by outstanding workers in the sphere of animal husbandry! The animal husbandry section, spreading over an area of 40 hectares, attracts many visitors. Here one can see dozens of standard well-equipped and fully mechanised farms. There are 720 head of highly-productive cattle on show, 845 sheep, 320 pigs, 130 of the finest pedigree horses. Visitors learn with interest of the achievements of the "Omsky" state farm in the Omsk region. The annual milk

they attend lectures and talks by people renowned in the countryside and by the best agricultural specialists and showings of special films. The knowledge they acquire at the Exhibition will help them to achieve further successes in their work in the collective and state farm fields and on their livestock sections.

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Edward Hopkins, manager of the Canadian agricultural experimental station, stated that he thought he would be expressing the general opinion of the delegation if he said that the Exhibition enchanted them in the full sense of the word. It was even difficult to compare the Exhibition with anything they had seen before, as the grandeur, grace and beauty of what they had witnessed in Moscow put everything else in the shade.

Carlo Ferretti, office worker from Italy said: "The Exhibition is a good school not only for the Soviet peasants, but also for us, people coming from the countries where a large part of the land is in the hands of just a few landlords. It shows us what can be achieved by the working man who has become the master of his country, of its land, factories and its mineral wealth. It shows us that wherever the people are in power there is no room for poverty, slave labour and denial of rights. It teaches us to fight and win."

The All-Union Agricultural Exhibition provides further striking proof that the efforts of the Soviet people are directed towards realisation of the grand plans of peaceful construction, that the Soviet people, led by their Communist Party, are confidently marching towards Communism.

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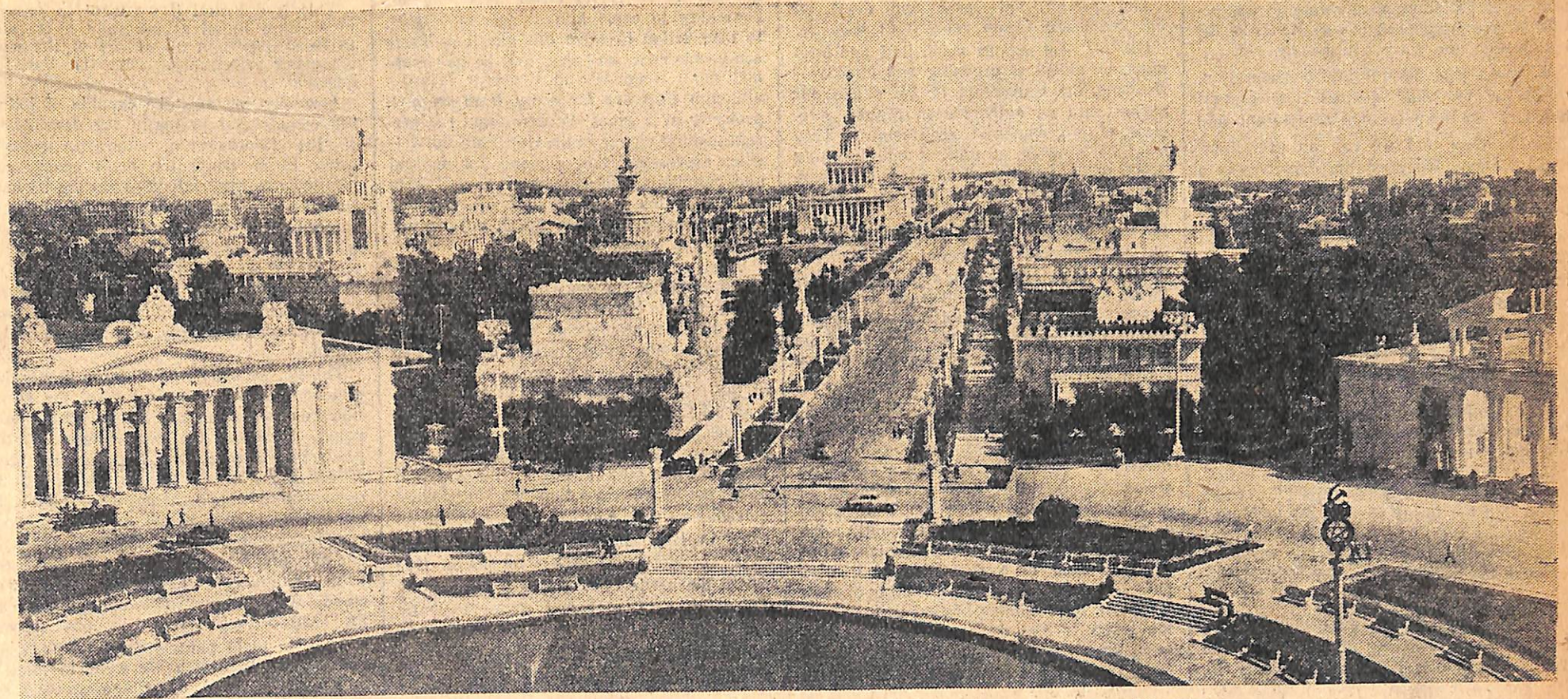
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Comrade Dixon reported on the situation of the Party and its struggle to win the masses.

Decisions taken by the meeting on the reports call upon Australians to intensify the struggle for world peace, to join the demand for according the People's Republic of China its lawful place in Uno, to support the demand of the Asian peoples for national independence and the campaign for a ban on atomic and hydrogen weapons.

The meeting decided to convene the XVIIth Congress of the Communist Party of Australia in October.

The Central Committee sent a letter of greetings to Eugene Dennis, General Secretary of the Communist Party of the U.S.A., now in prison, which assured him that the Australian working people would continue to fight for his release and the release of all the political prisoners in the U.S.A.



Panorama of All-Union Agricultural Exhibition in Moscow

Vital Tasks of Italian Communists in Preparation for National Party Conference*

We plan to launch a discussion in preparation for the National Party Conference and in this connection it is necessary to make some remarks.

From its very outset our Party has rarely achieved such a stable and broad ideological and political unity as that established in the course of work and struggle in recent years. Consequently, we do not need a discussion to solve problems arising from the lack of unity or from a weak inner-Party unity, we need a discussion which would enable us, the entire Party and the citizens who follow us to understand better the tasks that confront us today, that confront the workers, the working people and the whole of society in Italy on the way to democracy and Socialism.

We have already had a discussion during the preparations for the provincial Party conferences and in the course of their work. However, it was not exhaustive enough in the sense that it was confined to questions relating to our line and our work, our relations with other parties, the work of Party and mass organisations being examined only in the light of particular local conditions. The discussion was not sufficiently profound on general problems whereas this is just what we need at the moment.

Delegates to the National Conference should be appointed as quickly as possible, at the latest within two or three months after the discussion to be held in the Party press and by the Party organisations.

What should be the nature of the discussion? It is evident that we should proceed from criticism of our positions and our work. Although criticism is not yet as widespread and general among us as it should be and has not as yet penetrated, for example, into certain mountainous regions in the central part of the country, our Party and its best cadres are well orientated in this respect. The Party is well aware that criticism must not become a method of self-flagellation or flagellation of others, that it cannot and must not be confined to a mere enumeration of a succession of errors, errors which serve as the sole explanation of the fact that the Party membership in this or that locality is not as high as in the previous year, or that a particular result has not been achieved in a particular struggle of the masses, etc. We must always be able to link up our criticisms with an analysis that takes into account the development of the Party, orientation of its cadres and the work of its organisations in the light of objective changes in the situation, having regard to the direction in which the social and political forces surrounding the Party are moving under present conditions.

We need such a discussion, that is a discussion that not merely examines local conditions and circumstances but covers the national conditions and situation, their development and the prospects and in this light analyses whether our work corresponds to the development of events, what it lacks and what should be added, improved and rectified.

Such critical analysis is necessary to us in view of two main circumstances: how our Party stands now and what is, in all probability, awaiting us.

The fact that our Party has become a great national and international force is something we have repeatedly heard of.

masses are rallied and maintain their unity in order to take definite political action and make a further advance. We have done much that is new in all these fields, that is in fields in which we were not sufficiently experienced as yet and in which the experience of the international working-class movement was also insufficient. It would be wrong for us to deny this.

So there is no doubt that we have renewed much and introduced something new in the organisational sphere. We have changed and improved the methods of work. We must recognise and understand all this. At the same time we must always bear in mind that all this has taken and is now taking place in the particular political, strategical and tactical direction that is defined by our theory and based on the experience of the revolutionary struggle, experience that has been accumulated by the working class and the peoples over several decades in their struggle for freedom, democracy and Socialism. The new elements that have been introduced by us were conditioned by the new correlation of forces in our country and throughout the world at the present historical moment, by the new orientation of the ruling classes, by the entire situation which impels social groups towards Socialism and our Party, by the whole progress of life and modern culture. Full clarity should exist in the Party in relation to all these new questions. It is necessary to discuss and say what should be said, so that no doubts can be left on that score; it is necessary that everything new in our action should be perfectly clear, and that the fact that we were able to create something new precisely because we possess a revolutionary theory which serves as our compass and enables us to understand reality in all its transformations and co-ordinate our actions with this reality should become perfectly clear to all.

The second reason which prompts the need for a discussion that will enable us to realise the state of affairs in a better and more profound way is the fact that we cannot completely foresee what in all probability awaits us in the near future. We won a considerable victory in alliance with the Socialist and democratic forces of Italian society on June 7 (parliamentary election held on June 7, 1953.—Ed.). Since then the democratic organisations of the working people have succeeded in retaining their positions and making a further advance. This was achieved as a result of overcoming quite considerable difficulties, as a result of a severe struggle which was particularly grave and fierce in the economic and trade union fields. In estimating as a whole how our actions have developed since June 7, we should make a positive evaluation despite all the criticism that must take place to bring to light the shortcomings that have existed and still exist.

After the June 7 elections the adversary in all probability conceived a plan in direct retaliation to our successes, envisaging the holding of fresh elections within a short time.

In connection with this plan, the adversary, or at least its leaders, cherished the

*
Palmiro Togliatti
Secretary-General,
Italian Communist Party

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all the "improvements" of which so much has been said.

I hold an extremely reserved opinion on this question, rather pessimistic and negative than optimistic and positive. And it is not that I do not believe the words of others, although I know that, especially in the case of clericals, words serve rather to conceal than to disclose their thoughts. In the given case, however, I have not even found any words of theirs which would testify to an intention to put an end to the conversion of our democratic regime into a regime of arbitrary police actions, that is, an intention to pursue a consistent, democratic policy, a policy of safeguarding peace and implementing those social reforms to which, as we know, such a great number of the electors who have voted for the Christian Democratic Party are aspiring, as well as the middle and lower cadres of that Party. It is an axiom of ours that a policy of economic and social reforms cannot, especially in such a country as Italy, be accompanied by the process of reactionary degeneration. It demands, first and foremost, greater popular liberty and, if necessary, adoption of severe measures for restricting the privileges of the wealthy classes. Otherwise nothing will change.

