

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

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Main Factor in Organisational Work of Communist and Workers' Parties

The strength of the Communist and Workers' Parties lies in the fact that they are guided by the Marxist-Leninist theory, that their policy corresponds to the most vital interests of the peoples, that they are inseparably linked with the broad popular masses and are able to rally and organise millions of people for the struggle to put the Party slogans and decisions into practice. Organisational work occupies the paramount place in the entire activity of the Communist and Workers' Parties.

Leninism teaches that the correct selection and allocation of cadres and constant checking up on the fulfilment of Party decisions is the main and decisive factor in organisational work. "...Choose the proper men and introduce executive control", said Lenin.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union has always and in all conditions attached and continues to attach exceptional importance to organisational work and has accumulated rich experience in this sphere. Particularly serious attention has always been attached by the CPSU to the questions of selecting and training cadres and checking up on the fulfilment of Party decisions. This enables it to successfully solve the most complicated tasks of state, economic and cultural upbuilding.

The Communist and Workers' Parties firmly follow the Leninist principles of organisational work and the experience of the CPSU, they work unremittingly to perfect their organisational work. However, the organisational work, as has been stressed in the decisions of many Communist and Workers' Parties, is still not yet up to the level of the political tasks, above all it lags in the sphere of work with cadres and verification of the fulfilment of decisions.

The Communist and Workers' Parties have trained numerous cadres of Party workers devoted to the cause of the people, to the cause of democracy and Socialism. Nevertheless, as was pointed out at the Congresses held last year by a number of Communist and Workers' Parties and at C.C. meetings, there were serious shortcomings in cadres work. The Second Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party stated, for instance, that this work had not yet become a basic part of the work of the whole Party, and in particular of Party committees at all levels and of political workers of the Party apparatus.

In present conditions especially responsible tasks confront the Communist and Workers' Parties of the capitalist, colonial and dependent countries. These Parties are called upon to lead the struggle of the peoples in their countries for peace, for frustration of the imperialist plans to unleash a new world war, for banning atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction, against the intensified attacks on the democratic rights and vital interests of the working people, on their democratic organisations, on the national independence and national sovereignty of many capitalist countries. To the extent that they improve their work in selecting and training cadres capable of orientating themselves in any situation, indissolubly linked with the working masses, who are ready to overcome any difficulties and withstand any trial, who are firmly confident of the strength of the people and of the inevitable victory of their just cause—the cause of peace, democracy and Socialism—the more successfully can these Parties accomplish their tasks.

Checking up on the fulfilment of decisions is the second important element of organisational work, the element which ensures the fulfilment of the Party decisions and serves as an effective means of educating cadres. Its aim is to ensure the realisation of the Party decisions, to study positive experience and encourage its dissemination, to reveal shortcomings, to bring to light and eradicate the causes of these shortcomings, to help honest and conscious workers to carry out their tasks in a better way, to help those who are lagging to catch up with the rest and to facilitate the promotion of new and capable workers.

Party work in its very nature is concrete, everyday and creative work, work with people. It cannot be replaced by directives and reports. The effectiveness of Party work is measured first of all by how the Party organisations mobilise the masses for the fulfilment of Party decisions and how these decisions are fulfilled.

It should be noted, however, that failure to check up on decisions in a proper way, as has been stressed time and again in the decisions of the leading organs of many Parties, is one of the most common shortcomings in the practical work of Party organisations. In the activity of Party organisations and their leaders there are still quite a few serious shortcomings and elements of bureaucratism incompatible with the Leninist style of Party work. There

NEW YEAR'S SPEECH by Comrade K. E. VOROSHILOV Chairman, Presidium, Supreme Soviet of the USSR

Dear Comrades! Dear citizens of our beloved homeland, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics!

I cordially wish you a Happy New Year!

It is with a feeling of profound joy that we note that our homeland has become still richer and stronger in the past year through the efforts of the Soviet people.

The past year has been one of the further development of socialist industry, of advance of agriculture and the flowering of science and culture in our multinational homeland.

These achievements are the result of the creative labour of the heroic Soviet people—workers, collective farmers and intelligentsia. It is they, the indefatigable builders of a Communist society and the glorious fighters for peace and the happiness of people, who, led by their Communist Party, are confidently marching forward to new victories.

In the coming year the Soviet people, inspired by the great ideas of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, will labour with even greater energy to make our Motherland still more powerful.

Embarking on the new year of 1955, proud of our achievements, we also note with satisfaction that there has been a certain easing of the international tension in the past year as a result of the persistent efforts of the Soviet Union, the People's Republic of China and all the peace-loving peoples. The struggle for a stable and lasting peace has borne fruit.

But this doesn't suit the enemies of peace.

Regardless of the will of their peoples, and oblivious of the lessons of history, the ruling circles of certain Western powers continue to pursue an aggressive policy that is fraught with dangerous consequences.

The peace-loving peoples cannot overlook the fact that the Western powers, by reviving German militarism in the heart of Europe, are aggravating the situation and increasing the danger of a new war.

Respected citizens, men and women, boys and girls of foreign countries! The past year, fortunately for all mankind, was a year of peace.

I have no doubt that ordinary, honest people in all countries do not want war, they want to live in peace and fraternal concord.

The adversaries of peace will not succeed in carrying out their plans if the peoples take the cause of peace into their own hands and defend it to the end.

The Soviet people, in fraternal unity with the great Chinese people and all the peoples of the democratic countries, are confident that the incoming year will also be a year of further consolidation of world peace.

At the recent Moscow Conference the peace-loving countries of Europe demonstrated their unshakable unity, solidity and will to struggle for the great cause of peace and security of the European peoples. The Soviet people, like all ordinary people abroad, welcomed the Declaration of the Moscow Conference calling for the establishment of a system of collective security in Europe.

The Soviet people—the masters in their great land, the vanguard of the fight for peace, freedom and the happiness of the whole of mankind—are embarking on the new year full of creative force and inexhaustible energy, ready to work for the well-being of their beloved homeland with even greater heroism!

On behalf of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Soviet Government, I warmly wish you a Happy New Year, dear fellow-countrymen!

I wish a Happy New Year to the ordinary and honest people of all lands! May the new year be one of even greater successes in the struggle of mankind for lasting peace between the peoples, for the happiness of all people!

A Happy New Year!

REPLIES of G. M. MALENKOV Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR to Questions Put by Mr. Charles Edward Shutt

Mr. Charles Edward Shutt, manager of the Washington Bureau of Telenews, a television and newsreel agency, approached G. M. Malenkov with the request that he answer some questions.

The questions put by Mr. Charles Edward Shutt and G. M. Malenkov's replies are given below.

Question. What is the best way of maintaining peace between our two countries?

Reply. What is required first and foremost for the maintenance of peace between the USSR and the U.S.A. is the sincere desire of both sides for peace and their striving for it so that in their relations they proceed from the possibility and the necessity of peaceful co-existence with each other and from consideration of legitimate mutual interests.

As far as the Soviet Union is concerned it is prepared, in conformity with these principles, to continue to do everything in its power to ensure lasting and stable peaceable relations between the USSR and the U.S.A., to settle outstanding differences, having in view that a similar readiness will be displayed on the part of the United States of America too.

Question. What, in your view, is the main reason for the tension between the Soviet Union and the United States?

Reply. The main reason for the tension in Soviet-U.S. relations is the policy pursued by certain circles in the U.S.A. aimed at reviving a revenge-seeking West German army, the arms race and the creation of a network of U.S. military bases around the Soviet Union and other peace-loving states, which cannot be regarded otherwise than as preparations for a new war. It is common knowledge that at the present time, through the fault of the Western Powers who have concluded the London and Paris agreements, the threat to peace is increasing and the war danger is growing.

To eliminate tension in relations between the USSR and the U.S.A. and to provide a firm foundation for the successful development of peaceful co-operation between our countries, the policy of the revival of German militarism, which has brought mankind incalculable disasters, must be stopped, the arms drive halted and the policy of surrounding peace-loving countries with military bases discontinued.

Question. Would you welcome diplomatic negotiations for the settlement of outstanding issues in the Far East?

Reply. Yes. Negotiations between the countries concerned for the settlement of a number of Far Eastern questions must be welcomed. The experience of the Geneva Conference, in which the People's Republic of China took part with other powers, has shown that such negotiations yield favourable results.

Question. What are your views on international control over atomic weapons and do you believe that a suitable plan, acceptable to all parties concerned, could be worked out?

Reply. The attitude adopted by the Soviet Union on atomic weapons is well known. The USSR stands for an unconditional ban on atomic weapons, for their complete withdrawal from the armament of states and for the establishment of a strict international control over the implementation of an agreement for this purpose.

Other states should be interested no less than the Soviet Union in banning atomic weapons and eliminating the threat of an atomic war.

Question. Would you welcome diplomatic negotiations for a conference between the heads of the Governments of France, Great Britain, the Soviet Union and the United States?

Reply. In this connection, it should first of all be said that the U.S.A., Britain and France have of late done everything to exclude the possibility of solving, in a positive way, the question of calling a conference of the heads of the Governments of the Four Powers. As is known, the three Western Powers are trying to solve the most important international questions, first and foremost, those in relation to Germany, on their own. It is obvious that one cannot pursue such a policy and at the same time create among the peoples the

organisational work, as has been stressed in the decisions of many Communist and Workers' Parties, is still not yet up to the level of the political tasks, above all it lags in the sphere of work with cadres and verification of the fulfilment of decisions.

The Communist and Workers' Parties have trained numerous cadres of Party workers devoted to the cause of the people, to the cause of democracy and Socialism. Nevertheless, as was pointed out at the Congresses held last year by a number of Communist and Workers' Parties and at C.C. meetings, there were serious shortcomings in cadres work. The Second Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party stated, for instance, that this work had not yet become a basic part of the work of the whole Party, and in particular of Party committees at all levels and of political workers of the Party apparatus.

The leading organs of many Parties concern themselves with the selection of cadres only from time to time, when it is necessary to deal with certain practical tasks. Isn't it clear that such a state of affairs results in a loss of perspective and in the training of cadres often taking place not in accordance with a carefully elaborated plan conforming to the important tasks which face the Party, but haphazardly. In the activity of many Party organisations there is still a formal and bureaucratic approach to cadres and a fear of promoting young workers; cadres are sometimes selected not in accordance with their political and professional qualifications, but by considerations of friendship, personal loyalty, home town ties and kinship. The Rules of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Communist Parties of Czechoslovakia and Bulgaria particularly stress that a Party member, no matter what job is entrusted to him by the Party, is duty bound to unwaveringly implement the directives of the Party on the correct selection of cadres in accordance with their political and professional qualifications. Violation of these directives is incompatible with Party membership.

Life places ever more complicated and responsible tasks before the cadres of the Communist and Workers' Parties. To cope with these tasks in the right way their general education and specialist training should be constantly improved and the closest attention paid to their Marxist-Leninist tempering.

