

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

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An Important Contribution to Peace and Co-operation Between States

The safeguarding of world peace, the strengthening of friendly relations and co-operation among states constitute the main aim of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic and all the People's Democracies. The outcome of the negotiations between the government delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic and the results of the Soviet-Finnish talks provide fresh and vivid testimony of the Soviet Union's consistent and unremitting efforts to achieve this noble aim.

A profound, sincere and truly fraternal friendship binds the Soviet Union—a country building Communism—and the German Democratic Republic—the first really peace-loving and democratic state in the history of Germany, a worker-peasant state. They are linked by a community of interests, a community of world outlook. The working people of the German Democratic Republic have taken the path of socialist construction. In the interests of the entire German working people they are carrying out a great task: they are working to build a society in which there is no exploitation of man by man, in which man will be the friend of man, in which the fruits of labour and science will be placed at the service of the people. The fact that the German Democratic Republic enjoys the support of reliable and powerful friends—the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic, Poland, Czechoslovakia and other democratic countries—contributes to its successful development.

The good and friendly relations that have come into being between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic have been developed further in the results of the Moscow talks which culminated in the signing of the Treaty on Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic. This historic agreement marks a new stage in the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, and fully corresponds to the interests of the Soviet and German peoples, of all the peoples of Europe.

Article 1 of the Treaty reads: The contracting parties solemnly confirm that the relations between them are based on com-

people, regarding this as a decisive factor for the safeguarding of peace in Europe. It has decided to establish diplomatic relations with the German Federal Republic. It sincerely wishes to have normal, good relations with it. A reciprocal desire on the part of the Government of the German Federal Republic would go far towards easing tension in Germany, safeguarding European security and solving the principal national problem of the entire German people—the restoration of unity to a German democratic state.

The Treaty governing relations between the USSR and the GDR and the other documents adopted as a result of the talks contribute to the further strengthening of the German Democratic Republic—a fact of exceptional importance to the success of the German people's struggle for peace and national unity. This Treaty is an expression of the new type of relations that have arisen between the states belonging to the camp of democracy and Socialism; it is one more outstanding example of how the working people must build up state relations based on disinterested friendship, having the well-being and tranquil life of the peoples as their sole object.

Great international significance attaches to the visit of the President of the Finnish Republic to the Soviet Union and to the outcome of the Soviet-Finnish negotiations, which further strengthened the friendly ties between the Soviet and Finnish peoples.

The relations between the USSR and Finland are based on the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance concluded on April 6, 1948. This Treaty provided conditions for the development of friendship and mutual confidence between the Soviet and Finnish peoples, for the development of Soviet-Finnish political, economic and cultural relations. At the same time, it helps to strengthen peace and security in the northern part of Europe. Soviet-Finnish relations graphically confirm the correctness of the thesis concerning the possibility of the peaceful coexistence of states—both big and small—irrespective of differences in their social systems.

In an atmosphere of genuine confidence, cordiality and mutual understanding, the statesmen of the USSR and Finland adopted decisions: they prolonged the co-operation

FINAL COMMUNIQUE On the Talks Between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic

The final communique on the talks between the government delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, published on September 21, reads:

Talks between the government delegation of the Soviet Union and the government delegation of the German Democratic Republic were held in Moscow from September 17 to 20.

Participating in the talks from the Soviet side were: N. A. Bulganin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR; I. G. Kabanov, Minister of Foreign Trade; V. S. Semyonov, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; G. M. Pushkin, Soviet Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the GDR; S. G. Lapin, Chief of the Third European Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Participating in the talks from the side of the German Democratic Republic were: Otto Grotewohl, Prime Minister of the GDR; Walter Ulbricht, Deputy Prime Minister; Willi Stoph, Deputy Prime Minister; Otto Nuschke, Deputy Prime Minister; Bruno Leuschner, Chairman of the State Planning Commission; Johannes Koenig, GDR Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to the USSR; Peter Florin, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Commission of the People's Chamber; Professor Erich Correns, Chairman of the Presidium of the National Council of the National Front of Democratic Germany; Berthold Rose, General Secretary of the Democratic Peasant Party; Manfred Gerlach, General Secretary of the Secretary of the Democratic Party; Ambassador Fritz Grosse, secretary of the delegation.

In the course of the talks major problems relating to the strengthening and further development of friendly relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic were discussed.

The talks took place in a friendly and cordial atmosphere and concluded with the signing of a "Treaty on Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and

the German Democratic Republic". The two parties expressed their firm conviction that this Treaty, based on the principles of equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, will help to strengthen and further develop the friendly relations and close co-operation already existing between the USSR and the GDR. The two parties are also convinced that the Treaty will be a vital factor in strengthening peace and security in Europe and will thereby promote the restoration of Germany's unity as a peace-loving and democratic state.

An exchange of views took place during the talks on international questions of interest to both parties, among them questions relating to the forthcoming conference in Geneva of the Foreign Ministers of the Four Powers. The two parties confirmed that for the discussion of questions concerning Germany at that conference to be fruitful the participation of the Government of the German Democratic Republic as well as that of the German Federal Republic was required.

An exchange of views took place on the question of the former German war prisoners still remaining in the USSR, who are serving sentences for their crimes. In view of the representations of the President and the Government of the German Democratic Republic on this question and also taking into consideration the request of the Government of the German Federal Republic, the Soviet Government declared that it would examine this question in a favourable light and submit its proposals to the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

Published simultaneously with the above communique were the "Treaty on Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic", signed in Moscow on September 20, and the text of the letters exchanged between V. A. Zorin, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR, and Lothar Bolz, Minister of Foreign Affairs of the GDR.

T R E A T Y On Relations Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the President of the German Democratic Republic,

Prompted by a desire to develop close co-operation and further strengthen the friendly relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic on a basis of equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs;

Bearing in mind the new situation that has arisen with the coming into force of the Paris agreements of 1954;

Convinced that the concerted efforts of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic to promote the maintenance and consolidation of world peace and security in Europe, and also to restore the unity of Germany as a peace-loving and democratic state and to achieve a peaceful contractual settlement with Germany, accord with the interests of the Soviet and German peoples, as also with the interests of the other European peoples;

Taking into consideration the commitments of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic under existing international agreements relating to Germany as a whole.

Have resolved to conclude the present Treaty and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries:

Article 3.

In conformity with the interests of the two countries and adhering to the principles of friendship, the contracting parties agree to develop and strengthen the economic, scientific, technical and cultural relations existing between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic, to render each other all possible economic assistance and to put into practice the necessary economic, scientific and technical co-operation.

Article 4.

The Soviet troops at present stationed on the territory of the German Democratic Republic in conformity with existing international agreements shall for the time being remain in the German Democratic Republic with the consent of its Government on conditions which shall be defined by a supplementary agreement between the Government of the Soviet Union and the Government of the German Democratic Republic.

The Soviet troops temporarily stationed on the territory of the German Democratic Republic shall not interfere in the internal affairs of the German Democratic Republic or in the public and political life of the country.

Article 5.

T R E A T Y

On Relations Between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic

The relations between the USSR and Finland are based on the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance concluded on April 6, 1948. This Treaty provided conditions for the development of friendship and mutual confidence between the Soviet and Finnish peoples, for the development of Soviet-Finnish political, economic and cultural relations. At the same time it helps to strengthen peace and security in the northern part of Europe. Soviet-Finnish relations graphically confirm the correctness of the thesis concerning the possibility of the peaceful coexistence of states—both big and small—irrespective of differences in their social systems.

In an atmosphere of genuine confidence, cordiality and mutual understanding, the statesmen of the USSR and Finland adopted important decisions: they prolonged the Soviet-Finnish Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance for 20 years and signed an Agreement on the Soviet Union's relinquishment of the right to utilise the territory of Porkkala-Udd as a naval base and on the withdrawal of Soviet armed forces from this area. These decisions serve to further strengthen the friendly relations and mutual confidence between Finland and the Soviet Union, to consolidate peace and promote the relaxation of international tension.

The results of the talks between the government delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic and of the Soviet-Finnish talks have captured the attention of the world. The peoples of Europe, peace-loving people in all countries and on all continents heartily approve these results, looking upon them as a vital contribution to the strengthening of peace and international security.

Acting in the "spirit of Geneva", the Soviet Union is taking concrete steps to ease international tension. This is borne out by the facts: the reduction of the strength of its armed forces by 640,000 men, the agreement on the establishment of diplomatic relations with the German Federal Republic, the restoration of the Porkkala-Udd base to Finland, the historic talks between the USSR and the German Democratic Republic. The Soviet Union has declared itself prepared immediately to withdraw its troops from Germany if the U.S.A., Britain and France do the same.

The "spirit of Geneva" calls for similar concrete steps on the part of the Western powers as well. There can be no doubt that if they took steps to reduce their armed forces, stop the arms drive and abolish their military bases on alien territories they would be making a vital contribution to the further relaxation of international tension and the elimination of distrust from the relations between states.

By taking concrete steps in the interests of further easing international tension, the Soviet Union is making an invaluable contribution to the consolidation of peace. Peace-loving men and women warmly approve the policy of the Soviet Union—a policy of peace and international co-operation—and consider it their duty to support it in every way they can.

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the President of the German Democratic Republic, Prompted by a desire to develop close co-operation and further strengthen the friendly relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic on a basis of equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and non-interference in internal affairs;

Bearing in mind the new situation that has arisen with the coming into force of the Paris agreements of 1954;

Convinced that the concerted efforts of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic to promote the maintenance and consolidation of world peace and security in Europe, and also to restore the unity of Germany as a peace-loving and democratic state and to achieve a peaceful contractual settlement with Germany, accord with the interests of the Soviet and German peoples, as also with the interests of the other European peoples;

Taking into consideration the commitments of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic under existing international agreements relating to Germany as a whole,

Have resolved to conclude the present Treaty and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries:

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics—N. A. Bulganin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR,

The President of the German Democratic Republic—Otto Grotewohl, Prime Minister of the German Democratic Republic, who, after presentation of their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed on the following provisions:

Article 1.

The contracting parties solemnly confirm that the relations between them are based on complete equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

In conformity with this the German Democratic Republic is free to settle questions relating to its internal and foreign policy, including its relations with the German Federal Republic, and also to develop relations with other states.

Article 2.

The contracting parties declare their readiness to take part, in a spirit of genuine co-operation, in all international acts designed to safeguard peace and security in Europe and throughout the world and which are in conformity with the principles of the United Nations Charter

To this end they will consult each other on all important international problems affecting the interests of the two states and take all measures open to them to prevent the violation of peace.

Article 3.

In conformity with the interests of the two countries and adhering to the principles of friendship, the contracting parties agree to develop and strengthen the economic, scientific, technical and cultural relations existing between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic, to render each other all possible economic assistance and to put into practice the necessary economic, scientific and technical co-operation.

Article 4.

The Soviet troops at present stationed on the territory of the German Democratic Republic in conformity with existing international agreements shall for the time being remain in the German Democratic Republic with the consent of its Government on conditions which shall be defined by a supplementary agreement between the Government of the Soviet Union and the Government of the German Democratic Republic.

The Soviet troops temporarily stationed on the territory of the German Democratic Republic shall not interfere in the internal affairs of the German Democratic Republic or in the public and political life of the country.

Article 5.

The contracting parties are agreed that their primary objective is to achieve a peaceful settlement for the whole of Germany by means of appropriate negotiations. In conformity with this they shall make the efforts necessary for a peaceful contractual settlement and the restoration of the unity of Germany on peaceable and democratic lines.

Article 6.

The present Treaty shall have force until the restoration of the unity of Germany as a peace-loving and democratic state, or until the contracting parties come to an agreement to alter or terminate the present Treaty.

Article 7.

The present Treaty shall be ratified and shall come into force upon the date of exchange of instruments of ratification, which shall take place in Berlin in the nearest future.

Done in the city of Moscow this twentieth day of September 1955 in two copies, each in the Russian and German languages, both texts being equally authentic.

On behalf
of the Presidium of the Supreme
Soviet of the USSR
N. BULGANIN

On behalf
of the President of the
German Democratic Republic
Otto GROTEWOHL

SOVIET-FINNISH COMMUNIQUE

On the Visit to Moscow of J. K. Paasikivi, President of the Finnish Republic

The communique on the visit to Moscow of J. K. Paasikivi, President of the Finnish Republic, published on September 20, reads:

At the invitation of K. E. Voroshilov, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, J. K. Paasikivi, President of the Finnish Republic, visited the Soviet Union, arriving on September 16 and leaving on September 20. He was accompanied by Prime Minister U. Kekkonen; Minister of Defence E. Skog; Minister R. Sveto; Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs R. Seppaelae.

