

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

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

No. 11 (332)

FRIDAY, MARCH 18, 1955

PRICE 3d (8 cents)

For Steady Growth of Labour Productivity in the People's Democracies

The steady growth of labour productivity is a major prerequisite for the building of Socialism in the people's-democratic countries. "In the last analysis", wrote V. I. Lenin, "productivity of labour is the most important, the principal thing for the victory of the new social system." Generalising the experience of socialist and Communist construction in the USSR, J. V. Stalin, continuer of Lenin's cause, repeatedly stressed the need to develop, on the basis of superior technique, a productivity of labour which would surpass that of the most highly developed capitalist countries.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union, now as in the past, firmly adheres to these most important directives, then as now unwaveringly translating them into life. Productivity of labour in the USSR has increased at an unprecedented rate. The annual increase of labour productivity in industry averaged 9% during the first Five-Year Plan, and 12.7% during the second Five-Year Plan. In the course of a quarter of a century, from 1928 to 1953, industrial labour productivity in the USSR rose practically six times over. The impetuous rise in labour productivity is the major source of the gigantic development of industrial production, of the ever-growing might of the Soviet state, its defence capacity and the steady improvement in the well-being of the Soviet people.

Splendid successes in increasing productivity of labour have been registered by the 600 million-strong Chinese people in the years of people's power. By 1953 labour productivity in state-owned machine-building factories in China was five times higher than in 1949. In 1954 productivity of labour at the state-owned enterprises of the iron and steel industry rose on an average by 27% above the 1953 figure.

Great victories have been won by the working people of the European countries of people's democracy in the building of Socialism; their industrial production in 1953 was more than three times the prewar level. Steady growth of labour productivity was a significant source of economic advance in all these countries. For example, during the first Five-Year Plan labour productivity in Czechoslovak industry rose by 61%, and in Bulgaria it went up 53.6% between 1949 and 1952. In all the countries of people's democracy, as socialist indus-

directives one cannot consider that Rude Pravo was correct when, in its editorial of February 4 commenting on the results of the fulfilment of the 1954 plan, it ignored the fact that the growth of labour productivity seriously lagged behind that of real wages and referred merely in passing to the struggle for higher productivity of labour.

The recent meeting of the C.C. of the Hungarian Working People's Party resolutely condemned the opportunist views current in the country, which, in particular, underestimated the decisive significance of the steady growth of labour productivity in the building of Socialism. The meeting of the C.C. stressed that a steady rise in living standards is only possible if socialist industrialisation is carried out, if heavy industry is developed and priority given to increasing production of the means of production, if labour productivity is increased and production costs are cut year by year. Without these, talk about higher living standards is in fact cheap demagoguery and deception of the people.

A most important condition for securing the steady growth of labour productivity is the constant introduction of new, highly productive techniques in factories, on construction sites, in transport and in agriculture. It follows from this that it is necessary to ensure, in every possible way, the development of production of the means of production, heavy industry and its core—the machine-building industry.

A considerable increase in labour productivity can be achieved as a result of better organisation and co-ordination in work of individual branches of the economy and regular rhythms of work at enterprises etc. For this reason there must be exact defining of proportions in the development of all types of production, raw and semi-finished materials must be delivered systematically, enterprises must co-ordinate their work better and stern measures must be taken to prevent rush methods of work and cases of men and machinery standing idle.

The battle for consistent economy, for economy in raw materials, fuel and electric power, and for ensuring careful treatment of equipment are part and parcel of the work to raise labour productivity. The significant thing is to increase the numbers of people directly engaged in material production and to cut down administrative

Peoples Resolutely Support Appeal of Bureau of World Peace Council

★ About 200 Million Signatures Collected in China

Within 25 days 194,879,988 persons had signed the Appeal of the Bureau of the World Peace Council, including 5,400,000 in Shanghai and 2,400,000 in Tientsin.

The collection of signatures is now gaining momentum in rural areas. Reports to date show that more than 22 million people have signed the Appeal in Shantung, over 21 million in Szechwan and more than half the population in Heilungkiang and Shansi.

The Vienna Appeal is being signed by workers and peasants, scientists and priests, students, industrialists and housewives. In Shanghai alone the housewives have organised some 10,000 meetings and rallies at which signatures were collected.

Achievements of Czechoslovak Fighters for Peace

Over 5 million signatures
to the Appeal

The collection of signatures to the Vienna Appeal is successfully going ahead in Czechoslovakia. In the course of the campaign thousands of National Front activists have visited people in town and countryside. By signing the Appeal the Czechoslovak working people express their firm determination, together with all people of good will, to secure the prohibition of atomic weapons and the immediate cessation of their production. 5,074,796 signatures had been collected by March 12. In most large plants the signature campaign is coming to a close.

BULGARIAN PEOPLE
ENTHUSIASTICALLY SIGN

★ ★ Decisions of the Bureau of the World Peace Council

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A meeting of the Bureau of the World Peace Council, held in Vienna over March 11-13, discussed the questions of developing a world campaign against the preparations for atomic war and of convening a World Peace Assembly from May 22 to 29 in Helsinki.

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The text of the documents adopted by the meeting is set out below:

★ FOR A WORLD PEACE ASSEMBLY

The undisguised menace of atomic war now threatens every country, every home and every person. Instead of atomic power being placed at the service of mankind, stockpiles of atomic weapons are being built up; instead of disarmament, there is the formation of new military blocs; instead of negotiation and agreement there are threats and incitement to hatred.

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But threats and the policy of strength lead to war, not peace. The rearming of Germany, the situation that has developed in the area of Taiwan and the encroachments made on the independence of the peoples aggravate discord everywhere and intensify alarm. If this path is followed then not one person can consider himself safe.

★ STATEMENT OF THE BUREAU OF THE WORLD PEACE COUNCIL

In all countries the Appeal of the World Peace Council, which calls for the destruction of atomic arms and cessation of their production, stirs the consciousness of all people who are alarmed by the possibility of an annihilating war. It corresponds to the hopes of those who believe that the peoples can prevent the mass destruction of humanity by atomic weapons.

We welcome all organisations, all public figures, and all individuals who, in one form or another, oppose the preparations for atomic war.

The danger of such a war has become even more obvious. Statesmen are threatening the use of thermo-nuclear weapons.

All people find this situation intolerable and it is with a feeling of revulsion that they reject the conception of mass annihilation by atomic weapons.

