

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

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## PREVENT THE MENACE OF ATOMIC WAR!

The enlarged meeting of the Bureau of the World Peace Council—this most representative organ of the peace-loving people of all races and nations, of all lands and continents—which was held in Vienna on January 18 and 19, was an event of tremendous international significance, one which marks a new stage in the development of the great movement of peace supporters.

Expressing the unshakable will of the peoples for peace, their firm determination to prevent the revival of German militarism and the threat of an atomic war, the Bureau of the World Peace Council focused its attention on the questions which are deeply agitating all honest people throughout the world. The Declaration of the Bureau of the World Peace Council, the Appeal to the Peoples of Europe and the Appeal to the Peoples of the World, unanimously adopted by this meeting, met with great enthusiasm and approval from the whole of progressive mankind. These genuinely historic documents rally all peace supporters and all people of goodwill, urging them to step up the struggle for peace and security, for the relaxation of international tension, against the policy of war blocs, against the attacks of the imperialist forces on the very life and civilisation of mankind.

The World Peace Council called on men and women of all countries to spare no effort, to display all their determination and courage to prevent ratification and implementation of the disastrous London and Paris agreements. It called on men and women who have been waging the heroic struggle against the rearmament of Germany, as well as those who are becoming aware of the impending danger, to unite and multiply their efforts to prevent the revival of German militarism and safeguard the security of Europe with the participation of a peace-loving Germany. At the same time the World Peace Council urged the peoples to weigh the whole gravity of the new danger arising from atomic war and to avert this menace by all means at their disposal.

"Today certain governments", the Appeal to the Peoples of the World reads, "are preparing to unleash an atomic war. They are trying to make the peoples accept it as inevitable."

"The use of atomic weapons would result in a war of extermination."

"We declare that any government that lets loose an atomic war would forfeit the trust of its people and would be..."

drawing Western Germany into aggressive military groupings, the Western powers have erected fresh obstacles to restoring the unity of Germany along peaceable and democratic lines and to signing a peace treaty with Germany.

Now, with a view to strengthening and promoting friendly mutual relations between the USSR and the German Democratic Republic, relations based on recognition of the principles of sovereignty and equality, and taking into consideration the opinion of the Government of the GDR and the interests of the population in Eastern and Western Germany, the Soviet Union has made another peace-loving step: the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR has announced the termination of the state of war between the Soviet Union and Germany. This historic legislative act of the Soviet state, dictated by concern for the future of the German people and the strengthening of peace in Europe, will undoubtedly meet with the fullest approval of all peace-loving forces and, above all, of the German people.

As regards the question of atomic energy, the Soviet Union has held and holds now that atomic weapons must be banned, that atomic energy must be placed in the service of peace and the progress of mankind. The Soviet Government, attaching as it does great importance to the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes and striving to promote international co-operation in this field, has declared its readiness to submit a report on the first industrial atomic power plant in the USSR and its work to the International Conference on the Peaceful Use of Atomic Energy scheduled for 1955 in accordance with the decision of the IXth session of the General Assembly of Uno. The Soviet Government has decided to give scientific, technical and production assistance to other countries for establishing scientific experimental centres for the development of research into nuclear physics and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

The world campaign against atomic weapons launched at the call of the World Peace Council corresponds to the peaceful aspirations of all peace-loving peoples. There is no doubt that it will spread to all countries, without exception, that it will involve all honest people throughout the world who are striving to bar the way to the forces which are preparing the biggest crime against mankind and are planning to

## Results of Fulfilment of State Plan for Development of National Economy of USSR in 1954

Report by Central Statistical Board of Council of Ministers of USSR

The development of industry, agriculture and transport, growth of capital construction, expansion of home and foreign trade, increase in the number of factory and office workers and rise in the material and cultural standards of the people in 1954 are indicated by the following data:

### I. FULFILMENT OF PRODUCTION PLAN IN INDUSTRY

The 1954 plan for gross production in industry as a whole was fulfilled 103%. The various Ministries fulfilled their annual industrial gross output plans as follows:

	Annual output in percentage of plan for 1954
Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR	101
Ministry of the Non-Ferrous Metallurgical Industry of the USSR	102
Ministry of the Coal Industry of the USSR	101
Ministry of the Oil Industry of the USSR	103
Ministry of the Chemical Industry	103
Ministry of Electric Power Stations	103
Ministry of the Electro-Technical Industry	104
Ministry of the Radio-Technical Industry	104
Ministry of Heavy Engineering Industry	104
Ministry of the Machine-Tool and Tool-Making Industry	103
Ministry of Transport Machinery	103
Ministry of Motor, Tractor and Agricultural Machinery Industry	105
Ministry of the Machine and Instrument-Making Industry	104
Ministry of Building and Road-Building Machinery Industry	102
Ministry of the Building Materials Industry of the USSR	103
Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR	96
Ministry of the Paper and Woodworking Industry	102
Ministry of the Consumer-Goods Industry of the USSR	105
Ministry of the Food Industry of the USSR	103
Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR	92
Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry of the USSR	97
Industrial Enterprises of the Ministry of Railways	105
Industrial Enterprises of the Ministry of Culture of the USSR	106
Industrial Enterprises of the Ministry of Health of the USSR	108
Ministries of Local and Fuel Industries and Ministries of Local Industry of the Union Republics	106
Industrial co-operatives	106

In 1954 gross production in the whole industry of the USSR rose 13% above the 1953 level and 65% above the 1950 level. This growth and the further increase in industrial output envisaged in the 1955 plan ensure the fulfilment, ahead of schedule, of the assignment set by the fifth Five-Year Plan to raise industrial output in 1955 to approximately 70% above the 1950 figure.

The 1954 plan for many types of industrial goods was overfulfilled. The annual assignments were overfulfilled in relation to the following important items of heavy industrial production: coal, oil, peat, natural gas, iron and manganese ores, steel, rolled ferrous metal, rolled steel tubing, coke, petrol, kerosene, diesel oil, black oil, lubricants, electric power, electric bulbs, electro-vacuum instruments, steam turbines, locomotives, metal-cutting lathes, electric motors, blast furnace and smelting equipment, trucks and cars, buses, motorcycles, tractor-drawn sowing machines, machines for planting potatoes by the square cluster method, cotton-pickers, grain-cleaners, potato-picking combines, spare parts for tractors and agricultural machinery, tractor-driven bulldozers, ball and roller-bearings, synthetic ammonia, nitrous fertilisers, super-phosphates, dyes and other chemicals, synthetic rubber, tyres, cement, window glass, slate, asbestos, pig iron and ceramic sewage pipes, paper and other items.

Items of mass consumption produced in excess of the year's plan include: cotton, linen and silk fabrics, hosiery, leather and rubber shoes, radio sets, cameras, pianos, margarine, confectionery, macaroni, canned meat and canned meat with vegetables, sausage, tea, wine, champagne, cigarettes, matches, soap and other manufactured goods and foodstuffs.

However, some Ministries failed to ensure fulfilment of the 1954 plan for the output of certain types of manufactured goods. For instance, the Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR fell short of the plan for the output of iron and some types of rolled metals, the Ministry of the Non-Ferrous Metallurgical Industry of the USSR failed to fulfil the plan for the output of some kinds of non-ferrous metals; the Ministry of the Electro-Technical Industry fell short of the plan for the output of some types of electro-technical equipment and electric locomotives; the Ministry of the Radio-Technical Industry—for TV sets, the Ministry of Heavy Engineering—steam boilers, large-scale hydraulic turbines and rolling mill equipment; the Ministry of the Machine-Tool and Tool-Making Industry—large-scale, heavy and unique metal-cutting lathes; the Ministry of Transport Machinery—freight cars and rolling equipment; the Ministry of the Motor, Tractor and Agricultural Machinery Industry—self-propelled grain combines, tractor-drawn cultivators and complex threshing machines; the Ministry of the Machine and Instrument-Making Industry—chemical equipment, looms and spinning machines; the Ministry of the Chemical Industry—carbide calcium and potash fertilisers; the Ministry of the Building Materials Industry of the USSR—bricks, felt roofing and certain sanitation and technical goods; the Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR failed to ensure fulfilment of the plan for the transport of timber, for the output of lumber and sleepers for wide-gauge railway tracks; the Ministry of the Paper and Woodworking Industry—for the output of furniture; the Ministry of the Food Industry of the USSR fell short of the plan for the production of

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mentation of the disastrous London and Paris agreements. It called on men and women who have been waging the heroic struggle against the rearmament of Germany, as well as those who are becoming aware of the impending danger, to unite and multiply their efforts to prevent the revival of German militarism and safeguard the security of Europe with the participation of a peace-loving Germany. At the same time the World Peace Council urged the peoples to weigh the whole gravity of the new danger arising from atomic war and to avert this menace by all means at their disposal.

"Today certain governments", the Appeal to the Peoples of the World reads, "are preparing to unleash an atomic war. They are trying to make the peoples accept it as inevitable.

"The use of atomic weapons would result in a war of extermination.

"We declare that any government that lets loose an atomic war would forfeit the trust of its people and would be condemned by all peoples of the world.

"We oppose those who are preparing an atomic war. We demand the destruction of stockpiles of atomic weapons, wherever they may be, and an immediate end to their manufacture."

This Appeal was signed by outstanding peace fighters whose names have won the love and respect of all peace-loving people, thus giving a start to a world-wide campaign for collecting signatures to the Appeal.

The campaign against atomic weapons launched by the World Peace Council is developing in a complex international situation. The peoples are now passing through the most crucial stage in their history. The reactionary circles of the U.S.A., Britain, France and some other Western countries are doing their utmost to aggravate international tension, intensify the arms race, revive German militarism, resurrect in Western Germany a revanchist Wehrmacht under the command of the former Hitler generals and put atomic weapons into their hands.

This course, most dangerous for the cause of peace and at variance with the vital interests of all European nations, is tantamount to a rejection of the peaceful settlement of the German problem. Ratification of the Paris agreements, which the rulers of the Western powers are trying to push through, is incompatible with the restoration of Germany as a unified, peace-loving and democratic state; it would make negotiations on the reunification of Germany impossible and the organisation of collective security in Europe difficult.

The remilitarisation of Western Germany is closely connected with the monstrous plans of the ruling circles of the imperialist states to unleash an atomic war. The decision adopted at the end of last year by the Council of the aggressive North Atlantic bloc, under pressure from the U.S. military, on the use of atomic weapons in the new war being prepared by the aggressors aims not only at legalising atomic war, which has already been condemned by the conscience of mankind and by international law, but at forcing the public to reconcile themselves to the idea that such a war is inevitable.

With a view to diverting the attention of the West European peoples from the real danger of an atomic war, the U.S. statesmen who are whipping up war hysteria are coming out with provocative statements about the "Soviet threat". However, the entire world has long been aware of the firm and unwavering peaceful policy of the Soviet Union and its clear-cut stand on the German question and the question of atomic energy, which is supported by millions in all countries.

The proposals repeatedly put forward by the Soviet Union for the preparation of a peace treaty with Germany are well known. And each time, on this or that pretext, the Western powers rejected these proposals. Moreover, by the London and Paris agreements aimed at perpetuating the division of Germany, at reviving the Wehrmacht and

field, has declared its readiness to submit a report on the first industrial atomic power plant in the USSR and its work to the International Conference on the Peaceful Use of Atomic Energy scheduled for 1955 in accordance with the decision of the IXth session of the General Assembly of Uno. The Soviet Government has decided to give scientific, technical and production assistance to other countries for establishing scientific experimental centres for the development of research into nuclear physics and the use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes.

The world campaign against atomic weapons launched at the call of the World Peace Council corresponds to the peaceful aspirations of all peace-loving peoples. There is no doubt that it will spread to all countries, without exception, that it will involve all honest people throughout the world who are striving to bar the way to the forces which are preparing the biggest crime against mankind and are planning to let loose an atomic war of extermination. A mass campaign for signatures to this highly important document is being launched in France and Italy. In Austria active peace supporters have collected the first hundreds of signatures at many factories in Vienna, Salzburg and Wiener-Neustadt. Active preparations for the signature campaign are being made in many other countries.

The peoples of the world can and must impose a ban on atomic weapons. But for this it is necessary for all peace supporters to devote their whole strength, courage, initiative and organisational abilities to carry out this broad, genuinely mass campaign, to display constant vigilance in relation to the intrigues of the enemies of peace, inflexible determination to surmount all difficulties and overcome the passivity of those who are still enmeshed in the false propaganda of the atom maniacs.

The fight for peace is not the affair of any one party, organisation or section of the population. It is the duty of all peace-loving people, irrespective of nationality, sex, social status, political convictions or religious beliefs. Every honest man and woman, every public organisation must take action against the threat of a devastating atomic war.

There are now many thousands of regional, district, town, factory and village peace committees in most countries of the world. They are faced with responsible tasks. The establishment of live, daily contact with all the people living in the given locality, block or house, and with all working people, organising discussion on the broadest scale around the Appeal of the World Peace Council and collection everywhere of signatures, are of the utmost significance for the success of this world-wide campaign.

The Communist and Workers' Parties, who regard the struggle for a better future for their peoples as being indissolubly linked with the tasks of maintaining and consolidating peace, will exert all their efforts to ensure the complete success of this cause of the peoples. The Communist and Workers' Parties, closely bound up with the masses of the working people, are tirelessly forging unity of working-class action and the co-operation of all sections of the population in the struggle for peace, against the threat of atomic war.

Everyone who treasures peace will find great satisfaction in placing his or her signature to the Appeal of the World Peace Council. Millions and millions of signatures will constitute a living expression of the great anger of the peoples against those who are planning to plunge the world into the greatest of catastrophes, and of the firm resolve of the peoples to frustrate the criminal schemes of the atomic warmongers. Peace will be preserved and consolidated by the united, resolute action of all peoples!

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Ministry of the Machine and Instrument-Making Industry	104
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## CURB ATOMIC WARMONGERS, DEMAND THE PEOPLES, PREVENT ARMING OF WEST GERMAN REVENGE-SEEKERS

### ★ Protest Strikes of West German Workers

On January 22 a powerful strike took place throughout Western Germany involving over a million factory and office workers in the mining industry, at enterprises of steel and metallurgical concerns and at a number of other enterprises. Building workers also joined the strike, which was an expression of the protest of the working people against the remilitarisation of Western Germany and against the Paris agreements, against the attacks by the monopolies on their vital interests and trade union rights.

Over 90,000 miners and metallurgical workers downed tools in Dortmund and 15,000 metallurgical workers in Düsseldorf. In Gladbeck posters have been put up at the gates of the "Moltke" and "Zweckel" pits, saying: "In unity with the Federation of German Trade Unions—against militarism, for free all-German elections in 1955", "Neither men nor money in support of this system!"

The initiative of the workers of Remscheid who on January 22 launched a popular referendum for the rejection of the Paris agreements is finding active support among the working class in Western Germany. The collection of signatures is going on at factories in Dortmund, Frankfurt on Main, Stuttgart, Mannheim, Hamburg, Munich, Augsburg and other towns in Western Germany.

### AUSTRIAN PEACE SUPPORTERS LAUNCH SIGNATURE CAMPAIGN

The simple and courageous words of the Appeal of the Bureau of the World Peace Council have met with a wide response among the Austrian population. On the day the Appeal was issued the majority of those present at the meeting in Vienna to mark the end of the work of the enlarged meeting of the Bureau of the World Peace Council, signed this highly important document. As is reported by the working committee of the Austrian Peace Council, hundreds of workers at many enterprises have signed the Appeal.

A meeting of the Bureau of the Austrian Peace Council will be held on January 29 and will be attended by representatives of a number of public organisations, factories and offices. The meeting will adopt decisions on measures to be taken for the collection of signatures.

### ★ ★ Powerful Movement in Britain Against Remilitarisation of Western Germany

Thousands of British people from different parts of the country gathered on January 25 outside the House of Commons to meet their M.P.s and demand that they take vigorous action against the remilitarisation of Western Germany. According to the Daily Express, it was the biggest demonstration in Westminster for 20 years. About 17,000 took part in it.

After several clashes mounted police managed to drive the demonstrators away from the entrance to the House of Commons. Despite police interference many members of delegations and some individual electors met their M.P.s. Victor Collins, Labour M. P., told members of his constituency that he and other M.P.s would do their best to see that the Parliamentary Labour group

### French People Step up Struggle

The Appeal of the Bureau of the World Peace Council to the peoples of the world was received with a feeling of deep satisfaction by French patriots. "I believe", said Mr. Etienne Nouveau, Deputy Chairman of the French Union of Veterans, "that from any point of view this world campaign for prohibiting an atomic war can but prompt the governments to gather at one table and negotiate." Similar statements were also made by Lucien Bauzin, Honorary Chairman of the Federation of the Radical Socialist Party in the Seine Department, and a number of prominent figures in the cinema world.

In the course of struggle against German rearmament French patriots have collected more than five million signatures. More and more Socialist working people, activists and elected persons are joining this struggle. This has had an effect even on the Socialist parliamentary group which recently refused—by 47 votes to 26, with 11 abstentions—to apply the disciplinary measures proposed by the Leading Committee of the Party against the 18 Socialist deputies who voted against the London and Paris agreements. Many Socialist activists express discontent with the fact that 86 Socialist deputies voted for German rearmament. For example, two municipal councillors from Brest, including the secretary of

demanded a fresh discussion of the problem of German rearmament.

The demonstrators marched through the streets chanting the slogan: "No arms for the Nazis!" A mass meeting took place in front of the British Museum. The speakers called for an intensification of the struggle against German rearmament, a strengthening of the fight for peace and negotiations.

