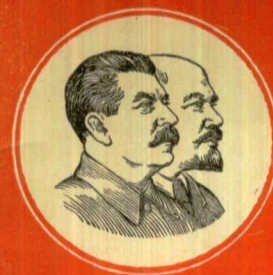

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Political Education Series

SOVIET SOCIALIST SOCIETY



FOREIGN LANGUAGES PUBLISHING HOUSE

Moscow 1951

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Moscow 1951

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1. SOCIALISM AND CAPITALISM

The Vital Force of Socialism

There was a time when for the masses of the working people Socialism was only a dream. Today, Socialism is a reality in our country, and, moreover, has shown in practice that it is a viable, mighty force.

The immense vital force of Socialism was vividly demonstrated both in the period of peacetime development and during the Soviet Union's Great Patriotic War against the German fascist invaders.

In peacetime the socialist system made possible the unprecedentedly rapid economic and cultural development of our country and its conversion from a backward into an advanced industrial and kolkhoz state. While capitalism was becoming more and more entangled in insoluble contradictions, and capitalist economy was falling into decay, the socialist social system made steady progress and its economy grew and gained strength.

During the Great Patriotic War the advantages of the Soviet, socialist social system enabled our Motherland to come through the severe trials of war, to repulse the fierce onslaught of the powerful and dangerous enemy and achieve his utter defeat. Comrade Stalin has said: "... The experience of the war has proved that the Soviet system is not only the best system for organizing the economic and cultural development of a country in the period of peaceful construction, but also the best system for mo-

bilizing all the forces of the people to resist an enemy in wartime.”*

In the postwar period the advantages of the Soviet, socialist system have been still more strikingly revealed. The Soviet social system has enabled our people successfully to cope with the dreadful consequences of the war and to make rapid progress in all spheres of social life. Meanwhile, the capitalist countries are still floundering in the swamp of postwar difficulties, their economy is deteriorating, and the masses of the working people are enduring untold hardship and suffering.

The facts of life have shown that the Soviet social system is a better form of social organization than any non-Soviet social system, that Soviet socialist society is the most progressive in the world.

Capitalism is a system that is fundamentally inimical to the interests of the masses of the people; it is a system of exploitation and oppression of the working people, a system under which a handful of rich men tyrannize over the people. That is why the working people in the capitalist countries are waging an incessant struggle against the capitalist system and are striving to put an end to it forever.

Socialism is a truly democratic system that serves the fundamental interests of the working people. Under Socialism, all the wealth of society belongs to the people. Exploiting classes, exploitation, poverty and unemployment have been abolished forever. Socialism has brought the working people immense material benefits and has created all the conditions necessary for steadily raising the material and cultural standards of the people. Under Socialism, society is not divided into antagonistic classes, and it is free from the other contradictions of capitalism. Socialism means fraternal cooperation between

* J. Stalin, *On the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union*, Moscow 1946, p. 123.

the workers, peasants and intellectuals, and friendship among all peoples. The entire Soviet people solidly support the Soviet socialist system and defend and strengthen it to the utmost.

Herein lies the strength and invincibility of the Soviet socialist system, which enables it successfully to withstand the severest trials and to solve the most complex problems.

In the early period of the Soviet system, when the Communist Party and the Soviet state had only just begun to build the new socialist society, V. I. Lenin wrote: “Our grandchildren will examine the documents and relics of the epoch of the capitalist system with amazement. It will be difficult for them to imagine how trade in prime necessities could be in private hands, how factories and works could belong to private individuals, how one man could exploit another, how there could be people who did not work.”*

And indeed, it is difficult for the young people in Soviet society today, who have not lived under the old system, to picture to themselves a system of society in which millions of people are ruthlessly exploited by capitalists, endure severe hardship and suffering, unemployment and hunger while a handful of capitalist millionaires make huge profits out of their labour. But this system of society—capitalism—still exists in the greater part of the world.

The Superiority of Socialism Over Capitalism

The comparison of socialist society with capitalism vividly reveals the superiority of Socialism.

In the capitalist countries there are economic crises and decline of production, increasing unemployment and

* V. I. Lenin, *Collected Works*, 4th Russ. ed., Vol. 29, p. 303.

poverty, an intensification of all internal and external contradictions, fierce class struggle, national strife, fear for the morrow. In the U.S.S.R. the national economy is growing and developing, the material conditions of the working class are improving; the vast masses of the working people solidly support the Soviet state, fraternity and friendship among the peoples of the U.S.S.R. are becoming more and more cemented, the people have confidence in their own strength, they are not haunted by fear for the morrow, they are marching towards new and still greater achievements.

The reason for this enormous difference between conditions in the U.S.S.R. and those in the capitalist countries lies in the bankruptcy of the capitalist system of economy and in the advantages of the socialist system of economy.

In what way does the socialist system differ from the capitalist system, and what are the advantages of the former?

First. In our country the rule of the capitalists has been overthrown and its place has been taken by the rule of the working class, the rule of the workers of town and country. Our socialist state is a workers' and peasants' state. Capitalist countries are ruled by the capitalists.

Second. In our country, the means of production—the land, factories, etc.—are the socialist property of the whole people. In capitalist countries the means of production belong to the exploiters.

Third. In our country production is developed according to a plan and serves to raise the material and cultural standards of the working people. In capitalist countries production is not planned; anarchy and disorder prevail in production, and the sole object of production is to provide the capitalists with the highest possible profits.

Fourth. In our country the national income is distributed in such a way as to steadily improve the material conditions of the working people and to expand socialist production in town and country. In capitalist countries the national income is distributed in such a way as to enrich a handful of exploiters.

Fifth. In our country there can be no economic crises or unemployment, because the steady improvement in the material conditions of the working people and the growth of their consumption (purchasing power) provide constantly increasing scope for the expansion of production. In capitalist countries, economic crises and unemployment are inevitable, because the increase of production is checked by the poverty-stricken conditions of the vast masses of the working people.

Sixth. In our country there are no exploiters and no exploitation. The workers, peasants and intellectuals work for the benefit of society, i.e., for their own benefit. Nobody in our country can live on the labour of others, nobody can compel another to work for him, for the private ownership of the means of production does not exist in our country. In capitalist countries the working people toil for the benefit of exploiters and not for their own benefit.

Comparing the socialist with the capitalist system of economy, Comrade Stalin said that "the Soviet system of economy possesses *advantages* of which not a single bourgeois state, even the most 'democratic,' most 'popular,' etc., dare dream."*

Let us examine the fundamental features of the socialist system in greater detail.

* J. Stalin, *Political Report of the Central Committee to the Sixteenth Congress of the C.P.S.U.(B.)*, Moscow 1951, p. 118.

2. SOCIALIST OWNERSHIP

Socialist Ownership Is the Basis of the Soviet System

In characterizing a given social system, the most important thing is to define the owners of the means of production (the land, forests, waters, minerals, factories, mines, railways, means of communication, etc.), whether they are owned by society as a whole, or by individuals, groups, or classes. Where the means of production are owned by society they are used for the benefit of the whole of society; where they are privately owned they are used as instruments of exploitation.

