

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

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

No. 12 (333)

FRIDAY, MARCH 25, 1955

PRICE 3d (8 cents)

The Communist and Workers' Parties are the Guiding Force of the People's-Democratic System

The Communist and Workers' Parties of the People's Democracies are the wise, tried and tested leaders of the working people in their countries, the guiding and leading force of the people's-democratic system.

Through their own experience the working people of the People's Democracies have become convinced that the one aim of all the activity of the Communist and Workers' Parties is to serve the well-being of the people, and that it is carried on in their interests alone. The policy of the Communist and Workers' Parties is the expression of the vital interests of the masses of the people, and of the pressing needs of material development of society. At each stage of historical development the Communist and Workers' Parties define the main tasks of socialist construction and the ways and means of carrying them out.

At present the chief tasks of the Communist and Workers' Parties in the People's Democracies are: to build socialist society, steadily raise the material and cultural standards of the working people, educate them in the spirit of socialist patriotism and proletarian internationalism and strengthen the might and defence capacity of the people's-democratic states.

In only a brief period of history the People's Democracies, with the fraternal help of the Soviet Union, have scored outstanding successes in the development of their economies, in the advance of culture and in improving the well-being of the working people. The Communist Party of China has put forward a grandiose programme to transform that country from an agrarian into an industrial one, a programme of gradual transition to Socialism. It is steadfastly carrying out its general line of gradually bringing about the socialist industrialisation of the country and the socialist transformation of its agriculture, handicraft industry, privately-owned industry and trade. An outstanding achievement of the European People's Democracies is the establishment of a well-developed heavy industry. All these countries are now advanced industrial or industrial-agrarian states. The Communist and Workers' Parties in the People's Democracies deem it necessary to

ism and enthusiasm of the masses and to concentrate in a revolutionary manner their utmost efforts on the most important task of the hour. This is also the reason for the victories of the Communist and Workers' Parties in the People's Democracies. Bearing in mind that it is by the labour of millions of people that Socialism can be built, the Communist and Workers' Parties, in every way possible, strengthen their contact with the working people, increase the consciousness of the masses and inspire them to win fresh victories.

The Party of a new type is the Party of the working class—the most advanced and consistently revolutionary class, the leader of the whole working people, both in the struggle for the overthrow of the rule of the capitalists and landlords and in building Socialism. The working class is the advanced, leading class of people's-democratic society. The alliance of the working class and the peasantry, with the working class playing the leading role, is the indestructible basis of the people's-democratic system. The Communist and Workers' Parties constantly elevate the leading role of the working class in the state and strengthen the worker-peasant alliance—reliable guarantee of the successful building of Socialism.

The building of Socialism takes place in a complex international situation, under conditions of sharp class struggle. This demands, as never before, iron unity of Party ranks and irreconcilable struggle against all distortions of Marxist-Leninist theory and deviations from the Party line. V. I. Lenin taught that unity of the Party, unity of will of the proletarian vanguard, is the fundamental condition for the success of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Unity of will of the entire Party, strict Party discipline and vigorous activity on the part of Party members are assured by democratic centralism—the guiding feature of the organisational principle of the Party of a new type. Experience has proved that without strict observance of the principle of democratic centralism the Communist and Workers' Parties cannot successfully guide the working masses and fulfil their historic tasks. In order to make

VOICE OF THE PEOPLES RINGS OUT EVER STRONGER AGAINST THE THREAT OF ATOMIC WAR

★
**SIGNATURE COLLECTORS
IN CHINESE COUNTRYSIDE**
Over 307 Million Sign Appeal
in China

The signature campaign to the Vienna Appeal is gaining momentum in China. Hundreds of thousands of collectors are going from village to village. There is not a single locality, not even the most remote, which is not being reached by the call to support the Appeal.

Over a thousand people are taking part in the campaign in Lhasa. In Szechwan Province, 100,000 people are collecting signatures in villages and mountainous areas inhabited by national minorities. Over half the population in this Province have already signed the Appeal.

The collection of signatures has been completed in many towns in Sinkiang Province. According to figures that have come in, more than 905,000 signatures have been collected there. In Jehol Province the Appeal has been signed by nearly 4 million people, or 60% of the population. The collection of signatures among peasants in this Province is taking place amidst great enthusiasm. Having signed the Appeal, Meng Jui-ching, chairman of the leading co-operative in Nanshuangtung village, said: "The people of our village suffered the horrors of the war brought by the Japanese invaders, and we know the value of peace."

Chinese railwaymen are also active in signing the Appeal. By March 19, 1,300,000 of them had put their signatures to it.

By March 23, a total of 307,312,714 people in China had signed the Appeal, 80 million more than in the case of the Stockholm Appeal.

★
**INDIAN PUBLIC OPINION
DEMANDS A BAN
ON ATOMIC WEAPONS**

The progressive press of India reports that more meetings and rallies are being

★
**Fresh Successes
of Italy's Fighters
for Peace**

Italian partisans of peace are continuing to develop the campaign for signatures to the Vienna Appeal. By March 17, 3,307,433 signatures had been collected throughout the country, including 203,000 in Milan, 200,337 in Bologna, 167,790 in Reggio Emilia, 250,000 in Rome and so on.

In Rigigliolo, Poggigialli and Crocefisso (Siena Province) all inhabitants signed the Appeal. In Poggigialli, the owner as well as the workers of a brick factory signed the Appeal. In Milan, it was signed by all the tenants of many houses in Ticinese, Naviglio Grande and Conegliano streets, as well as by the workers in the sleeping-car factory and the Abbiategrosso metallurgical plant.

In the community of Linito di Soliera the Appeal has been signed by 97% of the people after a discussion in which all residents took part. In Budroni di Carpi, the local leaders of the Christian Democratic Party joined the people in signing the Appeal.

The number of communal councils urging the destruction of atomic weapons and a ban on their production is growing, and now includes the communal councils of Taranto, Guspini, Ginosa, Tronzano and other places. In Cossato (Vercelli Province), the communal council consisting of Communists, Socialists and Christian Democrats, issued an appeal to the population, which reads: "The members of the Cossato communal council approve the Appeal of the World Peace Council and are signing it. Citizens, follow our example! By this act we shall express our desire for peace and show our determination to fight for peace and the prevention of a war of extermination with all its horror and suffering."

In the course of the campaign in town and countryside new peace committees are being organised and old ones enlarged. For example, 286 new peace committees have been established in Modena Province. In Casoni di Finale the secretary of the local branch of the Catholic trade union joined the peace committee.

★
**AFRICAN PEOPLE SUPPORTING
THE APPEAL**

Africans who cherish peace enthusiastically support the Vienna Appeal, using any gathering of people, any trade union or religious meeting, for collecting signatures. Collection is proving particularly successful in bazaars and fairs.

In the virgin forests of Central Africa peace partisans use the tom-tom to convey the news of the Appeal from village to village. The trade unions of French West Africa and French Equatorial Africa are making a considerable contribution to the campaign.

As is known, the vast majority of African people are illiterate. Many of them therefore put their fingerprints to the text of the Appeal. In some villages people carve their signs on special sticks which peace supporters take from house to house, continuing on to other villages.

It is reported that the signature campaign has already registered notable achievements in Senegal, the Cameroons and the Middle Congo region.

—
**INCREASED ACTIVITY
OF RUMANIAN PEOPLE**

In the Rumanian People's Republic 10,368,222 people have signed the Appeal of the World Peace Council.

The signature campaign in the Ploesti Region has recorded big successes, over 750,000 signatures having been collected. Some 1,555 peace councils and 1,063 Fight For Peace committees have been set up in the towns and villages of this region.

The campaign in the Bucharest Region is also a very lively one. Some 1,068 lectures on international subjects have been organised in cultural and political centres, producer co-operatives and machine and tractor stations.

—
**VIET NAM PEOPLE
ENTHUSIASTICALLY SIGNING
THE APPEAL**

WORLD YOUTH WEEK

March 21 marked the beginning of World Youth Week. The Week is being widely observed by the young people of the Soviet Union. Lectures and talks are being held at factories, offices and educational establishments in Moscow and other cities.

The Soviet Anti-Fascist Youth Committee has cabled warm greetings to the World Federation of Democratic Youth and through it to the millions of young people all over the world who are fighting against the threat of atomic war and the revival of German militarism, who are battling for peace, democracy, national independence and a better future.

World Youth Week is also being marked by meetings and rallies in the Polish People's Republic. A big meeting in Minsk-Mazowiecki was attended by representatives of the WFDY and a delegation of Komsomols working on the construction of the Warsaw Palace of Culture and Science.

The Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Youth League, jointly with the regional Youth League organisations, is this week organising a number of international solidarity meetings of young fighters for peace. The meeting scheduled to be held in Liberec will be attended also by boys and girls from Poland, the German Democratic Republic and Western Germany.

The young people of Albania are observing the Week with great enthusiasm. A youth meeting organised by the Central Committee and the Tiranë Regional Committee of the Union of Working Youth of Albania has been held in Tiranë. Photo displays have been arranged in the clubs and libraries of the capital in honour of the youth holiday, and amateur art groups have prepared special programmes for the occasion.

Meetings and rallies in honour of World Youth Week are also taking place in the Rumanian People's Republic, the Bulgarian People's Republic and the Korean People's Democratic Republic.

In capitalist, colonial and dependent countries World Youth Week is taking place under the slogan of struggle for peace, national independence and in defence of

ple's-democratic states.

In only a brief period of history the People's Democracies, with the fraternal help of the Soviet Union, have scored outstanding successes in the development of their economies, in the advance of culture and in improving the well-being of the working people. The Communist Party of China has put forward a grandiose programme to transform that country from an agrarian into an industrial one, a programme of gradual transition to Socialism. It is steadfastly carrying out its general line of gradually bringing about the socialist industrialisation of the country and the socialist transformation of its agriculture, handicraft industry, privately-owned industry and trade. An outstanding achievement of the European People's Democracies is the establishment of a well-developed heavy industry. All these countries are now advanced industrial or industrial-agrarian states. The Communist and Workers' Parties in the People's Democracies deem it necessary to continue the policy of socialist industrialisation, in every way to develop heavy industry—the bedrock foundation of the economy—and on this basis, to ensure the further advance of agriculture and the light and food industries, and steadily carry through the socialist transformation of the countryside.

The strength and invincibility of the Communist and Workers' Parties derives from the fact that in all their work they are guided by Marxist-Leninist theory, creatively applying it to the historical situation and to concrete conditions in their countries. It is Marxist-Leninist theory which enables the Communist and Workers' Parties to correctly find their bearings in a given situation, foresee the course of events and skilfully direct the work of socialist construction.

Uniting in their ranks the best, most advanced sons and daughters of the working class and of all working people, the Communist and Workers' Parties are the highest form of class organisation of the proletariat. They are called upon to unify the efforts of all the mass organisations of working people and guide their activity towards one aim—the building of Socialism. Leadership by the Party is the main precondition for successful work by state, trade union, co-operative, women's and youth organisations. The dictatorship of the proletariat cannot be strengthened nor can Socialism be built unless the leading role of the Communist and Workers' Parties is guaranteed. This was what Lenin and Stalin taught. This is what the world-historic experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union teaches.

Those who try to belittle the leading role of the Communist and Workers' Parties in the system of people's democracy are in fact striving to weaken and undermine the power of the working class and the working people. The meeting of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Working People's Party, held early in March, delivered a crushing rebuff to the right-wing opportunist deviation which sought to belittle the leading role of the Party. The meeting emphasised that the most important thing in the system of people's democracy is to guarantee unconditionally the leading and guiding role of the revolutionary Party of the working class. Without this there cannot be people's democracy!

The main method in Party work is the method of persuasion. V. I. Lenin considered that the reason for the victories of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union lay in its direct appeal to the working masses, its pointing out to them each new difficulty and problem as it arose; in its ability to explain to the masses why at any given moment it was necessary to devote all their energies now to one, now to another aspect of Soviet work; its ability to rouse the energy, hero-

alliance—reliable guarantee of the successful building of Socialism.

The building of Socialism takes place in a complex international situation, under conditions of sharp class struggle. This demands, as never before, iron unity of Party ranks and irreconcilable struggle against all distortions of Marxist-Leninist theory and deviations from the Party line. V. I. Lenin taught that unity of the Party, unity of will of the proletarian vanguard, is the fundamental condition for the success of the dictatorship of the proletariat. Unity of will of the entire Party, strict Party discipline and vigorous activity on the part of Party members are assured by democratic centralism—the guiding feature of the organisational principle of the Party of a new type. Experience has proved that without strict observance of the principle of democratic centralism the Communist and Workers' Parties cannot successfully guide the working masses and fulfil their historic tasks. In order to make the Communist and Workers' Parties still more solid and united, it is necessary thoroughly and persistently to improve ideological work and increase the political tempering of all Communists.

A potent means of further strengthening the Communist and Workers' Parties is the unwavering application of Leninist standards of Party life, which presuppose the strictest observance of Party Rules, consistent adherence to the principles of democratic centralism, all-out development of the initiative of the Party membership, collective discussion of important questions of Party life, and the bold application of criticism and self-criticism. The highest principle of Party leadership is collective leadership. The Communist and Workers' Parties of the People's Democracies are more and more consistently implementing these Leninist principles of Party life and firmly put a stop to any attempts at violating them. The January meeting of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party analysed in detail the shortcomings in Party work and pointed to the need for full observance of the Leninist principles of Party life and collective leadership, as well as for intensified struggle against bureaucratic distortions in the work of Party and state bodies. The meeting emphasised that the Leninist principles of Party life are decisive for the successful carrying out of the correct policy of the Party by the broadest masses.

The broader the utilisation of criticism and self-criticism, the more persistent the struggle against dangerous feelings of complacency, the more successful are the Communist and Workers' Parties in coping with their tasks. Criticism and self-criticism make it possible, in good time, to reveal and eliminate mistakes and shortcomings, to round out the experience of the leaders with that of the masses, and thus to perfect the work of all Party, state and public organisations. The Communist and Workers' Parties boldly and frankly bring to light mistakes and shortcomings, call on the Communists and the working masses more vigorously to develop criticism from below. This raises still higher the prestige of the Communist and Workers' Parties.