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With all the energy they are capable of, the peoples must demand the destruction of nuclear weapons, general disarmament, and security for everyone, they must demand that the sovereignty and rights of each nation be respected.

In pursuit of these aims, the World Peace Council extends an invitation to representatives of all peace-loving forces in every country to meet at the World Assembly in Helsinki on May 22, for a free discussion of urgent questions relating to the struggle for peace.

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considering this question. Attempts are being made to justify the use of these monstrous weapons, or to represent them as a guarantee of peace, whereas, in reality, they increase the danger of aggression and can bring people nothing but devastation and death.

The signature campaign makes it possible to give voice to the general condemnation of atomic arms, with a force that would compel the governments possessing these weapons to agree to their destruction under strict control. Such an agreement would represent an important step along the path to general disarmament.

★ Argentine Public Opinion Warmly Approves Vienna Appeal

A campaign for signatures to the Appeal of the Bureau of the World Peace Council has been launched in Argentina. According to preliminary figures issued by the Argentine Peace Council, many thousands have already signed in Buenos Aires and its adjacent provinces and Santa Fe.

The people of Argentina, where 1,500,000 signatures were collected against the use of atomic weapons in Korea, now warmly support and approve the campaign launched by the champions of peace. Nearly all medical workers in the town of Rosario and other towns and villages, and intellectuals and workers throughout the country are demanding prohibition and destruction of stockpiles of atomic weapons and opposing atomic war preparations.

Mayor of the town of Coronel Dorrego (Buenos Aires Province) has signed the Appeal. A law for prohibiting nuclear weapons is being drafted by Ferrer Zanchi and Oscar Allende, progressive Deputies from the Radical Party, and will be submitted to the Chamber of Deputies of the Argentine Congress. The Buenos Aires Peace Committee alone expects to collect 500,000 signatures to the Vienna Appeal.

★ First Thousands of Signatures in Uruguay

The National Peace Council of Uruguay has held an enlarged meeting attended by scores of delegates from trade unions and public organisations in Montevideo and the provinces and by prominent representatives of Uruguayan intellectuals. The meeting unanimously carried a decision to support the Vienna Appeal and approved a number of resolutions aimed at strengthening the Uruguayan people's fight for peace. It expressed its confidence that hundreds of thousands of peace-loving people would back the nation-wide campaign for destroying stocks of atomic arms and stopping their production, and would make

Economic Situation in France

MYSTIFICATION AND REALITY

On January 15, Mr. Douglas Dillon, U.S. Ambassador to France, made a curious speech in New York on the "problems and prospects of the French economy".

If he is to be believed, there is a "progressive improvement" taking place in our country; moreover, he claims that rarely has the combination of circumstances offered France such conditions for solving outstanding problems. Mister Ambassador announces that our country may well be on the threshold of a new economic and industrial revolution capable of leading to astonishing progress. At the same time he asserts that for the first time durable consumer goods are being made available to the less favoured sections of the population, and that this opens up "new social prospects". Something like a definite promotion (of the working people) in the social order, it appears, is beginning in France.

The proof is that the workers are buying auto-cycles and motorcycles. Mr. Dillon doesn't ask himself whether the quite simple and practical explanation for these acquisitions is the long distance from home

to the place of work, the housing shortage, the high cost of public transport etc. No, he most definitely wants them to have some deep significance, to portend a "great change" (!).

Speaking of the considerable increase in production in France, Mr. Douglas Dillon repeats the appraisal made by the Mendès-France government in the preamble to the 1955 draft budget. In this, Mr. Edgar Faure, former Finance Minister, bestows abundant self-congratulation on what he calls "the return to expansion" and "the recovery of economic activity", which are alleged to result from the efforts of the authorities.

Quite to the contrary, the recent C.C. meeting of our Party estimated that no "regeneration" of the French economy was possible so long as it continued to be orientated on war preparations. The Central Committee noted the rapid worsening in the conditions of the working masses.

Let us see which of these diametrically opposed appraisals is confirmed by the facts.

How Does Production Really Stand?

According to Uno statistics industrial output in France stood at 113 in 1953, taking the 1929 level as equalling 100. This is much lower than that of other capitalist countries (U.S.A.—226, Italy—136, and so forth), to say nothing of the enormous expansion of production in the Soviet Union. Moreover, one must take into account the increase in France's population (by over two million) between 1929 and 1953, which considerably reduces the total increase in output per capita of the population.

Particular emphasis should be laid on the fact that this index is distorted as a result of the progress made in some of the fuel industries, notably in oil, which it is very difficult to put entirely to the credit side of the country's balance sheet. Compared with prewar years, the output of French refineries has risen by about 250%. Half the oil that goes through them, however, is paid for in foreign currency, and this at a time when the country's balance of payments is so precarious; but the interests of U.S. exporters are thereby met.

On the other hand, there is no increase in the quantity of coal extracted: the 56 million tons mined last year is just about on a par with the 1929 output of 55 million tons.

There are, in fact, quite a number of branches in which output is lower than the maximum level of production in the inter-war period. This is the position in the building, textile and leather industries—all of them branches of industry that are primarily engaged in turning out mass-consumption goods.

Between 1913 and 1953 France's share in world output fell as follows: steel production from 6 to 4%, aluminium from 20 to 4.6%, automobiles from 7.5 to 4.7%, rayon from 23 to 4.9%. In these forty years France stepped down from fourth to fifth place in steel production, from second to fourth place in aluminium and automobile

Department, with the closing-down of mines in the Gier Valley and mass dismissals in the metallurgical industry. Particularly memorable was the stubborn struggle waged by the working class in 1953 against the closing-down of the Acieries du Nord in l'Horme near St-Chamond.

The mines in this department are idle for two days a month, no more people are being taken on and the number of miners has dropped from 17,700 in 1951 to 15,000 in 1954. Stocks of coal which had accumulated at the mines for lack of a market amounted to 495,000 tons i.e. one and a half months' output by September 15 last. The management of the mines makes no mystery of its intention to concentrate work in four mines, which will mean more dismissals.

These examples could be multiplied. Many branches of industry and many districts in France are affected by the decline.

But this doesn't stop Mr. Douglas Dillon or M. Edgar Faure from asserting that 1954 was a time of "recovery" and even of "expansion"! A queer sort of "expansion" when works are closed down, mass dismissals take place and stocks cannot be sold...