In the U.S.S.R. the socialist ownership of the means of production has undivided sway. The vast wealth of our country belongs to the people. The land, minerals, waters, forests, works, factories, coal and ore mines, the transport services, means of communication, etc., belong to the Soviet socialist state. The other part of the country's wealth (the property of the kolkhozes and cooperative organizations, their livestock, implements, buildings, etc.), are the commonly-owned socialist property of the given kolkhozes and cooperative associations.

The socialist system of economy and the socialist ownership of the implements and means of production are the economic foundation of the U.S.S.R. Nearly all the

means of production in our country are socialist property. Soviet law permits individual peasants and handicraftsmen to have their own farms and workshops, but it lays down the imperative condition that such owners must do the work themselves and not exploit the labour of others. Before the war, individually-owned means of production accounted for less than one per cent of the total means of production in the U.S.S.R.

Soviet society, which consists of workers in town and country, collectively owns the means of production. That is why there can be no exploitation of man by man in the U.S.S.R., and production grows continuously for the benefit of all the working people.

In capitalist countries the situation is different. The economic foundation of capitalist society is the private ownership of the land, forests, factories, mines and other implements and means of production. The vast wealth that was created by the labour of the workers and peasants in the course of many centuries is concentrated in the hands of capitalists and landlords who constitute an insignificant minority of the population.

In the United States, the lion's share of the country's wealth is owned by a small group of millionaires and billionaires who constitute less than one half per cent of the population. A group consisting of the biggest owners of monopolies and banks, comprising Sixty Families, owns the most important sources of wealth in the country and actually determines the home and foreign policy of the United States government.

In the United States agriculture is also concentrated in the hands of big landowners, capitalist monopolies and capitalist farmers. Nearly seventy-five per cent of all the land belongs to big farmers and monopolies. More than half the farmers in the United States have no land of their own and are either tenant farmers or sharecroppers.

In capitalist countries the overwhelming majority of the population, owning no means of production, are subjected to the cruelest exploitation and are compelled to live in poverty and want. In these countries the means of production are instruments for the exploitation of the working people, and are used for the purpose of enriching a handful of exploiters. It is in the interests of the working people in the capitalist countries to take the means of production from the exploiters and convert them into socialist property.

The private ownership of the means of production is a means of enriching a handful of exploiters; socialist ownership, however, is a means of improving the welfare of the working people and of increasing the might of Soviet socialist society. In Soviet society, every working man and woman is vitally interested in strengthening the economic might of the Soviet state, in safeguarding and increasing social wealth. Those who misappropriate socialist property act inimically to the vital interests of the working people and sap the foundations of socialist society. The Soviet laws punish such persons as enemies of the people. Socialist property is sacred and inviolable.

The Two Forms of Socialist Ownership .

Socialist ownership exists in two forms in the U.S.S.R.: state ownership (ownership by the whole people), and cooperative and kolkhoz ownership (ownership by kolkhozes and cooperative associations).

Socialist ownership was established in the U.S.S.R. as a result of the abolition of the private ownership of the means of production. The Soviet state deprived the capitalists and landlords of their factories, works, land, railways and banks and nationalized them, i.e., transformed them into state socialist property. The vast ma-

jority of the state enterprises in the country at the present time have been built by the people under the Soviet system.

In agriculture, in addition to state enterprises—state farms and machine and tractor stations—enterprises of a cooperative and kolkhoz type have been established. Millions of peasant farms pooled their means of production and labour power in kolkhozes, i.e., collective farms. Thus, cooperative and kolkhoz ownership arose, i.e., the collective ownership by groups of agricultural working people.

State ownership, i.e., ownership by the whole people, is the most important and predominant form of ownership in the U.S.S.R. Before the war, state-owned means of production accounted for nine-tenths of the means of production in our country. The Constitution of the U.S.S.R. states that the land, its mineral wealth, waters, forests, mills, factories, mines, rail, water and air transport, banks, means of communication (post, telegraphs, telephones, radio), large state-organized agricultural enterprises (state farms, machine and tractor stations and the like), and also municipal enterprises and the bulk of the dwellings in the cities and industrial localities are state property.

All the state enterprises—factories, sovkhozes, etc.—and the goods produced in them, belong to the Soviet state. The competent state authorities appoint the managers of these enterprises, who control all their economic activities and are answerable to the state for the fulfilment of production plans. The workers and office employees at factories and sovkhozes, and their trade unions, take an active part in promoting economic development and help the managements to eliminate defects. For this purpose, meetings of the most active workers and general production conferences are held. Workers and office employees in state enterprises receive for their labour

remuneration in the form of wages in conformity with the quantity and quality of the work each performs.

As regards cooperative and kolkhoz ownership, the Constitution of the U.S.S.R. says that it covers the common enterprises of collective farms and cooperative organizations, with their livestock and implements, the products of the collective farms and cooperative organizations, as well as their common buildings. The principal means of production in the kolkhozes are commonly owned. Dwellings, part of the cattle, poultry, as well as minor implements for working garden plots are left for the individual use of the kolkhozniks. The kolkhozes sell part of their produce to the state at fixed prices. After they have fulfilled their obligations to the state and have paid in money and in kind for the services rendered by the machine and tractor stations, the kolkhoz members are at liberty to dispose of the rest of the produce at their own discretion in conformity with the Rules of the Agricultural Artel.

The kolkhoz is controlled by the kolkhoz membership. The Rules of the Agricultural Artel state that the kolkhoz is managed by the general members' meetings, and in the intervals between general meetings, it is managed by the board and chairman of the kolkhoz elected by the general meeting. The kolkhozniks receive remuneration for their work in the shape of a share of the income of the collective farm, proportionately to the quantity and quality of work performed for the kolkhoz by each kolkhoznik (measured in terms of workday units). This income is not subject to any taxation. The kolkhozniks receive a supplementary income from the garden plot, vegetable or fruit, and from the cattle that they have for their individual use.

The commonly-owned property and the collective husbandry are the basis of the prosperity of the kolkhozes and of the prosperous and cultured life of the kolkhozniks.

The more the collective husbandry is developed, the larger is the income from it, the larger is the quantity of produce paid out per workday unit, and the larger is the income of the kolkhozniks. Hence, the kolkhozniks are vitally interested in developing the collective husbandry of their kolkhoz. Thus, kolkhoz ownership happily combines the individual with the collective interests of the kolkhozniks, and, be it said, adapts individual to collective interests.

State enterprises and cooperative and kolkhoz enterprises have a common basis. In both types, the means of production are common property, and the people engaged in them work collectively in collective undertakings. Remuneration for work in state and in kolkhoz and cooperative enterprises is paid in accordance with the same socialist principle: according to the quantity and quality of labour expended. Both types of enterprises operate according to a single national-economic plan for the benefit of the whole of Soviet society.

Thus, both state enterprises and cooperative and kolkhoz enterprises are socialist enterprises, are socialist property. Socialist ownership is the basis of our system, the source of our Motherland's might and of the growing prosperity of our people.