K. E. Voroshilov and J. K. Paasikivi exchanged views on questions affecting Soviet-Finnish relations and certain international problems.

Participating in the exchange of views on the Soviet side were: N. A. Bulganin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR; N. S. Khrushchev, Member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR; V. M. Molotov, First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR and Minister of Foreign Affairs; M. G. Pervukhin, First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

Participating in the exchange of views from the side of the Finnish Republic were: U. Kekkonen, Prime Minister; E. Skog, Minister of Defence; R. Sveto, Minister; and R. Seppaelae, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The talks were conducted in a spirit of genuine confidence, cordiality and mutual understanding and were permeated by the desire of both sides to further strengthen the friendly relations existing between Finland and the Soviet Union, relations that are based on equality, non-interference in each other's internal affairs, respect for each other's state sovereignty and national independence, in accordance with the aims and principles of the United Nations Organisation.

The two sides noted with satisfaction the development of fruitful co-operation in the economic and cultural spheres, which has found reflection, in particular, in the conclusion of a new, long-term trade agreement between the USSR and Finland and an agreement on scientific and technical co-operation. Both sides expressed their intention to continue to develop such co-operation in the interests of both countries.

The parties are in full agreement that the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance between the USSR and Finland, contracted on April 6, 1948, constitutes a firm basis for consolidating the friendly relations between the Soviet Union and Finland and contributes to the strengthening of peace and security in northern Europe. They agreed to prolong this Treaty for 20 years and signed an appropriate Protocol to this effect.

Taking into consideration the good-neighbourly relations between the USSR and Finland and also the fact that some relaxation in international tension has taken place in the recent period, particularly as a result of the Geneva Heads of Government Conference, the Soviet Government, to meet the interests of Finland, has deemed it possible to relinquish its right to the lease of the Finnish territory of Porkkala-Udd, conceded to the Soviet Union for 50 years under the Peace Treaty with Finland of February 10, 1947, for the purpose of establishing a naval base. In this connection the Soviet Government has decided to abolish its naval base at Porkkala-Udd, to withdraw its troops from that area and to hand over to Finland the Porkkala-Udd territory. The Soviet Government will at the same time transfer to the Government of Finland, free of charge, the dwellings, communal premises, storehouses and other premises, together with the port facilities with quays and other installations erected by the Soviet side on the territory of Porkkala-Udd.

The Government of the Soviet Union and the Government of Finland confirmed that in the sphere of foreign policy their efforts will continue to be directed at further easing international tension and promoting the cause of peace and the security of the peoples.

During the course of the talks all questions affecting Finnish-Soviet relations were frankly and thoroughly discussed by the Finnish and Soviet participants, with both sides expressing their views.

This exchange of views between the President of the Finnish Republic and those accompanying him, on the one hand, and leading statesmen of the Soviet Union, on the other, an exchange conducted in an atmosphere of complete confidence and in a friendly spirit that accorded with the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance of 1948, will serve to consolidate further the friendly ties and mutual confidence between Finland and the Soviet Union for the good and happiness of the peoples of Finland and the Soviet Union.

Published simultaneously with the above communique were the texts of the Protocol, signed in Moscow on September 19, between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Finnish Republic, prolonging the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance of April 6, 1948, and of the Agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Finnish Republic on the Soviet Union's relinquishment of its right to use the territory of Porkkala-Udd as a naval base and on the withdrawal of Soviet armed forces from this area.

Peaceable Move of the Government of the Bulgarian People's Republic

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria has resolved to reduce the strength of its armed forces by 18,000 men by December 31, 1955.

The funds thus released will be employed for housing construction and other social and cultural needs. The discharged men will be provided with jobs in industrial enterprises, offices or on farms.

Union, the Chinese People's Republic, Poland, Czechoslovakia and other democratic countries—contributes to its successful development.

The good and friendly relations that have come into being between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic have been developed further in the results of the Moscow talks which culminated in the signing of the Treaty on Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic. This historic document marks a new stage in the development of relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, and fully corresponds to the interests of the Soviet and German peoples, of all the peoples of Europe.

Article 1 of the Treaty reads: The contracting parties solemnly confirm that the relations between them are based on complete equality, mutual respect for sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs. In conformity with this the German Democratic Republic is free to settle questions relating to its internal and foreign policy, including its relations with the German Federal Republic, and also to develop relations with other states.

Members of the government delegation of the German Democratic Republic justifiably emphasized that this Treaty, which sets the seal on the genuine sovereignty of the German Democratic Republic differs, as day from night, from the treaties contracted between the Bonn Government and the Western powers, treaties that restrict the rights of the German Federal Republic and guarantee the Western occupation powers the right to station their troops in Western Germany for a period of 50 years and interfere in its domestic affairs.

The Treaty takes full account of the new situation that has developed in connection with the coming into force of the Paris agreements of 1954, agreements that have created grave obstacles to the reunification of the two parts of Germany in a united democratic state. The remilitarisation of Western Germany and its admission to the North Atlantic military pact represent such serious obstacles.

How, in these conditions, can the German problem be solved, how can the cherished aspirations of the German people for their reunification be satisfied? There can only be one answer to this question: the solution of the German problem must be left to the German people themselves. It is the Germans themselves who will find the best way of reuniting Germany as a peace-loving and democratic state. There can be no doubt that the Treaty on Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic will in large measure contribute to the rapprochement of the two parts of Germany and the solution of the German problem on a democratic and peaceable basis. The forthcoming Four-Power Foreign Ministers' Conference in Geneva will discuss questions relating to Germany. That this discussion may be fruitful it is necessary for the Government of the German Democratic Republic, as well as the Government of the German Federal Republic, to take part.

The Soviet Union desires to establish friendly relations with the entire German

TALKS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT DELEGATIONS OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

From September 17-20 talks were held in Moscow between the government delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic on the further steps to be taken to develop and strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries.

The opening statement was made by N. A. Bulganin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

Our talks, said Bulganin, are of special significance. They are talks between countries that are united by common interests and a deep and sincere friendship. The relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic are imbued with the spirit of mutual confidence and solidarity; they are based on complete equality, respect for each other's sovereignty and non-interference in each other's internal affairs.

The second world war brought about fundamental changes in the position of the European peoples and particularly in that of the German people. Great democratic transformations were wrought in the eastern part of Germany, with the result that the people themselves, the German workers, peasants and working intelligentsia, came to power. For the first time in the history of Germany there was established and is now successfully developing a genuinely peace-loving and democratic state embodying the finest ideals championed through many long years by Germany's progressive men and women.

Of course, Bulganin went on, you have to cope with no few difficulties arising from the remodelling of social relations and the struggle against those forces seeking to hamper your advance. The difficulties the German Democratic Republic is encountering are difficulties of growth. It must be said that in their day the Soviet people experienced incomparably greater difficulties. We stood alone, with the whole capitalist world arrayed against us. The German Democratic Republic is not alone. It has the support of reliable and powerful friends—the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic, Poland, Czechoslovakia and the other countries of the democratic camp.

The international prestige of the German Democratic Republic is growing with every passing year. And no talk about "not recognising" the German Democratic Republic can prevent this growth. The German Democratic Republic exists and is developing successfully because it is a state that has deep roots in the history and life of the German people. We are certain that it will continue to grow stronger in future too, whether anyone likes it or not.

N. A. Bulganin went on to describe the recent talks between the government delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic and their results as an important step towards the normalisation of relations between these countries which offers new opportunities of easing tension in Germany and safeguarding European security.

If we look back and trace the development of the relations between the USSR and the German Democratic Republic in recent times, N. A. Bulganin went on, we can note with gratification that the co-operation between them is growing ever more comprehensive and fruitful.

When a Soviet government delegation

Following this, Otto Grotewohl, Prime Minister of the German Democratic Republic, made a statement. He pointed out that by virtue of the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance, both states—the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic—were already linked in a system of alliance that accorded with the political and economic interests of the member-states and with their security interests.

We hold, declared Grotewohl, that it is now time to give final state and juridical form to all the questions involved in deepening and broadening political, economic and cultural co-operation and all other relations between our states.

At the session of September 19, following a report by Lothar Bolz, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the German Democratic Republic, on the draft of a "Treaty on Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic", Deputy Prime Minister Walter Ulbricht took the floor.

The treaty between our states, he said, would be an expression of the new relations between the states belonging to the democratic and socialist camp. It would help peace-loving Germans to strengthen peace and bring home to them the fact that never would the whole of Germany be subjected to the dictatorship of NATO and the West German militarists.

Speaking of the foreign troops stationed on Germany's territory, Ulbricht declared that as long as the Western powers had no intention of withdrawing their troops from Western Germany and abolishing their military bases, the presence of Soviet troops on GDR territory was a necessity.

The next to speak was Otto Nuschke, Deputy Prime Minister of the GDR. He pointed out that the treaty between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic would be as different as day is from night from the so-called German agreement, which forms an integral part of the Paris agreements. "Here genuine sovereignty is accorded, our sovereignty is guaranteed by treaty provisions; in Bonn there is the semblance of sovereignty", he said.

In his speech Berthold Rose, General Secretary of the Democratic Peasant Party, declared that the peasants of the GDR would vigorously support the agreements reached in Moscow between the government delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic.

The following speaker, Lothar Bolz, dwelt on the relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, relations which are an expression of a community of interests, profound and sincere friendship, mutual trust and solidarity.

Erich Correns, Chairman of the Presidium of the National Council of the National Front of Democratic Germany, observed that the historic Conference in Geneva this July and the successful talks between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic had been followed by a détente in relations between the nations and that this was markedly promoting the cause of world peace. A new situation had therefore arisen for the German people which was of paramount significance from the point of view of the possibilities of reuniting Germany as a peace-loving and democratic state. The slogan "Germans, around one table!"

In conformity with the treaty, Bulganin continued, the GDR was free to settle problems relating to its internal and foreign policy. In connection with this, the Soviet Government had examined the question of preserving the office of High Commissioner of the USSR in Germany and considered it inexpedient to do so. It considered it expedient to state that the relative laws, directives, decrees and other regulations issued by the Control Council in Germany between 1945 and 1948 should no longer have effect on the territory of the German Democratic Republic.

The following speaker, N. S. Khrushchev, member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, spoke of the immense significance for the development of the German Democratic Republic of close co-operation between the political parties united in the National Front of Democratic Germany.

The problem facing the German people, one on which the attention of millions of Germans is centred, continued Khrushchev, is their reunification in a single German peace-loving democratic state. We are always ready to assist in the solution of this problem with all our energy. We are realists: in considering any political problem and in considering this particular problem we must weigh the existing circumstances soberly. The reunification of the German state in a manner that would be of benefit to the German people and the peoples of Europe does not depend upon one side alone. Two sides are involved: the German Democratic Republic and the German Federal Republic. In addition, there are four other states which are bound by definite conditions and commitments and whose views on the solution of the German question also differ to this day. And so we must not harbour false illusions.

As you know, the Foreign Ministers of the Four Powers are soon to meet in Geneva, where, among other things, they will discuss the problem of Germany. Our point of view on this question is clear. What I want to do now is to touch on concrete facts. And the facts are that out of the four states whose Foreign Ministers are to meet in Geneva, three belong to NATO and one does not. Moreover, it is against the latter that NATO is directed. The Governments of the three states and the Government of the German Federal Republic want Germany to be reunified on their terms, and they also want the reunified Germany to become a member of NATO. Such a course, I believe, does not accord with the interests of the German people, with the interests of the security of the peoples of Europe, nor does it conduce to the relaxation of international tension. We certainly cannot concur in events developing in a way that would strengthen the North Atlantic military bloc (NATO), which is directed against the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy.

The question arises: how then will the German people's hopes of reunification be realised: will the status quo be permanent? asked Khrushchev. Our answer is clear and explicit: the Germans must themselves settle this question. Germans around one table! No one is better fitted to decide the German problem than the Germans themselves. The reunification of Germany must be accomplished in such a way as to ensure that a united German state will be peace-loving and democratic, in such a way as

fruits of science are placed in the service of all people. If all peoples were to take such a path of development, this would exclude the possibility not only of war but of any kind of armed conflict.

