

Workers of all lands, unite!

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

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ANNOUNCEMENT ON THE DISSOLUTION OF THE INFORMATION BUREAU OF THE COMMUNIST AND WORKERS' PARTIES

The founding of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties in 1947 was a positive contribution towards overcoming the lack of contact among Communist Parties that developed following the dissolution of the Comintern; it was an important factor in strengthening proletarian internationalism in the ranks of the international communist movement and in further uniting the working class and all working people in the struggle for lasting peace, democracy and socialism. The Information Bureau and its journal "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy!" played a positive part in developing and strengthening fraternal ties and the mutual exchange of experiences among the Communist and Workers' Parties, and in clarifying questions of Marxist-Leninist theory as applied to the concrete conditions in various countries and the experience of the international communist and working-class movement. This promoted the ideological, organisational and political consolidation of the fraternal parties and the extension of the influence of the Communist Parties among the masses.

However, the changes that have taken place in the international situation in recent years—the emergence of socialism from within the bounds of a single country and the fact that it has become a world system; the formation of a vast "zone of peace" comprising both the socialist and non-socialist peace-loving countries of Europe and Asia; the growth and consolidation of many Communist Parties in the capitalist, dependent and colonial countries and their increased activity in

the struggle against the war danger and reaction, in the struggle for peace, the vital interests of the working people and the national independence of their countries; and, finally, the now particularly pressing tasks connected with overcoming the split in the working-class movement and strengthening the unity of the working class in the interests of a successful struggle for peace and socialism—have created new conditions for the activity of the Communist and Workers' Parties. The Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties no longer meets these new conditions as regards either its composition or the content of its work.

The Central Committee of the Communist and Workers' Parties comprising the Information Bureau, having exchanged views regarding its work recognised that the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties, rounded by them in 1947, had fulfilled its function, in view of which they unanimously agreed to dissolve it and to cease the publication of its journal "For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy!"

The Central Committee of the Communist and Workers' Parties comprising the Information Bureau consider that in the struggle for the interests of the working class, for the cause of peace, democracy and socialism, individual parties or groups of parties will, in the course of developing their work in conformity with the common aims and tasks of Marxist-Leninist parties and the specific national features and conditions of their countries, find new useful forms of establishing relations and contacts among themselves. Undoubtedly, the Communist and Workers' Parties will, at their own discretion and taking into account the concrete conditions of their work, exchange views, in the future too, on the general problems relating to the struggle for peace, democracy and socialism, the defence of the interests of the working class and all working people, and the mobilisation of the masses for the struggle against the war danger; and will at

the same time examine the matter of co-operation with parties and trends oriented towards socialism, and also with other organisations striving for the consolidation of peace and democracy. All this will reinforce to a still greater degree the spirit of mutual co-operation among the Communist and Workers' Parties on the basis of the principles of proletarian internationalism, and will strengthen the fraternal ties between them in the interests of the cause of peace, democracy and socialism.

Central Committee, Bulgarian Communist Party
Central Committee, Hungarian Working People's Party
Central Committee, Italian Communist Party
Central Committee, Polish United Workers' Party
Central Committee, Rumanian Workers' Party
Central Committee, Communist Party of the Soviet Union
Central Committee Communist Party of Czechoslovakia
Central Committee, French Communist Party

WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WORLD PREPARE TO CELEBRATE THE EIGHTY-SIX ANNIVERSARY OF LENIN'S BIRTHDAY

The working people of all countries are preparing to observe the 86th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin, founder of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and of the first socialist state the world, brilliant leader and teacher of the working people of all countries.

Widespread preparations are under way in the Soviet Union in connection with this outstanding date. Branches of the All Union Society for the Dissemination of Political and Scientific Knowledge are arranging for public lectures on the life and activities of Lenin; these are being given by scientists and by old Bolsheviks who met Lenin.

On April 10 a large group of old Bolsheviks met in the Conference Hall of the Central Lecture Bureau. Together with representatives of the bureau of the section dealing with the history of the CPSU and members of the board of the Moscow branch of the Society, they discussed the question of public lectures in the capital.

A meeting of agitators and propagandists: of the capital, arranged by the Moscow City Committee of the CPSU, heard a report on the anniversary.

Lectures are being read in enterprises offices and military units on the following subjects: "The Leninist teaching on the alliance between the working class and the peasantry". "V. I. Lenin on the role of the masses and the individual in history" "V. I. Lenin, organiser and leader of the Communist Party", "V. I. Lenin, the founder and leader of the first socialist state in

the world”, “The Leninist programme for the building of communism in the USSR”.

Every day sees greater throngs of visitors to the Leningrad branch of the V. I. Lenin Central Museum. Large groups of working people from the Krasny Treugolnik Works, the Vereteno factory and other enterprises, and also many collective farmers in the region are taking part in excursions to the places in the city where Lenin had been.

In Ulyanovsk, Lenin’s birthplace, there is an endless flow of visitors to the house where Lenin lived—now a museum; some 3,000 people have been there in the last few days. A talk on Lenin’s childhood and youth was given in the suburban collective farm “Rodina Ilyicha”. For industrial and office workers, students and schoolchildren of Ulyanovsk, lectures have been delivered on “The Ulyanov family in Simbirsk”, “The Ulyanov family’s upbringing”, “The beginning of Lenin’s revolutionary activities”. In the Palace of Books the traditional Lenin readings have commenced.

In towns and villages of the Soviet Ukraine talks are being held on Lenin’s life and activities, on the outstanding successes of the Soviet people in economic and cultural upbuilding, successes that have been achieved under the leadership of the Communist Party. The Kiev branch of the V. I. Lenin Central Museum has started a series of lectures devoted to the 85th anniversary of Lenin’s birth. There are many visitors to the Museum particularly these days and its exhibits have been augmented by new documents and materials.

The working people of Georgia are busily preparing to observe this date. A big group of lecturers from the Central Lecture Bureau of the Georgian Ministry of Culture is making a tour of the Republic’s districts. Its members are giving lectures on collective and state farms on Lenin’s and activities.

Exhibitions, talks and anniversary meetings are being held in all Soviet Republics.

Lenin's works are great creations, of human thought. He made an invaluable contribution to science, creatively developed and enriched Marxism and elaborated a concrete programme for transforming society on socialist lines. His brilliant works have wide circulation in the Soviet Union and throughout the world.

Between 1917 and April 1, 1956, 289,770,000 copies of Lenin's books have been published in the Soviet Union in 82 languages. His work **The State and Revolution** has appeared in 179 editions during this period, the total number of copies in circulation being 6,399,000; **Imperialism, the Highest Stage of Capitalism**, in 192 editions of 6,994,000 copies; **Tasks of the Youth Leagues** in 364 editions of 13,948,000 copies, and so forth.

Huge editions of Lenin's works have been published in the Chinese People's Republic, in other countries of people's democracy and in capitalist countries.

Democratically-minded people in all countries of the world are now organising talks, lectures, reports and anniversary meetings.

In Poland, April 19 to 26 has been declared a period of celebration in connection with the anniversary of Lenin's birth. The keynote of these days will be the further strengthening of the inviolable friendship and alliance between the Polish and Soviet peoples. Lectures and reports, and talks between young people and veterans of the Polish revolutionary working-class movement who took part in the historic events of 1905-1907 are being arranged at factories and plants, in offices and educational establishments. The Lenin Museum in Krakow has prepared a number of special editions for publication. Lectures on the topic: "Lenin on the peaceful coexistence of the two systems" are being given by the Museum staff.

Talks on the life and work of Vladimir Ilyich Lenin are being delivered in Rumanian towns and countryside. Among

the speakers are members of the Central Committee of the Rumanian Workers' Party and its permanent staff of lecturers.

Working people the world over sacredly honour the bright memory of their great teacher. The Communist and Workers' Parties are raising still higher the triumphant Leninist banner. Fidelity to Leninism is the guarantee of all the successes of the fraternal parties.

The ideas of Leninism inspire progressive mankind to struggle for peace, democracy and socialism, To an ever increasing extent life confirms the all-triumphant power of the immortal, Leninist ideas.

FOR THE FURTHER DEVELOPMENT AND STRENGTHENING OF THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT

Today our journal carries an announcement by the Central Committees of the Bulgarian Communist Party, the Hungarian Working People's Party, the Italian Communist Party, the Polish United Workers' Party, the Rumanian Workers Party, the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the French Communist Party on the dissolution of the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties. This highly important decision accords with the interests of the further development and strengthening of the International Communist and working-class movement.

It will be remembered that the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties and its journal **For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy!** were founded late in September, 1947. The need for the founding of the Information Bureau arose from the international situation that developed in the early postwar years. As things stood then, it was expedient to use such a form of contact as the Information Bureau in the interests of the cause of peace, the defence of the vital demands of the working class, in the interests of overcoming the lack of contact among Communist and Workers' Parties and strengthening the contacts among them. The task placed upon the Information Bureau was to organise all interchange of experience and, if necessary, co-ordination of the activities of Communist Parties, with their mutual content.

In the circumstances existing after the war when reactionary elements in the capitalist countries started the arms drive and launched an attack upon the democratic rights of the

masses and an unbridled anti-communist campaign, the work of the Information Bureau helped to activate the Communist Parties, to unite all progressive forces for the struggle for peace, democracy and the vital interests of the working people and to strengthen the solidarity of the international communist movement and the spirit of proletarian internationalism in its ranks.

The Information Bureau and its journal **For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy!**, states the announcement, played a positive role in developing and strengthening fraternal ties and the mutual exchange of experiences among the Communist and Workers' Parties, and in clarifying questions of Marxist-Leninist theory as applied to the concrete conditions in various countries and the experience of the international communist and working-class movement. This promoted the ideological, organisational and political consolidation of the fraternal parties and the extension of the influence of the Communist Parties among the masses.

In the eight and a half years since the founding of the Information Bureau, deep-going changes have taken place in the international situation.

What is the substance of these changes?

The main feature of our era is the emergence of socialism from within the bounds of a single country and its transformation into a world system. Capitalism proved powerless to prevent the world-historic process of the spread of socialism, in breadth and in depth. The peoples of the Soviet Union, the Chinese People's Republic, all countries of people's democracy, who are successfully building a new life, have united in a single, invincible socialist camp which is exerting an increasing influence on the whole international situation.

Of immense significance is the fact that there has now emerged in the world a vast "zone of peace", which includes both the socialist and non-socialist peace-loving countries of

Europe and Asia. This zone embraces an immense part of the globe, inhabited by nearly 1,500 million people—the majority of the population of the world.

The great national liberation movement in the colonial and dependent countries, which is of world-historic importance, is spreading steadily. The colonial system of imperialism is progressively disintegrating.

Many Communist and Workers' Parties in capitalist, dependent and colonial countries have in recent years matured and grown stronger organisationally, ideologically and politically, and have developed their activities on the basis of the principles of the immortal Marxist-Leninist teaching. Communist and Workers' Parties are the most active and consistent fighters, against the war danger and reaction, for peace, the national independence of their countries and the vital interests of the working people. The selfless struggle of the Communist and Workers' Parties has won them the love and confidence of broad sections of the working people.