3. PLANNED SOCIALIST ECONOMY

Soviet Economy Is Planned

Thanks to the common ownership of the means of production, socialist economy is free from the contradictions and absurdities of capitalism. It does not suffer from anarchy of production, economic crises and unemployment, which, owing to the private ownership of the means of production, are inevitable concomitants of capitalism. It seems absurd to a Soviet citizen that a handful of capitalists should order huge quantities of produce to be burnt, or thrown into the sea, to prevent a fall in prices when millions of working people in the capitalist countries are starving.

Comrade Stalin says "that over there, in the capitalist countries, they consider it quite a normal thing to destroy 'superfluous' goods and to burn 'superfluous' agricultural produce during a crisis in order to bolster up prices and ensure high profits, whereas here, in the U.S.S.R., anybody who would be guilty of such crimes would be sent to a lunatic asylum."*

Capitalist society lives under the constant menace of economic crises. To prevent crises, production must be developed for the purpose of satisfying the needs of

* J. Stalin, *Political Report of the Central Committee to the Sixteenth Congress of the C.P.S.U.(B.)*, Moscow 1951, p. 117.

the working people. But not a single capitalist would consent to this, because his aim in life is to make big profits. In the interview he granted to the English writer H. G. Wells, Comrade Stalin said: "If you don't rid yourselves of the capitalists, if you don't abolish the principle of the private ownership of the means of production, you will not create planned economy."

The Soviet people have rid themselves of capitalists and have done away with the private ownership of the means of production. In the U.S.S.R. the means of production are socialist property. The national economy of the U.S.S.R. constitutes an integral whole. This has enabled the Soviet people to build up planned economy.

Socialist economy grows and develops on the basis of a single state plan that embraces all branches of the national economy, on the basis of the planned control of these branches by the state. If there were no state plan, it would be impossible to ensure the proper, smooth and uninterrupted operation of the socialist national economy, it would be impossible to develop it. Comrade Stalin says: "... we are conducting a planned economy, systematically accumulating resources and properly distributing them among the different branches of national economy. We are free of the incurable diseases of capitalism. This is what distinguishes us from capitalism; this is what constitutes our decisive superiority over capitalism."*

The Communist Party and the Soviet state direct the entire economic life of our country in the interests of the whole of Soviet society. The state plans for the development of the national economy embody the policy of the Party and the Soviet state. The main object pursued by the Communist Party and the Soviet state is to achieve the victory of Communism in our country, and all the

* J. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 352.

planning of our national economy serves to promote this object.

Article 11 of the Stalin Constitution states that "the economic life of the U.S.S.R. is determined and directed by the state national-economic plan, with the aim of increasing the public wealth, of steadily raising the material and cultural standards of the working people, of consolidating the independence of the U.S.S.R. and strengthening its defensive capacity."

Thus, three great aims determine the nature of our national-economic plans, viz., to increase public wealth, steadily to raise the material and cultural standards of the working people, and to consolidate the independence and strengthen the defensive capacity of the U.S.S.R.

State national-economic plans are drawn up for one year, for five years, and for longer periods. Quarterly and monthly plans are also drawn up. In addition to plans for the development of the national economy of the U.S.S.R., there are plans for the development of the national economy for the separate Republics, Territories, Regions and Districts, and also for the separate branches of the national economy and separate enterprises.

How the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. Is Planned

The drafting of the plans for the development of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. is directed by the Communist Party and the Soviet state. These plans are submitted to the higher Party organizations and organs of the state for approval, and after they are endorsed by the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. they acquire the force of law and must be carried out.

The plan for a given period defines the total volume of industrial production and the output of each branch of

industry, what new enterprises have to be built, how many workers have to be trained, and for what occupations, and so forth. The plan also defines the output of agriculture, increase in crops and herds, the quantity of machines, fertilizers, etc., to be supplied, and so forth.

The plan defines the quantity of freights that will have to be transported and what new railways and automobile roads have to be built to facilitate the transportation of the increasing quantities of freight. The plan also defines the volume of trade within the country, arranges for the proper interchange of products between the various branches of industry and between industry and agriculture, and provides for the network of state and cooperative trading establishments that handle the bulk of the commodities in the country.

The plan defines the measures to be taken to raise the material and cultural standards of the Soviet people, to increase the number of scientific, cultural and public health institutions, etc.

The plan makes provision for the accumulation of state reserves of fuel, metals, machines, food, raw materials, and labour power. Such reserves are needed to fill the gap in case of failure to fulfil plans, to meet unforeseen expenditure (for example, in case of some natural calamity), and in view of possible attacks by the imperialists. If there are no reserves of material resources, planned economy cannot be conducted.

Every enterprise receives its production plan, which is a constituent part of the state national-economic plan. This plan defines the volume of output of definite categories of articles measured in tons, metres or number; it also defines the enterprise's value of output, that is, output expressed in terms of money. The plan defines how much productivity of labour is to be increased and cost of production reduced. It also defines the total number

of workers and office employees to be employed, and the total pay roll.

On the basis of the production plan a financial plan is drawn up, indicating all the expenditures the enterprises will have to make and the sources from which they are to be covered. The production plan and financial plan together constitute the production-financial plan.

An important matter in the fulfilment of plans is that every enterprise should turn out goods of high quality and in complete sets, i.e., that automobiles, tractors, machine tools, etc., should be sent out together with all the necessary parts and accessories. It is also necessary that the enterprises should keep to the established rates of utilization of equipment and expenditure of raw materials, fuel and electrical energy, and fulfil their assignments as regards increasing productivity of labour and reducing cost of production.

Reduction of cost of production is the mirror of the entire work of an enterprise, for it is achieved by fulfilling what are called the qualitative indices, viz., increased productivity of labour, better utilization of equipment, economical use of raw and other materials, prevention of stoppages and elimination of bad work. Fulfilment of the qualitative indices ensures the fulfilment of the quantity assignment of the production plan.

The kolkhozes also operate according to plan. Comrade Stalin says: "... A collective farm is a large enterprise. And a large enterprise cannot be managed without a plan. A large agricultural enterprise embracing hundreds and sometimes thousands of households can be run only on the basis of planned management."*

The Soviet state gives the kolkhozes plan assignments for all agricultural operations: crop area, area of sum-

mer and winter fallow; increase in yield, development of commonly-owned livestock farming, adoption of proper crop rotation, etc. The state adopts a general plan of the amount of agricultural produce it is to purchase. In conformity with this plan, every kolkhoz receives a definite assignment for produce deliveries to the state, and this must be strictly carried out.

On the basis of the state assignments, each kolkhoz draws up a production plan for the year, by which it is guided in its operations. These plans, among other things, provide for the expansion of the commonly-owned husbandry, introduction of the achievements of advanced agrotechnique, improvement in the organization of the work of the farm and increase in productivity of labour, improvement in the material welfare and cultural standards of the kolkhozniks.

