

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

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 29, 1955

PRICE 3d (8 cents)

No. 17 (338)

## THE DAY OF INTERNATIONAL SOLIDARITY OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

On all continents, in every country of the world, those who labour are celebrating the First of May—the day of international solidarity of the working people, the day of fraternity of the workers of all countries.

The land where Communism is being built—the Soviet Union—is celebrating May Day in the full flowering of her colossal strength. In the years of Soviet power, the country has made a gigantic leap from backwardness to progress, thereby convincingly demonstrating the immense superiority of the socialist system over that of capitalism. Whereas it took Britain a little less than two centuries and the United States of America about a century to traverse the road of industrial development, the USSR covered it in less than two decades. In volume of production in such key branches of industry as pig iron, steel, coal and electric power, the USSR now holds second place in world output.

The Soviet people, rallied around their Communist Party and the Soviet Government, are now carrying out new, splendid tasks which have the aim of completing the building of socialist society and making the gradual transition to Communism. The Communist Party is organising the masses of the people in the struggle for the all-round development of heavy industry—the foundation for the continued advance of the economy as a whole, for improving the material and cultural well-being of the people and strengthening the might and security of the socialist state. In factories and fields, over vast expanses of the Soviet land, a nation-wide socialist emulation drive for the fulfilment of the fifth Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule and for a speedy advance in agriculture is spreading with fresh impetus.

The Chinese people, who have shaken off the yoke of colonial oppression and embarked on the building of a new life, are experiencing a great renaissance. Progressive people the world over are filled with heartfelt admiration for the creative labour of the Chinese people, who are successfully working to fulfil the first Five-Year Plan for the development of the national economy, to industrialise the country and to lay the foundations of Socialism. The Chinese people are translating into life the general

Federation of Trade Unions, the Women's International Democratic Federation and the World Federation of Democratic Youth. The recent conference of representatives of working people and trade unions of Europe particularly brought out the fact that unity and cohesion are a powerful weapon in the hands of the working class in its fight for peace, employment and bread.

While taking note of the tremendous successes of the cause of peace, democracy and Socialism, the progressive forces cannot at the same time fail to be alive to the danger presented by the aggressive anti-people's policy of the ruling groups of the imperialist powers and, above all, of the U.S.A., the chief country of the capitalist world.

As against the unwavering peace policy of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and all countries of people's democracy, the imperialist ruling groups are pursuing the policy of preparing a new war, banking on another world bloodbath. In an effort to escape from the incurable contradictions which are more and more gnawing away at the rotten and outworn capitalist system, international reaction is trying to find a way out by carrying on a frenzied arms drive, aggravating international tension and setting on foot military adventures. Pursuing the "positions of strength" policy borrowed from the Nazis, the U.S. ruling groups and their hangers-on are openly reviving the Wehrmacht in Western Germany, setting up military blocs and threatening the peoples with the use of atomic and hydrogen weapons.

This policy has already resulted in untold suffering and privation for the peoples in the capitalist countries. The heavy burden of enormously inflated war budgets falls on the shoulders of the working people. The curtailment of civilian industry brings with it an increase in unemployment. The impoverishment of the masses is growing. Never before has capitalism reached such a degree of contradiction between extravagant luxury and parasitism for a handful of greedy multimillionaires, at one pole, and such poverty and semi-starvation for the vast masses of working people, at the other. The reactionaries are intensifying their onslaught on the democratic rights and liberties of those who labour.

This is why the working class in the



### STRENGTHEN UNITY OF PEOPLES IN STRUGGLE FOR PEACE!

### On the Eve of Victory Day

May 9th will mark the tenth anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany. That victory, to which the heroic Soviet people and their



tion for the continued advance of the economy as a whole, for improving the material and cultural well-being of the people and strengthening the might and security of the socialist state. In factories and fields, over vast expanses of the Soviet land, a nation-wide socialist emulation drive for the fulfilment of the fifth Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule and for a speedy advance in agriculture is spreading with fresh impetus.

The Chinese people, who have shaken off the yoke of colonial oppression and embarked on the building of a new life, are experiencing a great renaissance. Progressive people the world over are filled with heartfelt admiration for the creative labour of the Chinese people, who are successfully working to fulfil the first Five-Year Plan for the development of the national economy, to industrialise the country and to lay the foundations of Socialism. The Chinese people are translating into life the general line of the Communist Party of China which is aimed at transforming the Chinese People's Republic into a great socialist power.

The ten years of people's rule in Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Rumania, Bulgaria and Albania have demonstrated the invincible vitality of the people's-democratic system. The German Democratic Republic, the Korean People's Democratic Republic, the Mongolian People's Republic and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam are successfully developing their economies. With each passing day Socialism is more and more becoming part and parcel of the life of hundreds of millions of people in Europe and Asia. A vivid reflection thereof is the growing might of the people's-democratic states, the development of economy, science and culture and the steady rise in the well-being of the free peoples.

The victory of Socialism in the Soviet Union, the breaking away of a number of countries of Europe and Asia from the capitalist system and the emergence of the world socialist system comprising over a third of the world's population, are the greatest achievements of mankind and fill the hearts of all progressive people with pride.

The peace-loving democratic forces in the capitalist countries are growing steadily and irresistibly. Millions of people in Europe and Asia, in the countries of America and Africa are moving into action; they are carrying on an indomitable struggle for peace and democracy, for the satisfaction of their vital, everyday demands and against imperialist enslavement. The blows of the growing national liberation movement are demolishing the colonial system of imperialism.

The Communist and Workers' Parties are marching in the van of the progressive and democratic forces in the capitalist countries. The ideas of internationalism and fraternity of the workers of all lands are taking ever-deeper root in the minds of the working class and all working people. This finds reflection in the increasing efforts of the working class and all working people to reach unity on a national and international scale and in the growth of influence and cohesion of the international democratic organisations which unite millions of people in all countries, such as the World

of military adventurism. Pursuing the "positions of strength" policy borrowed from the Nazis, the U.S. ruling groups and their hangers-on are openly reviving the Wehrmacht in Western Germany, setting up military blocs and threatening the peoples with the use of atomic and hydrogen weapons.

This policy has already resulted in untold suffering and privation for the peoples in the capitalist countries. The heavy burden of enormously inflated war budgets falls on the shoulders of the working people. The curtailment of civilian industry brings with it an increase in unemployment. The impoverishment of the masses is growing. Never before has capitalism reached such a degree of contradiction between extravagant luxury and parasitism for a handful of greedy multimillionaires, at one pole, and such poverty and semi-starvation for the vast masses of working people, at the other. The reactionaries are intensifying their onslaught on the democratic rights and liberties of those who labour.

This is why the working class in the capitalist countries are taking up in an ever more organised and determined way the fight for their vital rights, in defence of peace and democracy, against the onslaught of reaction. Clear evidence of the heightened solidarity of the working class in the fight for its vital interests is the growth of the strike movement in the capitalist countries. The Communist and Workers' Parties of these countries are directing their efforts towards the further strengthening of the militant unity of the working class and of all working people.

The great Lenin considered a vital task to be that of tirelessly exposing the warmakers, explaining to the working people all the cunning ruses employed by the imperialist bourgeoisie and its agents in the preparation of new wars. The question of imperialist wars, said Lenin, is one of life and death for tens of millions of people. "It is worth while devoting one's life to the struggle against such a war", he wrote, "in this struggle one must be ruthless, combating everywhere all the sophistry put forward in its defence."

This counsel of Lenin retains all its significance today, and inspires millions of devoted fighters for peace to win fresh victories. On the occasion of the international day of workers' solidarity—May Day—progressive men and women in all countries are intensifying the struggle against the threat of a new world war. Millions and millions more people are signing their names to the Vienna Appeal, demanding a ban on atomic weapons and an end to preparations for atomic war. Preparations for the World Peace Assembly are gaining momentum. The European peoples are more and more actively opposing the revival of German militarism and fighting for lasting peace and collective security for all European nations.

As surely as day follows night, as inevitably as nature awakens in springtime, the peoples advance towards their radiant future. No power on earth can stop the natural process of the replacement of capitalism by Socialism.

The high road of history has taken shape, clearly and definitely. It is the road that is illuminated by the teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin. It is the road to Communism.

## Central Lenin Museum Opened in Warsaw

A Central Lenin Museum has been opened in Warsaw in honour of the 85th anniversary of the birth of V. I. Lenin. Like the Lenin Museums in Cracow, Poronin and Bialy Dunajec, it has been founded on the initiative of the C.C. of the Polish United Workers' Party with the fraternal assistance of the C.C. of the CPSU and the Central Lenin Museum in Moscow.

The documents and other exhibits displayed in its many rooms are illustrative of Lenin's life and activity and show how great

an impact Lenin's ideas have had on the international and Polish labour movements.

A special section is devoted to Lenin's stay in Poland in 1912-1914.

Exhibits in other sections show how Lenin's precepts have been carried out, the further development of his brilliant teaching, the victory of Socialism and progress of communist construction in the Soviet Union, the triumph of Leninism in the People's Democracies, and particularly in Poland.



## STRENGTHEN UNITY OF PEOPLES IN STRUGGLE FOR PEACE!

### ★ Successes of Austrian Peace Supporters

About 400,000 signatures to the Appeal have been collected in Austria, some 150,000 of them in Vienna.

Splendid success was obtained by Maria Köppel from Bludenz (Vorarlberg Land) who secured 1,000 signatures.

Several communal councils in Lower Austria have supported the Appeal and their burgomasters have signed it. In two villages in Upper Austria peasants heard reports on the subject of "Danger of atomic war". These were followed by lively discussions. Those who attended then signed the Appeal.

In connection with the successful negotiations between the Soviet Government and the Austrian Government delegation in Moscow the Austrian Peace Council has issued a statement.

The May Day appeal of the Central Committee of the Austrian Communist Party stresses that the policy fought for by the people is beginning to be put into effect and that friendship with the Soviet Union is the basis for ensuring Austria's independence and democracy.

### AGAINST THE USE OF ATOMIC WEAPONS

#### Demand of Syrian Public

The campaign for signatures to the Vienna Appeal is gaining momentum in Syria. In towns and in the countryside workers for peace daily go from house to house, visit enterprises, construction sites and markets, calling on all those who cherish peace and international security to put their signatures to this historic document.

The efforts of peace supporters are yielding good results. The Appeal has already been signed by a large number of workers, peasants, artisans and students. Over 125,000 signatures had been collected by April 20. Of 142 deputies to Parliament, the Appeal was signed by 84.

Among signatories are religious leaders, lawyers and professors of higher educational establishments, doctors, engineers and leaders of trade unions affiliated to different federations, journalists and literary workers. Some of them are making statements calling on the population to support the Appeal.

### ★ ★ French People Actively Join in Signature Campaign

The campaign for signatures to the Vienna Appeal is gaining momentum in France. During the campaign the French people are determinedly opposing the production of atom and hydrogen bombs in their country. The Political Bureau of the Communist Party has proposed to the Leading Committee of the Socialist Party which expressed its opposition to A and H-bomb manufacture in France that they should carry out joint action inside and outside Parliament in order to get the Government to completely abandon this idea.

169 leading political figures and university teachers, workers in the realms of science, literature and arts have expressed themselves in support of the Vienna Appeal.

An appeal in the form of leaflets signed by many personalities of diverse political views in the Dordogne Department calls on the people to put their signatures to the Vienna Appeal and to collect signatures from others. The Issigeac municipal council, which includes members of all political trends, has unanimously supported the Appeal.

In the Rhône Department a widely representative committee to promote the signature campaign was set up and Edouard Herriot agreed to be its Honorary Chairman.

Peace supporters in the Bouches-du-Rhône Department have successfully organised a number of meetings at which the Japanese film "Children of Hiroshima" was shown. Following their example two similar meetings were held in Paris. Those present signed the Vienna Appeal and received lists to collect signatures.

The first results of the signature campaign in the factories and in the localities show the firm desire of the French people for peace and reveal the great potentialities which exist for making the campaign one of unparalleled scope. Thus, in Vitry (Seine) out of 113 "Loreid" workers 110 signed the Appeal, in Levallois all workers and foremen of the S.E.C.O.M. mechanical equipment works put their signatures to the Appeal. In Bagnolet all tenants of one of the houses signed the Appeal and called on all people in their street to follow their example.

## Conference of European Workers

On April 22-24 representatives of the working people and trade unions of Europe met in Leipzig for a conference against the Paris agreements. In Leipzig more than one thousand representatives of factory groups and trade union organisations of widely different trends from 25 European countries assembled. Present as guests were representatives of the working people of the Chinese People's Republic and Japan, the World Federation of Trade Unions and a number of its international trade departments.

Its agenda, unanimously adopted, was devoted to the major problem of "Joint struggle of workers and trade unions in all European countries against the revival of German militarism and atomic war preparations, in defence of the living and working conditions and well-being of the working people, for collective security and peace and friendship among nations."

All the speakers brought out the fact that the revival of German militarism and the inclusion of Western Germany in the Western powers' aggressive military blocs are a threat to the peace-loving peoples of the whole world, not only Europe, and that intensification of the arms drive brings with it still worse living conditions and still

greater exploitation for the working people of the capitalist countries.

The enthusiasm of the delegates ran high when at the conclusion of the debates they endorsed two documents: "The Leipzig Appeal to the Trade Unions and the Working Men and Women of Europe" and an Open Letter to International Trade Union Associations.

The closing speech was made by Oreste Lizzardi (Italy), a member of the conference presidium, who said that the keynote of the conference had been the desire for the unity of the working people and that it had been a vivid expression of the European workers' will for peace and their determination to fight against the carrying out of the Paris agreements and the danger of another war.

Forcefully, without pessimism and fully aware of our responsibility, said Lizzardi, we loudly and clearly declare that we will never let ourselves be drawn into war. We shall persevere in the fight for peace and the good of all mankind.

All the delegates spontaneously rose to their feet and greeted the successful conclusion of their work with a great ovation. From all over the hall came shouts of "Unity!", "Friendship!", "Peace!", and then the hall resounded to the militant songs of the workers.

## On the Eve of Victory Day

May 9th will mark the tenth anniversary of the defeat of Nazi Germany. That victory, to which the heroic Soviet people and their valiant armed forces made a decisive contribution, is of world-historic significance. By their incomparable, self-sacrificing struggle the Soviet people saved civilisation from the fascist pogrom-mongers. Carrying out its noble mission, the Soviet Army freed the peoples of many European countries from fascist slavery. As a result of the defeat of fascism, the weakening of capitalism's world positions, the unprecedented upsurge of the democratic and national liberation movement, there came into being a mighty world camp of Socialism and democracy.

Victory over Hitler Germany was one of the greatest events in the history of mankind. All decent men and women, all generations to come will hold in honour the great and valiant feat of the heroic, victorious Soviet people.

The peoples of all countries are preparing to celebrate on a wide scale the tenth anniversary of the great victory over Hitler fascism. In all the European People's Democracies rallies, meetings, talks and lectures will be held on that world-historic event, on the Soviet Army's mission of liberation, the decisive role of the Soviet Union in the victory over fascism and the struggle the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism is waging for peace and the security of the peoples. V-Day will be widely marked in the press and by the organisation of exhibitions. In token of their deep love and gratitude working people will place wreaths at the monuments to the heroic Soviet servicemen.

The day of victory over Hitler Germany coincides with the tenth anniversary of Czechoslovakia's liberation by the Soviet Army. To mark these great events the working people of Czechoslovakia's towns and villages are engaged in a widespread emulation drive, achieving fresh victories in production. Articles and sketches relating how the Soviet Army liberated the country are appearing in the newspapers.

The workers and peasants and workers in the realm of science and culture in the German Democratic Republic are preparing to celebrate V-Day widely as their great national holiday.

In the capitalist countries, too, progressive forces are energetically preparing to celebrate the tenth anniversary of victory over Hitler, Germany. In Italy big demonstrations are being planned. A mothers' and wives' day for peace and against atomic war preparations will be held on May 8. Five hundred big demonstrations are to take place in the provinces and communities on that day.

The celebration of the tenth anniversary of V-Day is being marked by an intensified struggle against the resurrection of German militarism and the pernicious military Paris agreements, for the prohibition of mass destruction weapons and the strengthening of peace and international security.



# LENIN'S IDEAS BLAZE THE PATH TOWARDS COMMUNISM

Report of Comrade D. T. Shepilov at a Meeting in Moscow in Celebration of the 85th Anniversary of V. I. Lenin's Birth

Comrades, the working people of the Soviet Union, of the countries of people's democracy, the working class of the capitalist and colonial world and the whole of progressive mankind are celebrating an outstanding event—the 85th anniversary of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin's birth.

Lenin is the titan of revolutionary thought and action, the great founder of the Communist Party, the creator of the first Soviet socialist state in the world and the leader of the working people of all countries.

Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, brilliant working-class teachers and theoreticians, armed the working class with a genuinely scientific world outlook. They discovered the laws of the rise, development and fall of capitalism, and scientifically proved the inevitability of socialist revolution. They showed the historic role of the working class as the grave-digger of capitalism and builder of a socialist society and gave a general outline of the two phases of the development of Communism. As an orthodox Marxist in the most profound, revolutionary and creative sense of the word, Lenin vastly enriched the ideological treasury of Marxism.

Lenin entered the arena of political struggle in a new epoch, when capitalism was in transition from the pre-monopolist to the imperialist stage of its development. The contradictions of capitalism were most manifest in Russia. It was to it that the centre of the world liberation movement was shifting. Here the greatest revolutionary battles were coming to a head. And it was Russia that gave Lenin to the world. It was Russia that was the birth-place of Leninism.

At the same time Leninism is deeply rooted in the whole of international development, in the world movement for liberation. Leninism is an international teaching. It is Marxism of the era of imperialism and proletarian revolution, the era of building Communism. Leninism embodies all the finest conceptions man has evolved over thousands of years. On the basis of a brilliant generalisation of world experience in the new historical epoch Lenin developed and enriched Marxist philosophy—dialectical and historical materialism—and Marxist political economy. Leninism is the highest achievement of Russian and world culture.

Lenin was the great strategist of revolution. Having penetrated with clear insight the deep-seated processes of the development of the capitalist mode of production in the new historical conditions, Lenin gave the world an outstanding analysis of imperialism. Having discovered the law of the uneven economic and political development of the capitalist countries in the period of imperialism, he created a new, comprehensive theory of socialist revolution, which became the banner and the theoretical foundation of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the revolution that charted the path to a new life for the whole of oppressed mankind.

"We have the right to be proud and consider ourselves happy", wrote Lenin, "be-

cause we were the first to overpower in one part of the world the wild beast, capitalism, which had drenched the earth in blood and reduced mankind to starvation and savagery, and which is inevitably bound to perish soon no matter how extreme the bestialities of its death throes." (Vol. 27, p. 460).\*

Before our eyes the old, declining world capitalist system falls more and more into decay while the new, rising world socialist system grows ever greater and more powerful. The twentieth century is the age of the triumph of the all-conquering ideas of Marxism-Leninism.