The popular movement of protest against the plans for the remilitarisation of Western Germany had its effect in Parliament where 12 Labour M.P.s submitted a resolution declaring that the Soviet proposal for the reunification of Germany on the basis of free democratic elections under international supervision could be the basis for resuming Four-Power negotiations.

the Socialist sections of the city, recently resigned from the Party.

All the time deputations are visiting senators, who still have to vote on the London and Paris agreements, in the first half of next month. Forty-four factory and office workers of the Bouches-du-Rhône Department have issued an appeal to the working people of the department to sign the petition against the London and Paris agreements and to post or send it with a deputation to the senators and to the municipal and district councillors who elect them. Twenty of those who signed the appeal are members of the Force Ouvrière trade union and three are members of the French Confederation of Christian Working People.

Six district councillors and over forty mayors and municipal councillors of the Rhône Department have appealed to the senators from their department urging them to oppose the resurrection of the Wehrmacht.

A group of prominent women of various political views have called on French women to hold a National Day of Struggle for Disarmament and Against the Rearmament of Germany on January 30. The Presidium of the Peace Movement has declared February 6 a National Day of Struggle Against the Resurgence of German Militarism.

### ★ Stay the Hand of Those Who Seek the Division of Europe

Thousands of demonstrations are taking place in Italy at which the people are expressing their firm determination to prevent the revival of German militarism and the unleashing of an atomic war.

Big posters fixed onto floats on the canals in Venice called on the population to strengthen the struggle against German rearmament and to step up their efforts for a ban on atomic weapons.

Increasing numbers of posters, placards and wall newspapers urging struggle against the revival of the Wehrmacht are appearing in Rome. Thousands of leaflets saying: "Young people of Rome, citizens! Stay the hand of those who seek the division of Europe and the annihilation of mankind! Against German rearmament and the threat of an atomic war, for peace and the safety of the younger generation. We demand that the Senate does not ratify the West European Union treaty."

On January 23 a mass campaign in support of the Appeal of the Bureau of the World Peace Council to the peoples of the world was launched in Rome.

A celebration meeting was held in Florence in connection with the 34th anniversary of the foundation of the Italian Communist Party and was addressed by Palmiro Togliatti, General Secretary of the Party. Referring to the statement of Fanfani, Secretary of the Democratic Christian Party, who, in order to hold in check the discontent among the Catholic masses, recently announced his intention of holding his own peace campaign, Palmiro Togliatti posed the following question to the leaders of Fanfani's party:

"Are they ready to denounce, as a crime, the use of atomic weapons and other weapons of mass annihilation? Are the Democratic Christian leaders ready to denounce those rulers who have agreed to the atomic plans? Are they ready to rally with us and others with the same desire, to demand that the governments of the whole world denounce the use of the means of mass annihilation?... We put this to the Christian Democratic leaders as a concrete basis for action. Simultaneously we shall conduct a great peace campaign among the people, we shall talk with all families, all Italians in order to unite them for mass action in defence of civilisation, freedom and labour."

# Results of Fulfilment of State Plan for Development of National Economy of USSR in 1954

Report by Central Statistical Board of Council of Ministers of USSR

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sugar; the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry of the USSR—for meat and butter; the Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR did not fulfil the plan for the fish catch.

A number of Ministries indulge in a practice which is harmful to the state when they overfulfil assignments for the output of commodities that are not in short supply but at the same time fail to ensure fulfilment of the plan for the output of the most important items of manufacture.

Although the plan for output as a whole and of the majority of branches of industry has been fulfilled, a large number of factories, mines and oilfields failed to ensure fulfilment of the assignments fixed for 1954.

A major shortcoming in the work of industry was the fact that, as a result of the unsatisfactory organisation of production, a considerable number of enterprises functioned unevenly, turning out a large part of their output at the end of the month and functioning at lower levels at the beginning of the next month. Such uneven methods of work led to wastage of manpower, to equipment standing idle, to the numbers of workers exceeding the figure set by the plan, to unproductive payments for overtime, over-expenditure of the wage fund, to an increase in the number of rejects and to higher production costs.

## II. GROWTH OF INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT

Output of the major manufactures in 1954 compared with 1953 was as follows:

	1954 compared with 1953 (per cent)		1954 compared with 1953 (per cent)
Pig iron	109	Dyes	107
Steel	108	Synthetic rubber	101
Rolled steel	109	Motor tyres	114
Steel tubing	110	Haulage of marketable timber	111
Refined copper	105	Paper	110
Zinc	107	Cement	119
Lead	113	Window glass	114
Coal	108	Roofing slate	117
Oil	112	Roofing felt	109
Petrol	109	Bricks	113
Kerosene	105	Alcohol	108
Diesel oil	144	Cotton textiles	106
Natural gas	109	Woolen textiles	117
Electric power	111	Silk textiles	129
Steam turbines	104	Leather footwear	107
Large hydro-turbines	182	Rubber footwear	103
Hydro-generators	162	Hosiery	110
Large electric machines	112	Knitted underwear	118
Electric motors	114	Knitted outer garments	114
Mainline locomotives	113	Bicycles	125
Mainline electric locomotives	107	Radio sets	176
Trolleybuses	119	Television sets	3 times
Lorries	111	Gramophones	131
Motorcars	123	Sewing machines	129
Motor buses	134	Watches	128
Motorcycles	144	Cameras	154
Ball and roller-bearings	113	Upright and grand pianos	121
Metallurgical equipment	105	Domestic refrigerators	192
Excavators	116	Vacuum cleaners	2.9 times
Metal-cutting machine tools	108	Domestic washing machines	13 times
Chemical equipment	114	Metal bedsteads	133
Spinning machines	109	Furniture	127
Looms	169	Meat	109
Calculating machines	151	Sausage	111
Tractors	122	Fish	114
Three-row beet harvesting combines	2.4 times	Butter	102
Tractor-drawn ploughs	106	Vegetable oils	111
Tractor-drawn cultivators	107	Margarine	116
Complex threshing machines	143	Dairy products	113
Potato-planters for square-cluster planting	4.9 times	Cheese	112
Winnowing machines	122	Confectionery	103
Caustic soda	111	Macaroni products	115
Soda	110	Canned goods	116
		Tea	111
		Soap	121
		Cigarettes	113
		Matches	127

plan for reducing the cost of production was considerably underfulfilled by the following Ministries: Ministry of the Coal Industry of the USSR, Ministry of the Timber Industry of the USSR, Ministry of the Electro-Technical Industry, Ministry of the Non-Ferrous Metallurgical Industry of the USSR, Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry of the USSR and the Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR.

## III. INTRODUCTION OF NEW TECHNIQUE IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

Work was continued in 1954 to develop and introduce new technique; the machine-building industry evolved new types and models of equipment for industry, construction, agriculture and transport; new technological processes were introduced and automatization and mechanisation of production extended.

Increased gas pressure was used on a wider scale in blast furnaces; in rolled metal production, new steel profiles were turned out. At the same time, however, enterprises of the ferrous and, especially, of the non-ferrous metallurgical industry still used oxygen insufficiently in their technological processes.

In the coal industry the hydraulic method of coal extraction was introduced into underground working. Further mechanisation of labour-consuming processes was carried on—loading at the coal face and coal and dirt-loading during preliminary work. Mechanisation of these processes is still not sufficient and lags far behind the mechanisation of other processes of coal extraction. The Ministry of the Coal Industry of the USSR did not fulfil the 1954 plan for mechanised coal and dirt-loading during preliminary work and for reinforcing the pits with metal props.

In the oil industry the method of extraction by maintaining pressure in the strata and of second-round extraction, making it possible to obtain more oil from the strata, was further extended.

Complex automatization of boiler-houses was continued in thermo-electric stations. As against 1953 a 1.5 times increase was observed in the capacity of power systems which are run by means of telemechanics from the control room.

The Soviet Union attaches great significance to the peaceful use of atomic energy. In 1954 the first industrial atomic power plant was put into operation in the USSR with a useful capacity of 5,000 kw.

Although there was a certain increase in the mechanisation of processes at the timber workings of the Ministry of Timber of the USSR, complex mechanisation is still being introduced too slowly at the timbering enterprises, and the switch over of timbering sites to the cyclical organisation of timber felling is also being carried out unsatisfactorily.

In construction, industrial methods of erecting buildings and constructions from assembled designs and parts made of reinforced concrete were further developed.

Rationalisation and invention continued in all branches of the national economy. In 1954 over 900,000 innovations, technical improvements and rationalisation proposals were introduced in industry, construction and transport.

A number of branches of the national economy, machine-building in particular, however, are lagging behind in the designing and introduction of new economical and highly productive machinery and equipment corresponding to the modern level of world technique. In designing new types of machines and equipment insufficient attention is paid to reducing their weight. Last year's plan for the output of new types of machinery and equipment and also for the introduction of automatization in production and advanced technological processes and production methods was not completely fulfilled by the Ministries.

## IV. AGRICULTURE

Last year the collective farms, MTS and state farms achieved considerable successes in increasing the output of grain and other agricultural products.

In 1954, on all types of farms, 10.8 million hectares more spring crops were sown than in 1953, including 7.2 million hectares more spring grain crops. The total area sown to winter and spring crops was 8.9 million hectares more than in 1953.

The area sown to cotton, sugar-beet, oil-bearing plants, potatoes and other vegetables and melon crops was extended; the area under annual grasses, silo crops and fodder crops also increased. The planned targets for growing fibre flax, hemp and potatoes were not, however, reached.

The gross yield of grain crops and grain procurements and purchases over the country as a whole were greater than in 1953 despite the fact that there was unfavourable weather for grain and other crops in the southern areas of the Ukraine and the Volga area.

Collective and state farms fulfilled the state plan for grain deliveries and purchases ahead of schedule. By December 5, 1954, 271 million more poods of grain had been delivered and sold to the state than by the same date in 1953. And much more grain was obtained from Siberia, Altai in particular, and from Kazakhstan.

The gross yield of raw cotton, fibre flax, flax seed, potatoes and other vegetables, and a variety of other agricultural produce was greater than in 1953.

Thus in one year alone the number of cows increased 1.5 million, the total number of cattle 1.9 million, hogs 3.4 million and sheep 2.6 million.

## V. GROWTH OF RAIL, WATER AND ROAD FREIGHTAGE

The annual plan for rail freight turnover was overfulfilled in 1954, the volume of turnover being 42% greater than in 1950. This means that the fifth Five-Year Plan assignment to increase railway freight turnover, by 1955, to 35-40% above the 1950 level was fulfilled ahead of time—in four years.

The general plan for average daily car loading was fulfilled 102% in 1954.

The plan for the transport of coal, coke, oil and oil products, peat, ore, flux, ferrous and non-ferrous metals, cement, grain, salt, fruits and vegetables, including potatoes, vegetable oil and fish was fulfilled or exceeded. The plan for the transport of firewood, scrap iron, lumber, fire-proof materials, building materials, chemical and mineral fertilisers, cotton and some other manufactured mass-consumer goods was not completely fulfilled.

Compared with 1953 time losses in loading and unloading operations were somewhat reduced in 1954. The average freight train weight was 5% higher than in 1953 while consumption of fuel per ton-kilometre was cut. The target for the accelerated turn-round of freight cars was not completely fulfilled in 1954, nor was that for the commercial speed of freight trains.

The annual plan for sea-borne freight turnover was fulfilled 109% and for freight carriage 103%. Compared with 1953, sea-borne freight turnover increased 18%, and freight carriage 6%.

The annual plan for river-borne freight turnover was fulfilled 100.8%, and for freight carriage 104%. Compared with the previous year, the river freight turnover increased by 6% and freight carriage by 11%. The plan for the transport of oil and oil products in tankers, and timber in rafts, for the carriage of coal, mineral and other building materials, salt and cotton was overfulfilled. The freightage assignments for ore, metal, cement, grain, fruits and vegetables, fish and fish products were not fulfilled.

Insufficient use was made of the river fleet for the transport of goods and the assignment was not completely carried out.

In 1954 automobile transport in general use of the Ministry of Motor Transport and Highways of the USSR fulfilled its plan for freight turnover and freight carriage 98%. Motor transport for general use increased its turnover by 66% and freightage by 75% above 1953.

## VI. INCREASE IN CAPITAL CONSTRUCTION

The volume of state capital investments in the national economy in 1954 was 15% above the previous year, in which the volume of capital investments was 104% compared with 1952.

Capital investments in heavy and light industry, the food industry, agriculture, transport and trade were higher than in 1953. There was a 30% increase in the volume of capital investments for the construction of cultural establishments and enterprises catering for everyday needs of the population.

In 1954 considerable production capacities were brought into use in all branches of the national economy. More than 600 big industrial enterprises were built and put into commission. The Ministry of Power Stations fulfilled its plan for bringing power stations into operation.

Despite the increase in capital construction, the annual targets for capital investments and bringing production capacities into commission were not reached, particularly by the Ministries of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR, the Non-Ferrous Metallurgical Industry of the USSR, the Chemical Industry, the Building and Road-Building Machinery Industry, the Paper and Woodworking Industry, the Building Materials Industry of the USSR and the Ministry of Procurements.

In 1954 building-assembly work was increased 20% by the Ministry of Construction of the USSR and 9% by the Ministry of Construction of Enterprises of the Metallurgical and Chemical Industries; however, the annual assignments for these Ministries were not completely fulfilled.

In 1954 the number of building machines and mechanisms continued to increase. Compared with 1953 the number of excavators available increased 20%, scrapers and bulldozers 26% and mobile cranes 25%. However, building machines and mechanisms are not used to the full on many construction sites and mechanisation of labour-consuming processes and heavy work is inadequate.

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Compared with the previous year, a certain reduction in construction costs was achieved. On a great many construction sites, however, the financial limits laid down were exceeded, there was unproductive wastage and expenditure, and the 1954 assignments for an increase in productivity of labour and a reduction in construction costs were not fulfilled. There were cases where capital investments were dispersed over a large number of construction sites with a consequent delay in the completion of industrial enterprises, houses and other projects.

There are big shortcomings in designing work. There are instances of unnecessary architectural decoration in the construction of industrial and cultural establishments and enterprises catering for the everyday needs of the population. Blueprints and estimates are not always available in time for the construction sites; there are frequent instances when blueprints, as a result of their poor quality, have to be redrawn, which leads to a considerable increase in the cost of construction work. The designing organizations do not yet pay the necessary attention to the preparation of standard designs, the 1954 plan for which was considerably underfulfilled.

## VII. EXPANSION OF HOME AND FOREIGN TRADE

In 1954 Soviet trade continued to expand. The 1954 plan for retail trade was overfulfilled. On the basis of new successes in the development of production, of increased productivity of labour and reduction of production costs, on April 1, 1954, the Government reduced retail prices for mass-consumption goods for the seventh year in succession since the abolition of rationing. The new price reduction led to a further strengthening of the Soviet rouble and a rise in the living standards of the population in our country.

In 1954 the population purchased 18% more goods than in 1953 in state and co-operative stores (in comparable prices). Sales in the network of consumer co-operatives in the countryside were 29% above the 1953 level.

Retail trade turnover (in comparable prices) was 80% greater than in 1950. This means that the approximate increase of 70% envisaged in the fifth Five-Year Plan for state and co-operative retail trade over the years 1950 to 1955 was achieved ahead of time—in four years.

Sales of individual food items increased, in comparison with 1953, as follows: meat and meat products 16%, fish and fish products 18%, butter 7%, vegetable oil and fat 22%, cheese 13%, milk and dairy products 10%, eggs 6%, sugar 10%, confectionery 11%, tea 20% and vegetables 15%.

Significant also was the increase in the sale of manufactured goods in 1954: cotton fabrics 18%, woollen fabrics 25%, silk fabrics 28%, clothing 22%, knitted goods 23%, hosiery 24%, leather footwear 16%. A considerable increase was registered in the sale of goods of cultural and everyday needs: radio sets 76%, TV sets more than twofold, clocks and watches 24%, cameras 57%, gramophones 26%, furniture 25%, sewing machines 25%, washing machines tenfold, vacuum cleaners 2.7 times, refrigerators 80%, bicycles 23%, motorcycles 36% and automobiles 38%. The sales of goods for production purposes increased as follows: plywood 7%, roofing iron 14%, cement 26%, slate 5%, nails 36%, window glass 37%, and lories for collective farms 44%.

Despite the considerable increase in production and sales of manufactured goods and foodstuffs, the growing demand for a number of important items of mass consumption has still not been satisfied to the full. At the same time some trading organizations are not distributing the goods correctly to the districts and allow goods to be supplied to certain districts without reference to local demands. In many cases the trading organizations put up a poor fight to improve the quality of goods manufactured for sale to the population. Sufficient use is not made of resources for producing additional goods for the trade network by wider use of local raw materials.

As regards foreign trade the Soviet Union continued to extend its economic relations with foreign countries in 1954. During 1954 the Soviet Union carried on trade with 55 foreign states.

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A number of branches of the national economy, machine-building in particular, however, are lagging behind in the designing and introduction of new economical and highly productive machinery and equipment corresponding to the modern level of world technique. In designing new types of machines and equipment insufficient attention is paid to reducing their weight. Last year's plan for the output of new types of machinery and equipment and also for the introduction of automation in production and advanced technological processes and production methods was not completely fulfilled by the Ministries.

## IV. AGRICULTURE

Last year the collective farms, MTS and state farms achieved considerable successes in increasing the output of grain and other agricultural products.

In 1954, on all types of farms, 10.8 million hectares more spring crops were sown than in 1953, including 7.2 million hectares more spring grain crops. The total area sown for winter and spring crops was 8.9 million hectares more than in 1953.

