

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

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WORLD CONGRESS OF MOTHERS: AN IMPORTANT LANDMARK IN THE STRUGGLE FOR PEACE

The World Congress of Mothers in defence of children, against war and for disarmament and friendship among the peoples, which has been convened on the initiative of the Women's International Democratic Federation, opened on July 7 in Lausanne. Attendance at the Congress are over 1,200 delegates, observers and visitors from more than 70 countries.

This Congress is a major event in international life; it is one more big contribution on the part of women and mothers to the cause of peace and the establishment of mutual understanding and friendship among peoples.

Women make up half the world's population. Theirs is a tremendous part in the struggle to lessen international tension, to preserve and consolidate peace. Shoulder to shoulder with fathers, husbands and brothers, the mothers, to whom the life and happiness of their children are dear, energetically take their stand against the intrigues of the forces of aggression and for a peaceful settlement of outstanding international issues.

The duty of every decent person, of every mother, is to fight steadfastly against the preparations for another war, to work for the security of the peoples and the happiness of the rising generation. The World Congress in Lausanne gives all mothers, irrespective of political and religious belief, of language or colour, an opportunity to discuss the fundamental question affecting all progressive mankind: how to uphold peace, by what means to spare people from the horrors of a new war.

The large-scale preparations for the Congress, which covered many countries, the hundreds and thousands of letters and telegrams received by the International Preparatory Committee show that the initiative of the WIDF in convening this Congress met with the active support and approval of women in all countries of the world. This initiative has been enthusiastically supported by prominent women—scientists, well-known writers, actresses and members of parliaments. Twenty international organisations have given their support to the World Congress of Mothers, a large number of which sent delegates or observers. The Congress has also the support of certain national women's organisations not affiliated to the WIDF. In many countries preparatory committees were set up and national congresses

cultured men and women, the builders and creators of a peaceful life. What more rewarding and noble task can there be?

The foes of peace, on the other hand, the sowers of enmity and hatred among the peoples, have no need of cultured people imbued with high resolve. What they need are obedient robots for military ventures. It is precisely because of this that they blight the minds of children and young folk with the poison of misanthropy, pressing into service, to this end, books, cinema and radio.

Directing as they do vast efforts and resources towards the preparation of another war, the reactionaries in the capitalist countries deprive millions of children of the opportunity to acquire an education. In many capitalist and colonial countries child labour is widely resorted to. Poverty, malnutrition and disease—such is the lot of millions of children in these countries.

Active preparations for the Congress in Lausanne were carried out by the women of the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic and all the countries of people's democracy, who devote all their thoughts and efforts to the cause of peace and peaceful constructive labour and to ensuring that their children have a happy future. All the laws that placed women in a position of inequality have been abolished in these countries. The women have been given ample opportunity to freely develop their creative powers. They take part in social production, hold key economic and government posts, work as specialists in all branches of the economy, and scale the heights of advanced science and culture. The women of the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic, of all People's Democracies represent a mighty force in the building of the new life. The governments and peoples of these countries are doing everything they can to ensure a happy life for the younger generation. Each year the countries of the socialist camp allocate large sums for the construction of new schools, kindergartens, crèches, Young Pioneer camps, children's theatres, sports stadiums. There, children grow up healthy and brimming over with the joy of life, leading to the all-round

BAN AND DESTROY ATOMIC WEAPONS!

★ Activities of Syrian Peace Fighters

Syrian workers for peace are successfully continuing the collection of signatures to the Vienna Appeal. Over 588,000 people, i.e. one-sixth of the country's population, have already signed, among them 88 parliamentary deputies, as well as political and public figures, cultural workers and ministers of various religious denominations.

The peace committees in towns and rural areas are sending out increasing numbers of canvassers and trying to carry the Appeal to the most remote parts of the country. For this purpose groups of young people, workers, peasants and students regularly organise poster parades at the end of the working day, arrange small parties in city blocks, where they tell people about the international situation and the progress of the signature campaign, and visit villages.

Sultan Pacha El-Atrache, one of the prominent leaders of the 1925 uprising, recently gave his support to the Appeal and urged the peasants of Kreyé village, in Djebel Druze district, where he lives, to sign it. In a few hours 668 signatures were collected there.

The democratic press devotes much attention to the signature campaign; photos of leading canvassers, who collected from 3,000 to 5,000 signatures, are often featured.

African People in Defence of Peace

On the initiative of a trade union organisation a meeting of friendship was held in the small village of Manjogare, in the Cameroons, attended by the agricultural workers in the neighbourhood. Those taking part heard reports on the struggle of the peace forces against the Paris agreements and on the World Peace Assembly, attended by active discussion. All the 733

★★ Fresh Successes of French Peace Supporters

While the World Peace Assembly was in session in Helsinki, the battle for peace in France grew in intensity.

A pair of canvassers (a worker and an officer) in Menton, Alpes-Maritimes, collected 40 signatures to the Appeal in less than an hour and 4,200 francs towards the travelling expenses of the French delegation to Helsinki.

In five cantons of the Moselle Department, the Socialist and Communist candidates in the recent elections for general councillors became members of the committee in support of the Vienna Appeal signature campaign.

The collection of signatures in Paris is being carried on most energetically. The peace council of the XIXth district of the capital collected over 8,000 signatures from June 22 to 29. By June 29 the peace council of the XIth district had collected over 30,000. The number of signatures secured

by the peace council of the XXth district has risen to 25,000.

A petition signed by many students at the University of Paris was handed to the Prime Minister demanding that he support the unconditional prohibition of the use of atomic weapons, the destruction of existing stockpiles in all countries, the cessation of the manufacture and tests of atomic weapons and the establishment of effective control over such measures.

In many instances the collection of signatures is combined with the campaign for the success of the forthcoming Four-Power Conference in Geneva. For instance, the executive council of the Federation of Metal Workers has called on all affiliated trade unions to organise meetings at every factory and send resolutions, messages and telegrams to the Prime Minister demanding that at Geneva the Government adopt a standpoint that answers the aspirations and wishes of peace-loving people.

Broad Sweep of the Signature Campaign in Italy

Italian peace supporters are making fresh efforts to collect signatures to the Vienna Appeal in response to the Appeal of the World Peace Assembly. As many as 12 million signatures have so far been collected in the country.

In Ferrara, where the number of signatures is already over 240,000, an additional 1,050 were collected on July 3 alone. In Bologna, the Appeal has been signed by 175,000 people—60% of the adult population.

These results have been achieved through the strenuous efforts of many thousands of canvassers and propagandists. In Ravenna, Bologna Province, they called over and over again on those who had previously refused to sign and patiently persuaded

them that it was necessary to do so; as a result 700 more signatures were secured.

In Monghidoro, another town in Bologna Province, 2,598 signatures have been collected, more than were obtained for the Stockholm Appeal. This success was due to the fact that the peace workers also held talks on the questions of peace with all the tradesmen, artisans, municipal councillors and Christian Democrats in the town.

In the city districts of Livorno peace supporters are continuing to collect signatures to the Appeal and also to a people's petition demanding that the U.S. military bases which are located in this area and which represent a serious threat to the population, be closed down.

Signature Collection in Holland

The campaign for signatures to the Vienna Appeal has of late gained considerable mo-

ment and renders active help to peace fighters in the signature campaign.

SECOND SESSION OF NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS OF CHINA

July 5 saw the opening of the second session of the National People's Congress which is being held in the Huaijintang Hall, Peking.

In the presidium are Mao Tse-tung, Chairman of the People's Republic of China; Chu Teh, Vice-Chairman of the People's Republic of China; Liu Shao-chi, Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress; Chou En-lai, Premier of the State Council, and other leading statesmen of the Chinese People's Republic.

Among the guests is the Viet Nam Government delegation headed by Ho Chi Minh, President of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam.

The agenda of the session includes discussion and adoption of the Five-Year Plan for the development of the national economy of the People's Republic of China; a report on the fulfilment of the 1954 budget and adoption of the 1955 budget; the adoption of the plan for hydro-technical works on the Hwang Ho River; adoption of a law on military service, and other items.

On the opening day Li Fu-chun, Vice-Premier of the State Council and Chairman of the State Planning Commission commenced his report on the Five-Year Plan for the development of the national economy.

On July 6 the session continued its work. The Congress was presided over by Deputies Soong Ching-ling and Lin Po-chui, Vice-Chairmen of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress.

On the same day Comrade Li Fu-chun finished his report on the first Five-Year Plan. (An abridged text of Comrade Li Fu-chun's report appears on page 2.)

The session then heard a report on the second item of the agenda, the fulfilment of the 1954 state budget and the draft of the 1955 budget, given by Li Hsien-nien, Vice-Premier of the State Council and Minister of Finance.

Meeting of Central Committee, French Communist Party

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On July 7, in the town hall of Gentilly, suburb of Paris, the Central Committee of the French Communist Party opened its meeting. The agenda includes two items:

(1) Development of the struggle for peace.

(2) The building of the united front of the working class and the struggle for defence of the demands of the working people. (Reporter—Comrade Marcel Servin.)

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Take the Recommendations of the World Peace Assembly to the Masses

The World Peace Assembly is one of those events that leave a deep imprint on hearts of millions in all countries. The recommendations of the Assembly are demanding and urgent that the question of reducing armaments and banning atomic weapons be decided in the interest of working women are joining in the struggle against the policy of war preparations, against the establishment of aggressive military blocs and for the preservation and strengthening of world peace and dealing with the major problems today agitating the minds of people everywhere. The widely representative character of the gathering gives these recommendations particular weight and value.

The main proposals contained in the Assembly documents concern disarmament and the prevention of atomic war. The committee which discussed these questions emphasized in its report that, side by side with the further strengthening of trust and co-operation among countries, disarmament, including the destruction of atomic weapons, was an urgent task that mankind had to tackle. The Assembly worked out practical measures for securing universal disarmament, banning and destroying nuclear weapons and instituting an impartial system of control. The implementing of these measures, it is stressed in the report of the Disarmament and Atomic Weapons Committee, would open up immense possibilities that could be utilised for the good of mankind.

The Assembly's proposals on the prevention of atomic war accord with the most cherished hopes of all peace-loving peoples and will give a powerful stimulus to the Vienna Appeal signature campaign. Canvassers will carry the message of the Assembly from house to house, from town to town, from village to village.

Tremendous importance also attaches to the recommendations of the various sub-committees of the Committee on Military Blocs and Security. The peace supporters warmly endorse the proposal advanced by the sub-committee on the United Nations that all countries agree to take as their guide the principles of mutual respect for territorial integrity and sovereignty, non-aggression, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, equality and mutual advantage, and peaceful coexistence.