The Communist and Workers' Parties of the People's Democracies are confronted with the task—to reinforce all decisive sectors of the national economy with trained and devoted workers, resolutely to enhance the leading role of the Party organisations and broaden their links with the masses. Constant improvement of the selection, allocation and training of cadres, putting at the helm of Party, economic and state organs people who are capable of ensuring the strict fulfilment of Party and government decisions, supporting all that is new and advanced, all those who are uncompromising towards shortcomings and deficiencies, towards stagnation and the stereotyped methods of work and who are able to work among the masses, to lend a ready ear to their views and to learn from them—this is the constant task of all Party organs in the countries of people's democracy.

Against New Intrigues of Atom Maniacs

A statement recently published in Budapest by a group of Hungarians prominent in the cultural sphere demands the immediate prohibition of atomic weapons. "We value the fruits of our creative efforts," the statement reads, "but today we also think of the fate of all that has been created by the whole of human culture, of the material wealth created during long centuries throughout the whole

of the world. We value the human lives, towns and villages and treasures of civilisation of Western Europe. We would not like the Americans, too, to see their country in ruins. "This is why we are calling on all men and women of honour and good sense to raise their voice in protest and avert by joint efforts the carrying through of new plans for unleashing an atomic war."

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The Communist and Workers' Parties persistently combat these phenomena, which are alien to the spirit of Leninism, and in those countries where they are the ruling parties they strive to eradicate these phenomena in the state apparatus too. The Central Committee and the Government, said Comrade Chou En-lai in his report to the National People's Congress, "time and again drew the attention of the organs of state throughout the country to the need to overcome bureaucratism and commandism in their work, and called on them to develop criticism and self-criticism, to strengthen their contacts with the masses of the people".

The experience of the Communist and Workers' Parties of all countries shows that verification of the fulfilment of decisions achieves its aim only when it begins immediately after the decision is taken and continues until the decision is finally implemented, when it is carried out on the spot by the leaders themselves and when personal responsibility is established for the work. Checking up guarantees the precise fulfilment of Party decisions and educates Party cadres only when it is carried out on a high level, as a matter of principle, when the local Party and non-party activists and the working people are brought into this work, when it is accompanied by broad criticism and self-criticism, revolutionary vigilance and an uncompromising attitude towards distortions of the Party line and towards shortcomings in the work. "The best means of speedily exposing and replacing unhealthy elements", as was pointed out in the documents of the XIIIth Congress of the French Communist Party, "is the constant observance of the principles of democratic centralism, control from below, the verification of each comrade in his work."

The Communist and Workers' Parties see it as their urgent task to raise organisational work to the level of the political tasks, to improve cadres work and checking up on decisions in every possible way, justly regarding this as a prerequisite of fresh, even bigger successes in their many-sided activity.

of the world. We value the human lives, towns and villages and treasures of civilisation of Western Europe. We would not like the Americans, too, to see their country in ruins.

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Statement of Leadership of Italian Communist Party

The meeting of the Leadership of the Italian Communist Party in Rome on December 29 discussed the results and consequences of ratification of the Paris agreements by the Chamber of Deputies. The meeting adopted a statement which reads: "Aware of the grave situation in which the Italian people and all European peoples, too, have found themselves, the Party Leadership obliges the entire Party to develop, with renewed energy, the necessary activity

and struggle to stay the hand of those who are preparing a new and horrible conflict. A broad mobilisation of popular forces is necessary for this purpose. It is necessary not only to persistently continue and step up this activity but also to call for an intensive struggle against the criminal imperialist designs by all who cherish peace and want to unite to save peace. All forces of the Party must be mobilised for this purpose."

Combine Efforts of Peoples of All Countries in Interests of Peace and World Security

Comments on Comrade G. M. Malenkov's Replies to American Journalist

The replies given by G. M. Malenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, to the questions put by Charles Edward Shutt, American journalist, have evoked the most lively interest of the world public. At a time when the enemies of peace are seeking in every way to prevent an easing of world tension and to implement their criminal plans for unleashing a new war, the voice of the head of the Soviet Government resounded firmly and confidently on New Year's Day and confirmed once again the clear and inflexible peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union.

Touching on the most important international problems agitating millions of people in all countries, G. M. Malenkov convincingly showed the real reasons for the tension obtaining in international relations, the prospects and ways for the continued struggle of the peoples to secure peace and world security. It is therefore quite natural that the replies of the head of the Soviet Government have aroused wide comment in all countries throughout the world and have met with the warm approval of all honest and peace-loving people.

The Chinese newspaper *Wenhuipao* writes: In his replies Comrade Malenkov gave a profound analysis of the international situation. He pointed out that the three Western Powers are seeking to solve important international problems, notably the German question, on their own. But it is impossible, sums up the paper, to pursue such a one-sided policy and, at the same time, create among the peoples illusions about the holding of a Four-Power Conference.

The Soviet Union and other peace-loving countries and nations all over the world, continues the newspaper, stand, as always, for a conference of the great powers to be held to solve controversial international issues. Such a conference, however, cannot be conducted in an atmosphere of war hysteria.

It is clear, concludes the paper, that peace can only be saved by a resolute struggle against the Paris agreements and the U.S.-Chiang Kai-shek treaty.

The German newspaper *Neues Deutschland* carries a leader using as its title G. M. Malenkov's words "All peoples should now be particularly vigilant..."

G. M. Malenkov's words that "there is at present no more important task than the unification of the efforts of the peoples of all countries in the interests of securing peace and international security", stresses the newspaper, bear first and foremost on the German people. The imperialist powers are attempting to convert Western Germany into the main jumping-off ground for a new war in Europe and, with this aim in view, intend to revive the German Wehrmacht by way of ratification of the Paris agreements, thus making it the shock force in a war against the peace-loving peoples.

Such a policy is a threat to peace and aggravates the danger of war.

Comrade Malenkov's replies, points out the Polish newspaper *Trybuna Ludu*, reflected the sentiments of all those people throughout the world who wished each other peace and goodwill on New Year's Eve. They were a reflection of the most natural aspirations of mankind for peace...

The ratification of the Paris agreements by the French Parliament, under insistent pressure from the U.S.A. and Britain, the newspaper goes on to say, arouses the understandable indignation of all the people of our continent, because Europe has repeatedly seen for itself what the revival of German militarism means and what disasters the Wehrmacht brings in its train.

The Rumanian newspaper *Scinteia* points out in a leading article that the problem of Soviet-U.S. relations is the key question of international politics and notes:

The peoples hail the words of Comrade Malenkov that the Soviet Union is ready

to continue to do everything in its power to ensure lasting and stable peaceable relations between the USSR and the U.S.A. and to settle outstanding differences, having in view that a similar readiness will be displayed on the part of the U.S.A.

"The replies of G. M. Malenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, to the questions put by Mr. Charles E. Shutt", notes the Czechoslovak newspaper *Rude Pravo*, "not only clearly characterise the present-day international situation but also point to the main prerequisites for the further promotion of world peace."

One of the major principles of Soviet foreign policy, the newspaper goes on to say, is that of peaceful coexistence and friendly co-operation of nations based on respect for each other's interests. The Soviet Government consistently adhered to this principle at the Berlin and Geneva Conferences. Proceeding from these principles it strove for the reduction of armaments and a ban on atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass extermination at the 9th session of Uno.

G. M. Malenkov's replies have evoked great interest and wholehearted approval in democratic and patriotic circles of the countries of the capitalist camp. All who cherish peace and the security of nations find an answer to the vital and stirring problems in the statement made by the head of the Soviet Government.

The French newspaper *l'Humanité*, commenting on G. M. Malenkov's replies in its leading article, writes: "The separate settlement of international questions and, above all, questions relating to Germany is an attempt by the U.S., British and French Governments to preclude the possibility of a positive solution of the questions at a Four-Power Conference. Comrade Malenkov clearly stresses that one cannot pursue such a policy and at the same

time create among the peoples the illusion of the possibility of holding a Four-Power Conference."

"The conclusion is plain: it is necessary to prevent this policy being put into practice, to frustrate the attempts to reararm a revenge-seeking Germany, to bring about a ban on atomic weapons and the establishment of control over its implementation."

Whereas all honest people of the world express heartfelt approval and hail the replies of G. M. Malenkov aimed at a relaxation in international tension and a peaceful settlement of the urgent international questions, the reaction in official circles in capitalist countries was different. Proof of this, for example, is the fact that the majority of American newspapers who failed, apparently, to find any argument in reply are deliberately keeping silent on the important principles laid down by the head of the Soviet Government; while the State Department, according to Associated Press, refused to make any official comment.

The press of the capitalist monopolies, at the bidding of the State Department, are seeking to portray G. M. Malenkov's replies as a "propaganda manoeuvre". The U.S. State Department resorts to this "argument" whenever it finds itself driven into a corner and has nothing to say on the point. It never occurs to certain commentators that the reference to "propaganda" has long been looked upon as hackneyed trickery that can convince nobody.

Whatever the attempts of the bourgeois press and the radio the truth is reaching and will reach the ordinary people in all parts of the world. The peoples of all countries will become even more vigilant in relation to the intrigues of the aggressive circles, and will unite their efforts still more in the interests of securing peace and international security.

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The point therefore is that a conference of the heads of the Governments of France, Great Britain, the USSR and the U.S.A. should not be confronted by the accomplished fact of decisions already taken separately on any questions that require examination at a Four-Power Conference.

Question. Have you anything to convey to the American people?

Reply. I am sending the American people hearty greetings and the best New Year wishes. There is every basis for the development and consolidation of friendship between the peoples of the United States of America and the Soviet Union. I am confident that the American people will make a worthy contribution to the great and noble cause of strengthening peace between the peoples.

All peoples should now be particularly vigilant regarding all intrigues of aggressive circles. There is at present no more important task than the unification of the efforts of the peoples of all countries in the interests of securing peace and international security.

Communist Party of Germany in Struggle for Peaceful Reunification of Country and Against Paris Agreements*

I.

The Congress of the Communist Party of Germany is being held in a situation which demands from the German working class and the whole German nation the most serious decisions in recent years. The theses submitted to the Congress characterise that which is new in the situation and outline the basis of our policy. They provide our Party with an orientation for the forthcoming period of struggle against the restoration of German militarism and for the peaceful reunification of our Fatherland.

The whole of the German people are deeply concerned about the future of Germany; they see that German militarism threatens the realisation of their most pressing national aspiration—to reunite Germany and ensure its peaceful future.

The future of Germany is being decided in the struggle between two opposing forces: those of peace and democracy, on the one hand, and those of militarism and revanchism, on the other. The peace-loving, patriotic and democratic forces of Western Germany oppose the restoration of German militarism and the incorporation of Western Germany into aggressive military pacts; they are coming out for a peaceful settlement of the German problem through agreement between Germans and for general European collective security. In doing so they are meeting with the full support of the German Democratic Republic and the friendly help of all peace-loving peoples. The constructive proposals for a peaceful settlement of the German problem and for ensuring security in Europe once again advanced by the peace-loving states of Europe at the Moscow Conference correspond to the interests of our nation.