Lenin is the great master-mind of science. By his discovery of the laws, the means and the forms of the socialist transformation of society, the laws of the building of Communism, Lenin raised Marxism to a new plane. He elaborated, in all its aspects, the question of the proletarian dictatorship by establishing the basic thesis that the highest principle of the dictatorship of the proletariat is the worker-peasant alliance, with the working class playing the leading role. He created the theory of the national and colonial question and worked out the most important economic problems of socialist and communist construction. The mighty Soviet multi-national state—the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—is the living embodiment of the great transforming power of the ideas of Leninism.

Lenin combined the qualities of brilliant thinker and political fighter, expert of revolutionary transformations and organiser of the millionfold masses of the people. At the very beginning of the proletarian revolutionary movement in Russia Lenin said: "...Give us an organisation of revolutionaries, and we shall overturn the whole of Russia!" (Vol. 5, p. 435). Lenin founded, ideologically steered and nurtured such an organisation of revolutionaries—our glorious Communist Party. (Applause).

The Leninist Party marched in the van of the working class in the social battles of three revolutions. The Party headed the selfless struggle of the Soviet people for the freedom and independence of their homeland during the civil war and imperialist intervention. Overcoming the severest trials and difficulties, waging bitter struggle against the Mensheviks, Trotskyists, the right-wing advocates of restoring capitalism, the numerous enemies of the people, the Party, guided by Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin—great continuer of Lenin's cause—led our country to the victory of Socialism. Under its leadership the Soviet people and their valiant armed forces crushed the armoured hordes of the Hitlerite aggressors during the Great Patriotic War and saved the world from the menace of fascist enslavement.

Now the Party of Communists, led by the outstanding comrades-in-arms and disciples of Lenin, is inspiring and organising the great creative efforts of our people in building communist society. Leninism was, remains and will ever be the militant and victorious banner of the Party. (Prolonged applause).

I.

Comrades, when the Soviet people set out to transform society along socialist lines they had only the extremely poorly developed economic base inherited from the past.

Proceeding from the new revolutionary theory of the possibility of the victory of Socialism first in one country taken singly,

on science and the achievements of technique". (Vol. 28, p. 319).

Armed with Lenin's co-operative plan and relying on the might of the growing socialist industry, the Communist Party led the working class and the millions of the peasant masses in the great work of trans-

formation of automatization and use of chemical processes in production on the basis of higher technique. This powerful advance of the whole of social production is based on the accelerated growth of heavy industry.

The Party has laid bare the pseudo-scientific nature, the political harmfulness and anti-Leninist essence of those scientific and practical workers who alleged that there was no longer any need for high rates of development of heavy industry under present conditions and that the main accent should be on light industry. This is a rotten theory, one that ties the hands of our people. Had it been put into practice it would have meant stagnation of the whole national economy, deterioration of the standard of living of the working people and a blow to the defence capacity of the socialist state.

Lenin pointed out: "...The sole possible economic base of Socialism is large-scale machine industry. Whoever forgets this is no Communist." (Vol. 32, p. 468). The priority development of heavy industry, of the production of the means of production, was regarded by Lenin as an economic law. If this law holds good for capitalism it assumes an absolute and hundred times greater significance for Socialism since a matured communist society must outstrip any, even the most developed, capitalist country with regard to level of industrial development.

Heavy industry was and remains the granite foundation of the socialist economy, its backbone. It is only on the basis of high rates of development of heavy industry that it is possible to accomplish the task of ensuring a powerful advance of productive forces, further strengthening the economic might and defences of the country, of completing the complex mechanisation of agriculture and securing a rapid advance in the consumer-goods industries. The securing of the maximum satisfaction of the constantly rising material and cultural requirements of the whole of society through the continuous expansion and perfecting of socialist production on the basis of higher techniques is the basic economic law of Socialism. It is the supreme aim of the entire activity of the Communist Party to ensure that the people prosper and thrive. It is only by putting into practice the general Party line for the accelerated development of heavy industry that we can ensure the further advance of all branches of agriculture, of light industry and the food industry as well as the steady improvement of the material well-being of the working people.

The Party, loyal to Leninism, will continue consistently to carry out its general line for securing the steady advance of the whole of social production, giving priority to the development of the production of the means of production, and first and foremost, to develop, at a rapid rate, the fuel, metallurgical, power, machine-building, chemical and building industries. This is necessitated by the basic interests of the people and of the socialist state.

Of particular significance is the systematic increase in power capacity and the accelerated advance of the machine-building industry. Lenin taught us: "...If Russia becomes covered with a vast network of power stations and powerful technical installations our Communist economic construction will be the pattern for a socialist Europe and Asia of the future." (Vol. 31, p. 486).

The working class, our scientists, engineers and technicians have been putting

ownership, would "enter the phase of prosperity and would give society a fully adequate quantity of products". (Marx and Engels, Collected Works, Vol. 5, p. 477, Russian edition). Our socialist agriculture has now approached a stage of development in which, provided all inherent potentialities are properly utilised, it can provide society with a fully adequate quantity of products. The decisions of the January meeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU, which set the tasks of raising grain production to not less than 10,000 million pounds and of doubling and even more than doubling the output of the main animal husbandry products by 1960, represent a comprehensive, scientifically grounded and effective programme for the fulfilment of these highly important national economic tasks.

The fulfilment of these decisions requires, above everything else, all-out efforts for a steep rise in yields and an increase in the harvest of grain in all areas, as well as a substantial reduction of losses during harvesting. The cultivation of 28 or 30 million hectares of virgin and unused land by 1956 will make it possible considerably to expand our grain production, which is the basis of all branches of agriculture, and to utilise for other branches the huge idle tracts of land, for land is the main means of production in agriculture.

The Party has indicated the shortest and most effective way to advance grain production—a considerable change in the structure of sown areas, an increase in the area under maize to not less than 28 million hectares by 1960. It is significant that as early as 1921 Lenin pointed out the great advantages of maize. In a letter to G. M. Krzhizhanovsky he demanded that "a number of very exact and thoroughly considered measures be drawn up for popularising maize and teaching peasants how to grow it..."

A sharp increase in maize production is the key to a substantial advance in grain growing, and an advance in grain growing is the only true way to solve the problem of livestock farming, of providing our country with an abundance of farm produce and raw materials for the light and food industries. The whole system of measures taken with a view to a sharp advance of all branches of agriculture reflects the power and wisdom of the decisions of the January meeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU. The mighty patriotic upsurge of the collective farm peasantry and MTS and state farm workers, and the experience of advanced farms constitute a guarantee that the decisions of that meeting can and will be carried out ahead of schedule. (Applause).

In the drive for the continued development of productive forces in agriculture the Communist Party has recently taken a number of important measures in accordance with the Leninist principles of large-scale socialist production.

Lenin taught that in building Communism we had to combine revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses with personal material incentive for every worker to increase production. The Party has taken a series of steps to provide such incentives for collective farmers and MTS and state farm workers. The Party demands the further perfecting of these powerful levers for augmenting the public wealth.

Of great significance as a progressive step in this connection is the recently effected reform of the planning of agriculture. The Party and the Government have abolished the bureaucratic, extremely

Comrades, the great Lenin taught the Party never to be dazzled by success and to concentrate its main attention on unsolved problems.

In the prime of its strength and creative powers the Soviet country is steadily advancing in all spheres of economy and culture. While pre-revolutionary Russia held the fifth place in the world for the production of pig iron and steel, the sixth place for coal and the fifteenth place for electric power, the USSR has today surpassed all capitalist countries except the United States in all these industries and takes the second place in world production.

But we have still not fulfilled the main economic task set by Lenin for the Soviet Union. It was pointed out in the report of J. V. Stalin and in the decisions of the Eighteenth Congress of our Party that only if we outstrip the principal capitalist countries in output per capita can we reckon on having an abundance of products, and on being able to make the transition from the first phase of Communism to its second phase.

In the economic competition of the two different systems all the advantages are on the side of the young, socialist system of economy. Indeed, a comparison of the rate of economic development of the USSR and the principal capitalist countries shows that in the past quarter of a century the average annual rate of increase of industrial output in the USSR (leaving aside the war years) was 18.2%, in the United States 2.4%, in Britain 3.6% and in France 2.1%. In other words, socialist economy advances at a pace many times greater than that of capitalist economy. Socialist economy is subordinated to the operation of the law of planned (proportionate) development of the national economy. We have none of the anarchy of production, destructive competition or devastating economic crises inherent in capitalism. We have no antagonistic classes and no parasitic consumption by exploiting classes. The entire Soviet people—and they are the ones who produce and enjoy all the wealth of society—are vitally interested in the continuous expansion of social production. This is the basis of our profound and scientifically grounded confidence that the main economic task of the USSR will be successfully fulfilled in a very brief historical period. (Prolonged applause).

A decisive increase in the productivity of social labour is of paramount importance in the drive to fulfil the main economic task and achieve a real abundance of products in our country. Lenin taught us: "Increasing labour productivity is one of the cardinal tasks because without it the final transition to Communism is impossible." (Vol. 29, p. 93). The present level of labour productivity in the USSR does not meet the rising demands of the economy and does not correspond to the technical equipment of our national economy. It is no longer a matter of achieving isolated records. The task now is to make

Comrades, Lenin gave the most profound analysis of the laws of modern capitalism, proving that imperialism is parasitic and decaying capitalism, the eve of socialist revolution. The deepening general crisis of capitalism affects all aspects—in economy and policy. The most important features of this crisis are the division of the world into

certain that the fifth Five-Year Plan and the historic decisions of the January meeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU are fulfilled before time and to ensure a steady and substantial rise in labour productivity in every enterprise, shop, state farm and collective farm, by drawing upon socialist emulation, a powerful motive force of our development, making full use of our wealth of technical equipment and organising our work correctly.

With the victory of the October Revolution the people, for the first time in world history, became the masters of their destinies. Leninism proceeds from a recognition of the decisive role of the masses of the people as the real makers of history. "Only those", taught Lenin, "who believe in the people and are in the thick of the live creative activity of the people will win and retain power." (Vol. 26, p. 259). The Communist Party is linked with the people by the strongest bonds. The socialist system, as a system of the genuine rule of the people, embodies the indissoluble unity of the Party, the government and the people.

In order to accomplish the great and complex tasks of Communist construction, the Party calls for the constant improvement of the state apparatus. Lenin regarded it the most important task of the Soviet power "systematically to prune the state machinery and reduce its costs by improving its organisation, throwing out red tape and bureaucracy and cutting down unproductive expenditure". (Vol. 33, p. 406).

Proceeding from the Leninist principles of the operation of the Soviet apparatus, the Communist Party is working for a systematic increase in the proportion of labour engaged in material production, that is to say, in the sphere where all the material wealth is created. The Party is resolutely going about the job of cutting down the state apparatus, reducing its running costs and focusing its work on live, organisational activities and not on the compilation of reports and resolutions, and demands that all links of the state apparatus carry out in practice the policy of the Communist Party, the most progressive and vitalising policy in the world. The Party is waging a resolute struggle against any negligence in relation to social property, against petty-bourgeois corruption, greed, bourgeois morality. The Party constantly pays attention to the development of science and culture.

The Soviet system, born of the Great October Socialist Revolution, reveals its mighty vital powers to an ever-greater degree. In every corner of the Soviet land the people are brimming over with creative enthusiasm. The constructive work of the Soviet people in the spheres of the economy, culture and the administration of the state is of world-historic significance, for the Soviet Union is the standard-bearer of mankind's great ideas of emancipation and the new, Communist era. (Applause).

II.

old imperialist Europe is undergoing a deep and ever-increasing crisis.

The transatlantic aspirants to world domination are attempting to convert Europe, with its freedom-loving traditions and priceless cultural



Lenin was the great strategist of revolution. Having penetrated with clear insight the deep-seated processes of the development of the capitalist mode of production in the new historical conditions, Lenin gave the world an outstanding analysis of imperialism. Having discovered the law of the uneven economic and political development of the capitalist countries in the period of imperialism, he created a new, comprehensive theory of socialist revolution, which became the banner and the theoretical foundation of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the revolution that charted the path to a new life for the whole of oppressed mankind.

"We have the right to be proud and consider ourselves happy", wrote Lenin, "be-

## I.

Comrades, when the Soviet people set out to transform society along socialist lines they had only the extremely poorly developed economic base inherited from the past.

Proceeding from the new revolutionary theory of the possibility of the victory of Socialism first in one country taken singly, Lenin scientifically worked out a plan for building socialist society in the USSR. The components of this plan were: a) socialist industrialisation of the country, b) socialist reorganisation of agriculture on the basis of producer co-operation among the peasants, c) a cultural revolution. We have all that is necessary, said Lenin, to build a genuinely powerful socialist country, a country of abundance.

As far back as 1917 Lenin set the Party and the people a great task—to advance full speed ahead and put an end to the technical and economic backwardness of Russia in a historically brief space of time.

The material base of Socialism, Lenin teaches us, is large-scale machine industry, the production of the means of production. Guided by Lenin's plan and under Stalin's leadership the Communist Party carried through the radical transformation of the Soviet economy on the basis of socialist industrialisation. Lenin's ideas gripped the masses and became a mighty material force. The Soviet country made a gigantic leap from backwardness to progress. The USSR covered, in less than two decades, the path of industrial development which took Britain, the oldest country of the capitalist world, almost two centuries as from the beginning of the industrial revolution, and the United States nearly a century. Today the Soviet Union is a mighty industrial power. In 1954 the total gross output of large-scale industry in the USSR was 35 times the 1913 level (in comparable prices); the production of means of production almost 60 times; the output of electric power more than 75 times and the output of the machine-building industry over 160 times. These figures demonstrate the great advantages of the socialist planned system of economy.

Comrades, Marx and Engels wisely foresaw the need for the socialist transformation of agriculture after the victory of the proletarian revolution. But they naturally could not formulate, and did not set themselves the task of formulating, a concrete programme for this transformation. This programme, brilliant in its profundity and appeal to the broadest masses of the peasantry, was worked out by Lenin in his co-operative plan.

A system of cultured co-operators, with public ownership of the means of production, with the class victory of the proletariat over the bourgeoisie, Lenin taught us, signifies Socialism. It is our obligation and our duty "to set the most backward form of production—agriculture—on a new footing, to reshape it and to transform it from a form of production conducted in the old, haphazard fashion into a form of production based

right-wing, bourgeois, Trotskyist, the numerous enemies of the people, the Party, guided by Joseph Vissarionovich Stalin—great continuer of Lenin's cause—led our country to the victory of Socialism. Under its leadership the Soviet people and their valiant armed forces crushed the armoured hordes of the Hitlerite aggressors during the Great Patriotic War and saved the world from the menace of fascist enslavement.

Now the Party of Communists, led by the outstanding comrades-in-arms and disciples of Lenin, is inspiring and organising the great creative efforts of our people in building communist society. Leninism was, remains and will ever be the militant and victorious banner of the Party. (Prolonged applause).

on science and the achievements of technique". (Vol. 28, p. 319).

Armed with Lenin's co-operative plan and relying on the might of the growing socialist industry, the Communist Party led the working class and the millions of the peasant masses in the great work of transforming the countryside. The world history of social movements has never known such far-reaching and profound changes in the basis of production and in the mode of life of tens of millions of people as was the complete collectivisation and the abolition of the kulaks as a class which took place after the October Revolution. Instead of the old, private system of ownership in the countryside, with its long history of the decline of small commodity producers and of suffering for the masses, there has been created a new, collective farm system, such as had never been known before, which has put an end to the differentiation of the peasantry, to kulak bondage, to poverty and want in the countryside, and opened up unlimited possibilities for the development of productive forces in agriculture, for the growth of the well-being and culture of the collective farm peasants. The collective farm system is one of the greatest achievements of the Soviet people.

The industrialisation of the country, the collectivisation of agriculture and, on this basis, the abolition of the exploiting classes and eradication of the causes that give rise to the exploitation of man by man, the accomplishment of a deep-going cultural revolution and the establishment of a multi-national state based on the voluntary union of nations, on their fraternal trust and mutual aid—all these signified the full triumph of what was planned by the great Lenin—the transformation of Russia into a mighty socialist power.

The Soviet people are justly proud of their great achievements. But the Party calls on the Soviet people to keep on advancing steadily along the path blazed by the programme of scientific Communism. Leninism is an ever-living and vital teaching.

At the cradle of the socialist revolution Lenin said: "...When undertaking socialist transformations we must clearly envisage the aim towards which these transformations are in the long run directed, namely, the creation of a communist society..." (Vol. 27, p. 103). Leninism is the compass, the powerful ideological weapon that makes it possible for our Party to find its correct bearings in the labyrinth of the most complex laws of social development, to understand the innermost connection of historical developments, to foresee the course of events and confidently lead the masses of the people.

The completion of the building of a socialist society and the gradual transition to the second stage of Communism calls for a further gigantic growth of the productive forces of socialist society, for the electrification of the entire national economy, the completion of all-round mechanisation of labour in all branches of the economy, for the large-scale develop-

ment of heavy industry that we can ensure the further advance of all branches of agriculture, of light industry and the food industry as well as the steady improvement of the material well-being of the working people.

The Party, loyal to Leninism, will continue consistently to carry out its general line for securing the steady advance of the whole of social production, giving priority to the development of the production of the means of production, and first and foremost, to develop, at a rapid rate, the fuel, metallurgical, power, machine-building, chemical and building industries. This is necessitated by the basic interests of the people and of the socialist state.

Of particular significance is the systematic increase in power capacity and the accelerated advance of the machine-building industry. Lenin taught us: "...If Russia becomes covered with a vast network of power stations and powerful technical installations our Communist economic construction will be the pattern for a socialist Europe and Asia of the future." (Vol. 31, p. 486).

The working class, our scientists, engineers and technicians have been putting Lenin's electrification programme into practice. Within the first four years of the fifth Five-Year Plan alone, nearly 500 power plants, not counting small local power stations, have been constructed or enlarged. In 1954 alone we brought nearly two and a half times more electric power capacity into operation than during the whole of the first ten years under Lenin's GOELRO plan (state electrification plan). This year part of the Kuibyshev hydro-electric station, the biggest in the world, with an overall planned capacity of 2,100,000 kw., will be put into commission and will start generating electricity. Gigantic hydro-electric stations will be built on the great rivers of Siberia within the next few years, each of them surpassing the capacity of the famous Dnieper station.

The core of heavy industry is machine building which equips all branches of the national economy with up-to-date technique. Up-to-date machinery is the basis of technical progress. "We must introduce more machines everywhere and go over to the application of machinery on the widest possible scale"—this is what Lenin taught us. (Vol. 31, p. 478). The Party demands that our scientists, engineers and technicians should not become complacent and conceited, that they should always keep pace with the latest achievements of world science and technique, introduce up-to-date technique into the national economy to a greater extent, constantly perfect and advance Soviet science and technology and resolutely combat any backwardness or stagnation, any tendency to be hidebound.

Lenin repeatedly stressed that it was necessary to apply the whole of the knowledge and cultural wealth accumulated by mankind to the building of Communism. Those who like to indulge in general formulas about the homeland and priority and at the same time do nothing to move forward but remain in a state of stagnancy are not patriots. The genuine patriots are those who, relying on the most advanced experience of our country, on the whole of world experience in a given field, ensure the superiority of Soviet science and technique in practice, those who champion technical progress and achieve the best results in production.