The sub-committee recommended that the laws of the United Nations Organisation be restored. It condemned the establishment of closed military blocs and bases which prevents mutual trust between countries, heightens international tension and represents a barrier to the independence and sovereignty of states.

World opinion is also showing keen interest in the proposals concerning the organisation of collective security in Europe and the German problem. The sub-committee on the German question emphasized the necessity of achieving mutual understanding among all the states of Europe, irrespective of their regime, in order that their security shall be guaranteed, that they can organise economic and cultural co-operation. It also states that the U.S.A. should be invited to take part in this collective security system. The sub-committee recommended the nullification of German laws excluding all possibility of any revival of German militarism or of Germany's participation in any military alliance. It put forward the demands that both the German Federal Republic and the German Democratic Republic should be limited and placed under control and that normal relations be promoted between the two German Republics as the first step towards Germany's unification. It also suggested that a general conference of European countries be convened.

As is well known, the importance of the problems of preserving peace in Asia far transcends the bounds of the Asian countries and for that reason they are given great prominence in the committee's recommendations. The Assembly delegates came to the conclusion that the five principles of peace proclaimed by Nehru and Chou En-lai and the ten principles of the Bandung Conference point the way to peace and security for the countries of Asia and Africa.

The Assembly demanded that all foreign troops be withdrawn from Asia and all foreign bases there abolished. It insisted that Portuguese troops be withdrawn from Goa etc.

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These results have been achieved through the strenuous efforts of many thousands of canvassers and propagandists. In Ravenna, Bologna Province, they called over and over again on those who had previously refused to sign and patiently persuaded them that it was necessary to do so; as a result 700 more signatures were secured. In Monzighetto, another town in Bologna Province, 2,598 signatures have been collected, more than were obtained for the Stock-hold Appeal. This success was due to the fact that the peace workers also held talks on the questions of peace with all the tradesmen, artisans, municipal councillors and Christian Democrats in the town.

In the city districts of Livorno peace supporters are continuing to collect signatures to the Appeal and also to a people's petition demanding that the U.S. military bases which are located in this area and which represent a serious threat to the population, be closed down.

Signature Collection in Holland

The campaign for signatures to the Vienna Appeal has been signed by about 3,500 in Haarlem. The Dutch Peace Council has published posters and leaflets urging the people to sign the Appeal. The newspaper De Waar- sign the Appeal. The newspaper De Waar- sign the Appeal.

African People in Defence of Peace

On the initiative of a trade union organisation a meeting of friendship was held in the small village of Manogare, in the Cameroon, attended by the agricultural workers in the neighbourhood. Those taking part heard reports on the struggle of the peace forces against the Paris Agreement and on the World Peace Assembly, followed by active discussion. All the 733 people present unanimously signed the Vienna Appeal.

Apparatus of late gained considerable momentum in Holland, about 110,000 signatures having so far been collected in the country. Some 40,000 people have signed in Amsterdam. Peace workers have secured over 10,000 signatures in the Hague and a like number in Rotterdam, 3,000 in Zaandam and about 3,500 in Haarlem.

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Aviation Day Celebrations in the USSR

On July 3, 1955, the Soviet people celebrated Soviet Aviation Day. An anniversary meeting with representatives of Party, Soviet and public organisations was held in Moscow on the eve of this national holiday. In various branches of the national economy on an ever-increasing scale.

Hundreds of thousands of Moscow's workers gathered to watch the display, the chief event of the day. They gave a hearty welcome to the leaders of the CPSU and the Soviet Government and the numerous delegations from the Chinese People's Republic, India, Yugoslavia, Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, the Korean People's Democratic Republic, Poland, Rumania and Czechoslovakia, and to the delegation of the International Aviation Federation.

The display began at 10 a.m. It was an impressive demonstration of the might of the Soviet land as a great air power, of the continued advance of Soviet aviation, of the great flying skill developed by its pilots, of the construction, based on the latest achievements in science and technique. During the display new types of aircraft were shown.

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SESSION OF CHINESE NATIONAL PEOPLE'S CONGRESS

ON THE FIRST FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR DEVELOPMENT OF THE NATIONAL ECONOMY OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

Report of Comrade Li Fu-chun

Hsinhua (New China) News Agency has released the text of the report on the First Five-Year Plan for the Development of the National Economy of the People's Republic of China made by Li Fu-chun, Vice-Premier of the State Council and Chairman of its State Planning Commission, at the current session of the National People's Congress. Li Fu-chun announced that during the period of her first Five-Year Plan, which ends in 1957, China's gross industrial output will rise, in value, by 98.3%, with the output of her modern industries going up by 104.1%.

"This rate of industrial development", said Li Fu-chun, "is undoubtedly rapid and neither exists nor is possible in capitalist countries." He outlined the basic tasks for the five-year period as: to centre the country's main efforts on the construction of 694 large industrial projects, the chief of which are the 156 projects being built with the aid of the Soviet Union and which will lay the groundwork for China's socialist industrialisation; to develop agricultural producer co-operatives, whose system of ownership is partially collective, and handicraft producer co-operatives, thus laying the groundwork for the socialist transformation of agriculture and the handicraft industries; to convert the greater part of capitalist industry and commerce into various forms of state capitalism, depending upon concrete conditions, thereby laying the foundations for the socialist transformation of private industry and commerce.

Li Fu-chun cited the following figures illustrating the projected increases in the output of the main industrial products between 1952 and 1957:

Steel: 4.12 million tons as against 1.35 million (3.1 times);

Electric power: 15,920 million kilowatt hours as against 7,260 million (2.2 times);

Coal: 113 million tons, as against 63.53 million tons (1.8 times);

Generators: 227,000 kilowatts' capacity as against 30,000 (7.7 times);

Electric motors: 1.05 million kilowatts' capacity as against 640,000 (1.6 times);

Cement: 6 million tons as against 2.86 million (2.1 times);

Machine-processed paper: 650,000 tons as against 370,000 (1.8 times);

Cotton piece goods: 163.72 million bolts as against 111.63 million (1.5 times);

Machine-processed sugar: 686,000 tons as against 249,000 (2.8 times).

The socialist nature of China's industrial development, said Li Fu-chun, is characterised by the fact that the output of the state-owned industries will go up by 130.1% in value in the five years, so that by 1957 the ratio of the output of state and co-operatively-owned enterprises and of joint state and private industrial enterprises will increase, in value, to 87.8% of the gross output of industrial production, while that of private industrial enterprises will drop to 12.2%. Moreover, most of the private enterprises will be working on state orders.

Fifteen new thermo-electric power stations, each with a capacity of more than 50,000 kilowatts, will be built in the present five-year period and large-scale work will be done on the construction of the Fengman hydro-electric power station.

Within these five years 31 coal mines are to be sunk, each with an annual capacity of more than one million tons of coal. They include the big projects in Fushun, Fusin, Kailan, Tatung and Huainan.

The No. 1 automobile plant, which will be completed under the current Five-Year Plan, will produce 30,000 lorries a year when in full operation. Construction of a second automobile plant, with double the capacity of the No. 1, will be started during this period. These two plants will lay the foundations of China's automobile industry.

In the second Five-Year Plan period the tractor plant now under construction will, when completed, supply China's agriculture with 15,000 54 h.p. tractors annually.

When completed, the two heavy machine-building plants started under the current Five-Year Plan, Li Fu-chun continued, will produce sufficient equipment to fit out a whole iron and steel works with an annual capacity of 1.6 million tons of steel. They will provide all the equipment needed for smelting iron and steel and for producing rolled metals and coke.

The plants for producing power-generating equipment, the construction of which was begun under the present plan, will enable China to supply its power plants with generating units of 12,000, 25,000 and even 50,000 kilowatt capacity.

In the course of the five years 39 large textile mills and many other large light industrial factories will be built.

In the five-year period, the gross value of agricultural output and subsidiary rural production will go up by 23.3%. By 1957, said Li Fu-chun, output of grain will amount to 192.8 million tons, showing an increase of 17.6% compared with 1952; cotton to 1,635,000 tons, or 25.4% more; jute and kenaph to 365,000 tons, or 19.7% more; tobacco to 390,000 tons, or 76.6% more; sugar-cane to 13.15 million tons, or 85.1% more; sugar beet 346.4% more; oil-bearing crops to about 7.86 million hectares, or 37.8% more than in 1952.

The agricultural producer co-operatives—the only channel through which small peasant economy can be transformed—have become the mainstay of the development of agricultural production during the Five-Year Plan. By 1957 one-third of all the peasant households in China will belong to such co-operatives.

In the course of the five years 91 new mechanised state farms and 194 new machine and tractor stations will be organised. The irrigation works programme provides

employed will increase, in all, by 4.2 million, and average wages for factory and office workers will rise by 33%. Altogether, state enterprises and offices will contribute more than 5,000 million yuan for social insurance, medical services and cultural and educational facilities for their personnel. Houses covering about 46 million square metres of floor space will be built for factory and office workers at the expense of the state. In the same period the purchasing power of the rural population will be doubled.

Fulfilment of the first Five-Year Plan, declared Li Fu-chun, will bring about vast changes in China's national economy. This will unquestionably consolidate the dictatorship of people's democracy, strengthen the national defences and create the conditions for further raising the material and cultural standards of the people. Fulfilment of the first Five-Year Plan will also help to further strengthen the international camp of peace and democracy.

The present draft Five-Year Plan was drawn up under the direct guidance of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of China and Chairman Mao Tse-tung. It is based on the fundamental tasks of the country in the transition period and represents an important step towards the carrying out of those tasks.

The main component of the building of a socialist society in China is socialist industrialisation, with the socialist transformation of agriculture and handicrafts and of capitalist industry and commerce forming two essential elements. They are all inseparable.

The major task in effecting socialist industrialisation is to give priority to the development of heavy industry, which will provide a powerful material base for socialist construction in China.

To build Socialism, Li Fu-chun continued, the contradiction between small peasant economy and socialist industrialisation must be resolved. Socialism cannot be built on the basis of small peasant economy; it can only be built on the basis of large-scale industry and large-scale collective farming.

To build Socialism, the contradiction between the capitalist and socialist economies must be resolved. The capitalist system of private ownership of the means of production hindered the further development of the productive forces of our country. The anarchy of capitalist economy conflicts with the planned development of socialist economy. It is impossible for Socialism and capitalism, whose systems of relations of production are antithetical, to develop side by side in one country without hindering each other. There was either the path of Socialism or that of capitalism, but the Chinese people would never allow them-

The Chinese people have turned the property that belonged to bureaucratic capital into the property of the entire people. Today the workers are working for the state and the people and this, too, represents a vital source for the accumulation of capital. A considerable portion of the profits of capitalist enterprises is paid to the state in the form of taxes or used for the expansion of production, and that benefits both the state and the people.

