

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

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MARXIST-LENINIST EDUCATION OF COMMUNISTS

Guided as they are in all matters by the all-conquering Marxist-Leninist theory, the Communist and Workers' Parties look upon ideological work, upon the ideological and political training of Communists, as one of their major tasks. With every passing year they improve the organisation of Marxist education and the propaganda of Marxist-Leninist theory, drawing extensively upon the rich experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union.

Having summed up the results of the past study year in the Party education network, the Communist and Workers' Parties in the People's Democracies are now making active preparations for the 1955-1956 study year.

In the past study year Party organisations in the Chinese People's Republic and other People's Democracies showed a marked improvement in their guidance of Marxist-Leninist education of Communists and began to pay more attention to the ideological content of Party education. Large numbers of study groups, seminars, courses and schools have been set up in these countries and more Party consultation and education centres and libraries opened; lectures and consultations are arranged for those who study Marxist-Leninist theory independently; the books are published in huge editions; the selection and training of tutors has been improved. Party organisations have begun to popularise more widely the classics of Marxism-Leninism and the decisions of Central Committee meetings, conferences and congresses of the Communist and Workers' Parties. Study of Marxist-Leninist economic science has also improved. In many countries study of the history of the CPSU was this year organised on a much broader scale than before.

Daily political study and the propaganda of Marxist-Leninist theory are bearing fruit. Communists in the People's Democracies are more and more actively, and with a keen sense of duty, working as true organisers of the masses in all spheres of socialist construction. They are relentlessly combating bourgeois ideology and all vulgarisations and distortions of Marxist-Leninist theory.

It would, however, be a grave mistake to rest content with what has already been achieved. There are still deficiencies still to be corrected for national independence

and to collecting statistical data. It should be added to this that many of these Party workers, giving all sorts of "objective" reasons, including pressure of current work, do not give adequate attention to their ideological and political development and do not set an example to the rank-and-file Party members. The result is that they begin to fall behind and to perform their duties poorly. The leading bodies of the Communist and Workers' Parties rightly combat such heedlessness in regard to political education.

The Communist and Workers' Parties in the capitalist, colonial and dependent countries are making serious efforts to organise political education for their members, despite the hard conditions in which they work and the great difficulties they encounter.

The Communist Party of Italy, for instance, now has hundreds of thousands of its members steadily and persistently working to raise their ideological and political level. Large numbers of study groups and courses of various kinds have been organised throughout the country to provide Party members with a knowledge of the principles of Marxism-Leninism. Between 1951 and 1954 more than 257,000 people completed these Party courses. This year 1,316 Communists have attended one-month courses; hundreds of thousands are engaged in other forms of study.

Many hundreds of leading Party workers are receiving Marxist-Leninist training in the Party schools organised by the Central Committee of the French Communist Party or by its federations and sections, both of which in addition hold seminars for Party activists. Very great numbers of Party members take part in the educational discussions held in the Party branches.

The Communist Parties of Germany, Great Britain, Austria, Indonesia, Japan, Brazil, Argentina and other countries are also carrying on extensive ideological and educational work among their members. The Labor Progressive Party of Canada, for instance, has organised a large number of schools for active Party members and in the big cities evening institutes for working people as well. Effective propaganda of Marxist-Leninist theory helps the Communist and Workers' Parties in their struggle for working-class unity, for the vital demands of the working people and their national independence.

PEOPLES DEMONSTRATE THEIR DESIRE FOR PEACE Collection of Signatures to Vienna Appeal Continues

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French Peace Supporters Score Fresh Successes

The Vienna Appeal signature campaign is making successful headway in France.

The Seine Department Peace Council reported recently that more than one million residents had signed the Appeal and that a campaign had been launched for the second million. According to the latest data, the Bouches-du-Rhône Department has collected 210,000 signatures. The Appeal has been approved by the General Council, 26 municipal councils and 57 mayors in the department.

There were many activities in connection with the tenth anniversary of the bombing of Hiroshima with the aim of intensifying the campaign for the prohibition

and destruction of atomic and thermonuclear weapons.

At St-Dié, Vosges Department, a mobile exhibition showed photographs and documents about the atom bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the injuries suffered by Japanese fishermen as a result of the H-bomb tests in the Pacific Ocean, etc. The exhibition made it possible to collect a considerable number of signatures.

The peace committee of the 18th section of the Renault Works reported that 400 workers, that is 97% of those working in the section, have signed the Appeal. In the Chaveron factory in Bergerac, Dordogne Department, all the workers signed the Appeal.

Indonesians Demand Ban on Atomic Weapons

The Indonesian Peace Committee recently issued a statement in which it reported that more than 2,500,000 Indonesians had signed the Vienna Appeal. Among them are prominent citizens of Surabaja such as Dr. Sukaton, who had personal experience of the atomic bombing in Japan, Professor A. G. Pringgogidgo, President of Airlangga University, Professor Toha, Professor Sutopo and Dr. Angka.

Professor Prijono, who is an International Stalin Peace Prize winner, recently gave a talk in Surabaja, at which some 350 signatures were collected within an hour. Members of the intelligentsia, businessmen, students and workers, as well as representatives of the military and civil

authorities, heard the talk, which was very successful.

The newspaper *Harian Rakjat* stated in a leading article on the peace fight that the "Appeal to destroy atomic and hydrogen weapons and to ban their tests has been widely echoed everywhere, like the dawn chorus heralding a new, bright day". The article concludes: "It is the duty of all peace supporters to thoroughly study the resolutions passed in Helsinki, to popularise them in every town, village and house, to see that they reach every heart, so that the peace forces in our country become more powerful and make a bigger contribution to the peace movement which has developed throughout the world."

Peace Movement Gains Momentum in Austria

The Austrian Peace Council reports that some 500,000 signatures to the Vienna Appeal have been collected in the country. The Council regularly publishes the names of the canvassers who have obtained

well-known personalities in the sports world have called on all Austrian sportsmen and enthusiasts to sign the Vienna Appeal.

In many provinces ceremonies have been held in honour of the best canvassers. For instance, in the signature campaign in the

In the Interests of Peace and the Continued Progress of Science and Engineering

Conclusion of International Conference on Peaceful Uses
of Atomic Energy

The International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy closed in Geneva's Palais des Nations on August 20 with a final plenary meeting at which Dr. H. Bhabha presided.

This final meeting heard papers by Professor A. Lavrishev (USSR) on Soviet assistance to other countries in the peaceful use of atomic energy, by Dr. W. F. Libby (U.S.A.) on international co-operation in the use of atomic energy and by P. Auger, a representative of UNESCO, on the training of scientific personnel in the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

In the discussion that followed delegates from Britain, Japan, Poland, Yugoslavia, Norway, Mexico and Pakistan, a representative of the World Health Organisation and a representative of the Vatican took part. They all expressed satisfaction at the success of the Conference and stressed its significance for the further development of international co-operation and the strengthening of confidence between countries. They also spoke of the desirability of holding similar conferences in the future.

P. Savic, a Yugoslav delegate, read a message from President Tito which, among other things, pointed out that this was far more than a purely scientific conference in terms of its international significance. The Conference, reads the message, marked a new stage in the development of international co-operation.

P. Auger, the UNESCO representative, dwelt on the dissemination and popularisation throughout the world of scientific knowledge in connection with the latest discoveries in nuclear physics and the peaceful uses of atomic energy.

In his concluding speech Dr. Bhabha briefly reviewed the problems which had been discussed at the Conference. He announced that Mr. Hammarskjöld, UN Secretary-General, would present a report to Uno summing up the results of the Geneva Conference.

Dr. Bhabha then announced that a message had been received from N. A. Bulganin, Chairman of the Council of Min-

Geneva, represents a momentous step towards the establishment of international co-operation in such an important sphere as the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

"The exchange of views and information that has taken place at it is a valuable contribution to the further progress of science and engineering in this field.

"The Conference will unquestionably serve to promote peace and facilitate the further relaxation of international tension.

"The Soviet Government congratulates all the participants in the Conference upon its success and trusts that the international co-operation in the peaceful uses of atomic energy so successfully inaugurated by this Conference will be continued by means of regular conferences of this kind, attended by scientists from all countries."

Dr. Bhabha reported that messages had likewise been received from President Eisenhower and from V. Chervenkov, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

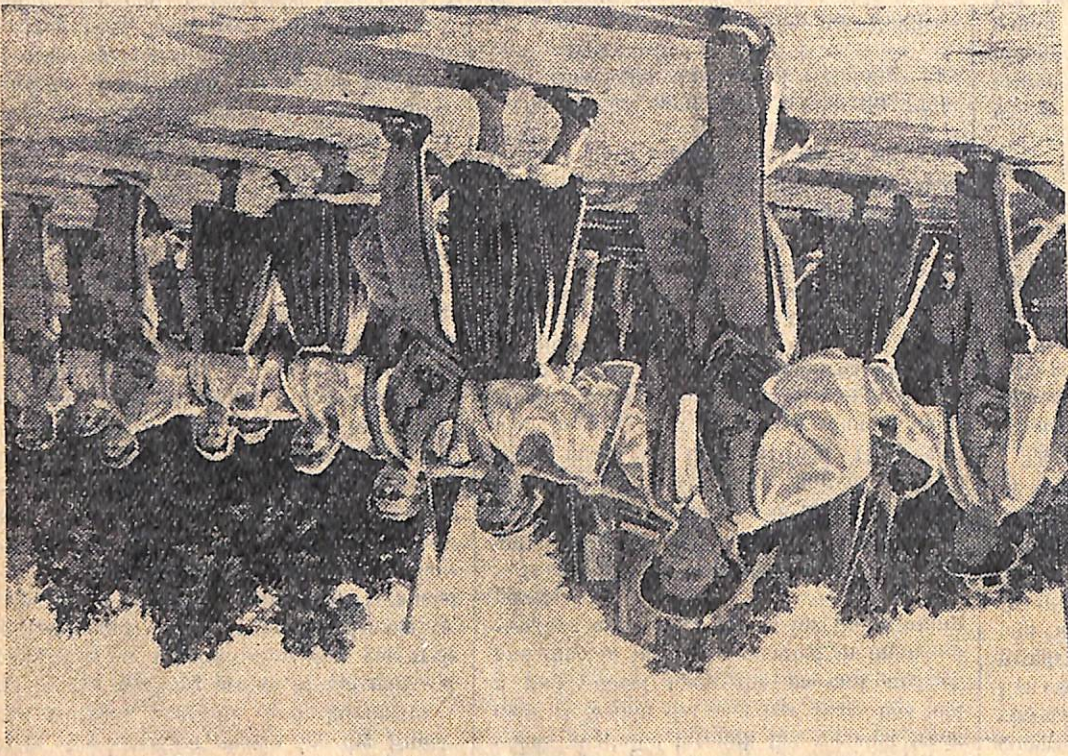
Dr. Bhabha then declared the International Conference on Peaceful Uses of Atomic Energy closed.

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The Conference was attended by more than 1,400 scientists and engineers from 73 countries and a large number of observers from different countries and from such UN organisations as UNESCO, the World Health Organisation, the International Labour Organisation and others. More than 900 press representatives, press photographers and camera men were there to report on its proceedings.

