

# PROLETARIAN NEWS



WORKERS OF THE WORLD UNITE!  
YOU HAVE NOTHING TO LOSE BUT  
YOUR CHAINS! YOU HAVE A WORLD  
TO GAIN! — Karl Marx

A JOURNAL FOR THE WORKING CLASS

OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF THE PROLETARIAN PARTY OF AMERICA

Vol. XXIX, No. 2, Whole No. 315

Chicago, Ill., March, 1960

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Price 10c a Copy

## PRIVATE VERSUS SOCIAL INTERESTS

The conflict between the private and social sector of the economy is becoming daily more pronounced. This is evidenced by the current controversy referred to as the great debate. Such outstanding names as Walter Lippman and John Kenneth Galbraith, Harvard economist, are participants. These two are especially outspoken on the idea that too much of the national wealth is used up in private consumption and not enough on public services. The gist of the matter is summed up by one writer thusly: "There is something wrong with a country that has bigger and better tailfins at the same time that it has a second-best defense posture, a worsening slum problem, dirty rivers and streams, inadequate health services and wretched under-financing of education."

There is a growing apprehension that unless the people are ready to forego some immediate and personal consumption needs and pleasures and seriously undertake the more essential, non-personal or social needs America is in for defeat.

The contention since Sputnik is that the Soviet Union has demonstrated great progress and pace in missiles and space research, in science and education. Moreover, that leadership in those fields is rapidly falling out of America's hands. In the eyes of the world, watching the cold war in its process and development, it could very well mean that communism is more virile than capitalism, with greater inherent power and momentum. Such growing conviction, especially among the uncommitted nations, could well prove disastrous for Western capitalism. Add to above-mentioned already recorded achievements the economic threat, a gap which the Soviet Union is steadily narrowing down, and the picture is complete.

The decline and fall of capitalism by default, by being surpassed or bested in every major field of endeavor is a possibility which brings deep anxiety and fear to the minds and hearts of the men for whom capitalism had no peer. For now it is seriously being challenged by a newcomer for social hegemony. It is a contest between two systems in which social organization will determine the out-

come.

Capitalist defenders err when they attribute Soviet successes to its totalitarian economy. True it has a proletarian state, the dictatorship of the proletariat. True it has a centralized planned economy. But that is not the key. The underlying basis is the socialist character of the economy where private property and interest has been abolished and with it exploitation of labor. It is this classless arrangement—which places social need over individual profit—that lends unity to the nation, gives it a "national purpose" of a higher type. There is no conflict between private and social interest. The two interests are integrated into a unity for one class only—the working class.

If the workers under socialism limit themselves in consumer goods, i.e. their standard of living, to the furtherance of heavy industry and defense, i.e. the means of production, it is with the knowledge that in the end it will result in a greater abundance of products for consumption, or a very high standard of living. This they know and are willing to make the sacrifices for. They know they are investing in a future for themselves, for the benefit of everyone, the whole of society.

Not so with capitalism. Here the system is organized upon private property and self interest. The motive for production is not use or consumption but profit and accumulation. Profits are made thru exploiting workers. This results in continual class conflict over wages, hours and working conditions. The overriding law of capitalism is the creation and accumulation of profits or surplus-values, to use the Marxian terminology. Reacting to this strong profit urge they stop at nothing, graft, corruption, war. Even payola and quiz-rigging is basically a reflection of this general pattern.

In the battle of business competition each capitalist or property owner is primarily looking to his own enhancement. He tries to preserve as much of the profits wrung

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## CUBA AND RUSSIA

The recent visit of Soviet Deputy Premier Mikoyan to Cuba resulted in a trade treaty with terms very favorable to Cuba, who will receive from Russia a twelve year, \$100 million credit at the low 2.5 per cent rate of interest to be used in purchasing equipment, machinery and materials. The Soviet Union also contracted to buy one million tons of Cuban sugar yearly for the next five years at world market prices.

This was a great victory for the Soviet Union in the era of peaceful, competitive, coexistence with the capitalist world, toward winning over the neutral undeveloped countries, including the Latin-American. That it was so conceded, we gather from the shocked, frustrated anger of the U.S. capitalist ruling class, as, e.g., the Chicago Sun-Times, Feb. 16, editorial, headed, "Mikoyan's Trojan Horse," to wit:

"Vodka glasses must be clinking in the Kremlin over Deputy Prime Minister Mikoyan's slick trick in Cuba. Unfortunately, the self-congratulations are well justified. By binding Cuba to Russia in a long-term pact providing for extensive purchases of Cuban sugar and \$100,000,000 worth of credit for Cuba's depressed economy, Mikoyan has materially strengthened Russia's economic and ideological pipelines into the hemisphere.