The working people in the countries of people's democracy know full well that they are indebted for all their achievements to the wise leadership of the Communist and Workers' Parties and to their home and foreign policy which is the sole correct one. The working people of the countries of people's democracy, closely rallied around their Communist and Workers' Parties, are confidently marching along the road to Socialism, fighting ever more vigorously against the intrigues of the warmongers, and for peace and the security of the peoples.

population. The collection of signatures among peasants in this Province is taking place amidst great enthusiasm. Having signed the Appeal, Meng Jui-ching, chairman of the leading co-operative in Nanshuangtung village, said: The people of our village suffered the horrors of the war brought by the Japanese invaders, and we know the value of peace.

Chinese railwaymen are also active in signing the Appeal. By March 19, 1,300,000 of them had put their signatures to it.

By March 23, a total of 307,312,714 people in China had signed the Appeal, 80 million more than in the case of the Stockholm Appeal.

INDIAN PUBLIC OPINION DEMANDS A BAN ON ATOMIC WEAPONS

The progressive press of India reports that more meetings and rallies are being held in the country in support of the Vienna Appeal. More than 4,000 people attended a rally held in Cheehurta (industrial sector of the city of Amritsar).

The Bengal jute industry trade union convened a mass meeting in Calcutta. Many people who attended did not merely sign the Appeal but began themselves to play an active part in collecting signatures.

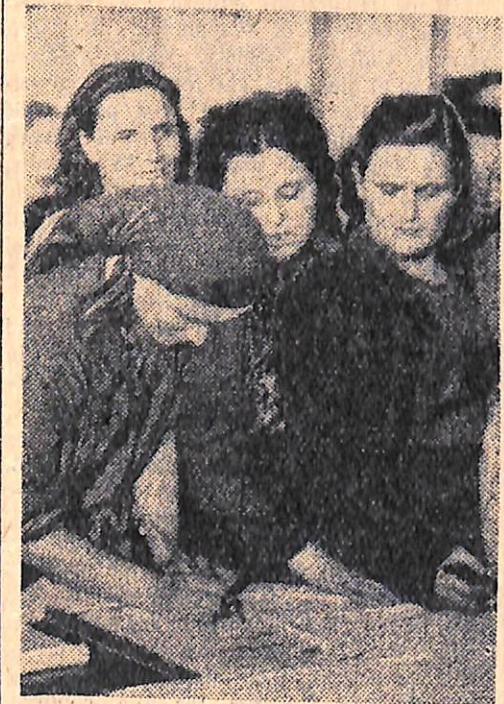
In Ramnad District, Madras State, peace partisans who have pledged to collect 200,000 signatures are successfully working to this end.

About 100 members of various political parties in the Indian Parliament, at the initiation of D. Shaman, Congress member of the Upper House of Parliament, recently appealed to the great powers calling on them to destroy all stocks of atomic weapons. In the appeal they declared that any government unleashing atomic war would stand condemned not only in the eyes of its own people but equally of the whole world.

Reporting successes in the signature campaign **New Age** points out: "While many have themselves come forward to participate actively in this campaign, there are others who still hesitate." The newspaper calls upon every Indian, no matter what his political views, to make his contribution in the great struggle of the peoples against the threat of atomic war.

the destruction of atomic weapons and a ban on their production is growing, and now includes the communal councils of Taranto, Guspini, Ginos, Tronzano and other places. In Cossato (Vercelli Province), the communal council consisting of Communists, Socialists and Christian Democrats, issued an appeal to the population, which reads: "The members of the Cossato communal council approve the Appeal of the World Peace Council and are signing it. Citizens, follow our example! By this act we shall express our desire for peace and show our determination to fight for peace and the prevention of a war of extermination with all its horror and suffering."

In the course of the campaign in town and countryside new peace committees are being organised and old ones enlarged. For example, 286 new peace committees have been established in Modena Province. In Casoni di Finale the secretary of the local branch of the Catholic trade union joined the peace committee.



The people of Bulgaria are signing the Vienna Appeal with one accord. Above we see **Todorica Tripkova**, a leading worker in the **Textilnaya Slava Mill (Sofia)** and mother of three children, adding her signature in one of the Mill shops.

INCREASED ACTIVITY OF RUMANIAN PEOPLE

In the Rumanian People's Republic 10,368,222 people have signed the Appeal of the World Peace Council.

The signature campaign in the Ploesti Region has recorded big successes, over 750,000 signatures having been collected. Some 1,555 peace councils and 1,063 Fight For Peace committees have been set up in the towns and villages of this region.

The campaign in the Bucharest Region is also a very lively one. Some 1,068 lectures on international subjects have been organised in cultural and political centres, producer co-operatives and machine and tractor stations.

VIET NAM PEOPLE ENTHUSIASTICALLY SIGNING THE APPEAL

The working people of Viet Nam are giving their enthusiastic support to the Vienna Appeal. A recent meeting in Hanoi attended by over 300 representatives of democratic parties, mass organisations and religious groups was concluded with those present signing the Appeal. As he put down his signature, **Nguyen Dang Hu**, representative of the Hanoi workers, declared: The workers of Hanoi suffered cruelly in the war. Now they will never allow anyone whatsoever to interrupt the course of their peaceful life.

Signature Campaign Launched in Brazil

A campaign for the collection of signatures to the Appeal of the Bureau of the World Peace Council opened in Brazil on March 13. Some 320 Brazilian notables, cultural workers, servicemen, industrialists and writers—people of the most diverse political views and religious beliefs—have already signed the Appeal and urged all Brazilians to follow their example and thereby condemn the preparations for an atomic war, demand the destruction of atom bomb stockpiles and the immediate cessation of their manufacture.

Liberec will be attended also by boys and girls from Poland, the German Democratic Republic and Western Germany.

The young people of Albania are observing the Week with great enthusiasm. A youth meeting organised by the Central Committee and the Tiranë Regional Committee of the Union of Working Youth of Albania has been held in Tiranë. Photo displays have been arranged in the clubs and libraries of the capital in honour of the youth holiday, and amateur art groups have prepared special programmes for the occasion.

Meetings and rallies in honour of World Youth Week are also taking place in the **Rumanian People's Republic**, the **Bulgarian People's Republic** and the **Korean People's Democratic Republic**.

In capitalist, colonial and dependent countries World Youth Week is taking place under the slogan of struggle for peace, national independence and in defence of the rights of youth.

E. C. Meeting, British Communist Party

A recent meeting of the E.C. of the British Communist Party discussed a number of important matters and reviewed the political and organisational activity of the Party.

A call was made by Comrade Gollan, National Organiser, for a great expansion of the mass work of the Party: to hold every week 300 or 400 factory gate and pithead meetings, and other public meetings and actions. He reported that 340 Party candidates would be contesting in municipal elections, the biggest number for six years.

"Our work and effort has been a major contribution in bringing about profoundly important changes in the Labour movement", he said. "To solve the acute problems facing the British people and the British Labour movement a bigger Communist Party and a greatly extended circulation of the **Daily Worker** are essential."

The meeting was addressed by Comrade **Harry Pollitt**.

FRENCH PEOPLE WILL NOT TOLERATE REVIVAL OF GERMAN MILITARISM*

The French people are continuing their struggle against the resurgence of German militarism. The fight has become particularly fierce in view of the fact that the Council of the Republic has begun to discuss the ratification of these agreements.

On the eve of the debates there were already many deputations at the Palais du Luxembourg demanding that the senators give them a hearing. On March 23, the day on which the debates began, the flow of deputations was particularly great. Hardly 30 minutes after the debates started, nearly 500 delegations had gathered near the Council of the Republic building. They included workers of the bus depot in Malakoff (Seine Department), who brought along with them sheets covered with signatures, including those of Socialist workers; railway workers from Pantin (Seine); gasworkers and dockers from Marseilles; miners from Gardanne (Bouches-du-Rhone), and others.

At many factories, as for instance, the electrical equipment works in Boulogne (Seine), the working people elected deputations and commissioned them to convey to the senators the determined "No!" which is the answer of the French working

class to the rearmament of the German militarists.

Deputations from all over France are making their way to Paris.

On the initiative of the French Committee for the Peaceful Solution of the German Problem, a big meeting was held at the Paris Velodrome d'Hiver on March 23, with R. Capitant, former De Gaulist minister, in the chair. The thousands of patriots present were addressed by P. Lebon, De Gaulist Deputy, R. Le Guyon, Radical Senator, L. Casanova, Communist Deputy, R. Valabregue, Radical Deputy, J. M. Domenach, Catholic publicist, L. Vienne, Radical Deputy Mayor of Lyons, and others.

The number of general councillors, mayors and municipal councillors opposing the resurgence of German militarism is increasing all over the country. In the Loire-et-Cher Department, where 40,000 signatures against reviving the Wehrmacht have already been collected, three general councillors (including one Radical senator), 50 mayors and 400 municipal councillors have spoken out against the Paris agreements. Some 87 mayors and 592 municipal councillors of the Drôme Department have also opposed the agreements.

The mayor of Levallois (Seine), Senator **Deutschmann**, a De Gaulist, was sent a letter on behalf of 15,000 residents protesting against the London and Paris agreements. F. Caillet, Deputy of the USDR Party, was one of the first to sign.

During the last few days the ruling groups of the U.S.A., Britain and Western Germany have been exerting unprecedented pressure on France—in the first instance to expedite the opening of the debates in the Council of the Republic, and then with the object of getting the agreements speedily ratified. The French Government, obediently carrying out the will of these elements, is resorting to crude force or else to all kinds of intrigues in relation to the senators. It is stopping at nothing to get the Council of the Republic's agreement to the revival of German militarism.

In an interview with **Pravda** correspondents **Maurice Thorez**, General Secretary of the French Communist Party, replied to those people who, flying in the face of common sense, and despite the repeated warnings of the Soviet Government, continue to claim that ratification of the Paris agreements would not hinder but, on the contrary, would facilitate negotiations between the four great powers on the German problem. Said Thorez:

"By perpetuating the division of Germany, rearming its western part, and including it in the aggressive Atlantic bloc, the advocates of the Paris agreements are knocking the bottom out of the question they say they want to discuss, and making negotiations pointless. These people talk about peace and unity, but they have chosen the path of division, brute force and war."

To all those who so lightly agree with the annulment of the Franco-Soviet Treaty of Alliance, which would follow ratification of the London and Paris agreements, Comrade **Maurice Thorez** declared:

"If the French Government succeeded in getting through ratification of the Paris agreements and converting the Franco-Soviet Treaty into a mere scrap of paper, then the efforts of the working class and the democratic elements would be redoubled with the object of maintaining and developing the traditional co-operation between our peoples, which, in the words of an old expression of 1848 is the 'cry of nature'."

"Official circles in France who are inclined to tear up the Franco-Soviet Treaty, would find that a real union between two peoples is not to be destroyed."

Solving the National Problem in Czechoslovakia

The working people of Czechoslovakia—Czechs, Slovaks, Hungarians, Ukrainians, Poles—unanimously and determinedly oppose all attempts of the traitorous emigrés and other hostile elements to sow national discord in the country. They see that the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the National Front Government are successfully solving the national problem in line with the principles of the Lenin-Stalin policy on the national question.

I.

At the root of Czechoslovakia's national problem has always been the question of relations between Czechs and Slovaks, the two kindred peoples by whose will the Czechoslovak Republic was formed. Back in 1938 Klement Gottwald, addressing a meeting of the Party Regional Committee in Kosice, described those relations as follows: "The Czech and Slovak peoples are very close kin; they come of the same stock and they are bound together by natural ties which are growing ever closer. Even in the past this bond led to the Slovak and Czech people presenting a common front against Austro-Hungarian oppression, to their forming a common state and becoming the protagonists of the idea of statehood; together they are destined to uphold this statehood."

These words, spoken at a time when the Czechoslovak people were resisting Nazi aggression, are unquestionably just as valid today, particularly in view of the fact that the Czech and Slovak peoples fought side by side for the freedom of the Czechoslovak republic and, since its liberation by the Soviet Army, have united on a voluntary basis and are now together building Socialism.

The unity of Czechs and Slovaks is in full accord with the Lenin national policy. "We want", said V. I. Lenin, "a voluntary alliance of nations—an alliance which would preclude the coercion of one nation by another—an alliance which would be founded on complete trust, on a clear recognition of brotherly unity, on absolutely voluntary consent. Such an alliance cannot be brought about at once; we have to work towards it with the greatest patience and circumspection, so as not to spoil matters and not to arouse distrust, and in order that the distrust inherited from centuries of landlord and capitalist oppression, private property and the enmity caused by its divisions and redivisions may have a chance to wear off."

When the Czechoslovak republic was formed in 1918, Slovak elementary and secondary schools and higher educational establishments were opened, thereby providing opportunities for the growth of a Slovak intelligentsia and for the development of national culture, art and literature. But this, of course, did not really solve the problem of equality for the Slovak people. Standing in the way of its solution was the unscientific theory advanced by the dominant Czech bourgeoisie that the Czech and Slovak peoples were two branches of a single nation, that the Slovak people were not a separate nation at all. And in opposition to this great-power chauvinism of the Czech bourgeoisie there grew and spread a separatist nationalist movement among the Slovak bourgeoisie.

In the economic sphere, the Czech capitalists, who, with the fall of the Austro-Hun-

Karol Bacilek

Member of the Political Bureau,
C.C., Czechoslovak Communist Party,
First Secretary, C.C., Communist Party
of Slovakia

One of the basic conditions for Slovakia's achieving equality was her industrialisation. This question of industrialisation was a bone of bitter contention right up to the time the representatives of the reactionary bourgeoisie were removed from the government (February 1948). Representatives of the Czech chauvinists, such as Benes, Zenkl, Majer, Hala and others, objected to a number of factories being transferred to Slovakia from the Czech border areas on the grounds that Slovakia was much less suited for industrial development than the Czech regions. The Slovak bourgeoisie in turn opposed in every way the industrialisation of Slovakia, explaining its stand by citing the need "to build industry by our own efforts", and alleging that "a dubious rise in living standards by means of artificial Czech assistance would entail unfavourable political consequences".