The area sown to cotton, sugar-beet, oil-bearing plants, potatoes and other vegetables and melon crops was extended; the area under annual grasses, silo crops and fodder crops also increased. The planned targets for growing fibre flax, hemp and potatoes were not, however, reached.

The gross yield of grain crops and grain procurements and purchases over the country as a whole were greater than in 1953 despite the fact that there was unfavourable weather for grain and other crops in the southern areas of the Ukraine and the Volga area.

Collective and state farms fulfilled the state plan for grain deliveries and purchases ahead of schedule. By December 5, 1954, 271 million more poods of grain had been delivered and sold to the state than in 1953. And much more grain was obtained from Siberia, Altai in particular, and from Kazakhstan.

The gross yield of raw cotton, fibre flax, flax seed, potatoes and other vegetables, and a variety of other agricultural produce was greater than in 1953.

The state deliveries of raw cotton exceeded the 1953 figure by 331,000 tons. Procurements and purchases of potatoes increased by 1,230,000 tons and other vegetables by 445,000 tons; deliveries and purchases of other agricultural products also increased.

In accordance with the decision adopted by the Central Committee of the CPSU at its February-March meeting concerning "Further Increase in Output of Grain in the USSR and Bringing Virgin and Unused Land Under Cultivation", 17,600,000 hectares of virgin and fallow lands were developed last year on the collective and state farms of Kazakhstan, Siberia, the Urals, the Volga area and North Caucasus, while the planned target was 13 million hectares.

The area sown to winter crops on collective and state farms to be harvested in 1955 is 40.9 million hectares or 1,200,000 hectares more than the area sown to winter crops harvested in 1954. The plan for sowing winter crops on collective and state farms has been overfulfilled.

In the autumn of 1954 collective and state farms ploughed much more land for spring and winter crops than in the corresponding period of 1953.

The material and technical base of agriculture was greatly reinforced in 1954. Last year agriculture received 137,000 general-purpose tractors (in terms of 15 h.p. units), and 46,000 cultivator tractors, 37,000 grain harvesters combines, including 17,000 self-propelled combines, 16,000 potato-harvesting combines and 5,000 combines for harvesting industrial crops; 116,000 lorries, 100,000 tractor-drawn ploughs, 94,000 tractor-drawn sowing machines, 94,000 tractor-drawn cultivators, nearly 200,000 self-propelled and tractor-drawn haymaking machines, and many other soil cultivators, sowing and harvesting machines as well as machinery and equipment for the stock-raising farms.

Last year districts cultivating virgin and unused land were supplied with 115,000 tractors (in terms of 15 h.p. units), 18,000 grain harvester combines and a corresponding quantity of tractor-drawn implements and other agricultural machinery.

The level of mechanization of agricultural work on collective and state farms rose as a result of the increased supplies of technical equipment. The amount of agricultural work done by the MTS in 1954 was 75 million hectares more than last year, the MTS carrying out 82% of the main field work on collective farms. Nearly all the work on plough and fallow land, 95% of the winter-crop sowing and 88% of the spring sowing on the collective farms was mechanized. More than 40% of the area under potatoes was planted by the MTS. A considerably greater area was sown to potatoes and other vegetables, sunflower and maize by the square-cluster method. Combines were used to harvest 82% of the grain and 93% of the sunflower seeds. Mechanisation still lags in the sowing and harvesting of fibre flax, in the harvesting of potatoes and other vegetables, sugar-beet and cotton, in haymaking and siloing.

By October 1, 1954, commonly-owned livestock on the collective farms had increased above the level of October 1, 1953, as follows: cows 12% and hogs 5%; owing to the unsatisfactory wintering of sheep over 1953-54 there has been a drop of 2% in the number of sheep. Between October 1, 1953, and October 1, 1954, livestock increases on state farms of the Ministry of State Farms of the USSR were: cows 12%, hogs 5% and sheep 3%.

The number of livestock owned by collective farmers, factory and office workers has increased.

Compared with October 1, 1953, the total number of livestock owned by collective and state farms, collective farmers and factory and office workers was, according to statistics, on October 1, 1954 (in millions):

Cows	26	October 1, 1953	27.5
Hogs	63	October 1, 1954	64.9
Sheep	114.9	October 1, 1953	117.5

Electric motors 114

Knitted outer garments	114
Bicycles	125
Radio sets	107
Television sets	119
Trolleybuses	3 times
Lorries	111
Motorcars	123
Motor buses	134
Motorcycles	144
Cameras	154
Upright and grand pianos	121
Domestic refrigerators	192
Vacuum cleaners	2.9 times
Domestic washing machines	18 times
Metal bedsteads	108
Chemical equipment	114
Spinning machines	109
Looms	169
Calcutting machines	151
Tractors	122
Three-row beet harvesting combines	2.4 times
Tractor-drawn ploughs	106
Dairy products	113
Cheese	107
Complex threshing machines	143
Potato-planters for square-cluster planting	4.9 times
Canned goods	116
Tea	111
Soap	122
Windowing machines	122
Caustic soda	111
Cigarettes	113
Matches	127
Wine	116
Mineral fertilisers	116
Chemicals for combating agricultural pests and weeds	135
Beer	103

Heavy industry, the basis for the development of the national economy, continued to expand in 1954. Increased output of metals, coal, oil, electric power, chemical products, machinery and equipment ensured a greater output from all branches of industry. The production of mass-consumption goods has increased.

In 1954 the enterprises of light industry and the food industries improved their range of goods, and increased the output of items most in demand among the population. Thus, with a 6% increase in the output of cotton textiles over the 1953 figure, the output of mixed fabrics increased 13%, furnishing fabrics 22%, multi-coloured spun fabrics 53%, and nap fabrics 88%; with an increase in output of woollen textiles of 17%, the production of pure woolen worsted suit material grew 50%, pure wool worsted dress fabrics 45%, fine pure wool fabrics 62%; with an increased hosiery output of 10%, the production of "capron" hosiery increased 22%, woollen and semi-woollen hosiery by 35%, and men's fancy socks 54%; with an increased manufacture of knitted underwear by 18%, output of knitted articles silk underwear rose 27%; with an increase in production of knitted outer garments of 14%, the output of pure wool outer garments increased 94%; with a 7% increase in production of leather footwear, the output of model footwear increased 18%. However, there were still cases where in some factories turning out consumer goods, particularly in local and co-operative industries, some of the products were of unsatisfactory quality.

Despite the enlarged network of shops run by industrial co-operatives and local industry catering for daily needs of the population, there are still a great many shortcomings in this sphere.

The utilisation of industrial equipment somewhat improved in the past year. Utilisation of useful blast furnace capacity in the works of the Ministry of the Iron and Steel Industry of the USSR in 1954 improved by 4% and steel output per square metre of open-hearth furnace increased 3%. At the enterprises of the Ministry of the Oil Industry of the USSR the speed of operational drilling increased 5% and prospecting drilling 6%. The percentage of refined oil products extracted from crude oil went up. The productivity of coal combines in the Ministry of the Coal Industry's mines increased. At the electric power stations of the Ministry of Power Stations, fuel consumption fell by 2.5%. The hourly productivity of rotary and shaft kilns and cement mills increased at the enterprises of the Ministry of the Building Materials Industry of the USSR. Better use was made of equipment at the enterprises of the textile industry.

At the same time there are still substantial reserves of unused capacity in a number of industries: the planned capacities of coal mines, particularly in the Donbas, as well as the highly productive equipment available for extracting and loading coal, have been insufficiently utilised; in machine-building the machine tools and forge-press equipment have been insufficiently utilised; enterprises of the Ministry of Building Materials Industry of the USSR have not fulfilled the planned productivity for basic equipment; machinery at the timber-felling sites of the Ministry of Timber of the USSR, in keeping with the state supply plan, received far more raw and other materials, fuel, electric power and equipment than in 1953. As a result of the more economical consumption of raw and other materials, fuel and electric power and increased productivity of labour, the cost of production in 1954 was cut by about 4%. However, the planned reduction of production costs was not reached. The year's

## Results of Fulfilment of State Plan for Development of National Economy of USSR in 1954

Report by Central Statistical Board  
of Council of Ministers of USSR

(Continued from page 2)

### VIII. INCREASE IN NUMBER OF FACTORY AND OFFICE WORKERS AND GROWTH OF LABOUR PRODUCTIVITY

The number of factory and office workers employed in the national economy of the USSR at the end of 1954 amounted to about 47 million, 2 million more than in the corresponding period of the previous year. The number of factory and office workers employed in industry, agriculture, construction and transport increased by 1,700,000. The number of workers in educational, research and health establishments, in trade, restaurants and canteens as well as in housing and communal services also registered an increase. As a result of transferring some of those engaged on administrative and management work directly to the sphere of production the number of office workers has been reduced.

In 1954, as in previous years, there was no unemployment in the country.

In the past year more than 700,000 young people graduated as skilled workers from factory and mining schools, vocational, railway, mining and specialised vocational colleges as well as agricultural mechanisation vocational schools and colleges and were given jobs in industry, construction, transport and agriculture, including more than 340,000 as machine-operators in agriculture.

7,700,000 factory and office workers acquired skills or improved their qualifications with the help of individual, group or class instruction in 1954.

On the basis of increased technical equipment and improved skills, labour productivity was 7% higher than in the previous year in industry and 8% higher in construction. In industry the 1954 target for higher labour productivity was not reached by the Ministry of the Fishing Industry of the USSR, the Ministry of the Meat and Dairy Industry of the USSR, and in construction—by the Ministry of the Construction of Enterprises of the Metallurgical and Chemical Industry. In many cases enterprises and construction sites did not fulfil their assignments for higher labour productivity although the particular Ministries responsible for them fulfilled their plans as a whole.

### IX. GROWTH OF NATIONAL INCOME AND IMPROVEMENT IN MATERIAL AND CULTURAL STANDARDS OF THE PEOPLE

1954 was marked by a further improvement in the standard of living and a further rise in the cultural level of the people.

In 1954 the national income of the USSR rose by 11%.

The reduction in state retail prices for mass-consumption goods directly benefited the population to the extent of 20 billion roubles over the year.

The increase in the national income, the reduction in state retail prices and the measures taken by the Party and the Government in the sphere of agriculture ensured a further rise in personal incomes of factory and office workers and peasants.

As a result of the increased cash earnings and price reduction, real wages of factory and office workers were 5% above the 1953 level.

As a result of the measures effected in the second half of 1953 and in 1954 in the spheres of state procurement and purchase of agricultural produce and tax reductions, the incomes of the collective farms and their members have increased considerably. Collective farm finances have been strengthened. The unshared funds of collective farms in accounts at the Agricultural Bank increased in 1954 by 35% and the amounts in their current accounts at the State Bank by 78%.

During the past year, as in previous years, the population received benefits and payments from the state social insurance funds for factory and office workers, pensions from the social maintenance fund, allowances for mothers with large families and for unmarried mothers, student allowances, free medical treatment, accommodation in sanatoria and rest homes free of charge or at reduced rates, free training and training for improving qualifications and a number of other payments and benefits. In addition, all factory and office workers enjoyed not less than two weeks' paid holidays while workers in a number of trades had longer vacations. Altogether, in 1954 the population received the sum of 146 billion roubles as a result of all these payments and benefits.

All in all, due to the growth of cash earnings of factory, office workers, the price reduction, the rise in peasant's incomes in cash and kind and the increase in payments and benefits from state funds, the overall sum of the incomes of factory and office workers and peasants in 1954 was 11% higher (in comparable prices) than in 1953.

As a result of increased cash incomes the standard of living of the population has improved.

## Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Russian Revolution (THESES)

The peoples of the Soviet Union and all progressive mankind are celebrating this year the glorious fiftieth anniversary of the First Russian Revolution.

The Revolution of 1905-1907 in Russia was the first people's revolution in the era of imperialism. Representing as it did an entire historical chapter in the life of the peoples of our country and of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Revolution of 1905-1907 marked an important stage in the struggle of the workers and peasants of Russia for their social and national emancipation. Throughout the whole course of the Revolution, shoulder to shoulder with the Russian proletariat and peasantry, the workers and peasants of the Ukraine, Byelorussia, Poland, the Baltic, Transcaucasia, Central Asia and other borderlands of tsarist Russia, waged a heroic fight against their common enemies, tsarism and the landlords.

The leader and chief driving force of the Revolution was the proletariat. Rallying around itself the peasant masses, the working class of Russia in the revolutionary battles of 1905-1907 laid the foundations for the alliance with the peasantry, and created the social force which, in 1917, overthrew the power of the landlords and capitalists and opened the path to Socialism for the peoples of our country.

At the head of the revolutionary people, there stood forth the militant vanguard of the working class of Russia, the Communist Party, the party of a new type, a genuinely Marxist party, founded by the great Lenin.

The Revolution of 1905-1907 was a serious school for the political training of the masses; it aroused millions of workers and peasants to political life and struggle and provided heroic examples of devoted revolutionary struggle which served to train and were followed by the working masses not of Russia alone, but of many other countries throughout the world. The First Russian Revolution opened up a new page in world history—the epoch of the most deep-going political upheavals and revolutionary storms; it marked the beginning of an upsurge in the working-class movement in Europe and the national-liberation movement of the oppressed peoples of Asia.

The First Russian Revolution shook the regime of tsarist autocracy to its very foundations and dealt a grave blow to the rule of the landlords and capitalists. Despite the defeat of the 1905-1907 Revolution, the experience gained in the course of it helped the working class and the poorest peasants in our country to ensure victory in the Great October Socialist Revolution. "Without the 'general rehearsal' of 1905", wrote V. I. Lenin, "the victory of the October Revolution of 1917 would have been impossible." (Vol. 31, p. 11).\*

### I.

1. At the end of the 19th and the beginning of the 20th century the old, pre-monopoly capitalism was replaced by monopoly capitalism, imperialism, the development of which is characterised by the decay and increasing decline of the capitalist system and the aggravation of social and political contradictions.

Tsarist Russia at the beginning of the 20th century was the nodal point of all contradictions of imperialism, a country in which there had ripened to the highest degree the preconditions for the bourgeois-democratic, people's revolution, which subsequently was to grow over into the socialist revolution. This outcome was determined by the entire course of socio-economic and political development of Russia.

Monopoly capitalism in Russia was interwoven with the most pronounced survivals of serfdom in the economy and the political system. The chief of these survivals were tsarist autocracy and landlord landownership.

The survivals of serfdom left their imprint on the whole social system in Russia. They gave rise to the most brutal and inhuman forms of capitalist exploitation of the proletariat, and doomed the peasants, who formed the majority of the country's population, to unending want, ruin and poverty. The oppression of the landlords and capitalists was intensified by the arbitrary rule of tsarist autocracy, which crushed everything that was living and progressive. The workers and peasants had no political rights whatever.

The semi-serf relations of production, the all-powerful reactionary landlords acting in concert with the top magnates of finance capital, put a brake on the development of the productive forces of the country, on the advance of science, technique and culture, and enhanced the dependence of Russia on foreign capital which had seized the key positions in the most important branches of industry.

Tsarism pursued a policy of harsh oppression of non-Russian peoples in Russia, a policy of forcible Russification of these peoples and suppression of their national culture. The tsarist government fanned enmity and national feuds between the peoples, setting one people against another. The working masses of non-Russian peoples suffered under a double oppression, at the hands of both their own and Russian landlords and capitalists.

The combination of all kinds of oppression—landlord, capitalist, national—with the police despotism of the autocracy made the position of the masses of the people intolerable, and lent particular sharpness and depth to the social contradictions. The basic requirements of the social development of the country, the most pressing interests of the peoples of Russia insistently demanded the break-up of the existing system, and above all, the abolition of big landownership and the overthrow of the tsarist monarchy. Only a bourgeois-democratic, people's revolution could solve these historic tasks.

2. Unlike the bourgeois revolutions of the 17-19th centuries in the West, in Russia the leading force of the bourgeois-democratic revolution was the proletariat, the most revolutionary class of modern society. The working class was vitally interested in the victory of this revolution because only in this way could it obtain democratic liberties, consolidate its organisations, acquire experience and practice in guiding the working masses and lead the struggle for the conquest of political power.

The peculiarities of the formation and development of the Russian proletariat were responsible for its high revolutionary qualities. The concentration of large numbers of workers in big factories promoted the growth of consciousness and organisation among the proletariat. Its strength lay also in the fact that it enjoyed broad support among the semi-proletarian masses in town and countryside. Important sections of the proletariat grew up in the national borderlands of Russia (the Ukraine, the Baltic, Caucasus etc.).

Following the working class the peasantry rose. Revolutionary sentiments took hold of the student youth and the democratic intellectuals. From its very beginning the Revolution assumed an all-people's character.

The international proletariat and progressive public figures in the capitalist countries of the West came out in support of the Russian people, in protest against the bloody misdeeds of tsarism.

5. The growing upsurge of the people's revolution demanded of the proletarian Party correct and firm political leadership of the revolutionary struggle of the masses. Meanwhile in the ranks of the RSDLP, owing to the splitting activities of the Mensheviks, unity was lacking; the Party was divided into two groups—the Bolsheviks and the Mensheviks. The two groups differed in their estimation of the character and the driving forces of the Revolution, as well as of the tasks of the proletariat therein; they differed in their attitude to questions of Party strategy and the tactics.

Lenin and the Bolsheviks looked to the immediate convening of the IIIrd Party Congress as the way out of the situation which had arisen inside the RSDLP. The Congress was to settle accounts with the opportunism of the Mensheviks in organisational and tactical questions and work out uniform tactics of the proletariat in the democratic revolution.