"Where do we go from here? Condemn Prime Minister Castro (of Cuba) as an ingrate? He would snicker. Embargo U.S. purchases of Cuban sugar? Russia would increase its own purchases. Sit back and wait for Castro or the Cuban people to come to their senses? It could be a long, long wait. For the moment, at least, we seem to have Castro right where he wants us."

There is also fear expressed over the rumor of a Cuban-Russian arms deal (of jet-fighter planes) and Marguerite Higgins writes in Chicago Sun-Times, Feb. 15, that this "has created in Washington the same sense of shock that must, for instance, have prevailed in London five years ago when Egypt's President Gamal Abdel

Nasser announced his arms deal with the Soviet bloc." However, she maintains, there is little to be gained by the U.S. retaliating against Cuba; the State Department experts themselves pointing out that "Castro's deal has merely brought to attention the rapid, irreversible rise of extreme nationalism throughout Latin America—a rise that this country as a whole and Congress in particular has failed to face realistically."

She mentions some of the early "diplomatic mistakes" of the U.S. government, that of opposing such rising nationalism in India, Burma, Egypt, Iraq, etc., of attacking their neutralism, of taking the position that "those countries who aren't for us were against us." Since then, she states, the U.S. has conceded "India's right to non-alignment, including the right to invite Russia in to build dams and railroads," the result being less friction between India and the U.S.

She warns that economic retaliation against Cuba (such as discontinuing preferential treatment to Cuban sugar) could drive "Cuba deeper into Moscow's arms." She stated that "whatever Washington thinks of Castro, it does not think he is a Communist or that his government aims at a Soviet style dictatorship," but is under no illusion that Castro will turn pro-U.S. overnight.

President Eisenhower (who omitted Cuba from his Latin American tour) also stated it would be a mistake to attempt economic retaliation, and expressed concern for its adverse effect upon the Cuban people. However, he failed to mention the greatest concern of the American capitalists, over the effect it would have on their investments of close to one billion dollars in Cuba.

It so happens that ever since the overthrow of the dictatorial, Wall Street supported Batista regime, the Cuban government of Fidel Castro has instituted long overdue reforms, the lowering of rents for workers in the cities, the distribution of land to the poor farmers, etc. Cuba had been chained by U.S. imperial capitalists to a one crop, sugar economy (before the revolution) with the result that

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### NOTICE TO OUR READERS

We regret that we had to skip the February issue for lack of funds. However, we are thankful to those readers who helped with their contributions towards getting out this March issue of the Proletarian News.

## CUBA AND RUSSIA

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when prices declined, field hands and sugar workers became jobless. The Cuban government is aiming at a more balanced economy through confiscation and the division of the big landed estates. This has been denounced as "communism" by the U.S. reactionary capitalist press.

Some of the more liberal elements in the U.S. regret this reactionary attitude and are pointing out that it is not the way to make friends of the Cuban people. Marguerite Higgins attempts to solace the U.S. capitalist ruling class in her concluding paragraph, to wit:

"Besides, trade and aid is a sword that can cut two ways. It is often said that communism bleeds on poverty. There is plenty of poverty in Cuba. If Mikoyan and his bosses want to take the risk of improving Cuba's living standards (and thereby, presumably, helping

to eliminate the poverty on which communism thrives) whose purposes is he best serving?"

Here is our answer to the above: Definitely not the purpose of capitalism. The complete elimination of their poverty would require of the Cuban masses complete elimination of capitalist exploitation. Until that is done, the class struggle persists, the cause of all revolutionary movements. One thing is certain: Soviet-Cuban trade relations will build up good will between the two countries. That is the real way to make friends, not through exploiting, but through helping them. Furthermore, the Soviet Union's own economic and scientific progress is bound to convince not only the Cuban workers but also the toiling masses of the world, of the superiority of the communist system over the capitalist.

A.W.