Certain bourgeois nationalists also worked hand in glove with the reactionary bourgeoisie; they utilised their position in the Communist Party to the detriment of the Party and the advantage of the bourgeoisie. Typical bourgeois agents in the Czechoslovak Communist Party were Husak and Novomesky, whom the workers had dubbed "drawing-room Communists" even back in the days of the pre-Munich republic.

In the autumn of 1943, when it became obvious that Germany would be defeated, Husak and Novomesky contacted representatives of the agrarian bourgeoisie and certain members of the Ludacka Party (the party of the Slovak bourgeoisie, which in 1939 separated Slovakia from Czechia) with the object of frustrating the partisan movement that was coming into being. These bourgeois nationalists' plans were in complete accord with those of the London bourgeois government and in opposition to the viewpoint of the C.C. of the CPC.

The Slovak people, however, did not let themselves be deceived; at the call of the Party they began, on the basis of the partisan movement, a powerful national uprising.

The Slovak bourgeois nationalists continued to collaborate with the bourgeois politicians after liberation also. Husak, who occupied the post of commissioner for internal affairs, re-established the gendarmerie in Slovakia and on his own initiative disbanded the civilian militia, which had been set up by the national committees. He restored the functions of the state notary officials who endorsed the national committees' decisions. He sabotaged the consistent implementation of the land reform law and the nationalisation decree. The Slovak bourgeois nationalists, jointly with the Slovak bourgeoisie, prevented a uniform economic policy from being carried through; for instance, they frustrated the establishment of a uniform supply system and this meant that industrial centres were often without bread.

As early as 1945 Klement Gottwald urged

of 71,272, in 1954 there were already 927 eight-year schools which this year are being attended by 306,565 pupils. Formerly Slovakia had 57 middle schools (gymnasias); today it has 103 eleven-year schools. In 1937 there was only one higher educational establishment with an enrolment of 2,784; this year there are twelve, with a student roll (not counting correspondence-course students) of 13,331.

Slovakia has also made great headway in other spheres. For instance, in 1937 it had only 196 cinemas but by 1954 there were 944. Since 1945 19 feature films and 188 documentaries and popular science films have been produced. Today there are 84 houses of culture in Slovakia's district and regional centres and 645 clubs in its towns and villages. Some 165,000 talented amateurs are members of 5,396 non-professional people's art ensembles.

Slovak art and literature are developing. Many more books and magazines are now being published. Two new Slovak operas, new symphonies and other musical works have been produced. Eleven permanent theatres are functioning.

The Slovak and Czech nations are becoming new nations, to whom the feeling of nationalism is alien. In furtherance of the aim they have in common—achieving a prosperous and happy life for our two peoples—the Czech people with their highly developed industry and technique, are helping the Slovak people. Together our peoples are exerting all their energies for the good of the whole Czechoslovak Republic.

III.

In the interests of strengthening the Republic, in the interests of the equality and free development of our peoples and national groups, the Party and Government are solving the problems relating to the life of the Hungarian, Ukrainian and Polish working people, being solicitous of their free development. The laws of the Republic, framed in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, guarantee to all nationalities every opportunity to take part in the political, economic and cultural life of the country. The fact that 21 Hungarians, 6 Ukrainians and 2 Poles have been elected to the supreme bodies of the Republic—the National Assembly and the Slovak National Council—in itself provides vivid evidence of this. Thousands of representatives of the Hungarian, Ukrainian and Polish peoples have been elected to the regional, district and local national committees.

In the domain of culture, the equality and free development of these nationalities are similarly ensured. By 1954 Czechoslovakia had 122 eight-year schools in which the pupils—totalling 35,982—were being taught in Hungarian, Hungarian industrial and economic schools (secondary technical schools) were unknown to pre-Munich Czechoslovakia. In 1954 there were 4 Hungarian industrial schools, 3 higher level and several elementary agricultural schools. A Hungarian Language Department has been established at the Pedagogical Institute.

In addition, the possibilities for the development of Hungarian culture are furthered by the existence of "Csemadok", the Hungarian Cultural Society, which receives substantial financial aid from the Government. In Komarno there is a permanent

In Communist and Workers' Parties

PLENARY MEETING OF CENTRAL BOARD, COMMUNIST PARTY OF GERMANY

On March 12-13 the Central Board of the Communist Party of Germany heard a report by Comrade Max Reimann, First Secretary of the Central Board, on "The people's battle against implementation of the Paris agreements, and the tasks of the Party".

The meeting adopted a declaration on the fight against the Paris agreements, stating that ratification of the agreements by the reactionary majority in the Bonn Bundestag has resulted in a new situation which further aggravates the division of Germany. The Bundestag decision, the resolution states, runs counter to the interests of the German people, fighting for the peaceful reunification of Germany. The proposal of the People's Chamber of the GDR for a national referendum shows how this struggle may be successfully continued. The Central Board emphasised the tremendous responsibility of the West German working class in the struggle for unity and peace.

A resolution was also passed concerning the trial in Karlsruhe, which aims to ban the Communist Party of Germany, stating that this trial is directed against the democratic rights and liberties of the German people. All this, it goes on, is intended to create the conditions necessary for the suppression of all resistance to the policy of the Adenauer Government, and to provide an opportunity of attacking the Social Democratic Party of Germany and the Federation of West German Trade Unions.

In conclusion, the resolution appeals: "Everyone who desires to preserve peace for our people, and who fights for unity and independence, democracy and peace, must rally to the defence of the Communist Party of Germany."

Vth CONGRESS OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF REPUBLIC OF SAN-MARINO

The Vth Congress of the Communist Party of the Republic of San-Marino was held on March 19-21 in the city of San-Marino and heard a report given by Comrade Gasperoni, Secretary of the Party. He dealt with the international and home situation, referred to the danger of an atomic war and severely condemned the aggressive policies pursued by the U.S. rulers. Many of the delegates took part in the discussion.

Messages of greetings were read from the Communist Parties of France and Bulgaria, and from the Polish United Workers' Party.

The message of greetings from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which was enthusiastically received, read as follows:

The Vth Congress of the Communist Party of the Republic of San-Marino.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union conveys fraternal greetings to the delegates of the Vth Congress of the Communist Party of the Republic of San-Marino and wishes the Congress success in its work.

Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union

The Congress unanimously adopted a resolution calling on the Government to

INTENSIFICATION OF PARTY WORK IN CHINESE COUNTRYSIDE

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of China recently convened a conference on rural Party work, at which it was stated there are now about 4 million Party members in the countryside, and that Party branches exist in 170,000 hsiangs out of 220,000 (hsiang is an administrative unit consisting of a number of villages).

At the conference mention was made of the favourable conditions existing for the growth of the Party in the countryside. Within the next three years of the first

Five-Year Plan the Party will continue to recruit new members, with a view to setting up Party branches in each hsiang in those regions where land reform has been completed, and paying particular attention to the extension and consolidation of Party branches in agricultural producer co-operatives and mutual-aid teams.

The conference pointed out the need to intensify political work in agricultural producer co-operatives.

SELF-STUDY GROUPS OF PARTY ACTIVISTS IN POLAND

In accordance with the directives of the Central Committee, organisations of the Polish United Workers' Party devote a great deal of attention to individual study of Marxist-Leninist theory by Party activists.

With this in view two-year self-study groups have been organised for Party activists and non-party intellectuals. There are now more than 800 groups of this kind, in which nearly 20,000 people are studying such subjects as the history of the working-class movement, political economy and dialectical and historical materialism. In some regions, for instance

in Poznan, Rzeszow, Zielona Gora and Bialystok, the number of students in these groups has risen two to three times compared with last year.

Great help is given to the students by lecturers from the Central Committee and regional Party committees. The best tutors give individual and group consultations at the Party consultation centres and at enterprises.

Certain shortcomings are however observed in the work of the groups: there are too few self-study groups at industrial enterprises and the number of consultations held for the students is still insufficient.

CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP OF JAPANESE COMMUNIST PARTY

The Central Executive Board of the Japanese Communist Party recently held a press conference in Tokyo, where a statement was made regarding changes in the composition of the Party's leading body. This will now consist of 4 members instead of 8, and will be headed by Shoichi Kasuga,

the other members of the Board being Yoshio Shiga, Kenji Miyamoto and Itaru Yonehara.

The membership of the Board has been reduced to enable the everyday problems of Party work to be dealt with more quickly.

POLITICAL STUDY OF COMMUNISTS IN REGGIO EMILIA PROVINCE, ITALY

The Communist Party Federation in Reggio Emilia has a department for cadres and provincial schools which pays particular attention to raising the ideological and political level of Party members. Short-term evening courses are functioning in many Party sections, with a total attendance of 271 Party members.

Instructors from the Federation, sent to different localities for a month at a time, have considerably assisted in the work of the courses. With the help of local Party leaders they managed to overcome func-

tional and technical difficulties which had previously prevented the organisation of courses. Courses adapted to the peculiarities and demands of each section are now being arranged. A special study programme and methods of teaching are being worked out in each case.

Special lectures on the significance of the struggle for peace are incorporated in all courses. To link theory with practice all those who attend courses participate in current work such as recruiting to the Party, collecting signatures and so on.

EDUCATIONAL CENTRES IN MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

Educational centres of urban and rural committees of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party are playing a big role in further improving Party propaganda work. The centres give concrete assistance to Party members and all working people in their constructive study of Marxism-Leninism, and help Party organisations in propaganda work.

The work of urban and rural committees of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party "Anarchism or Socialism?" etc. The educational centre systematically carries out talks and consultations, assists propagandists in improving their methods of teaching and enhances their theoretical knowledge.

...brought about at once; we have to work towards it with the greatest patience and circumspection, so as not to spoil matters and not to arouse distrust, and in order that the distrust inherited from centuries of landlord and capitalist oppression, private property and the enmity caused by its divisions and redivisions may have a chance to wear off."

When the Czechoslovak republic was formed in 1918, Slovak elementary and secondary schools and higher educational establishments were opened, thereby providing opportunities for the growth of a Slovak intelligentsia and for the development of national culture, art and literature. But this, of course, did not really solve the problem of equality for the Slovak people. Standing in the way of its solution was the unscientific theory advanced by the dominant Czech bourgeoisie that the Czech and Slovak peoples were two branches of a single nation, that the Slovak people were not a separate nation at all. And in opposition to this great-power chauvinism of the Czech bourgeoisie there grew and spread a separatist nationalist movement among the Slovak bourgeoisie.

In the economic sphere, the Czech capitalists, who, with the fall of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy had lost their old markets, sought to recoup their losses by gradually destroying Slovak industry. Seven blast furnaces in Slovakia were stopped and dismantled within the first few years of the Czechoslovak bourgeois republic. The Czech bourgeoisie wanted to convert Slovakia into an agrarian appendage of the industrially developed Czech regions.

The extensive natural resources of Slovakia remained unexploited. Increasing poverty drove more and more people to migrate. Between 1919 and 1936, more than 202,000 people left Slovakia.

In Slovakia old laws placing greater restrictions than in Czechia upon freedom of assembly and of the press remained in force, with the consent of the Slovak bourgeoisie. The activities of the municipalities were controlled by government officials.

Despite all this, however, under the influence of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the revolutionary movement headed by the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia grew steadily. Led by the Communist Party, the working class and the broad masses fought against de-industrialisation and the policy of bringing economic ruin upon the people, and organised strikes and demonstrations. Time and again matters came to bloody collisions with the police.

The Czechoslovak Communist Party included in its programme of struggle for the emancipation of the working class the demand that the Slovaks be granted the right to self-determination and full equality.

Under Nazi occupation, in the so-called Slovak state, the Slovak people were even more cruelly oppressed than at the time of the pre-Munich republic. The Slovak fascists implicitly obeyed the orders of their German masters. Slovak financial institutions were placed under the control of two German banks—the Deutsche Allgemeine Bank and the Dresdner Bank. The Sedliacka and Tatra banks were reduced to pitiful appendages of these German banks. Factories in Podbrezova and Dubrice, the Povazi engineering works and other Slovak enterprises became the property of the Hermann-Goering-werke. More than 100,000 Slovak workers were herded off to forced labour in Germany.

Thus, owing to the treachery of the Slovak bourgeoisie, the Slovak people were in effect placed in a position of colonial dependence.

II.

It was only as a result of Czechoslovakia's liberation by the Soviet Army that favourable conditions were created for the complete solution of the national problem in the Czechoslovak Republic on the basis of the Lenin-Stalin policy on the national question.

...were in complete accord with those of the London bourgeois government and in opposition to the viewpoint of the C.C. of the CPC.

The Slovak people, however, did not let themselves be deceived; at the call of the Party they began, on the basis of the partisan movement, a powerful national uprising.

The Slovak bourgeois nationalists continued to collaborate with the bourgeois politicians after liberation also. Husak, who occupied the post of commissioner for internal affairs, re-established the gendarmerie in Slovakia and on his own initiative disbanded the civilian militia, which had been set up by the national committees. He restored the functions of the state notary officials who endorsed the national committees' decisions. He sabotaged the consistent implementation of the land reform law and the nationalisation decree. The Slovak bourgeois nationalists, jointly with the Slovak bourgeoisie, prevented a uniform economic policy from being carried through; for instance, they frustrated the establishment of a uniform supply system and this meant that industrial centres were often without bread.

As early as 1945 Klement Gottwald urged the Slovak Communists to pay special attention to the danger inherent in the collaboration between Slovak nationalists and the Slovak bourgeoisie.

With the defeat of open bourgeois reaction in February 1948, the treacherous activities of the Slovak bourgeois nationalists could be exposed in full and a serious obstacle to the successful solution of the national question in Czechoslovakia was thereby removed. What the bourgeoisie failed in and was unable to do, the country's working class is now successfully accomplishing under the guidance of its Communist Party.