It is true that there is a tendency in the Christian Democratic Party, particularly evident at the Congress in Naples, to demand that a new social policy in the interests of the working people be carried through. This trend will undoubtedly be manifested, possibly in an even more vigorous form, and we must assist in this. However, from all that the new leading forces elected at the Congress in Naples have said and done, at any rate, up till now, one may say that these people pledge over and over again to advance the process of clericalising Italian society and the Italian Government, and they now seem to be moving in this direction. It is not beyond the bounds of possibility, and it is desirable, that they choose another path, but at the moment we must face the fact.

What in fact does the intensified process of clericalising Italian society signify at present? It signifies the tendency of the organised Catholic world, which is subordinate to the discipline of the hierarchy of the Catholic Church, to shrink into itself and to put itself forward as the sole leading force in our entire national society. This does not mean that clericals want no allies. Nothing of the kind! The little Social Democrat Saragat as well as the pure Republican Pacciardi and a liberal of the De Caro type can always be of assistance. These, however, are not the forces that can, by participating in the Government, change its character. These are forces which not only do not oppose the process of the reactionary transformation of the existing regime but collaborate with it or help it in a most docile and blind manner.

The shrinking of the Catholic world, its attempt to put itself forward as the sole leading force of the nation is a factor which must give rise to serious concern. In fact, I thought about this when we posed

wait for Fanfani and the others who, together with him, have come to the leadership of the Christian Democratic Party, finally, to fulfil their promises, begin the new social course and

always fully satisfactory as regards material conditions won, invariably has a positive effect on the creation of more favourable conditions for waging struggle on a larger scale.

Such an assessment should also be applied to the trade union struggle of recent months and the adversary will also be convinced that this is so. It was the adversary that wanted the bitter and persistent struggle from which the Italian nation is suffering and, naturally, the workers and the entire working people as well.

The final totalling up, which is, however, a moral one and which relates to preparing the consciousness and educating the masses who see more clearly than hitherto what are the conditions in which present society finds itself and are capable of understanding how and in what direction an advance should be made to transform it—this total is already to our favour, to the favour of the united trade unions, to the favour of the forces coming out for a radical renovation of Italian society, for democracy, for an advance towards Socialism.

This is the most probable perspective confronting us. We cannot, however, rule out the possibility that the tendency of the adversary towards a sharp swing in the direction of fascism will grow, that is a tendency towards naked reaction in all its forms, spearheaded against the advanced forces of the working class, against the working masses and the people. We are aware that it will be difficult for our adversary to advance in this direction because of the mighty force now represented by democracy in Italy, because of the strength and character of the united trade unions of the working people, the parties of the working class and the people and because of the support accorded them by most politically active people.

However, we always remember that clericalism leads to fascism without leaps. It happened once in Italy. The Clericals and fascists, without leaps, came to an agreement to strangle the democratic regime. Therefore, we cannot exclude the possibility that this tendency will develop. Neither, quite naturally, do we completely exclude another possibility, that there will arise among the present leaders of the Christian Democratic Party, as a result of more and more effective pressure from the popular forces they are attempting to control, a desire to change the state of affairs and to pose the question of the struggle against us—which remains the main question for them—not in the way in which it has been posed up to the present but in concrete terms of positive policy, that is, to propose to the big organisations of the working people that they should become an integral part of the political leadership of the country.

In this event our concrete and immediate tasks would be transformed and we should be confronted with an entirely fresh set of difficulties. Such a development of events cannot be ruled out completely although it is less probable in view of the decisive influence exerted by U.S. imperialism on the destinies of our national policy.

What must we expect, in connection with these questions, from the discussion we plan to launch in our Party? The discussion must help us to enlarge the circle of Communists who, by virtue of thorough analyses of the international and home situation, are capable of defining how we must proceed in these different directions and therefore how we can bring the

In Communist and Workers' Parties

NATIONAL CONFERENCE OF VIET NAM PARTY OF WORKING PEOPLE

The National Conference of the Viet Nam Party of Working People held from July 20 to 25 discussed the new situation, new tasks and the resolutions of the sixth enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the Party.

President Ho Chi Minh analysed the present home and international situation and advanced for the Party and the entire people the slogan "Fight for Peace, Unity, Independence and Democracy".

The Conference was also addressed by Comrade Truong Chinh, General Secretary of the Party.

During the five-day discussion the delegates unanimously agreed that the conclusion at the Geneva Conference of the truce agreements in Indo-China was a tremendous success for the Indo-China peoples and the world forces of peace and democracy.

MEETINGS OF PARTY ACTIVISTS IN HUNGARIAN WORKING PEOPLE'S PARTY

District meetings of Party activists devoted to the fulfilment of the decisions of the Third Congress of the Hungarian Working People's Party have been held in Budapest. Similar meetings have also been held in regions and districts as well as in the bigger factories. The Party members discussed matters pertaining to the further development of industry and agriculture, and to the improvement of cultural and living standards of the population in their areas.

Reporting to a Party activists' meeting Comrade Lajos Földes, secretary of the district committee of the No. 9 district of Budapest, one of the biggest workers' districts in the capital, spoke of the big

changes that had taken place in the district in the past few years. Since 1951 alone the output of goods turned out by the factories of the chemical, metallurgical and food industries in the district has risen one and a half times. More factories, schools, children's clinics and clubs have been built and new blocks of houses have sprung up. Real wages have risen by an average of 63 per cent above the 1938 level. Thousands of working people have been promoted to leading positions.

The Party activists discussed ways and means for raising labour productivity, cutting the cost of production in the district factories and improving political work among the population.

EDUCATION IN COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of India organised a central school for the cadres of Provincial Committees from July 1 to July 15.

Even before the Central Committee had decided to run the school, many of the Provincial Committees had already opened their own schools. The Andhra Provincial Committee, for example, has during the last 9-10 months had several district schools. All these district schools together provided education for more than a thousand cadres on the basic principles of Marxism-Leninism, as well as on the programme and resolutions of the Communist Party of India. Schools have also been organised in Bengal, Marathwada and some other Provinces.

Many of the comrades who came to attend the central schools had themselves been tutors in these Provincial schools.

The syllabus in the central school had been worked out by the Political Bureau and covered the following subjects: dia-

lectical and historical materialism, political economy, theory of the state, the trade union movement, the peasant movement and current political and organisational problems facing the Communist Party of India, etc.

Members of the Political Bureau, Comrades S. A. Dange, P. Ramamurti and E. M. S. Namboodiripad, gave lectures at the school.

At the end of the course a meeting of all the comrades was held to review the work as a whole. While all comrades unanimously thanked the Central Committee for running the school, several criticisms were made. One was that the lectures on theoretical questions did not sufficiently link the general principles with the concrete situation in the country.

It was suggested that the Central Committee should run more Party schools.

PARTY BRANCH IN COLLECTIVE FARM REPORTS TO BUREAU OF REGIONAL PARTY COMMITTEE

At a recent meeting of the Bureau of the Oradea Regional Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party discussion was held on how the Party branch of the collective farm in the village Săcueni was striving for the organisational and economic strengthening of the farm.

In his report the branch secretary related the experience of the Party organisation. The secretary pointed out that the branch worked according to plan. On the agenda of its meetings are such questions as the role of a Party branch in the struggle for wide utilisation of inter reserves at the disposal of the collective farm for the development of production; introduction of advanced agrotechnical methods into the work of the collective farm; strengthening of labour discipline among the collective farmers, etc.

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quently invite individual peasants to visit the collective farm and homes of the collective farmers.

The work of the branch has helped to strengthen the collective farm. In 1953 the number of families in the farm increased from 60 to 132. The quantity of agricultural implements and the number of cattle have increased and the area assigned to individual plots has been extended. The board of the collective farm organised the production of bricks for new buildings and decided to buy a lorry. During the spring sowing campaign this year the farm achieved good results in socialist emulation. It is also one of the foremost farms as regards the tending of crops and preparing for harvesting of inter-row crops.

In honour of August 23—the Day of the Liberation of Rumania by the glorious

is not as high as in the previous year, or that a particular result has not been achieved in a particular struggle of the masses, etc. We must always be able to link up our criticisms with an analysis that takes into account the development of the Party, orientation of its cadres and the work of its organisations in the light of objective changes in the situation, having regard to the direction in which the social and political forces surrounding the Party are moving under present conditions.

We need such a discussion, that is a discussion that not merely examines local conditions and circumstances but covers the national conditions and situation, their development and the prospects and in this light analyses whether our work corresponds to the development of events, what it lacks and what should be added, improved and rectified.

Such critical analysis is necessary to us in view of two main circumstances: how our Party stands now and what is, in all probability, awaiting us.

The fact that our Party has become a great national and international force is something we have repeatedly been told for some time from all sides and we are even beginning to be irritated at the insistent reiteration. We are interested in a serious analysis which would enable us, in the first place, to understand better than we did before the reason why we succeeded in making such progress, in attaining considerable successes and, above all, in taking such firm roots in what is our soil—the working class, the working masses, the Italian people.

There is a danger, particularly if we allow ourselves to be flattered by the praise deliberately showered on us by our adversary, of regarding the successes we have undoubtedly achieved as being due merely to skill and to virtuosity of policy and organisation, forgetting that the development of our Party is an objective element of the situation in Italy, the result of the national and international class struggle. It is therefore necessary to study this development, linking it with the previous and present development of other objective elements of the situation in our country, with the changes in the economic situation, on the one hand, and, on the other, with the swing of class forces caused by this situation, with the subsequent swing in the political forces organised in the parties of the bourgeoisie, the petty bourgeoisie, etc.

We must take all this into consideration, otherwise we may commit the gravest blunders, we may become complacent and take the view that we can do everything without effort. We may find ourselves in a situation where we can no longer be able to see the danger menacing us. We may make an entirely wrong evaluation of the perspectives and make the gravest errors in the methods of working out and putting our plan of action into practice.

Ten years have passed since we won legality for our Party once again and nearly ten years have passed since the Fifth Party Congress which marked the beginning of a new phase in the life of our Party on a nation-wide scale. It is common knowledge that since then we have done much that is new both in the sphere of policy, i.e., in selecting the objectives of our action and the forms of struggle necessary for reaching them and in the organisational field, i.e., in the way in which the advanced forces of the working class and the working

* From speech by Comrade Palmiro Togliatti at the meeting of the C.C. of the Italian Communist Party held on July 18.

bility awaits us in the near future. We won a considerable victory in alliance with the Socialist and democratic forces of Italian society on June 7 (parliamentary election held on June 7, 1953.—Ed.). Since then the democratic organisations of the working people have succeeded in retaining their positions and making a further advance. This was achieved as a result of overcoming quite considerable difficulties, as a result of a severe struggle which was particularly grave and fierce in the economic and trade union fields. In estimating as a whole how our actions have developed since June 7, we should make a positive evaluation despite all the criticism that must take place to bring to light the shortcomings that have existed and still exist.