## THE SWASTIKA RASH

A rash of swastikas broke out in the "democratic" sector of the world, notably Christian Western Germany and the United States, as the new year began. Swastikas were plastered on houses of worship, particularly on synagogues and on public buildings. The outbreak was compared to such crazes as rock 'n' roll, hula hoops and wall-writing such as "Kilroy was here" and the like. The swastika rash was attributed to juvenile delinquents, cranks, pranks and other innocent devils. The whole episode was taken lightly, but so, too, was Hitler and his gang, in its beginning. The rash hasn't spread any further, seemingly contained, yet it is well to question—Is Fascism dead?

The swastika is the emblem, the flag of fascism. Racial prejudices, intolerance, discrimination and hate are the beginnings of the journey that ends in gas chambers and crematories. There is a direct line running from racial prejudices to the death factories. Nazi Germany trod that path only a short time ago. Other nations can tread it and it is just possible for the reformed capitalist Germany to repeat.

The recent swastika rash strongly indicates the LATENT prejudices existing in the "civilized" minds in the self-styled democratic West. That it can happen here, in freedom loving America, is indicated by the ugly outrages created by men, women and children at Little Rock and elsewhere in respect to the Negroes. Racial bias is not innate, it is planted and cultivated in the minds of people by interested parties. And who are they? What is their motive?

Extreme nationalism and chauvinism is a product of capitalism. It is a social weapon in the hands of the ruling class. The indoctrination of nationalism is imparted

from infancy up. It is intensified in national crises. As in Germany, in the thirties and early forties, in the throes of a crisis, the forces of propaganda and communication, the schools, press, radio and even the pulpit, twisted the otherwise intelligent Germans to accept strict censorship, military discipline, mass murder and destruction for the glory of German capitalism. German capitalism conditioned the nation's mind to accept Nazism and its horrors at home and abroad. Capitalism egged its citizens on to "do their duty for the Fatherland."

The current unparalleled prosperity is surface deep. An inner feeling of insecurity and frustration is ticking away. All is not well. By comparison with past decades, the current standard of living with its shining cars, growth of home ownership and the like, people should be happy, but they are not. A feeling that it is all temporary prevails. The social climate is cloudy and uncertain. The swastika rash is symptomatic of that insecurity, the striking blindly for an answer. The capitalists may feel safe at such blind reactions but are they?

International tension has been with us since the early 1930's—the rise of Hitlerism, World War Two, the Communist Revolution in China, the Korean War and the Cold War between capitalism and growing communism. As if that isn't enough, the development of atom and hydrogen bombs threatens the very existence of humanity. The inner feeling of insecurity, the frustrations, lends itself to demagogic solutions and the swastika rash. Scape-goating is easier than hard thinking for genuine answers.

Superior and inferior race ideology is a product of class divisions in society. Propertied social orders breed such classifications as an

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out of the workers' hides as possible.

A part of it he individually consumes. Another, he reluctantly turns over to the government as taxes. Despite his knowledge of how useful and necessary the state is for the maintenance of the safety of the capitalist arrangement, of the necessity of roads and communications for business, of schools and education for a trained and literate worker, the feeling is that these are social expenses for the ultimate benefit of the capitalist class as a whole. This clashes with his immediate interest which digs into his pocket. Herein lies the reason for the constant gripe against higher taxes and circumvention. A good section of the capitalists is thus opposed to more government control and spending.

It is the conflict between the individual capitalist interest and the social interests of the capitalist class as a whole. This contradiction plus others serve as a check upon the development of the production forces that in the end must give way. Planning and concentrated activity is logically impossible under conditions of profit-production and class conflict.

If as Lippman and the others contend that the "trouble with American society is that we devote too much of our resources to increasing an already affluent level of private consumption, and too little to public services of all kinds," (N.Y. Times, Feb. 9) then it should be added, that there is no real solution to that problem other than what socialism can and is doing.

R. Daniels.

## A LOOK AROUND

PLAY ON WORDS: Word is going around about a nick-name for one of the experimental rockets now under test by the U.S. Government. The rocket's nick-name is "Civil Service" because it won't work, it can't be fired and it's costing the taxpayers a great deal of money.