Official statistics, those of the Coal and Steel Community, state that industrial output in France increased by 8.9% last year compared with 1953. But even if this figure is correct, it lacks the telling weight ascribed to it by the authors of the papers to recovery. Three observations are called for, as a matter of fact:

1. The alleged improvements occurred after the period of crisis in 1952 and the beginning of 1953. As one of the directors of the National Statistical Institute said, it is always easier to speak of progress after a retreat;

2. A comparison of rates of expansion of production in France and other West European countries does not, in any case,

latter. In other words, the French state makes the miners pay taxes which then serve to cause unemployment among these same miners by subsidising the import of coal from Germany.

To give a complete picture of the economic development we must say a word about agriculture. Here, too, the figures speak for themselves. Wheat production in France is barely maintaining a level comparable with that of 1913; on a world scale our country last year produced only 4.2% of the total output, as against 8.3% in 1913.

We were thus fully justified in speaking of the stagnation of the national economy. It is not the opening of new petrol stations on the roads, nor a few thousand more auto-cycles that can change things in this respect.

The mouthpieces of big capital bring up such superficial and insignificant phenomena simply in the hopes of making people forget somehow about the enormous responsibility resting on their masters for the chronic stagnation of the national economy. Despite their falsehoods, the parasitic character of the monopolies stands out in France with particular clarity. Lenin wrote:

"Unlike British colonial imperialism, French imperialism might be termed usury imperialism."

Recent Intensification of Capitalist Concentration

One of the principal characteristics of the present development of the French economy is the growth in the power of the monopolies and large enterprises.

Prompted by the desire to adapt the political economy of the proletariat (which teaches the truth) to the interests of the bourgeoisie, the revisionists have for more than sixty years now been citing quantities of "new data" on social life in order to "prove" that the Marxist theory of concentration has grown antiquated and is out of date. From Leon Blum to Jules Moch, this claim has not varied. Unfortunately for the opportunists, the "new data" have always confirmed Marxism, not refuted it.

The fact that there are still large numbers of small and medium-sized enterprises in France, especially in light industry, trade and agriculture, cannot be cited as an argument against the Marxist theory: that theory has in fact always explained that monopoly capitalism does not and cannot destroy the foundations of the old capitalism, which is itself linked with pre-capitalist economic formations. Nevertheless, in the principal branches of production a growing preponderance of the big enterprises is to be observed.

Here is how an economist recently appraised the "steadily growing" process of concentration:

"Whether there are 199 or 201 big families, the popular idea of two hundred families is by no means inaccurate: it might even be claimed that they are fewer.

★
Maurice Thorez
General Secretary,
French Communist Party
★ ★

The greedy, egoistic big bourgeoisie, the men of the trusts, have long preferred, rather than make productive capital investments, to enrich themselves by means that were the furthest removed from any activity useful to the nation. They exported capital on a large scale (between the two wars the capital exported amounted to 15% of the national wealth); they plundered the colonies and dependent countries; they filled their coffers as a result of state loans and military orders placed by the state. They were far more concerned with securing capital investments than with creating new opportunities for industry. The technical equipment of the country was the least of their worries.

In so far as they can dictate market prices and artificially maintain them at a high level, the men of the trusts are by no means always interested in introducing technical innovations. On more than one occasion the monopolies have put the brake on technical progress.

From a purely economic point of view, the positive development of France is incompatible with the continuance of the domination of the monopolies. No Frenchman who consciously loves his country can be anything other than the foe of monopoly capitalism, which is capitalism in decay, in its last stage of development.

De Wendel today controls, directly or indirectly, nearly 40% of France's total steel output. Schneider is similarly powerful because, thanks to his immense interests in Saar, Luxembourg and even German companies, he controls the production of 3,500,000 tons of steel.

There are today only 4 "giants" in the automobile industry: Renault, Citroën, Peugeot and SIMCA-Ford; and Usine nouvelle announced in its October 1954 issue that considerable concentration was imminent in the motorcycle field.

Concentration progressed rapidly in 1953 and 1954 in the machine-building and electrical equipment industries as well (machine-tools, machinery for public works, precision tools and clockwork, files, electronic tubes and electric lamps, transformers and accumulators etc.).

The chemical industry, in which concentration has long prevailed, took a further step in this direction last year (organisation of the superphosphate company).

In the food industry concentration is making giant strides. Five of the 200 chocolate firms control two-thirds of the output, with one of them (Menier) accounting for one-third. Only 105 of the 400 sugar refineries that existed 50 years ago are left today. Of the 2,628 breweries existing in 1913, only a few hundred are now left, and two of them (Champigneulle and La Meuse) have since 1952 controlled nearly half the beer output.

In the cotton industry 75 factories with

and the ordinary industrial consumer pays from 7 francs 90 centimes to 18 francs 30 centimes, the metallurgical trusts pay 5 francs, and the chemical trusts only 2. We know that freight transport rates are fixed in exactly the same way.

Besides being their obliging suppliers, the nationalised enterprises are also lavish clients of the trusts. They frequently sell their services to the monopolies at, say, an index of 14 compared with 1939, but buy equipment from them at an index of 31.

In other words, the state annually presents the trusts with a gift of hundreds of milliards of francs. And to this it adds tax relief.

The statistics of the Ministry of Finance show that, in 1953, 75% of all industrialists, tradesmen and artisans, with a total turnover of 1,658,000 million francs, paid tax on profits of 393,000 million francs, while 1.3% of the total, i.e. the giants with a total turnover of 7,808,000 million francs, had to pay on only 242,000 million francs.

The recent relief in taxation on capital investments was a generous gift of some 180,000 million francs to the large capitalist firms. The tax relief on mergers of firms, reduced taxation on insurance companies, and many other measures, had the same aim.

As we know, American "aid" in the long run brought no real financial advantage to France; Mr. Dillon himself recognised this in the speech already quoted, in which he said that although America had contributed 6-7,000 million dollars to the French economy it had always to be borne in mind that France had spent on the Indo-China war (an element of U.S. strategy—M. Th.) a sum almost equal to the whole of this American aid.

To be more precise, however, it should be added that it was not those same French people who had met the cost of the war in Indo-China who received the billions of American "aid". The debit, i.e. the cost of the war in Indo-China, was charged to the account of the mass of tax payers, the people. On the credit side, the lion's share of American "aid" went to the trusts, particularly the iron and steel trusts. Of these credits Usinor received over 15,000 million francs and Sollac more than 20,000 million francs; in all, less than 40 trusts shared about 100,000 million francs among themselves from the "frozen" American "aid" fund.