The production plan is not merely a compilation of figures and assignments. Comrade Stalin says: "Actually, the production plan is the embodiment of the living and practical activity of millions of people.... What makes our plan real is the living people, it is you and I, our will to work, our readiness to work in the new way, our determination to carry out the plan."*

Our plans are a powerful means for rallying the masses of the working people for the purpose of carrying out the tasks connected with the building of Communism set by the Communist Party and the Soviet Government.

The potency of the state plan for the development of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. lies in that it is based on the activity and initiative of the masses. The working people of our country are vitally interested in raising our national economy to an ever higher level and therefore take an active part in the drafting of plans,

* J. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 432.

* J. Stalin, *Problems of Leninism*, Moscow 1947, p. 377.

in bringing to light hidden reserves and resources, etc., and they work vigorously to ensure the fulfilment of the plans.

The Communist Party explains to the people the aims and objects of the state plan, and rallies the working people for the purpose of fulfilling and overfulfilling it. The Party explains that the plan is a law, which everybody must obey. Planned economy is an extremely complex affair, and it is vitally necessary for the country that the plan should be carried out in every unit, for failure to carry out the plan in one factory may cause serious difficulties in many others.

Working to ensure the fulfilment of the plan means: 1) steadily fulfilling the yearly, quarterly and monthly plans according to schedule; 2) fulfilling not only the plan for the given branches of industry as a whole, but also the plans for every enterprise, department, team, machine and shift, and fulfilling them every day; 3) fulfilling not only the quantitative, but also, and unfailingly, the qualitative indices, in all items, and for all articles produced, at the fixed cost of production.

When the staff of a given enterprise receives its plan it checks up on all the enterprise's potentialities and calculates whether the plan can be carried out in shorter time, whether expenditure can be reduced, etc. The workers, office employees and the technical engineering staff make definite pledges that ensure not only the fulfilment but overfulfilment of the production plan for all indices.

Of enormous importance is the checking up on fulfilment of the plan and of the pledges undertaken by the staff of the enterprise. This ensures the punctual, systematic and uninterrupted fulfilment of plan assignments by each department and subdepartment day after day. If there were no checking up on fulfilment, the plan would remain a dead letter.

Fulfilment by the kolkhozes and sovkhozes of the plan assignments for increasing crop yields and yields of animal produce is of supreme importance for the development of socialist agriculture. The chief task the kolkhozes have to perform is to carry out the state deliveries plan. Comrade Stalin points out that the first commandment of the kolkhozes is: fulfil the grain deliveries plan. By fulfilling this plan the kolkhozes make it possible to raise the standard of living of the working people and increase the might of the Soviet state.

The national-economic plans and the effort to fulfil them give us a common will and a common purpose in all our work.

The State Budget

An important part in the Soviet system of economy is played by the state budget, i.e., the estimate of the state's revenue and expenditure during the year. It is the means by which the state provides the funds for developing the national economy, for national defence, and for raising the material and cultural standards of the people. The budget is drawn up in conformity with the national-economic plan.

The budget of our socialist state differs radically from the budgets of capitalist countries. In the latter, the revenue side consists mainly of taxes imposed upon the working people, and the bourgeois state uses the funds thus obtained by robbing the masses for the enrichment of the ruling classes, for maintaining the state machine of oppression, and for preparing imperialist wars. For example, the appropriations for education and public health in the United States budget for 1949-1950 amounted in all to two per cent of the budget, whereas appropriations for war purposes amounted to 68 per cent; in the 1950-1951 budget, the latter item amounted to 76 per

cent, not counting supplementary appropriations for war against the freedom-loving Korean people, amounting to many billions of dollars.

It is entirely different in our country.

How is the revenue side of the Soviet state budget made up? The bulk of the revenues comes from the socialist industrial and commercial enterprises in the shape of turnover taxes and deductions from profits, and deductions from the incomes of machine and tractor stations, etc. In 1949, revenue from these sources amounted to nearly 90 per cent of the total state revenue.

The rest of the state revenue comes from taxes paid by the people and also from state loans. In capitalist countries, state loans serve to enrich the capitalists and are used for the purpose of preparing and conducting imperialist wars. In our country, the funds obtained from the loans the people grant the state are used for the purpose of developing the national economy and culture. The interest and lottery winnings from these loans are a fairly considerable source of income for the working people.

The bulk of the Soviet state's expenditure goes for the development of the national economy, for the improvement of the material and cultural conditions of the working people, and also for the country's defence. In the 1950 state budget, expenditure on the national economy amounted to over 38 per cent of total expenditure; education, public health, social insurance, social maintenance and allowances to mothers of large families and unmarried mothers accounted for over 28 per cent; expenditure on the Armed Forces of the U.S.S.R. accounted for 18.5 per cent. In the 1951 budget, the various items are as follows: expenditure on the national economy, over 39 per cent of total expenditure; education, public health, social insurance, social maintenance, allowances to mothers of large families and unmarried mothers about 27 per cent; Armed Forces of the U.S.S.R. 21.3 per cent. Out of

the single state budget of the U.S.S.R., large sums are allocated to the budgets of the Union Republics.

Such a disbursement of state funds is a striking manifestation of the care the Soviet state devotes to satisfying the needs of the working people and to enhancing the might of our Motherland.

The punctual influx of budget revenue in full is of first-rate importance for enhancing the economic might of our Motherland and improving the welfare of the working people. Failure to carry out the plan in any branch of the national economy causes a reduction of income in that branch and, consequently, a reduction of state revenue. To ensure the punctual influx of budget revenue, all branches of the national economy must carry out their state plans and the population must strictly meet their obligations to the state, pay their taxes regularly and unanimously subscribe to state loans.

A very important factor in the fulfilment of the budget is the proper expenditure of budget funds. These funds must be expended economically, there must be no extravagance, strict financial discipline must be maintained.

4. WORK IN SOCIALIST SOCIETY

Work Is a Duty and a Matter of Honour for Every Soviet Citizen

Socialism has fundamentally changed the status of work in society. For many thousands of years work was a compulsory, heavy burden; millions of working people toiled for exploiters; a handful of parasites, landlords, capitalists and the menials who served them, fattened and batted on the labour of the toilers. Socialism has freed labour from exploitation. The Soviet people are working for themselves, for the benefit of the whole of society.

In socialist society there is no room for exploiters, for parasites who live on other people's labour. Nobody here can shift to other shoulders the share of work that it is his duty to perform. The Stalin Constitution states that work in the U.S.S.R. is a duty and a matter of honour for every able-bodied citizen, in accordance with the principle: "He who does not work, neither shall he eat."

In Soviet land, the only means of existence is work. Conscientious work on the part of all Soviet people is a condition for the growth of the national income, for the enhancement of the might of our Motherland, and for a cultured and prosperous life for all the people. Under Socialism, social wealth and the material welfare of every individual are both dependent upon work.

In capitalist society the workers have not, and cannot have, an incentive to work because they work for capitalists. They work only in order to obtain the wherewithal to live for themselves and their families. Under capitalism work is a compulsory burden, the private affair of those who are obliged to work. If you have a job, you must toil and moil for the capitalists and landlords. If you are out of work, you can die of starvation for all anybody cares.