Further Li Fu-chun dwelt on the geographical distribution of industrial enterprises. He noted the irrational distribution inherited from the old China, under which approximately 70% of the country's industry was concentrated in the coastal provinces, and stated that this situation must gradually be changed. By the end of the second Five-Year Plan period many new industrial centres will have been established in North, North-West and Central China, and this will greatly alter the economic life of these vast areas. At the same time the industrial centres in the North-East will be further strengthened.

Referring to the development of agriculture, Li Fu-chun said that one of the most important factors in this respect was the progress made in the movement for setting up agricultural producer co-operatives. Among other measures taken are: land drainage—the area under cultivation will increase by more than 2.5 million hectares during the first Five-Year Plan; work for increasing the area under irrigation and finishing with droughts and floods; fuller use of land and the extension of areas sown to such highly productive crops as rice, maize and potatoes.

In assessing the progress made in 1953 and 1954, the first two years of the Five-Year Plan, Li Fu-chun told the deputies that during these two years the tasks had been successfully implemented. The total volume of industrial and agricultural production increased 14.4% in 1953 compared with 1952, and in 1954 rose by 9.4% as against 1953. Plans for industrial output were overfulfilled. The gross industrial output in 1954 was 53.7% higher than in 1952.

Li Fu-chun drew attention to two important changes that had taken place in the two years under review. Firstly, the volume of output of modern industry in relation to the volume of total industrial and agricultural output rose from 26.7% in 1952 to 33% in 1954; secondly, the volume of production of state, co-operative and joint state and private industrial enterprises amounted to 75.1% of the total volume of industrial output in 1954 as against 61% in 1952.

Although the 1953 and 1954 agricultural plans had not been fulfilled owing to natural calamities, output of farm-produced foods nevertheless increased by 3.4% in 1954 as compared with 1952.

Li Fu-chun noted the progress made in other branches of the country's economy also.

This, he said, testifies to the fact that the Chinese people can undoubtedly fulfil and

In the Interests of Peace and Security in the Balkans

The particularly great significance of the Joint Declaration of the Governments of the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia, which was signed by Comrades N. A. Bulganin and J. Broz Tito, consists, above all, in the fact

I. Chisinevschi
Member, Political Bureau, C.C., Rumanian Workers' Party, First Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers, Rumanian People's Republic

that it marked the end of the period when relations between these countries were disrupted; and that a firm basis has now been laid for the normalisation and improvement of these relations, and for the promotion of all-round co-operation in the economic, cultural, scientific and other fields.

The principles set forth in the Declaration, from which the Governments of the USSR and the FPRY proceed with the object of strengthening confidence and co-operation among peoples, and the measures laid down by them for the practical fulfilment of these principles, are in accord with the interests of both countries, and with the interests of peace and Socialism.

It was with a feeling of deep satisfaction that the world progressive public learned of the normalisation of Soviet-Yugoslav relations, which it warmly welcomed, correctly evaluating the event as one that was not only of interest to the two countries, but represented a big step towards consolidating universal peace and the security of the peoples and frustrating the aggressive aspirations of certain Western elements; as one that was an important contribution to improving relations between all states and relaxing international tension in the Balkans, in Europe and throughout the world. It is this that lends exceptionally great importance to the Soviet-Yugoslav negotiations and the Joint Declaration of the two Governments.

In the light of this event, the great importance of re-establishing normal relations between the People's Democracies and the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia along the path opened up by the Soviet-Yugoslav negotiations becomes increasingly apparent.

One cannot but see that the aggressive elements of certain Western powers are interested in creating and maintaining strained, abnormal relations among the Balkan countries. The imperialist powers have always conducted a policy of stirring up hostility among the Balkan peoples. During and after the second world war these aggressive elements planned, and acted to prevent the Balkan peoples acquiring independence and taking the path of socialist construction. It is common knowledge that these plans and attempts failed miserably.

The imperialist powers have not, however, abandoned their policy. As in the past, they are still trying, through their agents, to disturb relations between the Balkan countries; they make no attempt to conceal their desire to interfere in the internal affairs of these countries with the aim of re-establishing the capitalist system, so hateful to the people, and of reverting to the times when the Balkan peoples were under the oppression of foreign capital. There is no doubt whatsoever that this policy is built on sand. There is no force in the world capable of making the People's Democracies, the free and independent peoples, depart from their chosen path.

Far-reaching and friendly ties have already been established between the peoples of Yugoslavia and those of neighbouring countries—Bulgaria, Albania, Hungary, Rumania—as well as with the peoples of Rumania

to consolidating the forces of the international working-class movement, to upholding peace and to the building of Socialism in their country.

The peoples of Rumania and Yugoslavia have fought in the past for their freedom and national independence against one and the same enemies. To the traditions of this struggle and the long-standing friendship between our two peoples has been added, during the past decade, their common gratitude to the Soviet Union, which helped them to free themselves from the Hitler expansionists and take the path of a new and free life.

The normalisation and strengthening of relations between our two countries re-establish the old and traditional bonds which were temporarily broken. Definite steps have already been taken to this end. In March, 1955, for instance, a trade and payments agreement was concluded between the RPR and the FPRY under which Rumania will supply Yugoslavia with oil products and petroleum equipment, various other equipment and machinery, chemicals, paper, etc. In return Yugoslavia will make deliveries of rolled metal and steel tubes, caustic soda, carbides, chromium ore and concentrates, etc.

In connection with navigation on the Danube, a series of conventions and protocols has been drawn up between Rumania and Yugoslavia on the basis of equality and respect for each other's rights, with the result that a Rumanian-Yugoslav Navigation Administration has been set up to settle navigation problems in the Iron Gate area.

These conventions, and the fruitful activities of the Danube Commission, promote co-operation between our two countries in an important economic sphere, in the spirit of mutual understanding.

Under an agreement concluded in Belgrade the question of a border railway service has been settled and railway traffic recommenced for the carriage of passengers, baggage and freight. Representatives of the railways of our two countries met recently in Bucharest and reached agreement on a number of measures for the transit of freight through both countries.

A protocol on postal exchange was signed in Belgrade in June.

Furthermore, measures have been taken to extend our ties in the field of culture and sport. The Rumanian and Belgrade broadcasting stations exchange musical recordings. Tours of groups of artistes are being arranged on a reciprocal basis; publishing houses are arranging for the translation and publication of fiction; there is a regular exchange of scientific works between various scientific establishments.

The Government of the Rumanian People's Republic will continue to do everything necessary to expand and consolidate good-neighbourly relations, friendship and co-operation with Yugoslavia.

During the years of people's rule, thanks to the correct policy which the Rumanian Workers' Party and Government have pursued, and to the fraternal assistance accorded by the Soviet Union

The Hungarian people's-democratic government pays a great deal of attention to the question of raising the material and cultural level of the rural population. During the past three years, new libraries have

opened in 2,107 villages and 890 rural houses of shops has been established. Last year the turnover of co-operative shops for furniture, musical instruments, etc. has

SOCIETUDE FOR PEASANTS IN HUNGARY

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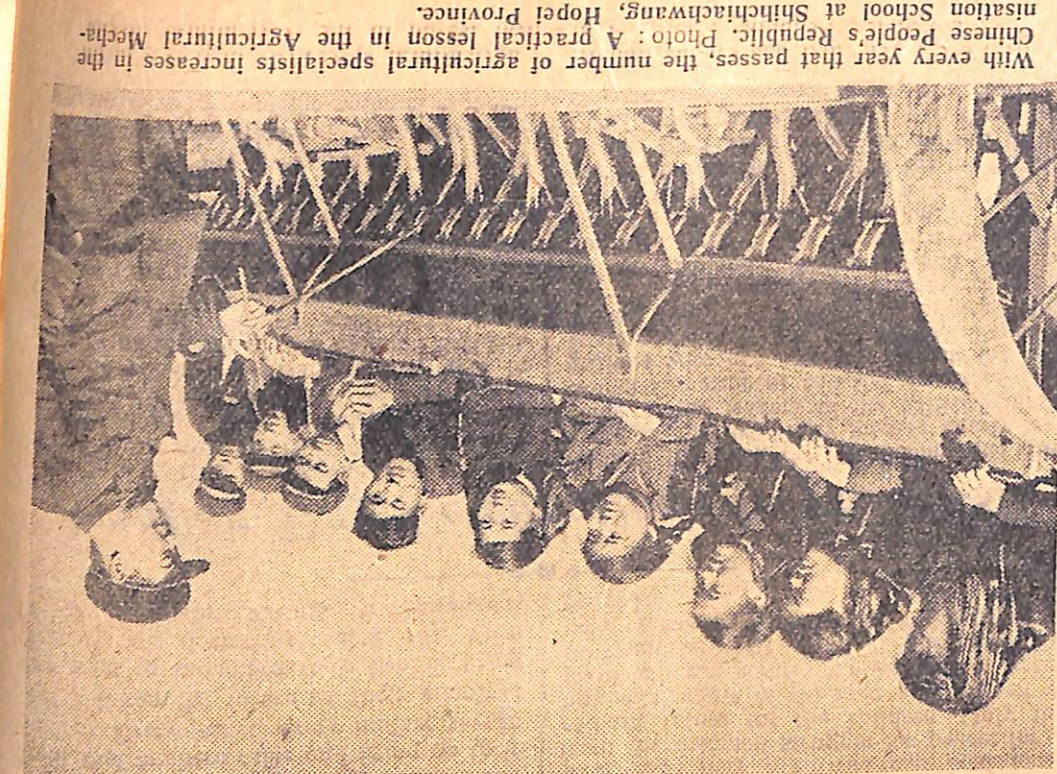
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With every year that passes, the number of agricultural specialists increases in the Chinese People's Republic. Photo: A practical lesson in the Agricultural Mechanization School at Shihchichang, Hopei Province.

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In Communist and Workers' Parties

MEETING OF C.C., COMMUNIST PARTY OF CZECHOSLOVAKIA

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, held in Prague on June 29 and 30, heard and discussed a report by Comrade Antonin Novotny, First Secretary of the C.C., on measures to secure increased agricultural production and the establishment of more agricultural co-operatives, and on the present international situation. In the discussion which followed, 26 comrades took part.

The Central Committee unanimously approved Comrade Novotny's report and passed one resolution on the further development of agricultural co-operatives, ensuring harvesting, autumn field work and state deliveries, and another on the plan for crop areas and the development of stock-rearing in 1956.