The militarists and revanchists want the ratification and implementation of the Paris agreements, which will prevent the peaceful reunification of Germany and create an extreme danger to peace and security in Europe. Every man and woman in Western Germany must understand the consequences of this: it is inconceivable that an aggressive and remilitarised Western Germany and the peace-loving German Democratic Republic would then be able to reunite, it is also inconceivable that negotiations for free democratic all-German elections could take place in 1955 under these circumstances. Therefore those who, like Adenauer's Government, stand for ratification of the Paris agreements put a barrier in the way of a peaceful settlement of the German problem.

The new situation which arises from the signing of the Paris agreements and the rejection by Adenauer's Government of all the GDR's proposals for reaching mutual understanding demands more urgently than ever before that Germans in the East and West stretch out fraternal hands to each other and realise finally the patriotic demand of all Germans: Germans meet at one table! The main theme of these negotiations between Germans must be the organisation of joint action against a revival of German militarism and for Germany's reunification on a democratic basis.

What we want is not a Germany tied by aggressive military pacts but a Germany protected by a collective security pact. Within the framework of such a peaceful pact, ensuring the sovereignty and inviolability of frontiers for every nation, Germany, or, until the country is reunited, each of its two parts, must be an equal party.

Thanks to its vast economic and cultural potentialities, Germany as a peace-loving

of the Adenauer Government, against the action of the organisers of the inquisitorial trial at Karlsruhe. From the rostrum of its Congress the CPG appeals to all democrats, both worker and bourgeois, not to allow the German militarists' jackboot to crush democracy once again.

In their struggle for national unity, democracy and European security, our people have powerful friends and allies. These are the countries of the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism, headed by the invincible Soviet Union, and the peace-loving peoples throughout the world.

The proposals of the Soviet Union, its plan to establish a system of collective general European security and its stand for the holding of a Four-Power Conference for the peaceful solution of the German problem, for the immediate withdrawal of occupation troops from the whole of Germany, for holding free, democratic, all-German elections are, together with the Soviet draft peace treaty with Germany, the most effective support for the national demands of our people and the patriotic movement in Western Germany.

II.

The restoration of the power of the big capitalist concerns and monopolies in Western Germany and the remilitarisation policy have had grave repercussions on the economy and the living standards of the working population.

With the help of the big German capitalists and the Adenauer Government, international, particularly American, monopoly capital, is entrenching itself ever more deeply in the West German economy. In the oil and electrical industries, as well as in the automobile industry, more than two-thirds of the share capital is under foreign control. In the engineering, coal and metallurgical industries from one-quarter to one-third of the share capital is in the hands of foreign monopolies.

Intensified militarisation and war orders, which are placed primarily with the concerns, are increasingly ousting and ruining the middle class sections of the population and also the small and medium factories producing for civilian purposes, including the consumer-goods industry. There is growing discontent with the Adenauer Government among these groups of the petty and medium bourgeoisie.

The output of materials vital from the military point of view in Western Germany has now considerably surpassed the 1936 level. This applies to steel, particularly to high-alloy steels, copper, to the products of organic chemistry and to liquid fuel. The typical features of a military economy are becoming more and more pronounced in Western Germany.

Whereas the occupation expenditure from budget funds amounted, according to the Bonn official data, to 55,000 million marks up to 1954, it is proposed to expend the fantastic sum of 113,500 million marks to foot the armament programme within the next three years.

The living standards of the West German workers are steadily worsening. Even official statistics show that the wages earned by a considerable number of workers are below the subsistence minimum.

The brutal speed-up system and the constantly increasing feverish rate of working processes force the workers to turn

Willi Mohn
Member of Secretariat,
Central Board,
Communist Party of Germany

III.

the Christian Democratic Union and non-party workers, organised and unorganised workers. The sole prerequisite for this is common action for carrying through the demands which have been jointly put forward.

The trade unions, which are the widest and most mass-scale form of working-class organisation, provide the best basis for establishing working-class unity of action.

The common interests of the German working class and trade unionists in the Eastern and Western parts of Germany call for efforts by the trade union members to achieve agreement between the two big trade union federations. It is necessary to study the results of the activity of the trade unions in both parts of Germany and its influence on the conditions of the workers and on economic and social life; joint demands must be worked out for the entire German working class, together with measures which would help to preserve peace and secure the reunification of Germany on a democratic footing.

In the interests of promoting international working-class solidarity, in the interests of democracy and friendship between the peoples, it is essential that the German trade unions come out for co-operation of trade union federations of all countries.

The peasants, together with the working class, are particularly affected by the military course of the Bonn policy. The sole prospect opened up before the peasants by the policy of militarisation pursued by the Bonn regime is one of subordination to the needs of military preparations, of being robbed of everything by the monopolies and big banks, of their land being confiscated and their sons drafted into the army.

The Communist Party of Germany fights for the preservation of the enduring peasantry of Germany. Hence, we declare: "The vital interests of the peasants can be ensured only if the working peasants take the stand of the working class. The drawing of millions of peasants into struggle against militarism and for the peaceful reunification of Germany demands that the ties between the working class and the entire democratic forces be based on active support of the peasants' struggle for their just interests. The alliance of the working class and the working peasantry is the chief guarantee for the successes of the peace forces."

IV.

Social Democratic workers and ever-growing numbers of functionaries of the Social Democratic Party of Germany are deeply alarmed at the threat of militarism and mounting reaction in Western Germany; they are launching a struggle against the Paris agreements and seeking ways and means to prevent the youth from being taken into the army and avert the danger of a military dictatorship and a new war, ways and means for a peaceful reunification of Germany and the establishment of mutual understanding and security on an international scale.

The course of events in the past few months, the new situation arising from the signing of the Paris agreements and the direct threat to peace resulting from this act have considerably enhanced the militant spirit of the Social Democratic workers and of many functionaries of the Social Democratic Party. Leading Social Demo-

cratic Party of Germany to solve the vital problems of the working class and the nation. We declare that in this crucial hour of German history, in view of the impending menace of the restoration of German militarism, the danger of fratricide and war, all that divides the Social Democrats and the Communists must be pushed to the background and all that unites them must be drawn to the forefront for combined action to defeat the militarists and save Germany and peace.

The necessary conclusion from the demand of the leadership of the Social Democratic Party that questions of the reunification of Germany and the holding of all-German elections must be settled first of all is that steps must be taken for achieving agreement between Germans. It is possible to open successful negotiations and to reach agreement between the German workers' parties on the basis of joint rejection of the Paris agreements and remilitarisation and a common desire for the peaceful reunification of Germany. The co-operation of all German workers, their parties and trade unions is a decisive step towards rallying the forces of democracy and peace in Germany and at the same time a decisive contribution which facilitates and promotes agreement between the big powers on the German problem. The German working class is ready to take this step and to wage a common fight against remilitarisation.

The changes taking place in the SDPG are the result of the growing opposition of the working class and the sharpening of the class struggle in Western Germany. The responsibility of the Communists to the German and international working class, to our nation and the peace-loving nations of Europe demands that they observe this development closely and be always ready to struggle with their class comrades from the Social Democratic Party for the cause of democracy and peace. Every Communist must understand more than ever before that his attitude to the Social Democrats, his daily discussion and co-operation with comrades from the Social Democratic Party are of decisive importance for achieving united action by the working class.

The strength of the working class and its allies in the national fight—peasants, intellectuals, middle classes and patriotic elements of the bourgeoisie—increases to the extent that there is a growth of understanding among all sections of the West German population of the insuperable contradiction between their peaceful, national and democratic interests and the policy of the monopolists, militarists and the policy of the Adenauer Government, to the extent that the class struggle sharpens.

The great patriotic idea of the National Front of Democratic Germany has already had an influence on the working class, on the Social Democrats and youth. This shows itself in the decisions and actions against militarisation and fascism, against division and war, against the subordination of Western Germany as a vassal state to the U.S.A., and in the decisions and actions for the reunification of Germany on a democratic footing and for general European security.

Communists must learn to encourage and support every action of opposition to militarism and together with all people must do everything that brings nearer the realisation of the national and democratic aspirations of our nation. Therefore our Party must be aware of the innermost interests of the population, must be able to rally

In Communist and Workers' Parties

CONGRESS OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF GERMANY

The Congress of the CPG, held in Hamburg, came to an end on December 30. It received over 200 telegrams of greetings and with great enthusiasm the delegates approved the text of a telegram in reply to the message of greetings from the C.C. of the CPSU.

In his concluding speech on the report of the Central Board of the CPG, Comrade Mohn outlined the concrete tasks which result from the Congress and the whole situation and stressed that the Party must strain all its efforts to prevent ratification

of the Paris military agreements. With this aim in view the Party will hold a week of struggle against ratification of the Paris agreements beginning on January 10. Mass meetings and demonstrations are to be held in all big cities of Western Germany over this period.

The concluding session of the Congress elected the new Central Board of the CPG. Comrade Max Reimann was elected First Secretary of the Central Board.

GROWTH OF CHINESE COMMUNIST PARTY

The programme for the socialist transformation of industry and agriculture advanced by the Communist Party has received widespread support from the working people of the country. The fact that many thousands of workers and peasants are joining the Party provides a good illustration of this. Since last July over 30,000 peasants of the Yunnan Province have joined the Party and more than 3,000 branches have been set up. Many leaders of producer co-operatives and mutual-aid teams of the Province are Communists.

Rural Party branches in the Kweichow Province are becoming stronger. Some 343

advanced workers in agriculture joined the Party during the third quarter of last year in the Jenhuai county alone. Of every 100 villages in the county 84 have Party branches.

In the towns significant numbers are joining the Party at enterprises and offices. For instance, by the end of October last some 35,896 people had joined the Party in Shanghai and 1,763 in Sian, most of whom are leading workers. All higher educational establishments in the country have their own Party branches. Some 18% of the state employees are Party members.

RURAL NEWSPAPERS IN CZECHOSLOVAKIA

In every rural district in Czechoslovakia the national council publishes a weekly newspaper. The average edition of these newspapers is 2,100 copies; in many districts it even tops 3,000. The total edition of rural district newspapers is over 660,000 copies.

District newspapers greatly help the Party and the Government to carry out their policy in the countryside and to mobilise the rural working people for fulfilment of the concrete tasks involved in raising agricultural production. The newspapers publicise the experience of the best agricultural co-operatives and advanced methods of labour of Soviet and Czech workers in agriculture.

Since the Xth Congress of the Communist Party the rural district newspapers have been confronted with new tasks: to ensure that the steadily growing requirements of the peasants are satisfied; to answer the questions interesting them; to show the practical examples the advantages of large-scale collective farming, thus winning over individual peasants for the socialist mode of production. Many examples show that district newspapers enjoy wide popularity among the peasants.

The editorial boards of many newspapers have organised a broad network of activists. In addition to articles by functionaries and activists of national councils the newspapers publish articles by leading members of co-operatives, individual peasants and intellectuals in the countryside. The editorial board of the newspaper *For a Socialist Village*, published in Novy Bydov, usually convenes meetings of correspondents on the eve of big and important campaigns, consults with activists and quickly replies to the letters it receives.