After the June 7 elections the adversary in all probability conceived a plan in direct retaliation to our successes, envisaging the holding of fresh elections within a short time.

In connection with this plan, the adversary, or at least its leaders, cherished the hope of gaining control of Parliament in order to ensure a quiet parliamentary life for the conservative, reactionary government over a lengthy period. The adversary was not even able to begin to put this plan into effect. Hence, on the one hand, the confusion among the forces fighting against us; hence, in consequence of this and as a result of the fact that it became obvious to them that no advance could be made along this path, there was an ever more pronounced intensification of the tendency to transform the republican, constitutional democratic regime existing in Italy, into an authoritarian regime, a regime of completely uncontrolled governmental arbitrariness directed against the forces of the working class and all democratic forces.

This intensified reactionary tendency, naturally, is linked up with the increasing influence exerted by foreign imperialism on the Government of our country, and consequently with an ever more obvious loss of sovereignty, integrity, national independence and the increasingly deep humiliation of the nation on the international arena.

Our present key tasks and those for the immediate future arise from this. Our political actions must, first and foremost, be aimed at exposing and effectively resisting the conversion of the democratic regime into an authoritarian regime, a regime of governmental arbitrariness. They must be directed at uniting and bringing into play those forces which are able to stop this process and compel a reversal, recovering lost ground. Such in my opinion is the key question, because with it are linked up the problems of freedom, independence of the country and peace, and I cannot but tie up with this key question all those considerations which can and must be spoken about, and those appraisals that must be made of the internal development of the Christian Democratic Party.

Now, after Fanfani's election as Secretary of the Christian Democratic Party at the Congress in Naples, the so-called "independent" press has launched a campaign welcoming this fact as the beginning of an allegedly new phase in the development of the entire situation in the country; the assurance is given that this election marks the beginning of a new history. It does not, however, explain what sort of new history. It says nothing beyond that. Even in the camp of the democratic forces, however, there are those who hold that henceforth there is no alternative other than to

the bounds of possibility, and it is desirable that they choose another path, but at the moment we must face the fact.

What in fact does the intensified process of clericalising Italian society signify at present? It signifies the tendency of the organised Catholic world, which is subordinate to the discipline of the hierarchy of the Catholic Church, to shrink into itself and to put itself forward as the sole leading force in our entire national society. This does not mean that clericals want no allies. Nothing of the kind! The little Social Democrat Saragat as well as the puny Republican Pacciardi and a liberal of the De Caro type can always be of assistance. These, however, are not the forces that can, by participating in the Government, change its character. These are forces which not only do not oppose the process of the reactionary transformation of the existing regime but collaborate with it or help it in a most docile and blind manner.

The shrinking of the Catholic world, its attempt to put itself forward as the sole leading force of the nation is a factor which must give rise to serious concern. In fact we thought about this when we posed the question of mutual understanding and rapprochement between the Catholic and the Communist worlds. We then linked this position of ours with the fact which at that time was the most obvious and dramatic one, with the danger of the destruction of civilisation, menacing the people as a result of the policy pursued by American imperialism which even goes so far as to consider it possible to use a weapon capable of wiping civilisation off the greater part of the earth. We, however, have not forgotten a whole series of other facts, and our initial motive in adopting this position arose precisely from what we feel is the necessity, the necessity of creating such conditions of co-existence of the two big organised, political, social forces, which would, if they could be created, guarantee the peaceful development of whole generations of mankind.

The Catholic leaders assumed that it would be possible to get rid of this problem, which is annoying for them, by a pitiful journalistic paper war, by ready-made phrases. The question posed by us remains in the consciousness and hearts of the wide masses. There is no doubt that they are beginning to come into serious movement, to take action to solve this question. There are people now, and they will be met more and more frequently in the near future—although they are far away from us and, probably at a great distance from the present leading circles in the Catholic Church—who, expressing this demand for mutual understanding and co-operation, will help to change this extremely difficult, strained and menacing situation which obtains for us and the whole world.

What can we foresee in relation to the situation in our country? The most probable assumption is the preservation of the status quo, that is a continuation of the slow process of the authoritarian degeneration of the political system and, consequently, of the bitter struggle that will have to be waged both in the economic and trade union spheres, as well as in that of politics. We shall face up to this struggle and will wage it, not only aware of the strength now possessed by the working class movement, the working people's movement in Italy, but also with an awareness of something else; we know that where the battle is waged and where it is conducted with zeal and enthusiasm, by means of the unity of the advanced forces and broad masses of the workers and working people, the result, even if not

result of more and more effective pressure from the popular forces they are attempting to control, a desire to change the state of affairs and to pose the question of the struggle against us—which remains the main question for them—not in the way in which it has been posed up to the present but in concrete terms of positive policy, that is, to propose to the big organisations of the working people that they should become an integral part of the political leadership of the country.

In this event our concrete and immediate tasks would be transformed and we should be confronted with an entirely fresh set of difficulties. Such a development of events cannot be ruled out completely although it is less probable in view of the decisive influence exerted by U.S. imperialism on the destinies of our national policy.

What must we expect, in connection with these questions, from the discussion we plan to launch in our Party? The discussion must help us to enlarge the circle of Communists who, by virtue of thorough analyses of the international and home situation, are capable of defining how we must proceed in these different directions and therefore how we can bring the policy of the Party and its actions into fuller conformity with reality, the circle of Communists who are never at a loss and are able at any time to grasp and know thoroughly all the peculiarities of the situation in order to achieve, through the struggle, an ever broader front of democracy and Socialism, to achieve new successes.

Therefore our discussion, on the one hand, should proceed from concrete and real-life experience of our work, the work of all organisations; on the other hand, it must ensure effective progress in the ideological and political training of the Party cadres at all levels.

It is not an easy matter to advance in the ideological sphere. First of all, to do this a more thorough knowledge of our theory is required. We must persistently recommend, above all, to the most prepared comrades, that they should spend a bit less time on practical work, for which hundreds and thousands of new young cadres have been developed, and spend a little more time on studying the classics of Marxist-Leninist theory, the experience of the working class movement of Italy and the world.

This is essential if we want to continue to advance in all spheres and if we want to be stronger, in all senses of the word, than our adversary. That is the first question.

Secondly, we must be capable of following closely and promptly the development of the international situation, learning better to recognise the main enemy confronting us—imperialism—knowing its main features, its processes, weaknesses and contradictions. Therefore, we must follow, with increasing skill, the development of the policy of imperialism in order better to understand how, in this connection, the perspectives and conditions of our actions in the national society of Italy are determined.

Thirdly, we should study more thoroughly and have a better knowledge of the situation in our country and above all the economic situation, the development of the productive forces, class changes and their reflection in various parties and trends in order, in this sphere as well, better to understand who are the enemies against whom our fire must be directed and who are our possible new allies, and therefore, what are the possibilities of action that could lead our Party forward to victory at the head of national and popular forces.

Such, in main outline, must be the content of the discussion we want to launch in the Party.

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In his report the branch secretary related the experience of the Party organisation.

The secretary pointed out that the branch worked according to plan. On the agenda of its meetings are such questions as the role of a Party branch in the struggle for wide utilisation of inter-reserves at the disposal of the collective farm for the development of production; introduction of advanced agrotechnical methods into the work of the collective farm; strengthening of labour discipline among the collective farmers, etc.

To carry on mass political work the Party branch has appointed agitators who have talks with the collective farmers and individual peasants, telling them about the work in the collective farm and the incomes collective farmers receive. Agitators fre-

quently invite individual peasants to visit the collective farm and homes of the collective farmers.

The work of the branch has helped to strengthen the collective farm. In 1953 the number of families in the farm increased from 60 to 132. The quantity of agricultural implements and the number of cattle have increased and the area assigned to individual plots has been extended. The board of the collective farm organised the production of bricks for new buildings and decided to buy a lorry. During the spring sowing campaign this year the farm achieved good results in socialist emulation. It is also one of the foremost farms as regards the tending of crops and preparing for harvesting of inter-row crops.

In honour of August 23—the Day of the Liberation of Rumania by the glorious Soviet Army and the overthrowing of the Antonescu fascist dictatorship—the collective farmers have made up their minds to be among the first to complete the harvest and fulfil their obligations to the state.

FACTORY NEWSPAPER—ASSISTANT OF PARTY BRANCH

If you visit the V. Kolarov plant in Sofia—the nursling of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship—producing high voltage electrical equipment, and speak to any worker, he will first of all draw your attention to the spacious sunlit shops of the plant, to the great achievements in everyday life and will, of course, having produced from his pocket a neatly folded sheet of paper, urge: "Read our factory newspaper 'Kolarovska Borba'. You will learn a lot from it."

Closely linked with the life of the plant, this weekly has become an important weapon in the hands of the Party branch for explaining the tasks facing the plant, for popularising and disseminating everything in the work which is new and advanced and for mobilising the workers for the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the production plan. The workers themselves write about successes and shortcomings in the weekly. The number of worker correspondents is increasing. Alongside items and articles by foundrymen, fitters or turners appear items from designers, engineers or technologists. Stakhanovites, shock-workers and rationalisers exchange their experience through the medium of the weekly.

The positive work of the editorial board of the factory newspaper is explained first of all by the unflagging care of the branch for improving the quality of the material. The editorial board includes members of the branch committee who are responsible for questions of culture, propaganda and agitation. Monthly plans of work of the branch put forward concrete tasks for the factory newspaper as well. The branch committee closely follows the work of the editorial board, draws its attention to the most important questions and gives instructions to the editor concerning the circulation of the paper.

The propaganda and agitation department of the Kolarov District Committee of the Party, Sofia, renders great help to the editorial board of the "Kolarovska Borba". On three occasions the committee has of late discussed the work of the editorial board. The work of the paper is discussed each year at city meetings convened by the City Party Committee.

The weekly organises "raids" by its worker correspondents for the purpose of disclosing shortcomings in production and in the social and cultural services provided for the workers. The factory branch committee helps to make criticism of the newspaper more effective, helps to bring those responsible for shortcomings out into the open and supports the editorial board and correspondents in developing rank-and-file criticism.