The meeting heard and approved Comrade Novotny's report on the meeting of representatives of the USSR, Rumania, Czechoslovakia and Hungary in Bucharest in

June, dealing with the results of the negotiations between the USSR and Yugoslavia.

A resolution was passed, which reads:

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia welcomes the agreement reached between the Soviet Union and Yugoslavia and expresses its firm confidence that as a result of this agreement sincere and friendly co-operation in the interest of consolidating peace and Socialism will also be established between the other countries of the camp of Socialism and Yugoslavia.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia will take all the necessary measures to extend and deepen economic and cultural bonds between Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia and in the near future to establish good friendly relations between the two countries and between their peoples.

MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of India met in Delhi between June 14 and 26. A press communique issued on the results of the meeting states:

The Communist Party supports the measures taken by the Indian Government in furtherance of the cause of peace and of lessening international tension. The meeting of the Central Committee characterised the decisions of the Bandung Conference as a big step forward towards the building of unity among the Asian peoples in the struggle for the defence of peace and for Asian freedom. It welcomed the Nehru-Bulgarian joint statement which strengthens the bonds of friendship between India and the USSR and constitutes a powerful weapon against the instigators of war. One of the most important and vital tasks before the democratic forces and the Communist Party of India, the Central Committee stressed, is the further extension and strengthening of

the mass movement for peace and Asian unity, ensuring the effective participation of the working class and peasantry in the movement and building the broadest unity of the people of all parties in support of the historic five principles and for opposition to the war measures of the imperialists. The Central Committee called upon all units of the Party to intensify the campaign for the collection of signatures to the Vienna Appeal against atomic weapons.

The communique states that the Central Committee declared its full support for the struggle of the people of Goa for their freedom.

A considerable part of the communique deals with the Party's programme of activities in relation to the internal political and economic life of India.

The Central Committee decided to convene the Fourth Congress of the Party in December this year.

EDUCATION IN THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF GERMANY

The 20th meeting of the Central Board of the Communist Party of Germany passed a resolution dealing with the new study year. There will be two forms of political study: Party education groups for all members, in which workers belonging to other parties and non-party people may also participate; and seminars for the activists and more advanced Party members, who will study the textbook "Political Economy".

The classes for the groups will be held monthly, from October 1955 to May 1956. The following subjects will be studied: the class structure of capitalist society and the role of the bourgeois state; the significance of the working-class struggle for higher wages; the basic economic law of modern capitalism and its influence on the position of the working class and all working people; the general crisis of capitalism and its sharpening after the second world war; the

tasks of the working class in the struggle against imperialism and militarism, and for a united, democratic and peace-loving Germany; the abolition of the political and economic power of the big landlords and the liquidation of the monopolies as the pre-conditions for building a worker-peasant state in the German Democratic Republic; the GDR as the bylaw of the German people in their struggle for national unity and independence.

To help students the propaganda department of the Central Board is to publish special study material for these groups which will be based on the textbook on political economy.

The seminars on the textbook "Political Economy" will also be held once a month. The students will be given introductory lectures on each chapter of the textbook and will study the first and second sections of the book.

STRENGTHENING FRATERNAL TIES BETWEEN CANADIAN AND LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNISTS

Recently, the theoretical-political journal published an extensive study,

For the Further Development of Agricultural Co-operatives in Czechoslovakia

Antonin Novotny
First Secretary, C.C., Communist Party of Czechoslovakia

building of Socialism is taking place in the midst of a sharp class struggle against the remnants of the exploiting classes. The struggle against the old way of thinking

and the creation of a new, socialist society are neither easy nor simple tasks, particularly in relation to the peasants, among whom backward and conservative ways of thinking are especially prevalent. We therefore have to fight to win the peasants, we have to convince them and not wait for them to come to a decision themselves.

To win over to the side of collectivisation the small and middle peasants, who are still running their own individual farms, we must first of all convince them of the advantages of collective farming in the co-operatives. We have graphic examples of these advantages in the well-functioning co-operatives; we have a firm material base in the machine and tractor stations, and, most important of all, a strong Party. Just what can be achieved by purposeful work is shown by the pledges made by the agricultural co-operatives and the small and middle peasants in honour of the tenth anniversary of our country's liberation by the Soviet Army, and by the progress of the spring field work this year. Thanks to widespread explanatory and mass political work we succeeded in arousing the initiative of the co-operative members and the individual peasants. This proves that the overwhelming majority of the working peasantry approves and supports the Party's policy and is beginning to understand that only by increasing agricultural production can it improve its living standards. It can be said that there exist favourable conditions and a favourable mood for further collectivisation of agriculture. That is why we shall systematically work to persuade the small and middle peasants of the necessity of joining existing co-operatives or forming new ones.

In what direction shall we exert our efforts for the continued socialist reorganisation of agriculture?

Firstly, it is necessary to create all the political, organisational and economic conditions for setting up new co-operatives and to provide the cadres for them. We shall set up co-operatives everywhere the peasants want them. We shall support co-operatives and render them all-round assistance, even where a minority of the peasants wants to organise them.

Secondly, it is necessary to devote still greater attention to those co-operatives in which the situation has hitherto been unsatisfactory. We must, in particular, concentrate on reinforcing their leadership even if we have to transfer cadres from other, well-functioning co-operatives. We shall give special help to weak co-operatives which embrace the minority of the inhabitants of a village.

Thirdly, it is necessary to improve the political work of drawing new members, above all from among the small and middle peasants, into the existing co-operatives. We must see to it that workers and other people from industrial enterprises, as well as women in the villages, are also drawn into co-operatives, and the necessary conditions thus created for improving the

not yet members of co-operatives. The work of bringing them into the existing co-operatives and organising new ones calls for selfless, patient and persevering agitational

activity. With the middle peasants, we must concentrate on the good farmers, experienced peasants in whom the village has confidence.

Co-operatives with not many members and not much land present an important problem. We must conduct a determined battle against the sectarian views of many co-operative members who refuse to accept more peasants into their co-operatives. The co-operatives uniting the minority of the rural population must gradually become ones which unite the majority of the small and middle peasants, cultivating ever-larger areas and growing the most important crops.

There must be a positive settlement of the question of accepting elderly small and middle peasants into the co-operatives; these are often not wanted because they are considered to be an additional burden. No doubt some of them can no longer work in the fields. However, a co-operative can use their rich experience on poultry farms, in raising small farm animals, in bee-keeping and gardening, thus freeing younger peasants for other work.

There are still many members of rural Party organisations who cultivate their own plots of land but are not in the co-operatives. We forthrightly declare: every Party member must be a member of the co-operative and work to ensure that it becomes prosperous!

The establishment of new co-operatives and increasing the membership of existing ones is the task of all rural Party organisations, national committees, MTS, state farms, procurement bodies and of enterprises that take patronage over villages. This year, particularly the period of harvesting and autumn work, must mark a step forward along the path of building Socialism in the Czechoslovak countryside.

Every co-operative goes through a certain formative period before it achieves decisive economic results. This period, which lasts from the foundation of the co-operative until it becomes firmly established, is not a simple one and it has to be taken into account. The affairs of the co-operative must always be managed in such a way as to strengthen it politically and economically as quickly as possible. The guarantee of success in this matter lies in the hands of the co-operative members themselves. The general results of the work of the co-operative depend on how they approach the matter and decide questions of the organisation of the co-operative and the development of co-operative farming.

Very much depends on how experienced and zealous are those who lead the co-operatives. This is borne out by the experience we have already gained in building up co-operatives.

For example, the co-operative in the Masovice village (Plzen Region) obtained good results last year. The members received 331,389 crowns; the payment for one work-day unit, including payment in

achieved by the co-operative and refuse to give it leadership.

Nor is sufficient help given to the co-operatives by agronomists, veterinary surgeons and other specialists. Instead of providing real and practical help, agricultural bodies busy themselves with red tape, form-filling and sending out circulars.

The national committees and their agricultural boards and commissions should play their part in establishing and developing co-operatives. To accomplish this they must greatly improve their work and link it up with life in the countryside. The Ministry of Agriculture, in whose work there are still plenty of shortcomings, must do a lot to help in this. An important measure undertaken by the Party and the Government for the economic, political and organisational strengthening of the co-operatives is the sending of organisers to these farms. Experience has proved that in all cases where the idea of such assistance has been properly grasped by the districts concerned, these organisers do considerable work in the co-operatives and help to strengthen them substantially.

Unfortunately the importance of this help to the co-operatives has not been understood everywhere. Only tested, experienced and politically mature Party functionaries with organising abilities should be assigned as organisers. It is the task of an organiser to delve thoroughly into the problems of management in a co-operative, to help its members and, with the assistance of the Party organisation, to see to it that the board and co-operative members work for the elimination of shortcomings in the affairs of their co-operative, for observance of the Rules and for the development of co-operative production.

We also want to raise the general cultural level in our countryside. Collective farming, application of the latest scientific discoveries in plant-growing and animal husbandry, large-scale mechanisation of agricultural work and introduction of the advanced methods of the best workers—all this requires a high cultural level on the part of the co-operative membership. In the heat of the struggle for the victory of the idea of co-operation and for a substantial increase in agricultural production, great changes are taking place in the people themselves, in their thinking and outlook. The desire for education is awakening among them, a desire to broaden their cultural horizon, and age-old prejudices are breaking down.

This is not a spontaneous process. Raising the cultural level in the countryside requires organisation. Advanced co-operatives are becoming an important factor in the development of culture in the countryside. It is they who see that cultural and educational establishments are built, that scientific and literary works and scientific films are circulated and made use of, that the experience of the best workers is popularised, that lectures and talks are held; it is they who arrange excursions and other cultural measures.

We cannot, however, rest content with what has been achieved in this sphere, and much more attention must be devoted to these questions. As yet our cultural workers have done little to promote the development of culture in the countryside.

The formation and strengthening of the co-operatives is taking place in a sharp class struggle against the kulaks. There have been incorrect views on the class struggle, among them the view that the disintegration of certain co-operatives and the withdrawal

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STRENGTHENING FRATERNAL TIES BETWEEN CANADIAN AND LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNISTS

Recently the National Committee of the Labor Progressive Party of Canada has been strengthening its fraternal relations with the progressive forces in the Latin American countries, and in the first place with the Communist and Workers' Parties there. Following the call of the Fifth National Convention for measures to advance this work, a "Commission on Latin American-Canadian Co-operation" has been established by the National Executive Committee of the LPP.