In large measure, Slovakia has already overcome its political, economic and cultural backwardness. Under the Two-Year Plan 337 factories were transferred from Czechia to Slovakia. At the same time, existing industry was reconstructed. Thanks to all this, Slovakia has developed from an agrarian into an industrial-agrarian country. Whereas in 1937 gross industrial production accounted for 40% of Slovakia's total production, by 1954 the figure had risen to 70%. The composition of the population has also changed. The number of people engaged in agriculture dropped from 56.7% in 1930 to 40% in 1953, while in the same period the number engaged in industry rose from 18.8% to 28.2%.

In Slovakia 250 new factories have been built and equipped with modern, highly productive machinery.

If Slovakia's industrial production in 1937 is taken as 100, by the end of 1954 the situation had changed as follows: industry as a whole 467, metallurgy 838, chemicals 1,183, power industry 483, and mining 207.

The growth of Slovakia's industrial production is accompanied by the growth of agricultural production. Crop yields per hectare are mounting and the number of livestock, especially cattle and hogs, is on the upgrade. Since 1946 Slovak agriculture has been supplied with 7,000 tractors, 521 combines and many thousands of other farm machines. The peasants are guaranteed the sale of their produce at fixed prices and are able to sell their surplus to the state at higher purchasing prices.

As industrial and agricultural production grows, the living standards of the working people improve. By 1954, as compared with 1936, the annual consumption of foodstuffs had increased per capita as follows: meat from 15.6 kg. to 26.4 kg., lard from 2.3 kg. to 6 kg. and wheat flour from 81 kg. to 120.6 kg. Consumption of sugar, cheese, eggs, milk, fabrics and footwear has also increased substantially.

There has also been marked progress in the educational sphere. Whereas there were only 232 eight-grade secondary schools in Slovakia in 1937, with an enrolment

...in the political, economic and cultural life of the country. The fact that 21 Hungarians, 6 Ukrainians and 2 Poles have been elected to the supreme bodies of the Republic—the National Assembly and the Slovak National Council—in itself provides vivid evidence of this. Thousands of representatives of the Hungarian, Ukrainian and Polish peoples have been elected to the regional, district and local national committees.

In the domain of culture, the equality and free development of these nationalities are similarly ensured. By 1954 Czechoslovakia had 122 eight-year schools in which the pupils—totalling 35,982—were being taught in Hungarian. Hungarian industrial and economic schools (secondary technical schools) were unknown to pre-Munich Czechoslovakia. In 1954 there were 4 Hungarian industrial schools, 3 higher level and several elementary agricultural schools. A Hungarian Language Department has been established at the Pedagogical Institute.

In addition, the possibilities for the development of Hungarian culture are furthered by the existence of "Csemadok", the Hungarian Cultural Society, which receives substantial financial aid from the Government. In Komarno there is a permanent Hungarian theatre, and the rural theatre has a Hungarian ensemble. In regions, districts and towns, in government offices, in the courts and national committees all matters affecting citizens of Hungarian, Ukrainian or Polish nationality are dealt with in the corresponding language.

The rights of citizens of Polish and Ukrainian nationality are guaranteed in exactly the same manner as those of citizens of Hungarian nationality.

Thanks to correct application of the Lenin-Stalin policy on the national question, the moral and political unity of the people of Czechoslovakia is steadily developing and growing in the course of socialist construction. The alliance of the workers and peasants is growing stronger. All the citizens of the Republic, regardless of nationality, have come to regard it as their homeland, their native hearth and are working together for the common cause, building Socialism and a happy life for all our working people.

★

While recognising the marked success of our national policy, we do not forget Lenin's warning that bourgeois nationalism is one of the most tenacious survivals of capitalism in the minds of men, and one of the hardest to eradicate.

Masarykism and social-democratism—those two varieties of Czech nationalism—are still a serious danger that has to be combated, no less than Slovak separatism or the remnants of Hungarian, Ukrainian and Polish bourgeois nationalism.

The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is waging this fight, and waging it successfully. Our enemies at home and abroad are still endeavouring to retard our progress, to re-establish the bourgeois system in our Republic and turn it into a colony of imperialism. Just for this reason, the people are growing more vigilant and watchful, more determined to thwart the designs of the imperialists.

Not for one moment do we forget that educating the people in the spirit of socialist patriotism and internationalism means cultivating their love for and gratitude to the Soviet Union. And that is our sacred duty towards our Republic, the Soviet Union and the working people of the whole world. Our people well know that were it not for the immense sacrifices made by the Soviet people, they would not today be in a position to build their new, socialist life. The very existence of the Soviet Union, its success in economic and cultural development, its consistent policy of peace—all multiply our strength and our will to struggle for the preservation of peace throughout the world.

...heard a report given by Comrade Gasperoni, Secretary of the Party. He dealt with the international and home situation, referred to the danger of an atomic war and severely condemned the aggressive policies pursued by the U.S. rulers. Many of the delegates took part in the discussion.

Messages of greetings were read from the Communist Parties of France and Bulgaria, and from the Polish United Workers' Party.

The message of greetings from the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which was enthusiastically received, read as follows:

The Vth Congress of the Communist Party of the Republic of San-Marino.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union conveys fraternal greetings to the delegates of the Vth Congress of the Communist Party of the Republic of San-Marino and wishes the Congress success in its work.

Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union

The Congress unanimously adopted a resolution calling on the Government to review the Constitution so that "all citizens may equally take part in state life and that women particularly may have equal rights with men in the economic, social and political spheres".

SOME EXPERIENCES OF AGITATIONAL WORK BY COMMUNISTS IN FINLAND

The Tenth Congress of the Communist Party of Finland pointed out that agitation should not confine itself to clarification of particular questions, but should, above all, inspire and organise the working people for active struggle, and since the Congress our Party's agitational work has been directed to this end.

In work among the masses, particular attention is given to the formation of a united working-class front, and in this connection the January 1954 decision of the Central Committee is an excellent guide. The Appeal to Social Democrats and Communists states that "no efforts are too great if they help to narrow the gap between the workers and contribute to the great cause of unity."

The fact that the practice of abusing people, which gives rise to friction, is being discontinued, and that increasing attempts are being made to link criticism as much as possible with concrete questions, is helping to bring the different Party and non-party groups of workers closer together. There are, however, still cases when the C.C. decision on this question is carried out in a formal way. It is true that people have stopped using abusive language but there has been no serious attempt to put unity of action into practice.

Distrust on either side is a grave obstacle to achieving and consolidating unity of action. Certain Social Democratic leaders are making use of an intensified witch-hunting campaign to foster distrust of Communists among the members and supporters of their party. Conversely certain Communists are inclined, without giving much thought to the matter, to regard the Social Democratic workers as being no different from the Social Democratic leaders who, from selfish motives, defend the interests of the capitalists at the expense of those of the working people. It is common knowledge that in cases (which, it should be said, are becoming more frequent) where prejudices are discarded, where consideration is given to the views of Social Democratic, Communist and non-party workers, and where decisions on demands and the measures to be taken to implement them are discussed and adopted jointly, then the workers defend their interests with great success. A case in point is the struggle

...The Communist Party of Reggio Emilia has a department for cadres and provincial schools which pays particular attention to raising the ideological and political level of Party members. Short-term evening courses are functioning in many Party sections, with a total attendance of 271 Party members.

Instructors from the Federation, sent to different localities for a month at a time, have considerably assisted in the work of the courses. With the help of local Party leaders they managed to overcome func-

EDUCATIONAL CENTRES IN MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

Educational centres of urban and rural committees of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party are playing a big role in further improving Party propaganda work. The centres give concrete assistance to Party members and all working people in their constructive study of Marxism-Leninism, and help Party organisations in propaganda work.

The educational centre of the Suhe Bator Rural Party Committee organised an interesting course of lectures. Lectures were delivered on the historical role of the MPRP, the nature of the Mongolian Revolution, the inviolable friendship of the Mon-

...previously courses adapted to the needs and demands of each section are now being arranged. A special study programme and methods of teaching are being worked out in each case.

Special lectures on the significance of the struggle for peace are incorporated in all courses. To link theory with practice all those who attend courses participate in current work such as recruiting to the Party, collecting signatures and so on.

golian and Soviet peoples and J. V. Stalin's work "Anarchism or Socialism?" etc. The educational centre systematically carries out talks and consultations, assists propagandists in improving their methods of teaching and enhances their theoretical knowledge.

The work of educational centres is efficiently directed by the rural and town Party committees, whose bureaus regularly discuss the activity and working plans of the educational centres. The members of the committees read lectures and carry out consultations and discussions in the educational centres.

delegates, representing Social Democratic, Communist and non-party workers and those belonging to bourgeois parties, took part. The weakness, however, lies in the fact that certain comrades do not as yet understand sufficiently well the close relationship between the struggle for peace and the fight for the day-to-day demands of the people, the fight for their social and economic rights.

Together with other forms of agitational work our Party members and organisations are working hard to improve the position of the democratic press. Experience has proved that it is not enough for branches to have a few comrades actively engaged in getting new readers for democratic papers. The question of the press must be bound up with the entire work of the branch, so that the district, town and branch committees are responsible for the newspaper down to the smallest detail.

To improve the content of the paper and to make them a more effective help in the struggle of the working people, not only the permanent correspondents, but also other branch members, should supply them with information day by day. The work of the correspondents at a textile factory in Hyvinkää is an example of the good results produced by this method. Following advice given at courses for correspondents, one of the comrades organised a network of worker-correspondents to supply him with copy on factory affairs, and was thus able to keep up a regular supply of topical news to the paper. In this way, too, he succeeded in getting the workers more interested in problems and events connected with factory life. At the same time there was greater interest in the paper, which in its turn, helped circulation.

It should be borne in mind that agitation can only educate the broad masses of the working people and Party members if it is of a profoundly ideological character. To raise the ideological level of agitation means that each Party member must constantly improve his own knowledge of Marxist-Leninist theory, that Communists must at all times pass on to the working masses a knowledge of Socialism, instil in them faith in a better future and tell them of the brilliant achievements of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies.

Urho IOKINEN

Two Million Italian Communists

By February 28, 2,013,340 Italian Communists—or 93.84% of the Party membership of 2,145,317 at the end of December last—had received their 1955 Party cards. By this date 882,537 comrades had contributed 175,210,000 lire to the Party fund, over and above their regular Party dues. In January and February 89,550 working men and women applied for Party membership. The Party cordially welcomes the new comrades who have chosen just this moment to join our great family of fighters for Socialism. They come to us, courageous and confident in our just cause, at a time when the struggle is sharpening, when the attacks are growing fiercer and the campaign of slander against the Party is gaining in intensity.

We commend these figures to the attention of all (whoever they may be—friends or foes) who are anxious to know and understand the problems facing us, knowing that the strength and growth of the Communist Party membership—whether they like it or not—is one of the main factors in the political life of our country. Let us leave to the professional slanderers their stupid, endless fabrications which, in the long run, are invariably exposed by the facts. A dull-witted, backward bourgeoisie, like that of Italy, gets the kind of henchmen it deserves. Such for instance, are the diligent professional authors of "investigations into Communism" who for six months tried in "thoroughly documented" articles to demonstrate the collapse of Communism; then, right after the elections of June 7, 1953, as though realising that they had overlooked something, they all at once in a panic began to write new "thoroughly documented" articles about the "threatening onset" of Communism, showing thereby their inability, as always, to grasp the essence of the real problems of the workers' movement, its successes and also its needs and difficulties. At the moment we are in a phase of investigations which are alleged to show the weakness of the Communist Party, but we can quite definitely forecast that after the regional elections in Sicily these "investigators" will change their tune again.

The significant achievements registered in the course of the card exchange campaign are of particular political significance in view of the sharpened home and international situation. The scope and efficiency of the 1954 campaign were influenced by the victory won in the elections of June 7, 1953, and by the fresh breeze blowing in the country after that great popular victory. Today, after a year of stubborn and acute struggle, the workers, peasants, intellectuals, men and women from all sections of the working people who have been exchanging their cards or asking for the honour of being allowed to fight in the ranks of the Party, know full well that they are exchanging or receiving for the first time the membership card of a Party which has once again called on all Italians to take part in the great common struggle for peace, freedom and progress and which, consequently, demands that its members should be ever in the van of this struggle, whatever the sacrifice.

Speaking concretely, at the present moment this means courageously opposing the heinous and unlawful discriminatory measures that are reviving the detested, typically fascist method of blackmail through hunger; often it means risking one's job, risking unemployment and pov-

★
Giorgio Amendola
Member of the Secretariat,
Italian Communist Party

★ ★
lost, but only that for the time being their places are taken by new Communist fighters.

This year's Party card exchange, which is also an intricate organisational and financial undertaking, is being conducted in the midst of a sharp struggle for peace, liberty and progress, in the vanguard of which, as ever, are the Communists.

All over the country the Communists are unflinchingly working for peace, against the rearmament of Western Germany, for the elimination of the threat of atomic war. In the factories, they are fighting in defence of trade union liberties and for the improvement of living and working conditions. In the countryside they fight for the reform of agrarian agreements and, during the elections of leading committees of the peasant mutual-aid societies, they work to thwart the unlawful, fraudulent activities of the Christian Democratic organisations. In Genoa, the exchange of Party cards is taking place in the midst of a stubborn struggle of the dockers; in Sicily, among the miners in the sulphur pits, amidst a struggle against the mines being closed down; in the areas where the agrarian reform is being carried out, the campaign around the Party card exchange is being conducted in the face of pressure, corruption and intimidation on the part of the bodies in charge of the reform. On the basis of the instructions of the Fourth National Party Conference, Communists all over Italy, in town and countryside, are working to unite the entire Italian people in the struggle for a democratic solution of their economic and political problems.