More than 1,000 papers and announcements were submitted to the Conference. The scientists present exchanged scientific information extensively and freely, guided by a spirit of co-operation and mutual understanding and by the noble idea of promoting progress.

All over the world the public followed the proceedings of the Conference with close attention and it is confident that the



The Rumanian people have joyfully celebrating their national holiday—the eleventh anniversary of their country's liberation from fascist oppression. Photo: SUPG Central Committee Institute of



The Dietz Publishing House in Berlin has begun to publish selected speeches and articles by Ernst Thaelmann, outstanding leader of the German working class. His selected works, compiled by the SUPG Central Committee Institute of

FIRST THAELMANN VOLUME PUBLISHED

In large measure the success of Party education depends upon how the Party organizations direct the studies of the members, upon how they supervise the work of the schools, study groups and seminars and individual study of Marxist-Leninist theory. Some leading Party workers, however, give little thought to improving the quality of Party education and exercise but little supervision over the work of the various study groups, often confining themselves to the old and moribund in favour of socialist construction, in the struggle against the old and moribund in favour of the new and advanced.

Timely and well-organized preparations for the new study year will in large measure help Party members to master this great liberating ideology of the working class more thoroughly, assist broad masses of Party members to make a deeper study of the powerful, immortal and life-giving teaching of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin that arms Communist and Workers' Parties with knowledge of social development and of the class struggle, with deep faith in the invincibility of the cause of peace, democracy and Socialism.

Marxism-Leninism is the inexhaustible source of the strength and viability of the Communist and Workers' Parties, it is their true compass and guiding star. Marxist-Leninist theory teaches the Communist and Workers' Parties to gain a thorough understanding of concrete conditions and the concrete situation, and to find the correct ways of solving the most complex problems. It is a creative theory which constantly develops and is enriched with new experience, new conclusions and theses.

Bearing in mind the fact that the principal and decisive factor in political education is the method of independent study, the Party organizations are taking all the measures necessary to provide daily and competent assistance to all members of the study year for those Party members who are studying independently.

The past study year shows that a grave shortcoming in the education work of a number of Party organizations is still the low ideological and theoretical level of the classes. Tutors do not always take up theoretical principles with the practical problems facing the Party and Marxist-Leninist teaching, Marxist-Leninist theory is not a dogma but a guide to action. Its propaganda is most effective and understandable when it is of a militant character, when it is of direct assistance in the fight to carry out the great tasks of socialist construction, in the struggle against the old and moribund in favour of the new and advanced.

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Viet Nam Working People's Party Meeting of Central Committee,

The 8th meeting of the C.C. of the Viet Nam Working People's Party held from August 16 to 20 has issued a statement of international tension the situation in Indo-China and other regions of the Far East remains uneasy. The main task now, the statement points out, is to rally the democratic, peace-loving forces of the northern and southern parts of the country and to hold a consultative political conference of representatives of the authorities in the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam and Southern Viet Nam on free general elections.

The meeting further stressed that President Ho Chi Minh's recent visits to the general elections.

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Rumania Celebrates 11th Anniversary of her Liberation

Celebration Meeting in Bucharest

On August 22 a meeting devoted to the 11th anniversary of Rumania's liberation from the fascist yoke was held in the State Theatre of Opera and Ballet in Bucharest.

Gheorghiu-Dej, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Rumanian People's Republic; N. S. Khrushchev, First Secretary of the C.C. of the CPSU; Petru Groza, Chairman of the Presidium of the Grand National Assembly; G. Apostol, First Secretary of the C.C., Rumanian Workers' Party; members of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Rumanian Workers' Party; members of the Government and leaders of government delegations from the People's Democracies took their seats on the presidium. Their appearance was greeted by stormy applause.

The anniversary meeting was opened by Petru Groza, who, cordially welcoming Comrade Khrushchev who had come to take part in the celebrations, asked him to convey cordial greetings to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Soviet Government and all the Soviet people, upon which a powerful ovation resounded through the theatre. Amidst cheers Petru Groza greeted the leaders of government delegations from Albania, Bulgaria, Hungary, the German Democratic Republic, China, Korea, the Mongolian People's Republic, Poland and Czechoslovakia.

A report on the 11th anniversary of Rumania's liberation from the grip of fascism was made by Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej, who was enthusiastically received.

Following the report, the chairman announced that Comrade Khrushchev would speak. All those in the theatre rose and wholeheartedly welcomed him as he appeared at the rostrum.

Speeches of greetings were also made by leaders of delegations from the People's Democracies, who were warmly received by those present. Messages were read from Marshal Josip Broz-Tito, President of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia; Ho Chi Minh, President of the Viet Nam Democratic Republic, and its Foreign Minister, Pham Van Dong.

With great enthusiasm the anniversary meeting adopted a message of greetings to the Central Committee of the CPSU and the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

own, the absence in Uno of one of the Five Great Powers—People's China—undoubtedly diminishes the prestige of the United Nations Organisation and the effectiveness of its measures. Our people, who took part in the defeat of Hitlerism, and are making an active contribution to the consolidation of peace in Europe, demand the right to take their lawful place in Uno.

Our foreign policy, stressed Gheorghiu-Dej, has as its aim active participation in the struggle for lasting peace and the promotion of peaceful and friendly bonds among the peoples. Close fraternal and friendly links with the peoples of the powerful camp of Socialism, led by the great Soviet Union—the liberator, friend and firm bulwark of our people—form the basis of our foreign policy.

Having conveyed greetings to the people and leaders of the USSR and the Chinese People's Republic, Gheorghiu-Dej continued:

Our Party, the Government of the Rumanian People's Republic and the whole of our people received with deep satisfaction the news of the results of the Soviet-

Yugoslav talks in Belgrade and the improvement of relations between the USSR and the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia. We are motivated by the desire to do everything in our power to eliminate the disastrous consequences of the rupture of friendly ties between our country and Yugoslavia. We seek to strengthen and promote many-sided friendly links with our neighbour, Yugoslavia, links based on friendship, fraternity and mutual interest.

Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej further pointed out that the Rumanian Government desired to improve relations with Turkey and Greece in the interests of peace in this part of Europe, and favoured the consolidation and promotion of friendly relations with the French and Italian peoples and the extension of economic and cultural exchange with France and Italy. Our people, said Gheorghiu-Dej, stand for friendship with the American and English peoples.

In conclusion, Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej declared: led by the Party and inspired by what has been achieved, our people are enthusiastically working for fresh successes

in the development of the national economy and a rise in the material and cultural level of the life of the working people, for the building of Socialism and in defence of peace. On this bright path we are guided by the immortal teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin.

Long live August 23—day of liberation of our beloved country from the fascist yoke!

Long live our heroic working class!
Long live our industrious toiling peasantry!

Long live our working intellectuals!
Long live the fraternal alliance of the working class and the toiling peasantry—the firm foundation of the people's-democratic system!

Long live the indestructible friendship between the Rumanian and Soviet peoples!

Long live friendship between our people and those of People's China and the other countries of people's democracy!

Long live peace and co-operation among all nations!

(Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej's report was repeatedly interrupted by stormy, prolonged applause.)

Report by Comrade Gh. Gheorghiu-Dej

August 23, 1944, said Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej, came in the midst of the victorious offensive of the glorious Soviet Army which, delivering crushing blows to the fascist troops, entered Rumania as a liberator.

Under the impact of the victories of the anti-Nazi coalition of the USSR, the U.S.A., Britain and France, the struggle of the country's patriotic forces, led by our heroic Party—the Communist Party of Rumania—took on a powerful scope.

Under the Party's leadership these forces, supported by the masses, among whom indignation and wrath against the military fascist dictatorship and its criminal, anti-popular and anti-national policy had long been ripening, organised an armed uprising and overthrew the fascist government.

In the early hours of August 23 patriotic detachments, organised by our Party, arrested the fascist government, occupied the most important government buildings, took over the task of maintaining order in the capital and in co-operation with military units disarmed the fascist troops and rebuffed the Nazi attempts to attack the city of Bucharest. Military units guarded the oil-producing region in the Prahova Valley and thereby prevented the Nazis from making an organised retreat.

The uprising of the people became interwoven with the rising of the patriotic forces in the army, which was started on the initiative of our Party. The result of this was that the entire Rumanian Army turned its guns against the Nazi troops.

In the Rumanian Army, there had long been deep dissatisfaction with the Nazi troops and with the traitorous government that had converted it into an instrument of the Nazi criminal aims.

From the day the fascist dictatorship was overthrown the army went over to the side of the fighting patriotic forces.

August 23, 1944, was an expression of the people's unshakable determination to take their destinies and the future of Rumania into their own hands.

After August 23 the working people of our country expressed their firm will to prevent the return of the old order of things and to ensure the social and economic progress of their country, its demo-

over 200% greater, that of the building materials industry about 140% and of non-ferrous metallurgy nearly 130% greater. As the major industries have already fulfilled their plans, we may say that the figure set by the plan for gross industrial output will be reached before the end of the year. Industries producing means of production have in our country developed at a faster rate all through the plan period than have those producing articles of consumption. Thus, Lenin's law of extended socialist reproduction has been observed. Under this Five-Year Plan, output of electric power has more than doubled as compared with 1950 and is 280% greater than in 1938. Thanks to the inspired labour of our workers, technicians and engineers and the fraternal assistance of the USSR the plan targets for the oil industry have been exceeded: output of oil this year is more than double the 1950 figure, totalling upwards of 10,500,000 tons. In ferrous metallurgy the output of pig iron will have increased by more than 80% by the end of these five years and steel by 42%. The chemical industry too has grown greatly in this period: its output this year is treble the 1950 figure.

In the course of the Five-Year Plan, and especially since the August 1953 meeting of the C.C. of the Rumanian Workers' Party, our industry has been supplying the working class and the working peasantry with increasing quantities of consumer goods, closely linking the growing development of the country's productive forces with the further improvement of living standards.

After pointing out certain deficiencies to be seen in some industries, Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej dwelt on the situation in agriculture, in which marked progress has been made under the first Five-Year Plan.

Under the leadership of our Party, he said, more and more working peasants are taking the road to Socialism and uniting in collective farms, associations for the joint cultivation of land and other forms of co-operation and mutual assistance. The growing number of these organisations among the working peasants testifies to their increased interest in pooling their individual farms to form big farms, to the gradual development and consolidation of the socialist sector in agriculture. On the whole, Gheorghiu-Dej noted the

improvement in supplies for the working people and has had a positive effect upon the entire national economy.

Socialist construction, continued Gheorghiu-Dej, necessitates the training of new skilled cadres for all branches of the economy. Under the first Five-Year Plan 13,400 engineers, 4,500 economists and 7,000 agronomists have been trained. Between 1948 and 1955 the number of schools within the general education system has increased by more than 600. In the coming school year there will be nearly four times as many pupils attending seven-year schools as in the prewar period, and three times as many attending secondary and vocational schools. Higher educational establishments will also have three times as many students.