Under Socialism, work, for the first time in history, is a matter of vital interest for each individual and for the whole of society. Socialism is based on the collective labour efforts of the unexploited workers, peasants and the intelligentsia. Concerning socialist society, Comrade Stalin has written: "here the mutual relations of people in the process of production are marked by comradely cooperation and the socialist mutual assistance of workers who are free from exploitation."*

One of the greatest gains of Socialism is the right to work. In the U.S.S.R., unemployment—the frightful scourge of the working class that is the constant concomitant of capitalism—has been abolished forever. In a book written by an American author, the following letter is quoted from an unemployed worker named Charles Doyle from Phoenix, Arizona: "I am a steel melter. I was fired three years ago and I haven't found a job since. The money I saved has gone long ago. Last night I slept in a shed at the wharf. I have stopped looking for work." In capitalist countries there are millions of Charles Doyles like this one.

The situation is entirely different in the U.S.S.R. The Stalin Constitution grants all citizens of the U.S.S.R. the right to work and to be paid for their work according to its quantity and quality. This right is guaranteed by the socialist organization of the national economy, by

* J. Stalin, *Dialectical and Historical Materialism*, Moscow 1951, p. 48.

the steady increase in the productive forces of socialist society, by the elimination of economic crises and the abolition of unemployment.

The Soviet state takes constant care to ease man's labour. In our country heavy manual labour is being mechanized. We have an extensive system of safety measures to prevent industrial accidents. Our industrial enterprises are so constructed as to meet all labour protection requirements; they are bright and spacious and fitted with ventilation apparatus; they are well-lit, have proper lavatories, canteens, etc. Already in the period of the prewar Stalin five-year plans the Soviet state spent enormous sums on labour protection measures; and in the postwar five-year plan period the state has spent for this purpose five times as much as it spent during the first two five-year plan periods put together.

The absence of a proper system of labour protection in capitalist countries results in numerous accidents. For example, in 1947, in the United States industry, 2,000,000 workers were injured at work, 17,000 died as a result of accidents and 91,000 were totally disabled. Only a small number of the disabled workers received social insurance assistance, and then only in insignificant amounts.

An enormous factor in the improvement of the welfare of every worker and office employee in the U.S.S.R. is state social insurance, the entire cost of which is met by the state.

In capitalist countries, the working people who create all wealth live in poverty and obscurity, while idlers and parasites live in luxury and enjoy all the pleasures of life. The more wealth the exploiters grab, the more honoured are they in the bourgeois state.

In our country every citizen's position in society is determined not by his wealth or nationality, but by his abilities and by the work he does. Comrade Stalin says: "Here the working man is held in esteem. Here he works

not for the exploiters, but for himself, for his class, for society. Here the working man cannot feel neglected and alone. On the contrary, the man who works feels himself a free citizen of his country, a public figure, in a way. And if he works well and gives society his best—he is a hero of labour, and is covered with glory."*

When a Soviet citizen achieves outstanding results at his work they write about him in the newspapers and magazines and he receives testimonials, badges of honour, Medals and Orders of the U.S.S.R. The highest mark of distinction for outstanding achievements at work is the title Hero of Socialist Labour. From 1945 to 1950 alone, Orders and Medals of the U.S.S.R. were awarded to 700,000 workers, kolkhozniks, scientists, technical engineers, office employees, doctors, schoolteachers, and others for their achievements at work. In the same period nearly 5,600 advanced workers in industry and agriculture were awarded the title of Hero of Socialist Labour.

In the Soviet Union, work has become a matter of honour, a matter of glory, a matter of valour and heroism.

From Each According to His Ability, to Each According to His Work

The socialist organization of labour is based on the rule that is recorded in the Stalin Constitution: "From each according to his ability, to each according to his work."

Under capitalism, the workers do not work according to their ability. Hunger compels them to accept any kind of work the capitalists offer. Very often they have to put up with casual employment, and far from being able

* J. Stalin, *Speech at the First All-Union Conference of Stakhanovites*, Moscow 1950, p. 21.

to improve their skill they lose the skill they had. Highly skilled mechanics are obliged to accept jobs as street sweepers, bootblacks, and so forth. No matter how capable a worker may be, he is in danger of losing his job at any moment.

Under Socialism, the working people have every opportunity for employment in any field for which they have a bent. The Soviet citizen is not, nor can he be, faced with the menace of unemployment. Society is interested in giving all citizens the opportunity to employ their talents, and it demands that every citizen should work to the best of his ability. The state takes all measures to enable the working people to improve their skill, for this is in the interest of society as a whole, as well as of each member of it.

In bourgeois society, income is distributed not according to the amount of work one does, but according to the amount of capital one owns. Those who do not work, but own capital, make enormous profits; while the working people receive only miserable wages.

The labour of the Soviet citizen is worthily rewarded. In our society every worker receives remuneration proportionately to the quantity and quality of the work he has contributed to social production. He who works most, receives most. This socialist principle of remuneration for work is applied alike in industry and in agriculture, in state and in kolkhoz and cooperative enterprises.

In state enterprises this principle is applied somewhat differently from the way it is applied in kolkhozes. Workers and office employees in state enterprises and offices receive monthly wages. The most widely practised form is piecework, which best of all implements the principle of payment according to amount of work performed. In those occupations where piecework cannot be employed, the timework-system of payment is practised.

In kolkhozes, remuneration for work is paid according to the number of workday units each kolkhoznik has earned. In the early days of the kolkhoz system some kolkhozes shared out their income among their members according to size of family. The result was that slackers received as much as those who had worked conscientiously. Obviously, this was not conducive to good work and it had a bad effect upon the commonly-owned husbandry. Payment according to the number of workday units earned makes the income of the kolkhozniks dependent upon the amount of work they perform in the collective farm. The more workday units they earn, the larger is their share of the kolkhoz's income in money and in kind.

In 1941, by decision of the Government, supplementary remuneration was introduced in kolkhozes for those achieving increases in crop and animal produce yields. In 1948, remuneration for work in kolkhozes was made dependent upon the crop yield obtained by field brigades and teams, and on the animal produce yields and increase in the herds obtained in livestock farms.

This system of remuneration for work is an extremely important factor in the development of our national economy and in improving the welfare of the workers and kolkhozniks. It gives them an incentive to work better, to improve their skill, to increase productivity of labour and constantly to improve methods of production. This is to the advantage of the whole of society and of each individual member of it.

Socialist Productivity of Labour

Socialism has created conditions for increasing productivity of labour such as cannot be created under capitalism.

Socialism has freed labour from exploitation and has transformed it from the heavy and shameful burden that

it was in the past into work for the benefit of the workers, for the benefit of the whole of society. The socialist principle of remuneration according to quantity and quality of work performed has given every worker an incentive to increase productivity of labour.