Recently, the theoretical-political journal of the LPP published an extensive study, prepared by this Commission, dealing with the economic and political situation in Latin America, the drive of Wall Street to extend its domination throughout the hemisphere, and the need for building unity among the democratic anti-imperialist forces of the Americas. It points to the need for joint struggle together with the Latin American peoples against U.S. domination and the drive to atomic war.

HOW OUR PARTY BRANCH INFLUENCES CO-OPERATIVE AFFAIRS

The Party branch in our co-operative has 15 members.

If we look back and see how things have gone with the co-operative since 1950, the year when it was set up, we can safely say that the influence of the Party branch on co-operative affairs has grown considerably. Its prestige among the members in the co-operative is increasing all the time.

This has not been easy to achieve. I should like to tell you how, learning from our mistakes, we have been winning the confidence of non-party people and leading the work for the development of our co-operative.

At first we made serious mistakes. For instance, at the annual co-operative meeting in 1953 we recommended Zygmunt Pisarek as the co-operative chairman; we knew him to be energetic and practical. But not enough thought was given to the matter, and we did not consult the non-party co-operative members. It turned out that Comrade Pisarek did not enjoy the respect of the co-operative members because he could not find the right approach to people and was always letting everybody know that he was the only one who could work properly and that no one else knew a thing. His nomination was turned down and the co-operative members elected Jan Chrynczak, who had their confidence. It was a good lesson for us, and we drew from it the necessary conclusions for the future.

Last year, before the general meeting of the co-operative, we held an open Party meeting at which the members thoroughly discussed the nominations for the co-operative board. After that meeting we understood still better that a man who looks down on people cannot be elected to the co-operative board, that a great deal of work must be done so that he changes his attitude towards people and wins their respect. We realised that the board must consist of people who can create an atmosphere of mutual trust and co-operation, so that the members feel themselves the real masters of the co-operative.

The general co-operative meeting unanimously elected to the board the best people, people with whom every co-operative member was satisfied.

Open Party meetings, at which non-party people together with the Communists put forward their proposals to improve the work of the co-operative, are one of the important forms of strengthening our bonds with non-party people. Many of their proposals are willingly accepted and put into practice; this helps to bring non-party people closer to the Party.

We are careful to see that Party members serve as an example to the rest of the workers, particularly when any new measure is undertaken. In 1953 our Party branch suggested that four hectares under oats should be sown by the criss-cross method. Many non-party members regarded this suggestion with distrust. However, the results attained made them change their opinion. We harvested about 2.2 tons of oats per hectare on the experimental field. Last year we sowed 27 hectares by the criss-cross method, and this year 40 hectares.

The majority of our comrades have shown themselves to be very good Communists in both Party and production work.

Winning the confidence of non-party people and following Lenin's counsel about the necessity to teach the masses and to learn from them, our Party branch has considerably helped the "Orzel Biały" producer co-operative to become a leading co-operative in the county. This year the co-operative members received 19.5 zloty, 6 kg. of grain, 10 kg. of potatoes and other products per work-day unit.

We are proud of our initial successes, but we do not rest content with them. We know that it is necessary to get rid of many shortcomings and overcome not a few difficulties, and that there is a lot to do if our co-operative is to become one of the most advanced in the country. The Second Congress of the Polish United Workers' Party and the third meeting of the Central Committee showed the way forward, and our duty is to carry out the instructions given by the Congress and the C.C. meeting as well as possible.

Piotr SOBOL
Secretary, Polish United
Workers' Party branch,
"Orzel Biały" producer
co-operative, Strzeliniki,
Brzeski county

...On the basis of the convincing results achieved in this reorganisation, the Congress pointed out that it was necessary to strengthen the existing co-operatives politically, organisationally and economically and to form new ones. But in carrying out this line of the Party, a certain lack of decision and clarity is being displayed. In their work of organising new co-operatives, increasing the membership and adding to the land of those already in existence, Party organisations and national committees show a lack of consistency and fail to relate this activity to the other day-to-day tasks of the countryside in connection with the Congress directives on bringing about a substantial rise in agricultural production. Many Party members fail to see that the strengthening of existing co-operatives is indissolubly bound up with the establishment of new ones, and that a steady growth of agricultural production can be ensured only on the basis of large-scale socialist farming.

By June 1, 1955, there were 6,663 agricultural co-operatives in the Republic, of which 185 were of the second and 6,478 of the third and fourth types.

Despite the fact that there has been hardly any increase in the number of co-operatives, it should be noted that the idea of collective farming has deep roots in our countryside. Co-operatives of the second and higher types are to be found in 47% of our villages, and 217,647 peasant households are united in them.

At present co-operatives of the third and fourth types own 30% of the general farmland and 32.9% of the ploughland.

Together with the state farms, the co-operatives of the third and fourth types own 36.1% of all Czechoslovakia's general farmland and 39.2% of its ploughland. This provides a firm basis for socialist agricultural production and is a factor of vital importance in keeping our working people supplied with foodstuffs. The socialist sector of agriculture accounts for 41.5% of the total grain deliveries, 56.4% of the sugar beet, 59% of the pork, 48.5% of the beef and 43.3% of the milk deliveries.

In the comparatively short space of time since their foundation the agricultural co-operatives have grown much stronger politically, organisationally and economically. Social production is expanding and the living standards of the co-operative members are rising with every passing year. Last year the cash incomes of the co-operatives per hectare were 532 crowns higher than in 1953. The proportion of the co-operative income that is used for the payment of work-day units (estimated on a per hectare basis) was 40% greater last year than in 1953.

Most of the co-operatives have achieved indisputably positive and encouraging results. This, however, should not incline us to rest content, to sit back with folded arms waiting for these good co-operatives to bring the peasants round to the idea of collective farming all by themselves. We would not be Communists if we did not constantly bear in mind the fact that everything new comes into being in the course of struggle. New ideas have to be fought for and the

...efforts of the continued socialist reorganisation of agriculture?

Firstly, it is necessary to create all the political, organisational and economic conditions for setting up new co-operatives and to provide the cadres for them. We shall set up co-operatives everywhere the peasants want them. We shall support co-operatives and render them all-round assistance, even where a minority of the peasants wants to organise them.

Secondly, it is necessary to devote still greater attention to those co-operatives in which the situation has hitherto been unsatisfactory. We must, in particular, concentrate on reinforcing their leadership even if we have to transfer cadres from other, well-functioning co-operatives. We shall give especial help to weak co-operatives which embrace the minority of the inhabitants of a village.

Thirdly, it is necessary to improve the political work of drawing new members, above all from among the small and middle peasants, into the existing co-operatives. We must see to it that workers and other people from industrial enterprises, as well as women in the villages, are also drawn into co-operatives, and the necessary conditions thus created for improving the cultivation of all the land occupied by the co-operatives and for adding to it by bringing fallow land under cultivation.

Fourthly, in all co-operatives it is necessary to pay constant attention to management, organisation of labour and observation of the Model Rules; special care should be displayed in relation to socially-owned livestock.

Fifthly, it is necessary to establish in the co-operatives large economic, financial and material funds and stocks so that these co-operatives can replenish their own seed and fodder stocks, can carry out capital construction and mechanisation on the basis of their own resources.

The establishment of all the necessary conditions for setting up new co-operatives is now our main political task in the countryside.

To carry out this task it is above all necessary for the regional and district Party committees to make a thorough examination of the situation in the countryside. They must discuss the conditions required for the organisation or strengthening of a co-operative land, in particular, find out what possibilities exist for drawing in small and middle peasants. They must survey undistributed, uncultivated and waste land. In particular they must ensure proper and effective help for the MTS, ascertain what possibilities exist in the countryside for developing livestock breeding on a collective basis and whether there are large premises or structures suitable for farming purposes, etc. They must find out what material advantages can be offered to the co-operative, what cadres are available in the countryside, who should be sent there from the district centre, and how the rural Party organisation, the national committee and its agricultural commission are functioning.

While setting up new co-operatives, drawing peasants into the existing ones and adding to co-operative land, we shall conduct our agitational work primarily among the middle peasants.

The middle peasants cultivate the bulk of the land and provide a substantial proportion of the country's agricultural produce. However, the majority of them are

Success of Education in Bulgaria

During its years of free life, Bulgaria has made remarkable strides in the sphere of public education. A compulsory seven-year education system has been fully established throughout the country, illiteracy has been abolished among the overwhelming majority of the population, over 500,000 adults within recent years having completed courses for the elimination of illiteracy and the improvement of knowledge. Now each locality has a school of its own, 933 new school buildings having been constructed in the past nine years. There are 144 secondary technical schools

and 115 trade-training schools operating in the country. About 17,000 factory and office workers receive their education in 107 evening schools. In 1939, there were only five higher educational establishments in which there were 9,800 students; now there are twenty with over 30,000 students.

People's government displays great concern for the education of youth of the national minorities. The number of Turkish general education schools has increased from 404 to 1,145 and in these some 100,000 are studying.

...forward along the path of building Socialism in the Czechoslovak countryside.

Every co-operative goes through a certain formative period before it achieves decisive economic results. This period, which lasts from the foundation of the co-operative until it becomes firmly established, is not a simple one and it has to be taken into account. The affairs of the co-operative must always be managed in such a way as to strengthen it politically and economically as quickly as possible. The guarantee of success in this matter lies in the hands of the co-operative members themselves. The general results of the work of the co-operative depend on how they approach the matter and decide questions of the organisation of the co-operative and the development of co-operative farming.

Very much depends on how experienced and zealous are those who lead the co-operatives. This is borne out by the experience we have already gained in building up co-operatives.

For example, the co-operative in the Masovice village (Plzen Region) obtained good results last year. The members received 331,389 crowns; the payment for one work-day unit, including payment in kind, was 20.65 crowns. They did not forget about capital construction and started building a pig-farm for 200 pigs, digging silo pits of 200 cubic metres capacity and two circular clamps capable of holding 17 tons of potatoes. Now they are getting ready to start work on a large cow-shed.

The advantages of collective farming can also be seen from the results of these co-operatives which have less favourable natural conditions.

The establishment of new co-operatives will undoubtedly also help to strengthen the existing ones. We shall draw new members into these co-operatives and add to their land. They will go over to a higher type of co-operation, to more up-to-date forms of production.

On the basis of the experience available, we must now consider whether or not work is complicated by the many types of co-operatives we have, whether or not this makes it easier for the class enemy to act. We stand for the simplification of the existing system. It would be correct to switch over immediately from preparatory committees to the second type of co-operative, that is, to joint cultivation of land. Thus we shall shorten the transition period. This, of course, demands more active agitation work, but the results will be more fruitful.