The successful fulfilment of the first Five-Year Plan, said Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej, will provide the conditions for a further advance of the national economy during the second Five-Year Plan, which is now being drawn up. Making use of the experience gained during the first Five-Year Plan and basing themselves on the successes achieved thanks to the industry and abilities of the working class, the toiling peasantry, men of science and culture, and to developing all-round co-operation with the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy, our working people, led by the Party, will strive to achieve fresh success in the development of the national economy and will struggle for complete victory in laying the economic foundations of Socialism.

Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej then went on to speak of the consolidation of the people's-democratic state and referred to a number of achievements in improving the work of the state apparatus, strengthening the law and reducing administrative costs.

Our achievements in all spheres of life, declared Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej, are determined above all by the correct policy of our Party, the inviolable unity of its ranks and the political and organisational work done by our Party organisations. The great tasks of building Socialism demand special concern for improving the work of our Party organisations, strengthening the ranks of the Party by improving its social composition, training and developing Party

Speech by Comrade N. S. Khrushchev

Dear comrades and friends!

On behalf of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, on behalf of the entire Soviet people, permit me warmly to congratulate you and extend to you, and through you to the entire Rumanian people, cordial, fraternal greetings on your national holiday, the eleventh anniversary of Rumania's liberation from oppression by the fascist invaders. (Tumultuous applause.)

In the eleven years that have elapsed since their liberation profound changes have taken place in the life of the Rumanian people. Fundamental democratic and socialist transformations have been wrought, and there has been marked progress in the development of industry, agriculture and culture and in building and strengthening the free and independent people's-democratic state of Rumania.

Under the guidance of their tested vanguard—the Rumanian Workers' Party, a party armed with the all-conquering teachings of Marxism-Leninism—the Rumanian people are confidently advancing along the path of progress and prosperity, successfully laying the foundations of Socialism in their country.

Today, on your national holiday, we have every ground for saying that, in working to carry out this historic task, the Rumanian people have achieved truly remarkable results in the development of their economy and culture.

At the present time the working people of Rumania are successfully completing their first five-year economic plan. Hundreds of enterprises and even whole branches of industry have already reached their plan targets. It is a remarkable fact that such important branches of the national economy as the machine-building and metal-working industries, established under the people's rule, had completed their five-year plans by the beginning of this month. In all branches of industry and in the transport services thousands of innovators and leading production workers have appeared who are working devotedly for the good of their country.

As a result of the heroic labour of the

In response to the appeal of the Rumanian Workers' Party, the working peasantry of your country is gradually changing over from individual to socialised farming. Already, more than 360,000 peasant households have joined producer co-operatives, which means that in agriculture as well the socialist sector is steadily growing and developing, that the alliance between the workers and peasants under the leadership of the working class is constantly becoming stronger. Side by side with the working class, the Rumanian working peasantry is a reliable pillar of the new people's-democratic state and gives effective support to its people's Government and the Rumanian Workers' Party.

We rejoice with you, dear comrades, in the success of your agriculture. This year your country will gather a bumper harvest. On your fields some 30,000 tractors and more than 1,000 combines are now working. By the good organisation of their work, their high incomes and their use of modern machinery, the collective farms are graphically demonstrating to the working people of the countryside the advantages of collective farming.

The economic advance of people's-democratic Rumania is accompanied by the successful development of its science, literature and art. The well-being of the working people in town and country is steadily improving. Concern for the needs of the working people has always been the paramount task and honourable duty of the Rumanian Workers' Party and the people's Government of Rumania. In the past eleven years Rumania's Communists have once more proved that they do not and cannot have any other aim than that of giving selfless service to their people. In this period the working people have again been convinced that the activities of the Rumanian Workers' Party are directed solely towards securing the good of the people.

Soviet people are following with friendly interest the devoted efforts of the working people of Rumania to lay the foundations of Socialism in their country and sincerely rejoice at their splendid achievements, regarding them as a valuable contribution to the joint efforts of the democratic

would be decided by negotiation, in order to prevent a new war. The Geneva Conference justified the hopes and aspirations of the peace-loving peoples; it had a positive influence on international relations and strengthened still more the will and desire of the peoples to ensure an enduring and lasting peace.

After the Geneva Conference the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic and the countries of people's democracy, which made an immense contribution to the cause of relieving international tension and contributed in a large measure to the success of the Conference, have provided fresh evidence of their peace-loving foreign policy. (Applause.) The proposals of the Soviet Union on disarmament and the Soviet Government's decision to reduce the Soviet armed forces by 640,000 men by December 15 of this year have been welcomed by the world public and are seen as a further big contribution by the Soviet Union to the cause of peace and the security of the peoples.

Pursuing a consistent peace-loving foreign policy, the Soviet Government proceeds from the possibility of lasting peaceful coexistence among states with different social and economic systems. We shall steadfastly continue to pursue a policy of peace and international co-operation, striving to establish confidence among states in the interests of the peaceful solution of important international problems through negotiation. Such a foreign policy fully accords with the vital interests of the working people and their desire for peace and friendship among nations.

The Soviet Union regards the struggle for the strengthening of peace as its main aim in the international arena. Peoples all over the world see that the Soviet Government spares no efforts in defence of peace, that it sincerely strives for the further relaxation of international tension. The truth about our peaceable foreign policy is immeasurably stronger than the lies spread by reactionary newspapers which continue to pipe their old tunes about the "Soviet menace". Truth is brighter than the sun and it will find its way to the hearts of all people who desire peace! (Applause.)

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From the day the fascist dictatorship was overthrown the army went over to the side of the fighting patriotic forces.

August 23, 1944, was an expression of the people's unshakable determination to take their destinies and the future of Rumania into their own hands.

After August 23 the working people of our country expressed their firm will to prevent the return of the old order of things and to ensure the social and economic progress of their country, its democratic and socialist development and its political and economic independence. Under the leadership of our Party they fought for a democratic system. In this battle our heroic working class, which has inscribed many glorious pages in the history of the struggle against capitalist exploitation and oppression and which was well aware of its historic role as the most revolutionary class of society, proved equal to its mission. Rallying around the Communist Party, it united its ranks in powerful organisations. It gave its fraternal support to the working peasants—for centuries oppressed and robbed by the landlords and kulaks—in their struggle for land and for the expropriation of the landlords in favour of the working peasants; in the heat of the struggle for agrarian reforms there was forged an indestructible alliance between the working class and the working peasantry.

The broad masses of town and country joined the movement and took an active part in the struggle for democratic reforms, for land and for people's power. In this struggle against the united forces of reaction the popular forces were victorious: they established a democratic government whose political foundation was the alliance between the working class and the working peasantry under the leadership of the former.

The correct and decisive policy of our Party, the devotion shown by the Rumanian workers, peasants and intellectuals, and by the working people of the national minorities, in rehabilitating the country's economy and consolidating its democratic gains; the immense economic, technical and cultural assistance given to our country by the Soviet Union in the difficult postwar period—all this enabled us to proceed, in a historically short space of time, from the stage of completing the bourgeois democratic revolution to a new, socialist stage of people's democratic revolution.

Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej then dwell on the results so far achieved in fulfilling Rumania's first five-year economic plan. A particularly important factor for carrying out the principal tasks of our Five-Year Plan, he said, was the socialist industrialisation of the country on the basis of a rapid growth in the production of the means of production, especially of the machine-building industry. Of the major branches of industry, machine-building and metal-working have been particularly developed, and by the end of this year will have a capacity 180% greater than in 1950; the capacity of the chemical industry will be

Party, our industry has been supplying the working class and the working peasantry with increasing quantities of consumer goods, closely linking the growing development of the country's productive forces with the further improvement of living standards.

After pointing out certain deficiencies to be seen in some industries, Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej dwelt on the situation in agriculture, in which marked progress has been made under the first Five-Year Plan.

Under the leadership of our Party, he said, more and more working peasants are taking the road to Socialism and uniting in collective farms, associations for the joint cultivation of land and other forms of co-operation and mutual assistance. The growing number of these organisations among the working peasants testifies to their increased interest in pooling their individual farms to form big farms, to the gradual development and consolidation of the socialist sector in agriculture. On the whole, Gheorghiu-Dej noted, the socialist sector in agriculture now embraces nearly 26% of the country's arable land.

In the course of the Five-Year Plan the Party and the Government have paid special attention to the mechanisation of agriculture: at the present moment agriculture is equipped with 29,500 tractors (in terms of 15 h.p. units), 24,200 tractor-drawn ploughs, 12,066 mechanically-powered seed drills, 6,112 reaper-binders, 15,135 threshers, 1,538 combines and many other farm machines and implements. The Party and the Government have also taken a number of organisational and economic measures to increase the material incentive of the peasants and step up agricultural output. As a result of the measures adopted by the enlarged meeting of the C.C. of the Rumanian Workers' Party in August 1953 and thanks to the efforts of agricultural workers, gross agricultural output has risen under the Five-Year Plan, especially through increases in the average yield per hectare.

Gheorghiu-Dej further pointed out that this year's wheat and rye crops, which have already been fully gathered in, are good ones and that the prospects for maize, potatoes, sugar-beet, grapes and fruit in general are good. The maize crop will be of particular importance, surpassing the bumper crop raised in 1954.

The steady growth in the quantity and variety of foodstuffs and manufactured goods available through the socialist trade network within the past few years has had a good effect upon the peasant market, and this, in turn, has resulted in improved supplies and lower prices for the working people.

This year the socialist trade network will supply the population with 1.5 times as much meat, 2.2 times more fats and vegetable oil, 2.8 times more butter and 2.9 times more fish than in 1950. There will also be a greater supply of manufactured goods: nearly twice as much cotton goods, about 2.7 times as much woollens, 1.6 times as much silks and 2.1 times as much footwear. The demand for radio sets, electrical appliances, metal domestic utensils and bicycles is being satisfied to a steadily increasing degree.

Under the Five-Year Plan supplies to the rural population through the socialist trade network have doubled in comparison with 1950.

One of the main tasks set by the Five-Year Plan—the abolition of rationing—has been accomplished.

Today, eight months after the abolition of rationing, we can say that this major economic and political measure has been successful. It has resulted in a marked

operation with the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy, our working people, led by the Party, will strive to achieve fresh success in the development of the national economy and will struggle for complete victory in laying the economic foundations of Socialism.

Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej then went on to speak of the consolidation of the people's-democratic state and referred to a number of achievements in improving the work of the state apparatus, strengthening the law and reducing administrative costs.

Our achievements in all spheres of life, declared Comrade Gheorghiu-Dej, are determined above all by the correct policy of our Party, the inviolable unity of its ranks and the political and organisational work done by our Party organisations. The great tasks of building Socialism demand special concern for improving the work of our Party organisations, strengthening the ranks of the Party by improving its social composition, training and developing Party activists and raising the level of Marxist-Leninist educational work.

Speaking of the foreign policy of the Rumanian people's-democratic state, Gheorghiu-Dej stated that the Rumanian people had welcomed the success of the Geneva Conference of the heads of government of the Four Powers with deep satisfaction and enthusiasm.