The mobilisation of workers for the fulfilment of the production plan is the chief task of the "Kolarovska Borba". Our plant is among the ten enterprises of the capital which appealed to industrial and office workers throughout the country challenging them to raise the productivity of labour and lower production costs. Articles published in the factory newspaper have a great mobilising and organising force. Thus, the weekly once carried an item on Strakhil Iordanov, turner in the electro-motor department who has mastered the method of Kolesov, the Soviet innovator. The item was supplemented by a photograph of Iordanov. This made the young turner still more enthusiastic. After this he began to fulfil his daily quota fourfold. At present Kolesov's method is applied by a team which is now known as a Stakhanovite team.

Thanks to the fraternal aid of the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy the workers of the V. Kolarov plant have organised in the space of a few years the production of electric motors of up to 160 kw capacity, as well as transformers, electrical equipment of high and low voltage and many other kinds of electrical equipment which had hitherto been imported from abroad. A large number of model workers and rationalisers have appeared at the plant. Eighteen workers have been awarded high Government decorations and orders for their labour. In the achievements of the plant great credit also is due to the weekly "Kolarovska Borba".

AI. KRYSDEV
Secretary of Party branch
at the V. Kolarov plant
in Sofia (Bulgaria)

Important Factor in Training Party Cadres in Czechoslovakia

The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia devotes close attention to the Marxist-Leninist training of leading cadres and all its members. One of the vital links in this work is the Higher Party School under the auspices of the Central Committee. The purpose of this school is to train leading cadres, to arm them with Marxist-Leninist theory so that they can efficiently put the policy of the Party into practice and skilfully guide socialist construction. The school aims therefore not only to equip the students with a knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory, but also to improve their vocational qualifications. At the present stage of development in our country this means first and foremost extending and deepening knowledge in the sphere of the national economy and in directing various branches of the national economy, particularly agriculture.

The school admits members with experience of leading work in the Party, in the organs of people's power, in the mass organisations or the press, and who have been members of the Party for not less than three years and are not over 40 years of age. Candidates for the school are endorsed by the Central Committee on the recommendation of the regional committees.

The following subjects are studied: general history, the history of Czechoslovakia, the history of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, political economy, dialectical and historical materialism, the theory of the state and law, Czechoslovak economy and the practice of directing the branches of the national economy, international relations and the foreign policy of Czechoslovakia and the USSR, Party building, logic, the Czech and Slovak languages and literature, and the Russian language and literature. In addition journalism is studied by comrades engaged in press work.

The fraternal aid of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union was and is of great significance for the school. At the request of our Central Committee, the Central Committee of the CPSU sent us a number of experienced scientific workers and tutors who helped raise the level of our teachers, to imparted work in the faculties and who shared with us their rich methodological experience. Of invaluable help to the faculties are the syllabuses and lectures of the Higher School of the C.G. of the CPSU and the visits paid to the school by some of our teachers for educational purposes.

In order to ensure a high level of study and to enable the students to study independently and apply the knowledge acquired by them, the following methods are used: lectures, practical studies, seminars, independent work by the students, consultations, tests and examinations.

One of the chief methods of study is the lecture. The faculties carefully work at preparing lectures and strive to give the students a systematic exposition of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and of the policy of the Communist Party, which is the creative application of this science in the practical work of building Socialism. A considerable number of lectures are discussed beforehand at faculty meetings. This method bears fruit. The ideological level of the lectures has been raised considerably and they are now being linked up better with present-day events, with the struggle of the Party for building Socialism; the lectures help the students more in the creative study of Marxism-Leninism.

R. Vetiska

Member, C.C., Communist Party of Czechoslovakia

society as a whole. The contribution made by the people of Czechoslovakia to world culture and the progressive traditions of our history must be systematically popularised; the students must be made familiar with the achievements of our leading scientists, inventors and innovators, shown the powerful creative initiative of the popular masses and be trained in a spirit of national pride and socialist patriotism. It is necessary even more implacably to expose hostile ideology, particularly social democracy, Masarykism, bourgeois nationalism and religious obscurantism.

The prerequisite for the continued improvement in the teaching of social sciences is the proper carrying out of the curriculum for the new academic year. Close attention is given in the curriculum to a thorough elucidation of the role of the masses, the Party and the individual in history, to the agrarian question, the question of the worker-peasant alliance, international relations and the fight for peace, that is, to those matters in which mistakes were made in the past.

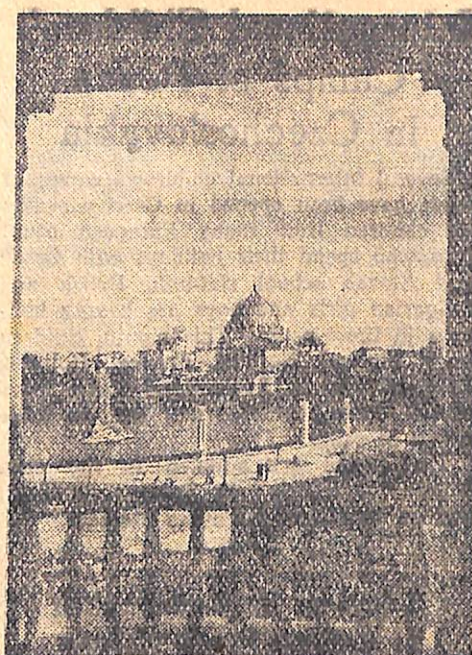
One of the most important points in studying is independent work by the students. Only by thoughtful, independent work can the Marxist-Leninist classics, the decisions of congresses, conferences and meetings of the Central Committee of the Party be thoroughly mastered, the laws governing the development of nature and society be assimilated, and the students learn how to draw correct conclusions for their own practical work.

The students appreciate the importance and significance of individual study. Not all of them, however, know how to make the best use of books. We still have elements of the mechanical and dogmatic approach to study. Hence one of the most important tasks of the tutors is to teach students to study independently the Marxist-Leninist classics, teach them to use books so that in future they can link up theory with practice, can themselves "confer" with the classics and teach others how to do so.

To meet the great needs of the Party for well-trained cadres, different courses have been organised in the school. At present there are eight-month courses for the staff of the regional committees and for leading functionaries of the district committees of the Party, for functionaries of the mass organisations, the state organs and the press; five-month courses for district committee workers; special five-month courses for workers in the sphere of agriculture and five-month refresher courses for leading workers with many years' experience of Party work.

An extremely important and honoured task of the school is to help tutors and particularly the schools run by the regional committees of the Party. The Central Committee school works out curriculums for them and has held a number of seminars for regional Party school tutors. For instance, a seminar has been held on the role of the masses in history, another on J. V. Stalin's "Economic Problems of Socialism in the USSR", and so on. Some tutors from the regional schools are now on short-term practical work in our faculties. This help must be considerably improved upon, especially now, when the regional schools are preparing to go over from six-month to nine-month courses of training.

At the meeting of the Central Committee of the CPC last December, the work of the Higher Party School was discussed in connection with the examination of ideological questions; it was made incumbent on the



The All-Union Agricultural Exhibition in Moscow. Photo: Pavilion of Mechanisation and Electrification of Agriculture of the USSR.

Results of Fulfilment of State Plans for First Six Months of 1954

Albania

The Statistical Board of the State Planning Committee in Albania has released a report on fulfilment of the plan for the first half of 1954; the report points out that the target for gross industrial output was fulfilled 98.5 per cent. Industrial output was 10 per cent higher than in the corresponding period last year.

Fulfilment of the plan by the main branches of the economy was as follows: industry fulfilled the plan 103 per cent and producer co-operatives 101.6 per cent. The output of coal was 53.8 per cent higher than in the corresponding period of 1953, chrome ore 10.3 per cent, cement 6.8 per cent, electric power 28.6 per cent, macaroni 23.2 per cent, the fish catch 12 per cent and the output of cotton fabrics 6.6 per cent higher.

The spring sowing plan was fulfilled 97.9 per cent. The volume of work done by the machine and tractor stations rose 47.3 per cent as against the same period last year. The head of cattle on state farms increased 14.5 per cent and sheep 3.4 per cent.

Korean

People's Democratic Republic

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic has summed up the results of the fulfilment of the national economic plan for the second quarter of 1954, together with that covering the first six months as a whole, and adopted a decision on measures for ensuring the fulfilment of the plan for the second half of the year.

The decision points out that industry fulfilled the plan for the second quarter 101 per cent and the plan for the first half year 100 per cent. Gross industrial output in the first six months was 49 per cent above the previous year. Construction work was successfully carried out.

BATAK HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN BULGARIA

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria have adopted a decision to accelerate work on the Batak scheme and have

NEW PEACEFUL INITIATIVE OF SOVIET UNION

Jacques Duclos
Secretary,
French Communist Party

If the Note delivered by V. M. Molotov on July 24 to the French chargé d'affaires in Moscow and at the same time to the diplomatic representatives of Britain and the United States of America provoked the wrath of the U.S. instigators of war, it went right to the hearts of millions throughout the world who long for peace.

The Soviet Note, coming after the successful results obtained in Geneva with the conclusion of the negotiations on Indo-China, has helped to develop further the simple and great idea that if it was possible to end hostilities in Indo-China by negotiation, it is possible, by following the same path, to create in Europe an atmosphere of relaxed international tension.

The chief danger for the peoples in the political situation in Europe is represented by the Bonn agreements and the Paris treaty which prepare the resurgence of German militarism and consequently envisage the transformation of Western Germany into a war centre in the very heart of Europe.

The question of whether these treaties are or are not ratified takes on greater significance in France since Premier Mendès-France has declared his intention to open a parliamentary debate on European policy in August.

It is true that the Premier let it be known that the text of the EDC treaty in its present form, that is, with the "community" defined by the Paris treaty and Bonn agreements, could be replaced by another text and entrusted two of his Ministers to seek a compromise, but this is nothing but a deal permitting, in one or another form, rearmament of Western Germany within the framework of the Atlantic policy, that is for aggressive purposes.

And indeed, no matter how Washington, London and Paris try to assert that the North Atlantic treaty does not pursue aggressive aims the aggressive nature of this treaty has come into the open.

This aggressive nature stems, in particular, from the fact that the U.S., British and French Governments have refused to study in a positive way the desire expressed by the Soviet Government to proceed to a joint examination of the possibility of the participation of the Soviet Union in NATO.

It is also evident that whether the remilitarisation of Western Germany takes place under cover of EDC or by means of the direct entry of the Bonn Government into the military North Atlantic Treaty Organisation it will in either case take on a clearly aggressive character and will heighten the tension in Europe.

The EDC treaty cannot be ratified without entailing a great danger for the future of peace in Europe; moreover, it is impossible to agree to direct integration of a new revanchist Wehrmacht in the military forces of the North Atlantic bloc under U.S. command.