Comrades, in carrying out the great and complex tasks of building a powerful material and production base for Communism, developed in all respects, the Party pays especial attention to agricultural questions. Without a rapid advance of agriculture it is impossible to achieve the continued steady development of the light and food industries to which the Party has been and is devoting constant attention.

Marx and Engels foresaw that agriculture, once freed from the fetters of private

taken with a view to a sharp advance of all branches of agriculture reflects the power and wisdom of the decisions of the January meeting of the Central Committee of the CPSU. The mighty patriotic upsurge of the collective farm peasantry and MTS and state farm workers, and the experience of advanced farms constitute a guarantee that the decisions of that meeting can and will be carried out ahead of schedule. (Applause).

In the drive for the continued development of productive forces in agriculture the Communist Party has recently taken a number of important measures in accordance with the Leninist principles of large-scale socialist production.

Lenin taught that in building Communism we had to combine revolutionary enthusiasm of the masses with personal material incentive for every worker to increase production. The Party has taken a series of steps to provide such incentives for collective farmers and MTS and state farm workers. The Party demands the further perfecting of these powerful levers for augmenting the public wealth.

Of great significance as a progressive step in this connection is the recently effected reform of the planning of agriculture. The Party and the Government have abolished the bureaucratic, extremely unwieldy system of planning agriculture, which was divorced from life, fettered the initiative of the collective farms, MTS and state farms and lessened their responsibility for and interest in the development of agricultural production.

Lenin wrote: "Agriculture in the Kaluga Province differs from that in the Kazan Province. The same thing can be said about industry; and it can be said about administration or government as a whole. Failure to make allowances for local differences in all these matters would mean slipping into bureaucratic centralism, and so forth; the local authorities would be unable to reckon with specific local features, which is the basis of all rational administration." (Vol. 33, p. 327). The new system of planning agricultural production, in which the volume of produce for the market is the starting point, gives rein to the initiative of the collective farms, MTS and state farms in harvesting the maximum amount of produce per 100 hectares of land. This system best combines the interests of the collective farms and their members, the workers of MTS and state farms with the interests of the state, of the entire people.

Comrades, tens of thousands of collective farms in our country are setting splendid examples of large-scale socialist farming. In such collective farms the social wealth grows from year to year and produce for the market increases. In such collective farms the members have high incomes and there is a rich cultural life.

But side by side with the advanced collective farms we still have lagging, economically weak ones. Experience shows that the economic condition of any collective farm depends, to a decisive degree, on who manages it. With a good chairman any, even the most lagging collective farm, can become an advanced undertaking in one or two years. That is why today, when the task is to put an end to the lag in agriculture and raise all the collective farms to the level of advanced farms producing large quantities for the market, the Central Committee of the Party and the Soviet Government have called for assistance to be given to the collective farm villages, and for the reinforcement of lagging collective farms with leading cadres.

It is an honourable calling to be the organiser of large-scale socialist agricultural production. To take an active part in accomplishing the historic task of transforming all the collective farms of our country into thriving establishments with a big marketable output, providing their members with material and cultural amenities—this is a great honour for any Soviet patriot. Stalin pointed out: "...If all collective farmers—all, and not only the majority—work honestly, the collective farms will be overflowing with products, will be overflowing with all the good things of life, and our country will become the richest in the world." It is this task that our Communist Party is now carrying out. And it will accomplish it successfully. (Applause).

This is the basis of our productivity scientifically grounded confidence that the main economic task of the USSR will be successfully fulfilled in a very brief historical period. (Prolonged applause).

A decisive increase in the productivity of social labour is of paramount importance in the drive to fulfil the main economic task and achieve a real abundance of products in our country. Lenin taught us: "Increasing labour productivity is one of the cardinal tasks because without it the final transition to Communism is impossible." (Vol. 29, p. 93). The present level of labour productivity in the USSR does not meet the rising demands of the economy and does not correspond to the technical equipment of our national economy. It is no longer a matter of achieving isolated records. The task now is to make

Comrades, Lenin gave the most profound analysis of the laws of modern capitalism, proving that imperialism is parasitic and decaying capitalism, the eve of socialist revolution. The deepening general crisis of capitalism affects all aspects—in economy and policy. The most important features of this crisis are the division of the world into two systems—socialist and capitalist; the increasing disintegration of the world capitalist system and the continued falling away of one country after another; the steady rise of the world socialist system and the constant strengthening of its might.

Indicating the path of historic development for decades to come, Lenin pointed out: "Liquidating capitalism and its traces and introducing the foundations of a Communist order represent the content of the new epoch in world history which has now begun." (Vol. 31, p. 365). Experience completely confirms the correctness of Lenin's forecast. The ideas of Lenin have really come to prevail in the minds of progressive mankind. They are having a powerful influence on the whole course of world history.

The deepening of the contradictions between labour and capital, between the imperialist powers, between the metropolitan countries and the colonies eats away the foundations of the imperialist system. The parasitic features of modern capitalism, above all U.S. capitalism, are becoming increasingly evident. The chronic failure to use production capacities to the full and the permanent mass unemployment, the widening disproportion between the production potentialities and the decreasing purchasing power of the population, the large-scale militarisation of the economy and the tremendous increase in the profits and extravagance of the bourgeoisie, the unparalleled, increasing impoverishment of the working class and the ruining of the farmers—all this inevitably leads to devastating economic crises. Having become a usurer-state and pursuing a policy of enslavement and systematic plundering of the peoples of other countries, the United States of America is now one of the greatest causes of the disorganisation of the capitalist economy as a whole. Thus, the principal capitalist country has become the main economic storm centre of capitalism.

As a result of the action of irresistible internal forces the world capitalist system is going through a process of disintegration. Many European countries, accounting for about half of the population of Europe, have once and for all broken away from capitalism and firmly taken their place in the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism. Moreover, in such countries as France and Italy the Communist Parties head millions of the working people, which is an important factor not only in the internal life of these countries, but also in the European situation in general. The German people are stepping up their fight against the criminal policy of making Western Germany the hotbed of a third world war, their fight for a united, independent, democratic and peace-loving Germany. Thus the

against petty-bourgeois and other self-seeking and other bourgeois morality. The Party constantly pays attention to the development of science and culture.

The Soviet system, born of the Great October Socialist Revolution, reveals its mighty vital powers to an ever-greater degree. In every corner of the Soviet land the people are brimming over with creative enthusiasm. The constructive work of the Soviet people in the spheres of economy, culture and the administration of the state is of world-historic significance. For the Soviet Union is the standard-bearer of mankind's great ideas of emancipation and the new, Communist era. (Applause).

## II.

old imperialist Europe is undergoing a deep and ever-increasing crisis.

The transatlantic aspirants to world domination are attempting to convert Europe, with its freedom-loving traditions and priceless cultural treasures, into a vassal of the American empire. But these designs are doomed to utter failure. A new free socialist Europe has come into being, it is growing and steadily becoming stronger. It is the legitimate heir to all the material and spiritual riches accumulated by its peoples over thousands of years. This new Europe holds out unlimited possibilities for a flourishing economy and culture and for raising the status of man to a higher plane. It is to this Europe that the future belongs.

The crisis of capitalism, however, is not confined to Europe. A part of the general crisis of capitalism is the ever-extending and deepening disintegration of the colonial system of imperialism. Lenin was the greatest theoretician of the national-colonial question. For the peoples of Asia, Africa, the whole of the East, his name and teachings have become a symbol and banner in their struggle against imperialist and racial oppression, for freedom and national independence. Lenin linked the immense acceleration of the pace of historical development with the fact that such countries as China and India were in ferment, that fresh millions were on the move and even the strongest and most powerful imperialist states were powerless to stop this process, that the countries of the East were being "drawn into a development which cannot but lead to the crisis of the whole of world capitalism". (Vol. 33, p. 457). Events have completely confirmed this forecast.

After the October Socialist Revolution, the victory of the 600 million Chinese people over the united forces of foreign imperialism and internal feudal reaction was a victory of world-wide historic significance for Socialism and a serious defeat for imperialism. This victory radically changed the situation in Asia and the Pacific, and indeed throughout the whole world. At one blow the sphere of colonial exploitation was reduced by almost one-third. The constructive activities of the free and great Chinese people, working successfully to industrialise their country and lay the foundations of Socialism, are arousing the admiration of all progressive mankind and stirring the hearts and minds of hundreds of millions of people in the colonial East. (Applause).

At the same time India, Indonesia and Burma have thrown off the burden of the old colonial regime. As is shown by the present Conference of African and Asian countries, at which 1,600 million people are represented, each of the Eastern countries has its own special features, both in its economy and in the forms of its social movements. But they are all united in their longing for complete deliverance from the suffering caused by the colonial policy of imperialism, in their desire for peace, freedom and independence. In the colonial

(Continued on page 3)

\* All quotations are taken from Lenin's Works, Fourth Russian edition.



## Comrade D. T. Shepilov's Report

(Continued from page 2)

countries the myth of the omnipotence of imperialism has been dispelled forever. The reactionary attempts of world imperialist forces to crush the determined struggle of the Asian peoples for their freedom and independence—above all the attempts of the U.S.A., which has become an international gendarme—are meeting with defeat after defeat.

Restricted by the narrow limits of the bourgeois world outlook, the ideologists of the imperialist camp try to explain the deep-going changes that are taking place in the world either as the action of "subversive forces" of the Communists, who, they allege, strive to seize power everywhere, or as a result of some kind of outside interference.

"The domination of capitalism", Lenin pointed out, "is undermined not because of someone wanting to seize power. 'Seizure' of power would be absurd. The domination of capitalism could not be ended if the whole economic development of the capitalist countries did not lead to this... No force could shatter capitalism if it had not been sapped and undermined by history." (Vol. 24, p.p. 381-382).

No power on earth can prevent the replacement of capitalism by Socialism—a process governed by laws of social development—precisely because of the fact that history has sapped and undermined capitalism and that it has reached its final limit. This process is irresistible, since apart from Socialism, Lenin wrote, there is no way of saving mankind from war, hunger and the death of millions upon millions more people.

As a result of this law-governed process of social development there now coexist two world social systems in the international arena—the world system of Socialism and that of capitalism. The great camp of peace, democracy and great camp of war, imperialism and Socialism unites 900 million people, i.e. more than one-third of the world's population. The experience of the land of Soviets and the people's-democratic countries in and the people's-democratic countries in Europe and Asia clearly proves that where the state is governed by the people, where all forces and means are used in the service of the people's interests, inexhaustible sources of human energy and creative enthusiasm are displayed, bold dreams and daring plans are brought to fruition and the continued advance of the economy, culture and the people's welfare becomes a law of development.

Different social systems have correspondingly different foreign policies.

Applying in practice the great Leninist principles in the sphere of foreign policy, the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic and all the countries of people's democracy are firmly and consistently upholding the cause of peace throughout the world. Leninism bases itself on the possibility and necessity of peaceful coexistence of different social and economic systems. The establishment of any particular social and political system in a country is the internal affair of the people of the country concerned. The Soviet Union does not interfere in the affairs of other countries, and consistently pursues her foreign policy accordingly. The realisation of the great long-term plans for building a communist society will take many years and decades, and demands stable and lasting world peace. The struggle for peace is the cornerstone of the foreign policy of the socialist state. The Soviet Union is the chief bulwark of peace and the herald of friendship between peoples of freedom and inde-

they are preparing a new war. The so-called "positions of strength" policy is nothing but a flagrant gamble on fresh world bloodshed. This policy is not a new one, it was taken in its entirety from the Hitlerites. It is well known that it was Hitler and his henchmen who proclaimed as immutable the following dogmas in international relations: "In international politics... only the logic of force applies." "The world can only be governed by the exploitation of fear."

The gamble of the German fascists on the "policy of strength" meant that they had decided to unleash the second world war. The gamble of certain reactionary circles in the U.S.A. on the "policy of strength" means that they are openly preparing for a third world war.

Their aggressive strategy is served by the system of military and political blocs established by U.S. reactionary circles. The centre of this system is the North Atlantic bloc. It is quite obvious now that the role of linchpin in NATO is to belong to the war alliance between the U.S.A. and Western Germany, an alliance which is to be based on the military and industrial potential of the economic system of the "Schuman plan", that is, on the Ruhr, extended and strengthened at the expense of the resources of France, Belgium and Italy. Herein is the real essence of the so-called Paris agreements, which not only revive the German militarist machine but at the same time are aimed at creating the most favourable conditions for the realisation of the revengful plans of German militarism.

Branches of the North Atlantic bloc include the aggressive military grouping for the so-called collective defence of South East Asia (SEATO), the Pakistan-Turkey and Turkey-Iraq blocs, which are used as weapons of the imperialist plans of the U.S.A. and Britain in the Arab East. The far-flung system of military springboards and bases built up by the U.S.A. is distributed with a view to threatening the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and the European countries of people's democracy. The aggressive "positions of strength" policy includes an unrestrained arms race, the whipping up of war hysteria and blackmailing threats to unleash an atomic war; it poisons the international atmosphere and leads to the disruption of peace.

What can one say about all this hysteria, these rash plans for preparing for a new war, for establishing U.S. world domination? The Soviet Union threatens nobody. She consistently pursues her policy of peace. The Soviet Union supports the proposals for a substantial reduction of all armaments, the unconditional prohibition of atomic weapons—with the establishment of effective international control—and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only. In the words of the immortal Lenin, our peaceful policy is approved by the overwhelming majority of the population of the earth.

We have confidence in our strength. In reply to the increasing machinations of the enemies of peace the Soviet people and all the states of the democratic camp are taking the necessary steps to further strengthen their armed forces and ensure the continued growth of their economic might. (Prolonged applause). The imperialists will not be able to intimidate the peoples of the camp of peace and democracy or to take them unawares. And if, in defiance of the people's will, the crazed rulers of the imperialist camp attempt to unleash a new world war, then the Soviet state, with its loyal allies and all the pro-



Above: One of the rooms in the V. I. Lenin Museum in Prague.

## National Congress of Bulgarian Peace Supporters

Bulgaria's Fourth National Peace Congress, held in Sofia on April 24-25, was attended by more than one thousand delegates—foremost workers, masters of bumper harvests, eminent workers in the field of science and arts, prominent public figures etc. Representatives of the World Peace Council and of the peace movement in a number of other countries were present as guests.

The report on the activities of Bulgaria's peace supporters was made by Academician G. Nadjakov, Chairman of the National Peace Committee, who announced that upwards of five million Bulgarian citizens had already signed the Vienna Appeal.

In the debates delegates described the work they had done to expose the fomenters of another war.

Jorge Zalamea, member of the World Peace Council, greeted the Congress on behalf of the Council. The delegates acclaimed with stormy applause greetings from the Soviet Peace Committee and the speeches made by representatives of peace partisans in the People's Republic of China, France, Japan, Czechoslovakia, Rumania and Hungary.

The Congress elected a new National Peace Committee and delegates to the World Peace Assembly.

At the conclusion of the Congress thousands upon thousands of Sofia's working people gathered at a meeting on September 9 Square.

## Luxembourgian Women Sign Vienna Appeal

The Democratic Women's League of Luxembourg recently organised mass meetings of women in Esch and the city of Luxembourg, Mme. Kimi Honda, a Japanese doctor, spoke at these meetings on the crimes committed by U.S. imperialists in relation to the Japanese people as a result of the atomic bombardment of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and an H-bomb test at Bikini.

Those present at the meetings unanimously resolved to struggle against the threat

# THE FRENCH WORKING CLASS UNDER THE BANNER OF LENIN

★  
Maurice Thorez  
General Secretary,  
French Communist Party

★ ★

Today, on the birthday of Lenin, the thought foremost in the minds of millions of French working people, as they remember with love and gratitude his great name, is that Lenin's policy now, as in the past, serves the interests of peace.

Thirty-seven years ago, when the proletarian revolution delivered the peoples of Russia from the horrors of the first world war, Lenin, who led the Communist Party and the working class, wrote: "If Socialism does not triumph, peace among the capitalist countries will mean only a truce, an intermission, the preparation of a new blood-bath for the peoples. Peace and bread—these are the fundamental demands of the workers and exploited."

Peace and bread—these are the burning questions that still confront the working people of France.

They do not forget that the first and second world wars were the inevitable result of the play of the economic and political forces inherent in monopoly capitalism. It was Lenin who armed the working class and its Communist Party with a scientific theory of imperialism. He showed, in particular, that international agreements among the monopolists on the economic partition of the world could not be long-lived because the partners to them always seek maximum profits and their interests come into sharp conflict with each other. The capitalist countries resort to force to divide up the world among themselves. But the force varies, depending on the economic and political development of each capitalist country. Hence it follows that imperialism inevitably gives rise to wars.

"Once progressive", wrote Lenin, "capitalism has become reactionary; it has developed productive forces to such an extent that mankind has either to proceed to Socialism or else to suffer for years and even decades from the armed struggle of the 'great' powers to preserve capitalism artificially by means of colonies, monopolies, privileges and national oppression of all kinds."

In these circumstances, peace can be secured only through the incessant struggle of the masses. Armed with this Leninist behest, the proletariat of our country stands in the front ranks of the struggle against the threat of imperialist war. The might of today's movement for peace, which unites men and women of diverse views, confirms the correctness of the Marxist-Leninist teaching which is always founded on confidence in the consciousness and initiative of the masses.

The French people oppose the carrying out of the Paris agreements, which would lead to the militarisation of Western Germany, and demand immediate negotiations among the great powers to replace the imperialist "positions of strength" policy by that of relaxing world tension and of international co-operation. The French people are fighting against the preparation of an atomic war, that manifestation of the unheard-of barbarity of imperialism. They are fighting for the prohibition of the production of weapons of mass extermination, for the destruction of existing stockpiles of such weapons and for the controlled reduction of armaments.

There is a real basis for a policy of peace. Lenin repeatedly pointed to the possibility of peaceful coexistence of the capitalist and socialist systems.

Lenin and the Leninists do not regard

a blow at the active fighters of the working class, at democrats and all supporters of peace.

That is the purport of the reactionary revision of the Constitution. It is towards this that the search for a new electoral system, even more fraudulent and unjust than the present one, is directed. The results produced by the present electoral system are well known: in the cantonal elections on April 17, which did not involve the Paris district, our Party received 21% of the votes cast, but only 2% of the general councillors' seats.

The French Parliament has approved a law sanctioning the introduction of a "state of emergency". This law is intended to destroy elementary democratic rights. As Stalin, the great continuer of Lenin's cause, pointed out in his speech at the Nineteenth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, not a trace of bourgeois liberalism remains today. The bourgeoisie has abolished the so-called "freedom of the individual", and has trampled in the dust the principle of equality among men and nations.

In Algeria the "state of emergency" is being put into effect at once. There, as in the other French dependencies, military repression is widely employed against participants in the movement for national self-determination.

Imperialism, as Lenin said, means reaction all along the line. Imperialism evokes protest and indignation on the part of all who stand for progress and freedom.

To fulfil its historic mission, the working class has need of an advanced party, capable of leading it along the right road. It was Lenin who, in the struggle against the opportunism of the Second International, created a workers' party of a new type in which the power of theory is combined with capacity for organisational work and action.