This Conference, went on Gheorghiu-Dej, is only the beginning, and it is necessary that the peoples make fresh and persistent efforts in the battle for peace. The measures that are being taken and will doubtless be taken in the future by those who dislike the relaxation of international tension and peace among nations preclude feelings of complacency and prevent us from becoming lulled with illusions. The peace-loving nations must exercise constant vigilance. Realising the particular responsibility of the Great Powers in the cause of strengthening peace, we consider, however, that every country, big or small, can make its contribution to this cause. The Government of the Rumanian People's Republic resolutely supports the draft general European treaty for collective security in Europe put forward by the Soviet Union, as well as the fresh proposals made by it at the Geneva Conference, prompted by the existence in Europe of opposing groupings of states. The Rumanian people are vitally concerned that the German question be correctly settled in the interests of collective security in Europe and the German people themselves. The Rumanian people and the Government of the Rumanian People's Republic entirely support the Soviet Union's proposals on the reduction of armaments, the prohibition of atomic weapons and the elimination of the threat of a new war.

The basic principles of the foreign policy of our people's-democratic state, continued Gheorghiu-Dej, completely coincide with the five principles agreed by India and China during the negotiations between Chou En-lai and Nehru, the principles adopted as the basis of relations between the USSR and India, India and Yugoslavia and also between other states. The foreign policy of our state has as its main aim the pursuit and defence of these principles.

The contribution of our country to the cause of strengthening peaceful relations and promoting economic and cultural ties among nations, went on Gheorghiu-Dej, would undoubtedly be greater if our country were not denied its rightful seat in Uno. The absence in Uno of a considerable number of countries, including our

people are confidently advancing along the path of progress and prosperity, successfully laying the foundations of Socialism in their country.

Today, on your national holiday, we have every ground for saying that, in working to carry out this historic task, the Rumanian people have achieved truly remarkable results in the development of their economy and culture.

At the present time the working people of Rumania are successfully completing their first five-year economic plan. Hundreds of enterprises and even whole branches of industry have already reached their plan targets. It is a remarkable fact that such important branches of the national economy as the machine-building and metal-working industries, established under the people's rule, had completed their five-year plans by the beginning of this month. In all branches of industry and in the transport services thousands of innovators and leading production workers have appeared who are working devotedly for the good of their country.

As a result of the heroic labour of the Rumanian working class modern Rumania has a well-developed industry capable of satisfying the growing needs of her steadily developing economy to an ever-increasing extent.

The achievements of the Rumanian people in developing their country's industry are indeed of a historic nature and testify to the inexhaustible possibilities of the people's-democratic system. Under the rule of the landlords and capitalists, Rumania's industry, it will be remembered, was very poorly developed. Moreover, the greater part of it was in the hands of foreign capitalists who brutally exploited the working people. In substance, Rumania was a semi-colonial country. But now that the Rumanian people have taken their destinies into their own hands, Rumania has become genuinely independent and in a short space of time has grown into a strong, industrially developed country.

The progress made in socialist industrialisation provided the prerequisites for the further and more rapid advance of agriculture and its reorganisation on socialist lines.

The great Lenin taught us that "large-scale machine industry and its application to agriculture is the sole economic basis for Socialism, the sole basis for a successful struggle to rid mankind of the yoke of capital". The Rumanian Workers' Party is constantly guided by this precept, bearing in mind the fact that only on the basis of the all-round mechanisation of agriculture can the labour of the peasant be eased, his labour productivity raised and his material and cultural standards improved. The 220 machine and tractor stations established in Rumania are the material expression of the concern which the Rumanian Workers' Party and the Government of the Rumanian People's Republic show for the vital interests of the working peasants.

We Soviet people know well that the socialist reorganisation of agriculture is a difficult and intricate process. To reorganise a village on socialist lines means to accomplish a revolutionary change of great historic significance.

Parade and Demonstration in Rumania's Capital

A military parade and demonstration of the working people of Bucharest was held on Stalin Square on August 23 to mark the 11th anniversary of Rumania's liberation from fascism.

On the stands were deputies to the Grand National Assembly, foremost workers in industry, transport and agriculture, representatives of public organisations, personalities

in the fields of science and culture, heads of foreign embassies and legations, military and air attachés. Among those on the central tribune were members of the Political Bureau of the C.C., Rumanian Workers' Party; members of the Government; N. S. Khrushchev, First Secretary of the C.C. of the CPSU, and heads of government delegations from the People's Democracies.

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In Communist and Workers' Parties

CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF JAPAN

A recent meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Japan elected Comrade Sanzo Nozaka First Secretary of the C.C.; Comrade Shigeo Shida

head of the Organisational Department; Comrade Yojiro Konno head of the Agricultural Department, and Comrade Shoichi Kasuga head of the Youth Department.

FORTHCOMING CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF SWEDEN

A meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Sweden was held in Stockholm in mid-August.

In his opening speech Comrade Hilding Hagberg, the Party's Chairman, reviewed the political situation in the country and the tasks now facing the Swedish working class. He underlined that the main tasks at present were: the fight for peace and the freedom of the Swedish nation, the further development of democracy in all spheres of public life and the unity of the working class in the struggle against the domination of big capital.

Comrade Knut Tell reported on the proposals for amending the Party Rules.

The meeting also heard a report by Comrade Erik Karlsson, Secretary of the

C.C., on the Party's organisational work in connection with the forthcoming Congress.

The keynote of the discussion which developed at the meeting was political unity and readiness to win further successes in the fight of the working class for its interests.

The meeting decided to convene the XVIIth Party Congress in Stockholm on December 28-31, 1955, and endorsed the following agenda:

1. Political situation and the Party's work;
2. Party press;
3. Party Rules;
4. Elections to the Central Committee and Control Commission.

ENLARGED CENTRAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF FINLAND

A recent enlarged meeting of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Finland, held in Helsinki, discussed Comrade Urho Jokinen's report on the present situation and the tasks arising in connection with the forthcoming presidential elections.

In order to strengthen the united front of working people, it called for more intensive work to explain the political significance of the elections at home and abroad. The meeting emphasized that to assure victory for the forces of peace and democracy in the elections it was necessary to step up activity to unite the working people in the fight against big capital and the coalition party.

A unanimously adopted resolution reads in part: "The numerous international events of the last few months, so favourable to the cause of peace, have strengthened

the possibilities of preserving peace and the peoples' faith in a brighter future. The Geneva Conference of the heads of government, the result of the growing pressure of the peace forces throughout the world, particularly contributed to this.

"The Central Committee is convinced that the spirit of concord which prevailed at Geneva and the decision to continue negotiations also accord with the hopes of the Finnish people and urge all citizens who value peace and agreement between states to redouble their efforts for peace."

It is essential, the resolution goes on, to launch a movement to demand that the Government actively supports the establishment of a collective security system in Europe, which would mean the consolidation of world peace.

MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE, SLOVAK COMMUNIST PARTY

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovakia held a meeting on August 18-19. It was attended by a delegation from the C.C. of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia headed by Comrade Viliam Sivoky, member of the Political Bureau of the C.C. of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

The meeting heard and discussed a report by Comrade Karol Bacilek, First Secretary of the Slovak C.C., on how the organisations of Slovakia were carrying out the decisions of the June meeting

of the C. C. of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

Comrade Pavel Majling made a report on the preparations now under way for the first year of the second Five-Year Plan.

Following the discussion, in which 28 comrades took part, the meeting unanimously passed a resolution urging more consistent efforts to ensure fulfilment of the directives of the June meeting of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

The organisations of the Communist Party of India have launched energetic preparations for the Congress, to be held in

that interest them and a "Questions & Answers" feature is now appearing. The weekly *New Age*, the Party's newspaper, is also carrying material in connection with the Congress preparations. On

Restoration of Korean Towns

In the past two years the Korean people have made great strides in the rehabilitation of Pyongyang, Wonsan, Kimchak, Chongjin, Sinuiju, Nampho and other cities and towns, settlements and villages, reduced to heaps of rubble during the war.

Heroic Wonsan, an important port and industrial city, is springing up from the ruins on the shores of the Sea of Japan; over 7,300 dwelling houses have been built there along the broad, newly laid-out Liberation and Second Main streets. Some government offices, educational establishments and hospitals have been built or restored; two cinemas and a library are already open. Restoration of a pedagogical college is almost finished and an agricultural college is nearing completion. An Arts Theatre will soon be opened.

The city's industry is reviving. The Wonsan shipyard, building fishing craft, is working at full capacity; the locomotive repair works is being restored and extended at a rapid rate.

Kimchak, another industrial city to the north of Wonsan, is also being rebuilt. The large iron and steel works in this city was in operation within two months after the signing of the armistice. The works now turns out various types of rolled metal and sheet iron. Recently it began to produce siliceous sheet steel for transformers.

As many as 522 flats are now under construction in Kimchak, and half of them were occupied by August 15—Liberation Day—by which date two secondary schools were completed. Administrative offices, a department store, and a workers' hostel are under reconstruction and a new park is being laid out.

Hungarian Peasants Join Co-operatives

The Hungarian working peasants are becoming more and more convinced of the advantages of collective farming. This year more than 30,000 peasants joined producer co-operatives by August 1. A particularly large number of peasants are joining in the Somogy Region. In June 349 families, mainly those of middle peasants, joined co-operatives in this area.

The working peasants are setting up commissions to prepare the ground for the organisation of new co-operatives. Some 400 such commissions are now at work in the country. Recently, 147 more producer co-operatives were set up.



EXPERIENCE OF PARTY WORK

INITIATIVE—INALIENABLE QUALITY OF A PARTY WORKER

W. Kruczek

Member, Central Committee, Polish United Workers' Party, Secretary, Bydgoszcz Regional Committee of the PUWP

In carrying out the decisions of the Central Committee of the PUWP, particularly those of its Third Plenum, the Bydgoszcz Party organisation has notable successes to record. The Third Plenum devoted a great deal of attention to local Party organisations, pointing out their immense role in socialist construction and bringing to light the shortcomings in their work, which lie mainly in the unsatisfactory way in which decisions are prepared, in the constant waiting for directives, assignments and instructions from above and in lack of initiative and self-reliance in solving problems concerning their respective district.

In carrying out the Plenum decisions, our regional Party organisation and its leadership have realised more deeply the necessity for systematically studying and generalising the experience acquired in Party, economic and cultural work and the necessity, on the basis of such generalisation and with due consideration for the specific conditions in each district, of setting new tasks to the Party activists and workers of the state apparatus. The Bydgoszcz organisation now appreciates more fully that the implementation of Party decisions and directives, requires a well thought-out, constructive approach that shows initiative; it requires a thorough understanding of Party policy. This was made evident in the discussions on the decisions of the Third Plenum, at which many comrades sharply criticised the leadership of the Bydgoszcz Party organisation for restricting the initiative and independence of the Party and state apparatus, and for the fact that the role of district committees is often confined simply to fulfilling assignments set by the regional committee.

This criticism by the activists helped us to improve our methods of work and, in particular, to substantially reduce the number of decisions and instructions of all kinds. The leadership of the regional committee is now drawing the attention of Party organisations to the necessity of developing, on the basis of an analysis of the situation in their district, the initiative and independence of the Party apparatus without waiting for instructions, directions and ready-made formulas on every question that concerns their district. The secretaries of district and city committees have noticed lately that the regional committee has not been cramping their initiative so much, but at the same time draw attention to the fact that it has weakened its links with the Party bodies and organisations at a lower level.