The working people of the German Democratic Republic have taken the path of socialist construction. This is something of great historical importance in the life of the German people. And along this path you have our support. We wish you complete success in your great and constructive work. We are certain that you will achieve fresh successes along this path. The building of Socialism in the German Democratic Republic is a matter of such supreme importance that just now it is even difficult to find words that would adequately convey the whole import and magnitude of the task.

N. S. Khrushchev underlined that the struggle for Socialism and the building of a socialist German state was, of course, the domestic affair of the German working class and the German people.

We know, he said, that the words and assurances of the representatives of the German Democratic Republic, with which we are now successfully conducting negotiations, are not at variance with their deeds and we feel sure that this will continue to be the case. Our friendship and mutual confidence will gain in strength with each passing day.

We hope, too, that the relations between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic will also develop satisfactorily in the future. But, as a Russian saying puts it: Time will tell. We on our part will do everything we can to promote the successful development of relations between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic.

N. S. Khrushchev then dwelt on the question of ex-prisoners-of-war and expressed the view that the request made for their release before their terms were up might be granted.

Having pointed out that the stationing of Soviet troops on the territory of the GDR was a temporary measure, N. S. Khrushchev said:

We shall, together with you, unremittingly work for agreement between the states on a general reduction of armed forces and the withdrawal of Soviet, U.S., British and French troops from Germany. Were the U.S.A., Britain and France prepared to do this today, we could settle the question right away. We are prepared to withdraw our troops from Germany providing our partners in the war against Hitler Germany are prepared to do the same.

We have hopes of settling this question in the future. The Geneva Heads of Government Conference has engendered this hope. We trust that the spirit of Geneva will develop and consolidate, not, however, in the shape of an invisible and intangible spirit, but in the form of concrete actions, such as ours when we decided to reduce our armed forces by 640,000 men, when we relinquished our right to the lease of the naval base of Porkkala-Udd in Finland, and took a number of other measures. We expect our Geneva partners to reciprocate, upon which we could follow up with new proposals.

Certain bourgeois statesmen have levelled at us the reproach that we went no further than smiling and acting in a friendly manner. But aren't the facts I have cited

In Communist and Workers' Parties

LENIN'S BIOGRAPHY PUBLISHED IN BULGARIA

The Communist Party Publishing House of Bulgaria has brought out a second edition, in 50,000 copies, of the "Short Biography of V. I. Lenin".

COMMUNIST PRESS MONTH IN ITALY

Communist Press Month in Italy, which officially opened in Rome on September 4, is a great success. Hundreds of Unita fetes are held each Sunday in villages and towns throughout the country, with hundreds of thousands of people taking part. In Bologna, for example, there was an attendance of over 100,000.

Groups of Catholic working people are taking an active part in the Communist Press Month. For instance, there were meetings of Christian Democratic and Communist working people at the Unita festivals in Occhiobello, Taglio Po and Frassinelle (Polesine). In Lodi (Milan Province) Catholic shopkeepers, members of the Catholic Association of Working People and the Christian Democratic organisations, and working people belonging to Catholic trade unions took part in the preparations for the Unita festival and in the festival itself.

A national Unita fete was held in Genoa on September 17 and 18. On the morning of the 18th a huge demonstration took place. Delegations of working people from all the provinces in the country passed by the tribune on which were members of the Central Committee of the Communist Party with Comrade Palmiro Togliatti at their head. The demonstration was rounded off by a procession of Genoese Communist Party members. They carried portraits of Lenin and Stalin, Gramsci, Togliatti and Nenni and a big poster bearing the words: "Indissoluble unity of Communists and Socialists is the basis on which a better Italy will develop!"

It was with great interest that the working people inspected the Unita exhibition built by the Genoese Communists. About 100 stands have been erected there, by the Party sections. Particularly popular are

NATIONAL COMMITTEE MEETING OF LABOR-PROGRESSIVE PARTY OF CANADA

At a recent plenary meeting of the National Committee of the Labor-Progressive Party Comrade Tim Buck, General Secretary, reported on the results of the Geneva Conference and the new prospects for lasting peace opened up thereby. Comrade Buck's report stressed the significance of the Geneva Conference for the cause of peace and pointed to the possibilities of ending the "cold war". These possibilities, he said, can be turned into actualities by popular activity. The impact of Geneva is already felt in the life of Canada, where tensions have relaxed and a new feeling of hope for peace is widely expressed.

The members of the LPP now have new opportunities to build the Party, to extend the growing democratic movement of the people, and to advance a democratic

MEETING OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF URUGUAY

At its recent meeting the National Committee of the

the central stand of the Communist Party, the stands of Unita, of Rinascita—the Party's theoretical journal—of factory newspapers, the stands of the Party schools department, the peace movement and the stands dedicated to the USSR, China and the countries of people's democracy.

In the evening a 150,000-strong meeting on the Unita exhibition site was addressed by Palmiro Togliatti, who pointed out that the changes which had taken place in the international situation and had led to the Four-Power Heads of Government meeting represented an achievement for the peace movement, an achievement for the peaceable policy of the Soviet Union, China and the People's Democracies. Italy was playing no part in the relaxation of world tension and, moreover, at this very moment the Christian Democratic Government and the dominating group of the Clerical Party were committing acts which testified to their intention to continue the "cold war" policy. In order that there might be the same change in Italy as was taking place throughout the world, concluded Comrade Togliatti, it was of paramount importance to strengthen the political and trade union organisations of the working people, to consolidate their unity. Be strong and united, he declared.

Collections for the Unita fund are proceeding with unprecedented enthusiasm. Some 250,324,000 lire had already come in by September 18 (a daily average of 13 million lire). Broad sections of the population are contributing. In the Ginestre degli Schiavoni commune (Benevento), for instance, 95% of the residents gave to the fund, while in the Fiesse commune (Brescia), the whole population, with the exception of the families of three landowners, contributed.

national front for peace, independence and democracy, said Comrade Tim Buck. The LPP adopted a Plan of Work to build the Party and extend the circulation of the press. The Plan of Work calls for immediate improvement of the collection of signatures for the Vienna Appeal, and bold participation in the forthcoming municipal elections.

Co-reports on the work of the Party, the trade union situation and peace, as well as on work among Canada's national groups, were given by members of the Political Bureau.

The plenary session marked a high point in Party discussion and policy-making, and Party growth prior to the Sixth National Convention, scheduled for 1956.

successfully because it is a state that has deep roots in the history and life of the German people. We are certain that it will continue to grow stronger in future too, whether anyone likes it or not.

N. A. Bulganin went on to describe the recent talks between the government delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic and their results as an important step towards the normalisation of relations between these countries which offers new opportunities of easing tension in Germany and safeguarding European security.

If we look back and trace the development of the relations between the USSR and the German Democratic Republic in recent times, N. A. Bulganin went on, we can note with gratification that the co-operation between them is growing ever more comprehensive and fruitful.

When a Soviet government delegation visited Berlin in July we exchanged views on the further steps to be taken to develop and strengthen the friendly relations between our countries.

We agreed then that the time had come to seal our friendly relations and provide favourable conditions for their further development for the good of the Soviet and German peoples by an agreement, by an appropriate bilateral treaty.

I think that here we must exchange views on the conclusion of a treaty on the relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic and reach agreement on framing the text of such a treaty.

delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic.

The following speaker, **Lothar Bolz**, dwelt on the relations between the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic, relations which are an expression of a community of interests, profound and sincere friendship, mutual trust and solidarity.

Erich Correns, Chairman of the Presidium of the National Council of the National Front of Democratic Germany, observed that the historic Conference in Geneva this July and the successful talks between the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic had been followed by a détente in relations between the nations and that this was markedly promoting the cause of world peace. A new situation had therefore arisen for the German people which was of paramount significance from the point of view of the possibilities of reuniting Germany as a peace-loving and democratic state. The slogan "Germans, around one table!" was now acquiring greater and more decisive significance than ever before.

The next to speak was **N. A. Bulganin**, who noted that the "Treaty on Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic" marked a new historic stage in the development of relations between the USSR and the GDR and would promote the further development of close co-operation and the strengthening of friendly relations between them on a basis of mutual respect for sovereignty, of equality and non-interference in each other's internal affairs, that it would promote the restoration of Germany's unity as a peace-loving and democratic state.

a member of NATO. Such a course, I believe, does not accord with the interests of the German people, with the interests of the security of the peoples of Europe, nor does it conduce to the relaxation of international tension. We certainly cannot concur in events developing in a way that would strengthen the North Atlantic military bloc (NATO), which is directed against the Soviet Union and the countries of people's democracy.

The question arises: how then will the German people's hopes of reunification be realised; will the status quo be permanent? asked Khrushchev. Our answer is clear and explicit: the Germans must themselves settle this question. Germans around one table! No one is better fitted to decide the German problem than the Germans themselves. The reunification of Germany must be accomplished in such a way as to ensure that a united German state will be peace-loving and democratic, in such a way as to ensure that the forces of the German state will not be directed against other states. This kind of a settlement of the German question will receive our utmost support. Further N. S. Khrushchev said:

As a Communist and Secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, I want to say, and this without imposing my point of view on those present, that before our Party, which is guided by the teaching of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin, stands a most noble aim—that of building Communism. We are striving to ensure that there is no exploitation of man by man, that man is the friend of man, that the fruits of labour and the

troops from Germany are prepared to do the same.

We have hopes of settling this question in the future. The Geneva Heads of Government Conference has engendered this hope. We trust that the spirit of Geneva will develop and consolidate, not, however, in the shape of an invisible and intangible spirit, but in the form of concrete actions, such as ours when we decided to reduce our armed forces by 640,000 men, when we relinquished our right to the lease of the naval base of Porkkala-Udd in Finland, and took a number of other measures. We expect our Geneva partners to reciprocate, upon which we could follow up with new proposals.

Certain bourgeois statesmen have levelled at us the reproach that we went no further than smiling and acting in a friendly manner. But aren't the facts I have cited—the reduction of armed forces and the relinquishment of the naval base in Finland—concrete actions aimed at easing world tension?

At the same time we expect concrete results in the spirit of Geneva from the Western powers, results that will promote the relaxation of international tension and the consolidation of peace.

The floor was then taken by **Otto Grotewohl**, Prime Minister of the GDR, who made a number of concluding remarks.

On September 20 the "Treaty on Relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the German Democratic Republic" was signed.

SOVIET-FINNISH TALKS

On September 15, Mr. Paasikivi, President of the Finnish Republic, arrived in Moscow at the invitation of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

On September 16, in the Grand Kremlin Palace, K. E. Voroshilov, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, received President Paasikivi and those accompanying him. Speeches were exchanged between the two Presidents. In his speech **K. E. Voroshilov** said: In inviting you, Mr. President, to Moscow, we had in view an exchange of opinion about new steps which might be taken for the further development of Soviet-Finnish relations. We believe that the possibilities for this exist, that we can define the prospects for Soviet-Finnish relations over a longer period and in addition, settle questions which now lend themselves to solution as a result of the strengthening of friendly relations between our two countries.

We feel sure that our meeting will help to further increase the confidence between our peoples and will be an important contribution to the consolidation of peace.

Mr. Paasikivi then spoke, stressing that "...the basis which we have thus by common effort been able to establish gives us every right to assume that we now have all the prerequisites for the continued development of mutually advantageous good-neighbourly relations between our countries". He likewise stated that the prospects for the relations between the Soviet Union and Finland should be defined for a longer term.

In conformity with the understanding reached on September 16 between **K. E. Voroshilov** and **J. K. Paasikivi**, talks on questions relating to the further expansion and strengthening of the friendly relations

between both countries continued the next day.

Taking part in the talks from the Soviet side were: **N. A. Bulganin**, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR; **N. S. Khrushchev**, member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR; **M. G. Pervukhin**, First Vice-Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR; **V. S. Semyonov**, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs; **V. Z. Lebedev**, Soviet Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary to Finland.

From the Finnish side were: Prime Minister **Kekkonen**; Minister of Defence **E. Skog**; Minister **R. Svanto**; **R. Seppälä**, Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

At these talks statements were made by **N. A. Bulganin**, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and the Finnish Prime Minister **Kekkonen**.