Party organisations pay a great deal of attention to the rural press. Questions of improving the content of newspapers are often on the agenda of meetings of district Party committees. The editors are invited to meetings of district or regional Party activists. The newspapers published by the regional Party committees regularly carry reviews of district newspapers.

Party organisations display unflinching concern for improving the qualifications of editors of district newspapers. During the 1953-1954 study year more than half the editors of these newspapers took special short-term courses. Correspondence courses have been organised for them during the current study year.

AFTER XIIIth CONGRESS OF MONGOLIAN PEOPLE'S REVOLUTIONARY PARTY

The organisations of the Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party are engaged in widespread activity to implement the decisions of the XIIIth Party Congress. They are paying more profound and serious attention to mass political activity among the working people, have improved their educational work among the cadres. Extensive explanatory work to popularise the Congress decisions, the directives for the second Five-Year Plan for the development of the national economy and Party Rules is now being carried on throughout the country, the press, radio, wall newspapers, etc.

farms and in the arat (peasant) associations. The workers and engineering and technical personnel of the coal mines in Nalaini have called on all workers at industrial enterprises, on construction sites, transport and communications, in trading organisations and producer co-operatives to develop the Congress decisions and for fulfilment of the 1955 plan ahead of schedule. The miners have undertaken to overfulfil the annual assignments for coal output by 3.2%, to raise productivity of labour and to increase production of labour and to increase

French People Continue the Fight Against Rearmament of Western Germany

Immediately after the National Assembly had voted on the Paris agreements envisaging the formation of a West German revanchist army, the Political Bureau of the French Communist Party issued an important statement under the title "Bar the way to the Wehrmacht and the atom crime". The statement says in part:

"The simple fact that only 287 out of 627 deputies voted for ratification and that it was carried through as the result of insolent pressure on the part of the Governments in Washington and London proves that there is still an opportunity to deal a decisive blow at those who advocate the restoration of German militarism.

"Our people will never reconcile themselves to a policy dictated to the Mendès-France Government by American imperialists, a policy that is calculated to heighten international tension, to reinforce the aggressive Atlantic bloc and undermine the cause of peace...

"In the question of rearming Western Germany the ruling circles of the French bourgeoisie placed class interests above the national interests.

"The French Communist Party, which has opposed the rearmament of Western Germany from the very beginning turned out to be the only Party in the National Assembly that remained loyal to the national interests...

"The voting in the National Assembly has created a new situation. It revives the all too well-known threat from the German revenge-seekers and militarists—yesterday's butchers of our homeland. It is a violation of the Franco-Soviet Treaty of 1944, under which our country undertook never to enter into any coalition directed against the Soviet Union, our liberator from the Hitlerite yoke...

"In order not to permit ratification of the Paris agreements to be finalised, it is necessary to strengthen even more the alliance of national and democratic forces, the basis of which is working-class unity of action, a united front of Socialists and Communists.

"But the battle is going on", the statement emphasises. "The people of France do not recognise and never will recognise the disastrous Paris agreements... There is henceforth no doubt whatsoever that the aggressive circles of the United States, Great Britain and France are engineering an atomic and thermo-nuclear war in cold blood. They are endeavouring to induce the

popular masses to believe that such a brutal war is inevitable and, consequently, justified...

"The interests of peace and the very existence of our country demand that our people unite and rally all their forces for a decisive struggle against the inspirers, advocates and organisers of a war of mass extermination.

"French men and women, the fate of the country is in your hands! You are stronger than the gang of warmongers. Take up immediate action with members of the Council of the Republic, the municipal councillors whose delegates elect them, and members of general councils of departments. With this aim in view rally all workers, all national and democratic forces in factories, in the towns and in the countryside... On the basis of alliance and unity of action you will be able to ensure the victory of your just, humane and national cause, to bar the way to the Wehrmacht and atomic crime; you can save peace!"

Appeals urging the working people and the whole population to continue with renewed vigour the battle against the resurgence of German militarism have also been published by the CGT and the Peace Movement.

The workers in the Chausson factory in Gennevilliers (Seine Department) held a one-hour strike and the workers in the Sirugue works in Saint-Ouen (Seine) held a half-hour protest strike against the decision of the minority of deputies.

Immediately the results of the voting became known, the Committee of Struggle against the Rearmament of Germany and for Peace in the Dordogne Department, with Philippon (RPF), assistant to the Mayor of Périgueux, in the chair, decided to carry on the battle to a victorious end. A deputation from this committee, headed by Philippon, among which were the secretary of one of the federations of the "Young Republic" organisation, a department delegate from the RPF Party, a federation secretary of the Communist Party, a department secretary of the Peace Movement and others laid a wreath with a tri-coloured ribbon and the inscription "No German rearmament!" at the foot of the monument to those who had been shot in the town of Périgueux. The deputation was joined by Bellugue, Socialist general councillor, and by the Socialist assistant to the mayor of the town of Mensignac.

Wave of Protest in Italy

Since the ratification of the London and Paris agreements by the Italian Chamber of Deputies the protest movement has spread throughout the country; there is a signature campaign against ratification, and petitions and deputations are being sent to members of Parliament. Thus, on behalf of the Resistance Movement a group of individuals decorated for military services and many families of dead heroes who were awarded gold medals handed to the Vice-Presidents of the Chamber and the Senate a resolution demanding the prevention of West German rearmament. Many wall newspapers calling for struggle against the revival of the Wehrmacht are posted up in Rome.

The collection of signatures to a petition against West German rearmament and for a general European collective security treaty is taking place in the Naples Province. In Bologna similar petitions have been signed by factory workers and also by office workers of communal and provincial authorities. Over 400 conferences have been held in the villages and urban districts of this province.

The collection of documents relating to the crimes committed by the Nazis is going on in the Ravenna Province. These documents will later be forwarded to the Chairman of the Senate.

In Pesaro the communal council adopted a resolution opposing the "West European Union". In Livorno the walls are covered with big notices expressing the solidarity of the Italian people with the French people who are fighting against the restoration of the Wehrmacht. In Milan 200 former prisoners of the German death camps have called on the population to fight against West German rearmament.

On January 5, the National Peace Committee issued a call to the Italian people to hold, between January 16-23, a week of struggle against the revival of German militarism and for a ban on atomic weapons.

BRITISH PATRIOTS OPPOSE WEST GERMAN REARMAMENT

The working people of Britain are expressing their hostility to West German rearmament. The *Scottish Miner*, organ of the Scottish Area of the National Union of Mineworkers, in a recent issue carries statements and letters from individuals portraying their experiences during the second world war. All of them indignantly reject the policy of rearming the West German revanchists.

Mrs. Goodwin, President of a local women's organisation in Lochgelly, said: "We women are alarmed at the thought of a new German army... Horrible memories of the last two wars fill our breasts."

Another resident of Lochgelly, ex-navy man Walter Rolland, who spent seven years in the forces, declared: "I am 100% disabled as a result of the last war, and am alarmed at the thought of my three young sons' future, and of the future of mankind."

Angry voices were raised against West German rearmament at the 15th Annual Youth Conference of the Scottish Trade Union Congress.

Referring to the decision of the French Assembly in ratifying the London and Paris agreements Mr. Arthur Horner, General Secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, speaking in a personal

With the mounting determination of the Dutch people to struggle against the revival of German militarism, the ruling parties, their accomplices and their newspapers are trying to conceal the real import of the London and Paris agreements. They are attempting, as far as possible, to keep silent about these agreements, intending to ratify them in Parliament without particular difficulty early this year.

At an emergency meeting at the end of last October the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Holland discussed methods for developing the national struggle against the resurgence of German militarism. The meeting made an ardent appeal to the Dutch people urging them to prevent ratification of the agreements for remilitarising Western Germany, agreements that are fraught with fatal consequences for our people. The meeting urged all progressive people in the country to display initiative in conducting a week of struggle against the resurgence of the Wehrmacht.

The protest movement began to develop rapidly in the weeks following the Paris meeting. Committees and working groups are being set up in factories and localities; they are developing wide-scale explanatory work and are collecting signatures to petitions against the Paris agreements on the doorstep and in the factories. During the propaganda work and at demonstrations the danger implicit in the revival of the Wehrmacht is explained to the people. The number of signatures to the petitions which are sent to Parliament, is increasing daily. Collectors of signatures approach, in the first place, those sections of the population who are still under the influence of the right-wing leaders of the Social Democratic Party, leaders who are zealous advocates of the remilitarisation of Western Germany and whose attitude on this question differs essentially from that of the West German Social Democrats. The right-wing Social Democratic leaders in Holland conceal from the rank-and-file members and supporters of the Social Democratic Party the arguments advanced by the West German Social Democrats who oppose the London and Paris agreements, and they take no heed of the opposition of the working class of Western Germany to remilitarisation.

Such conduct on the part of the right-wing Social Democratic leaders and their propaganda in the press and over the radio has the object of confusing the members and supporters of their party, from whom the threats uttered by the West German revenge-seekers and militarists are concealed. A section of these people—and it must not be underestimated—still believes the false arguments by which it is desired to justify the restoration of the Wehrmacht headed by the Manteuffels and Kesselrings.

The fighters for peace must convince all honest people in Holland of the falsity of these arguments and of the necessity for active struggle against the revival of the Nazi Wehrmacht. When the activists of the peace movement begin to convince these people, proving to them that movement

People in Holland Fight Against Revival of German Militarism

★
Marcus Bakker
 Member, Central Committee,
 Communist Party of Holland

★ ★

An extremely important role is likewise played by the "Never Again!" Committee fighting against remilitarisation of Western Germany. This Committee consists of representatives of different social sections and ideological trends which exist among our people. On its initiative a campaign to collect signatures to petitions against arming the German militarists was launched during which many dozens of prominent Dutch people in science and art, as well as members of workers' and other mass organisations, put their signatures. On the initiative of this same Committee, which received full support from the Communist Party of Holland, the Dutch Peace Council and other progressive organisations, a National Conference was held on December 19 in Amsterdam under the slogan of struggle against the remilitarisation of Western Germany. This conference, attended by 400 people, was a graphic illustration of our people's mounting concern at the development of events near our Eastern boundary. Members and supporters of the Social Democratic Party, striving to free themselves from the network of lies and slander in which the right-wing Social Democratic leaders have enmeshed them, spoke at the conference. People who are deeply concerned at the silence of their church on the question of remilitarising Western Germany spoke too, as did many members of the Social Democratic Federation of Trade Unions, who have arrived at the conclusion that an active, energetic struggle is essential and that they, like their West German comrades, must force their leaders to respect the wishes of the trade union members.

In the course of the struggle against ratification of the London and Paris agreements the C.C. of the Party discovered that certain Party members and sympathisers remained passive. Under the leadership of the C.C. members, the functionaries of district and local Communist Party organisations have taken steps to draw inactive Party members and sympathisers into the struggle. Meetings and many talks are being held to bring home to these comrades the need for participation in the signature collection campaign. Groups are organised from among these comrades to collect signatures in the block or street in which they live.

In some instances the work conducted by higher leading bodies and Party branches has resulted in splendid successes: the number of signatures has noticeably increased recently.