In criticising the regional committee the Party activists pointed out that it had passed many resolutions but had not always made it clear which of them was the most important. The committee took due note of this and now tells the Party organisations in industrial enterprises and in the countryside what their main, decisive tasks are and advises them how individual questions should be settled on the spot.

The Bydgoszcz Party organisation now regards the question of lowering production costs as an important one in industry and has used new, effective methods and forms of work to ensure the fulfilment of the plan for reducing these costs throughout industry.

With a view to familiarising the workers in the Party apparatus with the economy of industrial enterprises, we organised special courses for Party activists, including secretaries of the Party organisations in the major industrial enterprises. In order that

possibilities they had of making more rational use of materials, the workers discussed these questions with representatives of the district committee and launched an emulation campaign for a more economic use of high-quality steels, and called upon factory and office workers in other enterprises to follow their example. There was a wide response to this initiative in the region and all over the country. In the region alone the call was taken up by 48 enterprises, with the result that the state benefited by a saving of 415 tons of high-quality steel and 3,519 slabs of carbide valued at 6,300,000 zloty. Useful initiative was shown in the setting up of exchange-of-experience commissions, which included the best workers and Party activists at leading industrial enterprises. These commissions are sent to works and factories lagging behind in order to help them straighten out their difficulties on the spot.

The Bydgoszcz Party organisation is also giving much attention to the development of agriculture. Of great importance is the campaign launched for developing meadows and pasture lands. Last autumn meliorative work involving more than 106,000 people was begun in the region, with the result that 8,000 hectares of meadowland was developed. This year we decided to extend this campaign and prepared a plan under which work valued at 40 million zloty would be carried out. Emulation has developed between districts and villages, more than 10,000 people joining the campaign in its first few days. The peasants know that through developing meadowlands they will obtain more fodder for their livestock.

It should be noted, however, that our Party organisation has failed to use to the full its possibilities in advancing agriculture, especially in promoting producer co-operation.

The Party committee reckons that the co-operatives now functioning in the region—more than 1,000, of which 350 were set up in 1954 and 70 this year—do not fully reflect our potentialities. Party activists undoubtedly have vast opportunities in this field for displaying initiative and for carrying out varied forms of organisational and propaganda work.

Most district committees, in addition to discussing co-operative rules at open Party meetings, also organise excursions to those co-operatives which are functioning well and arrange for individual peasants to meet co-operative members. Many co-operative Party branches assign groups of agitators who, with the help of Party activists and people's councils, conduct explanatory work among individual peasants. These groups are especially active on the days when co-operative members get their pay-books. More and more leading co-operatives are taking newly organised ones under their wing. Members of such co-operatives attend each other's meetings

In the work of organising co-operatives we concentrated first on drawing in those leading peasants who enjoy high prestige in their village. The winning of such peasants as a rule is a turning point in the work of setting up a co-operative.

It should be said, however, that not all Party bodies realise the significance of the co-operation movement as a factor in the rapid development of agriculture.

In our region there are still district secretaries who do not understand that forming co-operatives in the countryside demands not only the strictest possible observance of the voluntary principle but also initiative and a high degree of activity in all their political work among the peasants, explaining the advantages of co-operative over individual farming. In words they approve of the Party's line. Formally, everything appears to be in order and it seems they cannot be accused of doing nothing. For instance, the district committees of Bydgoszcz, Rypin or Lipno, which are noticeably lagging behind in the producer co-operation movement, talk about building Socialism in the countryside at every conference and meeting yet do not carry out the necessary organisational work. Instead of conducting activities throughout the whole of their district, they only work in some of the villages and insufficiently draw in the local activists.

The experience of our region shows that an enterprising Party worker does not fear even the most difficult tasks if there is a climate in the Party organisation which encourages the display of useful initiative, and if people understand that collective leadership stimulates initiative. Collective leadership and a frankly critical and self-critical analysis of the work of every comrade are of immense importance for moulding a real Party political worker. Developing the initiative of Party members does not merely mean waiting until they display it. Individual comrades as well as organisations as a whole must be given definite tasks.

It should be noted that the bureau of the regional committee still works inadequately with Party activists, especially with those in the lower Party organisations. As a result, comrades who are sent to work in the state apparatus or the mass organisations frequently do not display initiative in carrying out their assignments. There are instances of people being promoted to leading posts who forget their duties, forget that they should act as an example to others and that they are called upon to educate and organise the masses.

The regional committee has taken insufficient care to ensure that all leading activists thoroughly realised that in the period of transition from capitalism to Socialism, when the class struggle sharpens, it is very important to see and be able correctly to estimate the work of every individual person, as well as to notice the new which has come into our life; it is also very important to see how people develop and realise that their further development depends on the initiative and ideological training of Party activists.

The sharpening of the class struggle, especially in the countryside, demands that our Party organisation constantly increases its activity and that all Party members serve as an example to the broad masses of the working people and strengthen still further their bonds with the masses.

Much has yet to be done to enhance the ideological and political level of Party

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Slovakia held a meeting on August 18-19. It was attended by a delegation from the C.C. of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia headed by Comrade Viliam Sikorsky, member of the Political Bureau of the C. C., Czechoslovak Communist Party.

The meeting heard and discussed a report by Comrade Karol Bacilek, First Secretary of the Slovak C. C., on how the Party organisations of Slovakia were carrying out the decisions of the June meeting

PREPARATIONS FOR THE FOURTH CONGRESS OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

The organisations of the Communist Party of India have launched energetic preparations for the Fourth Party Congress, to be held in December this year at Kozhikode in Southern India. A lively discussion is in progress on the resolution of the June C.C. meeting, "The Communist Party in the Struggle for Peace, Democracy and National Advance", as well as other documents connected with the forthcoming Congress.

New Age, political monthly of the Communist Party, has started a series of special articles by Party leaders on the problems which face the country and are to be the subject of discussion at the Fourth Congress. The editorial board has called on all readers to send in questions on problems

of the C. C. of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

Comrade Pavel Majling made a report on the preparations now under way for the first year of the second Five-Year Plan.

Following the discussion, in which 28 comrades took part, the meeting unanimously passed a resolution urging more consistent efforts to ensure fulfilment of the directives of the June meeting of the Czechoslovak Communist Party.

that interest them and a "Questions & Answers" feature is now appearing.

The weekly *New Age*, the Party's newspaper, is also carrying material in connection with the Congress preparations. On August 14 it published an item about the great enthusiasm aroused among the working people of Malabar by the decision to hold the Fourth Congress in their region. Even before the official call for funds was made, the people of Malabar began to send in contributions. For instance, Poovollathil Mathu, a peasant and mother living in Mokeri, called on the village Party secretary and offered to donate the entire produce of her coconut palm to the Congress funds. The workers of the Erumakolli estates at Meppadi have decided to give a day's wages.

organisation of new co-operatives. Some 400 such commissions are now at work in the country. Recently, 147 more producer co-operatives were set up.



The second sheet rolling mill of China's Anshan Iron and Steel Works is turning out large quantities of sheet steel to satisfy the country's needs. In 1954 its workers mastered the production of eight new types of sheet steel. Above: Su Tsiao-yun, one of the girls working in the second sheet rolling mill, at the controls.

concerns their district. The secretaries of district and city committees have noticed lately that the regional committee has not been cramping their initiative so much, but at the same time draw attention to the fact that it has weakened its links with the Party bodies and organisations at a lower level.

In criticising the regional committee the Party activists pointed out that it had passed many resolutions but had not always made it clear which of them was the most important. The committee took due note of this and now tells the Party organisations in industrial enterprises and in the countryside what their main, decisive tasks are and advises them how individual questions should be settled on the spot.

The Bydgoszcz Party organisation now regards the question of lowering production costs as an important one in industry and has used new, effective methods and forms of work to ensure the fulfilment of the plan for reducing these costs throughout industry.

With a view to familiarising the workers in the Party apparatus with the economy of industrial enterprises, we organised special courses for Party activists, including secretaries of the Party organisations in the major industrial enterprises. In order that activists might have a better knowledge of the question of production costs, we issued a special pamphlet in which we quoted a number of actual examples, both negative and positive, and drew the attention of the Party activists in plants and factories to unused reserves.

All this was of great importance. For instance, as a result of the regional committee drawing the attention of the Bydgoszcz Railway Signal Works to the

our Party organisation has failed to use to the full its possibilities in advancing agriculture, especially in promoting producer co-operation.

The Party committee reckons that the co-operatives now functioning in the region—more than 1,000, of which 350 were set up in 1954 and 70 this year—do not fully reflect our potentialities. Party activists undoubtedly have vast opportunities in this field for displaying initiative and for carrying out varied forms of organisational and propaganda work.

Most district committees, in addition to discussing co-operative rules at open Party meetings, also organise excursions to those co-operatives which are functioning well and arrange for individual peasants to meet co-operative members. Many co-operative Party branches assign groups of agitators who, with the help of Party activists and people's councils, conduct explanatory work among individual peasants. These groups are especially active on the days when co-operative members get their pay-books. More and more leading co-operatives are taking newly organised ones under their wing. Members of such co-operatives attend each other's meetings and help each other, particularly in working out agrotechnical plans.

The people in the district read with keen interest those local newspapers which report on the achievements and perspectives of the co-operation movement and publish the speeches broadcast over the radio by active co-operative members. Booklets in which co-operative members relate how they have benefited by joining co-operatives are printed in large editions.

the state apparatus or the mass organisations frequently do not display initiative in carrying out their assignments. There are instances of people being promoted to leading posts who forget their duties, forget that they should act as an example to others and that they are called upon to educate and organise the masses.

The regional committee has taken insufficient care to ensure that all leading activists thoroughly realised that in the period of transition from capitalism to Socialism, when the class struggle sharpens, it is very important to see and be able correctly to estimate the work of every individual person, as well as to notice the new which has come into our life; it is also very important to see how people develop and realise that their further development depends on the initiative and ideological training of Party activists.

The sharpening of the class struggle, especially in the countryside, demands that our Party organisation constantly increases its activity and that all Party members serve as an example to the broad masses of the working people and strengthen still further their bonds with the masses.

Much has yet to be done to enhance the ideological and political level of Party activists, of all members of our Party organisation, for without this it cannot carry out the complex tasks set before it by the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party. Experience teaches us that where Party members thoroughly master the Marxist-Leninist teaching, the Party organisation is fully alive, displays initiative and carries out its own plans on the job in a really big way.

NEW UPSURGE OF SOCIALIST EMULATION IN BULGARIA

The victory won on September 9, 1944, created conditions for the free development of the creative forces of the Bulgarian people which had been stifled during the years of fascist enslavement. Under the leadership of the Communist Party our working people are now building a new and happy life and strengthening the economic might of their beloved homeland.

In the eleven years of people's power, the Bulgarian people have achieved great successes in building Socialism—hundreds of enterprises have either been built or reconstructed and a number of industries which were formerly either non-existent or merely in the embryonic stage have been established, such as the machine-building, electrical, shipbuilding, mining, ferrous and non-ferrous metallurgy, heavy chemical and other industries.