In his statement **N. A. Bulganin** said that Soviet-Finnish relations in these past few years had developed in all fields—political, economic and cultural—in accordance with the principles of equality. These relations had laid a firm basis for the traditions of friendship, mutual confidence and broad co-operation between the two peoples.

Having noted that relations between the USSR and Finland were based on the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance contracted on April 6, 1948, **N. A. Bulganin** continued: This Treaty marked a turning point in the history of relations between Finland and the USSR and provided conditions for the development of friendship and confidence between our peoples. At the same time the Soviet-Finnish Treaty is a contribution to the security of northern Europe.

It is our deep conviction, **N. A. Bulganin** further underlined, that this Treaty can continue to serve as a firm basis for Soviet-Finnish relations. In this connection we would deem it desirable to discuss the future of the Treaty, bearing in mind that it is due to expire shortly, and we would like to exchange views with you as to whether it should now be prolonged, providing, of course, that the Finnish side approves.

Noting that in the international sphere the Governments of the Soviet Union and Finland have throughout these years pursued a policy of peace and co-operation among states and that particularly in recent times a certain relaxation of international tension has taken place, **N. A. Bulganin** stated that in these conditions the Soviet Government deemed it possible, in accord with the interests of Finland, to also examine the question of abolishing the Soviet naval base on the territory of Finland.

Mr. Kekkonen stated that he shared the view expressed by **N. A. Bulganin** and that the Finnish Government accepted both proposals of the Government of the USSR.

On September 18, **Mr. Paasikivi** gave a dinner at the Finnish Embassy in honour of the leaders of the Soviet State. Present were **N. A. Bulganin**, **K. E. Voroshilov**, **G. M. Malenkov**, **L. M. Kaganovich**, **M. G. Pervukhin**, **M. Z. Saburov**, **M. A. Suslov**, **N. S. Khrushchev** and others.

At the dinner **J. K. Paasikivi**, President of the Finnish Republic, awarded **K. E. Voroshilov**, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, the Grand Cross of the Order of the "White Rose of Finland" with gold chain—the highest decoration of the Finnish Republic and one that is exclusively awarded to heads of

states. He said in a speech: "In awarding you this decoration, I wish to express our respect and gratitude not only to you personally, Mr. President, but through you to the entire Soviet Union and its Government."

In reply **K. E. Voroshilov** expressed his gratitude and pleasure at receiving the award. This, he said, is not a personal award, but an award to mark what we have done, to mark the relations between us. It is confirmation of the correctness of our policy in the international arena. In the name of our Government, our Party and people, I heartily thank you for the high honour conferred on me.

The exchange of views continued at the meeting of September 19.

The two sides agreed on drafts of the Protocol between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Finnish Republic on prolonging the term of the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance of April 6, 1948, and of the Agreement between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Finnish Republic on the relinquishment of the Soviet Union's right to utilise the territory of Porkkala-Udd as a naval base and on the withdrawal of Soviet armed forces from this area. The text of the Soviet-Finnish Communiqué on the visit to Moscow of President Paasikivi was likewise agreed.

The Protocol and Agreement were signed on that day in the Grand Kremlin Palace, Moscow.

N. A. Bulganin, Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, signed the Protocol and Agreement on behalf of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR.

U. K. Kekkonen, Prime Minister and **E. Skog**, Minister of Defence, signed the Protocol and Agreement on behalf of the President of the Finnish Republic.

lasting peace opened up... of the significance of the Geneva Conference for the cause of peace and pointed to the possibilities of ending the "cold war". These possibilities, he said, can be turned into actualities by popular activity. The impact of Geneva is already felt in the life of Canada, where tensions have relaxed and a new feeling of hope for peace is widely expressed.

The members of the LPP now have new opportunities to build the Party, to extend the growing democratic movement of the people, and to advance a democratic

MEETING OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE, COMMUNIST PARTY OF URUGUAY

At its recent meeting the National Committee of the Uruguayan Communist Party considered questions arising in connection with heightening the struggle for peace.

Stressing the successes achieved by the peoples in the noble cause of safeguarding peace, the National Committee analysed the immense possibilities in Uruguay for developing a powerful movement for peace.

CONFERENCE OF TOKYO PARTY ORGANISATIONS

A city Party conference was held in Tokyo in the early part of September, attended by 700 delegates. Comrade **Sanzo Nozaka**, First Secretary of the C.C., and C.C. Secretaries, Comrades **Kenji Miyamoto**, **Shigeo Shida**, **Yojiro Konno** and **Ryuji Nishizawa**, took part in its work. The conference heard and discussed reports on the fulfilment of the resolutions of the Sixth Party Conference (by Comrade **Nozaka**), on tactical questions (Comrade

of the participation in the forthcoming municipal elections.

Co-reports on the work of the Party, the trade union situation and peace, as well as on work among Canada's national groups were given by members of the Political Bureau.

The plenary session marked a high point in Party discussion and policy-making, will lead to higher levels of public and Party growth prior to the Sixth National Convention, scheduled for 1958.

A resolution adopted at the meeting read: "The National Committee reminds the Party, the entire working class and the people as a whole, that the struggle to ensure peace and to ban atomic weapons is our first duty at the present time."

The National Committee also discussed questions of organisation and elected a Party Control Commission.

Konno), on Party building and the unity of the Party (Comrade **Shida**) and on the unity of the Party and problems connected with the Party Rules (Comrade **Miyamoto**). Forty-five delegates took part in the discussion. They spoke of ways and means of strengthening the unity of the Party and criticised the leadership given by Party bodies. Further consolidation of the Party organisations in Tokyo was the keynote of the conference.

FOREMOST YOUTH OF GDR JOIN THE RANKS OF SUPG

With a view to heightening the Party's militancy and improving its composition from the point of view of the social origin and the ages of its members, the Secretariat of the Central Committee of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany adopted a decision in May this year to intensify work among young people and draw the best of them into the Party.

A great number of Party committees are carrying out this important decision with success. In view of the need to raise the level of ideological education of young people, nearly all district Party committees in the Erfurt Region have held meetings of Party activists to discuss the question of improving work among the youth.

The regional Party committee in Halle regularly checks up on how lower Party bodies are implementing decisions. In doing this it gives effective leadership to

the Party branches and this method has already brought good results. In a short period 15 young people in Eisleben and 13 in Quedlinburg have been admitted to the Party as probationers.

In the Haldensleben and Kalau districts meetings of young people are often held at which Communist Party members who have great experience of Party work speak about the struggle waged by **Ernst Thälmann** and the revolutionary traditions of the German labour movement. At such meetings the young people undertake obligations to raise labour productivity. The youth team in Glewitz MTS, Grimmen district, undertook to fulfil its production plan for 1955 by December 1.

Party branches see to it that only the really best representatives of young people join the Party ranks.

Friendly Contact Between Austrian Communists and Socialist Working People

In their work among the masses the Austrian Communists are making use of every opportunity to establish friendly contact with working people who belong to the Socialist Party of Austria.

Recently a group of Communists in Brigittenau (a district of Vienna) attended an open meeting of a Socialist Party branch, at which discussion was centred on the formation of a regular army in Austria. Many of the Socialists, including three functionaries of the local Party organisation, vigorously put forward views that in many respects

coincided with the position of the Communist Party. The meeting was followed by a friendly talk with the Socialists.

The Communists of another branch in the same district of Vienna decided to contact the neighbouring section of the Socialist Party and received a friendly welcome from one of the leading workers of the section. During the talk it was unanimously agreed that the time had come to remove the obstacles which over the years had been artificially created between Communist and Socialist working people.

How We Work to Raise Labour Productivity

The Ursus Works is Poland's biggest tractor plant. It plays an important part in the drive for rapid mechanisation and greater productivity in agriculture, especially in its socialist sector. Our factory Party branch is confronted with the responsible task of mobilising all who work in the factory in order to raise labour productivity, improve technique and lower production costs.

On the whole, our factory successfully completed its 1954 programme. For instance, instead of the planned 7,500 Ursus tractors, we turned out nearly 7,800, and the output of spare parts was 31% above plan. Production costs were cut considerably. An Ursus tractor can now be produced for 2,800 zloty less than in 1953.

The Party branch made a thorough analysis of these results and came to the conclusion that this was just a beginning and that the most difficult work was still ahead. This has proved to be correct. It turned out that the factory incurred considerable losses as a result of rejects. And despite a noticeable improvement in labour discipline there was much to be done to ensure that the most effective use was made of the working day. We were not doing enough to introduce and further popularise the advanced methods of labour of Soviet and Polish innovators.

Despite a great deal of general talk in the factory about cutting production costs, the reasons for bad work by particular comrades were not looked into and these comrades were not shown how to work better. Very often these shortcomings sprang from the fact that our Party activists showed little interest in the economic indices of the factory and had poor knowledge of the cost of producing a tractor.

Having considered all these questions, the factory branch launched a drive to eliminate shortcomings. We organised training for secretaries and members of the bureaus of shop branches, and the main emphasis was placed on mastering economic indices and the cost accounting method in individual shops and also on the correct use of the right of the branch to supervise the work of the factory management, as envisaged in the Party Rules. The factory Party committee organised talks for members of the Party and the trade union and has begun to analyse the work of Party groups more carefully.

A big part was played in the drive for further technical advance and fresh achievements in production by the work conducted by the Party branch among the engineers and technicians. The factory Party committee sponsored a meeting of members

of the Society of Polish Mechanical Engineers and activists from the Union of Polish Youth with engineers and technicians of our factory. This meeting took place in a climate of sincere and lively exchange of opinion, it stimulated our engineers and technicians to greater efforts and made a most valuable contribution to their work.

One thing that helped our branch to popularise new methods of labour was our knowledge of the work and experience of the personnel of the Wroclaw Mechanical Equipment Plant which had been very successful in lowering production costs and introducing advanced technology.

A public inspection of working places was organised at this factory. It was carried out in each shop by three-men groups composed of foremen and leading workers. We drew widely on this experience at our factory.

We also made use of the following method. After meetings of the machine shop Party and trade union organisations the question was put to the workers: what should be done to ease labour, increase productivity and raise wages? Some answered straightaway and others after a few days. The replies contained many valuable suggestions which enabled substantial improvements to be made in the production process. In particular, it was suggested that cranes should be installed, tools standardised, an examination carried out to reveal whether a particular tool was serving its purpose and that surplus tools be transferred to other factories and so on.

Some workers doubted at first whether these proposals would be put into effect. But they were soon convinced that this was being done and started to work with even greater enthusiasm. After a time the shop increased labour productivity by 5%, and over 100,000 zloty were saved.

After this all other sections and workshops enthusiastically took up these suggestions and began to seek new ways of increasing output and making the products cheaper.

The efforts of the Party organisation and of everyone working at the factory have yielded good results. Owing to the introduction of advanced production technology the factory raised labour productivity in the first half of this year. The plan was carried out ahead of schedule. The Polish countryside received an additional 95 tractors and about 80 tons of spare parts. The workers fulfilled the assignment for lowering production costs by 1.2% more than envisaged in the plan.

Lucjan KWIATKOWSKI
Secretary of a branch of the PUWP
at the Ursus Works.

Improvement in Work of Party Branches in Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party

Branches of the MPRP have recently been holding their annual general meetings. Those present at the meetings brought to light shortcomings in the work of local Party organisations and put forward concrete proposals for implementing the decisions of the XIII Party Congress and the directives of the C.C. of the MPRP to improve the work of Party branches.

The Party organisation in Ugtalsaidam village, Central district, has organised a wide propaganda campaign around the decisions taken by the second meeting of the C.C. of the Party in connection with the promotion of a seminar for

activity of the cattle-breeders and heightened their political consciousness.

The Party branch at the rough felt-fulling mill, part of the H. Chojbalsan Industrial Combinat, carries out consistent work among non-party people. As a result, 23 people joined the Party in a period of four months this year. The Party branch pays attention to increasing the political knowledge of the new members and drawing them into active Party work. Twelve lectures and talks for new comrades have been held this year.

The Party branch of the "Peace" agricultural co-operative in the village of Erdeni-Bulgan, Hubsugul district, concentrates all its activity on strengthening the production and economy of the co-operative.



The Government of the German Democratic Republic shows the greatest concern for the working people. Housing construction on an extensive scale is being carried out in the Republic. Above are some new houses for miners in the town of Lauchhammer.