In connection with the further development of co-operatives, we must make a critical evaluation of the work of agricultural bodies. Each co-operative requires more and more attention and help in all fields of organisation and management of production. Some workers in these bodies do not give enough attention to the development of socialist forms of farming in the countryside. They forget that small and medium peasants, particularly during the establishment of a co-operative, have had no experience of organising large-scale co-operative production.

Such workers are quite content to have occasional talks with the co-operative chairman, relying on the fact that there is someone responsible for the management of the co-operative in the village; they do not accept responsibility for the results

...agricultural production, great changes are taking place in the people themselves, in their thinking and outlook. The desire for education is awakening among them, a desire to broaden their cultural horizon, and age-old prejudices are breaking down.

This is not a spontaneous process. Raising the cultural level in the countryside requires organisation. Advanced co-operatives are becoming an important factor in the development of culture in the countryside. It is they who see that cultural and educational establishments are built, that scientific and literary works and scientific films are circulated and made use of, that the experience of the best workers is popularised, that lectures and talks are held; it is they who arrange excursions and other cultural measures.

We cannot, however, rest content with what has been achieved in this sphere, and much more attention must be devoted to these questions. As yet our cultural workers have done little to promote the development of culture in the countryside.

The formation and strengthening of the co-operatives is taking place in a sharp class struggle against the kulaks. There have been incorrect views on the class struggle, among them the view that the disintegration of certain co-operatives and the withdrawal of the peasants, in particular in 1953, was the result of subjective reasons alone, namely that small and middle peasants had been forced to join the co-operatives. The Party has condemned the method of running things by simply issuing orders and will continue to be relentless if it is used in the formation of co-operatives. It would be a mistake, however, not to realise that vacillations, the withdrawal of peasants from co-operatives and the disintegration of co-operatives, is, first and foremost, the work of the class enemy. We are living in a period of transition from capitalism to Socialism, in a period of sharpening class struggle. In the countryside, the kulaks continue to exist as a class. The class enemy may modify his tactics and the form of his activities but the essence remains the same.

In establishing new co-operatives, we shall not forget to help the small and middle peasants who are still farming on their own. Our assistance will continue to be directed to helping them make full use of the reserves of their farms in order to raise agricultural production. But we should not forget to make persistent efforts to convince them that the next step in raising their standard of living is the large-scale socialist agricultural production that exists in the co-operatives.

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Side by side with the struggle for increasing agricultural production, we are fighting for the further development of the co-operative movement in the countryside. They are two aspects of the same task, firmly bound up with each other. One depends upon the other. It is unquestionably a difficult job. Much hard work is required to change the peasant's way of thinking, his attitude to the means of production and, eventually, to the whole of society. To fulfil the decisions of the Tenth Party Congress, the Party must constantly be in a state of complete preparedness and, this is the main thing, the general line for building Socialism must be firmly carried out.

More Libraries in Rumania

An increasing number of libraries is one of the indications of the advance of culture in the Rumanian People's Republic. The country now has more than 35,000 libraries, with a total number of over 20 million books.

The total number of books in the library of the Academy of the Rumanian People's Republic together with the libraries of the Bucharest, Cluj and Jassy universities and other similar libraries is over 7 million volumes. The library of the Rumanian Institute of Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries, which was established in the

last few years, has books in 40 languages numbering over 100,000. In this library readers can find periodicals published in all countries of the world.

In the national minority areas there is a wide circulation of books in the various languages. For example, over 60% of the books in the Tirgu-Mures regional library are in the Hungarian language.

The number of bookshops in the Republic is also growing. In Bucharest alone there are in all 690 bookshops and permanent stalls at offices and enterprises.

German Nuclear Physics Will Serve Peace

The offer of the Soviet Government to assist various countries, including the German Democratic Republic, to build experimental centres for the development of research in nuclear physics and into the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, has evoked lively interest in the GDR and also in Western Germany and other West European countries. The Soviet Union, as is known, has expressed its readiness to supply the necessary fissionable materials for atomic piles and to provide an opportunity for German scientists to familiarise themselves with the research going on in the USSR in relation to the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

This generous offer is one more graphic example of the Soviet Union's unwearied efforts to get atomic and other weapons of mass destruction banned and their stockpiles destroyed on an international scale, and to assist those countries that are prepared to use atomic power exclusively for peaceful purposes. The Soviet Union, as all are aware, is the only country with a functioning atomic power station. It is also building other big atomic power stations.

The proposal of the Soviet Government is proof of its confidence in the consistent peaceful policy of the Government of the GDR. This generous proposal has given rise to a completely new situation for research in German nuclear physics. Experiments hitherto carried out both in the German Democratic Republic and in Western Germany have only been possible on a very modest scale. The research work of the West German institutes was largely dependent on isotope deliveries from the U.S.A. and Great Britain and, furthermore, was under strict foreign control.

Not so long ago a plan for setting up a U.S.-West German nuclear centre was made public in Western Germany. This centre, it was stated, would possibly be allowed to build an atomic pile. It was clear to all German physicists that the U.S.-West German centre would work under strict U.S. military control.

There can be no doubt that the purpose of this plan for setting up a nuclear centre in Western Germany is to exploit the considerable potentialities of West German nuclear physics in the interests of U.S. atomic armament. Not only will this U.S.-financed centre be under U.S. control, and work in conditions of the strictest secrecy; its researches will be dependent upon instructions prompted by the special desires and interests of those controlling it. West German physicists therefore look on the forthcoming establishment of the centre with decidedly mixed feelings. Although many of them hope that they may manage to direct their research work into peaceable and purely scientific channels in spite of the desires of their U.S. masters, nobody can avoid facing the serious question posed by his conscience: would not participation in the work of the U.S.-West German nuclear centre result eventually in collaboration in a matter that might end in a monstrous crime?

At a time when a wave of angry protest has arisen in all countries against U.S. atom and hydrogen bomb tests and when the

Professor Robert Havemann

institute controlled by the U.S.A. are assisting the enemies of mankind to prepare atomic war.

All German physicists are naturally interested not only in the opportunity of conducting scientific research, but in knowing what they are working for and whose interests they serve. Progressive German scientists, both in the West and the East, want their research to benefit the German economy, the German people and all other peoples. None of them wish the valuable results of their work to be locked in the secret safe of some American concern, and to help perfect monstrous devices of mass annihilation.

It is clear from this that the Soviet proposal has completely changed the situation. The nuclear centre which is to be built in the German Democratic Republic on the basis of this proposal will not be restricted by any discriminatory controls or directives motivated by military considerations. On the contrary, the Soviet Union has expressed its readiness to acquaint scientific workers in the centre with Soviet experience in the peaceful application of nuclear physics. This fully conforms with the Soviet offer to make public the technical and scientific facts regarding the atomic power station in the Soviet Union at the forthcoming international conference of atomic scientists in Geneva. Thus the research work of the nuclear centre in the GDR will proceed freely and without hindrance, and in accord with the interests, plans and desires of the German physicists.

Construction of the nuclear centre in the GDR is now under way, and well-known German scientists who up to the present have been living abroad have already expressed a wish to work in it.

In addition, the Soviet proposal reveals that the abilities of German nuclear physicists are highly thought of by Soviet scientists. German research-workers such as Otto Hahn, Liese Meitner, Strassmann, Hertz, Matlauch, Bothe and Schrödinger (to name only a few) have greatly advanced the development of this new branch of physics by their notable contribution. The fact that for many years the tremendous potentialities of German science were hardly exploited at all was a loss to science. And it is no accident that the proposal making it possible for German scientists to devote themselves to free, creative research was advanced by the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is all the more able to do this by virtue of the fact that the greatest scientific and technical progress in nuclear physics, particularly in recent years, has unquestionably been made by Soviet research workers. It is precisely this leading role of Soviet science in nuclear physics which enables the Soviet Union to offer such splendid scientific, technical and material assistance to other countries.

The construction of the nuclear centre in the GDR will open up the possibility

with ease problems in physics, chemistry, mineralogy, biology and other sciences until now regarded as virtually insoluble. In medicine, radioactive isotopes will be used for diagnosis and treatment, instead of costly radium and expensive X-ray equipment. In industry their use will make it possible to establish constant control over various technological processes and to use simple methods of automatic and remote control. In agriculture the use of isotopes likewise means many great opportunities for advance. Thus, the benefits of the work of the nuclear research centre will extend to many spheres of science and technique.

Construction of large atomic piles (uranium reactors) with a thermal capacity of up to 5,000 kilowatts will also lay the foundation for building atomic power stations in Germany in the future.

The better our physicists realise that work in the GDR nuclear centre is the national task of the whole of Germany, the bigger will be its scientific and technical success and the more valuable the economic consequences for the whole of Germany. The more German research-workers accomplish in the peaceful use of atomic energy, the more resolutely will our whole people fight for a ban on atomic arms, for peace and the national independence of our country. The rich mineral deposits available in Germany can be a source of great wealth for our people if we succeed in using atomic energy for peaceful purposes; in this way we shall make an effective contribution to the struggle for the international prohibition of atomic weapons and the strict observance of this ban.

Atomic weapons are now condemned by all peace-loving people. The Stockholm Appeal for a ban on such weapons was signed by more than 600,000,000 people and indirectly endorsed by parliamentary decisions and statements in Japan and Italy, by the Uno Secretary General, the world conference of clergymen held in Evanston and by many other institutions, organisations and prominent personalities. The Vienna Appeal demanding the destruction of all stocks of atomic weapons, wherever they may be, and the immediate cessation of their production is meeting with the enthusiastic approval and vigorous support of all people of good will. The collection of signatures to this Appeal, now gaining momentum everywhere, expresses the firm determination of the peoples to uphold peace and frustrate the schemes of the instigators of another war.

The indomitable will of the masses can compel the governments that are at present preparing atomic war to put an end to the insanity of atomic threats. Nobody should allow himself to be frightened by all the twaddle about the world coming to an end, which the warmongers are spreading today in order to paralyse the resistance of the peoples. The peoples will not perish; all that will happen is that a few madmen like former U.S. Secretary of Defence

Economic Achievements in Bosnia and Hercegovina

The Yugoslav newspaper *Borba* has published some data on the economic progress made in Bosnia and Hercegovina during the first four months of this year.

Industrial output in the region during these months rose to more than 36% above the figure for the corresponding period of 1954. In these four months the generation of electric power increased by 68%. Power stations under construction in Jablonice and Jajce have already begun generating current; when they are operating at full capacity, they will increase the hydro-electric power produced in Bosnia and Hercegovina by 366%.

Brown coal output has risen by more than 34,000 tons. Coke production is increasing and the coke works in Lukavce will produce about 3,000 tons this year for Yugoslavia's non-ferrous metal industry.