The working-class movement in the capitalist countries has become a great force in our day. The whole march of history, life itself, the vital interests of the working class and all the working people, make it imperative to overcome the split in the working-class movement and strengthen the unity of the working class in the interests of a successful struggle for peace and socialism. To establish the unity of the working-class movement on a national and international scale is a major task of our time. A united working class can rally all the sound forces of the people in its country, defend the cause of peace and pave the way to socialist transformations.

There now exist real possibilities for rapprochement, for co-operation between all parties and organisations working for peace and democracy, and first and foremost between the major branches of the working-class movement—the communist and social democratic—and between trade unions

and other organisations of the working class.

Such are the chief changes on the international scene. They have created new conditions for the development of the working-class and communist movement, for the activities of the Communist and Workers' Parties. The Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties, as the announcement emphasises, no longer meets these new conditions as regards either its composition or the content of its work. The Central Committees of the Communist and Workers' Parties comprising the Information Bureau, having exchanged views regarding its work, recognised that the Information Bureau founded by them in 1947 had fulfilled its function. They unanimously agreed to dissolve the Information Bureau of the Communist and Workers' Parties and to cease the publication of its journal **For a Lasting Peace, for a People's Democracy!**

The great Lenin taught that the organisational forms of the activities of the parties were determined wholly by the specific features of the concrete historical situation and the tasks flowing from it. The announcement by the Central Committees of Communist and Workers' Parties is permeated with the Leninist spirit, it takes account, in a Leninist way, of the new historical conditions and tasks confronting the Communist and Workers' Parties. It attests to a creative approach, on the part of the Communist and Workers' Parties, to the solution of urgent questions and fully answers the needs of the present historical situation.

The decision to dissolve the Information Bureau by no means signifies that fraternal relations among the Communist and Workers' Parties will to any degree be weakened. It is common knowledge that Socialist, Catholic and other political parties and trends keep in touch with one another, gather periodically in meetings and conferences, exchange delegations, set up, consultative bodies for given areas and groups of countries, jointly issue publications and so forth. All

the more logical and necessary is it that there should be close ties between Communist and Workers' Parties, which are united by a common ideology—that of Marxism-Leninism—by a single aim—that of the struggle for the interests of the working class and all the working people, for peace, democracy and socialism.

In the work to achieve this aim, which is common to all Communist Parties, each Communist and Workers' Party has its own concrete practical tasks which arise from the diversity of conditions in different countries, conditions which determine the variety of forms of struggle for the interests of the working class and the entire toiling people. In the course of developing their work in conformity with the common aims and tasks of Marxist-Leninist parties and the specific national features and conditions of their countries, individual parties or groups of parties will find new useful forms of establishing relations and contacts among themselves in the struggle for the interests of the working class, for the cause of peace, democracy and socialism.

Undoubtedly, the Communist and Workers' Parties will, at their own discretion, and taking into due account the concrete conditions of their work, in the future exchange views on the general problems relating to the struggle for peace, democracy and, socialism, the defence of the interests of the working class and all working people, and the mobilisation of the masses for struggle against the war danger; and will at the same time examine the matter of co-operation with parties and trends oriented towards socialism, and also with other organisations striving for the consolidation of peace and democracy.

The Communist and Workers' Parties will find new forms of relations and contacts, which are suitable to the present situation. This will strengthen their spirit of mutual co-operation, on the basis of the principles of proletarian internationalism, and further unite and rally them in the

common struggle for the cause of peace, democracy and socialism.

The Communist and Workers' Parties, which have some 30 million members, are growing stronger and better steeled with every passing year; they look confidently to the future, which belongs to communism. Their successes and victories spring from, fidelity to the great Leninist teaching. Inspired and guided by Marxism-Leninism, the Communist and Workers' Parties will continue boldly and creatively to solve all the tasks facing them, they will constantly strengthen their ties with the broad masses, exchange their accumulated experience and confidently advance along the path of struggle for the triumph of the cause of the working class and the entire labouring people.

May the Communist and Workers' Parties gain in strength and maturity as the true spokesmen of the vital interests of the masses, the vanguard force in the struggle for peace, democracy and socialism!

YOUNG PEOPLE, FORWARD TO NEW EXPLOITS FOR THE FURTHER ADVANCEMENT OF THE SOVIET HOMELAND!

Speech by Comrade N. S. KHRUSHCHOV at the All-Union Conference of Young Building Workers, April 11, 1956

Comrades, the Central Committee of the Young Communist League has shown admirable initiative in convening this conference of young builders.

The Komsomol is, as it always has been, the loyal helper and powerful reserve of our Party. It has always warmly responded to all measures taken by the Party, it has always boldly headed for the most difficult sectors of the struggle and has discharged its duty to our homeland with credit.

Remember, Comrade Komsomols, how your fathers and, as far as some of you are concerned, your grandfathers, fought as Komsomols in the years of the Civil War, how selflessly they laboured when the country was being industrialised, how they built factories, plants and whole towns; remember how they worked when agriculture was being collectivised! They went all out, sparing no effort to strengthen their socialist state, fighting for the cause of the working class and that of all working people, for the great cause of our Communist Party.

The Komsomols and the whole Soviet youth acquitted themselves with credit during the Great Patriotic War, both at the front and in the rear, Soviet youth has made a tremendous contribution to rehabilitating the cities and villages destroyed

during the war, to further developing our industry and agriculture and building towns and plants. The Komsomol actively responded to the Party's call by sending hundreds of thousands of its finest representatives to develop virgin lands. Thanks to the unremitting efforts of our Soviet people, millions of hectares of fertile lands that had lain waste have now been brought into service for the benefit of our socialist society. At the Party's call, Soviet people rose to the great task of developing virgin lands. And in this our valiant young patriots were the pioneers!

Comrades, from this rostrum at the Party's Twentieth Congress we expressed gratitude to our young people for their responsiveness, for their devoted labour. Soviet youth deserves such praise and high appreciation. We trust that the Komsomol, our splendid Soviet youth, will, repeatedly and just as ardently, respond to the calls of the Communist Party, to the calls of the Soviet Government to youth and its glorious vanguard, the Komsomol. **(Stormy applause.)**

Our country is confronted with gigantic tasks under the Sixth Five-Year Plan. If Mayakovsky were with us today, he would surely have aptly expressed all the grandeur of the assignments of the Soviet Union's Sixth Five-Year Plan in poetry.

It is to you, young workers, that I say this. An incorrect attitude to labour in our Soviet society has of late begun to appear among a certain section of youth. It finds expression in such facts as the following, for instance. Having graduated from their ten-year school, some young boys and girls say: It isn't right that we, who are educated people, should now go to work in the factories, on building sites, on state or collective farms. And these educated people do not stop to think that they live in houses put up by building workers, that their fathers work in plants and factories, that they eat bread grown on state and collective farms by our Soviet people, who are tireless

toilers.

It seems that it is not only young people who are guilty of reasoning in this way, but some members of the older generation too. It is no secret that this is how some parents argue:

“It is quite out of the question that my daughter, a graduate of a ten-year school, should milk cows!”

She can drink milk, but she thinks it beneath her to milk cows! **(Laughter, applause.)**

This is narrow-mindedness, philistinism. Is it fitting for our young boys and girls to have a philistine attitude towards labour? No, it is not. These incorrect and most harmful views on labour must be strongly condemned as a survival of old views which still hang on from capitalist society. Workers and collective farmers, all productive workers, are the glory and pride of socialist society. By their labour, workers, collective farmers and intellectuals create all wealth and all material values.

If labour is to be more productive, and the country still mightier and wealthier, men of labour must master knowledge, the achievements of science and engineering. Our youth must always remember the behest of the great Lenin—to study, study and study again so that the new life can be successfully built.

We live in the great Soviet state, where power belongs to the people. The working folk have taken power into their own hands and, as a result of the Great October Socialist Revolution, have become the masters of their country. The workers and the peasants are building the new life on the basis of the great teaching of Marxism-Leninism. Our successes in communist construction vividly prove the correctness of the brilliant conclusion of Marxism-Leninism that the people, who by their labour create the material values, are the real makers of history.

We must appreciate and respect those who labour because their honest, noble work contributes to the prosperity of our socialist society: this labour creates everything by which our country lives, that constitutes its pride, its glory, and might. And each person should be proud that through his labour he does his bit for the common cause of building a communist society. (**Prolonged applause.**)

The harmful, philistine sentiments of disrespect for labour must be attacked, and attacked most vigorously. (**Applause.**)

The Communist Party has advanced the aim of providing secondary school education for all Soviet people. But does that mean that a person who has received a secondary school education should not want to work in a factory or plant, in an MTS or on a collective farm? Of course not! Who then would work on the collective farms or the construction sites?

You all know very well that in our conditions, having received a secondary school education, every worker and every collective farmer has the opportunity of obtaining a higher education, either by going through a higher educational establishment, by self-education or by attending evening institutes during his spare time. That is all to the good. But do we say that Soviet people should not build houses, work in plants and factories, grow potatoes and milk cows? There are some people however who, having received a secondary school education, do not want to do this, regarding such work as beneath their dignity. That's all wrong! (**Stormy applause.**)

Comrades, we must ridicule and root out such backward views. Our satirists should burn out such things with red-hot iron so that anyone who has a contemptuous attitude towards work is ashamed not only to talk of labour in a slighting manner but even to think about it in such a way.

I assume that this question is clear and I shall not speak about it any more today. But in general I expect it will be spoken of on more than one occasion! (**Laughter, applause.**)

Comrades, just think how many factories, plants, electric power stations, including atomic ones, we shall have to build, and how many new towns and villages we shall have to develop under the Sixth Five-Year Plan!

Many industrial enterprises will be erected in the European part of the Soviet Union but a substantial number will have to be built in Siberia, Kazakhstan, in the Far East and other territories and Republics, far from Moscow in distance, but very close to it, at one with it, in the desire to develop the country and to carry out our great plans for building communism.

In the old days many sad songs of all kinds were sung about Siberia. Under tsarism it was a place of exile and penal servitude. That is why Siberia was used to put fear into people and a very distorted picture was presented of it. Yet the Siberian land is a remarkable and very rich area. Anastas Ivanovich Mikoyan has just returned from China. On his way to Moscow he stopped at a number of Siberian towns and he says that they already have from 10 to 15 degrees of heat there, that in some districts the snow has already disappeared. Our Soviet Siberia is far from being what philistine imagination has pictured. It has immense mineral resources, inexhaustible reserves of coal, various metals, timber and much else. There is really colossal wealth there; surely we shouldn't throw it away, leave it lying idle. And we shall not abandon it, but will use it for the good of the Soviet people, for the good of our country. That is the place where our Soviet youth can show their abilities—develop as yet uninhabited areas and build there modern plants and factories, electric power stations, railways, and well-planned towns with all amenities.

Millions of Soviet people are living and working in the eastern areas of the country and they love them. But many of the eastern districts are still underpopulated and are waiting for fresh contingents of bold and hard-working people.

Comrade Komsomols, the Komsomol will be able to allocate the necessary number of people to develop the natural resources which for centuries have lain untapped in Siberia, the Far East and the Soviet Central Asian Republics. They will enthusiastically set about building new projects in these areas.

It should be mentioned that not only bad things were said about Siberia in the past, there were some good things too. More than 160 years ago, Alexander Radishchev, one of the first Russian revolutionaries, wrote: "What a rich land this Siberia is, what a mighty land! Centuries will be needed for this, but when the land is populated, it is destined to play a big part in the annals of the world."