Achievement of Rumanian Oil Workers

The oil workers of People's Rumania have a big achievement to their credit: they have reached the Five-Year Plan target ahead of schedule for oil and methane output and lower production costs.

This year output will be 108% greater than in 1950, leaving the figure attained under bourgeois-landlord rule far behind.

This advance is primarily due to the extension of exploratory drilling. New oil-fields such as the Moldavia, Pitesti and Oltenia have been developed in the Five-Year Plan period. Rational exploitation of the oil-bearing strata has also helped to increase output. Supplementary exploitation of old wells contributed 7.6% of the total 1953 output and 9.3% of the total 1954 output.

The capacity of the country's oil refineries has also increased. Under the Five-Year Plan the output of petrol rose by 65%.

During these years the people's-democratic state has provided 1,150 flats, hostels accommodating 25,000 persons, 60 clubs, 60 hospitals, 3 polyclinics and 14 rest homes for the oil workers.

Rural Power Plants in Albania

The peasants of the mountain village of Progonati, Gjinokastër Region, recently had the great joy of seeing their homes lit up by electricity for the first time. A few days ago electricity was also installed in the village of Brahini, Korce Region.

It is only since the establishment of the people's-democratic system that rural electric power stations have begun to appear in Albania. In the postwar years more than 70 small rural hydro and thermo-electric stations have been built. Today more than 120 villages are supplied with electric power. Fourteen more power plants now under construction in the villages of Tucher and Brezhdani in Dibraska Region, Labinoti, Gostari and Grabova in Elbasan Region, and

STRUGGLE FOR WORKING-CLASS UNITY AND THE WORKER-PEASANT ALLIANCE IN CHILE

★
Galo Gonzales Díaz
General Secretary,
Communist Party of Chile

★ ★

In the struggle for their class interests and their liberation from the oppression of foreign monopolies and the domestic oligarchy, the proletariat of Chile have won some important successes, of which the most outstanding is the formation of the United Centre of the Working People of Chile.

This Centre was formed at the Congress for Trade Union Unity in February 1953 and unites workers of all trends, including the anarcho-syndicalists, whose organisations had always stood aloof from the united trade union movement. The United Centre also includes organisations of civil servants and other black-coated workers who had formerly acted in isolation from the workers, and it has thus become the most powerful trade union organisation Chile has ever had, with a membership far exceeding that of its predecessor—the Confederation of the Working People of Chile.

It was no easy task to form the United Centre, the obstacles were many and serious, the chief one being the splitting manoeuvres of the class enemies. But these obstacles were overcome, mainly by the tactic of united action by working people of all trends in the struggle for their immediate demands. United action by the working people in the struggle for their general demands makes it possible to restrict the sphere of activity of the splitting elements, compels them to act in accordance with the interests and aspirations of the masses or helps to isolate and expose them if they stand aloof or take action which runs counter to these interests.

The United Centre was not formed as a result of simple agreement between the leaders, it was the expression of the general will of industrial, agricultural and office workers, the culminating point of the process of bringing about unity and joint action.

Since the establishment of the Centre, united action tactics in the struggle for general demands have continued to characterise the activities of the Chilean working people. This is the basis on which action for the satisfaction of demands has been taken at every factory. The workers in the copper, saltpetre, coal and other industries, civil servants and other black-coated workers have won and are winning wage increases, safeguarding themselves to some degree from unrestrained inflation and opposing the policy of wage reductions pursued by foreign monopolies and their allies and agents within the country.

The biggest and most decisive joint actions developed at the big industrial enterprises owned by foreign companies.

The other working people are in solidarity with the struggle being waged by the industrial and office workers of these big enterprises and of the coal, cement and other vitally important industries. This solidarity is at its highest when the industrialists and the Ibáñez Government carry out repressive measures against trade union leaders. When this happens, the fight against repressive measures leads to a general mobilisation of the working people, to widespread solidarity which, in our conditions, is the highest form of united action.

The Role of the Communists

The Communist Party was, and remains, the main driving force in building unity of the working people. Were it not for the Communists and their activities, the United Centre either would not have been formed, or would have been undermined by the splitting activities of the class enemies.

And in fact the Ibáñez Government has tried all ways and means of destroying or splitting the United Centre. At first it wanted to subordinate this Centre to the

people. The fact that the Party eliminated the shortcomings and mistakes it had made earlier also helped. It launched a determined fight against the sectarianism, high-handedness and tendency to run things by simply issuing orders, which had characterised the work of many of its activists in the trade unions. At the same time the Party was particularly concerned with introducing the broadest possible trade union democracy, making efforts to see that there was an opportunity for the views of every worker and every trade union trend to be expressed and that important questions thrown up by the struggle—including the matter of settling conflicts which in many cases were formerly settled only by leaders—should also be solved at trade union meetings.

Ideological Struggle in the Labour Movement

Besides the struggle for united action, there is an active ideological struggle in progress within the Chilean labour movement. It is our Party that has consistently inspired this struggle too, a struggle which heightens the political consciousness of the proletariat and makes it more closely united not only in the struggle for immediate demands, but also in the fight for the great anti-imperialist and anti-feudal aims of the democratic movement as a whole, in the struggle for the working class to play a fitting role in the liberation of the country.

Although the Chilean proletariat has a more or less highly developed political consciousness, efforts must be made to develop it further. Our most important task is to promote the political education of the working class and win the majority over to our standpoint. It depends upon this whether the proletariat will play its part as the leading class and binding force in the Democratic National Liberation Front which our Party favours and organises in order to win independence for the country and set it on the highroad of progressive development.

It was also necessary to eliminate defects in the ideological struggle. Some comrades believed that this struggle should in the main be waged in the leading bodies of the trade union movement. Moreover, their way of waging it was often to indulge in loud and insulting invective. This failing was to be observed even after the formation of the United Centre, but it has now been corrected. Today the ideological struggle is being carried on primarily at places of work and at trade union meetings; it is being waged by means of well-founded arguments, by means of persuasion and comradely discussions with working people who belong to other parties or to no party at all.

In addition, we have had to overcome the tendency to carry on the ideological struggle in a general way, in the abstract, and to centre it on specific problems. Practice has demonstrated the advantages of political discussion on questions that are of most interest to the masses. For example, discussions with workers who support Ibáñez, in which our comrades merely put forward general criticisms of Ibáñez and his Government were fruitless or very nearly so, while on the other hand discussions which dealt with concrete problems, with the concrete measures taken by the Ibáñez Government, and explained the anti-working class essence of those measures,

actions the working class was the leading force around which all the other progressive forces united for joint struggle. The prestige of the working class and its United Centre is growing and spreading among other sections of the people, as well as among the working people themselves.

Nevertheless, neither the working class as a whole nor the United Centre in particular are as yet playing the role they should in the growing anti-imperialist and anti-feudal movement. There are still many weak points, the greatest of which is the fact that the struggle for immediate demands is insufficiently linked up with the struggle for peace and for a change of national policy. Although the United Centre, its federations and trade unions take action for peace, except in a few cases, they are not yet playing an active part in the campaigns for the concrete objectives of the peace movement. Furthermore, the anarcho-syndicalists and other sectarian elements often put forward adventurist slogans, continually rejecting the idea of joint actions between the working class and other social sections which come out against imperialist and latifundist oppression or might do so.

The activities of these elements are a constant threat to the unity and the future of the Chilean labour and democratic movement and make it incumbent upon the Communists and other forces in favour of united action to exercise constant vigilance and intensify the ideological struggle.

We Communists, together with the other forces that favour united action, make up the majority in the ranks of the Chilean trade union movement. We safeguard and develop mutual understanding with these forces in order to ensure the unity and class independence of the United Centre. We always try to secure unanimous decisions or decisions that are adopted by an overwhelming majority.

The United Centre of the Working People has close ties with the parties of the people and establishes contact with all political forces whenever a struggle for common demands develops or any immediate danger to civil liberties arises. We intend to continue to operate in this manner, but at the same time we shall exert the maximum effort to promote the political education of the proletariat in order to eliminate its weaknesses.

Alliance of Workers and Peasants

As regards the alliance of the workers and peasants we are seriously lagging behind. In the matter of organising the peasants there have been periods of upsurge and periods of decline. The reason for this is that the absence of strong Party branches in the countryside has deprived the peasants of the immediate and experienced assistance of their vanguard—the proletariat. Now we are trying not only to organise the peasants into committees and other organisations but also to form Party organisations in the countryside.

In any case, the organisation and struggle of various progressive sections of the rural population has entered upon a period of fresh upsurge. The law on peasant trade unions in effect prohibits the formation of trade unions of agricultural workers, for it lays down requirements that can be met only in rare instances, such as the stipulation that the majority of the members be able to read and write. Nevertheless, it has been possible to form about 25 legal and free (not recognised by the authorities) trade unions. In addition, dozens of peasant committees have been set up.

Our Party, the Federation of Agricultural Workers and the labour movement as a whole are fighting for the repeal of

and technicians. The factory Party committee sponsored a meeting of members

Lucjan KWIAKOWSKI
Secretary of a branch of the PUWP
at the Ursus Works.

Improvement in Work of Party Branches in Mongolian People's Revolutionary Party

Branches of the MPRP have recently been holding their annual general meetings. Those present at the meetings brought to light shortcomings in the work of local Party organisations and put forward concrete proposals for implementing the decisions of the XIIIth Party Congress and the directives of the C.C. of the MPRP to radically improve the work of Party branches.

The Party organisation in Ugtaltsaidam village, Central district, has organised a wide propaganda campaign around the decisions taken by the second meeting of the C.C. of the Party in connection with the procurements of cattle feed. A seminar for leading propagandists took place on this subject and the Party branch organised a check-up on the fulfilment of the C.C. decisions on the spot. The improvement in mass political work has increased the labour

activity of the cattle-breeders and heightened their political consciousness.

The Party branch at the rough felt-fulling mill, part of the H. Choibalsan Industrial Combinat, carries out consistent work among non-party people. As a result, 23 people joined the Party in a period of four months this year. The Party branch pays attention to increasing the political knowledge of the new members and drawing them into active Party work. Twelve lectures and talks for new comrades have been held this year.

The Party branch of the "Peace" agricultural co-operative in the village of Erdeni-Bulgan, Hubsugul district, concentrates all its activity on strengthening the organisation and economy of the co-operative. The branch bureau works to enhance the vanguard role of the MPRP members, and systematically gives them Party assignments.

than the output of petrol rose by 65%. During these years the people's democratic state has provided 1,150 flats, hostels accommodating 25,000 persons, 60 clubs, 60 hospitals, 3 polyclinics and 14 rest homes for the oil workers.

Rural Power Plants in Albania

The peasants of the mountain village of Progonati, Gjinokastër Region, recently had the great joy of seeing their homes lit up by electricity for the first time. A few days ago electricity was also installed in the village of Brahini, Korçe Region.

It is only since the establishment of the people's democratic system that rural electric power stations have begun to appear in Albania. In the postwar years more than 70 small rural hydro and thermo-electric stations have been built. Today more than 120 villages are supplied with electric power. Fourteen more power plants now under construction in the villages of Tücher and Brezhidan in Dibraska Region, Labinoti, Suteni and Grabova in Elbasan Region, and others are to be completed by the end of this year.

action developed at the big industrial enterprises owned by foreign companies. The other working people are in solidarity with the struggle being waged by the industrial and office workers of these big enterprises and of the coal, cement and other vitally important industries. This solidarity is at its highest when the industrialists and the Ibáñez Government carry out repressive measures against trade union leaders. When this happens, the fight against repressive measures leads to a general mobilisation of the working people, to widespread solidarity which, in our conditions, is the highest form of united action.

The Role of the Communists

The Communist Party was, and remains, the main driving force in building unity of the working people. Were it not for the Communists and their activities, the United Centre either would not have been formed, or would have been undermined by the splitting activities of the class enemies.

And in fact the Ibáñez Government has tried all ways and means of destroying or splitting the United Centre. At first it wanted to subordinate this Centre to the Government and to convert it into a yellow organisation that would collaborate in carrying through the Government's pro-U.S. policy; then it tried to destroy the United Centre by victimising its leaders, or to divide it by establishing another workers' centre. At the same time splitting agents from the ICFTU and the Inter-American Regional Organisation of Working People, collaborating either directly or indirectly with the Government, established themselves in Chile. Agents from this latter organisation opened a branch in Chile and endeavoured to set up an anti-Communist front within the United Centre.