The Marshall Plan and the "Atlantic" policy, the fundamentally harmful nature of which we pointed out from the very beginning, imposed on France a general policy contrary to her national interests. But what was bad for the country as a whole, at the same time greatly benefited the monopolies thanks to the credits directly allotted to them and as a result of the consequent profit from the increase in arms orders.

In its special issue entitled "France and the Trusts", the magazine *Economie et*

Further Impoverishment of the Working Class

Another consequence of the development of state monopoly capitalism is the impoverishment of the working class.

Politique showed that since 1952, out of approximately 1,800,000 million francs of actual military expenditure, 1,100,000 million francs went into the coffers of big industry each year from the production of armaments and other items and the construction of projects of military significance.

In face of the disintegration of the world market and the diminishing possibilities of access to world resources, the monopolies of France, like those of the other big capitalist countries, are resorting to militarisation of the economy in order to assure themselves maximum profits. Nothing better exposes the parasitic and decaying character of an economy founded on the domination of the trusts.

To the above-mentioned means of enriching and strengthening the monopolies the Mendès-France government has added, in the name of "reconversion", a policy of systematic elimination of small enterprises and of accelerating the spontaneous process of concentration.

All the official statements on the rationalisation of production, its specialisation, the "reclassification" of enterprises and "rehabilitation" of the economy aim merely at preparing the way for the disappearance of firms which, in relation to the trusts, show themselves to be "non-competitive".

Under the capitalist system the "rehabilitation" of the economy is, of course, a myth: the monopolies can exist only if there are markets, rivalry, anarchy of production, crises, with all the contradictions of capitalist production.

It is true that the monopolies increase the socialisation of production as far as it is possible to do so under capitalism. Lenin showed how monopoly capitalism prepares the material conditions for the substitution of Socialism for capitalism. The monopolists unite gigantic enterprises in one whole; they keep account of markets, sources of raw material, scientific and technical cadres, discoveries and improvements. The interdependence of different branches of the economy grows enormously. The large banks control nearly all the currency of the country.

At the same time the means of production remain the private property of the capitalists; and the state, the embodiment of the dictatorship of the financial oligarchy, directs its entire activity in the interests of the monopolies. It is striking evidence that state monopoly capitalism leads to the subordination of the state apparatus to the monopolies. In the last resort it is for the benefit of the big capitalist trusts that the state takes over any branches of production and assumes any economic functions (e.g. nationalisation); this same state most actively helps in effecting the concentration and centralisation of capital; it takes special measures to force the submission of independent enterprises to the monopolies, and the monopolies use the budget to enrich themselves and plunder the people. The whole policy of the government procures colossal profits for the monopolies.

As a result prices of consum-

Experiences in the Work of the Canadian Labor-Progressive Party

Since the adoption, a year ago, of the new Program of the Labor-Progressive Party: "Canadian Independence and a People's Parliament—Canada's Path to Socialism", there has taken place a perceptible strengthening of the Party's work. As Comrade Tim Buck, General Secretary of the Party, emphasized in his report to the December meeting of the National Committee: "The Program of the LPP is the clearest statement that has ever been published of the true national interests of Canada; it is also the best and clearest guide to their democratic attainment. Our Program is the application of the science of Marxism-Leninism to the conditions prevailing in Canada today." Those conditions bear a twofold imprint: ever more brazen intervention by the U.S. militarists and monopolists in every area of our national life—and a rising national-democratic opposition to U.S. domination.

The National Committee meeting was able to record some broadening of our mass work and an improvement in Party recruiting. It called for a much stronger "turn outward" toward wide mass work, in the struggle against West German rearmament and the menace of atomic war, and against the developing threat of economic crisis.

Evidence of the resoluteness and militancy of the workers in the big plants in resisting the offensive of the bosses was the 112 days' strike of close to 10,000 Ford Motor Co. workers in Windsor, Oakville and Etobicoke, and the 79-day strike of 2,400 Massey-Harris-Ferguson Co. farm implement workers in Toronto. Nor is evidence lacking of the growing opposition to Ottawa's collusion with the Eisenhower-Dulles policies of reckless provocation. Strong majority opinion has been expressed in recent public opinion polls against German rearmament, and against policies looking to a "preventive" A and H-bomb war. In the industrial constituency of West York (Toronto area), 90% of the people polled by a local newspaper opposed German rearmament.

In the vote in the House of Commons on the London and Paris agreements, twelve of the CCF (Social Democratic) members of Parliament voted in opposition, five abstained, and only four supported the agreements—a most significant change from the previous record of support by the CCF leadership to the U.S.-dictated policies of the Saint-Laurent Government, and an indication of the growing possibilities there are for drawing CCF rank-and-file members and supporters into united action for peace and Canadian independence.

The public appeal against West German rearmament issued by over 350 Canadian veterans of the two world wars, and the lobby in Ottawa of 750 participants in the National Deputation Against the Revival of German Militarism, likewise bore witness to the growth of public sentiment in favour of a changed foreign policy.

In view of all this, there are favourable conditions for success in the campaign for signatures to the recent Appeal of the World Peace Council, started early in March, in which members of the LPP are playing a very active part.

The objective situation is favourable: it confirms with each passing day the

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Stanley B. Ryerson
Member, National Executive Committee,
Labor-Progressive Party
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In a report to the National Committee on building the Party, the National Federation of Labor Youth, and the progressive press, our National Organizer Comrade Morris was able to record the following: in the eight-month period following the 5th National Convention (held in March 1954), 773 new members were recruited to the Party and 203 to the NFLY. This is a marked improvement over the rate of growth in the previous year or two.

Two positive points may be noted as regards the fight for recruiting since the Convention. One is the instituting of more consistent and methodical check-up by the National Executive.

Equally important is the change in attitude to recruiting and in the forms of this work. A minimum of one evening a week is kept free of all other obligations (and especially of inner meetings!) to allow time for visiting progressive workers, discussing our Program with them, helping them to find their way to membership in the Party or (in the case of the young people) the NFLY. This method has still to become universal. It is the recognition in practice that winning new members for our Party is a process that involves time, personal care, and systematic work.