Our great proletarian writer, Maxim Gorky, described Siberia as a vast, fabulously rich country, a "land that seems to unfold before us, more and more willingly, its inexhaustible treasures, its colossal tracts of forest and the incalculable power reserves of its mighty rivers".

These are the powerful Siberian rivers, like the Yenisei, the Ob, the Lena and the Angara. Many of you probably know what the Angara is like. It is a mighty river. Mammoth hydro-electric plants are being built along it, among them the Bratsk plant, which will be the largest in the world. What great wealth the Angara alone will yield to our people!

Anticipating the Siberia to come, Maxim Gorky wrote: "The future Siberia that will be created by man's energetic labour, by his taming and harnessing its elemental forces, presents a fabulous picture of breath-taking grandeur..."

It is you, young people, who have to tame and harness the turbulent Siberian rivers, to tap more fully Siberia's rich natural resources and place them at the service of our Soviet people.

Comrades, hundreds of thousands of new workers will be required for the major construction projects of the Sixth Five-Year Plan. The Central Committee, of the Party and the Soviet

Government will ask the Soviet youth to send their finest comrades to man the most important of these projects.

The Komsomol has a total membership of 18.5 million. Could it not allocate some 300,000 to 500,000 of this number? I think it could, quite well. **(Stormy applause.)** We believe in the strength of the Komsomol and the youth, in their militant spirit. We know that our youth fear neither bitter cold nor the Siberian taiga. **(Applause.)**

We are convinced that nothing can daunt you. The Soviet people have gone through a great deal and coped with much greater difficulties.

The working class of our country bravely took capitalism by storm; they launched the uprising against the tsarist autocracy undaunted by its strength. Our people destroyed the bourgeois-landlord system and set up a new, Soviet socialist system, expressive of their vital interests.

Our people were not frightened by difficulties or intimidated by threats when, having just taken power, it became necessary for them to defend their gains, arms in hand, in face of an invasion by the imperialist states, and they drove the enemy from our land. Nor did they flinch when the fascists attacked the Soviet Union; they fought and defeated them.

Now we have emerged onto the highroad and have made such great progress in developing our economy that no difficulties can dismay us. We were lagging behind in agriculture, but now the entire people have set to work to overcome these weaknesses and there can be no doubt that so far as agriculture is concerned the new Five-Year Plan will be fulfilled in two or three years. **(Applause.)**

We have all the conditions necessary for successfully carrying out the big new tasks set by the Twentieth Congress of the Party. We have a heroic working class, a splendid collective farm peasantry and our working intelligentsia. The magnificent constructive labours of our Soviet people are

guided by the Communist Party, which has proved its ability to carry communist construction forward to success. We have a Leninist Komsomol, the Party's assistant, which rallies the youth to carry out the tasks set by the Party. For these reasons we feel certain, comrades, that this latest appeal of the Party—for tens and hundreds of thousands of young people to be sent to the major construction projects under the Sixth Five-Year Plan—will receive the ardent support of the Komsomol members and the entire Soviet youth. **(Stormy applause.)**

The new projects in the eastern and still undeveloped parts of the country will, of course, require truly daring and courageous young people, unafraid of hardships. To begin with, conditions there will be harsh. That must be borne in mind. It should be plain to you that it will not be like going to your mother-in-law's for pancakes. **(Laughter, animation.)** Such an important and difficult matter requires brave young people. At first most of them may be single young men and women, but then, working together, they will get know each other well and many of them will marry and found sturdy families **(Applause.)**

Comrades, we may be sure that the Komsomols of Moscow, Leningrad and other big cities will set an example in this new undertaking. Today we have reserves of labour power in Moscow, Leningrad and other big cities. Science is constantly advancing, engineering is developing and improving and work in production is becoming mechanised, with the result that industry in our major industrial centres can release cadres for the establishment of new enterprises in new parts of the country. The same applies to construction projects.

In Moscow and Leningrad, which already have thousands of enterprises and million of inhabitants, and also in a number of other big towns, there is no need for new enterprises. The more correctly industrial enterprises are distributed throughout the Soviet Union and the closer they are to the raw materials,

the better will it be for our country and our people.

I think, therefore, that if they work on the problem a little, our young Muscovites will be able to allocate tens of thousands of workers from their midst for the construction of new enterprises in the eastern areas. If the matter is approached in the right way, Moscow enterprises can, without detriment to the expansion of their own production, release thousands of workers can, without detriment to the expansion of their own production, release thousands of workers for the construction of new factories. (**Applause.**)

Leningrad, Kharkov, Kiev, Sverdlovsk and other cities, such as Odessa, for instance, where no new factories are going to be built either, can assign very many young people for the Sixth Five-Year Plan projects.

True, I know that among the youthful inhabitants of these cities there will be quite a few who will think it very hard to move more than 60 kilometres from their home town, very hard indeed. (**Applause.**) But if the Komsomol goes about the job in the right way, it will surmount these difficulties, and thousands of young men and women from the big cities will be the initiators of a migration to the new construction projects.

When this conference is over you will be going back home and telling your workmates and comrades what big things are awaiting the youth.

We are confident that the youth will respond to the Party's appeal, that they will flock to the projects of the Sixth Five-Year Plan and do a good service for our country and our people. (**Stormy applause.**) But there can be no room for complacency. This is a matter that requires great will power and a high sense of duty. Not all who applaud are seized with this sense of duty and will join in this big but difficult undertaking. A great deal of educational work and the influence of public opinion will be required. It has to be remembered that some people applaud when it is a matter of

hearing this appeal, but all the while their hearts are quaking for fear they themselves may have to go! (**Animation, applause.**)

Now I want to touch on another question. Many of the comrades who addressed us here spoke of the use of ferro-concrete. That is very gratifying. In building work, it must be said, concrete and ferro-concrete are basic. Unless we make extensive use of ferro-concrete and concrete—and, I would add, of concrete sections—we shall be unable to attain the required rate of construction, a high output and the necessary reduction in production costs. It must be borne in mind that wages can rise only as labour productivity rises. The use of ferro-concrete makes it possible to mechanise labour-consuming processes to a greater extent and to raise productivity, and enables the worker to reach and exceed his output target, thereby guaranteeing high earnings. In the final analysis all this will help to accelerate the rate and improve the quality of construction. This, comrades, is something you young building workers should know, and you should fight more energetically for the introduction of ferro-concrete.

The extensive use of ferro-concrete is also exceedingly important because it allows for the more economical and, rational use of metal in construction.

When the question of using ferro-concrete on a large scale was raised, some of our building workers objected:

“What do we want ferro-concrete for? It’s too much bother; it’s better to build with metal.”

And that is what they actually did. But in many countries abroad everything in general is built of ferro-concrete. Recently we saw a documentary film about construction in Britain. The British made wonderful floor and ceiling girders of pre-stressed reinforced ferro-concrete for a hangar.

We are still lagging behind in this respect and making practically everything of metal. This is wasteful! The

executives responsible for building work should feel ashamed to look people in the face, considering such thriftlessness. To avoid such wastefulness in future, those guilty of it should be severely punished. (**Applause.**)

A factory built of ferro-concrete will need much less metal than one built of metal parts.

Comrade Dygai (Minister of Construction): Seven times less!

Comrade Khrushchov: Seven times! Then if we use ferro-concrete, the same quantity of metal could suffice for seven factories instead of one! What would you say, is it worth while fighting for ferro-concrete!

A voice: It certainly is!

You building workers should realise the economic advantages of ferro-concrete and fight for it all the time, see that people get cracking and perform their duties conscientiously.

One of the most important tasks in all branches of the economy, the building industry included, is to raise labour productivity. This is, a very serious matter. You young building workers ought to give a lead in it. To raise labour productivity, the prime necessity is to make correct use of the machinery and equipment available on the construction sites. Taking advantage of this conference of yours, I want to criticise the Muscovites for their shortcomings in the use of machinery. It is not because the state of affairs in Moscow in this regard is worse than in other cities that we criticise them; most likely it's not worse, but better.

Many foreign guests have begun to come to us, to the Soviet Union. They are knocking at our Soviet gates all the time, and this is very good, for many of them, after visiting the Soviet Union, acknowledge the achievements of our socialist state. They speak and write in the press about the many houses being built in our country. But we must not get conceited, we

know that we still need many dwellings. The Party and the Soviet Government are doing everything to improve the housing conditions of the working people. Much will be done in this direction during the sixth five-year plan period. But to achieve success we must resolutely struggle to eliminate the existing shortcomings in the work of the building organisations. We still make inadequate use of machinery. Go around the construction sites in Moscow and you will see how many cranes are at a standstill. When you look at these idle cranes they remind you of a picture you may have seen more than once: storks lining up and stretching their necks in the meadow just before flying off.

What does this tell us? It tells us, above all, that building sites are poorly prepared for construction. Cranes are installed, and then it turns out that neither the prefabricated parts for the job nor the necessary materials have arrived. And so the crane stands idle and waits for parts. Is this business-like? A good engineer-organiser, must calculate everything. he must prepare everything so that machinery is in constant operation once it is installed. Then we shall certainly ensure a rise in labour productivity, rapid rates of construction, high output on the part of the workers and the highest wages possible in these conditions. Can we do this? We certainly can and must. It is only necessary to rout out lack of discipline and bad organisation.

So that you should know to whom this criticism of shortcomings on many Moscow construction sites is addressed, let me say that these cranes stand idle as a result of poor organisation of work by engineers and managers of sites, and also by Comrade Promyslov, manager of the Chief Moscow Department of Construction. (**Applause.**)

Comrades, the Party calls on you, the youth, for noble deeds, for fresh heroic deeds in labour. The more exploits in labour the Soviet patriots accomplish and the better the results

of their selfless work, the richer and stronger will our country be. It will be even more impregnable in the face of enemies and even more attractive to our friends.

Ahead of us there is a lot to do to carry out the decisions of the Twentieth Party Congress, to carry out the assignments of the Sixth Five-Year Plan. Today even our most inveterate enemies do not doubt that the plans outlined for economic and cultural development will be successfully realised by the Soviet people. They are alarmed at the fact that we are following the line of economic competition with capitalism. They are afraid of such competition. We tell the representatives of the capitalist world: You are for the development of capitalism, for the development of private enterprise, you are for the capitalist system. We are for socialism. We do not want to impose our system on you, nor will we let you interfere in our affairs. So we have only one way out—peaceful competition.

The leading representatives of the capitalist world are now saying that it is necessary to think about reshaping their policy. Their reasoning goes like this: If the Soviet Union continues to advance at such a rate, it will not be long before it surpasses the most advanced capitalist countries economically. They see our achievements and acknowledge them, but at the same time they are afraid of them.

Under the readership of Lenin and their Communist Party our people abolished the rule of the capitalists and landlords; they have built the first Soviet state in the world and a socialist society. The peoples in other countries want to get rid of capitalist oppression, they want to achieve what we have achieved. Will the capitalists and landlords welcome these aspirations? No, the capitalists will do all in their power to prolong in every way their rule over the working people, to prevent the people from taking their destinies into their own hands, as has been done by the peoples of our country, the great Chinese People's Republic and all the countries of

people's democracy.