Factories in Zenica, the country's biggest metallurgical centre, have also successfully fulfilled their plan for the first four months of the year. Compared with the same period last year, their output rose by 71.7%.

In Defence of the Communist Party of Germany

The trial directed against the Communist Party of Germany re-opened in Karlsruhe on June 21.

This provocative trial began seven months ago, with the object of providing "legal grounds" for banning the CPG. Public opinion has with increasing vigour been demanding an end to this frame-up and has more than once compelled the Federal Constitutional Court to suspend its hearings. The defence lawyers have convincingly proved that the charges brought against the Party are baseless and have exposed all attempts to present the Communist Party as one whose activities violate the Constitution of the Federal Republic.

The resumption of the trial against the Communist Party, which has been steadfastly upholding the vital interests of the West German working people and the national interests of the German people, has again aroused protests from the West German public. Every day numerous delegations arrive in Karlsruhe from all parts of Western Germany. They include Communists, Social Democrats and working people who belong to no party. On one day alone, June 23, delegations of working people handed over to the Communist Party representatives at the trial over 15,000 signatures to petitions of protest against the attempt to ban the Party.

The democratic public of Western Germany stresses that the banning of the Communist Party would put additional obstacles in the way of restoring Germany's unity on a democratic and peaceful basis and would clear the way for the restoration of a fascist set-up in Western Germany.

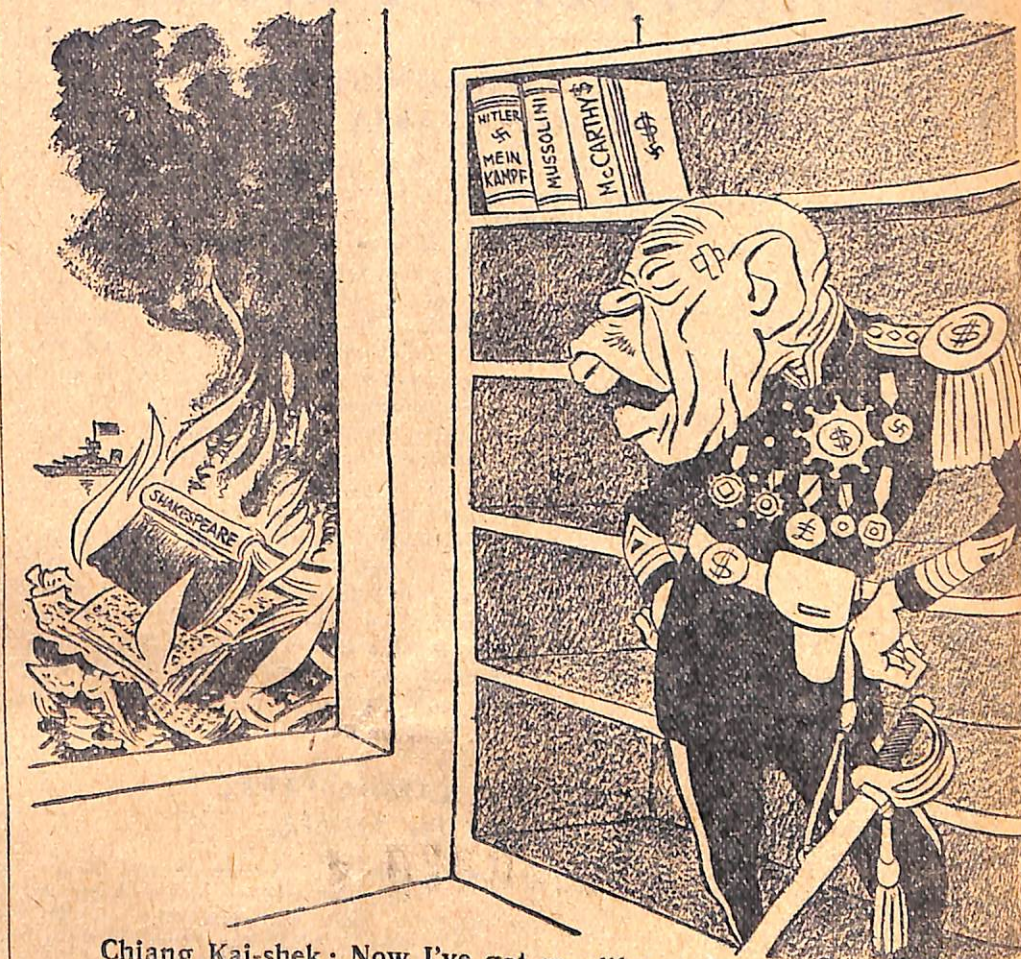
RISE IN PRICES IN FRANCE

French ruling circles are noisily advertising their "price cut" operations. It is not difficult to understand the reason for this clamour. The monopolists need it in order to deceive the working people and hold back their just struggle for higher wages.

However, the actual position in France refutes this eyewash. Throughout the country prices for goods of prime necessity are, in fact, rising.

Chiang Kai-shek has issued an order to "ban and burn" all books whose authors or translators live on the Chinese mainland. Among them are works on physics, chemistry, physical geography, grammar, and translations of Shakespeare's plays.

(News item)



Chiang Kai-shek: Now I've got my library just the way I like it.
Drawing by J. Novak.

POLITICAL NOTES

1. Knowland Plugs Away

Senator Knowland, who has sent off one of his be-whiskered speeches to the *Catholic Digest*, gives the impression of one who has slept for several months and awakened in complete ignorance of current events. If such were the case, then at least there would be no need to explain why, precisely at a time when favourable conditions for easing world tension have been created by the activities of the peace forces and when the U.S. President has at last called for peaceful methods, no provocation and the abandonment of the "cold war"—why at such a moment the U.S. Republican Senate leader finds nothing better to do than to publish an article designed to "hot up" the cold war and sow mistrust and hostility among nations.

William Knowland does not suffer from sleeping sickness, however, and well knows what progress has been made by the peace-loving states and peoples in their efforts to prevent another war and to normalise relations between countries. It is just this progress that drives the Californian Senator out of his wits. Terrified lest the flames of war hysteria be extinguished, Knowland attempts to add fuel to the fire with an agonized cry that only a policy of aggressive cold war can save the United States from conquest (!) by the Communists. The Senator is not concerned with plain sense or logic, his aim is to stimulate fear and mistrust.

The Republican Senate leader has more put on the worn-out

ers, or the small employers and the office workers—the people who bear the heavy burden of the arms race and suffer particularly as a result of the war hysteria. Above all, the interests of the large monopolies and trusts which inspire Knowland's bellicose speeches, closely tied as he is to the financial oligarchy.

Facts prove that the prospect that is emerging of further alleviation of international tension is not to the liking of certain elements in the U.S.—the spokesmen of big business who influence the country's foreign policy. The speeches of Knowland and his kind, as well as the utterances of the American press, reveal this clearly. Some of these organs and press commentators are at present exclusively engaged in fabricating the most outrageous demands to be made on the Soviet Union in exchange for the establishment of normal relations. *Business Week* recently wrote, for instance, that "the U.S. wants no relaxation of Europe" until the Soviet Union gives Eastern Germany, agrees to establish former regimes in the countries of Eastern Europe... and abandons Communism! These crazy demands can only mean one thing: that the elements whose views are reflected by *Business Week* have no wish at all to ease tension in Europe.

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At a time when a wave of angry protest has arisen in all countries against U.S. atom and hydrogen bomb tests and when the peoples are vehemently demanding that these criminal weapons be banned, the U.S. leaders in the North Atlantic alliance have declared that atomic weapons are "conventional arms" and are trying to create the impression that an atomic war, involving tremendous loss in human life, is inevitable. Thus those working in an atomic research

scientists. German research-workers such as Otto Hahn, Liese Meitner, Strassmann, Hertz, Mattauich, Bothe and Schrödinger (to name only a few) have greatly advanced the development of this new branch of physics by their notable contribution. The fact that for many years the tremendous potentialities of German science were hardly exploited at all was a loss to science. And it is no accident that the proposal making it possible for German scientists to devote themselves to free, creative research was advanced by the Soviet Union. The Soviet Union is all the more able to do this by virtue of the fact that the greatest scientific and technical progress in nuclear physics, particularly in recent years, has unquestionably been made by Soviet research workers. It is precisely this leading role of Soviet science in nuclear physics which enables the Soviet Union to offer such splendid scientific, technical and material assistance to other countries.

The construction of the nuclear centre in the GDR will open up the possibility of great new opportunities for advance, not only in nuclear physics but in all branches of scientific research: natural science, medicine, industry and agriculture. We will at last be able to make wide use of "labelled" radioactive isotopes in all research work, which will open up the way to the use of research methods that will assist in solving

organisations and prominent personalities. The Vienna Appeal demanding the destruction of all stocks of atomic weapons, wherever they may be, and the immediate cessation of their production is meeting with the enthusiastic approval and vigorous support of all people of good will. The collection of signatures to this Appeal, now gaining momentum everywhere, expresses the firm determination of the peoples to uphold peace and frustrate the schemes of the instigators of another war.

The indomitable will of the masses can compel the governments that are at present preparing atomic war to put an end to the insanity of atomic threats. Nobody should allow himself to be frightened by all the twaddle about the world coming to an end, which the warmongers are spreading today in order to paralyse the resistance of the peoples. The peoples will not perish; all that will happen is that a few madmen like former U.S. Secretary of Defence Forrestal will disappear from the scene of world history. The use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes will triumph over the atom crime.

Therefore, as a scientist and as a German patriot, I want the work of the German nuclear centre to contribute to the cause of averting atomic war and employing the forces of nature for the benefit of mankind.

Communists, Social Democrats and working people who belong to no party. On one day alone, June 23, delegations of working people handed over to the Communist Party representatives at the trial over 15,000 signatures to petitions of protest against the attempt to ban the Party.

The democratic public of Western Germany stresses that the banning of the Communist Party would put additional obstacles in the way of restoring Germany's unity on a democratic and peaceful basis and would clear the way for the restoration of a fascist set-up in Western Germany.

RISING PRICES IN FRANCE

French ruling circles are noisily advertising their "price cut" operations. It is not difficult to understand the reason for this clamour. The monopolists need it in order to deceive the working people and hold back their just struggle for higher wages.

However, the actual position in France refutes this eyewash. Throughout the country prices for goods of prime necessity are systematically rising. For example, in the course of one year alone, from May 1954 to May 1955, the retail prices of beef, fats, eggs, potatoes and other vegetables, etc. all went up. At the beginning of this year the cost of living in France, even according to official figures, was 69% higher than in 1948. In May alone wholesale prices of foodstuffs increased by more than 5% and the general price index rose 1.6%. Early in June retail prices for bread went up.