Our Party's rich experience of trade union work, acquired in the course of prolonged struggle for the working people's demands, and the valuable experience accumulated on an international scale, above all by the World Federation of Trade Unions, made it possible to frustrate these splitting manoeuvres and to surmount the main obstacles on the road to unity of the Chilean working people.

Traditionally our Party has always had a strong position in the working-class movement, particularly at the big enterprises in the mining industry. Under no circumstances has our Party lost touch with the masses. If any trade union organisation fell into the hands of traitors or degenerate elements, we continued to fight within the trade union for unity and satisfaction of the workers' demands. If a trade union organisation withdrew from its federation, or any federation was forced to leave the Workers' Centre and to join the "Centre" of Bernardo Ibáñez, we continued the struggle within this trade union or federation. Thus no division ever disrupted the integral unity of the trade unions. And we Communists never left the working-class masses to the mercy of the splitters.

This attitude of our Party contributed in a most vigorous manner to overcoming division and strengthening the unity of the working

men be waged in the leading bodies of the trade union movement. Moreover, their way of waging it was often to indulge in loud and insulting invective. This failing was to be observed even after the formation of the United Centre, but it has now been corrected. Today the ideological struggle is being carried on primarily at places of work and at trade union meetings; it is being waged by means of well-founded arguments, by means of persuasion and comradely discussions with working people who belong to other parties or to no party at all.

In addition, we have had to overcome the tendency to carry on the ideological struggle in a general way, in the abstract, and to centre it on specific problems. Practice has demonstrated the advantages of political discussion on questions that are of most interest to the masses. For example, discussions with workers who support Ibáñez, in which our comrades merely put forward general criticisms of Ibáñez and his Government were fruitless or very nearly so, while on the other hand discussions which dealt with concrete problems, with the concrete measures taken by the Ibáñez Government, and explained the anti-working class essence of those measures, yielded splendid results.

There is much to be done yet in the matter of the ideological struggle within the Chilean trade union movement. The most important means of heightening the political consciousness of the working people is discussion of concrete ideological problems, popularisation of the victorious advances of the working class of the Soviet Union, China and other countries of the socialist camp, circulation of Marxist literature and the organisational and ideological strengthening of our Party.

Leading Role of Working Class

The Chilean proletariat has also had appreciable success in the struggle to gain the lead in the progressive movement of the various social sections oppressed by imperialism and the home oligarchy. The principles and programme of the United Centre of the Working People, adopted by more than two thousand delegates at the constituent congress, the programmes of the various federations and the decisions adopted by the trade unions often mirror not only the demands of the proletariat, but also the anti-imperialist and anti-feudal aims of the majority of the citizens of Chile. And the most important thing is that these aims are taken into account in practical activities. Besides waging a struggle for immediate demands, the United Centre, its federations and trade unions often put forward as their objectives such points as the return of the national wealth now in the hands of U.S. monopolies, the development of trade with the Soviet Union and other countries of the socialist camp, agrarian reform and so on.

Moreover, the United Centre, working jointly with other social and political forces, including various political parties, has organised large-scale actions in defence of democratic rights and the right of asylum, for the abolition of electric power monopoly, etc. In certain of these

Communist Deputy Reports Back to His Electors

A Glance at the Columns of the Syrian Newspaper An-Nour

Mass meetings are not a novelty in Syria. But never in the political or parliamentary history of the country has any deputy called a meeting for the purpose of reporting back to his electors on his activity in parliament, seeking their advice and listening to their wishes. It is not surprising, therefore, that when such a meeting was held in the Kurd quarter of Damascus thousands of people enthusiastically flocked to it. Nor is it surprising that most of the Syrian newspapers gave detailed accounts of this unprecedentedly great mass meeting in Damascus at which Deputy Khaled Bagdache, General Secretary of the Communist Party of Syria, reported back to his electors.

In its report of this great mass demonstration the Damascus progressive weekly *An-Nour* (Light), gives interesting details. "More than 50,000 people", writes *An-Nour*, "from all quarters of Damascus and the surrounding countryside—workers, peasants, intellectuals, political figures, deputies, priests, lawyers, doctors, teachers, students, young folk, women—responded to the Communist Deputy's invitation. By noon endless streams of citizens of diverse political views were hastening along the roads leading to the meeting place. The workers of particular factories or trades formed up into contingents, as though they were going to a festival. They marched with banners and posters held high, shouting militant slogans. Each contingent had its own people's poet, who, borne aloft on the shoulders of his comrades, recited patriotic verses which the people around took up and chanted in a chorus of hundreds of voices. For peace, against imperialist pacts, for democratic and trade union freedoms, for the demands of the workers, for stronger friendship with the USSR, for the unity of the working class and its alliance with the working peasantry—all these and many other slogans expressed the will and the faith of the working people of Damascus."

Soon, continues the newspaper, the great square where the meeting was to be held was a surging sea of humanity. When the Communist Deputy Khaled Bagdache appeared on the platform the square resounded to applause and cheers. He was greeted by delegations from numerous

towns and country areas of Syria and by a delegation from the Lebanon.

Taking the floor as the fifth speaker at the meeting, Khaled Bagdache pointed out that reporting back meetings by Communist deputies had become traditional in many countries and it was this fine tradition that had prompted him to appear before the people upon the expiration of the first year of his office and to tell them how he had kept the promises he had made during the election campaign.

He then gave the meeting a detailed account of how he had worked to carry out his election programme.



His entire report showed that his efforts were directed to supporting the demands of the working people of town and country. From the day he entered upon his duties as a deputy he fought resolutely for higher wages for the workers, an eight-hour working day, the payment of compensation to dismissed workers, adoption of a social security law, respect for trade union rights, a democratic agrarian reform that would guarantee the peasants land and water and free them from savage oppression by feudal lords, that would raise the social and cultural standards of the countryside, provide agricultural working people with the technical and material assistance they required and accord them full civil rights.

After reviewing his activities in defence of the workers' and peasants' demands, the political and social rights of the people and their democratic liberties, for improving the country's economic position and developing national industry and agriculture, Khaled Bagdache spoke in detail about the foreign-inspired plots that imperialist forces have been hatching through many long months in order to subdue Syria, dis-

solve her parliament, abolish her republican, democratic regime and thus draw her into their aggressive military blocs, especially into the Turco-Iraqi pact.

"But in face of the pressure and provocations of the foreign reactionaries", said Comrade Bagdache, "our people organised a broad popular front and resisted the aggressive designs of our country's enemies. Our people love peace; they want to strengthen their independence and national sovereignty and expand their democratic freedoms. They will not permit anyone, whoever it may be, to turn them off this road."

The Deputy then told his electors about the great movement for Arab solidarity, touching on the Palestine problem and the question of oil. He acclaimed the heroic struggle being waged by the peoples of North Africa for their independence and freedom and stressed the significance of the campaign of solidarity with the embattled peoples of Algeria and Morocco which is spreading through Syria and the entire Arab area.

A great burst of applause met Comrade Bagdache's account of his recent visit to the Soviet Union as a member of the Syrian parliamentary delegation. He urged stronger friendship and the development of trade with the Soviet Union, China, with all the People's Democracies.

The Communist Deputy also explained his position in parliament in regard to the changing governments, explained his reasons in voting "for" or "against" in parliament and thoroughly explained the policy of the Communist Party.

"We Communists", he said in conclusion, "base our line on a search for points which would not divide us but bring us closer to all sincere patriots. In each democrat, in each progressive man or woman we see an ally, not a rival, and on this basis we urge unity of all national forces, in order to thwart the plans of the imperialists, frustrate their designs, safeguard Syria and the Arab world from all danger and advance resolutely along the road of national independence, democracy and peace."

An-Nour's detailed account of the meeting between the Communist Deputy and his electors and of his report aroused immense interest among its readers.

The traditional fete of *Drapeau Rouge*, the daily newspaper of the Communist Party of Belgium, was held in Brussels on September 11 and offered a striking demonstration of the growing influence of the Communist Party among the Belgian working people. Thousands of working people from different towns and provinces came to Brussels for the occasion. The opening feature was a big parade through

Drapeau Rouge Fete

the city's streets, with the marchers carrying posters demanding higher wages, a better social insurance system and a reduction in the term of military service, and urging continuation of the struggle for easing world tension, prohibiting atomic weapons and achieving peace.

The demonstration was followed by a meeting near the Communist Press House, devoted to the memory of Comrade Joseph

and peasants we are seriously lagging behind. In the matter of organising the peasants there have been periods of upsurge and periods of decline. The reason for this is that the absence of strong Party branches in the countryside has deprived the peasants of the immediate and experienced assistance of their vanguard—the proletariat. Now we are trying not only to organise the peasants into committees and other organisations but also to form Party organisations in the countryside.

In any case, the organisation and struggle of various progressive sections of the rural population has entered upon a period of fresh upsurge. The law on peasant trade unions in effect prohibits the formation of trade unions of agricultural workers, for it lays down requirements that can be met only in rare instances, such as the stipulation that the majority of the members be able to read and write. Nevertheless, it has been possible to form about 25 legal and free (not recognised by the authorities) trade unions. In addition, dozens of peasant committees have been set up.

Our Party, the Federation of Agricultural Workers and the labour movement as a whole are fighting for the repeal of the law on peasant trade unions. However, wherever it is possible to organise trade unions within the provisions of this law and where the agricultural workers desire it, we do so without hesitation. Where this is impossible, free trade unions or simply committees of agricultural workers are set up.

Because of the exceedingly high cost of living, the aggravation of the crisis and growing poverty, large-scale actions for immediate demands are also taking place among the rural working people.

Fraternal contacts are being established between the agricultural workers and the middle sections in the countryside. The newspaper *El Surco*, organ of the Federation of Agricultural Workers, which has a circulation of up to 5,000 copies, publicises the demands of the agricultural workers throughout the countryside and discusses the general problems of Chile's agriculture.

The peasants are turning their eyes more and more to the working class. Peasant delegations are constantly calling in at the offices of provincial and departmental councils of the United Centre in search of advice and assistance. For its part the United Centre is showing more and more concern for the peasants. The newspaper *El Siglo* has a special page for the peasants every Sunday and this is of great assistance in strengthening the alliance between the workers in the towns and their brothers and allies in the villages.

We are helping to improve this work, centring our efforts on the agrarian provinces, and within these provinces—on three or four of the most important estates.

We realise, however, that all this is still inadequate and that our slowness in establishing the worker-peasant alliance, remains the Achilles' heel of the national liberation movement. One of our main tasks is to eliminate this lag. The responsibility for this falls chiefly upon our Party; we are fighting within our ranks against the still existing underestimation of the importance of work among the peasants.

Jacquemotte, founder and leader of the Communist Party of Belgium. A memorial plaque was affixed to the facade of the house. The meeting was addressed by Comrade Ernest Burnelle, Secretary of the Party, who spoke of Comrade Jacquemotte's activities and urged everyone to follow his example.

The *Drapeau Rouge* fete was attended by representatives from the official organs of a number of fraternal Parties.

THE FIRST FIVE-YEAR PLAN OF GREAT CONSTRUCTION WORK

On October 1 the great Chinese people will celebrate their national holiday, the sixth anniversary of the foundation of the Chinese People's Republic. Having restored their national economy, the Chinese working people, under the leadership of their glorious Communist Party and the

People's Government, are achieving fresh splendid successes in carrying out their first Five-Year Plan. Li Pai-lei, Chinese journalist, tells us of these achievements in the article published below.

★
Li Pai-lei
Chinese journalist

★ ★

The 600 million people of China are enthusiastically working to implement their first Five-Year Plan for the development of their country. They are taking an historic step forward towards the prosperity and happiness of a socialist society.

Guided by the teaching of Marxism-Leninism and the experience of the Soviet Union in socialist construction, the Communist Party of China in 1952 put forward the general line of the Party for the period of transition to Socialism. By that time the war-shattered national economy had been restored. The first Five-Year Plan was drawn up in accordance with this general line, which is designed to bring about gradually, over a period of about 15 years, the socialist industrialisation of the country and the socialist transformation of agriculture, handicrafts and capitalist industry and commerce.

The first Five-Year Plan covers the period from 1953 to 1957. The core of the first Five-Year Plan is the development of heavy industry. China will establish and develop modern, large-scale iron and steel, power, coal, non-ferrous metal, engineering (motor vehicles, tractors and aeroplanes) and basic chemical industries.