In any case the behaviour of the French Government and Parliament would be quite wrong if they engaged in discussion on the ratification of the EDC treaty without having undertaken and followed through to the end the negotiations proposed in the Soviet Note on certain questions of prime importance, on which both peace in Europe and security of the French borders depend.

If the Laniel-Bidauld clique was removed from power this was because, on the one hand, it sought to continue the war in Indo-China and, on the other hand, it was unable to stop at nothing in its determination

not true to say that the formation of the European army will help to avoid the formation of the German army. The one will lead to the other."

This is perfectly true and it is no less true that another policy can replace that of the remilitarisation of Western Germany, falsely presented as though it is inspired by concern for security, whereas, in fact, it is dominated by a desire for aggression.

The European nations long for a policy of peace and security and such a policy is clearly defined in the Soviet proposal for concluding a General European Treaty on Collective Security.

This proposal, which was already put forward in the course of the Berlin Conference and has just been renewed, provides for security in Europe. Based on explicit recognition of the principle of peaceful co-existence of different social systems, the Soviet proposal envisages the participation of all European countries, without exception, in the General European Treaty on Collective Security.

For the purpose of exchanging views on the question of establishing a system of collective security in Europe the Soviet Union has proposed the holding of a conference of all European states wishing to take part, and also the U.S.A., considering it desirable that the People's Republic of China send an observer to the conference. In this way it has once again demonstrated its firm determination to exert every effort to ensure the defence of peace and to see to it that the policy of easing international tension will triumph.

It would be inconceivable and inadmissible if the French Government were to align itself docilely with the American Government and give a negative reply to such wise and reasonable proposals.

The people of France would not approve of such a line of behaviour which would mean refusal to follow the path of negotiations, the efficacy of which was recently demonstrated at Geneva.

A negative reply would be the more inconceivable in that the working class, the popular masses and all French patriots realise that, if the cease-fire in Indo-China enables us to see a certain easing of the military burden, it is also necessary, if we are to achieve a substantial saving in military expenditure, to create conditions favourable for a reduction in armaments and armed forces.

As is stressed in the Soviet Note, the question of reducing armaments is closely bound up with the establishment of collective security in Europe and it is quite obvious that the conclusion of an agreement on such a vital question would create a favourable situation for the banning of atomic weapons, which would eliminate an extremely grave menace to the future of human civilisation.

The conclusion of a General European Treaty on Collective Security would promote the further easing of international tension that has come about in Asia; it would isolate the warmongers and would

Bonn revanchists; it would, on the contrary, rely on the forces of peace and democracy which exist and struggle in Western Germany.

Frenchmen who are concerned about the future of their homeland cannot but take into consideration the extremely important fact that militarists no longer have the upper hand throughout Germany.

The French must take into account the existence of the German Democratic Republic whose leaders have solemnly proclaimed their resolve never to permit Germany to unleash a new war against the French people.

For the Europe of six, which the supporters of EDC want to establish for the purpose of converting it into an aggressive base, the Soviet proposal substitutes Europe in its entirety.

The implementation of this proposal will make it possible to neutralise Germany before the German peace treaty is concluded, and to dispel the legitimate fears aroused by the possibility of a resurgence of German militarism under the supreme control of the American imperialists.

This explains why the working people, democrats and patriots take the view that it is essential to give a favourable reply to the Soviet proposal before embarking on discussion on the ratification of the "European Defence Community". This is also the view of political figures of diverse opinions, which throws into relief the warm response evoked by the Soviet proposal.

Certain political circles are giving it out that the head of the French Government, as a result of certain political haggling, has made a number of concessions to the champions of EDC, prominent among whom is Guy Mollet, leader of the Socialist Party.

Be that as it may, the struggle of the masses against EDC is now assuming the utmost importance, and in order to prevent the ratification of the "European Defence Community" treaty, which would constitute a triumph for Eisenhower and Adenauer, a resolute struggle must be launched, demonstrating that the Soviet proposal opens the way not only to the settlement of European problems but also to settlement of the other decisive problems of the day.

We must expect the worst moves from the EDC supporters and it must be said that the vote on the second reading of the constitutional reform, which is to take place prior to discussion of the "European Defence Community" treaty, is a component part of the general game being played by the advocates of the "European Army".

Indeed, if the constitutional reform is adopted this will eliminate at the second reading the necessity for a constitutional majority for the ratification of the EDC treaty—that is half the members of the National Assembly plus one—in the event of the Council of the Republic rejecting ratification by a constitutional majority.

Inasmuch as this possibility can be envisaged and as a constitutional majority cannot easily be obtained in the National Assembly for the ratification of the Bonn and Paris agreements, the constitutional reform would permit the ratification of the EDC treaty by a simple majority of votes, which can be found more readily.

That is why the French people must launch a vigorous struggle early this month to prevent ratification of the EDC

...are the
School of the C.C. of the CPSU and the
visits paid to the school by some of our
teachers for educational purposes.

In order to ensure a high level of study
and to enable the students to study independ-
ently and apply the knowledge acquired
by them, the following methods are used:
lectures, practical studies, seminars, inde-
pendent work by the students, consulta-
tions, tests and examinations.

One of the chief methods of study is
the lecture. The faculties carefully work at
preparing lectures and strive to give the
students a systematic exposition of the
principles of Marxism-Leninism and of the
policy of the Communist Party, which is
the creative application of this science in
the practical work of building Socialism.
A considerable number of lectures are
discussed beforehand at faculty meetings.
This method bears fruit. The ideological
level of the lectures has been raised con-
siderably and they are now being linked
up better with present-day events, with
the struggle of the Party for building
Socialism; the lectures help the students
more in the creative study of Marxism-
Leninism.

The printing of some of the lectures read
at the school is considered to be very im-
portant. Considerable assistance is thereby
rendered to teachers in the regional Party
schools, tutors and those studying in the
Party education network. During the past
year some 40 lectures were published, in-
cluding the lectures on the history of the
Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, which
are particularly popular among the
tutors.

The faculties are beginning to step up
research, the first results of which are
manifested in the improvement not only
in the teaching but also in the printed
publications of the school.

There are, however, shortcomings in the
teaching of the social sciences. In teaching
such subjects as political economy and
philosophy the hangovers of schematism,
oversimplification and superficial approach
to theoretical questions must be eliminated.
It is essential completely to end the separa-
tion of philosophical and economic subjects
and the subject of history from present-day
tasks. The lectures do not bring out deeply
enough the antithesis between the bour-
geois and proletarian world outlook,
the operation and requirements of the
laws of the development of society and their
application by the people's-democratic state.
Criticism of idealist "theories" and demon-
stration of the superiority of the socialist sys-
tem over the capitalist system are often of
a declaratory character.

In teaching such subjects as the economy
of Czechoslovakia and Party building it is
necessary, better than hitherto, theoretically
to generalise the practice of building So-
cialism and give an all-round elucidation
of the main line of the development of our

Conference of Union of Working Youth in Rumanian People's Republic

A conference of the Union of Working
Youth took place in Bucharest between July
29 and August 1.

Greetings on behalf of the Central Com-
mittee of the Rumanian Workers' Party
were brought by Comrade N. Ceausescu,
Secretary of the Central Committee.

The conference discussed the report of
the C.C. of the Union on fulfilment of the
decisions of the enlarged meeting of the
C.C. of the Rumanian Workers' Party of
August 19-20, 1953, and the tasks of the
Union for improving organisational work
and Communist education with a view to
rallying youth in the struggle for carrying
out the tasks set by the Party and the
Government for developing industry and
agriculture. The report was made by Com-
rade Virgil Trofin, Secretary of the Central
Committee of the Union.

the mass organisations, the state organs
and the press; five-month courses for
district committee workers; special five-
month courses for workers in the sphere
of agriculture and five-month refresher
courses for leading workers with many
years' experience of Party work.

An extremely important and honoured
task of the school is to help tutors and
particularly the schools run by the regional
committees of the Party. The Central Com-
mittee school works out curricula for
them and has held a number of seminars for
regional Party school tutors. For instance,
a seminar has been held on the role of the
masses in history, another on J. V. Stalin's
"Economic Problems of Socialism in the
USSR", and so on. Some tutors from the
regional schools are now on short-term
practical work in our faculties. This help
must be considerably improved upon, espe-
cially now, when the regional schools are
preparing to go over from six-month to
nine-month courses of training.

At the meeting of the Central Committee
of the CPG last December, the work of the
Higher Party School was discussed in con-
nection with the examination of ideological
questions; it was made incumbent on the
personnel of the school seriously to raise the
level of teaching and, by instituting post-
graduate and assistant courses to ensure the
development of new scientific cadres. The
opening of post-graduate courses and rais-
ing the ideological level and the skill of the
tutorial personnel are important pre-
requisites for further improving the work of
the school. In this connection the Central
Committee of the CPSU gives us tremendous
help, enabling some of our teachers to study
in the Academy of Social Sciences under the
auspices of the C.C. of the CPSU. The main
body of teachers must, however, improve
their knowledge by taking a correspondence
post-graduate course. We are experiencing
big difficulties in this: there is a shortage
of qualified tutors, post graduates are over-
burdened with current teaching work. There
is no doubt that, with the help of the Cen-
tral Committee and as a result of replenish-
ing the faculties with new, highly-qualified
cadres and further improving organisation
of work, we shall in the near future solve
the question of post-graduate training.

The significance of Marxist-Leninist train-
ing for all full-time workers in the Party
and in the state and economic apparatus
is growing year by year. The decisions of
the Tenth Congress of the Communist Party
of Czechoslovakia again laid emphasis on
the necessity for strengthening their ideo-
logical and theoretical education. The staff
of the Higher Party School are confronted
with the great and honourable task of devot-
ing still greater attention to the Marxist-
Leninist training of our Party cadres,
to creatively applying and developing Marx-
ist-Leninist science.

Many delegates—young workers, working
peasants, students, teachers and so on—
took part in discussion. They pointed to
the successes achieved by the Union under
the leadership of the Party and boldly
disclosed shortcomings in the work of the
Central Committee of the Union.

The conference elected the Central Com-
mittee and Central Auditing Commission.

At the concluding meeting the delegates
sent a message to the Central Committee
of the Party expressing the boundless
loyalty and love of the young people for the
Party. The delegates also promised to im-
prove mass political and organisational
work, strengthen the bonds of the Union
with the broad masses of youth and reso-
lutely fight for the implementation of the
policy of the Party and the Government.

Korean People's Democratic Republic

The Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic
has summed up the results of the fulfil-
ment of the national economic plan for
the second quarter of 1954, together with
that covering the first six months as a
whole, and adopted a decision on measures
for ensuring the fulfilment of the plan for
the second half of the year.

The decision points out that industry
fulfilled the plan for the second quarter
101 per cent and the plan for the first
half year 100 per cent. Gross industrial
output in the first six months was 49 per
cent above the previous year. Construction
work was successfully carried out.