The capitalists are well able to defend their capitalist world and its exploiting order of things. They know how to organise their intelligence service and smuggle their spies and saboteurs into our country. Can we, then, be careless and look on with indifference at all the vile things the imperialists do with regard to us? We must be able to recognise the enemy, to see through all his tricks in good time. We must strengthen in every way the security of our state, be vigilant and nip in the bud all enemy activities. In criticising the weaknesses and errors that have been made in the course of our advance, we must first of all see to it that this criticism strengthens the Soviet system and helps us to march forward to our great goal—communism—still more rapidly and successfully.

Our enemies hope that we will relax our vigilance and weaken our state security service. No, this will never happen! The proletarian sword must always be sharp, must always ably protect the gains of the revolution, the working class, the working people. **(Prolonged applause.)**

Comrades, when the Directives for the Sixth Five-Year Plan were published there were some comments in the foreign press of the following nature: Just look what Russia was like forty years ago—she had a backward economy, little industry and a low level of culture. Today, the Soviet Union has been, transformed into a mighty industrial power.

It took nearly forty years for many leading representatives of the bourgeoisie to become persuaded of the strength of the Soviet country and to recognise the greatness of Lenin, the greatness of the ideas of Marxism-Leninism. **(Stormy applause.)**

Hundreds of millions of people in the world have become convinced of the superiority of socialism over capitalism. These advantages have been proved, not only theoretically but in practice too, by the entire course of socialist construction in

the USSR and in the countries of people's democracy. And we are firmly convinced that in the competition between socialism and capitalism victory will be on our side, on the side of the Soviet Union, of the socialist camp, on the side of Marxism-Leninism! **(Stormy applause.)**

To win in the peaceful competition of socialism with capitalism, to win fresh success in the development of the economy and culture and in the improvement of the people's material well-being, we must work hard, correctly utilise all our potentialities and reserves and make fuller use of the natural resources of our country.

You, the youth, will have a great deal to do in connection with the further successful advance of our communist cause. You must drive ahead with that enthusiasm and energy that are characteristic of youth. You Komsomols, the most politically conscious and advanced section of our splendid Soviet youth, have to draw all young people into the socialist emulation movement for the fulfilment of the magnificent Sixth Five-Year Plan.

Comrades, this is necessary for the further progress of our socialist country, for the advance of the material and cultural standards of the Soviet people. This is our sacred duty to the people, to the rising generation, to whom the communist future **belongs! (Stormy, prolonged applause.)**

OUTSTANDING FIGHTER FOR PEACE AND THE UNITY OF THE GERMAN WORKING CLASS

Seventeenth Anniversary of Ernst Thaelmann's Birth

On April 16 the working class of Germany and the entire international working class movement marked the seventieth anniversary of the birth of Ernst Thaelmann, one of the outstanding leaders of the German working class and an indefatigable fighter for the unity of its ranks.

Anniversary meetings were held at plants and factories in the German Democratic Republic.

The press carried numerous articles on the life and activity of Ernst Thaelmann, as well as workers' reminiscences of meetings with their beloved leader and excerpts from his works vividly showing his confidence in the revolutionary strength of the German working class.

The seventieth anniversary of Ernst Thaelmann's birth coincided with the tenth anniversary of the foundation of the Socialist Unity Party of Germany. The working people in the German Democratic Republic note with pride what great progress they have made under the SUPG's leadership in laying the foundations of socialism and raising the standard of living, progress which has been possible solely because the SUPG carries on the best traditions of the Communist Party of Germany, of which Ernst Thaelmann was a leading figure.

CHINESE PEASANTS JOIN COMMUNIST PARTY

In the course of the widespread co-operation movement in the countryside, Chinese peasants are everywhere applying for membership of the Communist Party. In the Kiangsu Province, for example, more than 41,000 peasants recently joined. At the present time 1.2% of the population in this province are members of the CPC. In the Fukien Province 55,000 new members were admitted in 1955, of whom over 40,000 come from the countryside. There is a Party organisation in nearly every agricultural co-operative in the Fukien Province. In the Hupeh Province more than 39,400 peasants have joined the Party in recent months, considerably more than in previous years.

MEETING OF ACTIVISTS OF THE SOFIA CITY ORGANISATION OF THE BULGARIAN COMMUNIST PARTY

A recent meeting of activists of the Sofia city organisation of the Bulgarian Communist Party heard a report by Comrade Todor Jivkov, First Secretary of the Central Committee, on the Twentieth Congress of the CPSU and the conclusions to be drawn from its decisions by the Bulgarian Communist Party.

Comrade Jivkov emphasised the tremendous interest which the Communists and the entire Bulgarian public had displayed in the historic Twentieth Congress of the CPSU and its decisions on international questions, the construction of communism in the USSR and on the building of the Party. There is no doubt, he said, that the Twentieth Congress and its decisions will for a long time exert a powerful influence on world social development and promote the further strengthening of the inviolable unity of the socialist camp and the still firmer consolidation of the world forces of peace.

Comrade Jivkov dwelt in detail on the conclusions which the C.C. meeting, held between April 2 and 6, had drawn from the Twentieth Congress for the Bulgarian Party. The meeting condemned the cult of the individual as an anti-Leninist, petty-bourgeois theory and practice in the Party and emphasised its harmful effects on the Party and the state.

Because of the cult which developed around the personality of Comrade Vylko Chervenkov after his election as General Secretary, said Comrade Jivkov, the bolshevisation of the Party, the victory of September 9, the successes of our socialist construction and the future of the Party and our country were incorrectly associated with his name.

The consequence of this harmful method was that tested

methods of work traditional to the Bulgarian Communist Party had been set aside and the role of the Central Committee as the collective leadership and the role of the Party itself belittled.

The cult of the individual had had its repercussions on the ideological front and in the organisational and economic activities of the Party and the state.

A harmful consequence of this cult had been the violation of law, as a result of which innocent comrades had been wrongly accused and convicted.

Comrade Jivkov said that the charges contained in the indictment and in the other documents connected with the case of Traicho Kostov and the cases that followed it were false and therefore invalid. In accordance with the decision of the Council of Ministers and the Central Committee, all those who were imprisoned as a result of these trials had been set free. A special commission of the Central Committee had been instructed to make an examination of the documents related to the trials in order to rehabilitate all innocent comrades in the eyes of the Party and the people.

Comrade Jivkov's report was followed by those present with keen attention.

The meeting unanimously passed a resolution expressing its full agreement with the C.C. meeting's evaluation of the Twentieth Congress of the CPSU and also with the decisions which the C.C. had adopted. The meeting demonstrated its complete unity with the Central Committee and its firm determination to carry out the decisions taken and to work with redoubled energy to strengthen the inviolable bonds of Bulgarian-Soviet friendship.

THE ALL-CONQUERING IDEAS OF LENINISM. Franciszek Jozwiak, Member of Political Bureau, Central Committee, Polish United Workers' Party

We are commemorating the 86th anniversary of the birth of V. I. Lenin under the banner of the historic victories of Marxism-Leninism. Lenin's name is inseparably linked with the socialist revolution, with the struggle for the cause of the proletariat, with the struggle for freedom and social justice, for progress, for the brotherhood of peoples and for peace. Lenin was not only a brilliant thinker, an outstanding Marxist theoretician; he was also the strategist and leader of the October Revolution. He was a man with a great heart, the personification of simplicity and modesty, a man who earned the love of the working people of his own country as well as of the whole world.

Lenin was dearly beloved by the Polish working class, whose friendship and brotherhood with the Russian working class grew in the heroic struggle they daily waged side by side. Their brotherhood was born in the days of revolutionary storms and battles on the barricades in 1905 and 1917; it gained in strength and maturity in the years of heroic struggle against the Hitler invaders, in the ranks of the Polish Army as it fought side by side with the Soviet Army, in the partisan detachments and in the Nazi death camps. Symbolic of this friendship are the names of the ardent Polish revolutionaries who fought for Soviet power: Felix Dzerzhinsky and Julian Marchlewski; these noble traditions of friendship were carried on, with the utmost devotion to the great ideas of Marxism-Leninism, by

the Communist Party of Poland in the interval between the wars, and by the Polish Workers' Party in the years of struggle against the Hitler invaders. It is to our brotherhood and friendship with the great land of Lenin that we are indebted for the fact that we have become free and have quickly healed the wounds inflicted upon us by the Hitler barbarians. Drawing on the exceedingly rich experience of the Leninist CPSU, we are advancing to socialism with seven-league strides.

The time in which Lenin lived and worked was one of sharp class struggle, of mounting, sharp clashes between capitalism and the working people. It was also a time of uncompromising ideological struggle with the revisionists of Marxism, with opportunism and reformism which hampered the upsurge of the revolutionary movement, trying to confine it within the bounds of parliamentary struggle.

When the struggle for the overthrow of the power of the bourgeoisie became increasingly urgent and inevitable, and there was a need to work out revolutionary tactics and strategy; and when, finally, the struggle against the false theories preached by the reformists and opportunists assumed special importance, and there arose the necessity of forming a new revolutionary Party of the working class, it was Lenin who performed a herculean task and showed the working class the revolutionary perspectives of the struggle for power.

Lenin voiced the aspirations of the proletariat of the whole world. He developed the teaching of Marx and Engels on the dictatorship of the proletariat and on the state, worked out the theory of proletarian revolution, created the teaching on the Party and provided, an exhaustive analysis of imperialism.

The bold development by the Twentieth Congress of the CPSU of the Leninist thesis on the forms of transition to socialism in various countries is of immense significance for the theory and practice of the revolutionary movement. This correct thesis is confirmed by practice; it was confirmed by the

period that followed the Second World War. As a result of the Soviet Union's splendid victory over Hitlerite fascism, and the peoples' struggle for their freedom there emerged countries of people's democracy with their own specific features of building socialism as compared with the Soviet Union. This distinction is particularly evident in the example of the Chinese People's Republic and other Asian countries engaged in building socialism; and in Yugoslavia the development of socialism is assuming specific forms. After the Second World War the forces of democracy, progress and socialism grew immeasurably, whereas capitalism became much weaker. The ideas of socialism have today penetrated deep into the minds and hearts of the advanced section of society; the bourgeoisie, on the other hand, is more and more discrediting itself. This helps the working masses to free themselves of its influence.

The assertion that Communists everywhere and always want to carry through revolutions by means of civil war are unfounded, although the transition from a capitalist to a socialist society can be effected only by means of revolutionary transformations. It is known that in many cases such a transition inevitably involves a sharp struggle, one forced upon the working class by the bourgeoisie, a struggle that can develop into civil war, the fault for this resting, of course, with the bourgeoisie. But the, correlation of forces today indicates that there are also other paths, along which it is possible to avoid civil war. One of these is for the working class, in alliance with the peasantry and other progressive forces, to win a majority in parliament. This would create the possibility for a peaceful transition from capitalism to socialism in certain countries.

It should be borne in mind, however, that the indispensable and decisive condition for all forms of transition from capitalism to socialism is the political leadership of the working class headed by its vanguard—the Marxist-Leninist

Party. Lenin taught us that only a Party guided by advanced theory can fulfil the role of vanguard fighter. Lenin devoted a great deal of effort to arming the Bolshevik Party with revolutionary theory. He waged a relentless struggle against the theory of spontaneity which denies the leading role of the working class and its Party. Lenin, great theoretician of Marxism, founded the Party of a new type, the Party which is the vanguard of the proletariat, its militant general staff, which leads the working class to victories, the Party which is the organised detachment of the working class, the Party of unity of will and iron discipline.