Following the counsels of the great leaders of the international proletariat, the French Communist Party is successfully combating the attempts of the bourgeoisie to isolate and weaken it. Employing the weapon of criticism and self-criticism in accordance with the teaching of Lenin and Stalin, the French Communist Party has in the past few years exposed and overcome manifestations of opportunism which would have resulted in the disruption of its ranks.

Lenin urged the workers to be vigilant with regard to "anarchist phrases", which have always done much harm in France. At the same time he expressed the hope that the proletariat of our country would create a powerful Communist Party that would carry on the best traditions of the Communards. Our Party will prove itself worthy of the trust Lenin placed in it. It always strives to adhere strictly to the principles of democratic centralism within the Party; to organise basic Party organisations at the point of production, and above all at the big enterprises; to raise the ideological level and activate the members of the Party, who are serving the noble cause of Communism.

Further, the founders of Marxism-Leninism taught the proletariat that it cannot defend its class interests and ensure the victory of Socialism if it is isolated and does not act as the leader of the struggle of all the masses. In line with this, our Party has always strengthened its ties with

independence, which is undermined by the American imperialist clique? The U.S.A., which is the most powerful of the capitalist countries, places its weaker imperialist partners in the position of vassals. Thus the law of uneven development of capitalist countries, discovered by Lenin—an unevenness of development that has been still further accentuated as a result of the second world war—is once again confirmed.

The French Communists march at the head of the defenders of the national interests and oppose the American claims to world domination.

Under the banner of Leninism the working masses of France are battling stubbornly for their economic demands.

Capitalism which has entered upon the last stage of its development, the stage of its death agony, is characterised by the extreme aggravation of all its contradictions, both internal and external. The resistance of the proletariat to the militarisation of the economy, to brutal exploitation and accelerated impoverishment, offers fresh proof of the correctness of the Marxist-Leninist law that intensified class struggle is inevitable in capitalist society. In present-day France the fallacies of the bourgeois and social democratic "theories" of conciliation and collaboration between the exploiters and the exploited are becoming more and more apparent.

Our Party does not forget Lenin's appeals to the French Communists to intensify their work in the trade unions. The French Communists pay particular attention to the defence of the economic interests of the working people. They are battling for higher wages and the abolition of the zonal system of wage rates. They are fighting against longer working hours and the intensification of labour, against the capitalist speed-up system. The French Communists are fighting for collective agreements. They are working seriously and systematically to imbue the trade unions with the maximum of efficiency and militancy, to make them powerful mass organisations capable of winning the demands of the working class, which today is displaying firmness and persistence, as has been shown by the strikes of the metal workers in the Lyons area and of the Moselle miners.

Lenin advanced a great slogan: Be with the masses! He stressed the significance of a united front of the working class. True to his behests, our Party tirelessly points out to the proletariat the necessity of cohesion and unity in its ranks in order to achieve success both in the struggle for immediate demands and in the historic battle for Socialism. In their relations with the Socialist workers the Communists declare themselves for unity; they organise joint action in order to achieve concrete aims, and above all, joint action at their places of work.

Lenin gave our Party direct and especially important assistance in the matter of winning over to the side of the proletariat its chief ally—the working peasantry. In December 1921, when he approved the basic



Applying in practice the great Leninist principles in the sphere of foreign policy, the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic and all the countries of people's democracy are firmly and consistently upholding the cause of peace throughout the world. Leninism bases itself on the possibility and necessity of peaceful coexistence of different social and economic systems. The establishment of any particular social and political system in a country is the internal affair of the people of the country concerned. The Soviet Union does not interfere in the affairs of other countries, and consistently pursues her foreign policy accordingly. The realisation of the great long-term plans for building a communist society will take many years and decades, and demands stable and lasting world peace. The struggle for peace is the cornerstone of the foreign policy of the socialist state. The Soviet Union is the chief bulwark of peace and the herald of friendship between peoples, of freedom and independence of all nations, great and small.

The great Lenin taught us that Socialism had to and would prove its superiority over capitalism in economic competition. The Soviet people are confident that Socialism, which has already proved in practice its decisive superiority over capitalism, will be able to emerge completely victorious in the sphere of peaceful economic competition. From its very inception the Soviet state proposed such competition to the old bourgeois world. The Soviet state continues its loyalty to these Leninist principles.

Economic competition obviously presupposes the wide development of trade relations on a basis of mutual advantage. To trade relations, cultural relations can fruitfully be added. Such is the real basis for the peaceful coexistence of Socialism and capitalism. On this basis it is quite possible for a unified system of collective security to function and prosper—a system which, embracing all states, regardless of their different social systems, should guarantee lasting and stable peace.

The peace-loving course of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union is counterposed by the aggressive policy of the U.S.A. and its accomplices. The entire policy of the imperialists at the present time proves that

The Soviet Union supports the proposals for a substantial reduction of all armaments, the unconditional prohibition of atomic weapons—with the establishment of effective international control—and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes only. In the words of the immortal Lenin, our peaceful policy is approved by the overwhelming majority of the population of the earth.

We have confidence in our strength. In reply to the increasing machinations of the enemies of peace the Soviet people and all the states of the democratic camp are taking the necessary steps to further strengthen their armed forces and ensure the continued growth of their economic might. (Prolonged applause). The imperialists will not be able to intimidate the peoples of the camp of peace and democracy or to take them unawares. And if, in defiance of the people's will, the crazed rulers of the imperialist camp attempt to unleash a new world war, then the Soviet state, with its loyal allies and all the progressive forces in the capitalist and colonial world, who warmly support the ideas of democracy and peace, will deliver blows of such might and scope as will reduce to ruins the whole rotten edifice of imperialism, based on the unrestrained exploitation of the working people, on the enslavement of hundreds of millions and on the suffering and blood of the masses. (Tumultuous applause).

Comrades, in one of his brilliant works, "Left-Wing" Communism, an Infantile Disorder", Lenin wrote: Let the bourgeoisie rave, work itself into a frenzy, go to extremes and commit follies, so have all classes doomed by history acted. The future in any case belongs to Communism. (Prolonged applause). "Communism 'springs' from literally all sides of social life; its shoots are to be seen literally everywhere... Life will assert itself." (Vol. 31, p. 81).

Yes, life will indeed assert itself! No matter how complicated and contradictory the various tendencies of social development, the highway of history has been set. This road is indicated by Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, the road to Communism. (Prolonged applause).

★ ★ ★

Comrades, all our victories, both in the sphere of building a new life and in the international arena, we owe to the great Communist Party. Our Party has emerged from the working class. It has welded and tempered the alliance of the working class and peasantry—the unshakable power of the Soviet social system. Our Party is strong, because of its undying confidence in the people. It has always remained wholly devoted to the teachings of Lenin; it has confidently led, and continues to lead, the Soviet people along the Leninist path.

Lenin and the Party are the living embodiment of the great creative forces of Communism. Boundless and eternal is the love of our people for the genius of mankind, their own Ilyich. Boundless and eternal is the love of our people for their wise Party of Communists. (Prolonged applause).

## Housing in Albania

Under people's rule housing construction in Albania has been proceeding on a wide scale. In 1954 it was nine times greater than in 1946. Last year the five-year housing plan was completed, a year ahead of schedule. Thousands of working families in town and country have moved to modern, comfortable apartments. Workers' settlements have sprung up in Patos, Tserik, Bultchiz, Rubik and Memalia. Hundreds of flats, totalling in all 13,000

square metres of living space, were built last year for the workers and staff of the J. V. Stalin Textile Combinat. In the past four years dwellings with an overall living space of 150,000 square metres were built in the towns. The state greatly assists people engaged in individual housing construction. Between 1950 and 1955 more than 60 million leka have been granted to peasants for this purpose.

The Congress elected a new National Peace Committee and delegates to the World Peace Assembly.

At the conclusion of the Congress thousands upon thousands of Sofia's working people gathered at a meeting on September 9 Square.

## Luxembourgian Women Sign Vienna Appeal

The Democratic Women's League of Luxembourg recently organised mass meetings of women in Esch and the city of Luxembourg, Mme. Kimi Honda, a Japanese doctor, spoke at these meetings on the crimes committed by U.S. imperialists in relation to the Japanese people as a result of the atomic bombardment of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and an H-bomb test at Bikini.

Those present at the meetings unanimously resolved to struggle against the threat of atomic war and signed the Vienna Appeal.

## CULTIVATION OF UNUSED LAND IN KOREAN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Considerable work to cultivate unused land is under way on the banks of the Biurak River as it flows through the Hamchu plain in the central part of the South Pyongan Province. From time immemorial this was one of the biggest rice-producing districts in the country. During the war, however, the American imperialists destroyed the dam across the Biurak River and large areas were abandoned because of floods.

The peasants in this district, fighting to increase agricultural production, decided to plough 2,000 tembo (1 tembo = 2,446 acres) of this abandoned land. They began work to restore the land previously ruined by floods, and to build canals and dams. To assist the peasants in this work the Government has decided to meet the cost of 40,000 work-day units and has sent them tractors and other necessary machines and materials, and a group of specialists has been assigned to help.

Labour enthusiasm among these peasants is growing day by day. More than 7,000 individual peasants, together with the members of 20 agricultural co-operatives in the district, are voluntarily participating in this work.

## DEVELOPMENT OF PUBLIC EDUCATION IN HUNGARY

In the ten years since its liberation Hungary has made good progress in the development of public education. In the old Hungary 60% of the pupils were compelled to leave school at the age of 10 or 11, while 10-12% of the population were illiterate.

During the second world war 30% of the school buildings were destroyed. These have now been reconstructed, and many new schools have been built. An extensive network of 10 and 8-grade secondary schools has been set up in towns and rural areas. In Budapest alone, 12 new schools have been built and 60 others extended. New higher educational establishments have been opened: an institute of heavy industry in Miskolc, a chemistry institute in Veszprem and a polytechnical institute in Budapest.

New teachers are being trained. For this purpose a network of pedagogical colleges, a central institute for improving the qualifications of teachers and other training centres have been established.

men and women of diverse views, confirms the correctness of the Marxist-Leninist teaching which is always founded on confidence in the consciousness and initiative of the masses.

The French people oppose the carrying out of the Paris agreements, which would lead to the militarisation of Western Germany, and demand immediate negotiations among the great powers to replace the imperialist "positions of strength" policy by that of relaxing world tension and of international co-operation. The French people are fighting against the preparation of an atomic war, that manifestation of the unheard-of barbarity of imperialism. They are fighting for the prohibition of the production of weapons of mass extermination, for the destruction of existing stockpiles of such weapons and for the controlled reduction of armaments.

There is a real basis for a policy of peace. Lenin repeatedly pointed to the possibility of peaceful coexistence of the capitalist and socialist systems.

Lenin and the Leninists do not regard war as a means of helping mankind to speed its forward development. They have always condemned the fatalist outlook in relation to war, and have directed the conscious activity of men towards barring the way to war.

The Soviet state, forged in the fires of revolution by Lenin's genius, unwaveringly pursues a firm and constructive policy of peace, which meets with the approval and support of the French people. At a moment when our reactionary rulers do not stop short at what in effect means annulling the Franco-Soviet Treaty of 1944, the working people of our country reiterate their vow to conduct themselves as befits allies and loyal friends of the Soviet people, who did so much to save France from Nazi barbarism. All French patriots associate themselves with this firm resolve.

Indeed, is it not clear that France has need of the Soviet Union in order to ensure her security, which is threatened by the Bonn revenge-seekers, and her national

of efficiency and militancy, to make them powerful mass organisations capable of winning the demands of the working class, which today is displaying firmness and persistence, as has been shown by the strikes of the metal workers in the Lyons area and of the Moselle miners.

Lenin advanced a great slogan: Be with the masses! He stressed the significance of a united front of the working class. True to his behests, our Party tirelessly points out to the proletariat the necessity of cohesion and unity in its ranks in order to achieve success both in the struggle for immediate demands and in the historic battle for Socialism. In their relations with the Socialist workers the Communists declare themselves for unity; they organise joint action in order to achieve concrete aims, and above all, joint action at their places of work.

Lenin gave our Party direct and especially important assistance in the matter of winning over to the side of the proletariat its chief ally—the working peasantry. In December 1921, when he approved the basic points of the "Theses on the Agrarian Question" published by the French Communist Party, he also made a number of critical comments. In particular, exposing the revisionist falsification of reality, he stressed the significance of the process of concentration taking place in our country's agriculture. He likewise pointed out that the socialist revolution must not wait until the time when all the small peasant proprietors were finally expropriated by capitalism: while defending their immediate demands a good majority of the peasants could and should at the same time come to approve of the idea of Socialism. In their own interests the majority of the peasants become allies of the working class under the slogan: "The land to those who till it!"

Preparations for another imperialist war are accompanied by attempts on the part of the bourgeois rulers at fascisation of the bourgeois state. They are preparing additional weapons with which to strike

manifestations of opportunism which would have resulted in the disruption of its ranks.

Lenin urged the workers to be vigilant with regard to "anarchist phrases", which have always done much harm in France. At the same time he expressed the hope that the proletariat of our country would create a powerful Communist Party that would carry on the best traditions of the Communards. Our Party will prove itself worthy of the trust Lenin placed in it. It always strives to adhere strictly to the principles of democratic centralism within the Party; to organise basic Party organisations at the point of production, and above all at the big enterprises; to raise the ideological level and activate the members of the Party, who are serving the noble cause of Communism.

Further, the founders of Marxism-Leninism taught the proletariat that it cannot defend its class interests and ensure the victory of Socialism if it is isolated and does not act as the leader of the struggle of all the masses. In line with this, our Party must always strengthen its ties with the broad masses and work to improve them. That makes it incumbent upon Party members to redouble their efforts to win new readers for the Party press, to strengthen the various mass organisations and link their activity with the general political struggle of the working class. The entire recent history of France shows that the working class is today the only class capable of uniting all democratic and national forces and taking into its hands the banner of the liberty and sovereignty of France.

It is impossible to enumerate all the things for which the French working class is indebted to Lenin—that giant of thought and action.

Under the banner of Leninism the working people of our country are fighting for peace and national independence, for social progress and freedom. They are fighting for the great goal of the working class—Socialism.

Leninism lives on in France, and will triumph.

("Pravda", April 22).

# ANOTHER REDUCTION IN STATE RETAIL PRICES IN PEOPLE'S DEMOCRACIES

## POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

The Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party and the Council of Ministers of the Republic have decided to cut the retail prices of food and manufactured goods and charges for certain kinds of services as from April 24, 1955.

The decision stresses that these price reductions are the result of the realisation of the decisions made by the Second Party Congress to improve the standard of living of the urban and rural population. By these new price cuts the people will benefit by about 4,000 million zloty a year.

Food prices have been reduced as follows: fats 2.5-10%, rice 20%, fruit products 10-15%, fish products, an average of 5%, milk 8% and sour cream 7%. Some brands of cigarettes, fruit wine and other products have also been made cheaper.

Price reductions for woollen fabrics range from 6 to 25%, cotton fabrics from 5 to 20%, silk fabrics from 10 to 20%, clothing and underwear from 3 to 16%, hosiery from 15 to 25%, footwear from 5 to 18%, agricultural machines and implements from 10 to 30%. Prices for household goods, electrical and metal goods, leather goods, cosmetics,

sports goods and other mass-consumption goods have also been cut.

Charges for various services have been reduced by 4-20%.

## RUMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

The Council of Ministers of the Republic has passed a decision to reduce the retail prices of certain foodstuffs and manufactured goods as from April 25, and also to cut the cost of theatre tickets.

The cuts in prices are as follows: flour products, on an average, 22% and canned vegetables 15%, tinned meat 15%, smoked fish, on an average, 20% and salted fish 25%, fruit juice 15% and household soap, on an average, 9.3%. Prices of ready-made clothes have been reduced from 4 to 30%, leather footwear, on an average, 5%, footwear manufactured from canvas and combined materials 7-12%, furniture 7%, kerosene 7.7%, aluminium and pig iron ware 10%, watches 10%, copybooks, pencils and certain school accessories 10-15% and so on.

Prices in restaurants, canteens and other catering establishments have been cut accordingly.

Prices of cinema and theatre tickets will be cut 10-12% from May 1.

## PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

The Council of Ministers and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Bulgaria decided to reduce state retail prices of consumer goods as from April 25.

As the result of this new, fifth reduction, working people buying consumer goods in state and co-operative shops, will save over 650 million leva a year.

The prices of foodstuffs and manufactured goods have been cut as follows: rice and beans 10%, fats 10-20%, meat 10-15%, meat products 5-17%, tinned meat and fish 8-15%, citrus fruits 27-33%, tea 40%, coffee 11%, confectionery 7-15%, cotton fabrics 10-20%, Bulgarian-produced woollen fabrics 10-30%, pure silk fabrics 4-45%, artificial silk fabrics 7-44%, knitwear and stockings 10-30%, footwear 4-40%, ready-made clothing 5-20%, soap 7-37%, agricultural implements 12-17%, building materials 10-36% and household goods 7-37%. Prices of a number of other goods have also been reduced.

Prices in restaurants and other catering establishments have been cut accordingly.



# Strengthen Unity of Democratic Forces, Intensify Struggle for Peace, Against the Political Monopoly of the Christian Democratic Party\*

What is the dominant fact in the current political situation in Italy? One need only turn to the daily and weekly press, or glance at the headlines of any newspaper, whatever its political line, in order to perceive the uncertainty, confusion and political disorder characteristic of the present moment.

On the one hand, if one were to accept the assertions of the leaders of the Government coalition, the characteristic feature of the present moment would be the successes allegedly gained in the struggle against us by this coalition, which calls itself the centre but which I believe it would be more correct to call the anti-communist front, for the struggle against us is the chief aim not only of its activity but of its very existence as well. Now if this really were the cardinal feature of the situation, that is, if this anti-communist front that the present Government coalition in truth represents had really managed to provoke a grave crisis in the people's democratic and communist movement, its logical result should have been to strengthen that political grouping, its internal structure, to enhance its prestige and, consequently, to eliminate or diminish political confusion. Yet there is more political confusion today than ever before.

What then, is the reason for this political confusion which characterises the present moment? It is that from the moment the present Government was formed it made not the slightest attempt to find any sort of solution for the grave problems facing the working masses and our country as a whole. The only new element in the political situation is that the batteries of the forces waging the anti-democratic and anti-communist struggle have come out into the open a little more, and that the Government took advantage of the fire of those batteries and the hullabaloo raised around it, in a vain attempt to crawl out of the filth of the scandals in which it is involved.

In Italy today an anti-communist bloc means an anti-democratic bloc, for the Communists are the people's most powerful opposition force, the greatest organised force of the working class and one of the biggest organised forces of the peasant masses, the working people and the progressive sections of the middle class. There is no other means of fighting the Communists than by attacking democracy and trampling underfoot the principles inscribed in the Constitution of the Republic.

Thrust aside were all the real problems: those arising from the ever-growing want in the countryside, which affects not only the small farmers, the farm labourers and the sharecroppers, but also a section of the prosperous peasants; the serious problem of the increasing pressure brought to bear by monopolist industrial groups upon the entire economic and political life of the country; the ever-present problem, which has today become even more serious than yesterday, of work for a very large number of Italian citizens.