Thanks to the heroic labours of our people and the disinterested aid of the Soviet Union, the two years and more since 1953 have already seen important results achieved. For example, the integrated iron and steel works in Anshan—our famous steel capital—have completed and put into production several giant construction projects; the Anshan works in 1954 supplied the country with 40% more iron and steel, coke and heat-resistant materials than in 1953. The works' own five-year plan includes 150 construction projects, many of which will be completed this year. At the same time, construction will go ahead on two new giant integrated iron and steel works in Paotow and Wuhan.

The Shenyang Pneumatic Tool Factory, completed in January this year, is another giant. In the past, most pneumatic tools used in China were imported. Now, this factory is turning out large quantities of various types of pneumatic tools to meet the needs of the country's economy.

On April 21, 1954, construction started on a modern electrical instrument factory which will be highly mechanised and automatised. This is one of the major projects of our new engineering industry.

Tens of thousands of workers and staff are hard at work on the construction site of our First Motor Works. Here building operations continue in all weathers. Men of the People's Liberation Army who are taking part in building the works have this slogan: "The coldest wind cannot chill our spirits; the icy snow cannot cool our enthusiasm."

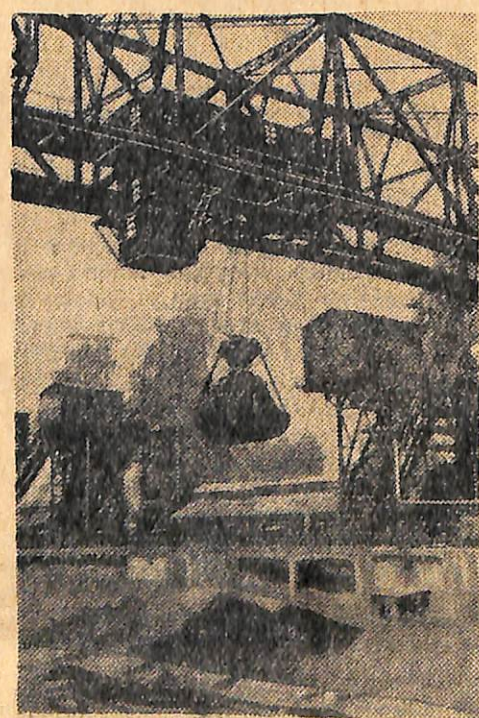
Geological prospecting and the preparation of adequate raw material bases are of prime importance in establishing heavy industries. Little was done under the reactionary Kuomintang regime to survey China's resources. Now we have a numerous army of geological prospectors, who with great zeal and courage are searching out

dawn of their history. So recent years have naturally seen a tremendous amount of work to harness rivers like the Huai and the Yungting and to build water conservancy works. Surveys and plans are also under way to control the Yangtse and Yellow Rivers.

The Yellow River is our second greatest river, next only to the Yangtse. There are more than 43,700,000 hectares of cultivated land in its basin, that is, 40% of all the cultivated land in China. Wheat, cotton, tobacco and coarse grains are grown there. The Yellow River Valley also has rich deposits of coal, oil, iron ore, copper, aluminium and other minerals. All through the ages our poets and singers have sung the praises of this valley—the cradle of our culture.

The Yellow River, however, has brought dreadful disasters to the Chinese people in past centuries. In the last three or four thousand years it has broken its banks more than 1,500 times and changed its lower course 26 times. On each occasion it caused heavy loss of life and property.

The Chinese people have dreamed for many aeons of controlling and exploiting the Yellow River. Now, under the leadership of the Communist Party, this dream is being realised.



Under the first Five-Year Plan four automatic blast furnaces have been put into operation at the Anshan Iron and Steel Works. Above: One of the Works' automatic blast furnaces.

The multi-purpose plan to control and exploit the Yellow River...

by the Plan. According to the Plan our total import and export trade in 1957 will be 66.5% greater than in 1952.

The socialist transformation of capitalist industry and commerce—one of the important tasks of the period of transition—is being carried out by the state in two stages: the first is from capitalism to state capitalism; the second is from state capitalism to Socialism. Completion of the first Five-Year Plan will see the greater part of capitalist industry and commerce transformed into various forms of state-capitalist enterprise, thereby laying the groundwork for the socialist transformation of private industry and commerce.

By the end of 1953 there were over a thousand joint state-private enterprises in the country. Reports from Peking, Tientsin, Shanghai, Wuhan, Canton, Chungking, Sian and Shenyang in 1954 show that 91 more capitalist industrial enterprises in these cities were turned into joint state-private enterprises, and have since increased production. The well-known privately-owned Min Sheng Company, whose steamships plied the Yangtse River, can be taken as a typical example. It was always losing money in the past as a result of its top-heavy administration and bad management. A radical change has taken place since it became a joint state-private enterprise in September 1952. The amount of cargo carried has increased enormously and profits mount steadily every year.

Such facts demonstrate to all those engaged in private industry and commerce the benefits that joint state-private enterprise brings to the country as well as to themselves. As a result many owners are now eager for their enterprises to become joint state-private enterprises.

A socialist society cannot be established without a continuous rise in the cultural standards of the people. The Communist Party and the People's Government of China therefore give the closest attention to work in the fields of education, science, literature, art and public health.

One of the tasks set by the first Five-Year Plan is to train large numbers of personnel for construction. In 1953, there were over 216,000 students in higher educational institutions, a 40% increase over the peak pre-liberation level. By the autumn of this year, the number will increase to 290,000 and will rise to over 434,000 in 1957; a large proportion of these students will specialise in technology. Even if we add to this number the students being trained in secondary technical schools, the total is still not sufficient to meet the needs of national construction. We will therefore have to train many more scientists and technicians in various kinds of spare-time schools and training classes.

Initial improvements in the people's material well-being and cultural standards also take place in the course of fulfilling the tasks of the first Five-Year Plan. During the last two years, 1953 and 1954, the average money-wage of factory and

Statement by CPG Board

The Board of the Communist Party of Germany has published a statement on the results of the talks between the government delegations of the Soviet Union and the German Federal Republic.

With all the working people of Western Germany, this statement reads, the CPG welcomes the establishment of diplomatic relations between the USSR and Western Germany as an important step towards the relaxation of international tension and a contribution to the reunification of Germany. The results of these talks signify a victory for the forces of peace and especially for the peace policy of the Soviet Union and for those in the Federal Republic who are prepared to come to an agreement.

The talks showed clearly, the statement continues, that the intentions of the Bonn Government to incorporate all Germany in NATO will never be carried out. Peaceful reunification is possible only if co-operation between the two German states is established. The people of Western Germany must take the normalisation of relations into their own hands more vigorously than ever and combat every attempt at sabotage or procrastination.

Communist Party of Indonesia Before General Elections

General elections will be held in Indonesia on September 29. In view of this the Communist Party of Indonesia has held a number of mass meetings which have been addressed by Communist Party leaders and general election candidates.

Speaking at meetings in Djokjakarta, Semarang and Purwokerto (Central Java), attended by about 1.5 million people, Comrade D. N. Aidit, General Secretary of the Party, pointed out that if the Communist Party won the general elections, a national coalition government would be formed, with the support of the broad popular masses. He called on the whole people to make election day a day of solidarity against colonialism and emphasized the possibility of co-operation between the Communists and the nationalist and other democratic parties.

Addressing a meeting in Bandung, attended by hundreds of thousands of people, Comrade Njoto, Second Deputy General Secretary, stressed the significance of national unity.

"Give Us Back Our Sons!"

The decision of the French Government to apply stronger repressive measures in North Africa and its decrees to recall 75,000 young men to the army and postpone the demobilisation of 104,000 soldiers due for discharge has aroused grave anxiety among the ordinary people of France. "What do they want of our sons? What are they going to do with them? Can they really be sending them to war again?"—these questions are being asked by the relatives of the men in danger of being shipped off to North Africa.

Mme De Bouvere's son was to be demobilised in October. "One of my sons", she says, "was killed during the war, when he was six. If he were alive now, he would be called up. Are they going to take all my sons from me? ... Why, my sons... they're all my life to me!" Mme Manche, who owns a small grocery store,



The repressive measures taken by the French authorities in Algeria and Morocco have aroused the wrath and indignation of broad sections of the Arab peoples. Mass demonstrations and numerous meetings have been taking place in Syria. A day of solidarity with the peoples of North Africa was recently held in the cities of Lebanon, marked by strikes and mass protest demonstrations. All parties and patriotic organisations of Lebanon have published leaflets condemning the actions of the French colonisers. The picture above shows the protest demonstration in the Lebanese capital, Beirut.

POLITICAL NOTES

Foreign "Visitors" in Manila

September is not exactly a nice time to visit the Philippines—it is hot, there are frequent thunder storms and it rains cats and dogs. Nevertheless an exceptional number of foreign "visitors" assembled in Manila, the capital, in mid-September. These visits were occasioned by the conference of military and civil experts of SEATO member-states.

Considering that nowadays all peace-loving people are calling for the settlement of pressing international issues in the "spirit of Geneva", one might expect that the Manila conference of military and political personages, who hold quite important posts in the countries they represent, would concentrate on helping along the continued relaxation of international tension and the development of understanding among peoples.

No such thing, however. The foreign visitors went to Manila for quite another purpose. The principal question for discussion at the conference was that of combating "subversive activities", to be more precise, the national liberation movements. Those present at the conference therefore considered it their chief business to sow new suspicion and fear, raise a fresh wave of anti-Communist hysteria in this part of South-East Asia and thereby restore some fraction, however minute, of the infamous "positions of strength" policy.

It is common knowledge, however, that this policy has suffered ignominious defeat. Extreme precautions had therefore to be taken to prevent the discussions from becoming public, most meetings being held behind locked doors. The assembly halls in Camp Murphy and Quezon City were heavily guarded. But notwithstanding this, some information on the work of the conference leaked into the press. It is clear from the newspaper reports that

urgent measures being taken against "the menace of subversive activities".

The nature of the views held by some of the conference participants may easily be gauged from the speech of José Crisol, chief Philippine "psychological warfare" expert. He wasn't at all queasy about publicising his "own experience" of such warfare in the Philippines, that is, his experience of brutal repressive actions against Philippine patriots. He called for a "united civil and military programme". At the same time, speakers of the Crisol type fell over themselves in their attempts—in the spirit of the "cold war"—to cast a shadow on the efforts of the peace-loving countries of Europe and Asia for a further détente.

It speaks volumes that for all their fine talk about the "considerable progress" made in the "collective planning of the defence of South-East Asia" and in drawing up a programme for a joint campaign against the "scheming activities of the Reds", the conference participants had with some bitterness to confess that they could not agree as to "how they should go about it", that is how to maintain the colonial order of things in the South-East Asian countries. According to United Press, the secret talks in Manila between SEATO member-states lacked the cheerful optimism which prevailed at recent international meetings. The problems still unsettled will, United Press continues, be handed over for examination to the SEATO council, which will meet in Pearl Harbour early in November.

We can with certainty say here and now that whatever plans the SEATO strategists may be hatching up in relation to the peoples of South-East Asia, they will not succeed in stemming the rising tide of the powerful national liberation

of various types of pneumatic tools to meet the needs of the country's economy.

On April 21, 1954, construction started on a modern electrical instrument factory which will be highly mechanised and automatized. This is one of the major projects of our new engineering industry.

Tens of thousands of workers and staff are hard at work on the construction site of our First Motor Works. Here building operations continue in all weathers. Men of the People's Liberation Army who are taking part in building the works have this slogan: "The coldest wind cannot chill our spirits; the icy snow cannot cool our enthusiasm."

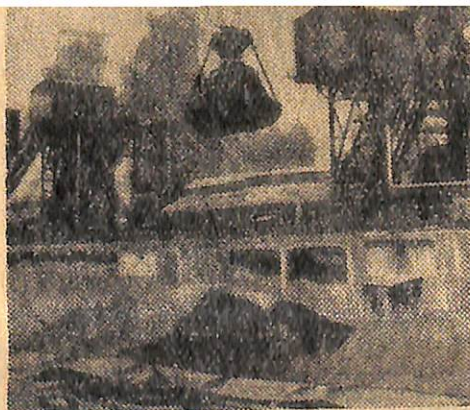
Geological prospecting and the preparation of adequate raw material bases are of prime importance in establishing heavy industries. Little was done under the reactionary Kuomintang regime to survey China's resources. Now we have a numerous army of geological prospectors, who with great zeal and courage are searching out our resources. They are working in distant frontier regions, in uninhabited wildernesses, in vast unexplored virgin forests, in deserts and amid mountain fastnesses of eternal snow. Preliminary surveys of coal and iron ore deposits in a big mining district in Northwest China have already established that the extent of these deposits are dozens of times greater than previous estimates suggested. Our geologists have also discovered several new deposits of important metals.