BATAK HYDRO-ELECTRIC SCHEME UNDER CONSTRUCTION IN BULGARIA

The Council of Ministers and the Central
Committee of the Communist Party of
Bulgaria have adopted a decision to accel-
erate work on the Batak scheme and have
declared it to be a job of prime national
importance.

The Batak scheme is one of the biggest
projects of the Bulgarian Second Five-Year
Plan. Dozens of tunnels and canals and three
concrete dams will be built in the Rhodope
Mountains. One reservoir alone, near the
Batak village, will contain millions of cubic
metres of water and irrigate 20,000 hectares
of fertile soil in the Plovdiv and Pazardjik
districts.

The Council of Ministers and the C.C. of the
Communist Party have obliged the Ministry
of Electrification to complete and put into
operation by the end of 1957 power stations
with a total capacity of not less than 102,000
kw. According to the plan three power
stations of the scheme will double the
amount of electric power generated in the
country prior to September 9, 1944.

STRENGTHENING BONDS BETWEEN WORKING PEOPLE OF TOWN AND COUNTRY IN POLAND

The working people of Polish towns are
strengthening more and more their bonds
with the countryside. In connection with
the harvesting in the Poznan region special
groups of workers who are able to do agri-
cultural work have been formed in many
factories of Poznan. 200 permanent liaison
groups covering about 5,000 workers are
functioning in 108 enterprises of the city.

The groups regularly visit villages in the
region. They assist the peasants to organise
producer co-operatives, help producer co-
operatives and individual peasants to bring
in the crops and organise mass cultural
activities. Then, at factory meetings, they
report on what they have done.

The strengthening of the bonds between
the working people of Poznan and the coun-
tryside is also testified by the fact that
now many people, among them not a few
housewives, visit the City Committee of
the Party expressing a desire to take part
in the harvesting. The personnel of the
Szadkowski factory in Cracow sent 35 work-
ers to the Liberzowo producer co-operative
for the harvesting. A liaison group with
the countryside which was formed at the
Batory Metallurgical Plant renders help
in the harvesting to the producer co-opera-
tive in Gorzyczki (Rybnik District, Stalino-
grad Region).

It is also evident that whether the remis-
sion of Western Germany takes place
under cover of EDC or by means of the direct
entry of the Bonn Government into the mili-
tary North Atlantic Treaty Organisation
it will in either case take on a clearly aggres-
sive character and will heighten the tension
in Europe.

The EDC treaty cannot be ratified with-
out entailing a great danger for the future
of peace in Europe; moreover, it is impos-
sible to agree to direct integration of a new
revanchist Wehrmacht in the military forces
of the North Atlantic bloc under U.S.
command.

In any case the behaviour of the French
Government and Parliament would be quite
wrong if they engaged in discussion on the
ratification of the EDC treaty without hav-
ing undertaken and followed through to the
end the negotiations proposed in the Soviet
Note on certain questions of prime impor-
tance, on which both peace in Europe and
security of the French borders depend.

If the Laniel-Bidault clique was removed
from power this was because, on the one
hand, it sought to continue the war in Indo-
China and, on the other hand, it was
resolved to stop at nothing in its determina-
tion to force through ratification of the
EDC treaty.

Bidault and his friends even sought to
justify their treacherous policy by presenting
the revival of German militarism under
the screen of the "European army" as a
reserve solution which would allegedly pre-
vent the creation of the revanchist Wehr-
macht.

Leaders of the Socialist Party like Guy
Mollet have come out in support of identical
arguments, but the Socialist Deputies who
oppose EDC made short work of these
false arguments by writing: "It is

of such a line of behaviour which would
mean refusal to follow the path of ne-
gotiations, the efficacy of which was re-
cently demonstrated at Geneva.

A negative reply would be the more in-
conceivable in that the working class, the
popular masses and all French patriots
realise that, if the cease-fire in Indo-China
enables us to see a certain easing of the
military burden, it is also necessary, if we are
to achieve a substantial saving in military
expenditure, to create conditions favourable
for a reduction in armaments and armed
forces.

As is stressed in the Soviet Note, the
question of reducing armaments is closely
bound up with the establishment of collec-
tive security in Europe and it is quite ob-
vious that the conclusion of an agreement
on such a vital question would create a
favourable situation for the banning of
atomic weapons, which would eliminate
an extremely grave menace to the future
of human civilisation.

The conclusion of a General European
Treaty on Collective Security would pro-
mote the further easing of international
tension that has come about in Asia; it
would isolate the warmongers and would
enable the peoples to seek, under better con-
ditions, a solution of the economic problems
facing them in relation to developing inter-
national trade, and this would be one of the
most favourable results of such a state of
things.

Under such conditions, a French Govern-
ment resolved to safeguard peace and
ensure the security of France cannot but
oppose the ratification of EDC which is a
menace to peace and entirely contrary to the
interests of France.

Such a Government cannot pursue a
policy of support for Adenauer and the other

pean problems but also to settlement of the
other decisive problems of the day.

We must expect the worst moves from the
EDC supporters and it must be said that the
vote on the second reading of the constitu-
tional reform, which is to take place prior
to discussion of the "European Defence Com-
munity" treaty, is a component part of the
general game being played by the advocates
of the "European Army".

Indeed, if the constitutional reform is
adopted this will eliminate at the second
reading the necessity for a constitutional
majority for the ratification of the EDC
treaty—that is half the members of the
National Assembly plus one—in the event
of the Council of the Republic rejecting
ratification by a constitutional majority.

Inasmuch as this possibility can be en-
visaged and as a constitutional majority
cannot easily be obtained in the National
Assembly for the ratification of the Bonn
and Paris agreements, the constitutional re-
form would permit the ratification of the
EDC treaty by a simple majority of votes,
which can be found more readily.

That is why the French people must
launch a vigorous struggle early this
month to prevent ratification of the EDC
treaty. They will wage this fight even
more vigorously since they realise that the
policy of general European collective se-
curity must be counterposed to a policy that
aims at creating a war climate in Eu-
rope. The Soviet proposal gives clear per-
spectives and the possibility for the definite
realisation of such a policy.

And here as well, as with the conclusion
of peace in Indo-China, provided the pres-
sure of the popular masses proves suffi-
ciently powerful, the manoeuvres of the war-
mongers will be reduced to naught and the
policy of peace and mutual understanding
between the peoples will triumph.

Outrages of Reaction in Pakistan

Following the events in East Pakistan
the anti-democratic actions of the Muslim
League rulers, who have run amok, have
swept the whole of the country. The
Mohammed Ali Government has outlawed
the Communist Party throughout Pakistan.
In the early morning of July 24 police
agents began mass arrests. At Lahore they
arrested Ferozuddin Mansur, acting General
Secretary of the Communist Party of
Pakistan, and sealed the national head-
quarters of the Party.

Not only Communists but dozens of other
patriots have been arrested. The police
are throwing into jail journalists, students,
teachers, trade union leaders—all those
who directly or indirectly oppose the anti-
national, pro-American policy of Mohammed
Ali's Government. According to the "Hin-

dustan Times", among those arrested are
Mirza Mohammed Ibrahim and Mohammed
Afzal, President and General Secretary res-
pectively of the Pakistan Trade Union Fed-
eration, Hamid Akhtar, sub-editor of the
Lahore newspaper "Imroze", and Abdul
Rauf Malik, proprietor of the "Peoples
Publishing House". In the North-West
Frontier Province the president and sec-
retary of the Provincial Peace Committee
have been jailed.

Altogether, 1,368 patriots were jailed
between June 1 and July 27.

The public of Pakistan and other coun-
tries in Asia justly link this latest attack
by reaction on the democratic forces of
Pakistan with the realisation of the obli-
gations taken on by the Mohammed Ali
Government under the so-called U.S.-Pak-

istan Mutual Military Assistance Agree-
ment. It is no accident that the raids by
police agents were launched on July 24—
directly after the Pentagon had announced
on July 21 that it was sending a group of
American military advisers to Pakistan.

By these fascist actions Mohammed Ali
and his clique have completely exposed
themselves as the worst enemies of the
people and the loyal servants of the U.S.
imperialists.

Events in Pakistan prove over and over
again the indisputable truth that wherever
the U.S. imperialists succeed in imposing
enslaving aggressive military agreements,
democratic freedom is suppressed, demo-
cratic organisations are persecuted and
terror and fascisation of the whole of
public life are intensified.

GROWING UNEMPLOYMENT AND STRIKE MOVEMENT IN U.S.A.

The U.S. press reports that unemployment
is rife in most parts of the country. As is
reported by the "United Mine Workers
Journal", organ of the independent United
Mine Workers, an extremely serious situa-
tion has arisen, especially in Kentucky, West
Virginia and Pennsylvania. Many unem-
ployed have already exhausted their meagre
unemployment cash benefits and have begun
to live on "rations" which are insufficient
even for a semi-starvation existence.

Unemployment is growing not only in the
coal industry. It is reported from Chicago
that lay-offs are taking place at agricul-
tural machinery works and in other branches
of industry. The International Harvester
Corporation alone put off some 9,000 work-
ers last year and by September this year
another 9,000 will be sacked.

Many jobless are going to California hop-
ing to find work as fruit or vegetable pickers,
but as the N. Y. "Daily Worker" corres-
pondent reports, they fail to get a job
because there is more than sufficient man-
power in California. The same correspon-
dent writes that travelling through the Santa
Clara valley he saw hundreds of adults
and children living in tents and vans. In
order to make the most out of surplus
labour the company tycoons carried on to
the last minute publishing advertisements
for agricultural workers. They then de-
pressed farm labour pay rates to such an
extent that in many cases there ceased to
be any sense in working.

The threat of the sack and deteriorating
material conditions of factory and office

workers are giving rise to a growing strike
movement. According to the Federal Media-
tion and Conciliation Service 145 strikes,
involving 170,000 people, were in progress
on July 31. Of these, 23 were strikes in-
volving more than 1,000 people. The biggest
strike was that of 100,000 workers in the
lumber industry, which began on June 21.
The next largest was the strike of 25,000
rubber workers, which began on June 8.

Some 4,000 distributive workers in Pitts-
burgh have been on strike since November
last year demanding a wage increase. In
Wisconsin 4,000 workers from plants pro-
ducing automobile parts have been out since
April 5. A strike of 1,200 pilots, who are
demanding an 8-hour day, began on June
30 and is paralysing the work of the most
important airlines in the U.S.A.

PRESS REVIEW

Propaganda Among Peasants on the General Line of the Chinese Communist Party in the Transition Period

The "Kiangsu Nunmingpao"—organ of the Kiangsu Provincial Committee of the Communist Party of China.