It is this that is responsible for the dissatisfaction which continues to be so widespread and which is already attended by a feeling of bitterness which can even give rise to disillusionment among broad sections of the population, unless we ourselves, aided by all the democratic forces, succeed in remedying the situation by achieving concrete results or by means of struggle that leads the working masses and all democratic forces towards a profound change in the present situation. The dissatisfaction and bitterness are attended by outbreaks of

The offensive against the Communists serves the ruling circles as a cloak for the preparation of what they intend to be their decisive attack, the one that would enable them—this time by other means than through a constitutional coup—to achieve the same aim of definitively obtaining a complete political monopoly.

In the main, there are two salient factors in this reactionary offensive. Firstly, the state authorities and reactionary employers are resorting to illegal and anti-democratic measures in order to weaken the left democratic forces by bringing to bear organised, methodical, reactionary pressure. Secondly, the Christian Democratic Party does in fact plan to establish an alliance with the rightist forces in Parliament—the monarchists and fascists.

## II.

Such being the situation, what is the task that confronts us, and not only us, but all democratic and liberal forces in general, all those who perceive the grave danger inherent in the fact that Italian society is dominated by the most backward economic and political forces? The principal task is to fight to destroy the political monopoly of the Christian Democratic Party. That likewise is the task we posed in the June 7 elections. If we then achieved appreciable results in this respect, now we must achieve more. To do so it is necessary, above all else, that we ensure ever more extensive and effective participation of the masses of Italian people in the resistance movement and the struggle to defend their economic interests and democratic freedoms, by putting forward the demand that democracy be strengthened and developed in both the political and economic spheres.

We know that in this movement and struggle of the masses, the Communist Party is the chief and perhaps decisive factor. We are indeed the most firm and cohesive force, the party of the working class, the party that is looked to with confidence by all those who, although not Communists or Socialists, are nonetheless sincere democrats and desire the progress, liberty and independence of the country. To date, we have already issued 2,100,000 new Party cards. In recent months 103,000 working people joined the ranks of the vanguard party of the working class.

Bearing in mind the conditions under which our activity is carried on, these facts assume particularly vital importance now. They mean that the basic force of the Party has remained intact and is growing; and as long as that force exists the enemies of democracy, peace and social progress in our country will be unable to carry out their schemes.

Another positive factor is the everyday contact which, in spite of everything, we are able to establish, on a broader scale than ever before, with new people and new groups that are not affiliated to the forces traditionally linked with us and, what is more, are traditionally linked with the government camp.

We have indications from all regions showing that a large body of cadres in Catholic organisations is no longer evading

**Palmiro Togliatti**  
General Secretary,  
Italian Communist Party

★ ★

tionary pressure, when it is exercised under certain conditions, can, at a given moment, cause a retreat and even a break in the front of struggle for democracy and Socialism. But we are exposing these facts because they are a sign of the deep, widespread and dangerous degeneration of the whole of Italian society. Following this path, the reactionary forces would actually like to liquidate the regime of normal democracy, i.e. of normal relations between employers and workers, between the government and the working masses of our country, and hence to restore a regime of tyranny.

There is naturally the other aspect of the question: if it is true that reactionary pressure has its consequences, and cannot but have them under certain circumstances, then we must criticise our work. This is necessary because the extent to which these consequences are significant and dangerous depends on how the vanguard of the working class works and how the political, trade union and factory organisations of the working people function.

We do not reproach the workers of the FIAT factories who did not vote for the trade unions affiliated to the General Confederation of Labour, but we want to put some questions to the leaders of the Communist Party organisations and the Party members constituting the cadres of the Turin trade union organisation, and subject them to criticism. It must be admitted that this time we, as the Party and the vanguard, allowed ourselves to be caught unawares. We must, therefore, especially concentrate our critical analysis on certain features, and, in the first place, on how our trade union policy was carried out in the factories among the working masses in general and the workers at the FIAT factories in particular. We must, in a critical way, look at the question of how firm and extensive are the bonds between the leading cadres of the political and trade union organisations and the broad masses of the working people, their families and those among whom they live. In addition we must focus our attention on the political orientation of the cadres in trade union, Party and factory organisations, for the erroneous political orientation of these cadres can lead to unfavourable consequences and loosen our ties with the masses.

We must be able to establish what were the conditions, shortcomings and weaknesses in our organisational and propaganda activities which prevented us from maintaining unity, breadth of action and enthusiasm among this section of the working class, a splendid example of which is being displayed by the Genoa dockers at the present time. It is now more than two and a half months since they downed tools; for more than two and a half months they have been fighting, withstanding temptation, pressure and open violence, for they know that they must defend the position of their trade union, gained at the price

of the war policy, to frustrate this policy now being effected by the big imperialist powers; it is to make the unleashing of a third world war impossible by counterposing the unification of the popular forces to the war manoeuvres of the imperialists, and to secure the prohibition of atomic and thermo-nuclear weapons. It must be absolutely clear that if this is our orientation, it is not only because we consider the threat of war a very serious one, but also because we consider the struggle to remove this threat to be an effective one, which can and must accomplish the aim we set. Consequently, we must combat any tendency to think that everything is settled, now that the treaty on the West European alliance has been ratified by the Italian, French and other parliaments, and that events are now foredoomed to result in conflict and catastrophe.

It is absolutely true that the approval of this war pact and the beginning of the resurgence of a German imperialist armed force in the centre of Europe aggravate the European and international situation to a serious degree. It is just because of this that we not only must but can fight with greater vigour since even the masses who failed previously to realise the real state of affairs are now becoming more and more aware of it. Consequently, on us, on our ability to work, to carry on propaganda and explanatory work and to get into closer touch with other elements there depend important political results, which under the circumstances we can achieve.

Under the present circumstances the struggle for peace waged by the Soviet Union, People's China and the people's democratic countries, the resistance of the Asian countries to imperialist policy, and the fight for peace by the people's forces the world over are being continued and fresh successes have been achieved therein. Ours is the duty of enlarging the contribution of the Italian people to this struggle.

In my opinion, neither the concrete work of exposing the atomic danger nor the concrete mass movement as yet corresponds to the serious nature of the problem and of the threatening danger. True, the number of signatures thus far collected in our country to the Vienna Appeal is greater than that in any other European capitalist country. That is good. But the number of signatures collected by us falls far short of our potentialities and does not meet the need. It is possible that we are hindered in our work by the opinion that whatever our efforts, developments will in the long run take their course. This is a fatalistic and utterly erroneous trend of opinion, similar to that which prevailed in Italy between 1935 and 1941 when fascism had openly taken the path of war. At that time there were people even in our own ranks who said: "Let war come!..." This tendency acted as a brake on our entire anti-fascist activity and, particularly on our entire struggle against the war, which later resulted in the overthrow of the fascist regime itself.

Certainly, a war in which atomic weapons were employed would end in the downfall

# In Communist and Workers' Parties

## CONGRESS OF THE SLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY

The Communist Party of Slovakia held its Congress from April 22 to 24 in Bratislava.

The Congress took place under the slogan: "Forward, for the successful fulfilment in Slovakia of the decisions of the Tenth Congress of the Czechoslovak Communist Party for the building of Socialism, for peace and for the security of the Republic!"

A delegation from the C.C. of the Czechoslovak Communist Party, headed by Comrade A. Novotny, First Secretary of the C.C. of the CPC, took part in the work of the Congress.

Comrade Karol Bacilek, First Secretary of the C.C., made a report on the work of the Central Committee of the CPS. Our successes and the enormous changes in the life of the Slovak people, he said, have become possible only as a result of tremendous social changes, the selfless and all-round help of the Soviet Union to the peoples of the Czechoslovak Republic, the friendship and all-round assistance of the Czech working class, and thanks to the fact that the Slovak people are led forward by the Czechoslovak Communist Party whose chief aim is to uphold and promote the interests of the working people.

Comrade Bacilek drew the attention of the Congress to the further fulfilment of the Party's tasks in building Socialism in Slovakia and criticised shortcomings in the organisation of the struggle for higher labour productivity and in the realisation of the Party's policy in agriculture. He also spoke about the relations among the nationalities in the country.

## MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF AUSTRIA

In his report to a recent meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Austria Comrade Johann Koplenig, Chairman of the Party, stressed the significance of the agreements reached in Moscow on a state treaty with Austria.

The meeting unanimously approved the report and pointed out the importance of the Central Committee's statement of

Comrade Bacilek then reported that the Slovak Communist Party now numbered 191,690 members and candidate members. Since the previous Congress, in 1953, the membership had increased by 28,075.

Among those who took part in the discussion were Comrade V. Siroky, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the CPC, and Comrade A. Novotny. The delegates unanimously endorsed the policy of the Communist Parties of Czechoslovakia and Slovakia, which concentrate on the industrialisation of Czechoslovakia and especially on the development of heavy industry. Delegates who spoke in the discussion stressed the necessity for improving ideological work among the working people and mobilising them for the quickest possible fulfilment of the directives of the Xth Congress of the CPC, which advanced a concrete programme for laying the foundations of Socialism in Czechoslovakia.

In its resolution on Comrade Bacilek's report the Congress unanimously endorsed the activity of the Central Committee, summed up the successes achieved in the realisation of the decisions of the Xth Congress of the CPC and planned measures to eliminate shortcomings.

The Congress heard and approved a report on the work of the Central Auditing Commission and then elected the Central Committee and the Central Auditing Commission.

Delegates with great enthusiasm sent a message of greeting to the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

## MEETING OF THE CENTRAL COMMITTEE OF THE DANISH COMMUNIST PARTY

The meeting of the C.C. of the Danish Communist Party held on April 23-24 heard a report made by Comrade Alfred Jensen, Vice-Chairman of the Party, on the political and economic situation in the country, and discussed the question of the preparations for the XVIIIth Party Congress to be held in October this year.

The statement published after the meeting gives an estimation of the political and economic situation in the country. It points out that the militarisation of the country jeopardises the freedom of the Danish people and leads to a further worsen-

ing of their living standards. To overcome the economic difficulties, military expenditure should be reduced, trade policy changed and trade relations with the Soviet Union restored.

In the sphere of foreign policy, the statement points out, Denmark should strive to strengthen the security of the nations through the policy of negotiations between all European countries, and support all efforts aimed at the rejection of the remilitarisation of Western Germany. Denmark should come out for a ban on the production and use of A and H-bombs.

## MEETING OF C.C., COMMUNIST PARTY OF HOLLAND

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Holland, elected at the XVIIth Party Congress, recently held its first meeting and received the scrutineers' report which showed that the Congress had unanimously elected the new C.C. The Political Bureau

and the Secretariat were re-elected with certain additional members.

The meeting discussed the Appeal of the World Peace Council calling for struggle against the preparations for an atomic war, and resolved to support the Appeal in every way possible.

POPULARISATION



of fighting the Communists than by attacking democracy and trampling underfoot the principles inscribed in the Constitution of the Republic.

Thrust aside were all the real problems: those arising from the ever-growing want in the countryside, which affects not only the small farmers, the farm labourers and the sharecroppers, but also a section of the prosperous peasants; the serious problem of the increasing pressure brought to bear by monopolist industrial groups upon the entire economic and political life of the country; the ever-present problem, which has today become even more serious than yesterday, of work for a very large number of Italian citizens.

It is this that is responsible for the dissatisfaction which continues to be so widespread and which is already attended by a feeling of bitterness which can even give rise to disillusionment among broad sections of the population, unless we ourselves, aided by all the democratic forces, succeed in remedying the situation by achieving concrete results or by means of struggle that leads the working masses and all democratic forces towards a profound change in the present situation. The dissatisfaction and bitterness, however, are attended by outbursts of indignation and sharper criticism than ever before. This criticism is to be heard even from people far removed from the traditional left opposition camp, and that is a new element in the present situation.

### I.

What is the general orientation of Italy's present-day policy-makers? What is their aim? What do they want? Behind everything that has been happening since the present Government was formed—or at least during this year—lies the desire of the present ruling group of the Christian Democratic Party to prepare and carry through another reactionary operation directed against the democratic forces. They cannot admit this intention openly for today that would give rise to profound contradictions between the Christian Democratic Party and an immense section of public opinion. In other words, the time has passed when it was possible to make a quick change and set up a front of rightist forces consisting of a bloc of the Christian Democratic Party with the monarchists and fascists. The leaders of the Christian Democratic Party themselves admit that an operation of this kind would today be too dangerous for them.

But these leaders are not giving up their reactionary scheme. They are merely trying to cloak and camouflage it, to carry it through by round-about means, and that causes still more confusion.

On the basis of all this we consider it possible to draw the conclusion that these forces are scheming to try new means of achieving the aim the Christian Democratic Party failed in with its fraudulent electoral law. The frank purpose of that law—as we quite correctly pointed out—was to give the Christian Democratic Party a permanent political monopoly, in fact and in law, by means of a constitutional coup d'état. Once it had this monopoly it intended gradually to reduce to naught the democratic gains guaranteed by the Constitution and thrust upon Italy a regime of the clerical type, resembling that of Salazar or Franco.

By our victory in the elections of June 7, 1953, we prevented this coup and consequently defeated the schemes of the Christian Democratic Party.

\* From Comrade Palmiro Togliatti's speech at a plenary meeting of the C.C. of the Italian Communist Party on April 14, 1955.

cialists, are nonetheless sincere democrats and desire the progress, liberty and independence of the country. To date, we have already issued 2,100,000 new Party cards. In recent months 103,000 working people joined the ranks of the vanguard party of the working class.

Bearing in mind the conditions under which our activity is carried on, these facts assume particularly vital importance now. They mean that the basic force of the Party has remained intact and is growing; and as long as that force exists the enemies of democracy, peace and social progress in our country will be unable to carry out their schemes.

Another positive factor is the everyday contact which, in spite of everything, we are able to establish, on a broader scale than ever before, with new people and new groups that are not affiliated to the forces traditionally linked with us and, what is more, are traditionally linked with the government camp.

We have indications from all regions showing that a large body of cadres in Catholic organisations is no longer evading contact with us, but is more frequently seeking it, desiring joint discussion and orientating or beginning to orientate itself in ways that can hardly please the leading group of the Christian Democratic Party.

Hence, not only our organised force is gaining in strength, but our ideas too are extending and advancing along the path they ought to take.

However, shortcomings are not yet eliminated, and we should not blind ourselves to these, but calmly examine and study them. For example, we must take note of the apparent failure of the workers' forces in the elections of the factory committees at the FIAT works. We must take into account and study seriously the conditions and reasons for this lack of success.

Certainly, we must in the first place focus attention on the conditions under which the struggle was carried on; and this needs to be done, not so as to find extenuating circumstances or justification, but so as to bring to light some factors affecting present-day political and social life in Italy. Here the main fact which is becoming evident is that the big industrialists, supported by the state, church and a big foreign imperialist power, are now openly making the provision of jobs contingent on trade union affiliation and political orientation, and tomorrow, maybe, on the ideological conviction of workers, of working people.

We remember that one of the most outrageous facts of the period of fascist rule was that it was necessary to have a membership card of the fascist party in order to have the right to eat. Fascism was guided by the same principle as is now adhered to by the industrialists and clerical rulers, who want to secure a semblance of support among the working masses. In Turin, to this was added the systematic oppressive and tyrannical control exercised over the masses of electors at the FIAT factories, which went so far that spies were set to watch every working man or woman, not only at the factory, but even outside, at home. The purpose of this control was to deprive the workers of the possibility of giving free expression to their will in the elections to factory committees.

We would have made a very great mistake if we had kept silent regarding these facts, and we must seriously warn those who upbraid us for showing their real essence. We very well know, and it is general knowledge, that reac-

how firm and extensive are the bonds between the leading cadres of the political and trade union organisations and the broad masses of the working people, their families and those among whom they live. In addition we must focus our attention on the political orientation of the cadres in trade union, Party and factory organisations, for the erroneous political orientation of these cadres can lead to unfavourable consequences and loosen our ties with the masses.

We must be able to establish what were the conditions, shortcomings and weaknesses in our organisational and propaganda activities which prevented us from maintaining unity, breadth of action and enthusiasm among this section of the working class, a splendid example of which is being displayed by the Genoa dockers at the present time. It is now more than two and a half months since they downed tools; for more than two and a half months they have been fighting, withstanding temptation, pressure and open violence, for they know that they must defend the position of their trade union, gained at the price of such severe suffering in the course of many decades of work and struggle.

The strength of our Party is the prerequisite for the successful carrying through of the policy of working-class unity, for the unity of all popular and democratic forces, for the development of constant political activity, as well as the prerequisite for bringing about a change in the whole policy of Italy.

### III.

At the recent Congress of the Socialist Party a great deal was said about working-class unity and we welcome the fact that this Congress, from what was said and what decisions were taken, was a Congress of working-class unity. It is important that this unity be preserved and consolidated by means of joint demands and struggle to direct the policy of the nation again along the path of progress, political and economic democracy, peace and national independence.

As for our exchange of views with the Catholic masses, we can only welcome the fact that this is now arousing widespread interest. We cannot but be pleased at this because it was we who proposed this policy. All that we said about this, and about the possibility of establishing contact between Communists and Catholics, remains valid; but we especially maintain what we previously stressed: if this exchange of views is to take place it must prepare the ground for common action to effect a general unification of forces for concrete aims which at first can be limited, but must in any case be in the interests of the broad masses of the working population of our country, democracy and peace.

There are many questions on which agreement and contact can be and is being reached with the Catholic working masses and the intermediate sections of other orientations. But the most important sector of our work now is the fight for peace, i.e. the problem of achieving the broadest co-operation of diverse groups of Italian citizens of all ideological trends with the object of preventing the existing real danger of war.

Therefore it is essential to avoid mistakes and uncertainty in our orientation. The basic feature of our orientation is the concrete struggle to prevent the carrying out

crete mass movement as yet corresponds to the serious nature of the problem and of the threatening danger. True, the number of signatures thus far collected in our country to the Vienna Appeal is greater than that in any other European capitalist country. That is good. But the number of signatures collected by us falls far short of our potentialities and does not meet the need. It is possible that we are hindered in our work by the opinion that whatever our efforts, developments will in the long run take their course. This is a fatalistic and utterly erroneous trend of opinion, similar to that which prevailed in Italy between 1935 and 1941 when fascism had openly taken the path of war. At that time there were people even in our own ranks who said: "Let war come!" This tendency acted as a brake on our entire anti-fascist activity and, particularly on our entire struggle against the war, which later resulted in the overthrow of the fascist regime itself.

Certainly, a war in which atomic weapons were employed would end in the downfall of the capitalist regime on a world scale. But we want mankind to be spared an atomic war. We want the capitalist regime to disappear, for it brings mankind countless calamities. But we want capitalism to disappear as a result of the development of the struggle of the working class, the working masses and the peoples for their prosperity, freedom and independence. We want the capitalist system to come to an end as the result of a revolutionary victory of the working class and its allies. That is what we want!