The December National Committee meeting was sharply critical of a number of serious shortcomings in our Party's work, the chief of which are: persisting sectarianism in relation to the struggle against U.S. domination, and our very limited numerical strength. While work in the spirit of our new Program has revealed the breadth of possibilities there are for building the democratic national front, certain Party organisations still too often display sectarian reluctance to raise the concrete, living slogans that the situation calls for. In its work the Party too often lags behind life. On occasion an immediate economic demand is raised without relating it adequately to the struggle against the war program of Ottawa and Washington. There is need for closer contact and more discussions of policy questions with CCF supporters, on the part of our members—in the spirit of our "Open Letter" addressed to the recent CCF convention, urging the need for unity in defence of Canadian independence.

The meeting emphasised the urgent need to build membership in the big plants and main industrial areas—the essential precondition of strengthening our Party and increasing its influence among the masses, of establishing our Party as the genuine working-class parliamentary force which is fighting for a people's parliament and a people's coalition government. Particularly sharp was the criticism of our failure to help build the National Federation of Labor Youth. Among masses of young Canadians there is a growing resentment against U.S. domination in the field of culture, education, sports and job opportuni-

To meet the challenge of the new opportunities for advance, we have to radically improve both our organisational and ideological work. Together with a stronger drive for Party and press building, and stricter check-up, our National Executive has concerned itself particularly with the struggle for better collectivity in leadership, more thorough and systematic work with cadres, and more consistent criticism and self-criticism. In this connection, study of the decisions of the XIX Congress and the amended Rules of the CPSU, in the course of the past two years has been of the utmost value in the fight for a higher level of political and organisational work.

Following the 5th Convention, the National Executive Committee made an extensive review of the state of our cadre work, and on the basis of it published a directive entitled "Train and Promote Fighters for Our Program". The directive did two things: it provided a clear definition of our present cadre policy—"To increase the number, range and effectiveness of our public spokesmen and campaigners for the new national policy and Program of the LPP, in every constituency, in industry and in the community!"; and it laid down a precise method of study, allocation and promotion of cadres.

Our prime concern in relation to ideological and educational work is the fight for mastery by our membership and close supporters, of the key ideas of our Program; and for the broadest approach to its circulation among the masses of the Canadian people. The Party "study year" is being instituted, with study of the theoretical foundations of our Program as the central theme.

The new Program has helped us to broaden our approach to the Canadian people, and increase our mass contacts. It has strengthened our electoral work in municipal, provincial and federal campaigning. At the present time the Party is preparing for provincial elections in Ontario and a number of other provinces.

The Program has lent new strength to the struggle against seizure by the U.S. of key resources and strategic positions in Canada. In the national debate over the current moves by the U.S. to take over control of the St. Lawrence River navigation and electric power development, our Party's mass campaign under the slogan "Keep the Seaway Canadian!" has had an important impact on public opinion. In B.C. and Quebec our Party has been the spearhead of opposition to the grabbing by U.S. monopolies of vast power resources and iron ore deposits.

With unemployment at its highest point in the postwar period, and farm income at a seven-year low, with Washington drastically aggravating the drift toward crisis by its policy of dumping surpluses, capturing markets formerly open to Canadian goods, and imposing a blockade on East-West trade—our campaign to "Beat the Threat of Depression!" and for a new national policy, makes sense to the average Canadian.

Our task is to reach the widest number of Canadian workers, farmers and urban middle class people with our Program, and



The peoples of Asia indignantly condemn the provocations of American aggressors in the Taiwan Strait. Photo: Mass demonstration of peace supporters in Madras (India).

Extension of Power System in China

In 1955, the third year of the first Five-Year Plan, the construction of electrical generating plants is being considerably extended.

The state plan for this year envisages the construction of over 100 energy-producing projects including a number of large power stations which will be equipped with first-rate machinery, some produced in the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, and

some made in China. In 1955 new electric capacity will double that of 1954. Some 30 new thermo and hydro-power stations will supply factories and plants with electricity. In view of this, 10 high-voltage transmission lines are to be built.

To carry out this plan, appropriations for the construction of thermo-power stations are being increased this year by 55% and of hydro-power stations by 76% as against last year.

Technical Study of Workers in Albania

The number of skilled workers in Albanian industrial enterprises, in transport and on construction sites is increasing year by year. This is largely due to labour reserve schools and courses for acquiring professional status and improving qualifications. Eight labour reserve schools are now functioning in the country, from which more than 3,000 specialists have graduated in various trades. Thousands of workers are studying numerous courses, which have been set up in factories, mines and pits, for acquiring professional status and improving their qualifications.

Eleven courses of this kind were organised last year, for instance, in the "November 8" sugar plant. In the J. V. Stalin Textile Combinat, some 1,200 workers finish these courses annually, and about a thousand a year in the oil enterprises.

The 1955 plan provides for the training of over 8,300 qualified workers and technicians in labour reserve schools, technical schools and at courses for acquiring professional status and for improving qualifications.

BRIEFLY ABOUT BOOKS

Voice of Japanese Children

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Having occupied the country, the U.S.A. strives to revive militarism there, to push Japan on to the dangerous path which leads to war. The children, however, see the Japanese army as a terrible threat to their future. Tanaka, a schoolboy from the town of Maizuru, writes: "Once in the street I saw a unit of Japanese soldiers... and I was very frightened... Is it that terrible?"

POLITICAL NOTES

Matusow and His Kind

The history of public life in the United States will undoubtedly record the fact that just at the time when the U.S. monopolists were pursuing a policy of aggression and when reaction was rabidly attacking democratic rights and liberties, there appeared on the political scene a very peculiar type of "public figure"—the police spy and paid informer, the professional liar and provocateur. In the past when bourgeois society resorted to the services of men of this type it shamefacedly kept the fact secret; today the man who makes a business of spying is openly received by top-level officials in the United States. He is paid every honour and glamourised by the newspapers.

One of these "popular" personalities in the U.S. was Harvey Matusow who has himself admitted that he slandered more than 200 persons, including the 13 leaders of the U.S. Communist Party who were convicted on the basis of his testimony. Recently Matusow's autobiography, briefly and explicitly entitled **False Witness**, came out in the United States. The book throws light on the malodorous means by which U.S. ruling circles fan anti-Communist hysteria, organise terror and persecute the country's progressive forces.