Lenin pointed out that the Party had to embody in itself the finest, most selfless elements, those devoted to the cause of the working class. Only a Party of this kind can maintain close contacts with the working class and the toiling masses in the countryside.

In such a Party there can be no question of any kind of blind discipline or any mechanical, unthinking fulfilment of decisions; in it there is a conscious discipline, based on voluntary subordination to the will of the majority and a correct understanding of the interests of the working class and the tasks and the role of the Party, based on community of ideas and on unity of action and will. In a Party of the Leninist type there is no place for groups or factions, there can be no place for the cult of the individual, for it is a denial of collective leadership and the unity of action and will of the Party.

Inner-Party discipline means a conscious subordination to the Party's decisions. The Party is weakened by the presence in it of chance interlopers, vacillating, irresolute people, elements with petty-bourgeois habits, who are inclined to be conciliatory towards all manner of opportunists and politicians. Vigilance within the Party, its cleansing of opportunist elements, its collective leadership and democratic centralism—these are the sources of the strength and flexibility of the Party, of its

authority and leading role.

Lenin, an ardent internationalist and fighter for the freedom of the peoples, taught that one of the main tasks of the Party was the training of Party members and the working class in a spirit of international proletarian solidarity and respect for the freedom of peoples, for their right to self-determination. Basing itself on the principles of the Marxist-Leninist teaching, the CPSU educates its members and the peoples of the Soviet Union in a spirit of proletarian internationalism, and demonstrates that proletarian internationalists are at the same time the best patriots.

The Twentieth Congress of the CPSU constituted a great school for all Communist and Workers' Parties. The reports made by Comrades Khrushchov and Bulganin and the speeches of other comrades were pervaded by deep concern for improving the ideological work of the Party; they enriched Marxist-Leninist theory and practice. The Congress proclaimed a decisive struggle against all perversions and distortions of the Leninist principles of inner-Party life, for creative application of Marxist-Leninist teaching in Party life, for observance of the principles of collective leadership and inner-Party democracy and for unwavering fulfilment of Lenin's counsels on linking the Party with the working masses, with the people.

The Twentieth Congress testified to the flourishing spiritual energies of the CPSU, the source of which lies in the creative application and carrying forward of the immortal ideas of Leninism. So it is not to be wondered at that the eyes of people the world over turned to Moscow where the Twentieth Congress of the CPSU was in progress, where the heart and mind of the advanced detachment of humanity were at work.

From this crucible of Marxism-Leninism came words of hope which hearten all who are fighting for their freedom, for man's right to life, and for peace, words which inspire both the peoples fighting for emancipation from the yoke of capitalism

and those who, in the course of heroic endeavour, are building a new, free socialist life.

The Twentieth Congress attracted the attention of the whole world, for it was a really historic congress of the Party founded by the great Lenin, a party which bases its work on Marxism-Leninism, the first among the Communist and Workers' Parties, one that has become an example and model, the vanguard of the international working-class movement. It was the congress of a party which gives untiring leadership to the Soviet workers and peasants, a congress which attested to the breath-taking achievements of the Soviet Union in the economic, political and cultural fields, to the successes achieved thanks to the collective leadership of the C.C. of the CPSU and the consistent implementation of the ideas of Leninism. It was the congress of the Party under whose leadership the USSR victoriously fulfilled its Fifth Five-Year Plan ahead of schedule, which created conditions for the successful and fruitful continuation of the struggle for the further advancement of the economic might of the USSR, for improving the well-being of the Soviet people, for carrying out in the shortest historical period the basic economic task—to catch up with and outstrip, in peaceful competition, the most economically advanced capitalist countries in industrial output per capita. The economic achievements of the USSR and the line mapped out by the Twentieth Congress of the CPSU for the continued development of the Soviet Union's economy confirm the correctness of the Leninist thesis on the priority development of heavy industry as the basis for advancing the entire national economy and the lever for constantly raising living- standards.

The all-round introduction of new technical ideas and the utilisation both of the USSR's own rich scientific and technical experience—of which its achievements in using atomic energy for peaceful purposes are a particularly vivid expression—and

of the technical progress in capitalist countries are of immense importance for the further advancement of the USSR's economy.

The struggle that developed between the Nineteenth and Twentieth Party Congresses for re-establishing the Leninist standards of Party life, the bold criticism of mistakes and shortcomings in work, particularly in agriculture, and the immense political, organisational and economic work that has been conducted have all created conditions for the intensive development of agriculture and opened up prospects for the successful fulfilment of the new Five-Year Plan in the sphere of agriculture in two to three years.

The historic significance of the Twentieth Congress can be seen from the fact, for instance, that it attracted the attention both of friends and of people who are ill-disposed towards the Soviet Union. Friends rejoiced that, thanks to the implementation of the Leninist policy, further successes have been scored in industry, agriculture and the advancement of the material and cultural standards of the peoples of the land of Soviets; that such important successes as a reduction in international tension and a realistic strengthening of world peace have been registered in international relations; that the Congress charted impressive prospects for the future.

It was with close attention and emotion that friends read the materials of the Twentieth Congress in order to draw conclusions for their daily work and struggle for a better future for the working people, for peace. Those who are unfriendly were perturbed to read data which attested to the growth of the economic might and political strength of the land of Soviets, though they were compelled to admit that the facts confirm the great achievements of the CPSU.

The injunctions of the Twentieth Congress on the need to combat bureaucratic and stereotyped methods of work and schematism are a mighty stimulus for developing the creative

initiative of the masses. The Twentieth Congress of the CPSU has evoked a wide response in all Communist and Workers' Parties. The decisions of the Twentieth Congress are permeated with the Leninist spirit: deep humanism; genuine concern for man, for the high moral sense of the Party member and the Soviet citizen. Speaking of the morality of the Communist, of communist ethics, Lenin always emphasised that they served the struggle for the unity of the working masses against all exploitation, that they served the cause of raising human society a stage higher.

Communist morality, of course, is born in the struggle against the old. Lenin wrote:

“It is the beginning of a revolution that is much more difficult, more material, more radical and more decisive than the overthrow of the bourgeoisie, for it is a victory over personal conservativeness, indiscipline, petty-bourgeois egoism, a victory over the habits that accursed capitalism left as a heritage to the worker and peasant.”

It is communist morality which, in the struggle against the old and obsolescent, is becoming firmly established in the land of victorious socialism. It is for such a morality that the CPSU is fighting, such are the morality and humanism of which the Twentieth Congress decisions speak, such is the morality that Lenin fought for.

The struggle for a high level of morality, for communist morality, is of immense significance for the building of communism. The Twentieth Congress forcefully stressed that the ideological work of the Party, its tasks in educating the masses and moulding the loft moral and spiritual qualities of men, are not an abstract problem. They constitute a problem of the struggle against all and sundry distortions of Leninist principles in the most diverse spheres, including science, art and literature and even man's everyday life. Communist morality is forged in the struggle for a high ideological level in

a society which is becoming a communist society. It must become the driving force in building communism, in strengthening the state and in the struggle for peace. Such is the role of communist morality, which promotes communist construction and speeds the fulfilment of the Party's instructions. Therefore, posing these problems, the Twentieth Congress did not ignore science, literature or the arts, pointing out that the cult of the individual could not but have had its effect in these spheres also. But science, literature and the arts can and must fulfil an important mission—that of tenderly nurturing everything which promotes the life of society and the education of man.

All the proceedings of the Twentieth Congress were imbued with concern for the high ideological level and militant spirit of every Party member. The Congress laid bare with all decisiveness the negative features and the consequences of the cult of the individual, which have their origin in violation of the Leninist principles of Party life. The violation of these standards during the period when Stalin personally decided the major questions of Party and state activity was in contradiction with the Leninist principles and Leninist methods which are the bedrock of the work of the CPSU, despite the fact that he was motivated by concern for socialist construction. The violation of Leninist standards and principles seriously retarded the ideological, political, economic and organisational activities of the Party, stifled the initiative of the working people and led to a situation in which hostile elements of the Beria type could do harm to the Party and the international working-class movement.

The Twentieth Congress has become a powerful factor in the struggle for the restoration, strengthening and creative application of the Leninist standards of inner-Party life, for collective leadership in Party bodies and democratisation of all aspects of Party, state and social life, in the struggle to develop

criticism and self-criticism and the initiative of all Communists and all working people.

The great tasks of communist construction require the further heightening of the activity and creative initiative of the working people, the still broader participation of the masses in the administration of the state, in all its organisational and economic activities. That is why the CPSU is persistently and consistently improving the work of its state and economic bodies.

The Twentieth Congress enriched the treasure-house of Marxism-Leninism with a number of important, fundamental theses; notably, it developed the Leninist idea of the peaceful coexistence of peoples with different social and political systems. Socialism, as Comrade Khrushchov said, has emerged from within the bounds of a single country and become a world system, and this has an immense bearing on the peaceful coexistence of peoples. Consequently, the peaceful coexistence of diverse social and political systems follows from the actual correlation of forces and from the relationships that have developed in this concrete historical period.

The whole work of the CPSU confirms the correctness of the Leninist policy of peace. It is clear that there cannot be coexistence of various social and political formations without economic competition between them. Coexistence and economic competition between different systems, however, does not signify that the struggle against bourgeois ideology will slacken or cease. The Twentieth Congress emphasised the possibility of peaceful coexistence of different social and political systems. and advanced the new, correct thesis that in the present situation war is not inevitable, that the forces of peace can hinder and prevent military aggression. Peace must be upheld. In this concrete historical period there are great opportunities for active work and struggle by all peace-loving peoples, for multiplying the forces of peace and consolidating

peace.

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Not only do we approve the correct Leninist line of the Twentieth Congress, aimed at strengthening the principle of collective leadership, deepening democratism in the life of the Party and state and establishing still closer relations between the Party and the masses, but we shall also steadfastly and consistently translate it into reality.

The Twentieth Congress of the Leninist Party will go down in history as a vital turning point in the CPSU's struggle for the complete triumph of the Leninist Party principles, for the building of a communist society, for the deepening and strengthening of fraternal international relations with the working people of all countries.

MAY DAY MANIFESTO OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF SPAIN

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of Spain has addressed a May Day Manifesto to the working people of the country and to all Spaniards.

The Manifesto points out that under General Franco's dictatorship economic, cultural and social problems, which were crying out for urgent solution 20 years ago, have become increasingly acute. Powerful social forces are on the move, and each in its own way and in keeping with its own interests works toward political changes in order to find a way out of the present difficult conditions.

This broad movement for national regeneration is headed by the working class whose interests are at one with the highest interests of the nation.

In face of the growing national opposition movement, points out the Manifesto, General Franco is attempting, through concessions, to retain power at all costs. With this same end in view he is trying to revive the fear of another civil war.

But in reality the sole danger of civil war emanates from the fact that General Franco and his clique refuse to make way for those forces which are capable of solving the national problems. All opposition forces, from Christian Democrats to Communists, want to see the necessary political changes carried out by peaceful means.