### IV.

As regards questions of domestic policy, we can say that to establish contact with those masses which have up to now been far away from us, is more difficult, and up to the present this contact has not been adequately achieved. It is not only because we are coming directly up against the stand taken by our enemies in this respect, but also because of our own fault, since we still fail clearly to explain to everyone what is the meaning of our struggle for freedom and what are the real and concrete dangers which now threaten the democratic rights of every citizen in the factories, fields and offices and everywhere else, including the highest institutions of the state. This is what we have failed to do; and we must welcome the initiative of trade union organisations to launch a large-scale campaign at all places of work in defence of trade union democratic rights which are part and parcel of the democratic liberties of the citizen in the modern state.

We must be able to bring home to everyone recognition of the fact that the striving to impose an outright clerical monopoly on the whole of Italian life is a threat not only to the political but also to the social organisation of our country, that it is necessary therefore to unite, organise resistance and wage a common struggle. The Catholic and Christian Democratic working people must join us in this struggle, for the realisation of the designs of the ruling groups would put an end not only to many of the illusions of these masses, but also to many concrete things with which their very existence is bound up.

Therefore, we call on all democratic forces to unite to do away with the monopoly of political power by the Christian Democratic Party, and doom to failure its leaders' reactionary schemes.

The meeting of the C.C. of the Danish Communist Party held on April 23-24 heard a report made by Comrade Alfred Jensen, Vice-Chairman of the Party, on the political and economic situation in the country, and discussed the question of the preparations for the XVIIIth Party Congress to be held in October this year.

The statement published after the meeting gives an estimation of the political and economic situation in the country. It points out that the militarisation of the country jeopardises the freedom of the Danish people and leads to a further worsen-

come the economic penditure should be reduced, trade policy changed and trade relations with the Soviet Union restored.

In the sphere of foreign policy, the statement points out, Denmark should strive to strengthen the security of the nations through the policy of negotiations between all European countries, and support all efforts aimed at the rejection of the remilitarisation of Western Germany. Denmark should come out for a ban on the production and use of A and H-bombs.

## MEETING OF C.C., COMMUNIST PARTY OF HOLLAND

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Holland, elected at the XVIIIth Party Congress, recently held its first meeting and received the scrutineers' report which showed that the Congress had unanimously elected the new C.C. The Political Bureau

and the Secretariat were re-elected with certain additional members.

The meeting discussed the Appeal of the World Peace Council calling for struggle against the preparations for an atomic war, and resolved to support the Appeal in every way possible.

## POPULARISATION IN BRAZIL OF MATERIALS ON THE FIRST RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil is carrying on a great deal of work to popularise the theses on "The Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Russian Revolution" issued by the Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin Institute of the Central Committee of the CPSU. A special resolution pointed out the immense significance and importance of these theses and the influence which the Revolution of 1905-1907 in Russia exerted on the subsequent development of the struggle of the Brazilian people.

The Central Committee instructed all Party organisations, as well as the Party schools and press, to honour this notable

date in a fitting manner this year by holding anniversary meetings, enlarged plenums, meetings of activists, lectures, talks, question and answer meetings and seminars.

By this decision all Party organisations are obliged to organise the reading, discussion and study of the theses, the full text of which is being published in separate booklets and in all the Party press. In addition, the Communist newspapers and magazines are preparing special editions devoted to the propaganda and study of the experience of the First Russian Revolution.

## DISSEMINATION OF POLITICAL AND SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE IN THE MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC

Political and scientific knowledge is being widely disseminated in the Mongolian People's Republic. The Party organisations have 20 lecturing groups with a total of over 300 staff and non-staff lecturers; more than half of them graduated from higher

educational establishments. Groups of lecturers are also being set up in the Revolutionary Youth League and other mass organisations. Last year 630 lectures were held which were attended by over a million working people.



Peoples of the Arab countries are resolutely opposed to the formation of aggressive military blocs in the Near and Middle East. Above: Anti-imperialist demonstration in Beirut (Lebanon). The slogans on the posters are: "Down with the Turkey-Iraq-U.S.-British pact!" "We demand a ban on atomic and hydrogen bombs!" "Long live peace!"



## A Valuable Contribution to the Cause of Peace and International Co-operation

### On the Results of the Asian-African Conference

The proceedings of the Asian-African Conference, which took place in Bandung (Indonesia) from April 18 to 24, were followed with keen attention and interest by the world public. It was attended by nearly 340 delegates from the governments of 29 Asian and African countries, most of the delegations being headed by Premiers or Foreign Ministers. Among them were Chou En-lai, Premier of the Government Council of the People's Republic of China; Mr. Nehru, Prime Minister of India; Dr. Sastroamidjojo, Prime Minister of Indonesia; U Nu, Prime Minister of Burma; Col. Nasser, Prime Minister of Egypt; Mohammed Ali, Prime Minister of Pakistan, etc. It is quite clear that the convening of such a representative Conference reflects the immense changes that have taken place in this part of the world since the second world war. The Conference also provides proof of the desire of the Asian and African peoples to take their fate into their own hands and settle the major problems of their home and foreign policy independently.

For the first time in history, the representatives of 29 Asian and African countries, embracing more than half the world's population, met to discuss a number of problems which are of outstanding significance for the cause of promoting peace and co-operation among the nations. This is why the Conference was so warmly welcomed by all who cherish peace and international security and who are resolutely opposed to the preparation and unleashing of another war.

Right from the outset, the idea of convening the Asian-African Conference met with the hostility of the Western powers and, above all, of U.S. ruling circles; and this above all, of U.S. ruling circles; and this above all, of U.S. ruling circles are afraid that the Asian and African peoples might join in solidarity and establish unity of action in the struggle for national liberation and democratic liberties. The imperialist powers did their utmost to prevent the holding of the Conference; and when they failed in this, they sought to belittle its significance and prevent it from being successful. It was to this end that the U.S. reactionaries engineered the plane crash that resulted in the deaths of staff members of the delegation from the People's Republic of China and the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and of foreign journalists, who were flying to the Conference. It was with the same end in view that U.S. ruling circles sought to influence the work of the Conference through delegations of particular countries directly dependent on the U.S.A.

As its final communique reports, the Conference reviewed problems of common concern to the Asian and African countries and discussed ways and means to achieve fuller economic, cultural and political co-operation between these countries. The delegates expressed themselves in support of good-neighbourly relations and peaceful co-operation, which would contribute to the strengthening of world peace and mutual understanding.

The Conference gave a great deal of attention to questions of colonialism and racism, and also to interference by foreign states in the internal affairs of Asian and African countries. It condemned the policy

The questions of disarmament and a ban on atomic weapons aroused keen interest among the delegates. A special resolution was adopted, calling for general disarmament and the complete prohibition of the manufacture, testing and use of nuclear and thermo-nuclear weapons and the establishment of effective international control over the implementation of these measures. The Conference stressed that the development and use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes was of particular significance for the Asian and African countries.

A large part of the work of the Conference was devoted to the question of diminishing international tension and strengthening peace.

The delegates expressed their concern in connection with the strained situation that had arisen in the Far East and particularly in the area of Taiwan. Hence, the statement made by Chou En-lai to the effect that the Government of the PRC was ready to start negotiations with the U.S. Government "to discuss ways of easing tension in the Far East and, particularly, in the area of Taiwan" was warmly welcomed by the majority of the delegates. There is no doubt that such negotiations could lead to a considerable relaxation of international tension. But the State Department hastened to issue an official statement that the U.S. would insist on nationalist China taking part, on equal terms, in any talks in relation to Taiwan. However, this statement was sharply condemned by the public and political circles in various countries; and on April 26, Dulles made another statement in which he spoke in favour of talks with the People's Republic of China. At a subsequent press conference President Eisenhower expressed himself in support of the stand taken by Dulles.

Expressing the will of the Asian and African peoples, the delegates adopted a "Declaration on Promoting World Peace and Co-operation" which calls for respect for the basic rights of man and the aims and principles of the UN Charter; respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of all countries; recognition of the equality of all races and nations, large and small; non-intervention and non-interference in the internal affairs of other countries, no acts or threats of aggression; the settlement of all international disputes by peaceful means; respect for justice and international obligations etc.

Wide sections of the public in Asia and Africa are unanimous in the view that the success of the Conference was due, to a large extent, to the stand taken by the delegation of the People's Republic of China, which moved a series of constructive proposals aimed at achieving concerted decisions on the main items of the agenda. In conformity with its peace policy and consistently following a line aimed at a relaxation of international tension, the People's Republic of China has at Bandung once again demonstrated its desire for peace and peaceful co-operation.

It should also be noted that there was a sharp struggle between the majority of the delegates who support peace and international co-operation and those who spoke of peace but, in fact, sought to undermine the unity of the Asian and

## FOR PEACE, FREEDOM AND NATIONAL UNITY OF THE GERMAN PEOPLE!

May 1, day of struggle of the international working class for its social and national rights, against exploitation and oppression, for a life of peace and happiness, is a great holiday of the working people of the German Democratic Republic, who are striving for their national unity. The German working class and all our working people are inspired by the fraternal feelings of proletarian internationalism that have always given special significance to the celebration of May Day. The knowledge that on this day the working people of the whole world demonstrate their unity in the struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism gives our working people fresh strength and courage in the difficult fight to settle our vital national problems. The German patriots, who in the German Democratic Republic have a firm bulwark in the struggle for peace and national reunion, are conscious of their great responsibility and their duty in relation to the peoples of Europe and the world.

### I.

When at its first congress in Paris in 1889 the Second International resolved to declare May 1 a day of great international workers' demonstrations, no one could yet imagine that within a short space of history the struggle of the peoples, led by the working class, for peace, freedom and Socialism would extend throughout the world, that with the Soviet Union at its head there would arise a great peace camp whose people would free themselves from capitalism, a camp that would become the mightiest force in the struggle for the preservation of peace. In this great camp the victories and the experience of working-class struggle in all countries find embodiment.

The international working class, inspired by its success, is today rising in struggle against moribund capitalist society. The approach of May Day was and is watched with fear by the international bourgeoisie. Boiling with hate and fury they fight against this international militant demonstration of the working people, not stopping at anything in this struggle.

However, all measures of violence and terror, all hypocrisy and demagoguery were and are in vain: the wheel of history cannot be turned back. The strong hands of the working people of all countries direct its movement.

With every passing year the demonstration of the strength and might of the working class on May Day grows ever more powerful. With irresistible force it attracts increasing masses of people in town and country and strengthens the inner solidarity and fighting power of the working class and the great camp of peace and Socialism.

In carrying through the Great October Socialist Revolution under the leadership of the Communist Party, the workers and peasants of Tsarist Russia were the first to overthrow their oppressors, the first to set up the power of the workers and peasants and begin to build a new, socialist society on one-sixth of the globe. Armed with the revolutionary theory of Marxism-Leninism, the peoples of the Soviet Union began an unparalleled triumphal progress and inflicted a decisive defeat upon the once all-embracing system of world capitalism.

The world divided into two camps: the camp of war or the imperialist camp, and the camp of peace or the socialist camp. The Soviet Union, the shock brigade of the peoples of all countries in their

through the hardest trials and tests. The victory over Hitler fascism, in which the Soviet Army played the decisive part, showed the world the invincibility of the Soviet Union and demonstrated the incomparable superiority of the socialist system over the capitalist one.

With the establishment of the first working people's state in the world, the First of May became a day when millions of working people all over the world demonstrate their fraternity and solidarity with the Soviet people. The strong, indestructible friendship of the working class of all countries with the peoples of the Soviet Union is an expression of the proletarian internationalism of our day. It was the peoples of the Soviet Union who blazed the path to a bright future for mankind; they personify progress of social development and march at the head of the struggle of the peoples of the world for the preservation of world peace. The Soviet Army's victory over Hitler fascism and the Japanese imperialist aggressors was a hard blow to the international positions of capitalism; while it gave a powerful impetus to the world democratic movement.

The 600 million people of China liberated themselves from their national and foreign oppressors and are now laying the foundations of Socialism. Side by side with the Soviet Union and People's China, all the working people of the People's Democracies and the German Democratic Republic are striding along the path of labour and struggle to reinforce and develop all they have achieved while building a new life. Already more than 900 million people—well over one-third of the world's population—are today in the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism.

There has been an awakening of the peoples of Asia and Africa, still living under the yoke of colonial oppression. Supported by the solidarity of the great camp of peace and of all peace-loving people, they are battling for their national freedom and independence.

The German people have every confidence in their future. Their struggle for German national reunification on a democratic and peaceful basis is a just struggle that accords with the interests of all peoples. German unity, forged in a five centuries-long bitter struggle at the cost of great sacrifices, cannot be destroyed at will. The Germans are one nation. They belong together. Their struggle for their country's democratic unity will be victorious and will triumph over all obstacles if the people take their cause into their own hands. Of course, the German people should not indulge in illusions; they must recognise the full danger of the situation that has been created by ratification of the Paris agreements.

### III.

The German Democratic Republic is a truly peace-loving, democratic German state. It embodies the will and actions of the overwhelming majority of the whole of the German people, who are fighting for their

★  
**Otto Grotewohl**  
Prime Minister,  
German Democratic Republic  
Member, Political Bureau, C.C.,  
Socialist Unity Party of Germany

★ ★

and militarism. The fact that the monopolies were abolished and that, in consequence of a popular referendum, the means of production which formerly belonged to Nazi and war criminals were confiscated, put an end once and for all to the domination of the exploiters in the eastern part of Germany. Our workers and peasants, technicians, engineers and scientists have with their own hands built up a people's economy—the basis of the people's well-being. And on this basis, the working people have achieved great social gains.

The working people of our Republic have given effect to the demands for which millions of German workers fought and suffered and endured countless sacrifices throughout long decades. Exploitation and oppression have been abolished and the right to work guaranteed, as also the right to rest and leisure and to education. The basic rights of the young people have been realised. Equality for women is an accomplished fact. The German Democratic Republic has become a real centre of science and art, the genuine heir to the great humanist heritage of German culture. Never before in the history of our homeland have democracy and progress had such firm support in Germany, such an indestructible stronghold, as they now have in the German Democratic Republic which is exerting an active, mobilising influence in the uniting of all German patriots in the struggle for the reunification of Germany by peaceful means.

In defiance of international agreements German imperialism and militarism have been restored in Western Germany with the help of the imperialist occupation powers. The Adenauer Government is an anti-people's government, it is a dictatorship of the war-industry monopolies and the militarists.

Patently ignoring the will of the German people, the Bonn Bundestag ratified the military Paris agreements, and the aggressive programme of German and U.S. imperialism was proclaimed—the building of the Wehrmacht and the preparation of a third world war. The German people will never recognise these decisions.

The unification of the peace-loving German Democratic Republic with a West German state that is bound by the military Paris agreements is impossible. Reunification can be achieved only in the struggle to wipe out the Paris agreements, in the struggle against the militarist forces in Western Germany. Implementation of the Paris agreements would jeopardise not only the German nation, but also peace in Europe and throughout the world. The European peoples will never reconcile themselves to the fact that former Hitlerite generals and West German monopolists are officially being given a free hand to prepare and unleash a war. That is why all peace-loving peoples are today taking part in the common struggle against the threat of renewed imperialist aggression.

The negotiations between the Soviet Union and Austria have once again shown that international problems can be solved successfully and that peaceful agreements and talks are possible.

man Democratic Republic and all patriots in Western Germany are doing their best to prevent the monopolists' war plans from coming to fruition. The working class of Western Germany heads the struggle against these plans and spares no efforts in the fight against the intensification of exploitation and for the preservation of the few democratic rights which still remain there.

It is the working class that is fighting against the activity of the soldiers' associations, the "Stahlhelm" and other militarist organisations. More and more workers, trade unionists, women and young people realise that speeches by the right-wing Social Democratic leaders in Parliament are not sufficient to bar the path to the enemies of the people. The West German working class, therefore, more frequently has recourse to non-parliamentary methods of struggle and protest, organising strikes and mass demonstrations against the arbitrary attitude of the employers. No hypocrisy, no lie and no gilding the lily by the ruling circles of Western Germany can continue to conceal the fact that the Bonn regime is militarist and anti-popular.

West German workers are sending delegations to the German Democratic Republic and the countries of people's democracy to learn the truth and to see socialist construction with their own eyes. In the struggle against putting the Paris agreements into effect, united action of the West German working class is beginning to take shape. There is a growing awareness of the fact that the reunification of Germany depends on the scope of action of the patriotic forces of the German people against the Paris agreements and militarism in Western Germany. The German Democratic Republic supports in every way possible the struggle of the West German working class and all West German patriots. This is expressed in the first place in the constant strengthening and reinforcement of state power in the German Democratic Republic. Day by day, hour by hour, our working people are making great efforts in the pits and the blast furnace shops, in the factories, on construction sites and in the fields. In the course of individual, team and shop emulation they are striving to fulfil their assignments, to produce goods of still higher quality and to work with greater efficiency.

Outside the German Democratic Republic the achievements of our working people are also of great significance to the international struggle of the working class for preserving peace, since every production success strengthens the German Democratic Republic, signifies another step towards the reunification of our country on a democratic and peaceful footing and thus consolidates the powerful world camp of peace.

We will be able to defend peace and our country. To this end our working people are organising fighting squads in the factories, and our workers and youth are studying military matters; to this end we shall turn our people's police into a well-armed force for our defence, a force that we shall willingly place under the experienced supreme command of the camp of peace.

★

Throughout the world the First of May



ists, who were flying to the Conference. It was with the same end in view that U.S. ruling circles sought to influence the work of the Conference through delegations of particular countries directly dependent on the U.S.A.

As its final communique reports, the Conference reviewed problems of common concern to the Asian and African countries and discussed ways and means to achieve fuller economic, cultural and political co-operation between these countries. The delegates expressed themselves in support of good-neighbourly relations and peaceful co-operation, which would contribute to the strengthening of world peace and mutual understanding.

The Conference gave a great deal of attention to questions of colonialism and racism, and also to interference by foreign states in the internal affairs of Asian and African countries. It condemned the policy and practice of racial discrimination and segregation as a gross violation of the rights of man, as the negation of human dignity. The Conference voiced severe condemnation of the colonial system of imperialism as an evil which must be eliminated as soon as possible. Its decisions are directed against the exploitation and oppression of the Asian and African peoples. At the same time the Conference declared "its full support for the principle of self-determination for peoples and nations". Support was also expressed for the right of the peoples of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia to self-determination and independence and for the rights of the Arabs in Palestine, and it was urged that the UN resolution on Palestine be put into effect.

internal affairs of other countries, no acts or threats of aggression; the settlement of all international disputes by peaceful means; respect for justice and international obligations etc.

Wide sections of the public in Asia and Africa are unanimous in the view that the success of the Conference was due, to a large extent, to the stand taken by the delegation of the People's Republic of China, which moved a series of constructive proposals aimed at achieving concerted decisions on the main items of the agenda. In conformity with its peace policy and consistently following a line aimed at a relaxation of international tension, the People's Republic of China has at Bandung once again demonstrated its desire for peace and peaceful co-operation.

It should also be noted that there was a sharp struggle between the majority of the delegates who support peace and international co-operation and those who spoke of peace but, in fact, sought to undermine the unity of the Asian and African peoples and prevent the success of the Conference. An example of this was the attempt of certain delegates to force through a resolution slandering Communism. Despite desperate efforts by the representatives of Turkey, the Philippines, Iraq and certain other countries, the resolution was firmly rejected.