Matusow writes that at the bidding and with the aid of the FBI, Senator McCarthy and high-ranking Department of Justice officials he rigged false evidence, fabricated lists of "subversive elements", and gave "testimony" in court that was carefully faked beforehand. On the basis of his testimony and the people he calumniated were persecuted from their jobs or given prison sentences. For these activities Matusow was liberally rewarded; the reactionary press praised him to the skies and Senator McCarthy called him a "great American".

Naturally enough, now that the dirt and villainy behind Matusow's testimony has come to light, his former patrons and tutors are anxious to repudiate him. But that is easier said than done, for Matusow is but one of many whose aid U.S. reactionaries invoked to suppress the country's progressive forces and democratic freedoms. It is easy to see from reports appearing in the American press that U.S. government bodies maintain a whole pack of such agents and informers to frame up "cases" against so-called subversive elements. The magazine **Progressive** reported recently that the Government Immigration and Naturalisation Service maintained 35 agents-provocateurs, while the Department of Justice had on its books 50 professional false witnesses.

That false witnesses and provocateurs should be at liberty, and be paid by the Government, while the victims of their perjury remain behind bars, cannot but arouse the profound indignation of all decent people in the U.S.A. and the world over. Matusow appeared in the Foley Square Federal Court in New York recently and confirmed his statements that the evidence he gave Party leaders was false and that it was rigged by a representative of the Attorney-General's Department. Yet the Communist Party leaders are still serving their sentences, and every obstacle is being put in the way of a new trial.

Experiences in the Work of the Canadian Labor-Progressive Party

Since the adoption, a year ago, of the new Program of the Labor-Progressive Party: "Canadian Independence and a People's Parliament—Canada's Path to Socialism", there has taken place a perceptible strengthening of the Party's work. As Comrade Tim Buck, General Secretary of the Party, emphasized in his report to the December meeting of the National Committee: "The Program of the LPP is the clearest statement that has ever been published of the true national interests of Canada; it is also the best and clearest guide to their democratic attainment. Our Program is the application of the science of Marxism-Leninism to the conditions prevailing in Canada today." Those conditions bear a twofold imprint: ever more brazen intervention by the U.S. militarists and monopolists in every area of our national life—and a rising national-democratic opposition to U.S. domination.

The National Committee meeting was able to record some broadening of our mass work and an improvement in Party recruiting. It called for a much stronger "turn outward" toward wide mass work, in the struggle against West German rearmament and the menace of atomic war, and against the developing threat of economic crisis.

Evidence of the resoluteness and militancy of the workers in the big plants in resisting the offensive of the bosses was the 112 days' strike of close to 10,000 Ford Motor Co. workers in Windsor, Oakville and Etobicoke, and the 79-day strike of 2,400 Massey-Harris-Ferguson Co. farm implement workers in Toronto. Nor is evidence lacking of the growing opposition to Ottawa's collusion with the Eisenhower-Dulles policies of reckless provocation. Strong majority opinion has been expressed in recent public opinion polls against German rearmament, and against policies looking to a "preventive" A and H-bomb war. In the industrial constituency of West York (Toronto area), 90% of the people polled by a local newspaper opposed German rearmament.

In the vote in the House of Commons on the London and Paris agreements, twelve of the CCF (Social Democratic) members of Parliament voted in opposition, five abstained, and only four supported the agreements—a most significant change from the previous record of support by the CCF leadership to the U.S.-dictated policies of the Saint-Laurent Government, and an indication of the growing possibilities there are for drawing CCF rank-and-file members and supporters into united action for peace and Canadian independence.

The public appeal against West German rearmament issued by over 350 Canadian veterans of the two world wars, and the lobby in Ottawa of 750 participants in the National Deputation Against the Revival of German Militarism, likewise bore witness to the growth of public sentiment in favour of a changed foreign policy.

In view of all this, there are favourable conditions for success in the campaign for signatures to the recent Appeal of the World Peace Council, started early in March, in which members of the LPP are playing a very active part.

The objective situation is favourable: it confirms with each passing day the sound-

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Stanley B. Ryerson
Member, National Executive Committee,
Labor-Progressive Party

In a report to the National Committee on building the Party, the National Federation of Labor Youth, and the progressive press, our National Organizer Comrade Morris was able to record the following: in the eight-month period following the 5th National Convention (held in March 1954), 773 new members were recruited to the Party and 203 to the NFLY. This is a marked improvement over the rate of growth in the previous year or two.

Two positive points may be noted as regards the fight for recruiting since the Convention. One is the instituting of more consistent and methodical check-up by the National Executive.

Equally important is the change in attitude to recruiting and in the forms of this work. A minimum of one evening a week is kept free of all other obligations (and especially of inner meetings!) to allow time for visiting progressive workers, discussing our Program with them, helping them to find their way to membership in the Party or (in the case of the young people) the NFLY. This method has still to become universal. It is the recognition in practice that winning new members for our Party is a process that involves time, personal care, and systematic work.

The December National Committee meeting was sharply critical of a number of serious shortcomings in our Party's work, the chief of which are: persisting sectarianism in relation to the struggle against U.S. domination, and our very limited numerical strength. While work in the spirit of our new Program has revealed the breadth of possibilities there are for building the democratic national front, certain Party organisations still too often display sectarian reluctance to raise the concrete, living slogans that the situation calls for. In its work the Party too often lags behind life. On occasion an immediate economic demand is raised without relating it adequately to the struggle against the war program of Ottawa and Washington. There is need for closer contact and more discussions of policy questions with CCF supporters, on the part of our members—in the spirit of our "Open Letter" addressed to the recent CCF convention, urging the need for unity in defence of Canadian independence.

The meeting emphasised the urgent need to build membership in the big plants and main industrial areas—the essential precondition of strengthening our Party and increasing its influence among the masses, of establishing our Party as the genuine working-class parliamentary force which is fighting for a people's parliament and a people's coalition government. Particularly sharp was the criticism of our failure to help build the National Federation of Labor Youth. Among masses of young Canadians there is a growing resentment against U.S. domination in the field of culture, education, sports and job opportuni-

To meet the challenge of the new opportunities for advance, we have to radically improve both our organisational and ideological work. Together with a stronger drive for Party and press building, and stricter check-up, our National Executive has concerned itself particularly with the struggle for better collectivity in leadership, more thorough and systematic work with cadres, and more consistent criticism and self-criticism. In this connection, study of the decisions of the XIX Congress and the amended Rules of the CPSU, in the course of the past two years has been of the utmost value in the fight for a higher level of political and organisational work.