Under capitalism, all the achievements of science and technology were used to enrich a handful of exploiters; under Socialism, however, they are used to increase production and to improve the material conditions of the working class. Socialist society constantly improves methods of production and eases the labour of the worker.

All branches of the national economy of the U.S.S.R. are being continuously supplied with more and more up-to-date machines that are manufactured by the Soviet machine-building industry. During the period of the fourth (first postwar) plan, the mechanization of laborious and heavy labour processes has been carried out on an extensive scale in the iron and steel, coal and other industries, on the railways, and in agriculture.

All this has resulted in a steady increase in the productivity of labour in socialist society. During the period of the First Postwar Five-Year Plan productivity of labour in industry has increased 37 per cent over that of 1940.

In capitalist enterprises, where the workers toil for exploiters and not for themselves, all innovations benefit the capitalists, worsen the conditions of the workers and give rise to unemployment. In our country, the steady increase in production and productivity of labour benefits the whole of society and each individual worker.

The Soviet people are doing their utmost to increase the productivity and improve the organization of labour. Striking evidence of this is provided by the socialist emulation movement that has spread all over the country.

Socialist emulation is a powerful factor in the development of the U.S.S.R.'s national economy. It is one of

the most important causes of the rapid growth of our socialist economy. Millions of workers are taking part in socialist emulation in the endeavour to improve production. Outstanding among them are the Stakhanovites, who display exceptionally high skill and achieve high production results.

The Stakhanov movement is the highest stage of socialist emulation. The Stakhanovites introduce numerous improvements in the organization and methods of production. In every enterprise there are Stakhanovites who exceed their production assignments 100 and 200 per cent, and even more. There are advanced workers in every kolkhoz and machine and tractor station who exceed the standard output rates.

Comrade Stalin teaches: "Socialist emulation says: one man works badly, another works well, a third works better—*catch up with the best* and achieve a *general upswing*."* The advanced workers and kolkhozniks encourage their fellow workers to follow them; they teach them to employ the methods they themselves employ. The Stakhanovites set examples of high productivity of labour and inform the broad masses of the workers how they do it.

Socialist emulation and the Stakhanov movement are directed by the Bolshevik Party, which sees to it that the labour efforts of the workers engaged in emulation produce the biggest possible results. It is the duty of every Communist to be in the front ranks of the emulation movement, in the ranks of the Stakhanovites, to set an example to all the other workers.

* J. Stalin, *Collected Works*, Russ. ed., Vol. 12, p. 110.

5. THE MORAL AND POLITICAL UNITY OF SOVIET SOCIETY

The Composition of Our Socialist Society

At the Eighteenth Congress of the C.P.S.U.(B.), held in March 1939, Comrade Stalin stated that the most important gain in the socio-political development of our country is the final elimination of the remnants of the exploiting classes, the welding of the workers, peasants and the intelligentsia in one common labour front, the strengthening of the moral and political unity of Soviet society and of friendship among the peoples of our country.

By that time, according to the returns of the general census of the population taken on January 17, 1939, the population of the Soviet Union had reached 170,500,000.* Of these, nearly half (49.7 per cent to be exact) were workers and office employees and their families, and slightly less than half (about 47 per cent) were kolkhozniks and handicraftsmen organized in cooperative societies. Individual peasants running private farms and individual handicraftsmen running private workshops without hiring labour, accounted (with their families) for 2.5 per cent of the population.

* The reunion, in 1939-1940, of the western regions of the Ukraine and Byelorussia, Bessarabia and the Lithuanian, Estonian and Latvian Soviet Socialist Republics with the Soviet Union, added more than 23,000,000 to the population of the U.S.S.R.

Thus, as a result of the victory of Socialism in our country, exploiting classes have been entirely abolished. There are no groups that exploit other groups, that live on the labour of others. Soviet socialist society is composed of working classes—workers and peasants.

Under Soviet rule the character of these classes has radically changed. The Soviet workers and peasants are entirely new classes, such as did not exist in the old days, under capitalism.

Often, by force of habit, the working class of the U.S.S.R. is referred to as the proletariat. But the proletariat is a class that lacks means of production and is exploited by capitalists. There is no capitalist class in the U.S.S.R., and the means of production belong to the state in which the working class is the leading force. The working class in the U.S.S.R. does own means of production, jointly with the whole people. Since the working class owns means of production and the capitalist class has been abolished, no exploitation is possible. That is why it is wrong to call the working class of the U.S.S.R. the proletariat.

The working class of the U.S.S.R. is an entirely new working class, one that is free from exploitation. Such a working class has never before existed in history. The working class of the U.S.S.R. has abolished the capitalist mode of production and has established the socialist ownership of the means of production. As the advanced class, it exercises political leadership of Soviet socialist society and is leading it to Communism.

The peasantry too have undergone a fundamental change. Formerly, the term peasantry applied to a class of small producers who were scattered over the face of the earth, each toiling on his small farm with primitive implements, and cruelly exploited by the landlords, kulaks and merchants. Such a peasantry no longer exists in our country.

Our Soviet peasantry are a new type of peasantry. In the U.S.S.R. there are no landlords, kulaks or merchants to exploit the peasants. The peasants in the U.S.S.R. are free from exploitation. The overwhelming majority constitute a kolkhoz peasantry, whose work and property are based on collective labour and advanced technique, on the collective, common ownership of the means of production. Such a peasantry have never existed before in history.

Great changes have also taken place among the intelligentsia. Firstly, the composition of the intelligentsia has changed. Formerly, the intelligentsia consisted mainly of members of the propertied classes, the landlords and capitalists. Our intelligentsia today are recruited from the working class, the peasantry and other sections of the working people. Secondly, the nature of the activities conducted by the intelligentsia has changed. Formerly, the intelligentsia served the ruling exploiting classes. Today our intelligentsia serves the people.

Comrade Stalin has said that the Soviet intelligentsia "... is now an equal member of Soviet society, in which, side by side with the workers and peasants, pulling together with them, it is engaged in building the new, classless, socialist society."* There has been no such intelligentsia before in history.

These changes do not imply that all distinctions between the various groups in Soviet society have been obliterated. There is some difference (not fundamental) between the working class and the peasantry in the U.S.S.R., due to the fact that there are two forms of socialist ownership, two forms of socialist enterprises. The Soviet workers are engaged in state enterprises and receive their means of subsistence from the state in the shape

* J. Stalin, *On the Draft Constitution of the U.S.S.R.*, Moscow 1950, p. 22.

of wages. The Soviet peasants work in their collective farms and obtain their principal means of subsistence from the income of the collective farms. In addition, they have their auxiliary husbandry, which is their individual property.

In spite of this slight distinction, however, both workers and peasants in the U.S.S.R. are just workers in a united socialist society. Jointly, under the leadership of the Communist Party, they are strengthening the socialist system and proceeding towards Communism.

The working class and the peasantry in the U.S.S.R. are friendly classes. And our Soviet intelligentsia are with them in the work and struggle to achieve the victory of Communism.