There can be no doubt that the Bandung Conference has justified the hopes of the peace-loving peoples. It has dealt another blow to the colonialism of the imperialist powers, and helped to promote and strengthen understanding between the Asian and African peoples and to advance the struggle waged by these peoples for easing international tension, for world peace.

tion of the strength and might of the working class on May Day grows ever more powerful. With irresistible force it attracts increasing masses of people in town and country and strengthens the inner solidarity and fighting power of the working class and the great camp of peace and Socialism.

In carrying through the Great October Socialist Revolution under the leadership of the Communist Party, the workers and peasants of tsarist Russia were the first to overthrow their oppressors, the first to set up the power of the workers and peasants and begin to build a new, socialist society on one-sixth of the globe. Armed with the revolutionary theory of Marxism-Leninism, the peoples of the Soviet Union began an unparalleled triumphal progress and inflicted a decisive defeat upon the once all-embracing system of world capitalism.

The world divided into two camps: the camp of war or the imperialist camp, and the camp of peace or the socialist camp. The Soviet Union, the shock brigade of the working people of all countries in their struggle for peace, democracy and Socialism, became the mightiest power on earth. Its international significance has increased irresistibly and its influence upon world events grows stronger year by year. The militant May Day slogans found realisation in the achievements of the Great October Socialist Revolution as a model and example for working people the world over.

## II.

Since the day of its foundation the Soviet Union has been working actively to preserve and strengthen world peace. In the intervening years it has come

independence.

The German people have every confidence in their future. Their struggle for German national reunification on a democratic and peaceful basis is a just struggle that accords with the interests of all peoples. German unity, forged in a five centuries-long bitter struggle at the cost of great sacrifices, cannot be destroyed at will. The Germans are one nation. They belong together. Their struggle for their country's democratic unity will be victorious and will triumph over all obstacles if the people take their cause into their own hands. Of course, the German people should not indulge in illusions; they must recognise the full danger of the situation that has been created by ratification of the Paris agreements.

## III.

The German Democratic Republic is a truly peace-loving, democratic German state. It embodies the will and actions of the overwhelming majority of the whole of the German people, who are fighting for their national reunification with ever-increasing energy. The working class in Eastern Germany has taken account of the lessons of history. It has healed the split in its ranks and thereby overcome its weakness. The amalgamation of the two workers' parties gave rise to a mighty, directing force—the Socialist Unity Party of Germany—which takes as its guide the all-conquering teaching of Marxism-Leninism.

Under the leadership of the SUPG our working people have accomplished economic and political changes of a revolutionary character. The agrarian reform put an end to the domination of the Junkers and smashed the strongest prop of reaction

and the preparation of a third world war. The German people will never recognise these decisions.

The unification of the peace-loving German Democratic Republic with a West German state that is bound by the military Paris agreements is impossible. Reunification can be achieved only in the struggle to wipe out the Paris agreements, in the struggle against the militarist forces in Western Germany. Implementation of the Paris agreements would jeopardise not only the German nation, but also peace in Europe and throughout the world. The European peoples will never reconcile themselves to the fact that former Hitlerite generals and West German monopolists are officially being given a free hand to prepare and unleash a war. That is why all peace-loving peoples are today taking part in the common struggle against the threat of renewed imperialist aggression.

The negotiations between the Soviet Union and Austria have once again shown that international problems can be solved successfully and that peaceful agreements and talks are possible.

The German problem, too, can be solved on the same basis. Adenauer's assertion that one can negotiate with the Soviet Union only from "positions of strength" is refuted in the eyes of the whole world.

## IV.

The German people will step up their fight for the reunification of the country and for a just peace treaty. At the same time they will take all necessary measures for effective defence against the realisation of the war plans of the U.S. and West German militarists. The people of the Ger-

and shop emulation they are striving to overfulfill their assignments, to produce goods of still higher quality and to work with greater efficiency.

Outside the German Democratic Republic the achievements of our working people are also of great significance to the international struggle of the working class for preserving peace, since every production success strengthens the German Democratic Republic, signifies another step towards the reunification of our country on a democratic and peaceful footing and thus consolidates the powerful world camp of peace.

We will be able to defend peace and our country. To this end our working people are organising fighting squads in the factories, and our workers and youth are studying military matters; to this end we shall turn our people's police into a well-armed force for our defence, a force that we shall willingly place under the experienced supreme command of the camp of peace.

★

Throughout the world the First of May is seen as a splendid demonstration of the might and victories of the workers and peasants, a demonstration of their confidence in their own strength. This irresistible force will be able to realise mankind's dream of peace, freedom and happiness. It will also inspire the German people and help them to win victory in their just cause.

Long live the invincible camp of peace, democracy and Socialism, led by the mighty Soviet Union!

Long live May Day—day of struggle against the military Paris agreements and for the peaceful settlement of the German question!

# Chinese Working Class in the Struggle to Build a Socialist Society

Since the People's Republic of China was founded in 1949, history has laid a new task on the Chinese working class and its ally—the peasantry: to rapidly restore and develop agricultural and industrial production, continuously raise labour productivity, and so, as Comrade Mao Tse-tung said, "build our country, at present economically and culturally backward, into a great industrialised country with a high standard of modern culture".

To fulfil this historic task the Chinese working class has, ever since the first days of liberation, carried on nation-wide labour emulation to create new working records in production. This, under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, has registered great successes. In the three short years following the establishment of the Chinese People's Republic we have not only rehabilitated the national economy, seriously damaged by the long years of war, but also brought some of its branches to a level surpassing prewar peaks, and thus laid the foundation for planned economic construction. Accordingly, in 1953, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China put forward the general line of the transition period, which has been written into the Constitution of the People's Republic of China. The objective of the general line is to build the People's Republic of China into a great socialist society. On this basis, the draft "First Five-Year Plan of the People's Republic of China for the Development of the National Economy" was drawn up and passed by the National Conference of the Communist Party of China in March of

this year. It will be submitted to the First National People's Congress at its forthcoming Second Session for examination and adoption as the programme of the whole people in their common struggle to build a socialist society.

The basic principles of the first Five-Year Plan are: to concentrate our main efforts on the development of heavy industry so as to provide a foundation for the industrialisation of the country and for the modernisation of national defence; to develop communications and transport, light industry, agriculture and commerce; to train construction personnel; to promote, step by step, the development of agricultural and handicraft co-operatives; to continue the transformation of capitalist industry and commerce; to ensure a steady increase in the proportion of the socialist sector in the national economy, and at the same time to enable individual farming, handicraft industry and capitalist industry and commerce to play their proper roles; and, on the basis of the development of production, to ensure a gradual improvement in the material and cultural life of the people.

The Chinese working class knows full well that it is no easy matter to build Socialism in a vast country, economically and culturally backward, with a population of 600,000,000. There will necessarily be

numerous difficulties. Yet the Chinese working class, led by the Communist Party of China, has never surrendered to difficulties, but has on the contrary matured and gained strength in the struggle to combat and overcome them. To build a socialist society we have to wage a resolute and irreconcilable struggle against our enemies, both at home and abroad, who try to stop us carrying out socialist construction and oppose socialist transformation.

The building of a socialist society is based on the successful experiences already gained by the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. Labour emulation plays an important part in the struggle for Socialism. Since the liberation, particularly since the day when the first Five-Year Plan was put into execution, labour emulation has developed into a nation-wide mass movement. In 1954 alone, industrial and office workers throughout the country presented more than 848,000 rationalisation proposals in the emulation drive, of which some 463,000 have been adopted. 435,812 exemplary and advanced workers and 37,095 model productive units, including factories, workshops, sections, teams and managerial staffs, emerged from this emulation drive.

The Chinese working class, knowing that to learn and master up-to-date techniques is the effective method of increasing labour productivity, is extremely eager to master technique. By 1954 there were 953,137 industrial and office workers studying in all types of technical schools, training classes and research groups. To encourage and help workers and

technical personnel in creative work, the Government Administration Council of the Central People's Government promulgated in August 1954 "Provisional regulations for the encouragement of inventions, technical improvements and rationalisation proposals relating to production". Under these regulations, over 135,600 workers and staff throughout the country received material rewards.

The selfless labour of the Chinese working class meant that the assignments of the first and second years of the first Five-Year Plan were successfully fulfilled—on some sectors, indeed, it was overfulfilled. Thus, in 1954, the total value of production in our modern industries was 4.2 times that of 1949.

The structure of China's economy is rapidly changing. Up-to-date industrial installations, hitherto unknown in China—such as the large automatic steel rolling mill, seamless tubing mill, blast furnaces, power plants, precision instruments and cutting-tool plant and heavy machinery plants—have sprung up all over the country. Such industrial cities as Anshan, Fushun, Changchun, Harbin, Paotow, Chengchow, Loyang, Tayeh, Taiyuan etc. have arisen. Gigantic construction works—new trunk railway lines, including the Chengtu-Chungking, Tienshui-Lanchow, Lanchow-Sinkiang, Tienshui-Chengtu, Fengtai-Shacheng and Chining-Erhlien lines; new main highways, including the Sikang-Tibet and the Chinghai-Tibet highways; great water conservation works, including the Chingkiang flood detention basin, and the Kuanting, Paisha, Panchiao, Meishan, Futseling, and Nanwan reservoirs, the Junhochi and Kao Liang-chien dams—all these (undreamt of in old China) have now come into being under the leadership of the Communist Party of China, by the hands of the Chinese working class and labouring masses themselves,

and with the generous assistance of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies. The accomplishment of these great tasks has filled the workers with enormous confidence in and enthusiasm for the victory of their socialist society.

Why do the Chinese people strive so hard to build Socialism? It is to secure "maximum satisfaction of the constantly rising material and cultural requirements of the whole of society through the continuous expansion and perfection of socialist production on the basis of higher techniques". (Stalin).

Now let us see how the Chinese working class is improving its material and cultural well-being on the basis of increased production.

In the past, the greatest menace in the lives of the workers was unemployment. Since the liberation, all branches of production have been continuously expanding and developing. Workers in state-owned enterprises no longer fear the threat of unemployment. There is now a shortage of skilled workers instead of the old "surplus". With the help of the people's Government more than 2,000,000 unemployed have been given work during the five years since the liberation.

The key question which affects the livelihood of the masses of industrial and office workers is the question of real wages. By 1952, the average wage of such workers in China's state-owned enterprises was approximately 60% to 120% higher than in 1949, when the country had just been liberated. In 1953, the annual real wages of workers in state-owned and joint state and private enterprises were 5% higher than in 1952. In 1954, in accordance with the state plan, the average real wage of workers and staff in state-owned enterprises, in cultural and educational depart-

ments, in all government offices rose 5.2% above the 1953 level. And when we speak of workers' wages we must not forget one important fact—that prices in China have been consistently stable since the summer of 1950.

In the old society, other problems always tormented the workers. In the event of childbirth, old age, illness, injury or disability, a worker had nowhere to turn for help. Since the liberation the state has extended all-round help to the worker. This finds reflection in the Constitution of the People's Republic of China: "Working people of the Republic of China have the right to material assistance in old age and in case of illness or disability."

In December 1948 the war-time Provisional Labour Insurance Regulations for state-owned enterprises were promulgated in areas of North-East China which were already liberated. After the whole of China was liberated, the Labour Insurance Regulations of the People's Republic of China were promulgated in February 1951. The expenses of labour insurance benefits are borne in full by managements or owners of enterprises. The workers themselves do not pay any contributions.

Labour insurance provisions such as sanatoria, hot springs facilities, tuberculosis treatment centres, rest-homes, overnight sanatoria set up by the trade unions and financed out of labour insurance funds, increased from four establishments with 655 beds in 1949 to over 180 with some 17,000 beds by June 1954. Overnight sanatoria and general sanatoria set up by the managements of enterprises increased from one in 1949 to 1,488 with over 35,000 beds by 1954. The number of homes for aged workers, homes for disabled and children's homes increased from 7 with 615 beds in 1950 to 21 with 1,939 beds by June 1954.

(Continued on page 6)



# Day of Militant Review

The First of May is the day of militant review of the international forces of organised labour, the day when they sum up the results of their struggle and their achievements. The experience of this struggle and the lessons drawn from it provide the basis for further advance along the path of social emancipation for all working people.

The results of the past year's struggle are highly favourable for the working class and all the working people in both the sections into which the world is today divided: the countries triumphantly progressing along the great path of building socialist and communist society, and the capitalist, colonial and dependent countries.

In the Soviet Union, in People's China and all the People's Democracies the working class, which with the entire people of each of these countries has forever cast off the chains of capitalism, takes stock of the immense progress made in building the new society that knows neither bosses, crises, nor poverty, a society in which the standard of economic well-being and cultural attainments is steadily rising.

Despite the campaign of lies and slander conducted by the agents of imperialism, this success is evoking growing admiration for the socialist world among the exploited and oppressed toiling masses of the capitalist and colonial countries, and encouraging and stimulating their struggle.

But the greatest contribution, one of historic significance, made this year by the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and all the People's Democracies, the camp of Socialism and democracy, to the cause of the working people of the whole world, a contribution that has won the deep gratitude of the peoples, has been the further success of their consistent and unwavering policy of peace.

All the Soviet proposals for easing international tension, for settling differences between countries by peaceful means, strengthening peace, banning and destroying weapons of mass destruction and using atomic energy for peaceful purposes have met with a lively response and full approval from the working people and the broad masses in all lands.

This year May Day is marked by the fresh success won by the international working class in the struggle it is carrying on in all capitalist and colonial countries to defend and improve living and working conditions, to uphold or win trade union rights and democratic liberties; in the fight for national independence, for the triumph of peace.

Under the pressure of U.S. imperialism the ruling classes and governments of the capitalist countries, which are chained to the Atlantic pact and West European Union, are redoubling their violent, brutal attacks upon the working people and the masses. But try as they may to conceal the aim of this reactionary offensive under the decayed and discredited mask of anti-Communism, the true meaning of anti-Communism is shown up by hard facts. And these show that the attacks of the monopolies, the big landowners and the governments which reflect their interests are aimed at the living standards of the working people, beggarly as these already are, at their elementary trade union and social rights, at the middle classes and at democratic freedoms. The purpose of these attacks is to step up super-exploitation to intensify labour to the limit, to place upon

★  
Giuseppe Di Vittorio  
Chairman, World Federation  
of Trade Unions  
★ ★

sharpened class antagonisms, for the defence and improvement of their living conditions, is developing, although unevenly, in all capitalist countries, under the united banner of the World Federation of Trade Unions.

This struggle is especially sharp in Europe. In Italy and France numerous strikes have taken place in the past year: partial, of various categories of workers, and general. In Great Britain, despite the opposition of the reformist trade union leaders, there have also been big strikes. Especially important was the strike of 41,000 dockers of London and other British ports which tied up thousands of ships for nearly a month. Other effective strikes were those of the London busmen, the shipyard workers, the metal workers of Coventry and the recent electricians' and engineers' strike which left London without newspapers from March 25 to April 20. Nearly all of them were won by the workers. Most important and politically significant were the big strikes in Western Germany and the Saar, which involved, all told, millions of workers in the basic industries: metal workers, miners etc. These strikes, which concluded with the victory of the working people and the satisfaction of trade union demands, assumed the character of a struggle against the Adenauer Government's policy of rearmament and war and for a unified, democratic, peace-loving Germany.

Important strikes and workers' actions have taken place in Belgium, Denmark and Sweden.

Among the important actions of the masses in Greece were the victorious strike of workers in the communal services and the 70-day strike of metallurgical workers in the Piraeus, which ended with the employers agreeing to a wage increase.

The same thing is observed in that citadel of world imperialism, the United States. Despite anti-strike legislation and Government repression, large-scale strikes have taken place in the country. For instance, 100,000 timber workers in the North-West struck, demanding a wage increase; a 108-day strike took place at the electric commutator plant in Detroit; 50,000 workers of the large Southern Bell Telephone Co. struck when the employers tried to take away their right to strike, and 25,000 railwaymen of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Co. recently downed tools, demanding a wage increase. In Canada, among many others, a big strike of 10,000 Ford workers took place in Windsor, lasting 110 days, and ending in complete victory.

A big wave of strikes by working people in agriculture and industry this year swept Latin America, especially the Argentine, Brazil, Chile and Cuba.

The struggle of the working people of Latin America for their demands is more and more assuming a distinctly political character, waged as it is against the big U.S. monopolies which dominate the economy of all Latin American countries.

The strike movement in Asia is even more powerful. In most countries there the fight of the working people for bread and elementary social rights merges more and more with the struggle against colonial oppression and for national independence.

went on strike), Syria, Iran and other countries.

Big strikes were also held in many African colonial countries—where a few years ago the very word "strike" was unknown—among them a 5-day strike of 22,000 railwaymen in South Africa in March of this year, a victorious strike of dockers in Mombasa, Kenya, and another involving 35,000 workers in the copper mines of Northern Rhodesia, which ended in victory after 58 days of united struggle. The degree of development of the popular struggle against the imperialist colonial regime which prevails in various parts of Africa may be measured not merely by the number of strikes in support of the working people's demands, for strikes represent only one form of the common struggle of the colonial peoples for their basic demand—national independence. However, the strikes show the scope of this struggle.

The working class of the socialist camp and the capitalist countries sends warm May Day greetings to the working people, the masses of all countries under the colonial yoke, once more reaffirming the pledge to give them every support in their struggle for national independence, a struggle on which depends their achievement of freedom and a decent life.

The rising wave of mass actions shows that the reactionary crusade of the monopolists and big landowners is everywhere being checked by the united efforts of the peoples in struggle. From this it follows that the political consciousness, organised strength and militancy of the working class and the masses of the people have reached such a pitch that the imperialists cannot now afford to do as they would like.

Undoubtedly, the development of the struggle of the working masses for a better life and in defence of peace is connected with the indisputably powerful development of the peace movement in all continents.

It is true that the governments of the European capitalist countries—satellites of U.S. imperialism—managed to scrape together bare parliamentary majorities for the ratification of the agreements on West European Union. But it is also true that the popular struggle, especially the fight of the proletarian masses against this new instrument of war forged by U.S. aggressive monopolists, is spreading and continuing in all countries.

On May Day the working people in all countries will affirm with renewed vigour their will for peace and their determination to thwart the criminal actions of the warmakers.

The great World Federation of Trade Unions, which has raised high the banner of struggle of the working people in all countries, drafted a Charter of Trade Union Rights which was unanimously approved by the Session of the General Council of the WFTU in Warsaw last December. Because the object of the reactionary attacks of the imperialist governments is to liquidate trade union and democratic rights and to trample down the political liberties gained by the peoples, the WFTU correctly emphasised the need to intensify the fight to defend trade union and democratic rights, especially at industrial enterprises. This is the main way to effectively defend the people's rights, their work and bread and the human dignity of those who labour, and is a weapon of struggle for the triumph of the cause of peace.

The main demands which will be proclaimed by the working people in capitalist countries on May Day may be summarised under three headings:

— Defence and improvement of living and working conditions.

— Effective defence and achievement, especially at places of work, of trade union rights—the basis of all democratic freedoms.