The Communist Party is a powerful, organised force that serves the interests of Italian democracy. Ten years have passed since Italy's liberation, yet the problem of the country's political development has now once again to be tackled by the Italian people from the point of view of the basic demands for freedom and justice. Many people now realise that the democratic gains achieved as a result of the war of national liberation are once again in jeopardy. But today these gains are threatened, not by the fascist bandits in uniform—even more villainous and doltish than their elder brothers of 1922 who showed themselves in their true colours (not only on July 25, 1943, when Mussolini was overthrown but on all other occasions)—but by the class forces which supported fascism, whose dominant economic and social positions remained untouched. And these forces now want—with the aid of outside interlopers—to reduce Italy to a state of political enslavement so as to prevent reforms that might improve the living conditions of the Italians and promote the development of the whole country.

Many now realise how grave is the danger threatening Italian democracy, even those who by their conduct may have allowed this danger to arise. But it is senseless in these days of the tenth anniversary of the Resistance Movement to condemn in words the abominable instances of banditry that have occurred in

perience than the two million of 1954. The Party lives and grows stronger in struggle, and if weaker elements have left the Party that does not mean they have been

I.
The rulers of the U.S.A., who have been accustomed to set up and bring down governments as they see fit in the various Latin American countries, are becoming increasingly aware of the fact that something new is emerging on the American continent, which is getting in the way of their interfering openly and with relative ease, as they formerly did, in the internal affairs of Latin American countries.

The vigour and unity of the popular action that developed in all these countries against the armed intervention in Guatemala utterly amazed the U.S. rulers. An article entitled "Lessons of Guatemala", featured in one U.S. newspaper, stated that the most remarkable fact of the civil war in Guatemala was the wave of actions in defence of this Central American country. The significance of these actions, the article goes on, is obvious: they reflected a general conviction that Guatemala was fighting for her national independence, against the "colossus of the north". We know now, it went on, that the principal enemy for some Latin Americans was not Communism, but U.S. imperialism.

The "lesson of Guatemala" was followed by the no less convincing "lesson of Brazil". The powerful popular demonstrations of last August 24 and 25 against the coup d'état which brought about Vargas' fall and death were, in fact, directed against Yankee imperialism and its agents in Brazil. On August 26, 1954, the *New York Times* wrote that most Americans would possibly be surprised to read reports such as were being received at that moment from Brazil, from which it appeared that the American Embassy in Rio de Janeiro and certain U.S. consulates in other cities had been attacked by crowds of Brazilians. The same thing had happened to U.S. trade agencies. Everyone familiar with U.S. foreign relations knew that Brazil had been the ally of the U.S., that she had fought during the second world war, was the source of most of the United States imports, and was considered the best friend of the United States in Latin America.

One cannot but appreciate the timeliness of this reminder of the participation of the Brazilian people alongside U.S. troops in the war against Nazi Germany. The big street demonstrations against the American Embassy's open interference in the internal affairs of Brazil are in line with the traditions of the Brazilian people's struggle for their freedom and independence. They are a most vivid reminder of the huge mass demonstrations of 1942, when our people demanded that the government then in power declare war on Hitlerite Germany.

The aggressive policy of the ruling groups in Washington is arousing ever-deeper hatred on the part of the Latin American peoples. Under the leadership of their Communist Parties they are rallying more and more closely around the working class, constituting a powerful force that dumbfounds the American oppressors and exploiters. In Brazil this force is growing more powerful day by day. If, on the one hand, the fall of the Vargas government is evidence of the crude U.S. interference in Brazil's domestic affairs, it proves, on the other, how speedily governments in the service of the U.S. imperialists lose their mass support and be-

come more glaringly obvious with each day that passed. With growing insolence the U.S. imperialists renewed their demand that Brazil's oil and other valuable deposits be placed at their disposal. The so-called "U.S.-Brazil Military Agreement" was being put into operation. Brazil's foreign policy, characterised by humiliating submission to U.S. aggressive war policy, to an ever-greater degree outraged the national sentiments of broad masses of the people. These sentiments were outraged, for instance, by the support of U.S. aggression in Guatemala, the shameful stand of the Brazilian delegation at the Caracas conference and the position of the Brazilian representatives in the UN Security Council, where they acted as mouthpieces of the U.S. State Department.

Popular discontent grew rapidly throughout the country.

The Communists unmasked the policy of national betrayal, hunger and reaction which the Vargas government was pursuing, and this helped considerably in discrediting this government and rendering it unpopular.

The masses entered the struggle with a determination and vigour that nothing could stay—neither demagogic promises, nor violence, nor police terror. From the big strike in Sao Paulo in April 1953, when a joint struggle was waged by some 300,000 textile workers, metal trades workers, glass workers, printers and joiners, and the general seamen's strike, which embraced 110,000 workers, the proletariat went over to action on an even wider scale. There were general strikes against high prices in a number of states, which were energetically supported by the whole people. Such strikes took place, for instance, in Minas Gerais, and in Rio Grande do Sul. The peasants, having held their first National Conference in 1953, were preparing for another conference. At the same time the strike movement among the agricultural workers was gaining momentum. They demanded that the minimum wage law be applied in the countryside. It thus became ever clearer that the struggle begun in the towns was about to embrace the countryside as well.

The tide of discontent engulfed other sections of the population also. The students' struggle, which met with great response throughout the country, led to big strikes and political action in defence of democratic freedoms. Representatives of the petty bourgeoisie and the intelligentsia, including journalists and doctors, likewise fought for pay increases.

Through the instrumentality of Finance Minister Oswaldo Aranha, well-known agent of the American monopolies, a financial policy was pursued which, on the pretext of paying Brazil's growing trade debt to the United States, was aimed at drastically devaluing the national currency, and introducing further and still greater restrictions on the imports of raw material and machinery needed for the existence, development and preservation of the country's industry. Thus, through Brazil's foreign trade, the U.S. monopolies brought about a further worsening of the situation

★
Luiz Carlos Prestes
General Secretary,
Communist Party of Brazil

★ ★

growing national liberation movement. The murder of an Air Force officer in Rio de Janeiro—referred to as "the Toneleiros Street incident"—was the pretext for a vigorous campaign for Vargas' immediate resignation, conducted under the leadership of politicians from the National Democratic League (reactionary party led by fascist Eduardo Gomes, General of the Air Force) and the reactionary press. Everything indicated that the assassination, carried through in classic Yankee style, had been organised and effected under the direction of the U.S. Embassy. It is significant that a notorious police and U.S. agent, the journalist Lacerda, who accompanied the murdered officer, remained uninjured. Even those Rio de Janeiro newspapers that are in the service of the U.S. ruling groups did not conceal the presence in the capital of American specialists in carrying through coups d'état.

III.

The Communist Party has always declared that it would fight resolutely against any encroachment on the Constitution and democratic liberties, no matter whence it came. Pointing to the danger that existed it called on the people to fight in defence of their freedoms and social gains. Unmasking the projected coup d'état, the Party described it as U.S. inspired, and showed that the main danger in this case emanated not directly from Vargas but from the leadership of the National Democratic League and a small group of fascist generals from the High Military College, the group headed by Juarez Tavora, Eduardo Gomes and others.

The climax was reached with the Vargas "resignation" and the subsequent "suicide". These events developed under strong pressure from these generals and other direct agents of the U.S. Embassy, which was the actual headquarters for the organisation and leadership of the coup d'état. Rapidly developing events clearly showed that the organisers of the coup d'état were particularly concerned to avoid a split in the armed forces and any possibility of a civil war. With this aim in view they tried to represent the coup d'état as a mere constitutional replacement of Vargas by his lawful successor Vice-President Café Filho. The Vargas farewell letter completely confirmed the conclusions drawn by the Communists. It confirmed that strong pressure had been brought on the Vargas government by the U.S. monopolies.

When the masses learned of the fascist coup d'état and the death of Vargas they came out onto the streets and demonstrated their understanding of and agreement with the Communist Party's estimation of events. The demonstrations assumed a clearly anti-U.S. character; they were directed against the fascist generals, the leaders of the National Democratic League and its newspapers. The unarmed masses fought against the police, army units, air force and even against the marines. In some

wanted to see in Brazil a government that would be fully able to deceive the masses and defeat the workers' and people's movement, one that would destroy the

croach on the social gains of the working people. Nevertheless, the Café Filho Government attacks the working-class movement and seriously threatens the existing social legislation. It is trying to disband the inter-trade union committees and to wreck the agreements on trade union unity that have set the country's trade union movement on the road to unification. The social insurance system is seriously threatened. To blunt the struggle for higher wages, which is every day spreading to include wider sections of workers, civil servants and also military men, journalists, doctors etc., the Government resorts to various demagogic manoeuvres. At the same time, under the guise of combating inflation, it seeks to shift the burden of the country's financial difficulties on to the shoulders of the working people.

The fascist generals get no support whatever from the masses. The present Government, which came to power by shedding the blood of the people and which the people detest, is incapable of coping with the reactionary tasks imposed upon it by its American masters. It was unable to prevent the elections of October 3. Despite the violent measures to prevent the Communists, especially, from taking part in those elections, and to make impossible the free expression of the people's will, several deputies to the National Congress and the Chambers of States, as well as a number of mayors and municipal councillors, were elected with the open support of the Communist Party.

Even Señor Café Filho, in the speech he made to justify the reactionary measures taken against social legislation and social insurance, was constrained to admit that present-day Brazil was the embodiment of "utter grief", that "poverty, accentuated by the rising cost of living—which hits the working classes of the country particularly hard—is the source of very disturbing demands".

The position of Café Filho's American dictatorship is very shaky. The U.S. imperialists and their agents in Brazil realise this themselves; they are trying to escape from the grave situation, in which they find themselves, by means of fresh coups d'état. The Café Filho Government is much weaker than the Vargas government was. It is doomed to a speedy end. Never has recourse to terror by their rulers been able to break the Brazilian people's will to struggle; under the new conditions they will continue the struggle harder than ever and will work to strengthen their unity.

V.

The Communist Party of Brazil is the leading force in the struggle for unity between the country's working class and the broadest sections of the people, for the organisation of a democratic front of national liberation. Following the August events the struggle for working-class unity assumed fresh force and scope. There arose new conditions which considerably facilitate the achievement of unity between Communist workers and all those who are still under the influence of Vargas' demagogic policy. The C.C. Manifesto of September 1, 1954, states: "The situation demands that the Trabalhistas (members of Vargas' party.—Ed.) and the Communists join hands fraternally and work together to defend the social laws already won." This appeal

of the 1954 campaign were influenced by the victory won in the elections of June 7, 1953, and by the fresh breeze blowing in the country after that great popular victory. Today, after a year of stubborn and acute struggle, the workers, peasants, intellectuals, men and women from all sections of the working people who have been exchanging their cards or asking for the honour of being allowed to fight in the ranks of the Party, know full well that they are exchanging or receiving for the first time the membership card of a Party which has once again called on all Italians to take part in the great common struggle for peace, freedom and progress and which, consequently, demands that its members should be ever in the van of this struggle, whatever the sacrifice.

Speaking concretely, at the present moment this means courageously opposing the heinous and unlawful discriminatory measures that are reviving the detested, typically fascist method of blackmail through hunger; often it means risking one's job, risking unemployment and poverty and sometimes even imprisonment.

The results of the Party card exchange show, however, that the repressive and discriminatory measures applied on the basis of the government's anti-constitutional decisions of December 4, 1954, the despotism of the factory bosses who want to deprive the workers of the full exercise of their democratic rights, the crude tyranny in all spheres of national life, the attacks on freedom and on Italian culture, and the violence to which the fascist bands resort—all have utterly failed to break the resistance of the Communists. On the contrary, their effect has been to heighten the degree of consciousness and understanding with which the workers are now joining the Party. The Party sees how, as a result of these repressions, its role as the defender of the interests of the people and the nation is every day gaining wider recognition, approval and appreciation.

The two million Communists of 1955 are stronger and more firmly steeled, have a better grounding and more political ex-

today these gains are threatened, not by the fascist bandits in uniform—even more villainous and doltish than their elder brothers of 1922 who showed themselves in their true colours (not only on July 25, 1943, when Mussolini was overthrown but on all other occasions)—but by the class forces which supported fascism, whose dominant economic and social positions remained untouched. And these forces now want—with the aid of outside interlopers—to reduce Italy to a state of political enslavement so as to prevent reforms that might improve the living conditions of the Italians and promote the development of the whole country.

Many now realise how grave is the danger threatening Italian democracy, even those who by their conduct may have allowed this danger to arise. But it is senseless in these days of the tenth anniversary of the Resistance Movement to condemn in words the abominable instances of banditry that have occurred in Rome and other cities—in which the shameful and perfidious past once more shows its face—and then refuse to follow a consistent anti-fascist policy of peace and social regeneration and hinder the unification of all the forces interested in upholding and enforcing the Republican Constitution framed as a result of the great, united anti-fascist movement. Lacking that unity, we cannot achieve social regeneration or consistently defend democracy. Without the two million Communists there is no barring the road to fascism.

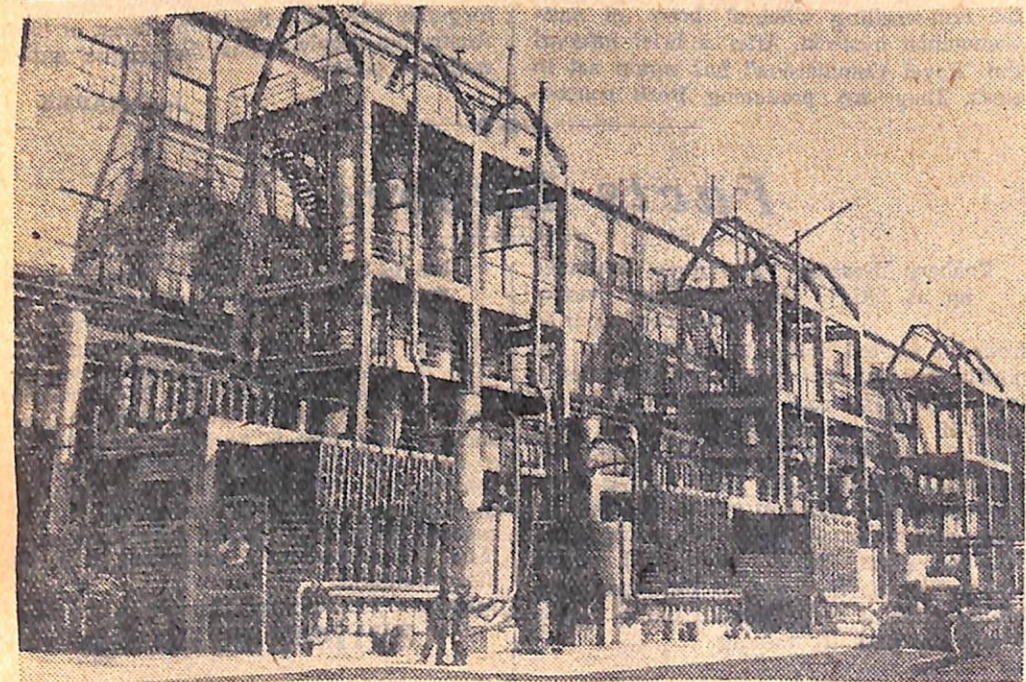
For this reason the two million Communists urge all Italians to join forces in this inevitable new struggle. The Communists work concretely, patiently and persistently, day in and day out to solve all problems that concern the nation, in the name of achieving the indispensable unity. Around this force, ever growing and rejuvenating itself, serving the interests of democracy and the nation, the majority of Italian people will again rally, as they did in 1945, to defeat fascist reaction and to give a fresh powerful impetus to the progress of Italy.