China's old industries were very irrationally distributed over the country. The first Five-Year Plan seeks to correct this by providing for fresh industrial development in China's interior and border regions in addition to the reconstruction and extension of existing enterprises. New towns have already appeared in the border regions of the Southwest, the highlands of Sikang and Tibet, the forests of the Northeast and on the grasslands of Sinkiang, Chinghai and Inner Mongolia. These are the industrial cities of the future. New railways and highways are being carried into remote regions inhabited by the national minorities. One of the most recent astonishing feats of the Chinese people is the building of the Sikang-Tibet Highway which threads its way across towering mountains, icy streams and overhanging cliffs, through thick forests, sand drifts and marshes, a road along the roof of the world.

Under the first Five-Year Plan, agriculture is faced with the important task of overcoming the substantial lag in the development of agricultural production as compared with industry. This can only be done by leading the peasants onto the road of socialist co-operation. Only on the basis of co-operative farming can we gradually equip agriculture with modern machinery and greatly increase agricultural output. Thanks to the efforts of the Communist Party, the broad masses of the peasants have acquired a better understanding of Socialism in the past two years and made great advances in co-operation. We now have 650,000 agricultural producer co-operatives of a semi-socialist character: one-seventh of the total number of the nation's peasant households belong to them.

Although serious natural calamities in 1953 and 1954 prevented us from reaching the targets set for increases in agricultural production, the total output in each of these years still exceeded that of 1952.

Floods have been one of the greatest menaces to the Chinese people since the



Under the first Five-Year Plan four automatic blast furnaces have been put into operation at the Anshan Iron and Steel Works. Above: One of the Works' automatic blast furnaces.

The multi-purpose plan to control and exploit the Yellow River, adopted by the Second Session of the National People's Congress, falls into two parts: an overall plan and a plan for the first stage. The overall plan will take scores of years to complete. The plan for the first stage, to be completed by 1967, deals mainly with the pressing problems of flood prevention, power generation and irrigation. In the period 1957-1961, a huge reservoir will be built at Sanmen Gorge, with a capacity of 36,000 million cubic metres, second in size only to that at the Kuibyshev hydroelectric station, the largest in the world.

Completion of the reservoirs and power stations on the Yellow River will end the menace of floods and provide industries on both banks with cheap electric power. The Yellow River—"China's Sorrow"—will then run clear and will become a source of wealth and happiness for the Chinese people.

The large-scale afforestation and forest-protection work undertaken by the Chinese people over the past few years has transformed many arid hill regions into fertile, beautiful spots. In the Northeast, Inner Mongolia, Hopei, Honan and the Northwest, the rising shelter belts have begun to serve as windbreaks, prevent soil erosion and protect the growing crops on the farmlands.

State trade under the first Five-Year Plan plays an important role in increasing the exchange of goods between city and countryside, bringing about a reasonable distribution of industrial and agricultural products, ensuring stability of the market and satisfying the people's needs, consolidating the worker-peasant alliance and bringing about the gradual socialist transformation of private commerce. With the expansion of industrial and agricultural production and the rise in purchasing power of our people, the total volume of retail sales has increased every year; in 1953 it was 180% greater than in 1950, while in 1954 it was about 12% greater than in 1953.

In the sphere of foreign trade, increasing trade with the Soviet Union and the People's Democracies is of enormous importance to our economic construction. But in line with our peaceful foreign policy, our country is prepared to trade, on a basis of equality and mutual benefit, with all countries. In 1954 both import and export trade exceeded the targets set

One of the tasks set by the first Five-Year Plan is to train large numbers of personnel for construction. In 1953, there were over 216,000 students in higher educational institutions, a 40% increase over the peak pre-liberation level. By the autumn of this year, the number will increase to 290,000 and will rise to over 434,000 in 1957; a large proportion of these students will specialise in technology. Even if we add to this number the students being trained in secondary technical schools, the total is still not sufficient to meet the needs of national construction. We will therefore have to train many more scientists and technicians in various kinds of spare-time schools and training classes.

Initial improvements in the people's material well-being and cultural standards also take place in the course of fulfilling the tasks of the first Five-Year Plan. During the last two years, 1953 and 1954, the average money-wage of factory and office workers rose by 14%. Commodity prices remained stable, so that the masses of the people have been able to live a peaceful and happy life such as they have never known. Whereas in 1952 the rural population spent about 15,420 million yuan on various commodities, in 1954 they spent 22,020 million yuan. The incomes of collective farmers have risen most rapidly. At the Spark Collective Farm, for example, a member gets 5 yuan for a work-day; when its members were still in the mutual-aid team stage a work-day was only worth 1.28 yuan.

In the old days, the labouring people enjoyed no convalescence or holiday benefits. In 1954, over 1,500 sanatoria, hot-spring sanatoria and rest homes were set up by the state at well-known beauty spots. Now a great many factory and office workers spend their summer holidays in such places each year.

Working conditions in factories and mines are also being constantly improved.

An increasing network of nurseries and nursery rooms is being provided at factories and mines. By the end of 1954, trade unions throughout the country had opened 4,003 nurseries and 2,670 nursery rooms.

China's various national minorities take an active part in socialist construction and in the political life of the country. They have 177 deputies in the First National People's Congress. The Constitution of our country guarantees the equality of all nationalities, and lays down that regional autonomy is to be established in areas where national minorities live in compact communities.

As the first Five-Year Plan is implemented step by step, our motherland will grow in grandeur. The happiness of our people will increase year by year. Never before have the Chinese people known such happiness as they do today. They have been victims of long years of suffering and hardship; that is why they fully appreciate the worth of their present peaceful and happy life. The Chinese people are not only confidently and resolutely working today for fulfilment of their first Five-Year Plan, for a happy future and the well-being of the younger generation; they are at the same time working heroically to ensure the security of their peaceful labours and to defend peace in Asia and throughout the world.

Our Sons!

The decision of the French Government to apply stronger repressive measures in North Africa and its decrees to recall 75,000 young men to the army and postpone the demobilisation of 104,000 soldiers due for discharge has aroused grave anxiety among the ordinary people of France. "What do they want of our sons? What are they going to do with them? Can they really be sending them to war again?"—these questions are being asked by the relatives of the men in danger of being shipped off to North Africa.

Mme De Bouvere's son was to be demobilised in October. "One of my sons", she says, "was killed during the war, when he was six. If he were alive now, he would be called up. Are they going to take all my sons from me?... Why, my sons... they're all my life to me!" Mme Manche, who owns a small grocery store, said when her grandson—her only helper—was called up for a second time: "He's got a bad heart, but that doesn't mean a thing to them—they take everyone." "Since my son was called up I'm more dead than alive", says Mme Delacour. "I wander about the house aimlessly and can't do a thing... Can they have sent him to Algeria already? Did we bring them up just to be killed?"

A popular movement is now spreading through the country. When they learned that one of the young men of Oradour (Haute-Vienne) had been called up, all the residents of the village signed a resolution of protest against the government decision and handed it in to the authorities. In the town of Sinas (Bouches-du-Rhône) a similar protest was signed by 250. In many towns, delegations of fathers, mothers, sisters, wives and sweethearts of the men who have been recalled have visited representatives of the local authorities and handed in protest resolutions.

Strong protests against the mobilisation decrees are being voiced by many municipal councils and a number of mass organisations.

Latest Victims of Lynch Law

The mutilated body of a 14-year-old Negro boy, Emmett Louis Till by name, was recently recovered from the Tallahatchie River in the State of Mississippi. The boy, it was revealed, had been kidnapped and killed by local racists because he was supposed to have made "ugly remarks" to a white woman.

This is the third victim of lynching in Mississippi since May last, the other two victims being the Rev. George W. Lee of Belzoni and farmer Lamar Smith of Brookhaven, both of whom were killed for persuading Negroes to put their names in the electors' lists and take part in the voting at the recent primary elections.

Indignation at this latest case of lynching has spread to many parts of Mississippi, and a great number of protests are coming in from other states. Local authorities, however, are doing their best to get the criminals off.

It is evident from this case of lynching, said Roy Wilkins, executive secretary of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People, that "Mississippi has decided to maintain white supremacy by murdering children". The boy's killers, he said, considered that they could get away with lynching because there are no restraining feelings of decency in the state as a whole, in the state capital, in the newspapers, among the clergy or in any section of the so-called best circles.

the national liberation movements. The colonial order of things in the Southeast Asian countries. According to United Press member-states lacked the cheerful optimism which prevailed at recent international meetings. The problems still unsettled with United Press continues, be handed over for examination to the SEATO council, which will meet in Pearl Harbour early November.

It is common knowledge, however, that this policy has suffered ignominious defeat. Extreme precautions had therefore to be taken to prevent the discussions from becoming public, most meetings being held behind locked doors. The assembly halls in Camp Murphy and Quezon City were heavily guarded. But notwithstanding this, some information on the work of the conference leaked into the press. It is clear from the newspaper reports that many speakers, in defiance of common sense, insisted on

Stop Franco Terror!

Another outrage has recently been committed by the Franco clique. At a mockery of a trial, a court-martial has sentenced Narciso Julián, Pedro Vicente, Jose Luis Santos and a number of other Spanish patriots to many years of imprisonment.

The judges did not allow the accused patriots to speak. The official "counsels for the defence", who added to the anti-Communist lies of the prosecutor, were more like prosecutors themselves. Nevertheless, Narciso Julián boldly exposed the barbarous tortures he had suffered at the hands of the police and upheld the right of Communists, democrats and all patriots to fight for the well-being of the people of Spain and for her independence.

While aiming to break him physically and bring about his "natural death" in prison, the Franco authorities are planning further proceedings against Narciso Julián on a charge of being connected with a group of anti-Francoists who were sentenced back in 1952.

These acts of violence add to the picture of horrible reality recently painted for the world in a letter signed by anti-Franco

political prisoners in the Burgos prison, in San Miguel de los Reyes, in the Ocaña prison, the women's prison in Segovia and many other Spanish jails. Among other things, this letter, published in *Mundo Obrero*, says that thousands of democrats are languishing in Franco torture chambers. Some of them have already been there for 18 years and the majority for over 10 years. The prisoners are subjected to subtle tortures.

In their letter the prisoners of the Franco regime emphasize the enormous significance of the solidarity of the Spanish people and of the world democratic forces. This solidarity of the peoples of the world forced the Franco authorities to release López Raimundo. They were also compelled to free another hero of anti-Franco struggle, Sebastián Zapirain, member of the C.C. of the Spanish Communist Party.

At the present time progressive and democratic forces in France and in Mexico, Brazil and other Latin American countries are intensifying the campaign for a retrial of Narciso Julián and his comrades and also for an amnesty for all anti-Franco political prisoners.

Facts Expose...

To Please Foreign Visitors Even official sources in Seoul admit that South Korea is short of 930,000 houses at the present moment and that 630,000 houses are unfit for habitation. Nevertheless, even existing houses are being demolished, on the orders of the Syngman Rhee Government. Recently the people were ordered to tear down more than 63,000 wooden shanties and houses—all without the slightest compensation—for the sole reason that they "shock" foreign visitors.

Capitalist "Logic" The French newspaper *France-Soir* stated recently that the country had "too much flour, wine and milk". One would be justified in expecting this to have brought down the price of food, which would have been greatly welcomed by a big section of the French working people, who have not even a minimum subsistence wage. In fact, however, instead of falling, prices are going up. As the same newspaper reports: "Meat

is more expensive than it was a year ago." Bread went up in June. Such is capitalist logic, which runs counter to common sense.

So-called Freedom of the Individual While in Mannheim (Western Germany) a student from British Guiana quite unsuspectingly looked in at restaurant "08/15". He had hardly had time to look around when a waiter hurried over and churlishly informed him that the restaurant was reserved for German ex-soldiers and that coloured people could stay out.

The trusting visitor learnt from bitter experience the true value of the Western press eulogies about the "freedom of the individual".

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