## Meeting of Delegates from Arab Countries in Damascus

A meeting of delegates from a number of the Arab countries was recently held in Damascus (Syria). Members of parliaments, political figures, scientific workers, lawyers, religious leaders, engineers, trade union leaders, literary workers, journalists, students and other people from Syria, Lebanon, Iraq and Jordan took part in the meeting.

They enthusiastically adopted an Appeal to the Arab peoples which condemned the policy of pressure and open interference being carried out by the U.S. and British imperialists and their Turkish agents in relation to the Arab countries with the aim of drawing them into their aggressive blocs, particularly into the Turkish-Iraqi pact.

The Appeal denounces the Turkish provocations against Syria which have been intensified recently on the orders of the U.S. imperialists, and condemns the new enslaving treaty with Britain signed by Nuri Said on behalf of Iraq.

Our peoples, the Appeal reads, are in duty bound to strengthen their unity and united action in order to frustrate the schemes of the imperialists and to thwart their criminal pact with all its traps.

In conclusion the Appeal calls on the Arab peoples to step up the fight against the threat of atomic war and for strengthening peace.

The meeting adopted an appeal in support of Syria, as well as a resolution condemning the Turkish-Iraqi pact and all imperialist pacts; it sent a message of greeting to the Afro-Asian Conference and took a decision to set up a permanent bureau.

## Decline of South Korean Industry

South Korean industry is declining rapidly.

Last year 308 enterprises were closed down in Seoul alone, including textile mills, tool-making and chemical plants and food factories. As a result, over 100,000 workers became jobless. Production is also rapidly falling in the enterprises which are still operating.

The reason for such stagnation of South Korean industry lies in the fact that the country's market is flooded with American goods, while the Syngman Rhee Government completely ignores the needs and interests of the national industry.

## RISING PRICES IN SPAIN

Inflation is increasing and prices soaring in Spain while tens of millions of pesetas are being extracted from the pockets of the taxpayers for the construction of U.S. war bases in the country.

In recent times prices have gone up for eggs, meat, poultry, potatoes, some brands of tobacco and so on. The increases also cover hairdressers, bars, cafes, taxi rates and cinemas. In the past few months alone the cost of living has increased more than 25%.

The growth of prices has led to a reduction in the consumption of such essential products as bread and sugar. The bourgeois magazine Ceres recently wrote in an editorial that "the consumption of bread is being noticeably reduced in Spain", while the newspaper *El Mundo* said:

The aggressive Pakistan-Turkey and Turkey-Iraq pacts are instruments of the imperialist plans of the U.S.A. and Britain in the Arab East and are directed against the vital interests of the Arab countries.

(Press item)



I TRUST NEITHER FAKIRS NOR THEIR TRICKS!

Drawing by T. Pindarev. From the newspaper *Styrshel* (Bulgaria)

## POLITICAL NOTES

### 1. Ideal of U. S. Monopolies

When a visit was paid to Central America a short while ago by so exalted a person as the U.S. Vice-President, Richard Nixon, it was certainly not to admire its tropical beauty. No, Mr. Nixon was drawn to the shores of the Caribbean Sea for a very different reason—his concern for U.S. monopoly profits. The Vice-President wanted to see for himself whether the banana kings and sugar barons felt sufficiently comfortable riding on the backs of the peoples of Central America, and how strictly the local rulers were adhering to the interests of the dollar.

One of the countries honoured with the presence of this important visitor was Guatemala. There, the "achievements" of the usurper Castillo Armas, hired agent of the United Fruit Company, filled him with inexpressible delight. Deeply stirred, he described the present Guatemalan regime as a "model anti-communist state".

Of course, on the lips of U.S. rulers the term "anti-communist" is one of highest praise. It is generally bestowed upon those who most rabidly suppress democracy, upon the most servile executors of the will of the U.S. imperialists. In other words, the Vice-President clearly and distinctly told other henchmen of Wall Street whoseople they were to imitate. True, he did not specify just what...

for the Guatemalan people. On the contrary, he is wholly on the side of the American monopolists. Yet here is his description of the situation in Mr. Nixon's "ideal" state. "Guatemala", he writes, "is on the verge of economic disaster. Two-thirds of her coffee, totalling 120 million pounds, is still unsold... Added to these problems is the shortage of maize, which is a potentially dangerous factor, for maize is the principal food of the population..."

Further, James writes that this small country has 20,000 unemployed, that unemployment has become a real calamity for the Guatemalans. The employers are discharging workers by the dozen as a result of which the discontent and indignation of the masses is growing.

At about the same time, the *New York Times* published an item from the city of Guatemala which reported that Armas was preparing to wipe out what remained of ex-president Arbenz' agrarian reform, and that many peasants had already been forcibly evicted. According to the Italian radio, Province grew so desperate that they attacked with sticks and stones the government official and those with him. In retaliation they were...



This year May Day is marked by the fresh success won by the international working class in the struggle it is carrying on in all capitalist and colonial countries to defend and improve living and working conditions, to uphold or win trade union rights and democratic liberties; in the fight for national independence, for the triumph of peace.

Under the pressure of U.S. imperialism the ruling classes and governments of the capitalist countries, which are chained to the Atlantic pact and West European Union, are redoubling their violent, brutal attacks upon the working people and the masses. But try as they may to conceal the aim of this reactionary offensive under the decayed and discredited mask of anti-Communism, the true meaning of anti-Communism is shown up by hard facts. And these show that the attacks of the monopolies, the big landowners and the governments which reflect their interests are aimed at the living standards of the working people, beggarly as these already are, at their elementary trade union and social rights, at the middle classes and at democratic freedoms. The purpose of these attacks is to step up super-exploitation, to intensify labour to the limit, to place upon the shoulders of the working people and the masses the burden of ever-growing expenditure on the feverish arms race and the preparations for the aggressive war that American imperialism is seeking to let loose.

But in all countries the reactionary offensive of the big capitalists and their governments is encountering the powerful and steadily increasing resistance of the working class, which frequently answers the blows of the reactionaries with victorious counter-attacks. The struggle of the working masses, which takes place in conditions of

unusually high wages in the country. For instance, 100,000 timberworkers in the North-West struck, demanding a wage increase; a 108-day strike took place at the electric commutator plant in Detroit; 50,000 workers of the large Southern Bell Telephone Co. struck when the employers tried to take away their right to strike, and 25,000 railwaymen of the Louisville and Nashville Railroad Co. recently downed tools, demanding a wage increase. In Canada, among many others, a big strike of 10,000 Ford workers took place in Windsor, lasting 110 days, and ending in complete victory.

A big wave of strikes by working people in agriculture and industry this year swept Latin America, especially the Argentine, Brazil, Chile and Cuba.

The struggle of the working people of Latin America for their demands is more and more assuming a distinctly political character, waged as it is against the big U.S. monopolies which dominate the economy of all Latin American countries.

The strike movement in Asia is even more powerful. In most countries there the fight of the working people for bread and elementary social rights merges more and more with the struggle against colonial oppression and for national independence. In this part of the world Japan is in the forefront as regards the sweep of the trade union struggle. Of special significance was a three-month strike of 5,000 women silk workers in the town of Omi, which was supported by big solidarity strikes at other factories and ended in victory for the working people. Of great significance were a big strike of Japanese railwaymen, which on March 27 paralysed the railways connecting Tokyo with all central areas of the country, and a strike of 170,000 coal miners.

Large-scale strikes took place in India and Ceylon (where 200,000 tea pickers

their will for peace, and their determination to thwart the criminal actions of the war-makers.

The great World Federation of Trade Unions, which has raised high the banner of struggle of the working people in all countries, drafted a Charter of Trade Union Rights which was unanimously approved by the Session of the General Council of the WFTU in Warsaw last December. Because the object of the reactionary attacks of the imperialist governments is to liquidate trade union and democratic rights and to trample down the political liberties gained by the peoples, the WFTU correctly emphasised the need to intensify the fight to defend trade union and democratic rights, especially at industrial enterprises. This is the main way to effectively defend the people's rights, their work and bread and the human dignity of those who labour, and is a weapon of struggle for the triumph of the cause of peace.

The main demands which will be proclaimed by the working people in capitalist countries on May Day may be summarised under three headings:

— Defence and improvement of living and working conditions.

— Effective defence and achievement, especially at places of work, of trade union rights—the basis of all democratic freedoms.

— Resolute defence of peace—the most precious possession of mankind—and the demand for universal and controlled destruction of atomic and thermo-nuclear weapons.

Raising ever higher the banner of struggle for well-being, freedom and peace, the international working class is conscious of the fact that it has grown stronger and more united, and together with all other progressive forces, it is advancing along the path of its complete social emancipation, the path by which mankind will attain to a higher level of economic prosperity and cultural progress.

The reason for such stagnation of South Korean industry lies in the fact that the country's market is flooded with American goods, while the Syngman Rhee Government completely ignores the needs and interests of the national industry.

## RISE IN SPAIN

Inflation is increasing and prices soaring in Spain while tens of millions of pesetas are being extracted from the pockets of the taxpayers for the construction of U.S. war bases in the country.

In recent times prices have gone up for eggs, meat, poultry, potatoes, some brands of tobacco and so on. The increases also cover hairdressers, bars, cafes, taxi rates and cinemas. In the past few months alone the cost of living has increased more than 25%.

The growth of prices has led to a reduction in the consumption of such essential products as bread and sugar. The bourgeois magazine *Ceres* recently wrote in an editorial that "the consumption of bread is being noticeably reduced in Spain", while the newspaper *Pueblo*, an organ of the Francoist "trade unions", admitted that sugar was now rarely consumed in the rural areas of the country.

## Atom Hysteria on TV

The British public were recently presented with a special TV programme, graced by no less a personality than Lord Ismay, NATO's General Secretary, and American General Gruenther, commander of its European forces. To mislead the public from the start, the programme was hypocritically advertised as one dealing with peace. When the time came however, as one would expect, these two top-ranking representatives of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc pounded into the ears of their audience unrestrained propaganda for atomic war.

With the frankness of a warmongering fanatic, Gruenther openly stated that the arming of Western Germany plus atomic weapons formed the basis of all military strategy of NATO. Well astride his hobby-horse, he savagely commended to British viewers such means of "ensuring peace" as long-range aircraft, in particular American B-47 bombers now adapted to carry atomic bombs.

This brazen performance by Gruenther and Ismay once again reveals the implications of carrying through the Paris agreements, and of Western Germany's "contribution" to Europe's "defence".

M. S.

## NEWS IN BRIEF

★ In the current year the number of medical establishments in the industrial enterprises of Rumania will be more than double that of 1950. More than 100 big enterprises in the country now have well-equipped clinics and hospitals. Night sanatoria for workers have been established in many enterprises.

★ In 1954, the volume of production of the Georgi Dimitrov Works in Ruse, Bulgaria, was 9 times greater than in 1948. This plant supplied the country with 303 grain combines. During this year it will turn out a further 500 grain combines, 92 sugar beet combines, 30 universal machines for vineyards and thousands of other machines.

★ There was not a single cultural establishment in Mongolia before the revolution. Now the Mongolian People's Republic has 60 clubs, 436 recreation centres and 37 big libraries.

poly profits. The Vice-President wanted to see for himself whether the banana kings and sugar barons felt sufficiently comfortable riding on the backs of the peoples of Central America, and how strictly the local rulers were adhering to the interests of the dollar.

One of the countries honoured with the presence of this important visitor was Guatemala. There, the "achievements" of the usurper Castillo Armas, hired agent of the United Fruit Company, filled him with inexpressible delight. Deeply stirred, he described the present Guatemalan regime as a "model anti-communist state".

Of course, on the lips of U.S. rulers the term "anti-communist" is one of highest praise. It is generally bestowed upon those who most rabidly suppress democracy, upon the most servile executors of the will of the U.S. imperialists. In other words, the Vice-President clearly and distinctly told other henchmen of Wall Street whose example they were to imitate. True, he did not specify just what it was that so pleased him, but since the American press at the same time published a number of reports from Guatemala it is not hard to discover from them what charmed Mr. Nixon in the "achievements" of its dictatorial regime.

The newspaper *La Prensa*, published in Spanish in New York, featured a series of articles by Daniel James, a journalist who was in Guatemala for a month. Even the Un-American Activities Committee would find it hard to accuse James of harbouring sympathy

shortage of maize, which is a principal dangerous factor, for maize is the principal food of the population..."

Further, James writes that this small country has 20,000 unemployed, that unemployment has become a real calamity for the Guatemalans. The employers are discharging workers by the dozen as a result of which the discontent and indignation of the masses is growing.

At about the same time, the *New York Times* published an item from the city of Guatemala which reported that Armas was preparing to wipe out what remained of ex-president Arbenz' agrarian reform, and that many peasants had already been forcibly evicted. According to the Italian radio, the peasants in a village of Chiquimula Province grew so desperate that they attacked with sticks and stones the government official and those with him. In retaliation they were fired upon, four being killed and two wounded.

Death sentences and killings, searches and arrests, the abolition of all democratic rights and freedoms, unemployment and poverty for the working people—this is the picture we are shown of reality in Guatemala today, a picture even the bourgeois press cannot conceal. And the one aim behind it all is to ensure the profits and multiply the possessions of the United Fruit Company and other U.S. monopolies.

So this is the ideal of the U.S. monopolies and of Mr. Nixon; this is the exemplary "anti-communist state".

## 2. Stern Voice From the American Embassy

A group of Liberal deputies in Greece recently announced their decision to leave the Liberal Party and found a new party, to be called Liberal Democratic Union. The idea displeased the U.S. Ambassador. Without a thought for the elementary decencies of diplomatic practice, he published a stern "warning" to the new political grouping in the press of Athens.

The indignant deputies issued a reply emphasising that they were responsible only to the Greek people who had elected them to Parliament, and not to the Ambassador who had no right to interfere in the internal affairs of Greece. To the amazement of the Greek public no less a person than Prime Minister Papagos hastened to the American

Ambassador's assistance. He explained that the Ambassador had the right to speak in such a tone. "We must not forget", the Prime Minister admonished, "that when we joined NATO we voluntarily assumed definite obligations."

In other words, the ruling circles of the U.S.A. have the right, as "allies in the Atlantic bloc", to rudely interfere in the internal affairs of Greece.

"I fear the Danaï, even when bringing gifts", Virgil wrote in *Aeneid* a long time ago. His famous phrase may well be paraphrased in Greece today: "I fear the Americans, even when called my allies."

Jan MAREK

## Facts Expose...

The Joys and Sorrows of Dr. Cook

Dr. Robert Cook, director of the American Population Reference Bureau, is

very upset about the world birth rate. According to an Associated Press correspondent, he is put out by the great growth in the populations of Egypt, India, Japan, "Asia in general", Northern Rhodesia, Mexico, Brazil and other countries. However, statistics bring Dr. Cook joy as well as sorrow. The gentlemanly scholar rejoices, for instance, in the fact that in some areas large numbers of children die before they are a year old. Either reduce the birth rate, or increase the death rate, is the programme recommended by this misanthropic character.

The Malthusian avowals of Dr. Cook provide an unsurpassable and glaring example of bourgeois science abasing itself before its imperialist masters.

During his recent S.O.S. the U.S.A. visit to Madrid, Mr. Harold Stassen announced that the United States is planning to "aid" Spain by supplying her with coal. The news of this fresh manifestation of American "magnanimity" evoked emphatic protest even from the Spanish industrialists, for the country is already burdened with a large quantity of coal for which no market can be found. Deliveries of American coal (and this at very high prices) can only aggravate the country's economic difficulties.

Apparently, the American "benefactors" abide by the well-known saying "charity begins at home".

## EDITORIAL BOARD

## Chinese Working Class in the Struggle to Build a Socialist Society

(Continued from page 5)

The number of industrial and office workers receiving old age pensions is increasing year by year.

As far as safety at work is concerned, the conditions under which the working class laboured before liberation were appalling. They slaved like beasts of burden to make profits for both domestic and foreign capitalists, the capitalist aim being solely to make profit, no concern whatever being shown for decent conditions, safety or health.

How different is the situation now, after the liberation! The protection of the workers' health and safety is a basic principle of the management of socialist enterprises. Comrade Mao Tse-tung teaches us: "At the same time as we increase production and practice economy, we must pay attention to safety, health, and the provision of indispensable amenities for workers and staff. It is entirely wrong to take note only of the first aspect while forgetting or even slightly neglecting the second aspect." In order to improve working conditions, the state has increased the allocation for providing safety measures; for example, the amount spent by the Ministry of Railways on this item was nearly 13 times more in 1953 than in 1950. Or take the coal-mining industry. In 1954 the amount spent on improvements in health and safety increased 48.3% above that of 1953.

The cultural level of the Chinese working class has risen immeasurably. It is

stipulated in the trade union law of the People's Republic of China, which was promulgated in 1950 over the signature of Chairman Mao Tse-tung, that an amount equal to 1.5% of the total monthly wage bill must be paid by managements or owners of industrial enterprises, government offices and state farms to the respective trade union for promoting cultural and educational activities among the workers and staff, and, in addition, a set sum has to be allocated from the directors' fund for cultural purposes.

With these regular contributions, and thanks to the common efforts of trade union organisations at all levels and their members, rapid progress has been made in cultural life in a short space of time. In 1954, trade unions, in order to help workers to learn to read and write, set up 11,756 spare-time schools, with 86,388 full-time or part-time teachers and a total enrolment, in all grades, of 3,050,295. To provide facilities for cultural and recreational activities for industrial and office workers, houses of culture, large and small, clubs and club-rooms and so on to the number of 13,190, have been set up. Furthermore, there are now 49,063,164 books available through 17,486 libraries and 25,986 mobile libraries; there are 1,656 film projection teams, as well as 8,674 loud-speaker installations. The trade unions have also organised 24 professional dramatic companies, 7,046 amateur dramatic companies and 17,685 music and dance groups and groups devoted to literature, arts and crafts. About 199,730 people have joined various literary and artistic groups. Moreover, 82,725 basketball, volleyball and football

teams have been organised by workers and staff, with 838,404 members.

Even from the incomplete figures given above, we can see that the great victory of the Chinese People's Revolution brought not only political benefit to the Chinese working class and the entire working people of China, but also material fruits. This explains why after the liberation the Chinese working class turned with heightened enthusiasm to production, and why labour emulation has been so widespread.

American imperialism, implacable foe of the Chinese people, has, in collusion with its henchmen, the traitorous Chiang Kai-shek gang, occupied the Chinese territory of Taiwan, and together they are trying by every possible means to obstruct and sabotage socialist construction in China.

In order to safeguard the sovereignty and territorial integrity of their motherland, protect their own peaceful and happy life, and defend peace and security in the Far East and the world, the Chinese working class, together with the entire Chinese people, is determined to liberate Taiwan, and under no circumstances will it tolerate the interference by American imperialism in the internal affairs of China. The Chinese working class firmly believes that, although a host of difficulties may be encountered in building Socialism and in the just struggle to liberate Taiwan, under the tried and trusted leadership of the Chinese Communist Party, headed by Comrade Mao Tse-tung, with the sympathy and support of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism, headed by the Soviet Union, and with the concerted efforts of the entire people, ultimate victory will assuredly belong to the Chinese working class and people.