The IIIrd Congress of the RSDLP which was held in London in April, 1905, formulated the tasks facing the proletariat as the leader in the revolution and charted the strategic plan of the Party for the first stage of the revolution: the proletariat, in alliance with the whole of the peasantry, while isolating the bourgeoisie must conduct the struggle for the victory of the bourgeois-democratic revolution.

The Congress worked out the revolutionary Marxist tactics of the Party; it affirmed, as the main task of the Party and the working class, the passing over from mass political strikes to the armed uprising; it pointed to the necessity of practical preparations for the uprising. The Congress called on the Party organisations to support the peasant movement and to set up revolutionary peasant committees in the countryside. The decisions of the IIIrd Congress were taken up by the majority of the Party organisations as a militant programme of struggle for ensuring the victory of the democratic revolution; they were made the cornerstone of all the practical work of the Party.

6. A brilliant theoretical substantiation of the decisions of the IIIrd Congress, of the strategic plan and the tactical line of the Bolsheviks in the revolution was provided by V. I. Lenin's "Two Tactics of Social Democracy in the Democratic Revolution", published in July 1905.

For the first time in the history of Marxism, V. I. Lenin dealt with the question of the peculiarities of the bourgeois-democratic revolution in the epoch of imperialism, of its driving forces and perspectives. On the basis of a scientific analysis of the socio-economic and political development of Russia and of the experience of the world revolutionary movement, Lenin elaborated the grounds for the concept of the hegemony of the proletariat in the bourgeois-democratic revolution, a concept which is the bedrock of the strategy and tactics of the Communist Party. At the same time Lenin subjected to annihilating criticism the opportunist stand of the Mensheviks which aimed at the hegemony of the liberal bourgeoisie in the revolution, the substitution of paltry reforms for the revolution, the winding up of the revolution, and the preservation of the autocratic-landlord regime. He unmasked the counter-revolutionary role of the liberal bourgeoisie and showed that it was seeking to reach an agreement with the most reactionary forces, to make a deal with tsarism.

V. I. Lenin gave an all-round elaboration of the idea of the worker-peasant alliance, with the proletariat playing the leading role; he showed that the alliance of these classes was an indispensable prerequisite for the victory of the people's revolution.

Lenin's idea of the worker-peasant alliance established a watershed between Bolshevik revolutionary tactics and Menshevik opportunist tactics.

In this work V. I. Lenin gave a profound treatment of the question on the paths and means of struggle of the working people for ensuring the victory of revolution. Lenin showed the mass political strike to be a mighty means of revolutionary mobilisation of the masses and of drawing them into open struggle against tsarism. Basing himself on the experience of the Paris Commune he came to the conclusion that the most effective means for overthrowing tsarism and winning the democratic republic was the armed uprising of the people. Lenin was the first, after the death of Marx and Engels, to expound the question of the organisation of armed uprising as a practical task to the solution of which the entire activity of the Party was subordinated during the revolution.

Lenin proved that the victorious bourgeois-democratic revolution, with the proletariat playing the leading role and acting as the main driving force, must lead not to the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, as was the case in the bourgeois revolutions of the past, but to the revolutionary-democratic dictatorship of the proletariat and the peasantry. Thus was solved in a new way the basic problem of the revolution—the problem of state power. According to Lenin the political organ of the revolutionary-democratic dictatorship of the proletariat and the peasantry had to be a provisional revolutionary government basing itself on the armed people.

It is the very great service of Lenin to the Party and the working class that he, on the basis of the well-known propositions of Marx on the uninterrupted revolution and on the need of combining the revolutionary peasant movement with the proletarian revolution and on the basis of a profound analysis of the economic and political development of Russia, worked out the theory of the bourgeois-democratic revolution growing over into the socialist revolution. In his article "The Attitude of Social Democracy toward the Peasant Movement" Lenin wrote:

"...From the democratic revolution we shall at once, and just in accordance with the measure of our strength, the strength of the class-conscious and organised proletariat, pass to the socialist revolution. We stand for uninterrupted revolution. We shall not stop halfway." (Vol. 9, p. 213).

The outstanding significance of Lenin's work, "Two Tactics of Social Democracy in the Democratic Revolution", lies also in the fact that Lenin, by substantiating and elucidating the decisions of the IIIrd Party Congress and the revolutionary strategy and tactics of the Bolsheviks, ideologically demolished the anti-Marxist position of the Mensheviks with regard to the theory and tactics of the Party in the revolution. At the same time Lenin, by exposing the reformist views of the opportunist leaders of the Second

incomes of the collective farms and their members have increased considerably. Collective farm finances have been strengthened. The unshared funds of collective farms in accounts at the Agricultural Bank increased in 1954 by 35% and the amounts in their current accounts at the State Bank by 78%.

During the past year, as in previous years, the population received benefits and payments from the state social insurance funds for factory and office workers, pensions from the social maintenance fund, allowances for mothers with large families and for unmarried mothers, student allowances, free medical treatment, accommodation in sanatoria and rest homes free of charge or at reduced rates, free training and training for improving qualifications and a number of other payments and benefits. In addition, all factory and office workers enjoyed not less than two weeks' paid holidays while workers in a number of trades had longer vacations. Altogether, in 1954 the population received the sum of 146 billion roubles as a result of all these payments and benefits.

All in all, due to the growth of cash earnings of factory, office workers, the price reduction, the rise in peasant's incomes in cash and kind and the increase in payments and benefits from state funds, the overall sum of the incomes of factory and office workers and peasants in 1954 was 11% higher (in comparable prices) than in 1953.

As a result of increased cash incomes the deposits of factory and office workers and peasants in the saving banks rose by almost 10 billion roubles during the year.

Further successes in all spheres of socialist culture were achieved in 1954.

In connection with the development of secondary education the number of pupils attending the 8-10th classes increased by 756,000 compared with 1953 and by 4,111,000 compared with 1950, including an increase in the countryside of 339,000 compared with 1953 and 1,644,000 compared with 1950. In accordance with the task of going over from 7-year education to general secondary (10 year) education in the capitals of the Republics, in cities under republic authority, and in regional, territorial and big industrial centres, the number of pupils attending the 8-10th classes in such places rose 12% in 1954. The number completing the 10 year school was 76% more than in 1953.

Higher educational establishments were attended by 1,732,000 students (including correspondence course students), that is 170,000 more than the previous year; about 1,790,000 (including correspondence course students), i.e. 144,000 more than in 1953, attended technical colleges and other specialised secondary educational establishments. Over 560,000 young specialists graduated from higher and specialised secondary educational establishments. More students took post-graduate courses in higher educational establishments and research institutes.

The numbers attending evening classes providing higher and secondary specialised education and general education schools for town and rural youth amounted to 3,000,000 in 1954, i.e. 8% above the 1953 level.

The total number of specialists with higher education or secondary technical training employed in the national economy was 9% more than in 1953.

The network of libraries and clubs was further extended. In 1954 there were about 390,000 libraries of all types in the country, containing a total of 1,200 million books. The number of film projectors reached 54,000, an increase of more than 2,000 over the 1953 figure, i.e. the level fixed for 1955 by the Five-Year Plan was surpassed.

In 1954 over 5,500,000 children spent holidays in pioneer camps, in children's sanatoria, tourist camps or in the countryside with their kindergartens, children's homes and creches.

In the past year the network of hospitals, maternity homes, dispensaries and other medical establishments and of sanatoria and rest homes was further extended. The number of hospital beds increased by more than 20% compared with 1950, which means that the assignment fixed by the fifth Five-Year Plan was fulfilled ahead of time—in four years. During the year, accommodation in sanatoria and rest homes increased by nearly 8,000 places. The network of creches and kindergartens was also extended. The number of doctors increased by more than 10,000, while the output of drugs, medical equipment and instruments rose by 19% compared with the previous year.

Work continued for improving towns, workers' settlements and rural district centres, for providing communal services—laying water and sewage disposal systems, building public baths, laundries, general-purpose hotels and collective-farm hotels, extending street-car, trolleybus and bus services, installing gas and heating systems in homes.

Capital investments in state housing increased 19% in 1954. New houses with an overall floor space of over 32 million square metres were built by state enterprises, establishments, local Soviets, as well as by the population of towns and workers' settlements with the help of state credit. In addition, 470,000 new houses were completed for occupation in the countryside.

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The results of the fulfilment of the State Plan for the development of the national economy of the USSR in 1954 testify to the steady advance of the socialist economy and show that the Five-Year Plan for the development of the USSR from 1951 to 1955 is being successfully carried out and in a number of important branches of the national economy is being overfulfilled.

**Central Statistical Board  
of Council of Ministers of the USSR**

tsarism pursued a policy of oppression of non-Russian peoples in Russia, a policy of forcible Russification of these peoples and suppression of their national culture. The tsarist government fanned enmity and national feuds between the peoples, setting one people against another. The working masses of non-Russian peoples suffered under a double oppression, at the hands of both their own and Russian landlords and capitalists.

The combination of all kinds of oppression—landlord, capitalist, national—with the police despotism of the autocracy made the position of the masses of the people intolerable, and lent particular sharpness and depth to the social contradictions. The basic requirements of the social development of the country, the most pressing interests of the peoples of Russia insistently demanded the break-up of the existing system, and above all, the abolition of big landownership and the overthrow of the tsarist monarchy. Only a bourgeois-democratic, people's revolution could solve these historic tasks.

2. Unlike the bourgeois revolutions of the 17-19th centuries in the West, in Russia the leading force of the bourgeois-democratic revolution was the proletariat, the most revolutionary class of modern society. The working class was vitally interested in the victory of this revolution because only in this way could it obtain democratic liberties, consolidate its organisations, acquire experience and practice in guiding the working masses and lead the struggle for the conquest of political power.

The peculiarities of the formation and development of the Russian proletariat were responsible for its high revolutionary qualities. The concentration of large numbers of workers in big factories promoted the growth of consciousness and organisation among the proletariat. Its strength lay also in the fact that it enjoyed broad support among the semi-proletarian masses in town and countryside. Important sections of the proletariat grew up in the national borderlands of Russia (the Ukraine, the Baltic, Caucasus etc.).

By the end of the 19th century the working-class movement was already an important factor in the political life of the country. In the course of strike battles and mass political actions the working class of Russia acquired experience of revolutionary struggle against tsarism and capitalism.

In the multi-millioned peasant masses the Russian proletariat possessed a natural ally in the revolution. Big landownership was the economic basis for all the survivals of serfdom, hence the agrarian-peasant problem stood at the centre of the bourgeois-democratic revolution in Russia. The fundamental interests of the peasants made them allies of the proletariat and supporters of a decisive democratic change. Only by revolutionary means could big landownership be destroyed and democratic liberties secured. The Russian revolution was a peasant revolution, but it could be victorious only if the proletariat stood at the head of the peasantry and was its leader.

The Russian bourgeoisie taking fright at the upsurge of the working-class movement, and bound by many threads to the reactionary landlords and tsarism, did not desire the victory of the democratic revolution, the abolition of tsarism and all the survivals of serfdom.

The leading role (hegemony) of the proletariat and the peasantry from a reserve of the bourgeoisie into a reserve of the proletariat—this is the radical difference between the democratic revolutions of the new, imperialist epoch and the revolutions of the era of pre-monopoly capitalism.

The overthrow of tsarism, whose interests were inextricably interwoven with those of Western imperialism, was inevitably bound to shake the imperialist system to its very foundations.

3. Early in the 1900's a revolutionary situation was rapidly coming to a head in Russia. A crisis in industry, unemployment in the towns and hunger in the countryside were sharply worsening the position of the working masses.

The proletariat passed from economic to political strikes and street demonstrations under the slogan "Down with tsarist autocracy!" The working-class movement exerted a revolutionising influence on the peasantry. In 1902 there were mass peasant outbreaks against the landowners in the Poltava and Kharkov provinces and in the Volga region.

The approach of the revolution raised with particular sharpness the question of leadership of the mass struggle. The formation of a revolutionary proletarian party based on the ideological and organisational principles elaborated by V. I. Lenin and adopted by the Second Congress of the RSDLP (1903) were of immense importance for the fate of the working-class movement. The Bolsheviks went into the gigantic class battles armed with a Marxist programme which set forth both the most immediate tasks of the proletariat in the bourgeois-democratic revolution and its fundamental tasks which envisaged the victory of the socialist revolution and the establishment of the dictatorship of the working class.

In the struggle with the opportunist Mensheviks, Lenin and the Bolsheviks he led built a revolutionary party that was strong in its unity, iron discipline, irreconcilability towards the enemies of the working class, a party that was capable of rallying the millions of working people into a mighty revolutionary army.

The whole course of historical development brought forward the Russian proletariat, led by the revolutionary Marxist Party, into the vanguard of the international working-class movement. The centre of the world revolutionary movement shifted to Russia.

4. The unleashing of the Revolution in Russia was accelerated by the Russo-Japanese War of 1904-1905, one of the first wars of the epoch of imperialism. It arose out of the aggravation of imperialist contradictions and the conflict of interests of the great powers which were seeking to seize Korea, to partition China and establish their supremacy in the Pacific area. The war laid bare the rottenness of the military organisation and the entire state system of tsarist Russia; it evoked profound discontent and indignation among the masses.

The steady rise of the working-class movement, the growth of anti-war sentiment all over the country, the confusion in the ruling camp bore witness to the fact that Russia had entered upon a profound revolutionary crisis.

The Revolution broke out with the events of January 9 (22, New Style), 1905. On that day in St. Petersburg troops fired upon a peaceful demonstration of workers marching to the tsar with a petition stating their needs. Over a thousand people were killed and several thousand wounded. The tsarist government hoped by this bloody repression to frighten the worker and peasant masses and stop the growth of the revolutionary movement in the country. But this ferocious act did nothing but dispel the naive belief of the people in the "father tsar". The proletariat received a lesson in civil war. The most backward strata of workers began to understand that by revolutionary struggle alone could they secure their rights. "The revolutionary education of the proletariat made more progress in one day", wrote V. I. Lenin, "than it could have made in months and years of drab, humdrum, wretched existence." (Vol. 8, p. 77).

"Bloody Sunday" on January 9, 1905, was the starting point for a mighty upsurge of the revolutionary movement. Protest strikes swept the country. The slogan of the St. Petersburg proletariat: "Death or liberty!" was echoed by the working class throughout the whole of Russia. Between January and March, 1905, some 810,000 industrial workers went on strike—twice as many as in the ten preceding years.

\* All quotations from V. I. Lenin are from Collected Works, Fourth Russian Edition.

Lenin proved that the victorious bourgeois-democratic revolution, with the proletariat playing the leading role and acting as the main driving force, must lead not to the dictatorship of the bourgeoisie, as was the case in the bourgeois revolutions of the past, but to the revolutionary-democratic dictatorship of the proletariat and the peasantry. Thus was solved in a new way the basic problem of the revolution—the problem of state power. According to Lenin the political organ of the revolutionary-democratic dictatorship of the proletariat and the peasantry had to be a provisional revolutionary government basing itself on the armed people.

It is the very great service of Lenin to the Party and the working class that he, on the basis of the well-known propositions of Marx on the uninterrupted revolution and on the need of combining the revolutionary peasant movement with the proletariat revolution and on the basis of a profound analysis of the economic and political development of Russia, worked out the theory of the bourgeois-democratic revolution growing over into the socialist revolution. In his article "The Attitude of Social Democracy toward the Peasant Movement" Lenin wrote:

"...From the democratic revolution we shall at once, and just in accordance with the measure of our strength, the strength of the class-conscious and organised proletariat, pass to the socialist revolution. We stand for uninterrupted revolution. We shall not stop halfway." (Vol. 9, p. 213).

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By working out the teaching on the hegemony of the proletariat in the bourgeois-democratic and socialist revolution, on the worker-peasant alliance, on the revolutionary-democratic dictatorship of the proletariat and the peasantry, Lenin advanced the theory of Marxism and laid the political (tactical) foundation of the Communist Party. Lenin enriched Marxism with a new theory of socialist revolution which became a powerful ideological weapon of the Communist Party in the fight for the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

## II.

7. The course of the Revolution confirmed the correctness and vitality of the strategy and tactics of the Bolsheviks. The Leninist thesis that the proletariat can and must play the leading role in the revolutionary movement was fully confirmed. The struggle of the working class determined the entire development of the Revolution, its scope and forms. V. I. Lenin wrote that "up to 1905 humanity did not yet know what a great, what a tremendous exertion of effort the proletariat is capable of in a fight for really great aims, and when it fights in a really revolutionary manner!" (Vol. 23, p. 232).

In the conditions of a backward peasant country the working class of Russia showed that the real strength and role of the proletariat in society is determined not by whether or not it comprises the majority of the population in the country, but by its revolutionary energy, political consciousness, ability to head the revolutionary struggle of the people and its ability to win over the peasant masses as allies to the side of the revolution.

The proletariat of Russia launched a mighty strike movement that grew steadily as the Revolution developed. The number of industrial workers who took part in the strikes reached nearly three million in 1905. A distinguishing feature of the strike movement was the combining of political and economic strikes. The close and indissoluble linking of both types of strikes lent particular force to the working-class movement.

One of the most important revolutionary events in the summer of 1905 was the famous strike in Ivanovo-Voznesensk which was carried out under the leadership of the Bolsheviks. In the very first days of this strike the workers set up their own revolutionary body, the Council of Representatives which was actually one of the first Soviets of Workers' Deputies in Russia.

An example of mass political struggle was given by the textile workers of Lodz, one of the largest industrial centres in Poland. The general strike declared by the Lodz workers in June, 1905, in answer to the bloody reprisals against those who took part in a workers' meeting grew into street battles and barricade fighting with the tsarist troops. This was the first armed action of the proletariat in Russia. Armed clashes also occurred in Warsaw, Odessa, Riga, Libau and other towns.