There are at present 84 newspapers published mainly for the peasant masses by the provincial and regional committees of the Communist Party of China.

From the winter of 1953 to the spring of 1954, the Party carried out large-scale and intensive propaganda in the rural areas on the general line of the Party during the period of transition to Socialism.

In the explanation work a big role is played by the newspapers which are not only propagandists of the general line of the Party among the peasants but are active fighters for its steady implementation.

Popular and systematic propaganda of the aims of the general line was carried out among the 36,000,000 peasants in Kiangsu Province by the "Kiangsu Nunmingpao".

Along with this special column, the newspaper also published certain news items, picture stories, photographs and poems to help the peasants understand more clearly the chief aims of the general line.

During this period, the paper also devoted a great deal of its space to publicising the best experiences of various localities in propagating the general line.



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masses responded to the call of the state and, striving to support the industrialisation of the country, sold their surplus grain to the state.

From January to April 1954 more and more space in the "Kiangsu Nunmingpao" was devoted to publicising the movement for agricultural mutual aid and co-operation.

The newspaper laid and lays special emphasis on the superiority of agricultural producer co-operatives.

The newspaper publishes a large number of articles by chairmen and members of agricultural producer co-operatives, both old and new, on the experiences they had gained while establishing and expanding the co-operatives.

While popularising agricultural producer co-operatives, the newspaper pays a great deal of attention to the question of consolidating and vigorously developing mutual-aid teams.

rally them in the struggle for the development of agricultural production and increased production of foodstuffs and industrial crops.

The newspaper further paid close attention to winter and spring ploughing. It criticised the tendencies of some provincial functionaries to relax leadership in agricultural production.

In the column "Party Life", it stresses the great significance of the constant and concrete leadership of the rural Party organisations in production and of the leading part which the Party cadres must take in production.

After November 1953 and especially around the Spring Festival, the propaganda work to strengthen further the worker-peasant alliance spread throughout the country.

In the questions and answers column under the heading of "Carrying Out of General Line Requires Consolidation of the Worker-Peasant Alliance", the newspaper criticised wrong ideas entertained by certain peasants with regard to the working class.

But in propagating the general line, "Kiangsu Nunmingpao" displays certain weaknesses and shortcomings.

International Children's Camps of Peace in Czechoslovakia

Several international children's camps of peace have been opened in Czechoslovakia for children from many European countries who spend their holidays with Czech and Slovak school children.

The camps are situated in the most picturesque resorts: on Sumava, in Tatra and on the Czech-Moravian plateau.

Statement by Confederation of Working People of Latin America.

On August 2, the N.Y. "Daily Worker" published a statement by the Confederation of Working People of Latin America protesting against police terror in Colombia.

The statement points out that under the pretext of the fight against Communism the police have arrested Amado Zapata, member of the Central Committee of the Confederation, and Dr. Roman Posada and Octavio Marulanda, leaders of the Peace Committee.

The Confederation calls upon all democratic organisations to send protests to President Rojas Pinilla in Bogota and to the Colombian Embassies in all countries demanding an end to the reign of terror and the release of all political prisoners.

Dire Plight of Bolivian Peasants

The Bolivian newspapers "La Nacion" and "El Diario" report that the committee for studying the cost of living in the countryside recently appointed a special commission to examine the conditions of peasants in the provinces of Camacho, Omasuyos and Pacajes (La Paz Department).

Conditions are even worse in the Camacho province where the income of a peasant family amounts to a mere 2,330 bolivianos a month.

Plight of a Worker in Western Germany

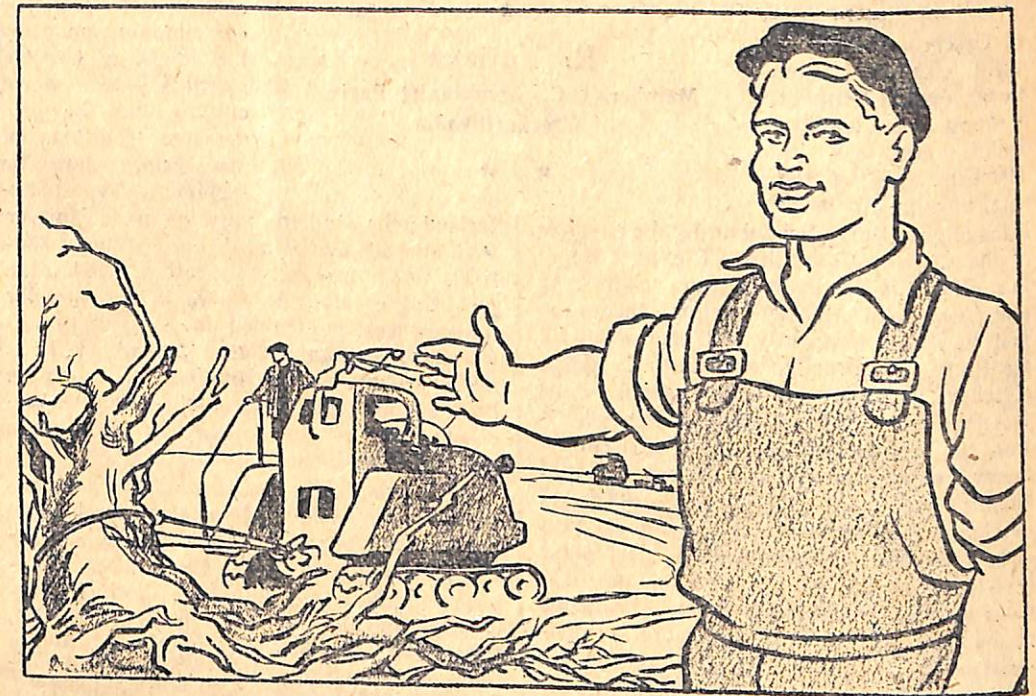
The "Hamburger Volkszeitung" reports that Georg Jaskola, a carpenter, and his family have been living for the past two months in a small tent in an old cemetery in Hamburg.

While Jaskola searched for another room he fell foul of his employer and was sacked. The authorities to whom he appealed for help, advised him to... hire a tent and hope for the best.

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While in the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies millions of hectares of virgin and unused lands are under the plough to extend areas sown to crops, in the United States of America and the capitalist countries, subordinate to their diktat, there is a steady decline in the area under cultivation, a considerable proportion of which is being assigned for American war bases.

(Press item)



— OUR NEW FIELDS WILL BE HERE.



— OUR FIELDS WERE HERE...

Drawing by J. Novak

POLITICAL NOTES

1. "Bloodthirsty Maniac" Takes the Floor in U. S. Congress

Syngman Rhee, man of the moment in South Korea, marked his visit to the U.S.A. by a number of public pronouncements, including a speech at a joint session of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

What has the Seoul "President" done which so pleased his patrons and how did he demonstrate this touching comprehension of "American ideals"?

Syngman Rhee called on the U.S.A. for war against the People's Republic of China and the Korean People's Democratic Republic. He said that the armistice in Korea was "unwise" and threatened to violate it.

2. Thailand — America

domination he declared that the Korean front is merely a small section of the war which they were seeking to win—the war for Asia and for the world.

Small wonder then that this brazen warmongering speech which met with approbation from the U.S. aggressive circles dreaming of fresh bloodshed in Asia evoked strong indignation and sharp protests in wide public circles in other countries.

The outcome of the negotiations in Washington shows that his bloodthirsty pronouncements have their results. The U.S. press reports that Syngman Rhee was assured by the U.S. Government that he would be given assistance to increase the South Korean armed forces still more, including consignments of jet planes and warships.

This has confirmed over and over again that the "ideas" proclaimed by Rhee are not his monopoly and that these wild "ideas" are not at all alien to certain influential quarters in the U.S.A.

the sake of socialist construction, we must strive to increase production"; "For the sake of socialist construction, we must consolidate the worker-peasant alliance" and "Struggle for the realisation of the general line under the leadership of the Party".

Along with this special column, the newspaper also published certain news items, picture stories, photographs and poems to help the peasants understand more clearly the chief aims of the general line. By its materials the paper enabled the peasants to recall their past and make comparisons and conclusions. It tried to help the peasants to understand correctly the relationship between the socialist industrialisation of the country and agricultural development and the relationship between the interests of the state and the individual interests of the peasants. In order to eliminate in time the erroneous idea prevailing among certain sections of the peasant masses that national industrialisation had no bearing on agriculture and that it would yield them no benefit, the newspaper started a discussion on the subject "We must take the road to Socialism". The discussion, in which the peasants of the Province participated widely, lasted one month and a half. Suffice it to say that during the discussion the newspaper received more than three hundred items written collectively and individually by the peasants.

The newspaper publishes a large number of articles by chairmen and members of agricultural producer co-operatives, both old and new, on the experiences they had gained while establishing and expanding the co-operatives, on production plans and achievements, on agricultural campaigns and on the changes that had taken place in the life and ideological level of the peasants since they joined the co-operatives. The paper pays particular attention to overcoming various difficulties that confront newly-established co-operatives and, when answering questions, makes recommendations based on the experiences gained by the old co-operatives.

While popularising agricultural producer co-operatives, the newspaper pays a great deal of attention to the question of consolidating and vigorously developing mutual-aid teams. It severely criticises sectarianism, those who focus too much attention on agricultural producer co-operatives at the expense of mutual-aid teams and also fights against a passive attitude towards the establishment of co-operatives and against adventurism in this work. In addition to producer co-operatives, the newspaper popularises other forms of co-operation such as supply and marketing co-operatives and credit co-operatives.

The propaganda of the general line of the Party among the peasants helps to

strengthen the ties between workers and peasants by publishing reports on workers' visits to the countryside, on peasants' visits to the factories, on the getting together of workers and peasants and on correspondence between workers and peasants.

In the questions and answers column under the heading of "Carrying Out of General Line Requires Consolidation of the Worker-Peasant Alliance", the newspaper criticised wrong ideas entertained by certain peasants with regard to the working class. During the Spring Festival the newspaper continued to work to strengthen the ties between workers and peasants by publishing reports on workers' visits to the countryside, on peasants' visits to the factories, on the getting together of workers and peasants and on correspondence between workers and peasants.

But in propagating the general line, "Kiangsu Nungmingpao" displays certain weaknesses and shortcomings. Although it did carry some reports on the industrialisation of the country and on the successes of the working class in socialist construction, these reports were rather fragmentary in nature and did not fully describe the remarkable achievements of the People's Republic of China in industrialisation. Furthermore, these reports failed to link these achievements with the immediate interests of the peasants and thus further enhance their enthusiasm for increased production and consequently for greater support in the building of socialist industry.

month. "Peasant incomes", the same newspaper reports, "have dropped to such an extent that the peasants are practically dying from starvation."