Nor have the Paris agreements met with approval from those Dutch bourgeois circles who fear that the economic

however, they point to the experience of the Hitler period which has demonstrated that a Nazi Germany armed to the teeth cannot be a friendly rear for Holland. The economic interests of our country, the Communist Party states, are inseparable from the cause of peace and security. Dutch economy is interested not in a militarist Germany, but in a united, peace-loving, democratic Germany, devoting all its efforts to peaceful construction and not to the revival of Nazism.

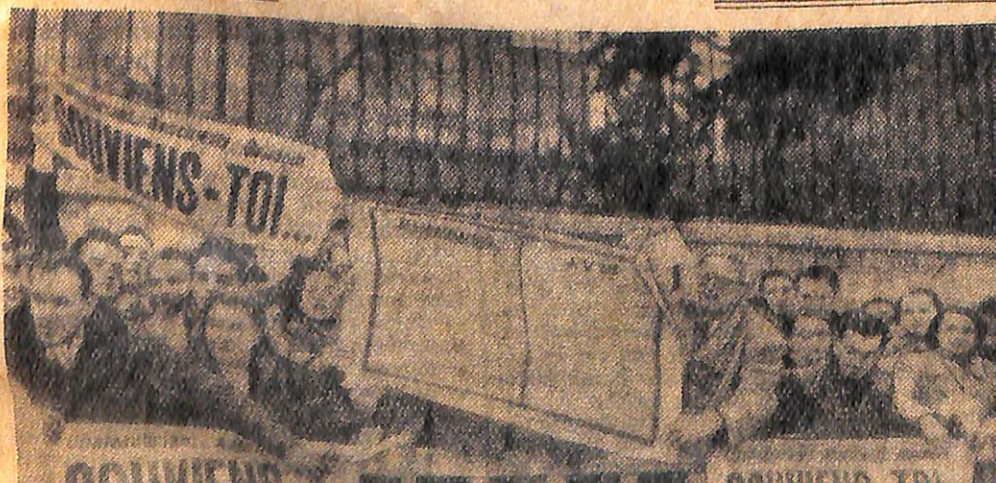
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Fascist politicians and shareholders of German war industry can be found in Holland, notably in official Roman Catholic circles. Their Catholic People's Party is the main motive force of the anti-popular policy pursued by the Dutch Government. It is backed in this by the Party of Labour whose right-wing leaders have fully and completely become supporters of the aggressive, predatory policies of American imperialism. Their constant lip service to Catholic reaction is the biggest obstacle in the way of setting up a united national front of all patriotic forces in our country. But the right-wing leaders of the Party of Labour have lately found themselves under strong pressure from party members and supporters who are beginning to back the actions taken against the remilitarisation of Western Germany to an ever-greater extent.

The decisions of the Moscow Conference at which the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies demonstrated their inflexible will to oppose a new German aggression in every way possible are greatly promoting the development of the struggle waged against West German remilitarisation. And while during the Moscow Conference the bourgeois circles and their press sought to pass it over in silence, this proved impossible with regard to the Declaration of the Conference. Most of the newspapers gave it prominence. Due attention was paid to the statement of the countries participating in the Conference to the effect that they would take appropriate measures to safeguard their security in the event of ratification of the Paris agreements. The same is true of the Soviet Note addressed to the three Western Powers which followed soon after the Conference and the speech by V. M. Molotov, Soviet Foreign Minister, on the tenth anniversary of the Franco-Soviet Treaty.

The attitude of the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies towards the London and Paris agreements strengthens the movement against West German remilitarisation. It is the source of inspiration for peace supporters in Holland since it shows that German militarism is counterposed by forces that are able to deal a rebuff to its new aggressive intentions.

It is perfectly clear that the decisions taken by the Moscow Conference of European countries fully accord with the interests of the Dutch people and that the efforts of the Soviet Union and other peace-loving states are being exerted not only



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Each day during the debate in the National Assembly on ratification of the Paris agreements thousands of deputations from all parts of France visited the Palais-Bourbon to express the resolute protest of the French people against the resurgence of aggressive German militarism. Photo: Deputations in front of the Palais-Bourbon.

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Referring to the decision of the French Assembly in ratifying the London and Paris agreements Mr. Arthur Horner, General Secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, speaking in a personal capacity stressed recently: "I am quite satisfied that this is not the end of the story, and that the fight for peace will be carried on with greater intensity—not only by the French people, but in this country and by the working people of Germany as well."

Increasing numbers of British patriots have been joining in the fight for a ban on weapons of mass extermination. Half a million people in Britain have declared themselves for banning the hydrogen bomb in a petition recently handed to the Prime Minister.

Such conduct on the part of the right-wing Social Democratic leaders and their propaganda in the press and over the radio has the object of confusing the members and supporters of their party, from whom the threats uttered by the West German revenge-seekers and militarists are concealed. A section of these people—and it must not be underestimated—still believes the false arguments by which it is desired to justify the restoration of the Wehrmacht headed by the Manteuffels and Kesselrings.

The fighters for peace must convince all honest people in Holland of the falsity of these arguments and of the necessity for active struggle against the revival of the Nazi Wehrmacht. When the activists of the peace movement begin to convince these people, proving to them that movement along the fatal path can only be stopped by resolute struggle, then they succeed in inducing from 70 to 100% of the people questioned to append their signatures to petitions against the revival of the Wehrmacht.

No small part in the rapid growth of activity against the Paris agreements is played by the Dutch Peace Council and its weekly journal, *Vrede (Peace)*, and by local and factory peace committees which rally new forces around themselves and draw them into active struggle.

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Certain commercial circles of Holland seek to justify the policy of supporting Adenauer by reference to the need for an economically strong rear in the interests of trade, industry, agriculture and horticulture in Holland. The Communists recognise the need for such a rear. At the same time,

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It is perfectly clear that the decisions taken by the Moscow Conference of European countries fully accord with the interests of the Dutch people and that the efforts of the Soviet Union and other peace-loving states are being exerted not only in the interests of these countries but also in the interests of Holland, in the interests of ensuring that May 10, 1940, the date on which Hitler Germany attacked our homeland, is not repeated.

The Dutch people are confronted with an extremely important and vital task, that is, acting together with all peace-loving peoples, to spare no effort to prevent the revival of German militarism, to prevent a repetition of German aggression.

Rumanian Party Organisations in Struggle for Increased Output of Consumer Goods

Prior to Rumania's liberation the consumer-goods industry in the country was on an extremely low level. During the years of people's power, as a result of the development of heavy industry and the creation of an engineering industry, many food and light industrial enterprises were set up in the country and those already in existence were enlarged and reconstructed. Light industry now produces more than 2.5 times as much cotton thread as in 1938, more than twice as much woollen fabrics and leather footwear and 2.5 times as much glassware. During this period the output of macaroni products increased more than six times, vegetable oil more than 3.5 times, soap almost fourfold and canned vegetables 11 times. Compared with the previous year, in 1954 alone the output of canned meat increased 40%, milk for the market 30%, vegetable oil 32%, etc. In 1955, compared with 1954, the production of mass-consumption goods will increase 12.6%.

With the increase in production there has been a simultaneous large increase in the range of goods turned out. In 1954 the food industry, for instance, produced 250 new items, among them various types of fruit juices, canned meat and fish, confectionery and bakery products. In light industry more than 1,500 new designs were adopted and put into production. Local industry now turns out more than 600 kinds of new mass-consumption goods.

Producer co-operatives, enterprises of the consumer co-operatives and shops producing consumer goods at enterprises of the metallurgical, chemical, wood-working, paper and other industries, all make a big contribution to increasing production of manufactured goods and foodstuffs for the population. A considerable part of the production capacity of enterprises of the electrical industry is also used for producing these goods.

The successes we have achieved in producing mass-consumer goods are the result of the creative efforts and the

selfless work of the working people in our country and all-round, first-class technical aid rendered us by the Soviet Union. We must continue to develop the successes achieved, efficiently and with determination.

During the last few years, as a result of the number of workers in the towns and industrial centres being doubled and in consequence of the improved living standards of industrial and office workers and the greatly improved position of the working peasantry, the consumption of both town and rural population has grown considerably. The constantly increasing requirements and needs of the working people call for a steady expansion of socialist production and set before the Party and country the urgent task of organising the powerful development of agriculture and of all branches of the food industry and light industries.

In view of this the enlarged August 1953 meeting of the C.C. of the RWP elaborated a broad programme of measures directed at further developing the national economy and steadily raising the standard of living of the working people in our country. On the basis of the achievements in the development of industry the meeting set the task of steadily improving and developing agricultural production, of substantially increasing the output of manufactured mass-consumption goods, of increasing retail trade in the socialist sector of trade to 22,000 million lei in 1954 and to 26,000 million lei in 1955 (in comparable prices), abolishing rationing in 1954 and going over to de-restricted trade. The working people in town and countryside, with the working class at their head, have worked for the fulfilment of this task with great enthusiasm.

★
P. Borilă
Member, Political Bureau,
Central Committee,
Rumanian Workers' Party

★ ★

The measures adopted by the Party and the Government for raising the level of agriculture and increasing the output of agricultural produce have brought about important and positive results. Capital investments in the consumer goods industry last year were up 27% on the 1953 level, while deliveries of equipment in the food industry, in terms of value, increased twofold. Favourable conditions were thus created for increasing the output of mass-consumption goods in 1955.

The C.C. of the RWP and the Government of the RPR, considering that our economy possessed the necessary conditions for transition to de-rationed trade, decided to abolish rationing as from December 26, 1954, and to begin full-scale trade in foodstuffs and manufactured goods at unified state prices. This important economic measure of the Party and the Government was met by the working people of our country with great joy and satisfaction.

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The guarantee for carrying out successfully the tasks of increasing the output of mass-consumer goods lies in further strengthening Party organisations at enterprises and improving Party work at factories and plants—at the places where the fate of our production plans is decided. The implementation of the entire economic policy of the Party depends on the ability of Party organisations to rally, organise and lead the masses.

The regional Party committees, carrying out the decisions of the August meeting, have begun to devote more attention to the work of Party branches at enterprises of the food industry and local and light industries, and at enterprises of the producer co-operatives. The Bacău Regional Committee of the Party, for instance, arranged monthly meetings of members of Party branch bureaus and heads of enterprises producing mass-consumption goods. The Committee thoroughly analysed the activities of Party committees of some

of the larger light industrial enterprises. The Cluj and Oradea Regional Committees, the Bucharest City Committee of the Party and other regional, town and district committees have also begun to pay more attention to developing output of consumer goods.

However, there are still some regional, district and town Party committees that are not devoting enough attention to developing the production of mass-consumption goods. Until recently, this was observed, for instance, in the activities of the Craiova Regional Committee. In the first half of last year a considerable number of the enterprises of the food industry in the Craiova region did not fulfil their production plan.