Great strides have been made in developing agriculture, which, to an increasing extent, is being converted into a modern large-scale mechanised industry. Socialist trade is being consolidated and our transport services are making good progress.

Science, the arts and literature are developing, and culture is becoming the property of the entire people.

These great achievements in laying the foundations of Socialism in our country have become possible owing to the correct policy pursued by the Communist Party of Bulgaria which, in all its activities, has been guided by the all-triumphant teaching of Marxism-Leninism and the world-historic experience of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union; to the selfless labour of the working class, the toiling peasantry and the people's intelligentsia in our land; to the fraternal and all-round help given us by the great Soviet Union, and to close co-operation with all countries of people's democracy.

The progress made in fulfilling the first five-year economic plan enabled the Sixth Congress of the Party to outline the tasks

for the continued development of the country along the path of Socialism.

The great Lenin teaches us that the basis for the steady advance of the national economy is the unceasing expansion of heavy industry. Bearing in mind the interests of the working people and seeking to strengthen Bulgaria's freedom and independence, the Communist Party has displayed great concern for developing heavy industry as the basis for the further expansion of all branches of the national economy, as an important pre-condition for the upsurge of agriculture, the development of light industry, and for a substantial rise in the material and cultural level of the working people.

By 1957, the end of the second Five-Year Plan, it is scheduled to increase gross industrial output by some 60% compared with 1952; this will include a twofold increase in the generation of electricity, an 89% increase in coal output and a rise of about 83% in the output of the machine-building and metal-processing industries. Farm produce during this period is expected to increase 66%.

To improve the housing and living conditions of factory and office workers the second Five-Year Plan envisages that nearly four times as many dwellings will be built as under the first Five-Year Plan.

During the second Five-Year Plan real wages of factory and office workers and the incomes of working peasants should increase by not less than 40%.

Todor Prahov
Alternate Member, Political Bureau,
C.C., Communist Party of Bulgaria
Chairman, Central Council of the
Trade Unions of Bulgaria

In their efforts to accomplish the tasks set by the Sixth Congress of the Party, the working class and the working people in town and countryside are launching a socialist emulation drive to raise labour productivity, since productivity of labour, as V. I. Lenin taught us, is the most important, the principal thing for the victory of the new social system.

Our trade unions regard it as their main task to develop, on a mass scale and to the utmost, socialist emulation among the working class and all working people. They support the initiative of foremost workers and clear the way for everything new and progressive that emerges in the course of the emulation drive.

Some months ago the workers of 25 leading enterprises in Sofia and the Sofia Region appealed to men and women workers, technicians, foremen and office workers of the country substantially to raise the productivity of their labour and to cut down production costs. This important and highly patriotic initiative was responded to by trade unions all over the country and began to acquire the character of a powerful nation-wide movement. The scope of socialist emulation in our country is evidenced by the fact that it embraces 83% of the transport workers, 85% of the workers in the light and food industry and 87% of the miners. Increasing numbers of people in other branches of the economy are taking part in socialist emulation.

One of the leading enterprises in our country is the state-owned Karl Marx Soda Factory which fulfils its production plan with honour. This is explained to a great extent by the fact that the Party, trade union and youth organisations as well as the factory management work to master new technology of production and to popularise advanced methods of labour. This factory fulfilled its six-month production plan for this year 137.4% and its labour productivity plan 130%. During this period the cost of production was

reduced 55.8% (against the planned 45.5%) which made it possible to effect a saving and place at the disposal of the national economy more than 43,741,000 leva.

At the V. Mavrikov Textile Mill in Tyrnovo, thanks to the able leadership and initiative shown by the mass organisations and all working people, efforts to fulfil the production plan were made right from the beginning of the new year. The personnel of this mill enthusiastically responded to the appeal of 25 leading enterprises in Sofia and the Sofia Region. The trade union devotes a great deal of attention to carrying out the socialist pledges made by the mill's staff, workshops and individual workers. Meetings are held every three months at which the results of the fulfilment of the plan are summed up. Much attention is also given to raising the qualifications of workers, engineers and technicians, with the result that throughout the past few months every worker without exception has fulfilled his production assignment. During the first six months of this year these workers considerably overfulfilled their qualitative and quantitative indices.

The achievements of this mill are explained, first and foremost, by the fact that the creative initiative shown by the working people have the broad support of all public organisations and that the Party, trade union and youth organisations give daily attention to the drive for the fulfilment of the plan and to checking on the progress of the emulation.

The trade unions in our country do a great deal to ensure that capacity of machines and equipment is fully utilised. They strive to reduce the time machines stand idle and introduce new, more advanced technique and improved technology into production. They direct their efforts to greatly improving the organisation of labour, raising the technical level and skill of workers, foremen and technicians, tightening up state and labour discipline and developing the movement of inventors and rationalisers.

With the help of the trade unions, workers in the enterprises are successfully using the experience of both Soviet and Bulgarian

innovators. Uninterrupted work all round the clock and high-speed cutting are being introduced in the mines on an ever-wider scale, likewise the emulation drive in transport, the high-speed method of brick-laying and plastering in building, high-speed metal-cutting in the machine-building and metal-working industries, multi-loom servicing in the textile industry, etc.

The growing movement of inventors and rationalisers is evidence of the developing initiative and activity of the working people, whose proposals contribute to the continuous raising of labour productivity. In 1954 alone, some 22% more rationalisation proposals were carried into effect than in 1953, and this resulted in an economy of 93 million leva over the whole year.

One of the most important forms of socialist emulation is that of rendering constant and systematic help to lagging workers. The trade unions arrange for experienced and qualified workers to look after the insufficiently experienced or new industrial workers. Meetings are arranged for the exchange of production experience, and courses have been organised at factories and plants for raising the qualifications of workers and equipping them with new skills; schools based on more advanced production experience are established; they are led by advanced workers. Last year more than 250,000 factory and office workers improved their skill.

There are still grave shortcomings in the organisation of socialist emulation. Some of the leaders of trade union, youth and economic organisations allow the socialist emulation drive to be carried out in a formalistic way and do not go deeply into the nature of the innovators' proposals. Not everywhere is emulation organised on the basis of the following indices: raising labour productivity, improving quality of output and reducing costs.

Much valuable time is spent by trade union functionaries in compiling various reports and accounts, and this prevents them from maintaining closer contact with factory and office workers and giving concrete guidance in socialist emulation.

Not so long ago there were serious shortcomings in bestowing titles on leading

workers: such titles were often given out wholesale. The Central Council of Trade Unions took steps to eliminate this abnormal situation and retained only the titles of "udarnik" (shock worker), and "best worker" in this or that trade (best turner, etc). The management confer the title of "model office worker" on the best office employees.

Some enterprises still do not make sufficient use of the available conditions and possibilities for studying, popularising and applying the experience of advanced workers. Not enough is done to popularise important examples of initiative and the methods used by such workers to fulfil and overfulfill their production quotas, turn out high-quality products, save material, fuel and electricity and keep their place of work in excellent order.

The working class of Bulgaria, organised in trade unions, is making efforts to eliminate these and similar shortcomings, to develop socialist emulation on a mass scale in order to raise labour productivity and thereby contribute to fulfilling the assignments of the second Five-Year Plan—to strengthen still more the economic might of the country and to raise substantially the material and cultural level of the working people.

The Bulgarian people, under the tested leadership of the Communist Party, march boldly and confidently along the path of Socialism. Their labour successes, which grow day by day, represent a contribution to the common struggle of the masses in Europe and the whole world for lessening international tension and for peace. They realise that only in conditions of peace and friendship among peoples is it possible successfully to build the magnificent and bright edifice of Socialism in their country. That is why the entire Bulgarian people support the Appeal of the World Peace Council for a ban on atomic weapons, wholeheartedly welcome the results of the Soviet-Yugoslav talks and the Geneva Conference and stand, firmly and steadfastly, in the camp of peace, democracy and Socialism headed by the great Soviet Union.

Young Italian Communists' Programme of Struggle

During the four months leading up to the recent XIVth Congress of the Italian Communist Youth Federation, which has 430,000 members between the ages of 13 and 21, lively and comprehensive discussion developed at more than 10,000 meetings. Hundreds of thousands of young people, including more than 20,000 members of other youth organisations, were present at these meetings, at which their living and working conditions and educational opportunities were thoroughly analysed. This led to a better understanding of the life, the aspirations and the thoughts of Italian youth, and made it possible to frame the programme we are putting before all young people as the first step towards the solution of the youth problem in Italian society.

At the present time young Italians are, in the main, uncertain of today and without prospects for the morrow; their hard life depresses them.

Official statistics reveal that there are as many as 700,000 young people in Italy trying to get their first jobs. But it is no easy matter to find work; parliamentary enquiries have revealed that 1,300,000 young people—an alarming figure—are already unemployed.

The life of the young unemployed is really tragic. However, those who are working also have a difficult time, as for many years now their conditions have been appalling. For instance, young workers are paid lower wages than adults for doing the same job. A particularly subtle method of exploitation and oppression is that of the short-term agreements, whereby employers try to subordinate young workers completely to their will, on pain of dismissal. A hard life of poverty and want is also the lot of the peasant youth. For instance, the results of investigations in the Biancavilla community, announced at the National Conference of Peasant Youth by delegates from Catania, showed that for 28 out of 34 young people dinner usually consists of bread and onions, while 22 have employment from 10 to 150 days per year only.

The young people's discontent and uncertainty are aggravated by the crisis into which the schools have been plunged during the years of clerical domination.

If our young people are to have a different life the face of the country must be completely transformed; there must be far-reaching changes in the economic and political structure of Italian society, it must be made into a socialist society. Our approach and task, however, are not confined to this, to intensified propaganda and a struggle for socialist ideals. The road to Socialism runs through day-to-day struggle against everything that impedes society's progress, and for Italy, through the implementation of the profound economic and social reforms outlined in our Constitution. An important contribution to this broad activity is the proposals advanced by the Congress of the Italian Communist Youth Federation to settle, by means of mass political struggle, the most urgent problems agitating young people. These proposals will form the basis of the immediate and future activities of young Communist and future activities of young Communist

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Enrico Berlinguer
General Secretary,
Italian Communist Youth Federation

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mands on Italian society, and its pledges in the struggle for the regeneration of this society.

The Italian Communist Youth Federation proposes the following four points for such a programme:

1. To provide work in industry and agriculture for at least 300,000 young people;
2. To organise vocational training courses catering for not less than 500,000 young people, of whom at least 200,000 should be girls;
3. To establish a unified system of compulsory education, providing free tuition for children up to 14 years of age, based not on the study of Latin but on the achievements of present-day culture and science. One hundred thousand free places should be assigned to enable talented boys and girls, with or without means, to continue their education;
4. Youth Centres and sports grounds to be established in each community and in each district.

These proposals must undoubtedly find reflection in parliamentary measures. It is particularly important that they should be made the broad basis for agitation, work and joint struggle for their implementation.