Friendly Cooperation Between the Workers, Peasants and the Intelligentsia

The alliance between the workers and peasants was brought about in the course of their joint struggle to overthrow the landlords and capitalists and to establish and consolidate Soviet rule. This alliance became more firmly established and cemented during the period of the building of Socialism.

Basing itself on the alliance between the workers and peasants, the Party and the Soviet state carried out the extremely difficult task of reorganizing society on socialist principles, of turning millions of peasant farms to the path of Socialism. The victory of the kolkhoz system still further strengthened the ties between the workers and the peasants. Before that, the poor peasants had been the backbone of Soviet rule in the countryside; after the victory of Socialism, however, Soviet rule received the unshakeable support of the entire kolkhoz peasantry.

The abolition of the private ownership of the means of production and the triumph of socialist ownership, the elimination of the exploiting classes, created a firm basis for the complete unity of the Soviet people.

The close internal unity of Soviet society gives the latter a tremendous advantage over every non-Soviet system. Capitalist society consists of antagonistic classes. It is constantly being torn by fierce class struggle between the workers and the capitalists, between the peasants and the landlords, between exploiters and exploited. Obviously, there can be no unity in capitalist society.

The relations between people under Socialism are entirely different. In 1939, Comrade Stalin said: "The feature that distinguishes Soviet society today from any capitalist society is that it no longer contains antagonistic, hostile classes; that the exploiting classes have been eliminated, while the workers, peasants and intellectuals, who make up Soviet society, live and work in friendly collaboration. While capitalist society is torn by irreconcilable antagonisms between workers and capitalists and between peasants and landlords—resulting in its internal instability—Soviet society, liberated from the yoke of exploitation, knows no such antagonisms, is free of class conflicts, and presents a picture of friendly collaboration between workers, peasants and intellectuals."*

In Soviet socialist society, workers, peasants and intellectuals, men and women, and peoples of different nationalities and races, all enjoy the same political and other rights.

Millions of Soviet people, rendering one another fraternal assistance, are working in one common cause—the building of communist society. The close identity of interests, views and aims of the Soviet people and their

* J. Stalin, *Report to the Eighteenth Congress of the C.P.S.U.(B.) on the Work of the Central Committee*, Moscow 1951, pp. 58-59.

solid support of the Soviet government and the Communist Party, are a vivid expression of the moral and political unity of Soviet socialist society.

The moral and political unity of the Soviet people is the motive force of Soviet society. It is based on the indestructible friendly alliance between the workers and peasants, and on the friendship among all the peoples in the Soviet Union. With the abolition of the exploiting classes and the organization of socialist economy in all the Soviet Republics, the relations between the peoples in our country changed. Under the rule of the landlords and capitalists, these had been relations of mutual distrust, now they are relations of friendship.

The Communist Party, headed by the great leader and teacher Comrade Stalin, unites and cements the Soviet people into a single, indestructible force. Comrade Molotov has said: "The moral and political unity of the people in our country has its living embodiment too. We have a name which has become the symbol of the victories of Socialism. This name is at the same time the symbol of the moral and political unity of the Soviet people. You know that this name is Stalin."*

The moral and political unity of Soviet society has found striking manifestation in the formation of the Communist and non-Party bloc during elections of the various Soviet legislative and administrative bodies. Such a bloc is utterly impossible in bourgeois countries, but it was quite natural for it to be formed in our country, where there are no longer any antagonistic classes, and where the moral and political unity of all sections of the Soviet people is an indisputable fact. It is not surprising that, during elections of the Soviets, the Communist and non-Party bloc receives the unanimous vote of the entire Soviet people.

* V. M. Molotov, *The Twentieth Anniversary of the October Revolution*, Partizdat 1937, p. 30.

The moral and political unity of Soviet society was a factor that decided the issue in the Great Patriotic War waged by the Soviet Union. The entire Soviet people heroically rose like one man to defend the Soviet system, to defend their socialist Motherland, and they won a magnificent victory over the enemy.

On the termination of the Great Patriotic War, the Soviet people unanimously set to work to rehabilitate and further develop their national economy. In complete unity, the Soviet people are building communist society.

6. SOVIET PATRIOTISM

Another powerful motive force of Soviet socialist society is Soviet patriotism.

As a result of the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution, the workers and peasants of Russia became the masters of their country. This roused in them an ardent love for their Soviet Motherland; it gave rise to Soviet patriotism.

Before the October Revolution the workers and peasants of Russia, like those in bourgeois countries today, were oppressed and exploited. By overthrowing the rule of the exploiters and establishing Soviet rule, they acquired a country, a socialist country. Comrade Stalin has said: "In the past we had no country, nor could we have one. But now that we have overthrown capitalism and power is in the hands of the people, we have a country, and we will defend its independence."*

The Soviet patriotism of our people grew and gained strength with the growth and consolidation of the Soviet socialist system. Soviet socialist society is free from class conflicts, it is a friendly commonwealth of workers, peasants and intellectuals. This identity of interest is the basis on which have developed those powerful motive forces of Soviet society, the moral and political unity of the Soviet people, friendship among the peoples of the U.S.S.R., and Soviet patriotism.

* J. Stalin, *Collected Works*, Russ. ed., Vol. 13, p. 39.

Soviet patriotism is based on the appreciation of the great superiority of Socialism to capitalism. Soviet patriotism is love for our Soviet socialist Motherland in which there is no exploitation or oppression; it is love for the Soviet, socialist social system, which, unlike all previous societies, and capitalism, is built on the principles of friendly cooperation between workers, peasants and intellectuals.

The Soviet state is the first state in the world that vigilantly safeguards the interests of the working people and constantly strives to satisfy their needs and requirements. The Soviet people are themselves moulding their lives and their future. They, by their own hands, built socialist society, defended it against numerous enemies, and are now fighting perseveringly for the triumph of Communism.

The Soviet people achieved their great victories under the leadership of the Communist Party and the Soviet state. The Party and the Soviet state ensured the working people of our country a life of joy and happiness, and are leading them to Communism. The activities of the Bolshevik Party and of its great leaders Lenin and Stalin serve the Soviet people as an example of devoted service to our Motherland, of fearlessness and self-sacrifice, of devotion to the interests of the people and ruthlessness towards their enemies, of service to the great cause of Communism. Soviet patriotism finds expression in the people's boundless love and confidence in the Bolshevik party and in Comrade Stalin.

In capitalist society, the bourgeoisie, under the flag of patriotism, cultivates nationalist and racial prejudices, enmity and contempt for other nations, in order to divert the working people of the different nations from the struggle for their common vital interests. Soviet patriotism abhors nationalistic prejudices.

In the Soviet Union, out of the ruins of the old bour-

geois nations, new, socialist nations have arisen and are developing, nations that are far more united than any bourgeois nation, for, as Comrade Stalin has observed, "they are exempt from the irreconcilable class antagonisms that corrode the bourgeois nations, and are far more representative of the whole people than any bourgeois nation."* These nations are developing not in mutual enmity, but in mutual cooperation. All the Soviet nations are conscious of their common interests and are ready to defend their united Soviet state against all enemies. Soviet patriotism strengthens the unity of the nations of the U.S.S.R.