Experience proves that considerable success in increasing productivity of labour and output with the same equipment, production space and number of workers, is obtained by those enterprises where the Party organisations know how to encourage the innovation activity of the workers and direct it towards the mobilisation of inner reserves, towards the steady perfection of technique and technological processes. The work of the Party organisation of the "December 13" creamery in Bucharest is significant in many respects. Last year considerable successes in fulfilling production assignments were achieved at this creamery. Taking into account the important role played by the complex mechanisation of production processes, including those in the auxiliary workshops, in ensuring improved productivity of labour, the factory Party organisation paid particular attention to the promotion of the creative initiative of the workers and technicians for the systematic perfection of production processes.

The more complete use of productive capacities, particularly in seasonal industries, is dependent above all on an uninterrupted supply of raw materials to the factories.

The Party organisation of the "December 13" creamery and the Party organisations of other factories, are paying greater attention to this problem, which has resulted in better supplies of raw materials for the factories. Raw material zones are being organised and areas under industrial crops extended in the vicinity of the factories. Much attention is given to the breeding and feeding

of cattle, to the contracting and purchasing of vegetable and animal products. All this promotes the growth and development of the raw materials base for the enterprises of the food industry and light industries. The Party organisations are likewise seeing to it that the factory personnel show concern for the careful safekeeping and use of the raw materials available at the enterprises and that they prevent extravagant use or spoilage of the raw materials. The Party organisations educate workers and technicians to be exacting in their work and imbue them with a feeling of pride for the prestige of the name of the factory. Many groups of artists, inspired in their work by the masterpieces of folk art, are drawn into activity for making goods more attractive to look at.

Party organisations support all that is new and valuable, all that stimulates emulation and helps to improve the quality and increase the range of goods. The movement for better use of technique has become widespread in our country. It is being developed under the slogan "Our machines can produce much more". Engineers and scientific workers are also being drawn into the movement. At textile enterprises such as "Industria Textilă" in Lugoj and "30 December" in Arad engineers and workers, helped by the scientific workers of the Textile Institute, have organised high-speed weaving in whole workshops. Remarkable results in ensuring an increase of production and improvement of quality are being registered by the factories where the Party organisations manage to effect a skilful combination of the right of checking on the work of the management with encouragement of the creative initiative of the working people, where the Party members are correctly allocated to the main sectors of work and consistently work to raise the level of political education of the workers by linking up political agitation with the immediate tasks facing the enterprises.

The number of factories which are raising productivity of labour and increasing the output of mass-consumption goods is growing daily. There are, however, enterprises which fall short of the production plan or fulfil the plan by violating the schedule for rhythmical production when they resort to rush work at the end of the month; there

are enterprises which fail to carry out their assignments for variety in their goods, for higher quality of their goods and lowering production costs. Even in the advanced factories there are workshops which still lag behind. As a rule, the Party organisations at the lagging enterprises or workshops fail to work in an adequate way and their analysis of production processes is not sufficiently concrete.

Practice shows that large-scale development of socialist emulation is the true path to active and full-scale mobilisation of the inner resources of the enterprises. The successes attained by certain advanced factories result from correct leadership of socialist emulation and the help given by Party organisations to the trade unions. This is why Party organisations at the enterprises producing mass-consumption goods are paying ever-greater attention to socialist emulation, helping the trade unions to resolutely eliminate all kinds of formalistic and bureaucratic tendencies in its organisation and are fostering the all-round creative initiative of the masses.

★

It is impossible to raise the work of enterprises producing mass-consumption goods to a higher plane without ensuring a steady improvement in the work of the apparatus of the Ministries and without continually bringing the central apparatus closer to the enterprises. However, it must be pointed out that there are still serious shortcomings in the work of the Ministry of Light Industry, the Ministry of the Food Industry and the Ministry of Communal Services and Local Industry. The frequent changes in planned assignments, the lack of co-ordination between the production plans and the plans for material and technical supplies to the enterprises prevent the use of all available reserves. The elimination of these shortcomings will promote skilful, lively and efficient leadership of the enterprises and facilitate the successful solution of the complicated problems facing them.

The working people in people's Rumania are fully determined to devote all their creative forces to fulfilling the tasks set by the Party—to ensure the production of mass-consumption goods in plenty within the next two or three years, thereby noticeably improving their living-standards.

PRESS REVIEW

Eve of National Conference of Italian Communist Party

Unita—Organ of the Italian Communist Party and *Activist's Notebook*—Party Journal

Italian Communists have completed active preparations for the Fourth National Party Conference which will take place in Rome over January 9 to 14. Broad discussion developed in the Party press around questions which concern the Party as a whole. *Unita*, organ of the ICP, has been devoting entire pages to these problems since November 27. *Activist's Notebook*, the Party journal, introduced a special column entitled "In preparation for the National Conference, discussing..." under which it regularly featured articles on various aspects of Party activities.

Leading functionaries of the Central Committee of the Party, secretaries of Party committees of federations, sections and branches, rank-and-file Party members, trade union and labour council leaders, members of peace committees and other mass democratic organisations wrote for the newspaper and the journal. The authors of these articles advanced important problems for discussion by the Conference and the entire Party, shared their experience, criticised certain shortcomings in work and put forward concrete proposals.

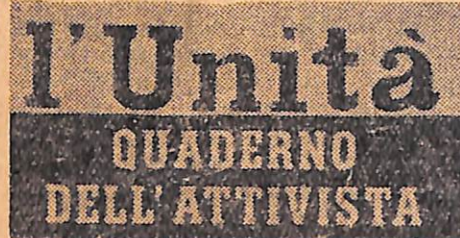
In the centre of discussion were questions relating to stepping up the struggle for peace and for establishing a system of collective security in Europe; struggle against the rearmament of Western Germany and the formation of aggressive military blocs, for national independence, for defence of democratic freedoms, for respect and observation of the Republican Constitution; struggle against the reactionary measures of the Scelba-Saragat Government, for satisfaction of the urgent needs of the working people, against monopolies and for the implementation of structural reforms. It should be noted, however, that, as Comrade F. Mosetti emphasised in his contribution, insufficient attention was given during the discussion to questions of the struggle against ratification of the Paris agreements and the rearmament of Western Germany.

Both newspaper and journal devoted a great deal of space to the political, ideological and organisational problems of the Party and also to the struggle for working-class unity, at the same time paying particular attention to the attitude of Communists towards the Catholic masses, to questions pertaining to the widening of democracy in the trade unions and so forth.

D. Marchioro, member of the Central Control Commission, in an article entitled "On our activities in defence of liberties", featured in *Activist's Notebook*, calls attention to the growing menace of establishing a fascist-type regime in the country and advances concrete proposals aimed at strengthening the struggle in defence of the Constitution and the democratic gains of the working people. Noting that the repressive measures of the Government and the employers against the workers and democratic organisations and their violations of the Constitution and democratic freedoms are being inspired by U.S. aggressive circles, the author proposes that a resolute struggle be developed against the fascist danger, for which all anti-fascist forces should be rallied, and that every action of the authorities directed against the legal rights of citizens should be vigorously opposed. The defence of democratic freedoms, writes E. Ambrogi, General Secretary of the "Democratic Solidarity" association, in the journal, is not the affair of the Communist Party alone, it is the affair of all democratic forces in the country.

Much attention was given in the discus-

is a question of the correlation of forces between monopoly capital, which is seeking to establish a regime of the fascist type in the country, and the overwhelming majority of the people who want to defend democratic rights and freedoms and to improve their living standards. Precisely because of this, he writes, it is essential that closer contact be established between the working class and the other sections of the working people.



Comrade A. Roasio, member of the Party Leadership, points out in *Unita* that the activity of the monopolies and capitalists "must be counterposed by a broader front of struggle, that we must rally the majority of citizens... and isolate the monopolists—gravediggers of our industrial enterprises". This will to a great degree help to create conditions necessary for the formation of a new government capable of carrying out an economic and social policy corresponding to the interests of the country and the majority of Italian citizens. That is why, continues Comrade Roasio, we must, during our discussions, focus more attention on the political aspects of the struggle, clearly show up the face of our chief enemy, i.e., the monopolies and the government of monopolists, and must never lose sight of this enemy in the whole of our political and economic fight.

Referring to the slogans—democratic control over the monopolies, reorganisation of IRI (the state-controlled industry), nationalisation of certain monopolies, the agrarian reform—Comrade Valli, member of the C.C. of the Party, writes in *Activist's Notebook* that a government like the one now in office, which is the executive committee of the big capitalists, will never take any steps to restrict, even to the least degree, the privileges and arbitrary actions of the monopolist groups. Consequently, to carry out these slogans "it is necessary to have another government", concludes the author. And if the slogan of democratic control over the monopolies is to become more than an empty phrase the working class must step up the struggle against the monopolies and by doing so stem the onslaught of reaction and strike fresh blows at big capital.

Pointing to the need for a more resolute fight against the monopolies, a number of Communists have at the same time stressed the necessity for overcoming dilettantism in these questions, for a more profound knowledge of the economic structure of Italian society and the economic and political activities of the monopolies.

Many articles featured by *Unita* and *Activist's Notebook* deal with the agrarian policy of the Party, the relations of the working class and its Party with the small peasant owners, and with the consolidation of the worker-peasant alliance.

Referring to the policy of the Party with regard to the peasantry, Comrade Tabel writes in *Unita* that in their activity the Communists have not always been guided by the principle of defence of the interests

based on common struggle against both industrial and agricultural monopolies.

Comrade Bardini, member of the C.C., writes in *Unita* of the need to provide the sharecroppers with a more definite perspective in their struggle. He points out that the reform of agricultural agreements and the agrarian reform must become the goal of the fight waged by the peasants for satisfaction of their immediate demands.

Many other comrades also took part in the discussion on agrarian problems and the policy of the Party with regard to the peasant masses. They are all of the opinion that the peasant problems must become the subject of wide discussion at the forthcoming National Conference.

The comrades participating in discussion on the problems of working-class unity of action—the basis for unification of all national and democratic forces in the struggle for peace, well-being, independence and freedom—paid particular attention to the relations between Communists and Catholics. In a country like Italy where unity of action of Communists and Socialists already exists, the question of the relations between Communists and Catholics is a major problem of the development of democracy.

Pointing out that the Communists have as yet done little to educate the broad popular masses in the spirit of the ideas of Socialism, a C.C. member Comrade Pellegrini emphasises in *Unita* that Communists are doing even less among Catholics. Comrade Schiapparelli, Secretary of the Vicenza Federation, shares the view of Comrade Pellegrini and stresses the need to establish contact with the Catholic masses not only for taking joint action on certain demands but also for winning them over to the ideas of Socialism. Bringing home to Catholics the need of a prospect for establishing a socialist state in Italy means that it is necessary to get them to think more seriously about the countries of Socialism, it means creating conditions for the defeat of the basis of the anti-Communist propaganda of the reactionaries—"anti-Sovietism".

The attention of the Communists must be directed at ensuring a wide discussion of measures for political and organisational strengthening of the Party and creation of such conditions as will enable it, in an even more effective manner, in any organisation and in any situation, however complicated it may be, to play the role of the leading force of the working masses and the entire Italian people in struggle for the implementation of its immediate and ultimate aims.