BELGIAN PEOPLE OPPOSE WEST GERMAN REARMAMENT

The struggle against the Paris agreements is gaining momentum in Belgium.

The Falisolle branch of the deportees—composed of people who were driven off to work in Germany during the war—together with the War Veterans' organisation, have unanimously passed a resolution stating that "to rearm Germany is tantamount to committing suicide" and

urging deputies and senators to reject West German rearmament. The school-teachers of Brussels have unanimously adopted a resolution protesting against the Paris agreements. At its latest meeting the Regional Federation of the cities of Ghent-Ecclooy which is affiliated to the Belgian Confederation of Labour, confirmed its opposition to West German rearmament.



The chemical industry is growing and developing in people's Poland. Photo: Chemical Combinat in Kedzierzyn—one of the largest projects of the Six-Year Plan.

street demonstrations against the American Embassy's open interference in the internal affairs of Brazil are in line with the traditions of the Brazilian people's struggle for their freedom and independence. They are a most vivid reminder of the huge mass demonstrations of 1942, when our people demanded that the government then in power declare war on Hitlerite Germany.

The aggressive policy of the ruling groups in Washington is arousing ever-deeper hatred on the part of the Latin American peoples. Under the leadership of their Communist Parties they are rallying more and more closely around the working class, constituting a powerful force that dumbfounds the American oppressors and exploiters. In Brazil this force is growing more powerful day by day. If, on the one hand, the fall of the Vargas government is evidence of the crude U.S. interference in Brazil's domestic affairs, it proves, on the other, how speedily governments in the service of the U.S. imperialists lose their mass support and become unpopular, so that even their American masters can find no use for them.

The most conscious elements among the Brazilian people are daily becoming more convinced that if in 1942 it was possible for Brazil to be aligned with other peoples battling against Nazism, it is possible today to remove Brazil from the camp of war and imperialism to that of peace, democracy and Socialism by ridding her of the Yankee imperialists' yoke. The great anti-U.S. demonstrations of last August 24 and 25 are the proof of this.

II.

The publication and circulation of the Draft Programme of the Communist Party of Brazil was undoubtedly an important factor in the rapidly developing events which preceded the coup d'état of August 24. Our Party's Programme outlines the fundamental causes of the dire plight of different classes and social strata of the Brazilian people, beginning with the proletariat and ending with the national bourgeoisie. It shows the correct way out of this situation—the forming of a democratic front of national liberation, capable of freeing Brazil from the yoke of the U.S. imperialists, transferring the landowners' estates to the peasants, overthrowing the government of landlords and big capitalists, and replacing it by a democratic government of national liberation. By concentrating its fire against the U.S. imperialists and the Vargas government, the Communist Party's Draft Programme (which was put forward in January 1954) greatly helped to discredit that government and increase its unpopularity. It also helped to make clear to the people that the cause of their worst suffering was U.S. imperialism.

In the course of a few months conditions in Brazil deteriorated to an unheard of extent. Prices of prime necessities were skyrocketing. Under pressure of a broad mass movement the government was forced to adopt a decree establishing a new minimum wage scale. This measure, however, served as a pretext for forcing up prices still further. The tempo of currency inflation was unprecedented for this country.

In a situation marked by growing poverty of the masses, the policy of handing over

hydrogen weapons and destruction of the stockpiles of these weapons in all countries, the prevention of the arming of German militarists and ratification of the Paris agreements, and which will support the establishment of a system of collective security in Europe, based on the principle of respect for national independence.

DRAFT PROGRAMME OF DUTCH COMMUNIST PARTY

The newspaper De Waarheid has published the Draft Programme of the Dutch Communist Party, which will be discussed at the Party Congress to be held in Amsterdam from 8 to 11 of April.

The Party, reads the Draft Programme, declares its readiness to support any government which will direct its policy towards unconditional prohibition of atomic and

the tide of discontent engulfed other sections of the population also. The students' struggle, which met with great response throughout the country, led to big strikes and political action in defence of democratic freedoms. Representatives of the petty bourgeoisie and the intelligentsia, including journalists and doctors, likewise fought for pay increases.

Through the instrumentality of Finance Minister Oswaldo Aranha, well-known agent of the American monopolies, a financial policy was pursued which, on the pretext of paying Brazil's growing trade debt to the United States, was aimed at drastically devaluating the national currency, and introducing further and still greater restrictions on the imports of raw material and machinery needed for the existence, development and preservation of the country's industry. Thus, through Brazil's foreign trade, the U.S. monopolies brought about a further worsening of the situation in the country. It was becoming clear that the free establishment of trade relations with other countries, and in particular with the USSR, People's China and the People's Democracies, would be decidedly favourable to our national interests.

It was in these conditions of growing general discontent that the Conference for National Liberation was convened by broad democratic and patriotic forces. It was supported by many prominent public figures, higher-ranking officers and generals, as well as by patriotic citizens of the most diverse trends and social status. The Conference adopted a Charter of Liberation which stated forthrightly the necessity of a struggle for Brazil's liberation from the yoke of U.S. imperialism. The Conference also set up a League for National Liberation. Local branches of the League sprang up throughout the country in the course of the struggle to preserve Brazilian ownership of oil and radioactive ore deposits, and in the fight to defend the Guatemalan patriots etc. The people's peace movement, in turn, which previously prevented the government from sending Brazilian soldiers to Korea, was making it increasingly difficult for the Vargas government and its Yankee masters to pursue their policy of preparing for a new war.

It thus became clear to the U.S. ruling circles that the Vargas government was incapable of checking the rapid upsurge of the people's struggle; that it was not able to prevent a rapid advance of the working class and the broad democratic and patriotic forces towards organisation and unity; and that, finally, the Vargas government would meet with a crushing defeat at the elections of October 3, 1954. Reviewing the situation in Brazil and accusing Vargas of virtually helping to strengthen the Communist Party, the *New York Times* maintained that Vargas had evoked the displeasure of certain elements in the U.S.A., that he had created an insecure and unstable situation.

Hence the conclusion that Brazil was too big and too important for such a state of affairs to be allowed to continue.

Thus the fate of the Vargas government was sealed. The only thing then was to look around for the pretext and the opportune moment to replace it. The Yanks

showed that the organisers of the coup d'état were particularly concerned to avoid a split in the armed forces and any possibility of a civil war. With this aim in view they tried to represent the coup d'état as a mere constitutional replacement of Vargas by his lawful successor Vice-President Café Filho. The Vargas farewell letter completely confirmed the conclusions drawn by the Communists. It confirmed that strong pressure had been brought on the Vargas government by the U.S. monopolies.

When the masses learned of the fascist coup d'état and the death of Vargas they came out onto the streets and demonstrated their understanding of and agreement with the Communist Party's estimation of events. The demonstrations assumed a clearly anti-U.S. character; they were directed against the fascist generals, the leaders of the National Democratic League and its newspapers. The unarmed masses fought against the police, army units, air force and even against the marines. In some municipalities where the local authorities took fright at the wrath of the people and fled, the people elected new mayors right in the street. The Party organisations were inadequately prepared for the action the situation called for. Nevertheless the Communist Party succeeded in leading the spontaneous actions of the people and directing the struggle in defence of the Constitution and democratic freedoms.

Having invested the coup d'état with a semblance of constitutional legitimacy and having placed Vice-President Café Filho in power, the fascist generals hoped that they could isolate the Communist Party from the masses and thus make it easier to deal a blow at it. But they failed because of the correct policy of the Party and the skill it displayed in leading the struggle of the masses. The Communist Party was able to preserve working-class unity and prevent any leftist, untimely and adventurist actions.

The mass struggle, especially in the major cities, showed the hatred of the people for the American oppressors. It made the fascist generals exercise caution and prevented them from carrying out their main aim: to destroy the working-class and people's movement and deal a deadly blow at the Communist Party. The mammoth general strike of Sao Paulo working people on September 2, 1954, for higher wages and an end to price increases, which developed a week after the coup d'état, demonstrated with renewed force the unity of the working class and the people, as well as their determination to fight to the end against the existing state of affairs in the country. This strike also demonstrated the rising prestige of the Communist Party among the masses.

IV.

The U.S. ruling groups did not achieve their aim in Brazil with the violent overthrow and the death of Vargas. Although the coup d'état was carried through, the fascist generals are more and more often finding themselves obliged to talk about democracy, to say that they will uphold the Constitution and will not en-

C.C. MEETING, SWISS PARTY OF LABOUR

The Central Committee of the Swiss Party of Labour, meeting recently in Zurich, heard a report by the Party General Secretary, Comrade E. Woog.

The meeting adopted an appeal for the defence of peace and in support of the Vienna Appeal, and resolved to convene the VIth Party Congress at the end of May in Geneva.

to break the Brazilian people's will to struggle; under the new conditions they will continue the struggle harder than ever and will work to strengthen their unity.

V.

The Communist Party of Brazil is the leading force in the struggle for unity between the country's working class and the broadest sections of the people, for the organisation of a democratic front of national liberation. Following the August events the struggle for working-class unity assumed fresh force and scope. There arose new conditions which considerably facilitate the achievement of unity between Communist workers and all those who are still under the influence of Vargas' demagogic policy. The C.C. Manifesto of September 1, 1954, states: "The situation demands that the Trabalhistas (members of Vargas' party.—Ed.) and the Communists join hands fraternally and work together to defend the social laws already won." This appeal met with a ready response among the rank-and-file Vargas' supporters and was a valuable step in the Communist Party's effort to win the support of the millions for its Programme.

The Communist Party of Brazil is at present working, first, towards strengthening and broadening the unity and organisation of the working class; secondly, towards strengthening and broadening the peasant movement, the development of which will be greatly advanced by the fulfilment of the decisions adopted by the Second National Conference of Farm Workers and Peasants held in Sao Paulo, at which the Union of Farmers and Farm Workers of Brazil was founded; thirdly, towards strengthening and broadening the people's movement for national liberation. That movement has already formed a League for National Liberation, in which patriots are uniting around a programme reflecting the cherished hopes of our people fighting for Brazil's liberation from the colonial yoke of the U.S.A. As the masses of workers and peasants join this movement, representatives of the petty and of the national bourgeoisie will also do so. And then there will arise in Brazil a powerful national liberation movement, the growth of which nothing will be able to stop.

The force capable of ensuring this successful result is the Communist Party of Brazil which is growing ever stronger. Errors have occurred in the Party, particularly left-wing and sectarian errors, but such errors are being steadily combated. The Party is working hard to strengthen its ranks. The successful Fourth Party Congress, which adopted the Party Programme and Rules, was an event of exceptional importance, testifying to the Party's maturity and its growing unity. The Brazilian Communist Party takes the Communist Party of the Soviet Union as its example and model, and, on the basis of its lessons and experiences, advances the struggle of the workers, peasants and the entire people of Brazil.

With the further consolidation of the Communist Party, the struggle of the Brazilian people will steadily acquire greater force and follow the line of creating a democratic national liberation front, and setting up a new government. Conditions are fast ripening which will make possible and necessary a people's-democratic revolution and the carrying into life of the Programme of the Communist Party of Brazil.

The meeting adopted pre-Congress draft theses for thorough discussion and amplification in all Party sections and cantonal organisations. They analyse the political situation, define the vital needs of the working people and explain the necessity for the united action of the working class.

AGAINST ATOMIC BLACKMAIL!

Even before World War II was quite over, U.S. ruling circles had begun to use the atom bomb as a means of blackmail. I happened to be in Canada, that is, on the American continent, at the time. To describe the balderdash put over by the radio and the press and the bumptious air with which it was presented some millions of times would be a hard job. But the gist of all that claptrap might be expressed as follows: "We have a weapon that guarantees us world domination. This weapon has been created by American genius and we must guard the secret of its production like the apple of our eye. As long as we possess the secret of the atom bomb, we can dictate terms. And Russia? (They always say "Russia" there instead of the "Soviet Union"—L.I.). Russia will perhaps master that secret in twenty-five years, or perhaps never."

This, in effect, is just what General Groves, director of atomic plants, said in those days.

I remember how I spoke for peace as I toured Canada then, explaining at meetings that the atom bomb was no secret, that within three to five years the Soviet Union would also be producing it, that Britain would learn the secret and the only way out was to ban the use and production of this weapon of mass destruction. I very emphatically pointed out that there was no secret about the atom bomb, that the basic laws of physics upon which that supposed secret rested had been known to physicists long since, and that scientists and engineers in technically developed countries would themselves be able to work out the thousands or perhaps even millions of technical details involved, once they knew that the problem did lend itself to solution.

I spoke of this at great length and in great detail. In the discussion that developed after one of these speeches, the first to take the floor was the owner of a department store. "What", he asked, "can be done to prevent Russia from learning our secret of atom bomb production?"