Following the 5th Convention, the National Executive Committee made an extensive review of the state of our cadre work, and on the basis of it published a directive entitled "Train and Promote Fighters for Our Program". The directive did two things: it provided a clear definition of our present cadre policy—"To increase the number, range and effectiveness of our public spokesmen and campaigners for the new national policy and Program of the LPP, in every constituency, in industry and in the community!"; and it laid down a precise method of study, allocation and promotion of cadres.

Our prime concern in relation to ideological and educational work is the fight for mastery by our membership and close supporters, of the key ideas of our Program; and for the broadest approach to its circulation among the masses of the Canadian people. The Party "study year" is being instituted, with study of the theoretical foundations of our Program as the central theme.

The new Program has helped us to broaden our approach to the Canadian people, and increase our mass contacts. It has strengthened our electoral work in municipal, provincial and federal campaigning. At the present time the Party is preparing for provincial elections in Ontario and a number of other provinces.

The Program has lent new strength to the struggle against seizure by the U.S. of key resources and strategic positions in Canada. In the national debate over the current moves by the U.S. to take over control of the St. Lawrence River navigation and electric power development, our Party's mass campaign under the slogan "Keep the Seaway Canadian!" has had an important impact on public opinion. In B.C. and Quebec our Party has been the spearhead of opposition to the grabbing by U.S. monopolies of vast power resources and iron ore deposits.

With unemployment at its highest point in the postwar period, and farm income at a seven-year low, with Washington drastically aggravating the drift toward crisis by its policy of dumping surpluses, capturing markets formerly open to Canadian goods, and imposing a blockade on East-West trade—our campaign to "Beat the Threat of Depression!" and for a new national policy, makes sense to the average Canadian.

Our task is to reach the widest number of Canadian workers, farmers and urban middle class people with our Program, and



The peoples of Asia indignantly condemn the provocations of American aggressors in the Taiwan Strait. Photo: Mass demonstration of peace supporters in Madras (India).

Extension of Power System in China

In 1955, the third year of the first Five-Year Plan, the construction of electrical generating plants is being considerably extended.

The state plan for this year envisages the construction of over 100 energy-producing projects including a number of large power stations which will be equipped with first-rate machinery, some produced in the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, and

some made in China. In 1955 new electric capacity will double that of 1954. Some 30 new thermo and hydro-power stations will supply factories and plants with electricity. In view of this, 10 high-voltage transmission lines are to be built.

To carry out this plan, appropriations for the construction of thermo-power stations are being increased this year by 55% and of hydro-power stations by 76% as against

Technical Study of Workers in Albania

The number of skilled workers in Albanian industrial enterprises, in transport and on construction sites is increasing year by year. This is largely due to labour reserve schools and courses for acquiring professional status and improving qualifications. Eight labour reserve schools are now functioning in the country, from which more than 3,000 specialists have graduated in various trades. Thousands of workers are studying numerous courses, which have been set up in factories, mines and pits, for acquiring professional status and improving their qualifications.

Eleven courses of this kind were organised last year, for instance, in the "November 8" sugar plant. In the J. V. Stalin Textile Combinat, some 1,200 workers finish these courses annually, and about a thousand a year in the oil enterprises.

The 1955 plan provides for the training of over 8,300 qualified workers and technicians in labour reserve schools, technical schools and at courses for acquiring professional status and for improving qualifications.

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Our task is to reach the widest number of Canadian workers, farmers and urban middle class people with our Program, and build unity in action against the threat of an atomic war, against U.S. domination of our country, against a return to the "Hungry Thirties": for a new national policy of Canadian independence, democracy and peace.

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tion, robbery and the murders they have perpetrated.

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These demands of the Japanese children express the most cherished hopes of the whole people of Japan.

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The initiators and fomenters of anti-Communist hysteria hope to conceal these revelations by starting a new wave of persecutions against progressive Americans and democratic organisations. But no matter how hard they try, they will not be able to deny their connection with Matusow, the provocateur, since, in all his despicability, he is flesh of their flesh.

Jan MAREK

Geopolitics—An Ideological Weapon of the U.S. Aggressors

Aggressive elements in the United States are persistently following in the ignominious footsteps of the Nazi expansionists. They have constituted themselves the heirs of Gestapo methods of violence against the working people and of Nazi political and military "theories"; they are enraptured with Nazi racism and geopolitics. Just as the Nazis clamoured that the "German master race needed more lebensraum", so today the American geopoliticians are clamouring for more "lebensraum" for the infinite expansion of U.S. monopolies. This, of course, is natural enough, for imperialist aggressors can no more get along without geopolitics and other misanthropic "theories", than they can without expansion, territorial conquests and predatory wars. They have need of various pseudo-scientific fabrications to justify their policy of building up aggressive blocs, of "global" strategy, of setting up military bases all over the world and especially around the countries belonging to the camp of democracy and Socialism.

Like the fascist obscurantists who were their predecessors, the American geopoliticians cite what they claim to be the decisive influence of geographical factors upon the life of society in justification of imperialist predatory foreign policy.

The capitalist system, the geopoliticians insist, cannot be held responsible for the impoverishment of the masses in many countries in Europe, Asia and Africa; they explain it by geographical "injustice", thus justifying the need for American "aid". With such geopolitical "arguments" they strive morally to disarm peoples who have fallen victim to imperialist expansion, to convince them that there is no preventing their loss of liberty and independence.

Marxism-Leninism teaches us that it is not geographical environment, as the geopoliticians claim, and not population growth, as the Malthusians would have it, but the

mode of production of material values that is the keystone of the development of the material life of society and which in the final analysis determines its development, the character of its social and political system, its ideology.

The Marxist-Leninist postulate that the influence of geographical environment upon society never has been and cannot be the determining one, that geographical environment is merely one of the factors of the material life of society and not the motive force of its development, smashes the sham theoretical arguments of the geopoliticians to smithereens.

Like its predecessors, the U.S. version of geopolitics is also inseparably bound up with racism, cosmopolitanism, Malthusianism and other barbaric "theories" intended to provide "scientific" proof of the "racial superiority" of the North Americans. Briefly outlining the aims of American geopolitics, John Keefer, one of its best-known advocates, declared that the geopoliticians were the men who burst upon the international arena with a plan for world domination in one hand and a bomb in the other.