The discussion on factory branches and the tasks of raising the ideological level of the Party members found the most enthusiastic response among the Communists. An article by Comrade Masetti raises the topical and important problem of the activity of factory branches and their contact with the leading Party bodies of sections and provinces. In an article in *Activist's Notebook* Comrade D'Onofrio, member of the Secretariat of the Party, raises questions of the ideological and political education of Communists. He writes that it is not an easy job to raise the ideological level of a mass Communist Party such as the Italian Communist Party. However, this problem must be solved. Stressing the need for sharply raising the ideological and political level of the 400,000

Protest Movement Against Rearming Western Germany Broadens in Belgium

In connection with the forthcoming debates on the Paris agreements in the Belgian Parliament the working people are intensifying their struggle against these agreements, against the establishment of the revenge-seeking Wehrmacht and against a revival of German militarism.

It is alleged, writes *Drapeau Rouge*, that the rearming of the butchers of our country is not aimed at organising new military gambles. "But have you ever seen armed German militarists who made no use of their weapons?" asks the newspaper and points out: "...all our people must understand that the arming of Germany is treason to Belgium, and is the preparation of a new catastrophe both for our country and for the whole of Europe in the near future."

The newspaper calls for active participation in the campaign for collecting signatures against the arming of Western Germany. Members of Parliament, writes the newspaper, ought to know that the Belgian people are against the arming of Western Germany.

BULGARIAN SCIENTISTS DEMAND BAN ON PRODUCTION AND USE OF MASS DESTRUCTION WEAPONS

In Sofia the Bulgarian Union of Scientific Workers and the National Peace Committee convened a meeting of Bulgarian scientists on the struggle against the production and use of atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass destruction. A report "On the need for broad action on the problem of atomic energy" was delivered by Academician Georgi Nadjakov, Vice-Chairman of the Union of Scientific Workers and Chairman of the National Peace Committee.

After the contributions made by academicians, professors, and prominent public figures the meeting adopted a resolution firmly protesting against the attempts to use nuclear energy for destruction and the mass extermination of mankind. The resolution urges a ban on the production and use of atomic weapons and the establishment of a strict international control over the implementation of this ban.

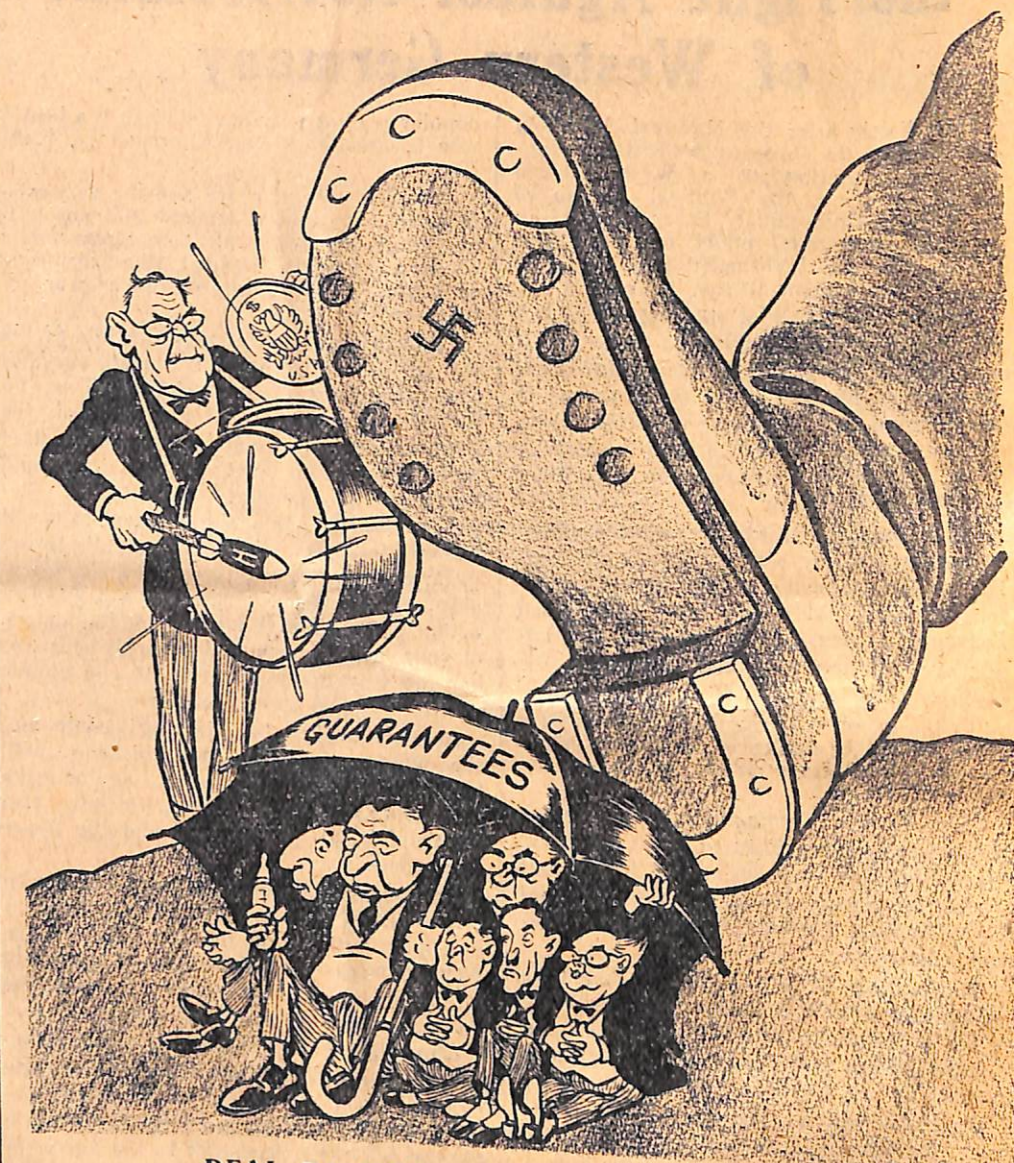
ELIMINATION OF ILLITERACY IN ALBANIA

Albania has great successes to its credit in the sphere of cultural development during the years of the people's democratic regime. The anti-illiteracy campaign has been of particular importance to the cultural revolution. Prior to the second world war Albania had over 80% illiteracy. Immediately after the liberation a wide network of courses to combat illiteracy was set up and in 1949 the Presidium of the National Assembly issued a decree which made it compulsory for all illiterate people between 12 and 40 to learn to read and write. Now there are courses everywhere—in factories and plants, in offices and military units and in the villages. In the past ten years over 300,000 people have been through these courses.

The Second Congress of the Albanian Party of Labour held in 1952 set the task—to eliminate illiteracy by 1955 which completes the first Five-Year Plan. This year the remaining illiterates between 12 and 40 will learn to read and write.

All Mendès-France's twaddle about the so-called "guarantees" allegedly contained in the Paris agreements is designed to conceal the grave threat of war to France and other European peoples from German militarism supported by world reaction headed by the U.S.A.

(Press item)



REAL DANGER AND FALSE SECURITY

Drawing by J. Novak

POLITICAL NOTES

1. Letter from a Japanese Mother

Our editorial office has received a letter from Japan, addressed to "friends all over the world". Written by Kazuka Moriuchi, ordinary Japanese woman and mother of young children, it is a really moving, human document.

"I am one of the women", the letter reads, "who want to join their efforts to the efforts of all people of the world who desire peace, a ban on atom and hydrogen bombs and the establishment of a happy and peaceful society where there is no place for war."

The letter points out that the situation in present-day Japan, where the American military continue to lord it, is daily becoming more serious and dangerous. "We cannot get milk for our children", writes Kazuka Moriuchi. "We are afraid to eat fish which is the staple dish on our dinner table... Sea water, piped water and well water have to be tested by special instruments all the time. Fish, which is an important source of albumin in Japan, is continually checked and in most cases a large part of it thrown away. Thus, if the atom and hydrogen bomb tests continue (she refers to the Bikini A and H-bomb tests conducted by the American military—J.M.), we Japanese will be completely deprived of this valuable source of albumin."

Recalling that the Japanese people were the first victims of the atom bombs dropped by the Americans at Hiroshima and Nagasaki that the residents of the Japanese Islands are under the threat of a new

tion. Thus, letters have become one of the mass forms of struggle waged by the Japanese people for outlawing atomic and hydrogen weapons.

The sentiments expressed by Kazuka Moriuchi in her letter are near and understandable to all who cherish peace and the security of the peoples, who are resolutely demanding a ban on atomic weapons. These sentiments express the innermost desire of hundreds of millions of mothers throughout the world who do not want to see their children, fathers and husbands fall victims to the atom maniacs.

This letter from a patriotic Japanese woman is an expression of the growing concern of the Japanese people who are more and more resolutely coming out for the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction, for the preservation and strengthening of world peace. In Japan this movement has assumed a mass scale and has really become a movement of the whole people. Representatives of all trades and professions and all classes in town and countryside are taking part in it. Striking evidence of this is the fact that by the end of 1954 almost 29 million people in Japan had signed the demand for a ban on atomic weapons. Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama, under mass pressure from the public, was forced to announce recently that...

...at the same time paying particular attention to the attitude of Communists towards the Catholic masses, to questions pertaining to the widening of democracy in the trade unions and so forth.

D. Marchiori, member of the Central Control Commission, in an article entitled "On our activities in defence of liberties", featured in *Activist's Notebook*, calls attention to the growing menace of establishing a fascist-type regime in the country and advances concrete proposals aimed at strengthening the struggle in defence of the Constitution and the democratic gains of the working people. Noting that the repressive measures of the Government and the employers against the workers and democratic organisations and their violations of the Constitution and democratic freedoms are being inspired by U.S. aggressive circles, the author proposes that a resolute struggle be developed against the fascist danger, for which all anti-fascist forces should be rallied, and that every action of the authorities directed against the legal rights of citizens should be vigorously opposed. The defence of democratic freedoms, writes E. Ambrogi, General Secretary of the "Democratic Solidarity" association, in the journal, is not the affair of the Communist Party alone, it is the affair of all democratic forces in the country.

Much attention was given in the discussion to the tasks and forms of struggle of the working class for their urgent demands, and against the sway of the monopolies. Analysing the results of the workers' struggle for increased wages, Comrade M. Montagnana, member of the Central Committee, writes in *Activist's Notebook* that the fight for higher wages has now entered a new phase. Now, he says, it is a question not only of defending the interests of the working people, but of defending the interests of the entire nation. It

...the executive committee of the big capitalists, will never take any steps to restrict, even to the least degree, the privileges and arbitrary actions of the monopolist groups. Consequently, to carry out these slogans "it is necessary to have another government", concludes the author. And if the slogan of democratic control over the monopolies is to become more than an empty phrase the working class must step up the struggle against the monopolies and by doing so stem the onslaught of reaction and strike fresh blows at big capital.