We must see to it that all young people interested in carrying out definite measures of the kind we have outlined fully appreciate that this cannot be done without a struggle for profound economic and social transformations in Italian society, without a fight for a radical change in the political and government line still being followed by the present dominating groups, the Christian Democratic Party in particular. It cannot be achieved without an effective social and political swing to the left, urgently demanded by the present objective situation in Italy.

The young people must fight in the front ranks, with all popular forces and with the verve and enthusiasm it has so often displayed, for an important demand: to put an end to the present situation, so grave and fraught with such great danger, and to dispel the distressing atmosphere of intrigue into which the country has been plunged by the political monopoly of the Christian Democratic Party.

This is essential to give a new impulse and orientation to the life of the nation. Youth must fight for the restoration of and respect for freedom and equality, for a policy of reform and social progress, for a policy of peace and national independence.

The swing to the left that we are demanding should pave the way for a rapprochement of all democratic forces working for the country's regeneration, and lead to the revision of Italy's entire foreign policy in order to make it, in the long run, more independent and more in line with the country's national interests.

The facts show that young people of all political trends are

fact that the responsibility for this rests on the present ruling classes. They coincide on the social demands to be advanced and at times their viewpoints also coincide in the search for the political allies necessary for winning these demands.

That is why, in welcoming every action taken by the young Catholics to explain grim living conditions and injustice, and noting each act reflecting their desire to regenerate the country, we must appeal to Catholic youth to set aside all discrimination and to wage a more open fight for the unity and co-operation of all popular forces. To work for a rapprochement, for mutual understanding and co-operation between the Communist and Catholic world—this is the honourable mission which every young Catholic, every young Socialist and every young Communist who seeks to make Italian society more just and humane, to make it possible for the younger generation to grow up in happiness, should be called upon to fulfil.

An important factor in carrying out this political line is our work and that of all our organisations, work that is based on a correct orientation and done with enthusiasm, fervour and the necessary confidence.

The line we have been following these last couple of years has, in the main, been the correct one. Substantial shortcomings have, however, come to light, and are to be seen in the poor application of the political line; they also reflect the uncertainty and weaknesses in the way questions are posed.

One grave defect is the gap that still exists between a knowledge of youth's problems on the one hand, and on the other, the concrete steps taken by organisations to solve these problems, to seek and establish contacts with all interested forces. An inability to link up youth's problems and demands with the political situation in the country and with the struggle waged by the popular masses has often made itself felt.

To eliminate these shortcomings, the groups, that is, the youth branches which are in direct contact with youth and are the key to the development of our entire activity, must improve their work. Every one of the major socio-economic demands we advance must be transformed into varied concrete measures carried through by these groups, which should mobilise their members and the masses of young people for the fight for work, for respect of youth's freedoms, its dignity and honour. But the tasks of a group are not confined to such activity. Our 8,500 groups must offer young people opportunities for cultural leisure such as no one else can provide. Groups must consequently satisfy to a greater extent than hitherto the young people's demand for sporting activities, their desire for knowledge and so on. If we give a new and original slant to even our simplest efforts to organise leisure facilities, if we utilise this activity for educating young people, helping them to make the first step forward in the world of knowledge so that they can subsequently become more skilled and enrich their understanding, then our groups will become fruitful educational centres, where political, moral and cultural levels are raised. To this end we must next



The first spoonful of this medicine has already made me feel better.
Drawing by Verdini from the Italian magazine *Vie Nuove*

Election Manifesto of the Brazilian Communist Party

In Brazil the President and Vice-President of the Republic and the governors of certain States will come up for re-election on October 3. In this connection the Central Committee of the Brazilian Communist Party has issued an election manifesto which gives a brief analysis of the economic and political situation in Brazil since the military coup d'etat which a year ago placed in power the most zealous agents of foreign monopolies. It declares that the Party supports Juscelino Kubitschek for President and João Goulart for Vice-President and exposes the two other candidates—Ademar de Barros, who has been nominated for the purpose of splitting the forces that are fighting against the threat of a new coup d'etat, and General Juarez Távora, who represents the fascist-minded generals supporting the coup d'etat and is in favour of granting oil concessions to Standard Oil of the U.S.A.

The manifesto urges all democrats to develop the election campaign into a powerful movement in defence of democratic liberties with a view to isolating the forces which seek to place in power those who support the military coup d'etat and to ensuring that free elections are held.

It also stresses that the victory of Kubitschek and Goulart would mean the defeat of the generals who intend to institute a regime of fascist military dictatorship, that it would give a fresh impetus to the struggle of the democratic and patriotic forces and could bring about radical changes in the balance of political forces to the advantage of the cause of peace and democracy, independence and progress for Brazil.

Rising Prices in Latin American Countries

Prices are soaring in the Latin American countries. According to official figures, during the first six months of this year the cost of living in Montevideo, capital of Uruguay, increased by 16%; between 1943 and June 30, 1955, it rose by 252.2%. Prices of foodstuffs have gone

POLITICAL NOTES

1. Apologists of International Tension

People generally praise what they like. As far as Mr. Carl Beck is concerned, he likes the "cold war"—the idea of a détente is anathema to him. In an article published by the *New York Herald Tribune*, he seems to perceive the conspiratorial strategy of Moscow—an invention of his own—in "every step" made by the Soviet Union. He is scared and annoyed, and the prospect of a strengthening of the friendly ties between the American and Soviet people makes him see red. He adjures the American public to "go forward". Where to? He himself supplies the answer: Along the road of "dynamic" cold war.

For the U.S.A., he declares, the "cold war" is a "crusade". And his desire, he announces, is to stem the powerful tide of revolutionary Communism.

Only a few advocates of the outworn "positions of strength" policy, it might be mentioned, now dare to be quite so candid about their political views as Beck has been. In the U.S.A. the ranks of those openly in favour of hostility and hatred between the peoples have shrunk to a marked degree—these people are now resorting to other means. In their attempts to distort widely-known facts, they are going in for all sorts of tricks and devices to belittle the significance of the Geneva Conference, to undermine confidence in its results, to poison the atmosphere just before the Uno disarmament subcommittee meets on August 29 and to show that there is no point in preparing for the Foreign Ministers' meeting in Geneva on October 27...

A most telling fact is that while millions of ordinary Americans have expressed deep satisfaction at the Soviet Government's decision to reduce the USSR's armed forces by 640,000 men, some of the more rabid supporters of the cold war have begun to spread all kind of rumours about the "secret motives" underlying this decision and its

alleged impracticability. This is the line taken by the not unknown U.S. Senator Knowland, who has declared that any relaxation of the anti-Communist measures still in force in certain Western countries will start up a chain reaction of catastrophic proportions.

Knowland's is not a lone voice crying in the wilderness. Others join in the chorus, such as American Federation of Labour President Meany, who advises Americans not to talk about the "achievements of Geneva".

Quite out of step with the times is the *New York Daily Mirror*, which has come out in support of Syngman Rhee's provocations and openly boasts that its correspondent, Drew Pearson, provided the inspiration for the "balloon curtain" over Czechoslovakia and Hungary from which, he boasts, 400 tons of leaflets have been dropped within the last four years, leaflets we would add, of a most provocative nature.

According to U.S. press reports, it is clear that the easing of world tension worries the representatives of big business, who see in it a threat to their arms shares. It is from them, one assumes, that all these slanderous, tendentious and pessimistic comments originate.

An improvement in Europe's political climate and the strengthening of confidence among states obviously goes against the grain of reactionary elements in the U.S.A. These elements, which for some years have been eulogising and conducting the "positions of strength" policy renounced and condemned by the peoples, continue their old game. The peace-loving peoples will not relax their efforts and will not allow themselves to be deceived by the Becks and Knowlands and their fellow advocates of the "cold war", the apologists of world tension.

2. The Wall of Shame

Via Marina is one of the finest streets in Naples, twisting and curving around the Bay of Naples, famous for its beauty.

However, the postcards of Vesuvius and its smoky cap, of the big hotels and palaces of Caracciolo Street, never portray a certain spot hidden behind the chimney-stacks of the port. But any passer-by or tram-driver will tell you where to find it: "You want to see the 'wall of shame'? Just go that way..."

Having done so, you arrive at a scene of desolation between Piliro and Ponte della Maddalena. Here over 450 gloomy dwellings are huddled together, constructed from old lorry cabins, rusty sheet iron and old joists and beams salvaged from war-time wreckage. Some of these "houses" are contrived from mud and wooden cases, from cardboard and tin, with old posters and

This destitute and poverty-stricken quarter has been built on bomb-damaged land. The shacks either sink in shell-holes or perch on heaps of rubble or refuse. And this place, alive with rats and insects, whose

diers and invalids, port workers and others who live there. They saw this wall creeping up, stone by stone, day by day, a screen to hide their poverty from the world, and they named it the "wall of shame".

"And where are the 350 thousand million lire which were assigned to Naples by a special law?" ask the workers. "What has happened to the law providing that districts destroyed during the bombings here shall be rebuilt?" These questions remain unanswered.

To conceal all the poverty of Naples, to hide from curious eyes all the city's slum-populated by more than 200,000 Neapolitans, one would need to build very long walls indeed!

Nevertheless, even such walls would not conceal the fact that out of the 1,011,949 people in Naples only 291,340 can be classified as employed—barely more than 28%. The average daily consumption of meat is

If our young people are to have a different life the face of the country must be completely transformed; there must be far-reaching changes in the economic and political structure of Italian society, it must be made into a socialist society. Our approach and task, however, are not confined to this, to intensified propaganda and a struggle for socialist ideals. The road to Socialism runs through day-to-day struggle against everything that impedes society's progress, and for Italy, through the implementation of the profound economic and social reforms outlined in our Constitution. An important contribution to this broad activity is the proposals advanced by the Congress of the Italian Communist Youth Federation to settle, by means of mass political struggle, the most urgent problems agitating young people. These proposals will form the basis of the immediate and future activities of young Communists and at the same time can form a platform for the discussion of the problems of its life and struggle among the whole of Italian youth and its organisations. There is reason to assume that as a result of these discussions and joint actions, and with the assistance of all youth movements, it will be possible to frame an "Italian youth charter", which will embody youth's de-

to put an end to the present situation, so grave and fraught with such great danger, and to dispel the distressing atmosphere of intrigue into which the country has been plunged by the political monopoly of the Christian Democratic Party.

This is essential to give a new impulse and orientation to the life of the nation. Youth must fight for the restoration of and respect for freedom and equality, for a policy of reform and social progress, for a policy of peace and national independence.

The swing to the left that we are demanding should pave the way for a rapprochement of all democratic forces working for the country's regeneration, and lead to the revision of Italy's entire foreign policy in order to make it, in the long run, more independent and more in line with the country's national interests.