Comrade Stalin says: "The strength of Soviet patriotism lies in the fact that it is based not on racial or nationalistic prejudices, but upon the profound devotion and loyalty of the people to their Soviet Motherland, on the fraternal cooperation of the working people of all the nations inhabiting our country. Soviet patriotism is a harmonious blend of the national traditions of the peoples and the common vital interests of all the working people of the Soviet Union. Soviet patriotism does not disunite but unites all the nations and nationalities inhabiting our country in a single fraternal family. This should be regarded as the basis of the indestructible and ever-growing friendship that exists among the peoples of the Soviet Union."**

The Soviet people's love for their socialist Motherland manifests itself in practical deeds. Soviet patriotism means the readiness of the Soviet people to exert all their strength and, if need be, to sacrifice their lives for the good of their Socialist Motherland, for the good of Communism. The Soviet patriot is an active fighter for the

* J. Stalin, *The National Question and Leninism*, Moscow 1950, p. 17.

** J. Stalin, *On the Great Patriotic War of the Soviet Union*, Moscow 1946, p. 165.

prosperity of his great Socialist Motherland, for the happiness of the people. Tens of millions of Soviet patriots are vigorously fighting to increase the might of our country and to achieve new victories in the building of Communism.

Soviet patriotism means boundless hatred towards the enemies of our socialist Motherland, valour in battle, and heroism at work. Love of their socialist Motherland and hatred towards its enemies imbued the Soviet people with invincible strength during the Great Patriotic War of 1941-1945. Soviet patriotism was the unquenchable spirit that engendered the heroism, courage and staunchness of the Soviet people at the front and in the rear in the stern days of the struggle against the German fascist invaders.

Soviet patriotism was also strikingly manifested in the heroic labours of the Soviet people in peacetime, in the period of the building of Socialism. In executing the prewar Stalin five-year plans, the Soviet people with unprecedented enthusiasm, bravely surmounting innumerable difficulties, erected factories, built railways and organized kolkhozes and sovkhozes in order to increase the might of their country and to build and consolidate the new socialist society. In the postwar period the Soviet people are working heroically to increase the might of their socialist Motherland and to ensure the victory of Communism.

The Soviet people are deeply conscious of the superiority of the socialist system over all other social systems and are legitimately proud of the fact that the first Soviet system in the world was set up in our country. But Soviet patriotism does not isolate our people from the working people of other countries; on the contrary, it calls for the strengthening of international solidarity of the working people. The peoples of the Soviet Union respect the rights and independence of the peoples of all

countries. They have always demonstrated, and do so now, their willingness to live in peace and friendship with all other peoples. This is what increases and strengthens the ties between our country and the freedom-loving peoples.

The Soviet people are living and fighting under the Lenin banner of internationalism. The Bolshevik Party teaches them to strengthen the international solidarity of the working people.

In 1913, in an article in *Pravda*, Lenin wrote: "To the old world, the world of national oppression, national strife, or national isolation, the workers oppose the new world of the unity of the working people of all nations, in which there is not a single privilege, not the slightest oppression of man by man."*

The Soviet Union relies not only on its own internal strength, but also on the support of the working people of all countries.

Comrade Stalin says: "The working class of the U.S.S.R. is part of the world proletariat, its vanguard; and our Republic is the cherished child of the world proletariat. There can be no doubt that had our working class not been supported by the working class in the capitalist countries it would not have been able to retain power; it would not have secured the conditions for socialist construction, and, hence, would not have achieved the successes that it has achieved. International ties between the working class of the U.S.S.R. and the workers of the capitalist countries; the fraternal alliance between the workers of the U.S.S.R. and the workers of all countries—this is one of the cornerstones of the strength and might of the Republic of Soviets."**

* V. I. Lenin, *Collected Works*, 4th Russ. ed., Vol. 19, p. 72.

** J. Stalin, *Report to the Seventeenth Congress of the C.P.S.U.(B.) on the Work of the Central Committee*, Moscow 1951, pp. 129-30.

The Soviet people are true to the spirit of internationalism, of international solidarity of the working people. By successfully building communist society they are bringing nearer the victory of the working class all over the world.

Soviet patriots are working strenuously for the benefit of their socialist Motherland, conscious of the fact that the successes achieved by the Soviet Union encourage the working class in other countries and strengthen its confidence in its own strength, confidence in its victory over capitalism. On the other hand, our brothers, the proletarians all over the world, are aware that the stronger the Soviet Union is, the stronger is the united socialist front that is fighting against the forces of imperialism for peace, democracy and Socialism.

The Soviet people are proud of the great services they have rendered mankind, surpassing any services rendered by any other people in previous history. The Soviet Union is the first genuine Motherland of the working people of all nationalities. It was of such a Motherland that the greatest thinkers of mankind have dreamed, it was to have such a Motherland that all the oppressed classes have fought for ages, and it is to have such a Motherland that the working class in all countries are fighting.

The Soviet people are proud of the fact that our socialist society serves as a model for the proletarians and all working people in the capitalist countries who are fighting for their emancipation, they are proud of the fact that the great victories of Socialism in the U.S.S.R. are inspiring the working people abroad to launch the assault on the capitalist system.

BRIEF SUMMARY

Soviet socialist society differs fundamentally from all exploiting societies. The capitalist system is based on the private ownership of the instruments and means of production and on the exploitation of man by man.

The Soviet system is based on the socialist ownership of the instruments and means of production. In the U.S.S.R., the exploiting classes and the exploitation of man by man have been abolished. In our country there are two forms of socialist ownership: state ownership and cooperative and kolkhoz ownership.

The predominance of socialist ownership makes it possible to develop the Soviet national economy according to a plan. In our country, the plan for the development of the national economy has the force of law. The state plans determine and direct the entire economic life of the Soviet Union. In our country there can be no anarchy of production, economic crises and unemployment. The advantages of the planned socialist system of economy, compared with the capitalist system, ensures a continuous and rapid growth of our national economy and improvement in the welfare of the working people.

In socialist society, it is the duty of every able-bodied citizen to work, in conformity with the principle: "He who does not work neither shall he eat." The Stalin Constitution guarantees every citizen of the U.S.S.R. the right to work. A man's position in Soviet society is de-

terminated by the work he does. Citizens of the U.S.S.R. who achieve great successes in their work enjoy fame and honour.

The absence of exploitation and the honour accorded to work in socialist society have engendered a new attitude towards work. Socialist emulation and the Stakhanov movement are an expression of the communist attitude towards work.

Soviet society consists of two friendly classes: workers and peasants—the intelligentsia coming from both. The identity of interests of the Soviet people and their solid support of the Soviet state and the Communist Party constitute the basis of the moral and political unity of Soviet socialist society.

Love for their Soviet socialist Motherland inspires the Soviet people to make self-sacrificing efforts at work and to perform heroic deeds. Vivifying Soviet patriotism is a powerful motive force of Soviet socialist society.