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Referring to the policy of the Party with regard to the peasantry, Comrade Tabet writes in *Unita* that in their activity the Communists have not always been guided by the principle of defence of the interests of the peasant owners as producers. This deficiency, apparently, results from the insufficient ideological training of Party members. It is known, Comrade Tabet goes on to say, that the peasant owner has long been dependent on the market as a result of the penetration of capitalism into the countryside. But it cannot be concluded from this fact (at least in practice) that in the epoch of monopoly capitalism the defence of the peasant seller and consumer cannot be

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The Second Congress of the Albanian Party of Labour held in 1952 set the task—to eliminate illiteracy by 1955 which completes the first Five-Year Plan. This year the remaining illiterates between 12 and 40 will learn to read and write, and Albania will become a country of complete literacy.

NEWS IN BRIEF

★ In Poland nearly 2,000 vocational schools and technical colleges are preparing specialists for industry and agriculture. More than 400,000 students study in them.

★ In Hungary 1,714 titles of the Russian classics and books by Soviet writers in a total edition of 10,650,000 copies have been published in a period of 9 years and eight months.

★ There are over 3,200 elementary and secondary schools in Rumania in which studies are conducted in 15 languages of the national minorities. Eight higher educational establishments, where studies are conducted in the Hungarian language, function in Cluj and Tirgu-Mures.

★ In accordance with the decision of the Bulgarian Government the construction of a pioneer camp—"Bulgarian Artek"—is in progress in the vicinity of the town of Stalin in the beauty spot "Golden Sands", on the Black Sea shore. "Bulgarian Artek" will come into use in 1955.

★ In the Korean People's Democratic Republic the gross output of agricultural crops in the past year was 108.7% compared with 1953. The total area under crops has increased by 42,000 chonbo (1 chonbo equals 2.45 acres). The crop yield per acre over the territory of the whole Republic has increased by 9.6%.

FACTS EXPOSE...

American "Friendship" The 130-strong staff of the American Consulate in Hong Kong are engaged, in addition to economic espionage, in the systematic dispatch to various firms of "advice" on trade with China and lists of goods they "do not recommend" for sale to China. The painstaking sleuths from the American Consulate nosed out the fact that a big British firm, "China Engineers Limited", has not always followed their "advice". The U.S. authorities blocked the account of this firm in one of the New York banks to the sum of 200,000 dollars.

This typical token of American "friendship" towards its junior partner is described in the Swiss newspaper *Die Tat*.

"Economy" of Senor Cafe Filho

The Café Filho clique which seized power last August as a result of the coup d'état inspired by the American monopolies is well aware that it is not popular with the people of Brazil. And though the day after the coup Kemper, U.S. Ambassador in Rio de Janeiro, called the Cabinet of Café Filho "splendid", the words of the American diplomat were however drowned in a stream of loud protests from the people, who demanded that democratic liberties and national independence be respected.

Since then, the Café Filho Government has enjoyed repeated praise from the American diplomats and multi-millionaires. As for the ordinary people of Brazil—victims of even higher prices, higher taxes and greater subjugation of the economy and policy of the country to the designs of the American imperialists—their anger has risen to a much greater extent.

Apparently seeking to find its supporters wherever it can most easily do so, the Government has installed at the Catete Palace (residence of the President—Ed.) a

flock of sycophants and toadies from among the hired reactionary hacks and other seekers after easy profit, who are lavishly paid at the expense of the taxpayers. Isaias Caminha, progressive journalist in Brazil, calculated that the office of Café Filho would cost the people over 34 million cruzeiro for banquets alone.

In view of this fact it might seem odd that the Café Filho clique had declared economy as the standard of conduct. But the Brazilian rulers know what they are doing. When they talk of economy it is the working masses of the country they have in mind.

And at a time when the newly-created Ministers are indulging in gluttony, the government bodies are pursuing a policy of further tightening the belts of the Brazilian people. The so-called Federal Supplies and Price Commission (COFAP) and its offshoots in different states, instead of restricting price increases and in this way preventing to some extent the cost of living from rising, introduce new, higher

prices, fixed by the American and local businessmen, for articles of prime necessity. It is not surprising that even the reactionary paper *Correio de Manha* admits that prices doubled in 1954.

Late in October COFAP, converted by the Café Filho Government into an instrument for plunder of the working people, decided on a simultaneous increase in the prices of 40 kinds of goods. Judging from press reports, General Pentaleao Pessoa, its President, went into raptures over this decision. And it is perfectly clear why, since he owns dairy enterprises. It is not therefore a surprise that this decision was followed by a rise in milk prices in Belo Horizonte, San Paulo and later in Rio de Janeiro and other towns of the country.

How can the American businessmen and their Brazilian accomplices but praise the activities of the "splendid" Café Filho Government which helps the money-bags multiply their profits at the expense of the Brazilian people?

L. G.

BRIEFLY ABOUT BOOKS

French Writers on New Hungary

Progressive literature on the countries of people's democracy has been enriched by a new and valuable work—"Letters from Budapest"—by the French writers André Wurmser and Louise Mamiac, published by "Editeurs francais reunis". The authors have several times visited people's-democratic Hungary in order to give the poorly informed French reader a truthful picture of the new life being built up in that country.

The book consists of a number of letters addressed to well-known public figures in France in which the authors compare life in Hungary with that in France.

"Letters from Budapest" contains a great amount of convincing documentary data on the distribution of the national income in the country, on the composition of the National Assembly, on the enrolment of students to educational establishments and on the improved living conditions of the Hungarian working people. On the basis of concrete examples of the past and present Hungary, the book helps the reader to understand the radical principled difference between the state apparatus in capitalist countries and that of the people's-democratic system.

Two letters from Louise Mamiac addressed to Waldeck Rochet, member of the Political Bureau of the French Communist Party, and to Sylvain Gervais, a peasant, deal with the problems of the upsurge of agriculture. Three other letters, which reply to the question, "Who speaks the truth about the countries of people's democracy and why? Who is lying and why?", irrefutably expose all the falsehood and slander about the People's Democracies disseminated by their enemies.

The book gives a true picture of life in one of the countries of people's democracy—the Hungarian People's Republic.

...ordinary Japanese woman and mother of young children, it is a really moving, human document.

"I am one of the women", the letter reads, "who want to join their efforts to the efforts of all people of the world who desire peace, a ban on atom and hydrogen bombs and the establishment of a happy and peaceful society where there is no place for war."

The letter points out that the situation in present-day Japan, where the American military continue to lord it, is daily becoming more serious and dangerous. "We cannot get milk for our children", writes Kazuka Moriuchi. "We are afraid to eat fish which is the staple dish on our dinner table... Sea water, piped water and well water have to be tested by special instruments all the time. Fish, which is an important source of albumin in Japan, is continually checked and in most cases a large part of it thrown away. Thus, if the atom and hydrogen bomb tests continue (she refers to the Bikini A and H-bomb tests conducted by the American military—J.M.), we Japanese will be completely deprived of this valuable source of albumin."

Recalling that the Japanese people were the first victims of the atom bombs dropped by the Americans at Hiroshima and Nagasaki, that the residents of the Japanese Islands are under constant danger from radio-active "death ash" which extends over a large area of the Pacific as a result of the U.S. tests, Kazuka Moriuchi writes:

"We Japanese live literally in the 'valley of death', under 'deadly rain' and 'deadly snow'. Things in Japan today are such that even the children, going off to school, are likely to ask: 'Mummy, will an umbrella and raincoat be any good if there is radio-active rain?'"

The letter concludes with a passionate call to unite the forces of the peoples of all countries in defence of peace, for a ban on atomic, hydrogen and other weapons of mass extermination.

This letter is one of many thousands being sent to different countries of the world by mass organisations and individuals in Japan. They are addressed not only to people prominent in public and political life but also to Uno and the governments, to peace committees and different organisations of other countries and call for developing the movement of the peoples for a ban on weapons of mass annihilation.

2. Maupassant Banned

News under the unusual headline, "Case of 'Bel Ami'", appeared recently in the French bourgeois press.

From the headline alone one cannot guess right away that it refers to Guy de Maupassant's novel "Bel Ami", particularly as it was published some 70 years ago and the scene is laid in 1885, and not in modern times.

But you can't get away from facts—Maupassant has been banned. The French Censorship Commission, not without the consent of the ruling circles, readily expanding on the delights of the "free world", has forbidden the showing of a film produced by Louis Daquin, progressive director, with a scenario by Vladimir Pozner and Roger Vailland based on themes from the great French realist's novel.

Why are the ruling circles of France so disturbed by the appearance of such a film; why are they, in spite of the protests of the public, refusing to let it be shown on the screens of the country?

The point is that the film depicts the morals and customs of those times, the atmosphere of all-round corruption of bourgeois society. The path traversed by the hero of the film is a typical one for a bourgeois go-getter and careerist. The criminal nature of the colonial policy of the French ruling circles is also brought out clearly.

And that is just why this film was banned by the French ruling circles, because

...The sentiments expressed by Kazuka Moriuchi in her letter are near and understandable to all who cherish peace and the security of the peoples, who are resolutely demanding a ban on atomic weapons. These sentiments express the innermost desire of hundreds of millions of mothers throughout the world who do not want to see their children, fathers and husbands fall victims to the atom maniacs.

This letter from a patriotic Japanese woman is an expression of the growing concern of the Japanese people who are more and more resolutely coming out for the prohibition of weapons of mass destruction, for the preservation and strengthening of world peace. In Japan this movement has assumed a mass scale and has really become a movement of the whole people. Representatives of all trades and professions and all classes in town and countryside are all taking part in it. Striking evidence of this is the fact that by the end of 1954 almost 29 million people in Japan had signed the demand for a ban on atomic weapons. Prime Minister Ichiro Hatoyama, under mass pressure from the public, was forced to announce recently that his Government would do its utmost to secure such a ban. One can see that these days it is not an easy thing to job off the people's protests and the governments in capitalist countries are compelled to reckon more and more with the broad movement for a ban on weapons of mass destruction.

The call to step up the struggle for banning atomic weapons is assuming particular significance now that U.S. reactionary circles are intensifying their preparations for an atomic war, whipping up atom hysteria and resorting to the most unbridled slander and to the put atomic weapons into the hands of the West German revenge-seekers.

This letter from an ordinary Japanese woman indicates that the broad popular masses are becoming increasingly aware of the vital need for the prohibition of atomic and hydrogen weapons, that the continued intensification of the struggle of the popular masses of all countries is essential against the criminal plans of the organisers of an atom war.

everything that was typical of the policy of the French colonisers of the 'eighties is even more true of their present-day colonial policy. The French ruling circles are afraid that if "Bel Ami" is shown it will step up the struggle of the French people against the bestialities of the French colonisers in the so-called overseas territories and will increase the sympathies of the ordinary people of France for the courageous fight being waged by the patriots of Algeria, Tunisia and Morocco.

The French people know that the colonial authorities are trying to establish "peaceful order" in the North African colonies by fire and sword. On Christmas Eve alone, for instance, 4 patriots were killed and 80 arrested by the police in Algeria. And on one short day in December, 21 death sentences were passed on patriots in Morocco. But the greater the number of repressive measures, the hotter becomes the ground under the feet of the colonisers.

And this is quite natural. This or that progressive film may be banned, this or that progressive book may be burned but it is impossible to crush the will of a people that has arisen to struggle for its liberation.

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