The Communist Party calls upon working men and women to observe May Day as a festival of fraternity among all workers regardless of their ideological convictions.

The Manifesto urges that on May 1 the following demands should be put forward: wages and salaries to correspond to the subsistence minimum on the basis of a sliding wage scale for an eight-hour working day; satisfaction of specific demands of

the trade unions; equal pay for equal work; guarantees against unemployment; abolition of the so-called “tax on the wealth of the provinces” and the reduction of taxes and other unjust extortions imposed upon the peasants, manufacturers and tradesmen; effective measures for stemming the rise in the cost of living, measures aimed against those who are really responsible—the big monopolies—and against the policy of militarisation; freedom of foreign trade and cultural exchange, with no discrimination in relation to any country; amnesty for all political prisoners and refugees; freedom of association, assembly, the press, speech, etc.

The Manifesto calls upon the working people of the country and all Spaniards to make this festival of labour a day when the will of the nation, which demands economic and political changes in order to rescue Spain from its present difficult position, is peacefully demonstrated.

ITALIAN GENERAL CONFEDERATION OF LABOUR APPEALS TO WORKING PEOPLE OF ITALY

The Executive Committee of the Italian General Confederation of Labour has issued an appeal to the Italian working people calling on them to support a one-week campaign for the exchange of membership cards and the winning of new members, which is to be carried out in the factories and offices and throughout the countryside between April 23 and May 1.

The appeal states that in order to halt the offensive of the employers and to win improved living standards and better working conditions, it is now more imperative than ever before to oppose to the front of the employers the ever more stable front of the working people united behind the glorious banner of the CGIL. The appeal points out that the Confederation's membership now stands at 5 million. The appeal urges all working people affiliated to the Confederation to complete the current card exchange by May 1—the international day of labour.

CZECHOSLOVAKIA CARRIES OUT THE LENINIST POLICY ON THE NATIONAL QUESTION. Pavol David, Secretary, Central Committee, Communist Party of Slovakia

The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia is tireless in its efforts to strengthen the fraternal friendship of the peoples of our country and develop culture, national in form and socialist in content. The national question was one of the most complex in the history of the development of Czechoslovak society. Consistently and steadfastly following the Leninist teaching, the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia has always looked upon the national question as an integral part of the general question of the socialist revolution and an inseparable element in "the socialist transformation of our country. In carrying out the Leninist policy on the national question, the Communist Party has made substantial progress in advancing Czechoslovakia's economy and culture. In carrying out this policy the Party has always taken into account the uneven development in different parts of the country and above all, the backwardness to which Slovakia was condemned by the ruling classes. It has therefore always given special attention to Slovakia's development.

Nineteen years ago, when the threat of aggression by fascist Germany loomed over the Czechoslovak Republic, the Slovak Conference of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, at its memorable May session in Banska Bystrica, approved a plan for the economic, social and cultural development of Slovakia. The object of this plan, which stemmed, from the then existing inequality of nations in the country, was to put an

end to the economic, social and cultural backwardness of Slovakia as compared with the more developed Czechia, a backwardness that profited the dark forces of fascism grouped around Hlinka's clerical-fascist party.

The ruling bourgeoisie of Czechoslovakia, however, was not interested in putting an end to Slovakia's age-old backwardness.

At the critical moment it joined with its Western "allies" in basely betraying the Czechoslovak people and leaving the republic to the despotism of the Hitlerites.

The Communist Party of Czechoslovakia took its place at the head of the national liberation struggle of the people and raised high the banner of struggle against the fascist invaders. Following the Soviet Union's great victory over fascism and the liberation of Czechoslovakia, the Party mobilised the masses to carry out a programme for building a new life, for building socialism in our country.

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The Czechoslovak bourgeois republic arose under the salutary influence of the Great October Socialist Revolution. It brought national freedom to the Czechs and Slovaks, who for centuries had been oppressed by the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. The revolutionary hopes of the Czech and Slovak peoples did not come true in the new republic, however. The ruling bourgeoisie soon showed its hand and went to work to curtail and abolish the rights of the working people.

A particularly difficult situation arose in Slovakia, which lagged far behind the rest of the republic economically and culturally. Industry was very poorly developed there. Only 17% of the Slovak population were employed in industry, including small handicraft enterprises, whereas in the Czech areas the figure was 40.7%. Under the bourgeois republic the

number of industrial workers in Slovakia diminished by 12,000; many blast furnaces were extinguished and a number of factories substantially cut production; poverty and unemployment increased from year to year.

Under the bourgeois republic Slovakia remained an agrarian country with backward agricultural technique and low productivity in agriculture. Whereas in the Czech areas only 28.3% of the population were employed in agriculture, in Slovakia the percentage was 56.8. Some 7,000 landlords and big landowners owned twice as much land as did more than 400,000 small and middle peasants.

The result of all this was that the Slovak working peasantry had a much lower standard of living than prevailed in the Czech areas. For example, the income per member of a peasant family in Czechia was 84% higher than in Slovakia. Because of this the people of Slovakia were abandoning their land en masse and going abroad in search of work and bread.

The policy of the fascist leaders who seized power in Slovakia after the disintegration of the republic led to the further economic and social impoverishment of the Slovak people. The Slovak people rose against this anti-popular and anti-national policy with arms in hand. They welcomed their liberator—the heroic Soviet Army—with enthusiasm and jubilation.

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Side by side with the fraternal Czech people, the Slovak people, who had experienced the horrors of capitalist exploitation and of oppression by the fascist traitors, took the road of building their common homeland—the socialist Czechoslovak Republic.

An expression of the hopes of the Slovak people, reflected in the programme of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia,

was the Kosice government programme adopted in April 1945 on the suggestion of the CPC. It laid a firm foundation on which to build a new republic based on the principles of the full equality of Czechs and Slovaks. Only after the country's liberation were the conditions created for the successful solution of the national question in Czechoslovakia in the spirit of the Marxist-Leninist principles, as outlined by the Communist Party at the Slovak Conference in Banska Bystrica in 1937. The Ninth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia reaffirmed the fact that the Slovak question had to be settled speedily through large-scale socialist industrialisation, the advancement of agricultural production and extensive cultural development.

The first stage in the industrialisation of Slovakia began with the transfer of machinery and industrial plant from Czechia to Slovakia. Many new enterprises were thereby established in Slovakia between 1946 and 1948 and the number of industrial workers increased by more than 45,000. In three short years the Czechoslovak Republic thus gave the Slovak people more than the pre-Munich republic had given it in all its twenty years.

The Ninth Congress of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia in May 1949 mapped out the general line of socialist construction in our country. Its historic decisions set the task of reorganising Czechoslovak industry and building up a powerful heavy industry—the keystone for the development of the entire economy.

The realisation of the aims of the Five-Year Plan has changed the formerly backward agrarian Slovakia beyond recognition. In the ten years that people's-democratic Czechoslovakia has existed, 169 new plants have been built in Slovakia, while 119 factories have been reconstructed and have increased their output substantially. The number of industrial workers has increased more than threefold. Whereas in 1937

Slovakia's share in the country's industrial output was only 8%, it had increased to more than 16% by 1954. The industrial output of Slovakia has increased fivefold compared with that of 1937.

This powerful industrial development has been accompanied by great changes in the structure of Slovakia's industrial production. The share of heavy industry, for instance, in particular that of machine-building, which has become the key branch of all industrial production, has substantially increased. New industries have come into being.

It is obvious that the Slovak working class could not have coped single-handed with the tasks arising from such a widespread reorganisation of industry. It relies on the devoted fraternal help given by the Czech working class, draws on the wealth of experience acquired by Czech engineers, technicians and front-rank workers. Of great importance in developing Slovak industry has been the constant assistance accorded by Soviet engineers and technicians, the experience of the finest Soviet workers—innovators and rationalisers—which is being applied to an ever greater extent in our factories and is yielding splendid results in raising labour productivity.

Notwithstanding the fact that after the liberation of our country the toiling peasants were given new opportunities for developing their farms, as a result of the distribution of land that had belonged to the landlords, traitors and church latifundia, as well as of the establishment of machine and tractor stations and of receiving new machines, fertilisers and selected seeds, the productivity of agriculture did not increase substantially, while in stockbreeding it even declined. These shortcomings could only be eliminated by placing small, scattered farms on a footing of modern, large-scale socialist farming. Persistent explanatory work by Party functionaries, class-conscious workers, small and middle peasants and advanced intellectuals soon had their effect: the first

agricultural co-operatives were set up, and by 1955 co-operatives and state farms were already cultivating 40.7% of the arable land in Slovakia.

The successful reorganisation of agriculture has resulted in agricultural productivity increasing from year to year. The state can claim much of the credit for this, as it displays unflinching concern to ensure that co-operatives and individual peasants are regularly supplied with the necessary mineral fertilisers and seeds.

As a result of Slovakia's greater agricultural productivity her share in the country's output has increased. In 1936 and 1937 Slovakia's agricultural production amounted to only 19.3% of the country's total output, whereas in 1954 it was 26% above the 1936 figure. In 1954 the amount produced per hectare of land was 21.6% more than in 1936, with the result that the incomes of the rural population were 50.8% higher.

The rapid development of industry in Slovakia was attended by considerable changes in the structure of Slovakia's entire economy. Whereas in 1936 the proportion of industrial output in the total volume of production amounted to only 35%, by 1954 this proportion had increased to 69%. The number of industrial workers increased accordingly and there was an increase in the working class.

All these successes in socialist construction find direct reflection in the higher material and cultural standards of the people. Consumption is constantly increasing, the logical result of the growth in the effective demand of the population.

Nowadays the working people can hardly imagine life without the radio, the cinema, theatres and books. Public education in Slovakia is making good progress. The concern of the Party and the Government for man is also displayed in the steady expansion, and improvement of the public health services.

The working people of Slovakia, who have achieved their

initial successes in socialist construction, will not permit anyone to divert them from their chosen path. The Slovak working class, the co-operative peasantry and the labouring intelligentsia have matured during the process of socialist construction. The Slovak toilers are proud of their achievements and look to the future with confidence. Under the leadership of the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia, side by side with the fraternal Czech people, they are confidently marching forward to fresh achievements and victories.

BOOK REVIEW

Poujadism Exposed. Fernand Grenier's booklet "Poujade Minus His Mask!"

The growth of the forces of peace and progress in France is causing deep concern among the reactionaries, while the expanding movement in favour of unity of the working class and of all French people, which now has the support of the broadest democratic and progressive elements, is something which frightens them particularly. In the growing struggle of the working people for a Popular Front the monopolists see a grave menace to their interests and their profits. That is why, in their efforts to divert the masses from the correct path and to suppress their movement, they are setting up organisations of a fascist type and resorting to open violence.

A booklet by Comrade Fernand Grenier, member of the Central Committee of the French Communist Party, was recently published in Paris, entitled "**Poujade Minus His Mask!**"* It contains an exposure of one such nee-fascist organisation. Citing numerous documents, the author sheds a revealing light on the so-called "Poujade phenomenon".

Here is the story of this fascist movement.

From 1953 the shopkeepers and artisans in France began to form block and communal committees to fight for their interests, which were being threatened by the declining purchasing power of the workers and peasants and the increasing burden of taxation, which hits the petty trading bourgeoisie more and more, and set up on a national scale the "Union for Defence of Shopkeepers and Artisans" (UDCA).