Plight of a Worker in Western Germany

The "Hamburger Volkszeitung" reports that Georg Jaskola, a carpenter, and his family have been living for the past two months in a small tent in an old cemetery in Hamburg. The gloomy room, with an area of 6 square metres, previously occupied by the carpenter's family, was claimed by the landlord "for his own needs", and early in June Jaskola, his wife and three children were thrown on to the street by court decision.

While Jaskola searched for another room he fell foul of his employer and was sacked. The authorities to whom he appealed for help, advised him to... hire a tent and hope for the best.

There are no apartments for honest workers in the Bonn state. Even according to the official estimates, 700,000 people in Western Germany are crowded into dwellings that are not fit to live in. The Bonn authorities use the people's money to step up the construction of military barracks and training grounds for a new Wehrmacht instead of building apartments for the working people.

Having overcome tremendous difficulties, delegations of women, young people and other peace supporters participated in the work of the World Congress of Women, in the Fourth World Youth Festival, in the International Students' Congress and in the Vienna Session of the World Peace Council. Two more Portuguese representatives—Professor Rui Luiz Gomes and Maria Lamas, writer, were elected to the World Peace Council. On returning to Portugal Maria Lamas was arrested at the airfield. Tens of democrats and peace supporters who came to meet her were also arrested. However, the fight put up by our people forced the Government to release her and many others arrested with her.

Despite the fact that the Portuguese Communist Party is obliged to work in extremely difficult underground conditions and in conditions of savage repression, it continues to lead the struggle of all Portuguese patriots against the fascist regime, against the conversion of Portugal into an American war base, for democratic changes and national independence.

The Portuguese Communist Party, expressing the interests and aspirations of the people, tirelessly calls on all peace supporters and democrats, irrespective of political conviction, religious belief or colour of skin, constantly to extend and strengthen unity of action.

The popular masses of Portugal, headed by the Communist Party, with the support and active solidarity of the progressive forces throughout the world will frustrate the war plans of the Salazar Government and achieve successes in their struggle for peace, democracy and national independence.

A. RIBEIRO

Lisbon,
July, 1954.

STRUGGLE OF PORTUGUESE PATRIOTS FOR PEACE, DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE

Our country—Portugal—which Salazar's Government has converted into a military base of the American imperialists, is suffering increasingly from the disastrous consequences of the "bilateral agreement on economic co-operation" signed with the U.S.A.

Since 1949—when Portugal was drawn into the North Atlantic bloc—the Salazar clique has been conducting an arms drive unprecedented in the history of our country. Whereas in 1930 Portugal's military expenditure amounted to 478 million escudos, the 1954 budget envisages more than 2,153 million escudos for this purpose.

Mounting war expenditure is one of the principal reasons for the ruinous state of the national economy and is borne chiefly by the working people and the middle classes.

While imports of expensive goods that could easily be produced in Portugal are steadily increasing, our chief exports such as semi-finished cork goods, tinned goods, wines, fruit, etc. are falling year by year, leading to economic stagnation and increasing unemployment. In a country with a population of 8.5 million people about a quarter of a million are unemployed in industry alone.

Agriculture is also in a very bad state. Millions of hectares of land, much of which is not cultivated, are held by a tiny handful of big landowners, while 600,000 farm workers have no land at all and live in poverty.

Prices are steadily rising and the purchasing power of the working people falling; wages are being cut. At present the average wage of industrial workers,

(Letter from Lisbon)

even in the better-off regions, is only 600 escudos a month, and with prices at their present level at least 1,000 escudos are required monthly to keep a family of five alive.

The terrible explosion which occurred at the war plant in Braco de Prata, when a large number of workers and inhabitants of the densely populated district around the plant were killed or wounded, served as yet another grim warning of the danger with which the Government's war preparations are fraught for the people.

But the people of Portugal have not resigned themselves to their wretched existence of semi-starvation and lack of rights.

In the struggle for their immediate demands the workers, united in unity committees, often fight successful actions against cuts in their already scanty wage and against dismissals. The workers are intensifying their struggle against the so-called "productivity campaign", launched by the Americans, which is aimed at increasing still further the profits of factory owners by introducing the U.S. speed-up. The women workers in the "Alianca" textile mill in Giesta (near Porto), for instance, stopped work in reply to an order to operate two looms simultaneously. Their resolute struggle and the active support of workers in other factories led to the satisfaction of their demands.

Fishermen in Matozinhos and Olhao carried out successful strikes. Splendid examples of struggle were likewise shown by the courageous fishermen from the "Elizabeth" and "Inacio Cunha" fishing boats, who boldly fought for their urgent demands.

There is a rising wave of action among the farm labourers. More than 60,000 agricultural labourers in the Alemtejo region, for instance, last year successfully fought for a wage increase during the harvesting. The struggle for "Peace, bread and work" also spread to those regions where there had been no action of this kind hitherto. In many places the agricultural labourers succeeded in obtaining wage increases.

The struggle for the satisfaction of immediate demands is also embracing people in other trades and professions. Doctors, for instance, have protested against a further cutting of hospital staffs, and many representatives of the intelligentsia have signed a protest against the present system of censorship. Engineers and technicians have taken action against new labour regulations which infringe on their rights.

It is essential to note that the working people are more and more linking up their struggle for the satisfaction of immediate demands with the fight for peace, democratic rights and national independence. Despite savage repression on the part of the Government the people are constantly intensifying the struggle for peace. Peace supporters are distributing posters and postcards, circulating resolutions, letters and protests among different organisations, condemning the war policy pursued by the Government; they hold peace meetings, direct campaigns for signatures in favour of banning weapons of mass extermination and settling controversial international issues by peaceful means.

The fascist Government counters the actions of the peace supporters by redoubling its repressive measures. It banned the Women's Peace Association and the most authoritative association of eminent personalities in Portuguese art—the National Society of Fine Arts. But despite this, many new peace committees have been formed of late.

by a number of public sessions of the House of Representatives and the Senate. His speech found favour in certain U.S. quarters. Wiley, Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, declared, for example, that he had listened to Rhee with great interest and that here was a man who was imbued with American ideals. Senator George, Democrat, described it as a "great" speech and observed that if all their allies possessed this fighting spirit the Americans would be in a good position.

What has the Seoul "President" done which so pleased his patrons and how did he demonstrate this touching comprehension of "American ideals"?

Syngman Rhee called on the U.S.A. for war against the People's Republic of China and the Korean People's Democratic Republic. He said that the armistice in Korea was "unwise" and threatened to violate it. Putting on an act and playing the clown he proclaimed the need for immediate action. Harping on the theme most attractive to the American seekers of world

for Asia and for then that this brazen warmongering speech which met with approval from the U.S. aggressive circles dreaming of fresh bloodshed in Asia evoked strong indignation and sharp protests in wide public circles in other countries. The British "Yorkshire Post" writes that Syngman Rhee is a bloodthirsty maniac and that there is no room for doubt as to his aims and that he is seeking to force a third world war, an H-bomb war.

The outcome of the negotiations in Washington shows that his bloodthirsty pronouncements have their results. The U.S. press reports that Syngman Rhee was assured by the U.S. Government that he would be given assistance to increase the South Korean armed forces still more, including consignments of jet planes and warships.

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2. Thailand—American Springboard in South-East Asia

American military aircraft are sweeping over the rice paddies and jungles of Thailand. American officers are hastily training young men in the Thai army to shoot from American tommy guns and to overcome, in American tanks, such obstacles as bamboo huts and irrigation canals. American ships are unloading consignments of military supplies on which the Indo-China ports of destination have been hurriedly deleted and Bangkok substituted.

In this way, through the exertions of the Pentagon and the U.S. State Department, Thailand is being converted into a war base for the United States. The Pentagon conducted negotiations on increasing the Thai armed forces with a Thai military mission which recently visited Washington. It has become public knowledge that the group of American military experts in Thailand has been increased to 400 and it is proposed to send a new contingent of officers. The U.S.A. plans, in the course of 6 or 8 months of feverish preparations, to train officers and sergeants for four Thai divisions. It has also decided to transfer to the Thai authorities the American military supplies that were sent to Viet Nam for the Bao Dai clique.

What can account for this enhanced interest in Thailand on the part of the U.S. ruling circles, an interest that has become particularly acute recently, at a time when, through the concerted efforts of the peace-loving forces, the war conflagration in Indo-China has been extinguished and a consolidation of the friendly relations between the Asian countries is to be observed?

The democratic public in different countries, and first and foremost in the Asian countries, justly note that an intensification of the aggressive schemes of the U.S.A. in Thailand denotes nothing other than a continuation of the notorious "positions of strength" policy which suffered fiasco in Korea and Indo-China. Apparently certain politicians who are accustomed to measure the Asian peoples by the old colonial yardstick do not profit by the lessons of history. Forgetting the tremendous changes that have taken place in Asia, the U.S. aggressive circles are trying might and main to suppress the national-liberation movement of the peoples who have awakened to the new life. With this aim in view they are attempting to concoct an aggressive alliance in South-East Asia,

an alliance which is firmly rejected by the peoples of Asia. In order to camouflage the colonising essence of this bloc, at least to some degree, to give it an "Asian" character, U.S. State Department propagandists are making a terrific noise about the support of these plans by such puppet rulers as Syngman Rhee in Korea, Chiang Kai-shek on Taiwan and Pibun Songgram in Thailand. Everyone knows, however, that puppets represent no one but themselves and their masters.

The strategic importance of Thailand, which occupies a key position on the Indo-China Peninsula, has long attracted the attention of U.S. ruling circles who have declared this country to be a sphere of U.S. "vital interests". When Pibun Songgram, the present Prime Minister of Thailand, subordinated the economy and policy of the country to the interests of the U.S. aggressive plans, this was nothing out of the ordinary in his career: during World War II, as head of the Government, he just as readily collaborated with the Japanese occupation authorities. The character of the existing regime can be judged from the statement of General Donovan, U.S. Ambassador to Thailand, who called the Government of Pibun Songgram the most corrupt in the whole of South-East Asia. According to Richard Deverall, another eye-witness, who has recently visited Thailand for the fifth time and published his observations in the American magazine "New Leader", corruption in this country is reaching unprecedented heights and is threatening the future of Thailand as a state.

In order to ensure unimpeded fulfilment of the U.S. diktat the ruling clique in Thailand has abolished the remnants of civil rights and liberties, is dealing savagely with all democratically minded people and whipping up rabid anti-Communist hysteria. The economy of the country is being put on a war footing.

All these facts testify that the adversaries of the Geneva decisions, those who do not like the ending of bloodshed in Indo-China, have not given up the struggle. The facts show that the aggressive circles in the U.S.A. are aiming at converting Thailand into a base for new ventures in Indo-China.

Jan MAREK

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