...I relate this incident because, better than anything else, it characterises the sentiments that then prevailed and the

★
Leopold Infeld

Polish scientist,
Vice-Chairman, World Peace Council

★ ★

influence of the lying propaganda attributing aggressive designs to the Soviet Union.

One would have thought that as soon as the Soviet Union made an atom bomb this blackmailing campaign would have had the ground cut from under its feet. One would have thought that the only sensible thing to do then would have been to accept the Soviet proposal that atomic weapons be banned and stocks destroyed. But no, the blackmailing was only intensified. Two arguments were put forward. The first was that "we in the U.S.A. have more of these bombs than the Soviet Union because we began producing them long ago". Human folly is sometimes so stupendous that one blushes to cite examples. I remember the Canadian newspapers' assertions that in all probability the atomic explosion in Russia had been accidental and had destroyed all the equipment needed for producing bombs. The second argument was that "we are now beginning to produce hydrogen bombs which will probably be thousands of times more powerful than atom bombs".

But this attempt at blackmail failed, too. The Soviet Union produced the hydrogen bomb. Yet, despite this, we still find the enemies of peace making brazen statements and threatening to start an atomic war. Those who seek to instigate atomic war would do well to remember that the USSR possesses a weapon that is at least as powerful as that of the aggressors.

One would think it was time to finish with blackmail, that the U.S.A. no longer had the means of blackmail. After all, the Soviet Union unquestionably has a sufficient quantity of A and H-bombs to give a fitting rebuff to any aggressor. The denser the population of a country, the greater the danger to it from an atom bomb, and that

means that an atomic war would be more dangerous to Western Europe than to the USSR. Besides, the Soviet Union is the first country in which the possibilities of using atomic energy for peaceful purposes, of creating new sources of power are being investigated. It has already built one experimental atomic power station and has generously offered to assist China and other People's Democracies to build accelerators and reactors.

The points I have listed above are sufficient reason for the reactionary ruling groups of certain Western countries to give atomic blackmail up as a bad job. But no, the blackmailing continues for all that it is devoid of any real basis. The blackmailing continues for all that the means of blackmail are lacking. It continues as a result of the hypocrisy of political leaders and the falsehood that the Soviet Union harbours aggressive designs, which is put about despite the fact that it is an obvious untruth.

Some of the ruling circles in the West are seeking to include atomic weapons as part of their conventional armaments, hoping thereby to frighten the peoples and paralyse their will to fight for peace and so prevent these weapons from being banned.

How can this blackmail be stopped? There is only one way. All the peoples of the world must declare their will. The peoples of the world want neither atomic nor any other kind of war.

The Polish people, who suffered to no small degree from the horrors of the war unleashed by the Nazi invaders, are exerting every effort to preserve peace, to prevent another war from being unleashed. They are engaged in peaceful labour for the welfare of their country. But like all the other peace-loving peoples, the working people of Poland will not allow themselves to be intimidated by atomic blackmail.

We, the supporters of peace, are convinced that the will of the peoples will triumph. Let us give active expression to our will for peace. Peace will then triumph on earth and life will become more splendid thanks to man's discovery of atomic energy.

Violators of International Agreements Again Come a Cropper

The press in all countries is widely commenting on the so-called "documents" of the Three-Power Conference in the Crimea (of the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain) which were recently published by the U.S. State Department. It will be remembered that this conference, held in Yalta in February 1945, was attended by J. V. Stalin, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill, and also by the foreign ministers of the three great powers.

The bulk of the "documents" consists of an assortment of memoranda, recommendations and suggestions prepared by American officials to assist the foreign policy makers of the U.S.A. on the eve of and during the Yalta Conference, and also of notes and chance records of talks. Many of them were written up "from memory" by the secretaries and interpreters of the American delegation after the conference ended.

It is perfectly obvious from this that the two volumes of "documents" have been prepared and "worked up" by the U.S. State Department with definite aims in view. In many cases, they grossly distort the facts of history. Even the reactionary press of the U.S.A. is constrained to admit that not all the documents have been published.

relations of the U.S.A. with Great Britain, her most important ally, and in particular with Winston Churchill, the most loyal defender of Anglo-American friendship; lessened the chances of a conference with the Soviet Union; hurt France on her sorest spot—her national pride—and at the same time managed to insult the Germans... It terms the U.S. Secretary of State the "world's champion at crude diplomatic blunders".

In other words, the State Department's "publishing activity" has aroused fresh suspicion among Mr. Dulles' European partners and aggravated the differences among the NATO countries.

What, one naturally wonders, was the State Department's purpose in publishing these casual "documents" which in great part obviously falsify historical events?

The question is easily answered when one considers American realities. The point is that the Presidential election is due next year and the Republican Party, now in the saddle, is anxious to stay there. And so the Republicans are already exerting themselves to deal their opponents—the Democrats—a serious blow. That is why, Britain's Times points out in its leader,

supported by the British and French imperialists and in distinct contravention of the Yalta Agreements, are doing their best to revive German militarism and to get the Paris agreements ratified.

Nor is the Yalta Conference decision on the United Nations Organisation and its Security Council as an organ to promote the peace and security of the nations to the liking of U.S. ruling circles. The United States has long been trying to undermine the inviolable principle of the unanimity of the great powers and thereby to convert this international organisation once and for all into a branch of the U.S. State Department. It stubbornly objects, again in distinct contravention of the Yalta Agreements, to a number of people's-democratic countries being admitted to Uno.

Another grave obstacle to the aggressive plans of the American reactionaries is the idea that was the keynote of the Yalta Conference, the idea of establishing a stable and lasting peace. That is why the American rulers, who have proclaimed a "position of strength" policy, are seeking at all costs to discredit jointly adopted international agreements in order

German People Continue Their Struggle

The struggle of the German people against the remilitarisation of Western Germany continues. Since the ratification of the Paris agreements by the Bundestag and the Bundesrat, the working people have increasingly demanded the holding of a people's referendum in both parts of Germany, as proposed by the People's Chamber of the GDR. In Munich, workers, housewives and youth took part in a demonstration against the implementation of the Paris agreements.

In Essen, more than 2,000 people attended a protest meeting. In a public opinion poll carried out by the Munich newspaper *Deutsche Woche*, 85% of those interviewed in Stuttgart expressed themselves in favour of the people's referendum, while in Fürthe (near Nuremberg) it was supported by 81% of those questioned.

In Hamburg, in the course of a public opinion poll carried out in enterprises, constituencies and at meetings, over 33,000 working people have declared themselves against the rearmament of Western Germany. At the annual general trade union meeting of metal workers in Gelsenkirchen, Gladbeck and Wanne-Eickel 200 delegates put forward the demand for a general strike in the struggle against the Paris agreements.

The recent Berlin Congress of German Youth attended by representatives from both parts of Germany issued a manifesto which reads in part: "We demand that the German people themselves decide the question of the future of Germany; we demand the holding of a referendum among all German citizens of 18 years of age and over."

Meeting of Central Committee, Communist Party of Finland

At its recent meeting in Helsinki the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Finland discussed a report by Comrade Aaltonen, Chairman of the Party, on the political situation and the struggle for peace.

The meeting passed a resolution which states that the aggressive moves of the U.S.A. in Asia and the speeding up of German rearmament have sharpened the international situation. The reactionaries are instigating war, and the effects of this are being felt in Finland. Pressure is being brought to bear to compel her to renounce her peaceful policy and, through her ties with Scandinavian countries who are NATO members, to serve the aims of the war-mongers.

The resolution calls upon progressive forces to enhance vigilance and intensify the struggle for peace, and against the remilitarisation of Western Germany.

It continues: the danger of atomic war, which has grown in recent times, has caused great alarm in all countries and roused various sections of the population to struggle to prevent it. The World Peace Council expressed these aspirations by launching a campaign for signatures to the Appeal for the destruction of stockpiles of atomic weapons and the cessation of their manufacture.

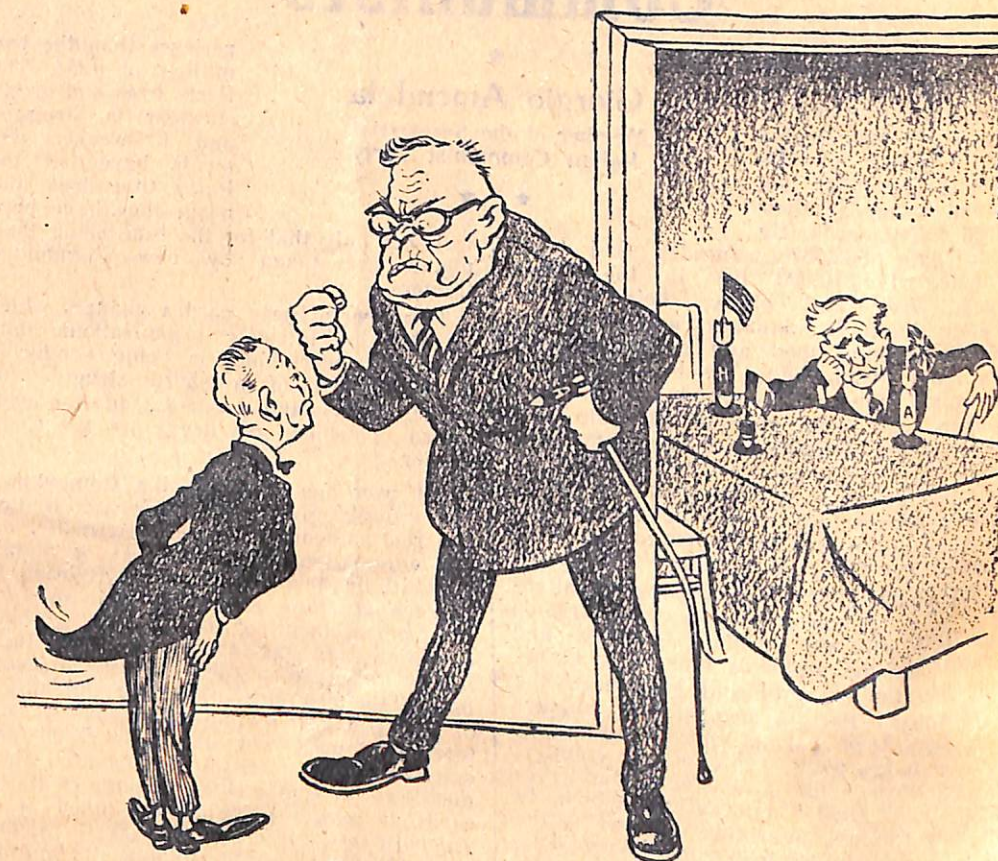
The Central Committee urges every Party member to take an active part in this important campaign.

The meeting also discussed the Party's work among the peasants and the work of Party branches in the Kuminlaakso District.

Development of Film Industry

The United States, Britain and France have decided to call a separate conference behind closed doors on problems in Indo-China. Prior to the conference the U.S. State Department intends to hold preliminary "routine talks" with France with a view to exerting pressure on her to relinquish her interests in Indo-China.

(Press item)



DULLES: Well, Monsieur, let us start our talks...

Drawing by J. Novak

POLITICAL NOTES

On the Washington Pattern

Commenting on the policy of the present Australian Government, the Indian weekly *Blitz* wrote recently: "Australia today is the most American member of the British Commonwealth." And it really is a fact that no matter what Asian adventure the U.S. ruling groups go in for, the Australian rulers plunge headlong after them; and no matter what aggressive plans are announced in Washington, they find enthusiastic supporters in Canberra. It was to please the American aggressors that the Australian Government sent its troops to Korea. Now it is acting as one of the most bellicose members of the SEATO bloc of colonisers. As for the internal policy of Prime Minister Menzies and his myrmidons, it is leading to the further enslavement of the country by American and British capital.

Such a policy, naturally, cannot but arouse indignant protests among the widest sections of the Australian public. In the attempt to stifle this cry of protest and keep themselves in power at any cost, the ruling clique were reduced to using methods which were tried and tested by Hitler's Gestapo and are today being practised wholesale by the American reactionaries—the methods of forged documents and provocation, of whipping up anti-Communist hysteria.

Last spring, just before the Parliamentary elections, under the Prime Minister's personal guidance and on recipes supplied by the American and British intelligence services, the notorious "Petrov affair" was framed up—around a minor official of the Soviet Embassy, who had become involved in secret black market

tions in place of those that missed their mark. In obvious imitation of Washington and its Un-American Activities Committee, the Australian Parliament has passed legislation under which the "Royal Commission" can summon any person before it, and refusal to answer its questions is a punishable offence, for which the penalty is a fine or a term of imprisonment. The Australian reactionaries are directing their main blow at the Communist Party of Australia. A long-standing devotee of fascism, Menzies is hatching a plan to outlaw the Communist Party.

That was why the Menzies Government attempted a frame-up against L. L. Sharkey, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Australia, preferring against him the slanderous charge of "receiving money from Soviet representatives". Incidentally the criminal Petrov only "remembered" about this three months after he had openly gone over to work for the Australian police, in other words, it took the police three months to cook up this dirty fabrication against the Communist Party.

The cunning schemes of lies and forgeries concocted by the police and forced to face with the truth, they came face to face with the truth. As to the date 1953, he was at that day, October 16, meeting of the Party and, consequently, would have liked where the bribed witnesses police and the government's Windeyer, after the governmental

Again Come a Cropper

The press in all countries is widely commenting on the so-called "documents" of the Three-Power Conference in the Crimea (of the Soviet Union, the United States and Britain) which were recently published by the U.S. State Department. It will be remembered that this conference, held in Yalta in February 1945, was attended by J. V. Stalin, Franklin D. Roosevelt and Winston Churchill, and also by the foreign ministers of the three great powers.

The bulk of the "documents" consists of an assortment of memoranda, recommendations and suggestions prepared by American officials to assist the foreign policy makers of the U.S.A. on the eve of and during the Yalta Conference, and also of notes and chance records of talks. Many of them were written up "from memory" by the secretaries and interpreters of the American delegation after the conference ended.