The facts show that young people of all political trends are striving more and more to achieve common aims leading to Italy's regeneration. More and more frequently the political positions and ideals of young Communists and Socialists on the one hand, and the Catholic youth on the other, coincide, and this identity of views is revealed in the process of defining the causes of youth's appalling conditions, and in their recognition of the

which should mobilise their members and the masses of young people for the fight for work, for respect of youth's freedoms, its dignity and honour. But the tasks of a group are not confined to such activity. Our 8,500 groups must offer young people opportunities for cultural leisure such as no one else can provide. Groups must consequently satisfy to a greater extent than hitherto the young people's demand for sporting activities, their desire for knowledge and so on. If we give a new and original slant to even our simplest efforts to organise leisure facilities, if we utilise this activity for educating young people, helping them to make the first step forward in the world of knowledge so that they can subsequently become more skilled and enrich their understanding, then our groups will become fruitful educational centres, where political, moral and cultural levels are raised. To this end we must next year set up 5,000 libraries and organise 3,000 permanent amateur art and 1,000 anti-illiteracy groups.

We must intensify our mass cultural activities, our struggle for greater and better mastery of the powerful weapon of revolutionary ideology. This is necessary not only to accomplish the tasks facing us, but also in order to impart a new character to our entire organisation.

It also stresses that the victory of Kubitschek and Goulart would mean the defeat of the generals who intend to institute a regime of fascist military dictatorship, that it would give a fresh impetus to the struggle of the democratic and patriotic forces and could bring about radical changes in the balance of political forces to the advantage of the cause of peace and democracy, independence and progress for Brazil.

Rising Prices In Latin American Countries

Prices are soaring in the Latin American countries. According to official figures, during the first six months of this year the cost of living in Montevideo, capital of Uruguay, increased by 16%; between 1943 and June 30, 1955, it rose by 252.2%. Prices of foodstuffs have gone up by 281%, clothes by 296% and rents by 158%. The prices of individual foodstuffs increased as follows: meat 518%, cheese 388%, coffee 427%, eggs 327% and so on.

According to data published in the newspaper *El Siglo*, in the past five years the cost of living in Chile rose by 250%. Last year alone the prices of foodstuffs went up by 76%. If the present rate of increase is maintained, the cost of living this year will rise by 140%.

Having done so, you arrive at a scene of desolation between Piliro and Ponte della Maddalena. Here over 450 gloomy dwellings are huddled together, constructed from old lorry cabins, rusty sheet iron and old joists and beams salvaged from war-time wreckage. Some of these "houses" are constructed from mud and wooden cases, from cardboard and tin, with old posters and sacking in the windows.

This destitute and poverty-stricken quarter has been built on bomb-damaged land. The shacks either sink in shell-holes or perch on heaps of rubble or refuse. And this place, alive with rats and insects, where the skeletons of air-raid victims are still frequently found, is the playground of children—anaemic and suffering from rickets, who gaze mournfully out of bleary, inflamed eyes.

Fearing that this utter poverty might shock the tender feelings of the NATO troops and foreign tourists in Naples, the Mayor of the town sought for some way of disguising the true face of the town. He decided to erect a curtain of stone around this terrible place. It would be difficult to believe that this decision was actually taken, had the practical results not been seen by the ex-sol-

"And where were assigned to Naples by a special law?" ask the workers. "What happened to the law providing that districts destroyed during the bombings here shall be rebuilt?" These questions remain unanswered.

To conceal all the poverty of Naples, to hide from curious eyes all the city's slums populated by more than 200,000 Neapolitans, one would need to build very long walls indeed!

Nevertheless, even such walls would not conceal the fact that out of the 1,011,919 people in Naples only 291,340 can be classified as employed—barely more than 28%. The average daily consumption of meat by a Neapolitan is 9 grammes, whereas in Turin it is 54. No walls can conceal the fact that in 25% of all the houses in Naples there are five people to one room.

The people of Naples, insulted by the decision of Mayor Achille Lauro, a shipowner, to establish something very like a concentration camp for the poor in the heart of the capital of Southern Italy, are protesting indignantly, and demanding that the "wall of shame" be demolished and proper houses built for the people.

Jan MAREK

BOOK REVIEW

Intensification of Labour and Living Conditions in France

Assisted by the leadership of the French Communist Party, the Marxist economic journal *Economie et Politique*, which actively defends the interests of the working class in its struggle against growing exploitation by the capitalists, recently held a study session in Paris on labour productivity and the living conditions of the French workers. Comparisons and analyses were made there of the scientific research in the subject by economists, technicians, physicians and sociologists and of the practical experience of the workers themselves—the immediate victims of the growth of so-called labour productivity in France. Attended by over 200 people, of whom more than half were factory and office workers, these studies were a great success. Comrade Jeannette Vermeersch, member of the Political Bureau of the French Communist Party, made the closing speech.



The Editorial Office issued the main documents of the study session in pamphlet form, as a supplement to the 13th issue of the journal, under the title *Productivity Versus the Working Class*.*

The drive to raise the productivity of labour by the speed-up system is not a new phenomenon under capitalism. The new element that has appeared in this field in France—as in many other capitalist countries—in recent years is the fact that

the trusts are carrying on an exceptionally vigorous campaign to increase labour productivity and are using it on the ideological plane to split and deceive the working people, to vitiate their class consciousness and to draw them onto the path of reformist illusions and class collaboration with the bourgeoisie. To achieve this some try to disseminate the long-explored idea that in reality there are no classes and

no class antagonisms in bourgeois society, that these were invented by Marx; others assert that if classes do still exist, the differences between them are diminishing. This provides the ideological foundation for reformism in the working-class movement. They would also have the workers believe that their wages are a "just" reward for their labour, and that insofar as the interests of the workers and capitalists "coincide" and the income of capitalist and worker depends upon their "labour" and their respective "merits", the establishment of "good understanding" and "good relations" between them is desirable.

Capitalists make a lot of noise about the so-called "human factors" by which, in this case, they mean the use of psychological methods in "selecting" workers, the social and ideological "education" of cadres, etc. and also conditions of work.

The capitalists, the right-wing Socialists and the church strive to conceal the real purpose of these measures; they affirm that their object is man and his needs. Moreover, one bourgeois ideologist,

M. Fourastié, has even tried to provide ideological justification for the present campaign "to raise labour productivity". According to him it is necessary to hammer into the heads of French workers the idea that raising labour productivity improves the life of the people, that it makes it possible "to increase the size of the general pie and each individual's share of it".

Employing all modern methods of propaganda in this campaign—cinema, press, radio, etc.—the monopolists pursue a double aim: on the one hand they want to multiply their already fabulous profits, on the other to strike a blow at the ideology of the working class, at Marxism-Leninism.

The following facts speak of the immense and varied means employed in this campaign. Within five years more than 4,000 persons have been sent to the U.S.A. to familiarise themselves with the speed-up methods used there. Over 2,000 books have been written on the subject. Thousands of millions of francs have been and are being spent on courses and schools at which industrialists, foremen and engineers receive ideological and special training. Hundreds of millions of francs are handed to the trade union confederations, such as the Confédération Française des Travailleurs Chrétiens, Force Ouvrière and Confédération Générale des Cadres, as a reward for their support in this campaign. Over 250 factory newspapers, published by the managements, are circulated free of charge among two million or so employees.

Exposing the real purposes of the industrialists, *Productivity Versus the Working Class* shows that intensification of labour results in the impoverishment of the working class. It is also the main means for accumulating

capital and a source of unprecedented growth of profits. In proof, the pamphlet cites revealing facts. At the Renault plants, for instance, labour productivity increased by 12% between January 1952 and January 1954, while profits rose by 46%. But the total payroll remained practically stationary. Between 1938 and 1954 the output of the modern electrical-equipment industry, in which over 140,000 workers are employed, rose by 172%, the number of workers by 42%, the hourly rate of labour productivity by 70% and profits by more than 40%. Over the same period the length of the working day in this industry increased on an average by 24%, and the average increase in the tempo of work was approximately 30%, while real wages per hour fell by 25%. Hence it is clear that the "pie" this industry's factories are producing really has grown, as has the share taken by the capitalists, but that the share received by the workers has become still smaller—a striking example not only of the relative but also of the absolute impoverishment of the working people.

The speed-up system brings with it a sharp increase in industrial accidents. Between 1947 and 1954 their number increased, according to official sources, by 22% (from 1,567,000 to 1,920,000). It is noteworthy that this growth is observed not only in the total number of accidents, but particularly in the number of serious injuries (those which are fatal or result in permanent disability). Thus between 1948 and 1953 these increased from 37,500 to 63,790, that is, by 70%. The speed-up system also results in growing unemployment. The Salmont plant in Armentières is today operating with one-third of its former personnel and getting the same amount of work turned out. In the textile industry women who have reached the age of 35 are looked upon as "too old" and ruthlessly discharged or transferred to inferior jobs with lower pay. The pamphlet cites a great many other similar examples.

The industrialists and their apologists are trying to disseminate false "theories" about

the significance and the aims of the growth of labour productivity under Socialism. The pamphlet therefore gives considerable space to explaining the meaning and significance of this growth under Socialism. It shows the radical difference between this and its purpose under capitalism. Whereas under the latter increased labour productivity results in higher profits for the exploiters and greater impoverishment for the working people, under Socialism it means increasing the wealth of the whole of society, consolidating the working people's state and improving their well-being. The pamphlet also shows that under Socialism, as is proved by the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies, labour productivity is increased not by intensifying labour and lengthening the working day but by greater mechanisation and improving the organisation of labour and production, by raising the cultural and technical level of the working people. Capitalists, of course, also introduce new techniques, if they find it profitable, but these bring in their train fresh intensification of labour, further exhaustion of the workers and increased unemployment.

In her concluding speech at the study session, which also appears at the end of the pamphlet, Jeannette Vermeersch emphasises that the question of labour productivity should always be examined in the light of the given relations of production. To approach this problem from the narrow technical point of view is to depart from the Marxist attitude. In view of this, Communists, trade unions and working-class activists must expose the super-exploitation of the working people and all illusions and lies about "the possibility of organising the capitalist world". They must fight everything that can interfere with the struggle of the working class, upholding the demands of the working people step by step, showing that the only path leading to victory is that of unity, because all workers, irrespective of what trade union

they belong to, their personal abilities, etc., are victims of the employers' drive "to raise labour productivity".

"All this", Jeannette Vermeersch points out, "demands a great deal of thought, work and devotion from each one of us. We must have the courage to explain and organise the day-to-day struggle for bread and for the future. We must have the courage to show the working class that economic problems, those concerning its daily bread, those concerning the transformation of society, are closely bound up with political problems; that there can be no liberation for the working class unless the power of the bourgeoisie, the bourgeois state, is brought to an end; that while struggling for its bread, the working class must also fight the policy of bourgeois governments, the false theories that these problems can be resolved by economic means alone. We must reveal the close connection between the hardships of the masses and the policy of the government; we must show the necessity of fighting for the democratic freedoms, for peace and national independence."

By exposing the capitalists' drive "to raise labour productivity", *Productivity versus the Working Class* makes a valuable contribution to the struggle of the proletariat for its demands, for better living and working conditions. The proof is to be seen in the letters the Party leadership has been receiving from activists since the pamphlet appeared. In one such letter, published in *l'Humanité*, an activist in the Marchal Works in Courbevoie thanks the Party for having thus helped him to understand the errors he had made in his work and to fight more efficiently for the interests of the workers. He asks that everything possible be done to put the pamphlet into the hands of all Communists.

René LOUIS

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