To justify the aggressive designs of the U.S. ruling circles, the geopoliticians jabber away about their country being surrounded by a "hostile world" against which they have to "defend" themselves. Indeed, Spykman, Director of the Yale Institute of International Research, who is one of the chief American proponents of geopolitics, wrote that across three oceans—the Pacific, Arctic and Atlantic—the Western Hemisphere was surrounded by a "hostile world"; and from this "discovery" he draws the conclusion that the United States is bound to prepare for war.

In accordance with the "arguments" of the American geopoliticians, the U.S. area of

domination must embrace the whole globe; for in view of the "threat" supposedly facing them from across three oceans, the Americans are impelled to invest capital, station troops and build bases everywhere, and put in power governments that suit their own interests.

The appetites of the aggressors have grown to such an extent that the American continent no longer suffices for them. The plans of the U.S. billionaires have long since been extended to include world domination. And, as was only to be expected, the geopoliticians have hastened to provide the "scientific" grounds for this, too. It is not only the American continent that the United States must rule, they assert; she must also take her place at the head of all continents as the supreme ruler of the world.

Distorting the facts, trying to fabricate a semblance of natural law, Spykman, Huntington and other American geopoliticians aver that if the United States receives raw material from any distant country, it is her "geopolitical duty" to keep that country in the status of a supplier colony and to build military bases on its territory to defend the interests of the "civilisers". That is how they justify U.S. interference in the internal affairs of Greece, Spain, Guatemala and other countries, the abolition of state sovereignty, the imposition of the "American way of life" and the duty of the trust territories to reward their "trustees" by supplying the Wall Street billionaires with maximum profits.

The "necessity" of keeping the U.S. troops in Greece, setting up air and naval bases in Spain, Britain and many other countries is explained in the same manner. And the same geopolitical nonsense is exploited by the U.S. aggressors to justify the occupation of Taiwan.

Illustrative in this respect is an article circulated by the U.P. on February 21, 1955, in which N. J. Montellier, a journalist, reviews in detail the "geopolitical achievements" of the United States. After World War II, Montellier writes, the United States set up a chain of alliances, military bases and mutual assistance pacts with forty countries. American troops are now stationed beyond the confines of North America—in Europe, the Middle East, the Mediterranean area, the Far East and on Pacific islands... A week ago, he continues, it was reported that 1,370,000 American servicemen... were overseas and 1,602,000 soldiers in training in the United States... It is known from well-informed sources, he says, that 600,000 American servicemen are in Korea and Japan, 425,000 in Western Europe and 345,000 at the bases scattered about the Caribbean Sea, the Pacific islands, Alaska, the Aleutian islands, in the Middle East, Africa and the Mediterranean area. The article concludes with a list of the principal aggressive pacts signed by the United States.

The variety of "geopolitical" methods of "work" used by the American imperialists is likewise attested to by the facts cited by R. and G. Harkness in their articles in the American magazine *Saturday Evening Post* (October and November 1954). Speaking of the activity of the Central Intelligence Agency, the espionage and sabotage organisation directed by Allen Dulles, brother of John Foster Dulles, the Harknesses confirm—in words that could hardly be more explicit—the fact that this organisation financed, trained and armed the forces that overthrew the government of Guatemala and that it was directly responsible for the removal of Mossadeq in Iran.

In the past ten years most prominent American politicians and military leaders have repeatedly and openly stated that the manpower and natural resources of the entire American continent must be placed at the service of preparing and unleashing an aggressive war. For instance, last Octo-

ber, when the House of Representatives was discussing the inflated budget providing for the maintenance of hundreds of American military bases scattered all over the world, Senator George Malone said, speaking of the American continent, that North Americans had to have in their own backyard, in the Western Hemisphere, the minerals and raw materials necessary to guarantee to their air forces the proper speed and radius of operation.

A conference in Rio de Janeiro in 1947 at which a geopolitical map of the continent's "defence" zone was drawn up, concluded with the signing of a Hemisphere defence treaty. That treaty subsequently became what is virtually a local version of the aggressive North Atlantic Pact.

This pan-American conference in Rio de Janeiro was followed by others—in Bogota (1948), Washington (1951) and Caracas (1954)—at each of which new links of the chains shackling the Latin American countries were forged. The culminating point was the adoption of the notorious Caracas anti-Communist resolution, giving U.S. imperialism police power on the continent and in fact legalising its interference in the affairs of any Latin American country. A practical application of these "protective" functions was the United States' shameful intervention in Guatemala.

Of a like nature are the so-called bilateral military agreements which the U.S. has forced upon a number of Latin American countries.

The exponents of geopolitics come up with arguments to justify each expansionist move of the U.S. imperialists; while their obedient pupils in the satellite countries and in those which have fallen victim to the greed of the Yankee billionaires contribute their "bit" in defence of the indispensability of colonisation.

The favourite argument of those who preach submission to the U.S. imperialists is the alleged "geographic destiny" of Latin America and Canada, which thereby have no choice but to follow the U.S. and be mere pawns of the U.S. war-

mongers. The supporters of this notorious "theory" try their best to prove that for countries located on the American continent there can be no other course but that taken by the United States, and that they must reconcile themselves to their role as U.S. appendages. Peron, an old admirer of the Nazi views on military theory and geopolitics, repeatedly declared that "America is a geographical and political unit" and that the era of separate states was over, for "in our day we would speak only of continents". That the day of national sovereignty is over has also been asserted repeatedly by Venezuela's dictator Perez Jimenez, Chile's President Ibanez, Uruguay's ex-Foreign Minister R. Larreta, Brazil's present Foreign Minister Raul Fernandez, as well as the "leaders" of the Organisation of American States Lleras Camargo, Davila and others.

While popularising this pro-U.S. philosophy, reactionary circles in the Latin American countries in turn endeavour to imbue the masses with the fatalistic belief that all-sided penetration of Latin America by the U.S. imperialists is inevitable. Reformist leaders and petty-bourgeois adventurers in Mexico, Chile and Argentina are making a good thing out of this disgraceful business, but its most enthusiastic and energetic "prophet" is still Raul Haya de la Torre from Peru.

Geopolitics is nothing but an attempt to legitimise by means of pseudo-scientific arguments the policy of war preparations, colonisation and enslavement of other countries by the U.S. billionaires. It is the duty of the Communist and Workers' Parties, of all progressive forces mercilessly to expose the ideologists of the atom bomb. By so doing they will make a valuable contribution to the cause of preserving and strengthening peace, of friendship among peoples.

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