It is perfectly obvious from this that the two volumes of "documents" have been prepared and "worked up" by the U.S. State Department with definite aims in view. In many cases, they grossly distort the facts of history. Even the reactionary press of the U.S.A. is constrained to admit that not all the documents have been made public in this two-volume edition, and that many of those published are of dubious authenticity.

Nevertheless, the publication of these "documents" has evoked a strong reaction in the U.S.A. and, especially, in other countries.

Nearly all the British newspapers sharply condemn the U.S. State Department for publishing the "Yalta records". The Labour Party's *Daily Herald* says their publication "startled the British Foreign Office", and the conservative *Daily Mail* writes that all this can only lead to mutual recriminations among the Western allies. The *Daily Express* is still franker. It states in an editorial that British reaction to the State Department's "documents" might be compared with the feelings of one whom a trusted friend and ally had betrayed.

In France, according to the news agency France Presse, the announcement that the Yalta Conference "documents" had been published in the United States had the effect of a bombshell. Newspapers there particularly emphasise that the records in question are "insulting to France".

Typical of the sentiments of the Western bourgeois press are those expressed by the Danish newspaper *Information* which writes that by his action Dulles "spoiled the good

relations of the U.S.A. with Great Britain, her most important ally, and in particular with Winston Churchill, the most loyal defender of Anglo-American friendship; lessened the chances of a conference with the Soviet Union; hurt France on her sorest spot—her national pride—and at the same time managed to insult the Germans..." It terms the U.S. Secretary of State the "world's champion at crude diplomatic blunders".

In other words, the State Department's "publishing activity" has aroused fresh suspicion among Mr. Dulles' European partners and aggravated the differences among the NATO countries.

What, one naturally wonders, was the State Department's purpose in publishing these casual "documents" which in great part obviously falsify historical events?

The question is easily answered when one considers American realities. The point is that the Presidential election is due next year and the Republican Party, now in the saddle, is anxious to stay there. And so the Republicans are already exerting themselves to deal their opponents—the Democrats—a serious blow. That is why, Britain's *Times* points out in its leader, they have made haste "to discredit the late President Roosevelt and, through him, Democrat policy in general", hoping thereby to strengthen their own positions for the coming electoral contest.

A second, no less important reason for publishing these "records" was the desire of the U.S. reactionaries to justify their foreign policy.

It is common knowledge that from the very first the historic decisions of the Yalta Conference, which contributed immensely to the victory of the anti-Hitler coalition in World War II and at the same time laid the foundations for fruitful postwar co-operation between the great powers in the interests of world peace and the security of the peoples, have been under heavy fire from U.S. reactionary quarters. In the ten years that have elapsed since the conference, American aggressive circles supported by certain groups in Britain, have tried again and again to wreck the Yalta Agreements.

The Yalta decisions on the German question obviously do not suit the American claimants to world domination. They do not want to consent to Germany's becoming a peaceable democratic state and never again violating the peace among European nations. It is not by mere chance that the American reactionaries, directly

supported by the British and French imperialists and in distinct contravention of the Yalta Agreements, are doing their best to revive German militarism and to get the Paris agreements ratified.

Nor is the Yalta Conference decision on the United Nations Organisation and its Security Council as an organ to promote the peace and security of the nations to the liking of U.S. ruling circles. The United States has long been trying to undermine the inviolable principle of the unanimity of the great powers and thereby to convert this international organisation once and for all into a branch of the U.S. State Department. It stubbornly objects, again in distinct contravention of the Yalta Agreements, to a number of people's-democratic countries being admitted to Uno.

Another grave obstacle to the aggressive plans of the American reactionaries is the idea that was the keynote of the Yalta Conference, the idea of establishing a stable and lasting peace. That is why the American rulers, who have proclaimed a "position of strength" policy, are seeking at all costs to discredit jointly adopted international agreements in order subsequently to repudiate them. That this is indeed the case is confirmed by the latest events. Following the appearance of the much-publicised "documents", the notorious Senator McCarthy moved a resolution in Congress demanding that the United States officially repudiate the Yalta Agreements and all the commitments assumed under them. Senator Knowland raised the same demand in the Senate on March 17, and Senator Butler has spoken on the same lines.

All this makes it more than clear that publication of the Yalta Conference "documents" by the State Department and the fuss made about them really pursued very definite objects, namely: to discredit the very idea of negotiation by the great powers, to prevent any relaxation of tension among states, to spread the false idea that relaxation of international tension was impossible and thereby to clear the way for the State Department's adventurist policy of achieving world domination.

But the violators of international agreements have plainly come a cropper. It is already growing clear that the U.S. attempt to discredit the Yalta Conference decisions is falling short of the mark, that by their action the U.S. ruling circles have only succeeded in further exposing themselves as enemies of peace and international co-operation.

T. SAMBOR

In Defence of U.S. Communist Leaders

The unprecedented arbitrariness of the judiciary and the brutal police persecution of Communist leaders and other progressives are continuing in the United States. Despite the fact that Matusow, former FBI paid informer, confirmed that his testimony against the 13 Communist Party leaders had been false and fabricated by the Department of Justice, the court refused to re-try the case and to release them from prison.

Brutally suppressing the elementary principles of justice, the U.S. judicial organs also continue to keep many other progressives in prison in spite of the fact that they were convicted on the basis of Matusow's lying evidence. Moreover, Matusow has himself been given a three-year sentence for admitting the falsity of his previous testimony! At the same time many other professional provocateurs whose names daily appear in the press are being paid by the state as before and continue to concoct foul insinua-

tions against honest Americans fighting for peace and against fascist reaction.

The Government authorities are now threatening those Communist leaders who were recently released. The facts indicate that, with the help of the fascist Smith Act, the U.S. reactionaries intend to intensify their persecution of progressives.

Voices of protest against this orgy of reaction and police and judicial outrage are being raised more and more strongly throughout the country. An ever-greater number of public figures as well as ordinary Americans are coming out in defence of the U.S. Communist Party and democratic freedoms.

Alan Reitman, assistant director of the American Civil Liberties Union, said his organisation was on record as opposing the Smith Act as a whole because "it violates free speech and free association under the First Amendment", and particularly the

membership clause of the Act. He added that the union would join in the appeal for a re-hearing of the case of Claude Lightfoot, leader of the Illinois Communist Party.

A spokesman for the Emergency Civil Liberties Committee reaffirmed that organisation's opposition to the Smith Act, and especially to the membership clause under which the Communist leaders just released now face the threat of re-imprisonment.

John T. McManus, general manager of the *National Guardian*, progressive weekly, said the Government's move to try the Communist leaders again should dramatise for the whole liberal and left of America the fact that the Smith Act is aimed against them.

McManus added that the time had come for an all-out fight to repeal the Smith Act, "which seems to have unlimited resources for entrapment of the whole American people".

instigating war, and the pressure is being brought to bear to compel her to renounce her peaceful policy and, through her ties with Scandinavian countries who are NATO members, to serve the aims of the warmongers.

The resolution calls upon progressive forces to enhance vigilance and intensify the struggle for peace, and against the remilitarisation of Western Germany.

It continues: the danger of atomic war, which has grown in recent times, has caused great alarm in all countries and roused various sections of the population to struggle to prevent it. The World Peace Council expressed these aspirations by launching a campaign for signatures to the Appeal for the destruction of stockpiles of atomic weapons and the cessation of their manufacture.

The Central Committee urges every Party member to take an active part in this important campaign.

The meeting also discussed the Party's work among the peasants and the work of Party branches in the Kuminlaakso District.

Development of Film Industry in New China

In 1954, as well as producing 155 new films, the Chinese film industry dubbed 65 films from the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. In addition, 14 Chinese films were dubbed in the Mongolian, Tibetan and Uigur languages.

During the year the number of cinema-goers totalled 860,000,000, an increase of 7% over 1953.

Chinese films were last year shown in thirty countries. Two of them won prizes at the International Film Festival last July in Karlovy Vary.

More films are planned for this year and the number of cinemas in cities and industrial areas will be increased. An additional 800 mobile cinemas will cater for rural localities. In Peking, the building of a large film studio is about to start.

FIGURES TALK

Tax Increases in Capitalist Countries

The policy of the arms race pursued by ruling elements in the U.S.A., Britain, France and other imperialist states is accompanied by direct and indirect tax increases, thus aggravating the already difficult conditions of the working people.

In the U.S.A. federal budget tax receipts in 1953 totalled 62,656 million dollars or 52% more than in 1945. Nearly one-third of wages and salaries are now swallowed up by direct and indirect taxes.

In Britain, official figures show that the total amount of taxes rose from £3,729 million in 1950-51 to £4,242 million in 1954-55.

In France the tax receipts last year amounted to 2,643,000 million francs or nearly one-sixth of the value of the country's whole 1954 output. At the same time indirect taxes, even according to French official figures, amount to 64% of all tax receipts. Tax receipts in 1955 will account for 2,717,000 million francs of the budget revenue, an increase of 74,000 million francs compared with the previous year.

In Italy taxes equal nearly 20% of the national income. Indirect taxes alone amount to 60% of the country's budget. The share of the direct taxes in the national budget rose from 14% in 1950-51 to 19% in 1953-54.

Australian Government... Korea. Now it is acting as one of the most bellicose members of the SEATO bloc of colonisers. As for the internal policy of Prime Minister Menzies and his myrmidons, it is leading to the further enslavement of the country by American and British capital.

Such a policy, naturally, cannot but arouse indignant protests among the widest sections of the Australian public. In the attempt to stifle this cry of protest and keep themselves in power at any cost, the ruling clique were reduced to using methods which were tried and tested by Hitler's Gestapo and are today being practised wholesale by the American reactionaries—the methods of forged documents and provocation, of whipping up anti-Communist hysteria.

Last spring, just before the Parliamentary elections, under the Prime Minister's personal guidance and on recipes supplied by the American and British intelligence services, the notorious "Petrov affair" was framed up—around a minor official of the Soviet Embassy, who had become involved in secret black market transactions, in secret funds and turned out to be a traitor to his country. For a bribe of £A5,000 this criminal and traitor agreed to sign statements concocted by the secret police, while the Government organs and the reactionary press worked up a fantastic hullabaloo around the affair.

Anti-Communist hysteria, fostered by ruling groups, was of appreciable assistance in enabling Menzies to remain in power by a narrow margin. The "Petrov affair", as was to be expected, burst like a soap bubble. The "Royal Commission" set up with great pomp, began with a loud to-do about a "Communist plot", about ties with a "foreign secret service"; it ended up tamely with inquiries into such "accusations" as chess playing with a Soviet Embassy employee, teaching English to Soviet citizens and so forth. In the long run the "commission" was compelled to acknowledge that the documents fabricated by the secret police and signed by Petrov were completely without foundation. The charges preferred by the falsifiers against Soviet diplomatic bodies, the Communist Party of Australia, and democratic persons and organisations flopped miserably.

One might have expected this to have taught the Australian tricksters a lesson or two. Nothing of the kind, however. These experts at forgery and provocation refuse to keep quiet. The ruling elements have not given up their attempts to smear progressive-minded people who are not to their liking and, at the same time, to stir up the foul-smelling witches' brew of anti-Communist hysteria. After a brief interval the "Royal Commission" has again set to work. They are producing fresh concoct-

That was why the... attempted a frame-up against L. L. Sharkey, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Australia, preferring against him the slanderous charge of "receiving money from Soviet representatives". Incidentally the criminal Petrov only "remembered" about this three months after he had openly gone over to work for the Australian police, in other words, it took the police three months to cook up this dirty fabrication against the Communist Party.

The cunning schemes of lies and forgeries concocted by the police were reduced to ashes directly they came face to face with the truth. As to the documents named by Petrov, Comrade Sharkey was able to testify that on that day, October 1953, he was at a Central Committee meeting of the Party and, consequently, had not been where the bribed witnesses would have liked him to be. The secret police and the governmental prosecutor Windeyer, after rushing to their records and files to check on this statement, had to admit its truth, thereby thoroughly embarrassing the "Royal Commission".

Sweeping aside the filthy lies and slander of the prosecution, L. L. Sharkey stated that the Communist Party of Australia was the genuine and selfless defender of the national interests, a passionate champion of peace, an indefatigable fighter for the urgent demands of the working people. E. F. Hill, Secretary of the Victoria State Committee of the Party, who appeared for Sharkey, completely exploded the lying assertions of the witnesses and the attempt to subject the Party's General Secretary to a framed trial. So it was that the forged documents boomeranged on their authors.

The Australian reactionaries, however, stop at nothing. The press and radio continue to fan the flames of anti-Communist hysteria, and Menzies' recent visit to Washington has proved that Australia's ruling groups are assuming the mantle of U.S. policeman in Asia more eagerly than ever. Press reports show that American and Australian representatives have agreed to "co-ordinate plans for combined operations in South-East Asia". Australia has undertaken to modernise her aircraft bases and maintain them in readiness for the reception of large U.S. planes. Menzies has also committed himself to send troops to suppress the national liberation movement in Malaya.

This new deal between the aggressors has given rise to burning indignation throughout the country. Neither intrigues nor acts of provocation, falsifications nor forgeries can stifle the sharp protest of the Australian people against their rulers' anti-national policy.

Jan MAREK

Facts Expose...

Robbery Dressed up as "Aid" The prices demanded by American monopolies for coal exported from the United States to South Korea are double those of coal from other countries. A ton of Australian coal, for instance, is priced at 12-15 dollars, while a ton of coal from the U.S. costs South Korea 30.80 dollars. The American "good angels" are selling other goods in South Korea at prices much higher than those on the world market, among them, window glass, rayon fibre and chemical fertilisers. They are, at the same time, taking mineral raw material out of South Korea for next to nothing.

One in three unemployed The "enlightened rule" of the British in Jamaica has resulted in every third worker being unemployed. Tens of thousands are without a regular wage and hunger is driving the Jamaican workers out of their country. Many of them borrow from friends to raise the price of a ticket to England where they go in "search of happiness". New hardships await them there. By no means all of them succeed in getting decent jobs; moreover, they are shamelessly subjected to racial discrimination.

EDITORIAL BOARD