* *Fernand Grenier, "Poujade sans masque!" Paris, 1956, pp. 24.*

Initially, this organisation defended the purely professional interests of the petty bourgeoisie, which have much in common with the demands of the main mass of the working people, and it thus helped to make the middle classes an ally of the working class in their struggle for a change in government policy.

This prospect seriously alarmed the big bourgeoisie, and it was in order to prevent the possibility of a rapprochement between the middle classes and the working class and to utilise their movement in their own narrow class interests that reaction staked everything on Poujade.

Who is this Poujade? From Grenier's booklet the reader learns that even before the Second World War this adventurer was an active member of a fascist group led by the renegade Doriot. In 1940-1941 he came out as a fervent supporter of Pétain, the grave-digger of France. In 1942, Poujade was a member of a delegation of the "Marshal's Youth" organisation that went to Spain at the invitation of the Franco Falange. After the war he settled in the town of Saint-Céré, Lot Department, and there established close contact with reactionary political leaders.

Poujade is the sworn enemy of the Popular Front. On January 12 he openly wrote in the newspaper **Paris-Presse** of the "danger of renewing the experience of 1936".

Grenier also points to Poujade's political associates. These include Camille Fegy, who was found guilty of collaboration with the fascists, Jeantet, a former active member of the royalist organisation "Action Française", Chevallet, representative of the French colonialists in Algeria, and Leon Dupont, a big landowner from the Marne Department. All these were his closest friends. To complete the picture, it is necessary to add that the Poujadists' mouthpiece in Parliament is the notorious police agent Deputy Dides who (as the General Director of the National Security Board of France recently declared) is connected with U.S. intelligence. This fascist-

minded thug began his parliamentary career by demanding that the Communists be deprived of their seats in Parliament.

By resorting to all kinds of trickery Poujade succeeded in worming his way into the leadership of the UDCA and, with the help of anarchist demagogy, soon became its boss. Having attained this position, Grenier shows, Poujade set out to change the original character of the UDCA and to transform it into a party of the fascist type. He not only gained control of its propaganda but also of its financial operations, and thus turned the UDCA into a source of personal enrichment. "The founders of the movement unanimously admit", writes Grenier, "that it was always the president of the Union and Madame Poujade who took the contributions and collections, which were often quite substantial." It is not surprising, therefore, that Poujade bought himself a piece of land valued at 3.5 million francs.

A shrewd man of affairs, Poujade set about achieving his aims by devious paths. In order to win over the masses of the petty bourgeoisie, he engaged in frenzied demagogic propaganda against the anti-national policy of the constantly changing governments. He spoke out, for instance, in favour of the abolition of the unfair taxation of small traders, for the application of the social security laws to shopkeepers and artisans, for a tax amnesty and so forth. He began to sharply criticise some evils of the bourgeois system. All this helped to enhance Poujade's popularity, with the result that a substantial part of the middle classes, dissatisfied with the anti-national policy pursued by the government, regarded him as their "saviour" their "leader", and followed this fascist careerist without having understood his real aims.

Last year Poujade in fact cast off his "democratic" mask and began to turn the UDCA into a neo-fascist political party. He got the UDCA Congress to incorporate in its "programme" a number of points borrowed from Hitler, Mussolini, Franco and Pétain.

Since then Poujade has been paying less and less attention to the vital interests of the artisans and shopkeepers. He has begun publishing his own newspaper, **Fraternité française**, in opposition to the official UDCA newspaper, **l'Union**. This sheet does its best to discredit the republican system and democratic organisations and parties, especially the Communist Party, and thereby to promote the coming to power of fascist-minded elements. He calls for a reactionary reform of the electoral law and the state institutions and opposes negotiations in North Africa; he advocates a policy of force and vehemently attacks the French Government for its "excessive inclination" towards negotiations, threatening all the deputies with the noose. The Poujadist Deputy Demarquet, who on February 6 organised fascist disturbances in Algiers, recently announced that the task of the Poujadists was to "reassure the public and then stun it with a blow on the head". That is just what the Poujadists are up to.

The Poujadists are training cadres of storm troops to seize power by force. For this purpose they are establishing special schools where they teach the "best" means of breaking up mass meetings and demonstrations, and are sending their representatives in the districts instructions on where and how to organise storm troops. To test their putschist forces, they organise disturbances in the National Assembly, attack public meetings, raid the offices of democratic organisations, etc. Poujade openly approves the idea of a fascist putsch. In his book **I Have Chosen Battle** (the very title of which is inspired by Hitler's **Mein Kampf—R.M**) he boastfully writes: "We can, of course, see ourselves taking the Bourbon Palace by assault, but we are not yet strong enough... The simpletons in Parliament must go. We will come to Paris a third time... but I assure you that it will be the last. The government has authority, I have might."

The activities of the Poujadists have resulted in a split in

many of the local committees for the defence of artisans and shopkeepers and in a weakening of their movement. Poujade's followers are at the same time seeking to split democratic mass organisations as well. They are setting up parallel "defence unions", so-called, of various social categories. For the most part out-and-out reactionaries, ex-fascists included, are placed at the head of them. The "peasant defence union", for instance, is headed by the notorious fascist Henri d'Halluin (Dorgères), the "union in defence of the working people" by Quincy, a provocateur who has been exposed by the Communist Party, and so on.

Even more serious are the activities of the Poujadists in Algiers, where they are trying to cause disturbances. Their object is to draw France into a war with the Arab countries under any pretext, no matter how crude. There can be no doubt, writes Grenier, that such a policy would cost tens of thousands of young Frenchmen their lives.

Trying to represent Poujade as the "saviour" of France, the reactionary press spares no effort to invest him with an aureole of "glory". "The big bourgeois newspapers and big circulation magazines", writes Grenier, "have assured him (Poujade—**R.M.**) high-powered daily publicity. The same newspapers that for many years defended the government policy of poverty which gave rise to Poujadism and provided support for it, have helped to give it all the publicity it needed during the electoral campaign."

The author stresses that from the very outset this fascist movement had the active support of such extremely reactionary newspapers as **Rivarol**, **Aspects de la France**, **Nouveaux Jours** and **l'Aurore**. For instance, the fascist sheet **Rivarol** wrote cynically on February 9 last: "We count on Poujade, and we count not only on him." This sheet makes no secret of the fact that the most reactionary elements are regrouping themselves around Poujade. "For a century", writes the well-

known fascist Xavier-Vallat in **Rivarol**, “the people have been seeking a ‘strong man’. Our fathers thought they had found him in General Boulanger... of my generation some thought to have found him in La Rocque, others in Doriot. The next generation hoped it would be De Gaulle... Today they are rallying behind Poujade.” “Presence française”, an organisation of French colonialists in North Africa, considers Poujade its representative in France and gives him immense publicity in its press.

Further Grenier relates that before the last parliamentary elections the government then in power gave the Poujadists three times as much time on radio and TV than any other political party.

But the Poujadists are unable to deceive the French people; the broadest masses are more and more clearly seeing through their demagogy and their essentially fascist policy, realising more and more that the activity of the Poujadists menaces the democratic rights of the French people and the republican regime of the country.

The truth about Poujadism is reaching all parts of France. Not only the workers and peasants, but even the shopkeepers and artisan are becoming increasingly conscious of the need for united action by the entire French people in the struggle against the financial magnets and their accomplices, against the putschists. Poujade’s fascist methods evoke the anger and indignation of all democrats and progressives. Advanced workers and peasants stigmatise him and departmental organisations of shopkeepers and artisans are decisively turning away from him for they want no part in a struggle against democratic liberties and republican institutions.

Fernand Grenier’s booklet will undoubtedly contribute to the noble cause of strengthening the unity of the entire French people, to the struggle for democracy and peace.

R. MATVEYEV

ANNIVERSARY OF THE BANDUNG CONFERENCE

The Indonesian Government has appealed to all Asian and African countries which took part in the Bandung Conference, suggesting they mark the anniversary of this conference on April 18. This measure, the appeal states, would promote closer co-operation and mutual understanding between these countries.

Members of the Indonesian Government, in particular Foreign Minister Abdulgani and Minister of Information Sudibjo, will make radio statements in honour of the anniversary.

UNITY OF ACTION OF CUBAN WORKING PEOPLE

At many of the sugar refineries in Cuba, the workers are unanimously resisting the Government's arbitrary actions, which have been intensified following the general strike in that industry and include violent seizure of trade union premises, the removal of leaders elected by the union membership, and the setting up of mediation commissions in the trade unions, which act as the willing tools of the management and the military dictatorship.

Through the united action of the workers, the managements of the Natividad, Amazonas, Tuinicu and many other refineries have been compelled to withdraw recognition from the mediation commissions and to respect the trade union bodies which have been elected in a democratic manner. As the result of a strike which lasted 13 days, the workers at the Narcisa refinery secured satisfaction of their demand that the management recognise their elected trade union leadership.

Interference by government bodies in the affairs of certain trade unions in the tobacco industry in the Las Villas Province has evoked strong protests from the tobacco workers throughout the province. A joint committee has been set up which includes the representatives of 26 unions. This committee has led a number of strikes and other actions in protest against the violation of trade union rights.

In connection with the approach of May Day—the international day of the working people—the Committee in Defence of Workers' demands and of Struggle for the Democratisation of the Cuban Working People's Confederation has sent an open letter to the executive committee of the CWPC, to industrial federations, all trade unions and the working class, suggesting that they organise a joint

demonstration on May 1 in Havana and that similar demonstrations be held in other localities.

FOR AN AMNESTY FOR POLITICAL PRISONERS IN BRAZIL

A campaign to secure a general amnesty for all who have been sentenced or who are under investigation for political reasons is getting under way in Brazil. The campaign is taking the form of mass meetings throughout the country and public discussion in the press, over the radio, television, etc.

In Rio de Janeiro a National Amnesty Commission has been set up which includes M.P's belonging to the Brazilian Trabalhista Party, to the Socialist, Social Democratic, Social Progressive and other parties, and also scientists, figures in the artistic world and trade union leaders. A bill has been introduced in Parliament and already has the support of the legislative bodies of certain states and municipalities, as well as of a number of trade union, women's and youth organisations throughout the country.

A statement published by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Brazil on March 28 says that the achievement of a general amnesty would represent another victory for the forces who are fighting for political freedoms, independence and progress in Brazil.

VENEZUELA TODAY (Letter from Caracas)

Venezuela's development has been distinguished by a number of specific features. Situated as it is on the northern tip of the South American continent, its position is strategically important. With its rich oil and iron ore deposits and recently discovered uranium ore deposits our country plays a prominent role in the world arena as a supplier of raw materials; it leads the world in the export of oil and is at present exporting five million tons of iron ore annually, a figure it can quickly double if need be.

It is not surprising, therefore, that imperialism—especially the U.S. brand—long ago cast our country for a leading part in its commercial dealings, in its extraction of maximum profits, looking upon it as a major supplier of strategic raw materials. Some two million barrels of oil daily and more than five million tons of iron ore annually are being extracted, chiefly by the big Rockefeller and Morgan trusts. The lion's share of these goes to feed U.S. war industry. If, in addition to this, it is remembered that Venezuela possesses immense reserves of these two strategic raw materials, one can easily imagine how great a role bellicose imperialism expects the peace-loving homeland of Bolivar to play in its plans for preparing a new world war. Besides this, the intention is to use our country as the gendarme of the Caribbean and a provoker of conflicts with neighbouring states, especially Colombia, or as an active participant in these conflicts, as in the case of Costa Rica.