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William Knowland does not suffer from sleeping sickness, however, and well knows what progress has been made by the peace-loving states and peoples in their efforts to prevent another war and to normalise relations between countries. It is just this progress that drives the Californian Senator out of his wits. Terrified lest the flames of war hysteria be extinguished, Knowland attempts to add fuel to the fire with an agonized cry that only a policy of aggressive cold war can save the United States from conquest (!) by the Communists. The Senator is not concerned with plain sense or logic, his aim is to stimulate fear and mistrust.

The Republican Senate leader has once more put on the worn-out record about the imaginary aggressiveness of the USSR, although the whole world knows that it is due to the unremitting efforts of the Soviet Union that there has been a definite easing of world tension. The U.S. President said at a press conference on July 6 that the United States would be going to the Geneva Conference with a conciliatory and friendly attitude. Knowland, on the other hand, urges that the U.S.A. should start a political, economic and spiritual "offensive" on the Soviets. His pronouncements clearly show what he has in view. He is demanding that U.S. foreign policy be used to prevent the continued relaxation of tension and the establishment of good relations between states and peoples, whatever the cost! True to himself—or rather to the U.S. armament monopolies—Knowland battles for the use of atomic weapons in a future war, weapons which the whole of peace-loving mankind is fighting to get banned.

It would, of course, be a stupid mistake to think that this Senator from California speaks for the American workers and farm-

certain elements who influence the country's foreign policy. The speeches of Knowland and his kind, as well as the utterances of the American press, reveal this clearly. Some of these organs and press commentators are at present exclusively engaged in fabricating the most outrageous demands to be made on the Soviet Union in exchange for the establishment of normal relations. **Business Week** recently wrote, for instance, that "the U.S. wants no relaxation in Europe" until the Soviet Union gives up Eastern Germany, agrees to establish the former regimes in the countries of Eastern Europe... and abandons Communism! These crazy demands can only mean one thing—that the elements whose views are reflected by **Business Week** have no wish at all to ease tension in Europe.

The attitude of extremely influential U.S. business circles on the question of arms restriction is most typical. In these quarters, not only are the well-known Soviet proposals on this question openly opposed, but so also are the proposals made by the Western powers; in fact, any measure which would lead to the arms race slowing down. Finletter, former Secretary of the Air Force for instance, said bluntly that if Russia were to accept all the proposals made by the West, the United States might have to abandon what they themselves had proposed!

Certain U.S. elements are feverishly seeking ways to prevent the establishment of an atmosphere of trust and co-operation between peoples and to poison their minds by mutual suspicion and hostility. That is why that section of the press controlled by them tries so hard to discredit the peaceful initiative of the Soviet Union, why political statesmen like Knowland scream so hysterically in their attempts to drown the sensible voices demanding an easing of international tension.

What Is Happening in Colombia

(Letter from Bogotá)

Having seized power in Colombia in June 1953 by main force, General Rojas Pinilla's clique made many promises, among them "peace, justice, rights and freedom for all without discrimination", and gave assurances that the so-called "policy of blood and fire", which former governments had pursued, would be abandoned. The country was promised prosperity and a "genuinely national policy".

Although two years have passed since the military coup, the Colombian people continue to suffer cruelly from privations and the high cost of living, and the democratic and patriotic forces are subjected to constant persecution. During the past few years prices of essential foods such as rice, maize and oats have doubled, and rents have risen considerably, but the workers' wages remain practically unchanged. The growing burden of taxes also lies heavily on the people of Colombia. In order to meet state expenditure the Government has introduced new taxes.

The country's economy is dominated by U.S. monopolies. Colombia ranks as one of the greatest oil-producing countries in Latin America, but the "black gold" which gushes out of our wells is in the hands of U.S. concerns; the Texas Petroleum Company, Socony Vacuum and others. Suffice it to say that more than 70% of all capital invested in oil workings belongs to Yankee monopolies. These monopolies export our oil and Colombia has to buy from the U.S.A. the oil products she needs at prices fixed by them.

Our country possesses vast untapped resources of power which, if used, would satisfy the needs of our newly-developing industry. These remain unused, however, because their exploitation would be unprofitable to such U.S. concerns as the American and Foreign Power Company, which controls about half our existing power stations.

In agriculture too the question of U.S. domination is an acute one.

Although the area under cultivation—less than 3 million hectares—is insignificant, it brings rich harvests because of the fertility of Colombian soil. The fruits of the earth, however, largely serve to enrich U.S. monopolists and the big local speculators working with them. This is graphically shown in the coffee situation. Colombia produces 15% of the coffee placed on the world market, and the Wall Street magnates, taking advantage of their coffee monopoly in our country, fix at their own will a very low purchasing price, and afterwards amass fat profits by selling it on the world market.

Another grave obstacle to the development of Colombia's agriculture is the deplorable condition of transport. As a result of the wholly inadequate network of railways, extensive regions which are far distant from the big centres, such as for instance the eastern plain and the extreme north-west, have virtually become economically stagnant. In these districts millions of hectares of fertile land have never yet been touched by man. The U.S. monopolies prefer to export the "surpluses" of their own agricultural produce to Colombia, thus obstructing the cultivation of fallow lands.

All this clearly shows that Colombia remains an agrarian raw material appendage of big foreign monopolies, primarily those of the U.S.A.; that the interests of the U.S. multi-millionaires are the supreme criterion determining the economic policy of the present Colombian Government.

These and many other facts which could be cited confirm that in Colombia we have to deal with a new phase in the U.S. monopolists' economic and political offensive against the Latin American countries. It is this offensive which, in Cuba, Guatemala, and finally in our country, has led to the formation of reactionary military governments with a "firm hand"; governments

whose purpose is to hamper and suppress the struggle of the peoples for their vital interests, for national independence and peace.

Things have even gone so far that the Government demanded and succeeded in getting the "Constituent Assembly" to ban the Communist Party, the tried and tested vanguard of the Colombian working people. The letter sent to the deputies of the "Constituent Assembly" on behalf of the Central Committee by Comrade Gilberto Vieira, the Party's General Secretary, aroused a wide response from the people. Rejecting the ludicrous assertions to which McCarthy's followers resort, in Colombia as in other countries, in their fight against the progressive forces, Comrade Vieira pointed out: "The Communist Party of Colombia wishes to be a constitutional party and to carry on its activities legally. But it will never cease its political activities, because it cannot relinquish its historical mission." Revealing the glaring contradiction between the demagogic declarations and reactionary activities of the Government, Comrade Vieira emphasized that the people of Colombia could remind it of the well-known saying: "There's nothing in common between your words and your deeds."

The broad masses are becoming increasingly indignant at the militarisation of their country, at the fact that it is being sold to the U.S. monopolists, at the steady rise in the cost of living and the savage trampling underfoot of elementary democratic freedoms.

The Colombian workers march in the forefront of the country's fighters. Together with the nation-wide demand for restoration of democratic rights and freedoms, their most widespread and militant fight at present is around the demand for wage increases.

The Colombian peasants too are battling heroically. They demand the abolition of all feudal survivals, the transfer of state lands to them, the construction of schools (60% of children of school age are illiter-

ate), new roads, house repair and improvement, and that preventive measures be taken against the tropical fevers and other diseases which in the plantation areas are ravaging the population. The reply of the Pinilla clique to these just demands, however, is brutal repression. Bloody actions have taken place recently in the Tolima and Cauca Provinces where as a result of government measures thousands of peasants are being deprived of their lands. The authorities have used planes, tanks and guns to drive the peasants from their plots of land, but their attempts have met with resolute armed resistance from the fearless toilers of the Colombian countryside.

The national bourgeoisie begins to display increasing anxiety in connection with the endless concessions made by the Government to U.S. monopolies to the detriment of the national economy. This partly explains the interest being shown by considerable sections of the bourgeoisie in the proposal put forward by various public organisations, including the Colombian peace movement, for a discussion on the coffee question and expansion of trade between Colombia and other countries at a widely representative national conference.

The fight being waged by Colombian patriots, who want to see their country freed from U.S. domination and on the road to freedom, democracy and prosperity, is assuming ever-greater dimensions. A broad democratic front of national liberation is being formed, with the immediate aims of battling for national sovereignty, against imperialist penetration and for peace. The unremitting struggle of the working people and of all Colombian democrats for these aims constitutes at the same time our people's contribution to the great battle being fought by all the peoples for peace and security.

Bogotá
June 1955.

León GONZALEZ

2. A Dangerous Show

Military experts on the staff of the North Atlantic bloc are satisfied with the results of the recent air manoeuvres in Western Europe, in which more than 3,000 aircraft from NATO member-states took part. The reaction of the people living in the countries where the Atlantic bloc armada practiced dropping "atom bombs" was quite different, however. No right-thinking person could fail to regard it as a dangerous and intolerable provocation.

Several fatal accidents occurred during the manoeuvres. A British "Lincoln" bomber and a U.S. "F-86" jet fighter, for instance, collided over Bitburg, in Western Germany, causing five deaths. Another jet fighter crashed and burst into flames in the town of Eindhoven, Holland. Heedlessly roaring over the roof-tops, the planes gave residents no peace and menaced their safety. The Belgian Ministry for National Defence was compelled to go so far as to publicly dissociate itself from those organising the manoeuvres, stating in a communique that "none of these flights had been made by the Belgian Air Force" and that "strong representations had been made to those in command and other competent authorities to cease flights at heights lower than those authorised".

But what worried the people in these countries even more was that the manoeuvres were, in fact, a rehearsal for the atomic war which the bosses of the North Atlantic bloc are preparing. When a jet fighter came down near Siegburg, the towns-

folk held a stormy protest meeting. The West German newspaper *Fuldaer Volkszeitung* wrote at the time: "In the event of war we shall become an atomic battlefield. The NATO air manoeuvres now taking place in Europe are but a rehearsal for this terrible game in which the principal battlefield is Western Germany. This fact cannot be denied."

Weinstein, former General Staff officer, drew attention in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine* to the targets on which mock atom bombs had been dropped during the drill and drew the conclusion that if this became reality it would mean death to hundreds of thousands of people. "The NATO air manoeuvres", he wrote, "prove that in the event of war, Western Germany would be converted into an atomic hell and furthermore, as the war maps show, France, Holland and Belgium would also be in danger."

It is not only the generals of the North Atlantic bloc who draw conclusions from the NATO air manoeuvres—all sound-thinking people in Western Europe do so too. And while the NATO strategists rejoice at the "success" of the manoeuvres, peace-loving people demand all the more vigorously that preparations for an atomic war be stopped and atomic weapons banned.

Jan MAREK

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