8. By the autumn of 1905 the revolutionary movement had spread over the entire country. On the initiative of the Moscow and St. Petersburg workers an all-Russia political strike began in October, 1905, which embraced all the major industrial centres. The October strike developed into a mighty political action of the proletariat. It took place under the slogans: "Down with autocracy! Long live the democratic republic!" More than 2,000,000 people took part in this all-Russian strike. Under the pressure of the masses the tsarist government was compelled to issue the Manifesto of October 17 in which it hypocritically promised to grant the people civil liberties and to convene a legislative Duma. By its heroic strike action the proletariat won for itself and the people as a whole, even if only for a brief space of time, a measure of freedom of speech, of the press, of trade union and other organisations that was unprecedented for Russia; for the first time in Russia's history revolutionary newspapers began to appear legally.

In the struggle with tsarism the revolutionary creativeness of the proletarian masses of Russia gave rise to a new mass political organisation, unprecedented in history — the Soviets of Workers' Deputies. They were set up in Moscow, St. Petersburg, Tver, Kostroma, Lugansk, Ekaterinoslav, Saratov, Rostov-on-Don, Kiev, Odessa, Nikolayev, Novorossiisk, Baku, Krasnoyarsk, Chita and other towns and workers' settlements. The Soviets of Workers' Deputies, which arose as the leading organs of strike action, became the embryonic organs of the new, revolutionary power.

As against the Mensheviks, who regarded the Soviets as organs of local self-government, the Bolsheviks valued highly the revolutionary initiative and independent action of the masses. Lenin and the Bolsheviks held that the Soviets should, in the course of the Revolution, become organs of armed uprising, organs of the revolutionary-democratic dictatorship of the proletariat and peasantry.

An outstanding part in the Revolution was played by the Moscow Soviet and the Moscow district Soviets, which under the leadership of the Bolsheviks pursued a consistently revolutionary policy and became the organs of armed uprising. The Bolsheviks led the Soviets in a number of other cities also.

(Continued on page 4)



took on wide scope in the different national regions in the Baltic territories the peasants put to rout the government officials, raided the estates of the German barons and fought stubbornly against the regular tsarist troops; the peasant movement in Georgia assumed unprecedented dimensions. The national-liberation struggle of the oppressed peoples was an integral and inseparable part of the nation-wide Russian revolutionary movement.

The Russian proletariat wholeheartedly supported the national-liberation movement, upheld the right of national self-determination, resolutely fought against the great power chauvinist policy pursued by tsarism and the ruling classes who sought to frustrate the revolutionary united action of the peoples of Russia. The Bolsheviks waged an irreconcilable struggle against the bourgeois nationalists; they educated the masses in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, explaining clearly that national oppression could be done away with only as a result of the joint revolutionary struggle of the working people of all nationalities.

12. The further development of the Revolution made necessary the transition from the general strike to the higher form of revolutionary struggle—the armed uprising.

Carrying out the decisions of the IIIrd Congress of the RSDLP, the Bolshevik organisations worked perseveringly to prepare the armed uprising. Lenin, the leader of the Party, who had returned to St. Petersburg from abroad in November 1905, headed the work of the Party in leading the masses and in preparation for the armed uprising. Lenin exposed the plans of counter-revolution and called on the proletariat to display vigilance and to rebuff the enemy.

The December armed uprising, prepared by the mass actions of the proletariat during the whole of 1905, marked the climax in the development of the First Russian Revolution.

The Moscow workers were the first to raise the banner of armed uprising against tsarism. The Moscow Soviet of Workers' Deputies, headed by the Bolsheviks, on December 7 (20, New Style) called a general political strike with the aim of turning it into an armed uprising. The workers came out as one man. All factories stopped work. On December 9 (22) the Moscow workers began to fight on the barricades against the troops of the tsarist government. The Presnya, Zamoskvorechye, and Rogozhsko-Simonovsky districts were the main centres of the uprising. For nine days on end the armed workers heroically battled with the tsarist troops. As many as eight thousand armed combatants, supported by all the workers, took part in barricade and street battles. The uprising assumed a particularly stubborn and bitter character in the Presnya district. The tsarist government threw heavy armed forces into Moscow in order to suppress the uprising. The workers performed miracles of heroism, courage and self-sacrifice, during the December uprising; to the very end they maintained their tenacity and militant spirit. "We have begun. We are finishing... Blood, violence and death will dog our footsteps. But no matter. The future belongs to the working class. Generation after generation in all countries will learn staunchness from the experience of the Presnya"—so read the last order issued by the staff of the Presnya fighting detachments.

The December 1905 uprising demonstrated that the political consciousness of the Russian proletariat had grown immensely in the eleven months of the Revolution. If in January 1905 thousands of workers went trustingly to the tsar's Palace with prayers and church banners to beg for a "grain of pity", in December 1905 the Russian proletariat fought heroically, arms in hand, on the barricades to overthrow tsarism and to set up a democratic republic.

The December armed uprising was ruthlessly put down by tsarism. The basic reasons for its defeat lay in the fact that the leadership of the uprising failed to keep abreast of the spontaneously rising movement. Delay attended the beginning of the uprising; the favourable moment, when there was unrest among units of the Moscow garrison, was missed. After the arrest of the Moscow Bolshevik committee by the tsarist government, the armed uprising in Moscow took the form of uprisings of separate districts, disconnected from one another. In the period of preparation for the uprising no trained armed detachments were formed, the workers were short of weapons.

The armed uprising of the Moscow workers did not grow into a simultaneous, all-Russian action of the proletariat. As a result the tsarist government managed not only to suppress the Moscow uprising; it was also able to drown in blood the armed uprisings in the Donbas, Kharkov, Krasnoyarsk, Chita, Novorossiisk, Perm, Sormovø and in Latvia, Finland and other regions. One of the reasons for the failure of the armed uprising was also the defensive tactics which are the "death of an armed uprising" (Marx). The defeat of the uprising was facilitated also by the disorganising activities of the Mensheviks and Social Revolutionaries.

Evaluating the experience of the December armed uprising, V. I. Lenin wrote at a later date: "For the first time in world history the revolutionary struggle attained such a high stage of development and such strength that the armed uprising was combined with the mass strike, this specifically proletarian weapon. Clearly, this experience is of world-wide significance for all proletarian revolutions." (Vol. 31, p. 315).

## World Public Celebrate Fiftieth Anniversary of First Russian Revolution

This year the democratic public of all countries is celebrating the glorious 50th anniversary of the First Russian Revolution.

The newspapers in the People's Democracies have published the full text of the theses of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin Institute of the C.C. of the CPSU on "The Fiftieth Anniversary of the First Russian Revolution".

On January 22, the anniversary of "Bloody Sunday", there was a meeting in Warsaw, devoted to the fiftieth anniversary of the First Russian Revolution. It was opened by Comrade B. Bierut, First Secretary of the Central Committee of the Polish United Workers' Party. Comrade Tadeusz Daniszewski, member of the C.C. of the Party, delivered a report on the fiftieth anniversary of the Revolution. Meetings were also held in other large cities in Poland. Talks and lectures on the significance of the First Russian Revolution, on the joint struggle of the Polish working class and the Russian proletariat for the social emancipation of the peoples are being held in factories and plants and in the countryside.

The Hungarian newspapers Szabad Nep, Magyar Nemzet and others are prominently featuring articles on the anniversary.

At the enterprises and offices, in Party study centres in Bucharest and other Rumanian cities lectures and talks are being given on the First Russian Revolution.

The working people of Bulgaria are marking the glorious anniversary. Newspapers are featuring articles and material about this outstanding date, about the international significance of the Revolution of 1905-1907.

The newspapers of the German Democratic Republic are publishing chronological data on the Revolution of 1905-1907 and extracts from the speeches of V. I. Lenin, J. V. Stalin and V. Pieck on the significance of the First Russian Revolution for the international revolutionary movement.

The January issue of Cahiers du Communisme, theoretical and political journal of the C.C. of the French Communist Party, prominently features the Revolution of 1905. It carries an article dealing with the main events of the Revolution and the "Report on the Revolution of 1905" delivered by Lenin in January 1917 in Zürich.

tsarist government already managed to crush the main centres of revolution in the industrial centres of the country. While fighting against the landlords, the greater part of the peasants could not bring themselves to take up the struggle against the tsar, believing in the possibility of receiving land from him. It was this fact which determined the conduct of the army, the greater part of which assisted the tsar in putting down the revolutionary resistance of the workers and peasants. The workers themselves failed to act with sufficient unanimity and some of their detachments were slow in joining the common struggle. The lack of unity within the ranks of the proletarian Party which resulted from the treacherous activity of the Mensheviks split the ranks of the working class, thereby weakening it as the leading force of the Revolution. Because of all this the proletariat was not able as yet to play its full role as the real leader of the Revolution and bring it to victory.

The autocracy received help from the foreign imperialists in crushing the Revolution. The French, British, Austrian and Belgian bankers advanced a large loan to the tsar for the suppression of the Revolution. This, as Maxim Gorky, the great proletarian writer, aptly put it, was a "Judas' loan". The Kaiser's Germany prepared a military intervention against the Russian Revolution in the event of its being successful.

Despite the defeat of the Revolution of 1905-1907, the basic factors of economic and political life which had given rise to it continued to operate. This rendered another revolutionary explosion inevitable.

Notwithstanding the false prophecies of the Menshevik liquidators and other traitors and renegades of the revolutionary movement, who alleged that another revolution in Russia was impossible, the Bolsheviks tirelessly pointed to the inevitability of both a democratic revolution and a socialist revolution. V. I. Lenin stated that the Russian proletariat was guided "not by 'vague hopes' but by the scientifically grounded conviction that there would be a repetition of the revolution". (Vol. 17, p. 211).

Under the difficult conditions of reaction, of brutal tsarist persecution, the Bolsheviks rallied the democratic forces of the country to the side of the working class; they cemented the fighting alliance of the working class and peasantry, and strengthened the international unity of the peoples of Russia; they prepared the working masses for a new, decisive onslaught against the autocracy, for the struggle to overthrow the rule of the landlords and bourgeoisie.

### III.

16. The First Russian Revolution was a great event in the history of Russia and greatly influenced the entire subsequent development of the country, leaving a profound imprint on the consciousness of the people. The Revolution raised the broadest masses of the people to the level of conscious revolutionary creative activity and enriched them with invaluable political experience. In the course of the bitter struggle against tsarism in the years 1905-1907 there was laid the firm basis for the creation of the united revolutionary front of the oppressed peoples of Russia, headed by the heroic Russian proletariat.

One of the most important results of the Revolution was the tremendous strengthening of the role of the proletariat as a leading social force which came forward as the leader of the toiling masses. The proletariat snatched from the liberal bourgeoisie the leadership of the masses of the people in the struggle for the democratic revolution, thereby proving that in the epoch of imperialism the leader of the revolution can be none other than the working class. The historic experience of the First Russian Revolution proved that the proletariat is capable of becoming the leader of the general democratic movement even where, because of an insufficient development of capitalism, it represents a minority of a country's population.

The Revolution graphically proved that victory over the exploiters cannot be won without unity of the working class. The lessons of the Revolution showed that the role of genuine guide and leader of the working class and all working people can be fulfilled only by a militant revolutionary Marxist party, the party of a new type, radically different from the parties of the Second International.

While bourgeois-democratic in character, the First Russian Revolution was at the same time a proletarian one; it was so not only because the proletariat acted as the leader of the Revolution but also because proletarian forms and methods of struggle determined its course and its unprecedented scope.

The experience of the Revolution showed the great significance of mass political strikes as a means of revolutionary mobilisation of the masses. The working class of Russia resorted to this tested weapon, the political strike, in its subsequent revolutionary struggle also. The political strike combined with the armed uprising, which was taken up by the workers and soldiers in Petrograd in February 1917, enabled the people to sweep out tsarism in the space of a few days. The Revolution enriched the working class with the experience of armed uprising, which was utilised by the Bolsheviks in their preparations for and carrying through of the October armed uprising in 1917.

## Gathering of Austrian, Hungarian and Czechoslovak Youth

A gathering of representatives of Hungarian, Austrian and Czechoslovak youth was held in Bratislava (capital of Slovakia). The keynote of the gathering was the stepping up of the struggle against the remilitarisation of Western Germany, and the atomic war which is being prepared by the aggressive circles of Western countries.

The gathering was preceded by a conference which was addressed by M. Razus, First Secretary of the Slovak Central Committee of the Czechoslovak Youth Union, Janos Gosztonyi, leader of the Hungarian delega-

tion, and Walter Wachs, leader of the Austrian delegation and Secretary of the Free Austrian Youth organisation.

The gathering forwarded resolutions to the World Peace Council and the World Federation of Democratic Youth expressing inflexible determination staunchly to uphold peace.

A mass rally of young people ended the gathering. It fully supported the initiative of the World Peace Council which called for the destruction of all stockpiles of atomic weapons and a ban on their production.

## EMERGENCY GENERAL SESSION OF BULGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences recently held an emergency general session on the problems of atomic energy. The report was made by Academician Georgi Nadjakov, Vice-President of the Academy.

Georgi Nadjakov and the scientists, who addressed the meeting, referred with indignation to the intention of certain governments, primarily the U.S. Government, to use the greatest achievement of the human intellect—atomic energy—as a means of

destruction and mass annihilation. The Bulgarian scientists condemned the recent decision of the NATO Council on the preparation of an atomic war. They welcomed the Soviet proposal to give scientific, technical and production assistance to a number of countries in the sphere of the peaceful application of atomic energy.

The session unanimously approved the appeal of the Presidium of the Academy of Sciences to the scientists of the world,

The Revolution upset the hegemony of the bourgeoisie in the Second International, to the effect that the hegemony of the Leninist teaching on the opportunists was inevitable, and proved the correctness of the Leninist teaching of the opportunists. The First Russian Revolution also refuted the harmful dogma of the alleged reactionary character of the peasantry, on the "inability" of the proletariat in alliance with the peasantry to put an end to the landlord-capitalist yoke.

The Leninist theory of the growing-over of the bourgeois-democratic revolution into the socialist revolution demolished the dogma of the opportunists of the Second International to the effect that a long interval must intervene between the bourgeois and socialist revolutions; it lighted up for the proletarians of all lands the path of struggle for liberation from capitalist slavery.

The victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution in our country was a triumph of the Leninist theory of proletarian revolution. The fraternal Communist and Workers' Parties are creatively applying and developing the Leninist theory of the socialist revolution, while taking into account the particular concrete conditions in their own countries.

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In the 50 years which have elapsed since the first revolutionary onslaught against the tsarist autocracy the working class and all the working people of our country have traversed a glorious historical path.

Under the leadership of the Communist Party the working class of Russia, in alliance with the working peasantry, carried through the Great October Socialist Revolution, created the socialist state of workers and peasants and ensured the ideals of the advanced in the USSR. In so doing the Soviet people translated into life the heavy sacrifices and the fighters of the First Russian Revolution and showed that the heavy sacrifices and the blood that was shed in the struggle for freedom had not been expended in vain.

The Communist Party, tempered in the fires of three revolutions, in the struggle for the realisation of the great social and economic transformations in our country, and in the battles of the Great Patriotic War, stands forth now as the tested leader of the Soviet people in their struggle for the completion of the building of Socialism and the gradual transition to Communism. The Party mobilises the Soviet people for the further rapid development of heavy industry, which is the fundamental basis of socialist economy, the development of economic and defensive power of the country and the well-spring of a well-to-do and cultured life for the working people. On the basis of successes achieved in the development of heavy industry, the Party is organising the sharp upsurge in agriculture and the further development of light industry and the food industry.

Closely connected with the people and with unlimited faith in the creative powers of the people, the Communist Party develops the labour and political enthusiasm of the masses, directs their revolutionary energy and initiative toward the further strengthening of the might of our homeland.

At every stage of the liberation struggle and of socialist construction the Communist Party has reverently preserved and cultivated the revolutionary traditions of the peoples of our country. Through inspiring examples of the heroic struggle of our people, and through the ideas of Marxism-Leninism the Party educates the working people in the spirit of ardent Soviet patriotism, proletarian internationalism and utter devotion to the cause of Communism. It wages a resolute struggle against the survivals of capitalism in the consciousness of people, develops and fosters the high revolutionary qualities of the Soviet people, and raises the level of consciousness of the workers of the socialist society.

With a sense of justified pride the Soviet people view the grand results of the path that they have followed. Our homeland confidently moves ahead, standing forth before all the world as the bulwark of progress, democracy and Socialism.

The cause of the revolution, for which a half century ago there was launched the first heroic battle of the peoples of Russia, has now immeasurably grown and become strengthened. This is brilliantly attested by the coming into being and consolidation of the democratic and socialist camp in the van of which marches the Soviet Union.

The revolutionary experience of the successes of socialist construction in the countries of Socialism in the USSR and the successes of socialist construction in the countries of people's democracy inspire the working masses in the capitalist, colonial and dependent countries to resolute struggle for a lasting peace, democratic liberties, national independence and emancipation from the imperialist yoke.

Beneath the banner of Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin, under the leadership of the Communist Party—forward, to the triumph of Communism!

Marx-Engels-Lenin-Stalin Institute  
of the C.C. of CPSU

## Peace Movement in Argentina

Recently a meeting of the Peace Council of Argentina heard an important report made by Maria Rosa Oliver, the authoress, who pointed out the serious danger for peace arising from the Paris agreements envisaging the revival of German militarism and from the threats of an atomic war.