Foreign investments in Venezuela's economy have risen to 5,000 million dollars (more than 16,000 million bolivars). U.S. capital accounts for more than 60% of this sum, which constitutes 54% of total U.S. investments in Latin America. Dutch and British capital are represented to a lesser extent.

And the bulk of the investments are in the oil and iron ore industries.

While U.S. investors draw more than 2,000 million bolivars profit annually, the majority of the people live in poverty, unable to satisfy their elementary needs, acquire an education or receive the necessary medical care. Oil workers are brutally exploited. Although over 20,000 out of 60,000 oil workers have been sacked in the past five years, the output of oil has increased. And the oil workers, who form the basic core of the national proletariat, are subjected to the most savage repressive measures.

In their attempts to preserve their fabulous investments and their more than fabulous profits the U.S. monopolists are constantly interfering in Venezuela's internal affairs. This accounts for the fall of Romulo Gallegos' constitutional government in 1948 as a result of a coup d'etat engineered with the direct assistance of the U.S. military mission, and also for the fact that since then power has been in the hands of repressive military governments submissive to the dictates of U.S. imperialism. What wonder, then, that in December 1952 the reactionary forces resorted to another coup d'etat in order to reduce to nought the victory won by the democratic forces in the elections. This brought into power a colonel with the ways of an autocrat, who is surrounded by a clique that is stealing the wealth of the nation.

For more than seven years now Venezuela has been oppressed by a terrorist dictatorship. The democratic parties have been outlawed and are being most savagely persecuted. All the big trade unions, too, have been outlawed.

The Communist Party of Venezuela, the mainstay of the fight for national independence, is being subjected to savage persecution. Its cadres are being annihilated. Its General Secretary, Comrade Jesus Faria, has been languishing in prison for nearly six years. Many Party members have been exiled

from the country, while the prisons are filled with many others. Perez Jimenez' bloody dictatorship is attempting to destroy the Communist Party of Venezuela because, even in underground conditions, it continues its work, publishing the newspaper **Tribuna Popular**, mobilising the people, organising and urging them to united action in order to achieve victory.

Venezuela today is one huge prison. People here are living in an atmosphere of brutal terror, not knowing what the morrow may bring. Fascist reprisals against democrats and all patriots are being carried out by the Board of National Security, which is staffed by thugs and thieves, and headed by FBI agent Pedro Estrada. Prisoners in the El Obispo prison are subjected to cruel torture, and the same thing goes on in the "model" prison in Caracas, the San Juan de Los Morros jail and many others.

In these prisons, typical fascist dungeons, all standards of humanity and legality are trampled underfoot; hunger and torture are the order of the day, and thousands of our people are suffering and dying.

That is how the people in our country have been living for several years. Their finest sons have been deported, imprisoned or exiled or else are living in conditions of illegality. And this is the bloody anti-popular regime that Foster Dulles calls a true example of pan-Americanism, one that the other American states should follow.

Notwithstanding the situation that obtains, however, the struggle against Jimenez' corrupt dictatorship is gaining momentum in the country. Parties such as the Democratic Action and Communist Parties, those most closely linked with the people, are working in the most difficult conditions. Nearly all sections of the population—workers, peasants, the petty bourgeoisie and part of the national bourgeoisie—are opposing the policy of terror and of selling out the country to the U.S. monopolists that is pursued by the Government of Perez

Jimenez and company. But although the Communist Party of Venezuela has been working to this end for several years, there is unfortunately not yet the necessary unity of action, the sole guarantee of success in the overthrowing of the reactionary dictatorship.

Appealing to the people, the Communist Party of Venezuela pointed out in its manifesto of January 1, 1956:

“Venezuelans! It is possible to overthrow the present pro-American dictatorship. For this we must immediately establish a broad anti-dictatorship front which would include everyone, civil or military, who is not in agreement with the present terrorist and anti-national policy of the Perez Jimenez clique.”

The Communist Party extends a fraternal hand to all other national patriotic forces and proposes that a movement be organised as soon as possible with a view to overthrowing the dictatorship. In the interests of the Venezuelan people, we Communists want 1956 to be a successful year in this respect.

The working class of Venezuela and its Party are today more than ever before in need of active and constant international solidarity, an important factor in the struggle against repression. This would help to get many prisoners out of the dungeons of the dictatorship. Public protests within the country and on a world scale have already resulted in a number of substantial successes. All mass organisations can help in this matter.

We express our gratitude to the working people of other countries for their manifestations of international solidarity and now urgently appeal for an intensification of this activity, for its transformation into a broad movement for amnesty and freedom for those imprisoned and for an end to persecution in Venezuela.

Emilio VALDES

Caracas, March.

POLITICAL NOTES

Preachers of Generosity—and a Recalcitrant Audience

In recent weeks, thanks to the efforts of certain elements, a campaign of “spiritual uplift” has got under way in Canada. Its aim is to instil in people a fuller measure of generosity, and help them to “eschew all pettiness and suspicion, all ill-considered and facile criticism”. This advocacy of an attitude of sweetness and light is not, as one might think at first, glance, a mere abstract preachment of virtue for virtue’s sake. On the contrary, it’s a highly practical proposition. It is the latest product of the Opinion Research Corporation (Princeton, New Jersey, U.S.A.).

What is it all about? According to the vice-president of this outfit, while Canada’s “liberal tax policies, freedom from government interference and her natural resources” make the country an even “more favourable environment for business than the U.S.”—there is a fly in the ointment: there is, it appears, growing opposition to U.S. monopoly domination in Canada; and the above-mentioned campaign is supposed to counteract it.

Within a week of its being launched, a leading member of the Canadian Senate delivered himself of an impassioned defence of U.S. corporations operating in Canada. “Senator Sees No Harm in Outside Ownership”, ran the headline reporting his speech. Among the “blessings” listed by the speaker for which, it was suggested, Canadians might show a little more appreciation, were these: U.S. corporations hire Canadians, buy Canadian raw materials, pay taxes, and provide purchasing power. In short, it appears that the “beneficiaries”

have no cause for complaint.

Yet Canadians are still not satisfied, and not without reason.

U.S.-owned corporations do “hire Canadians”—but, as even the financial editor of a conservative Toronto paper points out, the wages and salaries paid “are something less than they would have to pay U.S. employees for the same kind of work”. Moreover, for executive and managerial positions they frequently bring in U.S. citizens. In Labrador, U.S.-owned corporations “screen” their employees on the basis of their “loyalty” to... the U.S. Government!

U.S. corporations do “buy Canadian raw materials”. Aluminium, for instance, they were until recently buying at 20 cents a pound; the manufactured products made from it in the U.S.A. were then sold back to Canadians at a dollar per pound (or 5 times the price). With iron ore, a similar operation takes place. In 1953, the U.S. took two million tons of it out of Canada, and last year—ten million. Iron ore, nickel, asbestos, uranium, titanium, lead, zinc, copper, oil, timber and much else pour steadily into the maw of the U.S. monopolies. The result of this pillage is a growing distortion of Canadian economic development, a hampering of industrialisation; and, therewith, the dumping of U.S. products and the loss of Canadian markets.

For this, the “beneficiaries” are expected to manifest due gratitude, and “eschew all pettiness”.

But there is more than the economic “blessings” to be grateful for. There is defence”.

Although the Senator did not mention it (out of delicacy, no doubt) the presence of many thousands of U.S. troops in occupation of a million square miles of the Canadian North is the most eloquent testimony of Wall Street’s interest in Canada. ‘he, need for “defence” against the mythical “Soviet menace” is used to justify the taking over of natural resources,

the imposing of a programme of militarisation and armaments, and the tying of Canada to NATO. Yet when, not long ago, it was announced that the Canadian Army air warfare branch in the Canadian Arctic had been placed under the command of a U.S. colonel, the reaction of the Canadian public was not one of unmixed gratitude. Nor has the granting of “permission” to the Pentagon to build (and man with U.S. troops) a radar line across Southern Canada met with any enthusiasm.

Indeed, “ungrateful” murmurs of dissent are making themselves heard with growing frequency. To such an extent is this happening that even, the out-and-out reactionaries of the Tory party are talking about the need of a “declaration of economic independence from the United States”. Understandably, what concerns the Tory party is the exclusion of Canadian capitalists from a share of ownership in the major U.S. corporations operating in the country...

What concerns the mass of Canadian working folk is something else. It is the fact that the vital interests of the nation and the well-being of the people are being sacrificed to Wall Street. US-dictated militarisation takes place at the expense of living standards. In March the number of unemployed in Canada was given officially as 308,000. According to an Anglican Church survey, the crisis of markets has created a situation among Western farmers in which there are farm families who, unable to sell their produce, find themselves practically penniless. In Ontario, appeals from municipalities for financial aid to build new schools are met by the Premier with the blunt warning that “the time has come for school boards to pull in their belts”. Militarisation and the arms budget come first! The arms budget, indeed, serves the corporations handsomely: U.S.-owned International Nickel (with which John Foster Dulles has long been connected) saw its net profits rise last year from 65 million dollars to 92 million—a 40% increase.

Thus it is no accident that ordinary folk in Canada are not exactly brimming over with gratitude towards their “benefactors”. They are aroused over the rape of national resources by the U.S. trusts. Democratic Canadians are not ready to accept the proposition that they must be “generous” to the point of making a present of their country to foreign corporations. And no artifices of anti-national elements such as the campaign of “spiritual uplift”, can stifle the mounting protest of Canadians against the bossing of their country by Yankee money-bags.

Jan MAREK

IN COLONIAL AND DEPENDENT COUNTRIES

Colonialists Rake in Huge Profits in Northern Rhodesia

Inhuman exploitation of the miners of Northern Rhodesia is bringing huge profits to the U.S. and British monopoly owners of the copper mines there. The profits of Mulifira Copper Mines Ltd. for 1955 are officially estimated to be £12 million sterling. The company paid a dividend of 100% to its shareholders. The Rhokana Corporation received more than £10 million sterling in profits last year.

The African miners, on the other hand, are still receiving starvation wages. Most of them earn no more than about £5 a month.

FACTS EXPOSE

Into the Pockets of the Monopolists

According to official figures, the West German Klöckner-Humboldt-Deutz-AG, with a fixed capital of 70 million marks, made a profit of more than 45 million marks last year. The factories belonging to this firm in Cologne, Ulm and Mainz employ 21,000 workers. During the year, each worker made 2,180 marks profit for the employers in the same period, more overtime was worked, the speed up intensified and the share of wages and salaries fell.

This is one of the many examples of how the West German monopolists are making fortunes out of the intensified exploitation of the working people.

Who Profits?

The U.S. monopolies are steadily gaining influence in Turkey, with the result that the cost of living is soaring dizzily. Last year food prices rose 39.6% and the prices of manufactured goods 65.4%.

These are in fact the consequences for the Turkish people of the subordination of their national economy to the U.S. monopolies.

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