Dr. Garcia Iturraspe and other contributors to the discussion noted that the establishment of a genuine system of collective security was of great significance for the countries of Latin America.

Referring to the serious situation of the economy of Argentina, a number of speakers stressed that alongside the growing interference of U.S. imperialists in the internal matters of the country, which is facilitated by various steps taken by the Government, repressive measures against the people are becoming more intensive. At present more than 600 patriots are in jail. Among them are such prominent figures as Dr. Norberto Frontini, architect Fermia Beretervide, well-known economist Gonzales Alberdi and lawyer S. Schmerkin.

Expressing the aspirations of the broad masses of the population who demand that

the oil of Argentina should not be allowed to be plundered by the foreign imperialists but should be used in the interests of the development and progress of the country, the Peace Council decided to carry out an extensive national campaign under the slogan: "All the oil of Argentina—for our people and the cause of peace".

A statement by a considerable group of professors and physicians in the town of Rosario, condemning atomic war and demanding a ban on weapons of mass destruction, has evoked a wide response throughout the country. The collection of signatures in support of this statement is now in full swing in Buenos Aires. The Argentina Federation of Agricultural Co-operatives has issued a circular to its affiliates informing them that this federation has joined the campaign for banning atomic weapons. In Buenos Aires there was a conference of delegates from the councils and committees in street blocks of the capital which discussed the situation and tasks of the peace movement. The conference summed up the results of the work carried out during the campaign against the ratification of the Paris agreements and adopted an appeal to the citizens of Buenos Aires.



## In Communist and Workers' Parties

MEETING, CENTRAL COMMITTEE,  
FRENCH COMMUNIST PARTY

The Central Committee of the French Communist Party held a meeting in Paris on January 26 and 27. Among those present was Comrade Maurice Thorez, General Secretary of the Party.

The meeting discussed the following two questions: 1. The struggle against the resurgence of German militarism, for prevention of an atomic crime and for the demands of the working class and the working masses (report by Comrade Jacques Duclos, Secretary of the Party); 2. Cantonal elections (Comrade Waldeck Rochet, member of the Political Bureau).

"By uniting all workers and democratic and national forces in factories, towns and villages", Comrade Jacques Duclos said, "we can prevent the resurrection of the West German revanchist army and defeat the advocates of the Paris agreements in the Palais de Luxembourg."

IIIrd MEETING OF CENTRAL COMMITTEE,  
POLISH UNITED WORKERS' PARTY

The IIIrd plenary meeting of the C.C. of the Polish United Workers' Party, held in Warsaw on January 21-24, heard and discussed the report by Comrade Boleslaw Bierut, first Secretary of the C.C., on the tasks facing the Party in its work for strengthening daily contact with the working masses, and on the key economic tasks for 1955.

The meeting unanimously adopted decisions on the following matters: on complete observance of the Leninist principles in Party life, on collective leadership, and on overcoming bureaucratic distortions in the work of the Party and the state apparatus;

MEETING OF C.C. OF FINNISH COMMUNIST PARTY

A meeting of the C.C. of the Communist Party of Finland has taken place in Helsinki.

The meeting discussed the country's general political and economic situation as well as the questions of work among the youth, an increase in the circulation of the democratic press and improvement of the activity of Party branches.

The report was made by Comrade Ville Pessi, General Secretary of the Party. Noting the danger of West German militarisation for Finland and emphasising the strengthening of the peace forces, Comrade Pessi referred to the attempts to involve Finland in the Northern Council. He said that these attempts were intensified after

PLENARY MEETING OF NATIONAL COMMITTEE  
OF PEOPLE'S SOCIALIST PARTY OF CUBA

A plenary meeting of the National Committee of the People's Socialist Party of Cuba was held recently. It discussed the following questions: The situation in the country since April 1954 (when the previous plenary meeting took place), changes to the Party Rules and organisational questions. Comrade A. Diaz gave a report on the first item, pointing out that the American monopolies sought to impose on the people of Cuba their schemes for wage cuts and growing unemployment, their plans to make the country even more dependent on the U.S.A. He declared that these designs had failed as a result of the big struggle.

Comrade Jacques Duclos also pointed out that France was threatened with danger of the gravest character in connection with the tremendously increased menace of an atomic war being unleashed as a result of the decisions of the NATO Council. Recalling the recent decisions of the Bureau of the World Peace Council Comrade Jacques Duclos said: "...The Communists will consider it their duty once more to take an active part, with patriots of all political views, in all campaigns organised to frustrate the re-establishment of the new Wehrmacht and prevent an atomic crime."

Comrade Duclos dwelt in detail on the question of defending the workers' demands and the necessity for united working-class action.

Many people took part in discussion. Comrade Maurice Thorez delivered a powerful concluding speech which was intently followed by those present at the meeting.

on the work of public security organs and strengthening Party control over the work of these organs; on the key economic tasks for 1955 and improvement of methods of leadership in the national economy.

In connection with the appointment of Comrade Wladyslaw Dworakowski, Secretary of the C.C., as Chairman of the Public Security Committee and the decision to increase the membership of the Secretariat of the C.C. to five, the meeting elected Comrades Wladyslaw Matwin and Jerzy Morawski Secretaries of the Central Committee of the Party.

American Senator Wiley's visit to Finland last year.

Then Comrade Pessi analysed the economic development and political situation at home, laying particular stress on the need for unity of action by the working people.

The meeting sent a telegram to the Central Board of the Communist Party of Germany, expressing its solidarity with the Party and its members, with all democratic forces who, fearing no sacrifice, are waging a struggle against West German rearmament.

The meeting also sent a telegram of protest to the court in Karlsruhe against the attempt to ban the Communist Party of Germany.

of American imperialism in Cuba, Comrade Diaz said, is ruining the country; he called on the people to unite and set up a united front of democratic and national forces.

The meeting stated that the main points of the Party's Programme are as follows: formation of a democratic national front government, nationalisation of public services, annulment of concessions to foreign monopolies, state control over the banks, agrarian reform, trade with the USSR and the People's Democracies, restoration of democratic and trade union liberties, abolition of racial discrimination, and a peace-

# Agricultural Crisis in Italy and the Struggle for Agrarian Reform\*

I.

During the past few years the agricultural crisis in Italy has become more and more pronounced. Agricultural production as a whole has been in a state of stagnation during the last half-century whereas the population has increased by 30%. The rise in production observed in 1953 was not maintained in 1954, and this indicates that the 1953 harvest was not the result of an increase in the amount of modern machinery available to agriculture. This is confirmed by the fact that the number of tractors in the country continues to remain insignificant and chemical fertilisers are still not sufficiently used.

Despite the general stagnation of agricultural production and the steady increase in the population we have an agrarian crisis of over-production in Italy that has caused a drop in the prices of agricultural produce and a reduction in income for farmers, particularly small peasants. But if the Italian wine-makers are not succeeding in selling all their wine, if in Alto-Adige apples are being dumped into the river and a great deal of fruit is being used for the distillation of alcohol, this does not mean that the home market is saturated and that every person is assured a daily and satisfactory ration of these foods. This is most definitely not the case. The state of the market in the capitalist world is determined by the purchasing power of the population and not by its needs. From this follows the initial restriction of the home market, that has shrunk as a result of the curtailment of industry, and an increase in the number of wholly and partially unemployed.

There is yet another restriction, one connected with the international market, which for us has substantially diminished because of the disintegration of the single world market and Italy's incorporation into the sphere of American imperialism. This fact forcibly closed the Eastern markets to our manufactured goods and agricultural produce.

Among the reasons that aggravated the agrarian crisis, and by no means an insignificant one, was the one-way "freeing" of trade conducted by our "Atlantic" governments, as well as the policy of so-called "American aid", so disastrous for our agriculture. The object of the latter is to "export" the American crisis to countries of the capitalist world. This policy has already brought fabulous profits to a handful of profiteers. We are left with the impression that our rulers, regardless of past experience, propose to follow this path to the end. A fresh consignment of agricultural produce, valued at billions of lire, was received only recently under the guise of fresh "aid", whereas the United States, for its part, refuses to accept any Italian "aid" in the way of cheese, wine, butter, citrus and other fruits and other agricultural produce.

Attempts are furthermore being made to give a permanent character to this policy both by the creation of the so-called "green pool" and by the acceptance of the military plans which the U.S.A. is imposing on Europe, plans that are fraught with grave economic consequences.

prices for agricultural produce purchased from the producers (hemp, sugar-beet, produce for canning etc.). The consumer derives no benefit from these low monopoly prices for agricultural produce and this prolongs the crisis of over-production because it makes the sale of accumulated produce difficult.

\*  
Ruggero Grieco  
Member, Leadership,  
Italian Communist Party

★ ★

II.

It is natural that in this situation the peasants and the small and medium agricultural producers are looking for protection. And it is therefore a most dangerous thing for both peasants and agriculture that monopolist groups, fearing a weakening of their social and political positions in the countryside, are advancing and implementing corporative forms of "protection" of the mass of small and medium producers, solely to keep them under their yoke. These forms of "protection", which we have already experienced during fascism, are labelled as the "producers' association". Their object was and remains not to protect agricultural production, the peasants, the toilers on the land, but to ensure a further increase in rents, ruin the small producers and create barriers in the way of carrying out the land reform.

A really democratic policy of protecting the agricultural producer must have as its aim the expansion of the market capacity and strengthening of a free co-operative organisation of producers.

However, attempts are being made to create the desired "producers' association" under the auspices of the biggest monopolist organ, the Federconsorzi, which is stifling the small and middle producers. The Federconsorzi is linked with the monopolies of Montecatini and FIAT, with the big milk and cheese-making industry, with the flour mill industry, with the big insurance companies, and is directing all its efforts to chain the peasant to the wheel of the most reactionary groups of finance capital, submissive to the arbitrary measures of the U.S. The Federconsorzi, with its own political representatives in Parliament and in the state administration, its own press and even its own clerical propagandists, has, apparently, succeeded in obtaining the Government's agreement to its establishing an annual "aid fund" amounting to 10 billion lire. This fund, to be established at the taxpayers' expense, is designed to create a type of artificial market for the kind of produce which cannot be sold on the normal market.

Since 1947 the country has suffered heavy material losses from devastating floods. These losses were due to the fact that the Government lacked a proper policy for soil protection, regulation of river waters and reclamation of mountainous regions. The land laws adopted by the clerical governments are far from putting an end to the monopoly landownership since they envisage no general and permanent restriction on landownership. They were elaborated for the sole purpose of splitting the peasants' united front, to "put an end to the influence of Communism" and not in order to ensure a sounder economic, social and cultured de-

form, for protection of the peasant and for the regeneration of agriculture. This fight had a clearly expressed political character, inasmuch as it advanced demands

for structural reforms with unprecedented vigour. The need to effect a radical transformation of our economy is now more urgent than ever before and with it is bound up the fate of freedom and democracy.

The agricultural labourers and workers, who compelled the conclusion of national labour agreements and the implementation of the sliding wage scale, who won a wage increase in their last year's strikes, are now confronted with a number of other urgent problems such as the introduction of a hiring system, forcing big landlords to employ a definite proportion of farm-hands, and the problem of changes in terms of agreements.

The sharecroppers of Emilia, Toscana, Umbria and other regions are in the van of the struggle for regeneration of the Italian countryside, for changes in terms of agricultural agreements and for agrarian reform. The fact that the peasants are abandoning the land in the regions where the metayage system is in force and the exodus of young sharecroppers from the countryside proves that the old metayage system has become obsolete; and this has already been admitted even by many non-Communist specialists.

A wide campaign has been launched over the past few years to force the Government to implement, extend and improve the land laws adopted under the pressure of the peasant movement.

As semi-official figures show, by December 27, 1954, 414,305 hectares had been distributed among 76,279 peasants; in addition 59,151 hectares are said to have been given to 13,030 peasants under the law applying to Sicily.

During the implementation of the land laws the bodies set up to put the reform into effect have been turned into expensive organisational centres engaged in political propaganda and have become the source of corruption and discord. Last year these bodies spent, under the heading of "general expenditure", the fabulous sum of 26,954 million lire. This signifies that general expenditure per expropriated hectare amounted to an average of 52,000 lire, whereas in the Apulia region this figure reached 70,000 lire, which exceeds the average price per hectare paid to the landowner as compensation! These bodies do not, as they should, grant technical aid and credits to the peasants for they are busy with lots of other matters. They are becoming organs of the Christian Democratic Party, of the Vatican "aid" commission, of Catholic Action, of the church parish authorities and so on. And it is the peasants who pay for their activity!

It is clear why the peasants are fighting against the policy of discrimination and persecution pursued by these bodies in order to prevent a new category of free and independent peasants from coming into being.

The democratic and trade union organisations and the workers' parties must follow the peasants who have received land and

forces. But the situation is changing. The conferences discussing the problems of the mountainous regions, meetings on the taxation system etc. have marked stages in the gradual development of a progressive outlook among small landholders with regard to their vital problems. Many of our measures taken for the defence of the small and middle producers helped to strengthen the National Association of Tillers of the Land, affiliated to the National Confederation of Tillers of the Land; they helped in the formation of the Peasant Association of the South and laid the foundations of the Union of Sicilian Peasants and the Union of Peasants and Shepherds of Sardinia.

Experience has taught us that the peasants prefer to organise themselves in economic associations and different co-operatives, set up commonly-owned wine-making enterprises, dairy farms, mutual-aid societies etc. These must become the main forms of the different organisations of democratic peasants, organisations open to all, democratic in character and providing access for the minority to the leading and control bodies, with general discussion of their budgets and programmes. It is necessary to develop various forms of agricultural co-operatives and agricultural mutual-aid organisations, to encourage the organisation of co-operatives in the areas where the reforms are being effected, to stimulate the development of all forms of co-operation and association of small and petty landholders.

This method of organising the peasants does not mean that the peasants should be withdrawn from political activity and the struggle for their demands. All categories of peasants will maintain their organisations. We must understand perfectly well that the development of the peasant movement and the most varied forms of peasants' organisations is facilitated by the agricultural crisis and its consequences; the Communists have to orientate the actions of the peasants and give them able and thorough guidance.

It is necessary to launch a wide discussion in each and every commune on the agrarian laws submitted to Parliament by the left parties to benefit the peasants and on the most urgent problems of peasant life and, above all, on the problems of peace and war.

This will make it possible to lay the foundations of the National Peasant Association in Italy. It is high time to fulfil the promise of uniting the various peasant organisations into one union with the object of carrying out unified work in defence of peasant interests jointly with the peasants belonging to the breakaway organisations in which we find thousands upon thousands of our friends.

Over four per cent of our Party members are landholders. These Communists are not, as a rule, used as leaders of the different forms of the peasant landholders' movement. And perhaps not all these Party members even belong to any peasant organisation. There is no doubt that the Communist peasant landholders, their wives and other members of their families will become the vanguard in the democratic activity on this sector.

The realisation of our broad plan of action will be facilitated by the active co-operation of several thousands of Communist women activists: women labourers, workers in the rice fields, seasonal workers, agricultural workers, sharecroppers, those

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of American imperialism in Cuba, Comrade Diaz said, is ruining the country; he called on the people to unite and set up a united front of democratic and national forces.

The meeting stated that the main points of the Party's Programme are as follows: formation of a democratic national, front government, nationalisation of public services, annulment of concessions to foreign monopolies, state control over the banks, agrarian reform, trade with the USSR and the People's Democracies, restoration of democratic and trade union liberties, abolition of racial discrimination, and a peace-loving foreign policy. The meeting heard and approved the report of Comrade Héctor del Portal on changes in the Party Rules.

## CONFERENCE OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF NORWAY

The annual conference of the Communist Party of Norway was held in Oslo on January 15-16, attended by 81 delegates. Visitors from the Communist Parties of Finland, Sweden and Denmark also attended.

The conference heard a report by Comrade Leylien, Chairman of the Party, on the economic and political situation in the country. Comrade Lippe, Secretary of the Party, delivered a report on the preparations for the local elections scheduled for next autumn. Reports were also made by Comrade Dalland, Chairman of the Auditing Commission, Comrade Hoff, Secretary, and by Comrade Pettersen, member of the C.C.

The conference adopted a unanimous appeal to the people of Norway, pointing out that the foreign policy, the policy of rearmament and the economic and social policy pursued by the Torp government were in line with the interests

## INITIATIVE OF RURAL COMMUNISTS

Last summer our Party branch launched a wide explanatory campaign among the peasants for the formation of an agricultural association. At an open Party meeting we thoroughly explained the regulations of such an association and the advantages that would accrue to the working peasants from its formation.

The Party members were the first to apply for membership and their example was followed by a number of non-party peasants. Basing itself on the initiative of the rural activists the Party branch has stepped up its work among the remaining peasants. The district Party committee has given us great help in organising this work. With its assistance the Party branch set up a group of well-briefed propagandists to hold house-to-house talks with the peasants, explaining the advantages of cultivation by machinery and how advanced technical methods should be applied for the regular production of bumper crops.

At the same time we ensured that the wall newspaper came out regularly, featuring many articles and items about the preparatory work for setting up the agricultural association. Reports on the advantages of collective methods of farming were read in the village club. The fact that neighbouring villages had already formed agricultural associations which were working successfully played a big part in drawing the working peasants into the association. A large number of peasants visited these villages and saw

with their own eyes the advantages of farming in a collective way. The return of our fellow peasant Vasile Pop from a visit to the Soviet Union, where he saw the All-Union Agricultural Exhibition and a number of Soviet collective farms, was also of great significance. At the request of the Party branch he spoke of the great achievements of the peasants in the Soviet Union.

In their efforts to form an agricultural association the Communists continuously exposed the intrigues of kulak elements, who sought to prejudice in every way possible the idea of forming an association.

After a great deal of explanatory work by the Party branch an initiating group was elected which included the most active Party members and advanced working peasants. This group helped to set up an agricultural association of 39 families. We decided to call it "Octombrie Roşu" ("Red October"). Having set up the association, we immediately concluded an agreement with the MTS which helped us to do autumn ploughing and sowing in good time and on a high agrotechnical level.

The Party branch is doing all it can to strengthen the agricultural association and to draw in more working peasant families.

**Vasile BUGNARIU**  
Secretary of the branch of the Rumanian Workers' Party in the "Octombrie Roşu" agricultural association, the village of Aschileul Mic, Cluj district, Rumania

of the American crisis to countries of the capitalist world. This policy has already brought fabulous profits to a handful of profiteers. We are left with the impression that our rulers, regardless of past experience, propose to follow this path to the end. A fresh consignment of agricultural produce, valued at billions of lire, was received only recently under the guise of fresh "aid", whereas the United States, for its part, refuses to accept any Italian "aid" in the way of cheese, wine, butter, citrus and other fruits and other agricultural produce.

Attempts are furthermore being made to give a permanent character to this policy both by the creation of the so-called "green pool" and by the acceptance of the military plans which the U.S.A. is imposing on Europe, plans that are fraught with grave economic consequences.

The main reasons for the aggravation of the agrarian crisis, however, are to be sought in the very structure of our society. They arise from the existence of industrial and land monopolies, and particularly from the fact that as time passed the monopoly of private landownership merged with finance capital to an ever-increasing extent; they arise from the fact that a great many people in the mountainous regions and the plains are living in a state of backwardness; that the impoverishment of the working masses in town and country, of the workers and handicraftsmen, the peasants and the middle sections of intellectuals etc. is on the increase. Monopolist transformation in agriculture, which gained ground in the form of corporatism in the period of fascism, has assumed unprecedented proportions in the years of Christian Democratic "spirituality" and "sociality".

High ground rent is, naturally, one of the main reasons for the backwardness of the economic and social development in the countryside. According to some figures, in 1953 it amounted to 500-550 billion lire. The fact that rent is charged is often camouflaged. Rent is concealed and it is often difficult to distinguish. For instance, peasants who have received 537,626 hectares of land, expropriated under the land laws, will have to pay more than 40 billion lire compensation. This sum represents a capitalised rent. Furthermore, the price of lands left to the owners after expropriation and the lands which have not been expropriated and come within the zones of the reform has doubled, trebled and quadrupled as a result of melioration and public works that have either been effected or are projected. An increase in land prices has also been brought about by the various laws for establishing small peasant property. A share of the state funds provided for by these laws does not find its way to the peasants who buy the land, but to the landowners who sell it. The landowners raise the price of the land with the object of adding the equivalent of the sum due to the peasant from state funds.

These measures, naturally, have contributed to raising rent for tenancy. Rent is not reduced but raised during crises. Industrial monopolies maintain high prices for the manufactured goods needed by agriculture and this leads to the ruin of the peasant farms and arouses the discontent of the landowners who are not connected with the monopolies. At the same time the monopolies maintain low monopoly

\* From Comrade Ruggero Grieco's report to the IVth National Conference of the Italian Communist Party on January 13, 1955.

has, apparently, succeeded in obtaining the Government's agreement to its establishing an annual "aid fund" amounting to 10 billion lire. This fund, to be established at the taxpayers' expense, is designed to create a type of artificial market for the kind of produce which cannot be sold on the normal market.

Since 1947 the country has suffered heavy material losses from devastating floods. These losses were due to the fact that the Government lacked a proper policy for soil protection, regulation of river waters and reclamation of mountainous regions. The land laws adopted by the clerical governments are far from putting an end to the monopoly landownership since they envisage no general and permanent restriction on landownership. They were elaborated for the sole purpose of splitting the peasants' united front, to "put an end to the influence of Communism" and not in order to ensure a sounder economic, social and cultured democratic life in the countryside. The Christian Democratic Government now seems to be putting the finishing touches to its law on agrarian reform under which the Christian Democratic Minister for Agriculture will apparently find another 250,000 hectares of land. But not a word is said about a general and permanent limitation of landownership, and nothing moreover is mentioned about allotting lands to all the peasants who have the right to this by virtue of the fact that they either have no land at all, or very little.

The Christian Democratic leaders affirm that an expansion of the system of small landownership in the countryside is precisely their mission, an aspect of the "spirituality" of the Christian Democratic Party. But the small landownership which they praise is only the ownership which arises through the purchase of land from the landowners, who naturally get rid of the worst lands and raise the market price of the land itself. Thus the new landholders are unable to make any capital investments in the land they have acquired because all their money has gone into purchasing the land. Another adverse effect of the law for establishing small land ownership is the splitting up of the big farms in the Po River Valley and in Toscana Province engaged in large-scale farming. The monopolists are no longer satisfied with this policy. Raking up the discredited over-population theory, they want to remove several million Italians from Italy. Dozens of bodies are studying the question of how hundreds of thousands of Italians could be used in Australia, Latin America, in West Africa and even in the Sahara. Agricultural Confederation leaders who assert that their sole concern is to protect "God, the homeland and the family" play the leading role in organising this pernicious "export" of Italians. Monopoly capital is at the back of these so-called colonising companies engaged in selling human beings.

### III.

In these conditions the small and middle peasants are being ruined and their farms falling to pieces; from small property owners and lease-holders the peasants are becoming proletarians with the result that unemployment is growing. The small and middle peasants are burdened by taxes and high prices for manufactured goods and as yet have still received no government aid whatsoever—neither medical aid nor social security benefits.

During the past few years, the Communists, standing at the head of the movement of the toilers on the land, have fought for work, for the agrarian re-

form. The Government's agreement to its establishing an annual "aid fund" amounting to 10 billion lire, to be established at the taxpayers' expense, is designed to create a type of artificial market for the kind of produce which cannot be sold on the normal market.

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The struggle for the land continues and will spread even wider since, as was recently affirmed by the Government, the Christian Democratic Party has exhausted its "plans" for reforms.

The land problem is now most urgent in the southern areas and on the islands, in large mountainous regions and hilly localities, in regions with capitalist farming where the system of hiring agricultural labourers and metayage prevails. Production itself calls for an overall land reform. This reform must not depend on the likes and dislikes of this or the other party; it must be a reform according to the Constitution. Therefore we insist on the demand for a permanent general restriction on landownership and for distribution of surplus land among the landless and land hungry peasants, agricultural labourers and agricultural workers etc.

Our slogan was and still is to limit landownership to 100 and in some regions to 50 hectares.

Thus, under our reform about 4 million hectares will be released for handing over to the peasants and at the same time hundreds of thousands of peasants will rid themselves of medieval obligations and dependence. This reform is to be supplemented by a reform of the terms of agreements with the same objective of restricting rents and bringing into being wide sections of free and independent peasants who could freely unite in co-operatives and other associations.

The trade unions of the toilers on the land are confronted with a formidable task in carrying through this regeneration of agriculture. They must improve their contact with the masses, develop inner democracy and the efficiency of their cadres, set up groups of activists on the farmsteads and the estates, organise production conferences and farm councils; they must see to it that immediate and partial demands are combined with demands for a general struggle for reform.

### IV.

Of nearly 2.5 million families of tillers of the land nearly 2 million are the families of small landholders and 500,000 are tenants. In the past they constituted a permanent reserve for the conservative and reactionary

promise of uniting the various peasant organisations into one union with the object of carrying out unified work in defence of peasant interests jointly with the peasants belonging to the breakaway organisations in which we find thousands upon thousands of our friends.

Over four per cent of our Party members are landholders. These Communists are not, as a rule, used as leaders of the different forms of the peasant landholders' movement. And perhaps not all these Party members even belong to any peasant organisation. There is no doubt that the Communist peasant landholders, their wives and other members of their families will become the vanguard in the democratic activity on this sector.

The realisation of our broad plan of action will be facilitated by the active co-operation of several thousands of Communist women activists: women labourers, workers in the rice fields, seasonal workers, agricultural workers, sharecroppers, those women who have been given land or who had it already. Experience has taught us that whenever we manage to train women cadres in the Party and in the trade unions we have good and sometimes even excellent results. We must attach greater significance to the establishment of women's groups in the trade unions of the toilers on the land and in the peasant and co-operative associations. We must have 10,000 more leading women functionaries and activists in the countryside within the next two years, i.e. an average of 100 women activists to work among the peasants in each province. The social and political activation of women is a factor for the profound regeneration of the peasant family; it contributes, in a decisive way, to a change in the position taken, up to the present moment, by every member of the peasant family, a position which was the cause of the lethargy of the peasants.

Another factor which will help to overcome this traditional lethargy in the countryside is the peasant youth. The problems of the peasant youth have assumed a dramatic character which was clearly manifest at the preparatory meetings for the national and international gatherings of rural youth. Young people are leaving the miserable life of the countryside, a life where work is irregular and poorly paid, a life which satisfies their needs either inadequately or not at all. Young people demand a modern, mechanised village, with an electricity supply and well-appointed houses. That is why there is a broad basis for discussion among the youth, for their correct orientation, for setting up various forms of youth organisations and for organising young people in struggle for the regeneration of Italy's countryside.

We are engaged in the great fight of our people and all the peoples of the world for peace, in the national fight against imperialism and for the defence of liberties. The problems of the fight for peace, employment and material well-being, the problems of democratic liberties are closely linked and indivisible.

The problem of democracy in Italy has always been, to a greater or lesser degree, a problem of abolition of the old economic and social structures. The struggle for agrarian reform will therefore continue in accordance with constitutional principles. Its objective is a general and permanent restriction of landownership.

We shall step up the struggle for the great aim of agrarian reform if we draw the majority of the peasants into the ranks of a powerful people's united front standing for peace and democracy, if we call on ever-fresh forces to fight for extending and strengthening the great and invincible worker-peasant alliance.

# HANDS OFF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF GERMANY

## Provocative Frame-up in Karlsruhe

**Oskar Neumann**  
Member, Secretariat, Central Board of Communist Party of Germany

In the middle of December last the court

in Karlsruhe was forced to postpone to the end of January the trial organized by the Adenauer Government with the object of banning the Communist Party of Germany. This meant that the representatives of the Communist Party of Germany at the trial and, with them, the forces of democracy, were to be brought before the court. This victory was due to the soundness of the legal position of the Party in relation to the groundlessness of the so-called charge preferred by the Adenauer Government, as the representatives of the Party most convincingly proved at the trial.

But this victory was first and foremost the result of the growing movement of protest on the part of the working class and broad sections of the population in Western Germany, the German Democratic Republic and abroad. This vigilance of the democratic forces must now be enhanced because postponement of the trial does not at all mean that the projected encroachment on democracy and peace by the monopolists and militarists has been repulsed, nor that there is no longer a danger of a return to the path taken by Hitler in 1933 with the banning of the CPG and the Reichstag trial.

The charge against the CPG was made by the Adenauer Government some three years ago when, despite victimization and terror, more than nine million people in Western Germany declared themselves in a popular referendum to be against the remilitarisation of Western Germany and for a peace treaty with Germany. At the same time the Adenauer Government demanded the dissolution of 37 democratic organisations in Western Germany, including the Union of Free German Youth, the International Students' Union, the Kulturbund (Union of Germany's Democratic Renovation), the Women's Democratic Union, the German-Soviet Friendship Society, the Association of Victims of Nazism, the peace committees, the Association of Democratic Lawyers and the Council for Defence of Democratic Rights, all committees of struggle for the unification of Germany and the anti-recruitment youth commissions. The very names of these organisations and associations show that this demand of the Adenauer Government was an integral part of the planned crusade against democracy and peace, a step towards preparing a war and setting up a military dictatorship.

The grounds advanced by the Adenauer Government for the so-called charge against the CPG proved to be so flimsy that even the Federal Constitutional Court kept postponing the trial over a period of three years. Since then the key positions in the Bonn state apparatus and the organs of the West German judiciary have, to an ever-increasing extent, been filled by representatives of the monopolists and militarists, despite the fact that the laws of the Free German Youth have been banned and thousands of court proceedings have been instituted against German patriots and peace fighters for which the fascist laws on punishment for beliefs together with McCarthyism, served as the model. The proceedings against the CPG were undertaken on the orders of the American imperialists and their methods were used. After the failure of EDC a meeting took place between Adenauer and John Foster Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, at which the former received directives on the London and Paris agreements and instructions as to the timetable for implementing the West German army laws after Hitler's death.

In the middle of December last the court in Karlsruhe was forced to postpone to the end of January the trial organised by the Adenauer Government with the object of banning the Communist Party of Germany. This meant that the representatives of the Communist Party of Germany at the trial and, with them, the forces of democracy, were to be brought before the court. This victory was due to the soundness of the legal position of the Party in relation to the groundlessness of the so-called charge preferred by the Adenauer Government, as the representatives of the Party most convincingly proved at the trial.

In their protests, Social Democratic workers and functionaries of the SDPG stress the world, to the German nation and all peace-loving peoples. Relying on the solidarity of 5,000 public libraries whereas in bourgeois Poland there were little more than a thousand. There are over 3,000 libraries and nearly 35,000 library points in the countries. A broad network of trade union libraries has been set up.

**★ ★ ★**  
Member, Secretariat, Central Board of Communist Party of Germany

At its Congress in Hamburg at the end of December 1954, the Communist Party of Germany voiced a decisive protest before the public of Germany and of the whole world against the activities of the Adenauer Government and against the projected "crusade to the East", by those who are continuing the Hitler schemes for world domination.

For a lasting peace, for a people's democracy, for a peaceful reunification of Germany are important and necessary conditions and prerequisites for the peaceful settlement of the German problem.

## Construction in China

### "Friendship" State Farm Under

The construction of a big state grain-growing farm, the "Friendship" farm, is underway in North-East China, with the assistance of the Soviet Union. The first consignments of the latest types of agricultural machinery and motor-vehicles, a gift from the Soviet Union to Chinese friends, arrived recently at the nearby Fullin railway station. The gift includes S-80 tractors, motor-torches and self-loaders. The 1955 state farm plan envisages the cultivation of 20,000 hectares of virgin lands and the sowing of 3,470 hectares of wheat. There is no doubt that the trial against the CPG is an essential part of the extensive anti-Communist campaign of slander and witch-hunting being carried on, with a view to ideological preparation for their projected "crusade to the East", by those who are continuing the Hitler schemes for world domination.

Meeting of National Peace Council of Mexico  
A meeting of the National Peace Council held recently in the city of Mexico discussed the task facing the peace movement in connection with the rearming of Western Germany. The German militarists are directed to such international treaties as envisage the division of Germany and are directed to include this part in closed military pacts and at transforming it into a hotbed of aggression.

Since the Potsdam principles are the concrete application of generally recognised standards of international law as applied to Germany, the Adenauer Government is under a deliberate obligation to deal with the Potsdam Agreements and the internal affairs of these countries, against bilateral military agreements and aggressive political independence of each country and the defence of democratic liberties.

Those who spoke at the meeting stressed that an important task of the peace supporters in Mexico is to rally all peace-loving forces in a broad mass movement for rearming and steadily combating any manifestations of militarism, for supporting and furthering every action for peace.

The meeting decided to convene a National Assembly in Defence of Peace and Security in mid-February. The aim of this assembly is to unite all Mexicans who are genuinely interested in peace and the security of the nation.

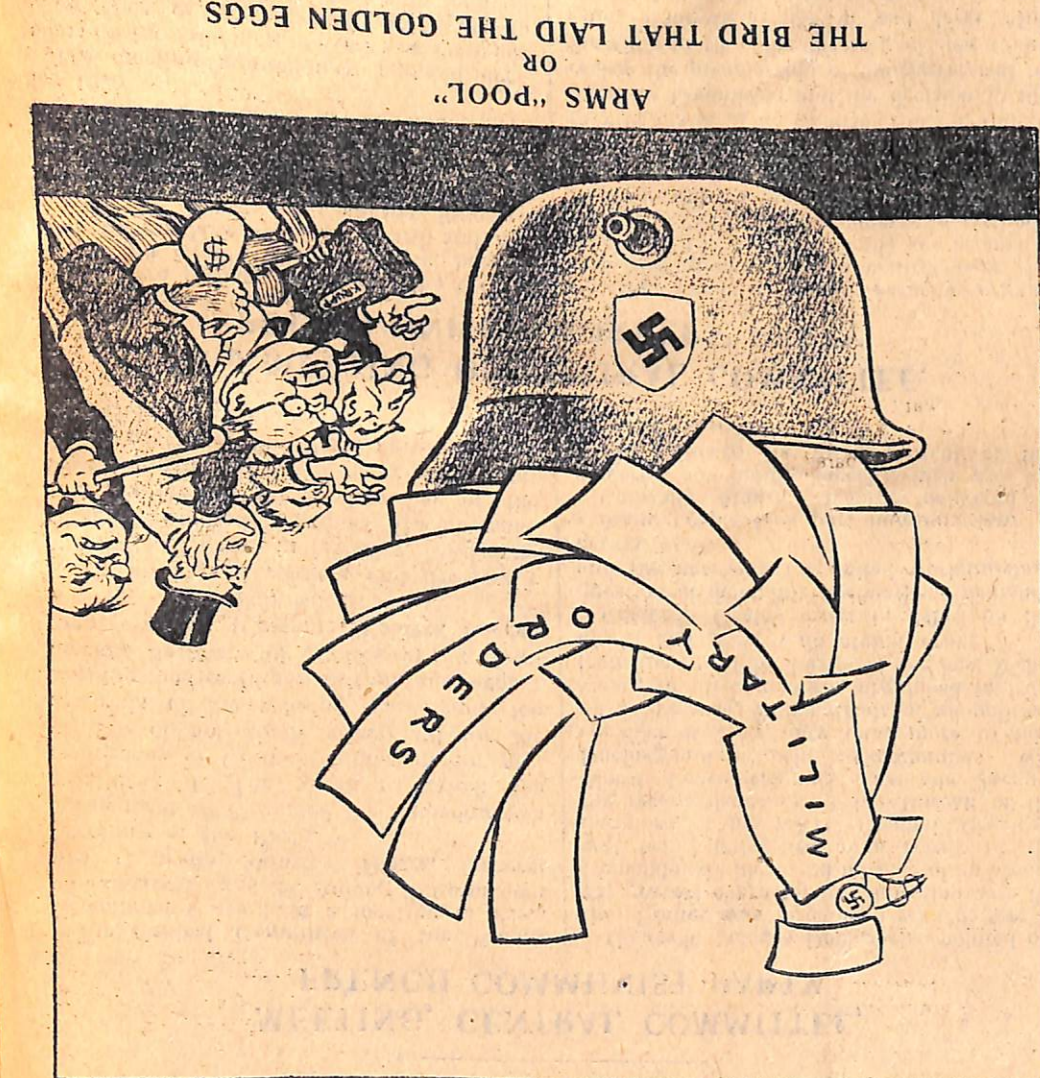
## NEWS IN BRIEF

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**★ Last year the working people of Bulgaria** received 58 new kinds of goods from the Food Industry. The output of refined oils has doubled. Confectionery factories have extended their production to include quantities widely demanded.

## Insolent U.S. Provocation Against People's Republic of China

Drawing by J. Novak



It is with indignation that the world public has learnt of another act of brazen provocation by the U.S. ruling circles, one that is fraught with grave consequences for peace and security in the Far East and the world over. As reported by the American press, U.S. President Eisenhower addressed a special message to Congress on January 24 asking that authority be granted him to utilise the "security of Formosa and the Pescadores", which in effect means insolent armed interference in China's internal affairs and overt preparations of U.S. aggression against the mainland of China. Acting with a haste appropriate to wartime, the House of Representatives carried a resolution on January 25 to grant Eisenhower these powers. Immediately thereupon the resolution was passed to the Senate for consideration, where it was brought up for discussion the very next day. Simultaneously with this frenzy of activity in Washington the American military stepped up their provocations in the Far East. Even prior to Eisenhower's speech three additional American aircraft carriers had been sent to the area of Taiwan. An "emergency meeting" was rushed through on Taiwan between the commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet and the heads of the Chiang Kai-shek clique. This meeting was frequently widely mentioned in the Chinese press.

This adventurist undertaking of the American reactionaries has thrown cold water even on the ruling circles of certain Western countries which have been following in the wake of U.S. policy. Some of papers severely criticise the British *Manchester Guardian*, writes in a leading article headed "A Bad Mistake" that Eisenhower's message is virtually equivalent to a threat of an American attack on China and leads to heightening international tension, not to easing it. The French newspaper *Figaro* Wall Street Journal's statement is significant. On January 24 it remarked: "We too often leap without looking."

against democracy and peace, a step towards preparing a war and setting up a military dictatorship.

The grounds advanced by the Adenauer Government for the so-called charge against the CPG proved to be so flimsy that even the Federal Constitutional Court kept postponing the trial over a period of three years.

Since then the key positions in the Bonn state apparatus and the organs of the West German judiciary have, to an ever-increasing extent, been filled by representatives of the monopolists and militarists, by fascists. Despite right and the laws the Union of Free German Youth has been banned and thousands of court proceedings have been instituted against German patriots and peace fighters for which the fascist laws on punishment for beliefs, together with McCarthyism, served as the model.

The proceedings against the CPG were undertaken on the orders of the American imperialists and their methods were used. After the failure of EDC a meeting took place between Adenauer and John Foster Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, at which the former received directives on the London and Paris agreements and instructions as to the time-table for forming the West German army. Four days after Dulles' visit Adenauer insisted on proceedings being taken against the CPG.

The so-called charge against the CPG testifies to the fact that the German monopolists and militarists, in the face of the growing opposition of the popular masses to the Paris agreements and the restora-

tion of democracy and peace, a step towards preparing a war and setting up a military dictatorship. The number of signatures collected against the trial has in some towns far exceeded the number of votes cast for the CPG during the elections. Since the trial opened, more than 4,000 new members have joined the CPG, mainly workers and young people; sales of Communist newspapers have risen considerably. Many trade union organisations are reacting to the insolent threats of the Adenauer Government by intensified struggle against militarism and fascism, which they link with the demand "Hands off the CPG!"

In their protests, Social Democratic workers and functionaries of the SDPG stress, above all, the experience of the struggle against the fascist terror in 1933. That is why many Social Democrats strongly support the protest movement; for instance, a Cologne Social Democrat collected more than 100 signatures. In many town councils burgo-meisters and Social Democratic deputies have joined the Communists in protesting against the trial. One of such resolutions states: "A ban on the CPG would be the beginning of the liquidation of democratic rights in the Federal Republic and would facilitate the preparations for a new war." The fact that many Social Democratic deputies in the Bundestag and many Social Democratic leaders have also spoken out against the trial undoubtedly corresponds to the will of the members of the SDPG.

The protests of broad sections of the population who are alarmed by the effect this trial might have on the fate of the

national and international arena is inseparably connected with the struggle against the Paris military agreements and the revival of German militarism. The struggle of the European peoples against the ratification and implementation of the Paris agreements, for a general European system of collective security is simultaneously a decisive blow at the terrorist trial staged by the German militarists against the CPG. At the same time each and every protest and action against this trial helps to frustrate the plans of the American and German militarists for militarisation and war.

In this connection the Communist Party of Germany is aware of its responsibility to the working class of Germany and of the world, to the German nation and all peace-loving peoples. Relying on the solidarity of the democratic forces, it will spare no efforts to carry out its mission. It will vigorously and perseveringly struggle for the great aim of the peaceful reunification of Germany on a democratic basis and for collective security for all European peoples.

Hundreds of thousands of working people in the German Democratic Republic have added their voices to the protests of their West German brothers and sisters. The struggle of the peace-loving people of Western Germany corresponds to the ardent desire of the peace-loving peoples of Europe: Prevent the revival of German militarism, do not let the German monopolists and militarists first trample on democracy inside the country and then destroy the freedom and achievements of the peace-loving peoples of Europe!

the defence of democratic liberties.

Those who spoke at the meeting stressed that an important task of the peace supporters in Mexico is to rally all peace-loving forces in a broad mass movement for exposing and steadfastly combating any manifestations of militarism, for supporting and furthering every action for peace.

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★ In Stalin (Albania), the country's main oil centre, a scientific and technical society "Oil Worker" has been established. This is the first society of its kind in Albania and covers engineering and technical personnel and foremost workers in the oil industry.

# HUNGARIAN PEOPLE FIGHT FOR PEACE AND A BAN ON ATOMIC WEAPONS

The peace movement in Hungary is now a vital, genuinely mass movement, with methods of activity and forms of organisation which allow great scope for displaying initiative. Tens of thousands of regional, district and local peace committees regularly organise meetings and talks, readers' conferences, cultural evenings, district and regional rallies of peace fighters etc. All this enables us to keep the most varied sections of the population informed about the international situation, to make them familiar with the tasks of the peace movement, and to bring forward active peace fighters from among their ranks.

The form of activity known as "friendly get-togethers" is most popular in our country. The Sztalinvaros peace committee, for instance, organised a meeting of women workers from the new town with women peasants from an old village nearby. In other places members of agricultural producer co-operatives and workers of the state farms have got together with individual peasants to discuss questions of the peace movement and problems of their daily life.

Our conferences, which cover the most diverse subjects—above all, in connection with the international situation—are becoming richer in content. The cultural evenings and jubilee celebrations organised by peace committees are a big help in involving wide circles of intellectuals in the struggle for peace. The Cultural Committee of the Hungarian National Peace Council, which includes prominent scientists and workers in the realm of art, drew in some of the most outstanding Hungarian scientists, writers and workers in the field of art as speakers at the jubilee celebrations devoted to the memory of Hugo, Gogol, Dvorak, Chekhov, Fielding etc. held in response to the call of the World Peace Council.

The National Peace Council publishes monthly pamphlets on international problems, a series of stories entitled "Library

for peace committees", illustrated wall newspapers etc. for peace committees and active peace fighters. It also publishes special leaflets on the most topical questions.

Peace supporters work among the broadest sections of the population and educate the masses in a spirit of friendship between nations, in a spirit of patriotism. Clear proof of this is the unanimous opposition of the Hungarian people to West German rearmament. The attempts to revive the Wehrmacht have aroused literally all Hungarians, from the young to the old. Our people greeted the important decisions of the Moscow Conference on European countries and the Stockholm Session of the World Peace Council with enthusiasm. "We won't resign ourselves to the revival of German militarism!"—this slogan was the keynote of a meeting attended by many thousands in the Budapest Sports Hall on December 9. The same thought was expressed by hundreds of speakers at meetings in provincial towns.

Every day the National Peace Council receives many telegrams and letters of protest. Prominent public figures, scientists and actors have made statements in the press and over the radio. The working people of a number of enterprises and establishments, citizens of several towns and villages have called on the working people of France and Western Germany to prevent the revival of the Wehrmacht. For instance, such a call was sent by the professors at the Budapest University to those at the Sorbonne, by the workers of the Matyas Rakosi Combinat to the workers of the Renault Motor Works and by the personnel of the Red October Clothing Factory, one of the biggest of its kind in Hungary, to the textile workers of Lyons etc.

The meeting of the Presidium of the Hungarian National Peace Council held on January 3 decided to broaden the protest movement of the Hungarian people. An

Erzsebet Andics  
Chairman, Hungarian National  
Peace Council

important stage towards this will be the IVth Hungarian Peace Congress on February 26-27.

In preparation for this congress the Hungarian people are raising their voices in defence of peace at hundreds and thousands of meetings. They are well aware that the revival of the Wehrmacht is a dangerous and criminal attempt to unleash an atomic war in Europe. The Hungarian people are strongly protesting against the attempt of the recent session of the NATO Council to "legalise" the use of atomic weapons and thus allow the U.S. merchants of death to plunge Europe and the whole of mankind into a catastrophe of unprecedented scope. At the same time the Hungarian working people warmly greet the initiative of the Soviet Union which insists on the banning of atomic weapons and the use of atomic energy in the interests of peace and progress of mankind.

"We know", the workers at the Orthopedic Clinic of the Budapest Medical Institute wrote in a telegram to the Hungarian National Peace Council, "that biology, biochemistry, medicine and similar branches of science constitute an important field for the peaceful application of atomic physics and artificial radio-activity. We demand that the knowledge gained in nuclear physics be used solely for the purposes of medical treatment and scientific research."

The Hungarian people look upon the struggle for a ban on atomic weapons and for the use of atomic energy for peaceful needs as a battle between the forces of life and progress and the forces of death and destruction, a battle of decisive importance for the whole future of mankind. Our people, like all other peace-loving peoples, are confident that in this battle life will triumph over death, and the great unity of the peoples will defeat the gambles of a handful of criminals.

The Hungarian people know that the imperialist atom maniacs want, by their threats, to bring about a position in which hopelessness and despair paralyse the will of the peoples and undermine their militancy. That is why these maniacs want to shake the peoples' confidence in their own strength and undermine their strivings for life, labour and construction.

The peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union frustrates the calculations of the merchants of death. It graphically demonstrates, even to people who are far removed from political activity, not only the steadfastness and consistency of the peaceful actions of the Soviet Union but the great political, scientific and technical power of the Soviet state.

The news that the Bureau of the World Peace Council is launching a signature campaign for the destruction of stockpiles of atomic weapons, wherever they may be, and an immediate end to their manufacture was greeted by the Hungarian people with great enthusiasm. It is characteristic that even on January 21—immediately after the announcement of the decision of the Bureau of the World Peace Council and before the central organs of the Hungarian peace movement had taken the corresponding decision—the collection of signatures started spontaneously throughout the country.

There is no doubt whatever that the Hungarian partisans of peace will do their best to ensure the utmost success for this splendid movement. In the same way as they did five years ago during the campaign around the Stockholm Appeal, they will go from door to door, enter the homes and the hearts of the people and collect thousands and thousands of signatures. But there is a certain difference between these two campaigns: this time the Hungarian people enter the struggle enriched with experience, with their forces considerably increased and strengthened.

for peace and security in the Far East and the world over.

As reported by the American press, U.S. President Eisenhower addressed a special message to Congress on January 24 asking that authority be granted him to utilise the American armed forces for ensuring the "security of Formosa and the Pescadores", which in effect means insolent armed interference in China's internal affairs and overt preparations of U.S. armed aggression against the mainland of China.

Acting with a haste appropriate to wartime, the House of Representatives carried a resolution on January 25 to grant Eisenhower these powers. Immediately thereupon the resolution was passed to the Senate for consideration, where it was brought up for discussion the very next day.

Simultaneously with this frenzy of activity in Washington the American military stepped up their provocations in the Far East. Even prior to Eisenhower's speech three additional American aircraft carriers had been sent to the area of Taiwan. An "emergency meeting" was rushed through on Taiwan between the commander of the U.S. 7th Fleet and the heads of the Chiang Kai-shek clique. This meeting was subsequently widely publicised in the American press and over the radio. As soon as the President's message to Congress became public, Vice-Admiral Alfred Pride, Commander of the 7th Fleet, immediately declared that "his fleet", which had "at least" 4 large aircraft carriers, 6 cruisers, 50 destroyers and other ships, was prepared to carry out any order given by Eisenhower, that is, to put it more bluntly, it was ready for any military adventure.

It is as plain as a pikestaff that all these acts of provocation on the part of U.S. ruling circles and brass hats have far-reaching aims, namely, to create a new hotbed of war in the Far East and to heighten world tension.

That matters stand precisely thus, and not otherwise, even the American reactionary press does not now deny. Associated Press reports that after receiving the powers asked for, Eisenhower can begin war in the Far East at any time; and that the American armed forces can deal a blow at the Communist troops concentrated on the Asian mainland if President Eisenhower deems them a menace to Formosa. The Daily News declares that granting Eisenhower the powers he requests will be a step along the path to outright war with China, and the New York Herald Tribune cynically adds that the U.S.A. is prepared to bomb continental China.

Thus, the American rulers, after seizing Taiwan, which from time immemorial has been Chinese territory, and entering into a criminal military deal with the handful of betrayers of the Chinese people entrenched there, have embarked on a scheme to further extend their aggression against People's China.

It is a striking fact that the President's message immediately had its repercussion on the New York Stock Exchange, where a marked rise took place in the shares of

extracting as much benefit as possible for themselves from the U.S. Government's acts of provocation.

This adventurist undertaking of the American reactionaries has thrown cold water even on the ruling circles of certain Western countries which have been following in the wake of U.S. policy. Some of the British and French bourgeois newspapers severely criticise the U.S. plans in the Far East. The British Manchester Guardian, writes in a leading article headed "A Bad Mistake" that Eisenhower's message is virtually equivalent to a threat of an American attack on China and leads to heightening international tension, not to easing it. The French newspaper Figaro speaks of the U.S. plan in the Taiwan Straits as "causing concern".

Some American reactionary newspapers also write of the dangerous consequences that might well follow from this recklessness that might well follow from this recklessness playing with fire. In this connection the Wall Street Journal's statement is significant. On January 24 it remarked: We often leap without looking where we are going, as was the case in Korea. The newspaper warns that a hasty decision of Congress might involve the country in war.

The provocative actions of the U.S. rulers have aroused the great ire and indignation of the entire Chinese people. Resolutely condemning this fresh provocation of the U.S. rulers the people of China declare that they are adamant in their determination to liberate Taiwan, Chinese territory from time immemorial, and that no threats from aggressors can prevent this. As Chou En-lai, Prime Minister and Foreign Minister of the People's Republic of China, stressed in his statement of January 24, the liberation of Taiwan is the sovereign right and internal affair of China; and no interference from without will be tolerated. Chou En-lai declared that the Chinese people would never reconcile themselves to Taiwan being occupied by the United States of America; that they would never recognise the U.S.-Chiang Kai-shek "mutual aid pact"; and would not permit the United States to use Taiwan as a military base for preparing another war.

"To defend the sovereignty and territorial integrity of China", declared Chou En-lai, "to safeguard the security of China and peace in the Far East, the Chinese people must liberate Taiwan; and the United States must put a stop to its interference in the internal affairs of China and withdraw all its armed forces from Taiwan and the Taiwan Straits."

In the stand of the Chinese people, the only one that is equitable and consistent throughout, all people of goodwill in all countries see the guarantee of preserving peace and security in the Far East. And they raise their voice in anger at the insolent interference of the U.S.A. in the internal affairs of China, at the fresh attempts of the American reactionaries to break the peace on the Asian continent and throughout the world.

T. SAMBOR

## Facts Expose...

For the benefit of U.S. monopolies the persistent demand of their U.S. "advisers" the rulers of Chile recently carried through the devaluation of the peso. The rate of exchange has jumped from 110 to 200 pesos to the dollar, which is to the detriment of manufacturers, im-

porters, traders, consumers and, in particular, the working people of the country. So Chile now has to send to the U.S.A. twice the quantity of goods for the same amount of dollars.

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