THOSE YEARS AHEAD: Read an article in the local newspaper entitled, "Retirement Puzzle" and the sub-title read, "What If You Can't Afford Forced Rest?" Seems the lady in question had to count her pennies to the point she couldn't: 1—subscribe to magazines she once enjoyed. 2—stopped buying newspapers (even confessed to picking up a newspaper off a park bench). 3—gave up all her organization memberships because she couldn't afford the dues. 4—couldn't even afford to volunteer for charitable organization's work because of transportation costs. 5—couldn't do a thing for a week after taking an out-of-town friend on a boat ride around Manhattan with lunch thrown in for \$2.50.

upper, the propertied class, and a lower, the laboring class. Class hatred is an offspring of such division. Race, religious and national classifications are detours to get the suffering class, the lower orders off the track of the main issue and struggle. Racial bias has ever been used by a ruling class to divide and rule the lower class. It's an old trick and seems to work for periods.

No matter what the color of skin, shape of nose, religious belief, or national origin, men have a common anatomy, a common physiology, a common psychology. They have the same basic economic needs and are conditioned by environment. As Shakespeare had Shylock say in the Merchant of Venice: "Have not a Jew eyes? hath not a Jew hands, organs, dimensions, senses, affections, pas-

6—had to give up the theater (for which she said she lived) except when someone took her. 7—can't afford a TV set even though friends tell her it is a good substitute for all the other things she can no longer afford.

The list can go on and on to include such things as breakage of household effects, care of teeth, replacement of eye-glasses, etc., etc. . . . in short this retired teacher received a letter from the National Retired Teachers Association which stated in part: "Congratulations to you on your retirement and welcome to the years of your self-fulfillment with all their possibilities of rest and work, fun, service, and travel and the joys of your own garden and your own fireside."

This retired teacher is having a little trouble living up to the land of dreams described in the letter quoted above. Need we say more?

A GOOD BOOK: Now and then we are forced by sheer weight of value to quote a few lines from a

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sions? fed with the same food, hurt with the same weapons, subject to the same disease, healed by the same means, warmed and cooled by the same winter and summer, as a Christian is? If you prick us, do we not bleed? if you tickle us, do we not laugh? if you poison us, do we not die? and if you wrong us, shall we not revenge? If we are like you in the rest, we will resemble you in that."

Human behavior, regardless of skin color, shape of nose and other such trivialities is determined largely by social forces. The social setup is more influential than the characteristics of skin color and such in determining the way of life of peoples. Racial myths, fortified with violence and hate did not help Hitler and his gang to prevail. The neo-Hitlerites are destined for his same end. L.B.

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A Journal for the Working Class  
 Devoted to the Education of Workers and  
 Their Struggle for Power  
 Published by the  
 Proletarian Party of America  
 Subscriptions—12 issues for \$1.00  
 Send All Subscriptions, Contributions, Etc., to  
**PROLETARIAN NEWS**  
 333 W. North Avenue, Chicago 10, Illinois

### A Question of Security

What every worker desires most in life is economic security, i.e., a steady job with wages sufficient for the needs of himself and his family. Although he would like also the highest standard of living that is possible, nevertheless, he wants to be guaranteed at least the basic necessities of life: food, shelter and clothing. But can capitalism guarantee him such permanent security? It is our contention that capitalism cannot, because it is a system that exploits labor for profit, and is periodically hit by the economic crisis of overproduction. For further proof let us see how it functions today.

#### The Labor Market

The Department of Labor announced on Feb. 11th that employment dropped by 1,900,000 from December to a January total of 64,020,000 American workers holding jobs. Despite this drop, described as seasonal, the January total of employed was considered a "record" as compared to previous years. However, it was admitted that it included 266,000 workers from Alaska and Hawaii for the first time, otherwise the total employed would have been lower by that amount.

The Labor Department also reported that unemployment rose by 572,000 to a total of 4,149,000. This amounted to 5.2 per cent of the labor force, as compared to 6 per cent jobless a year ago. It was explained that the reason the rise in unemployment was not as large as the drop in employment was because many of those holding jobs in December did not look for work after losing them, e.g., such people as housewives and students. The Labor Department counts as unemployed only those who do not have a job but are still looking for one.

However, the report did not reveal the figures as to how many of the older unemployed workers stopped looking for jobs after becoming discouraged when employers refused to hire them, preferring younger workers. It is a well known fact that the unemployed workers, 45 years of age or over, find it difficult to get jobs because of this discriminatory practice by the employers. There is no economic security for them, especially after they have exhausted their unemployment compensation or savings. They have even been denied "county relief," the paupers' pittance, on the score that they are still "able-bodied" and should be "available for work" since they are not "totally disabled."

Unemployment is here to stay. Ever since the business recession of 1958 when estimates ran as high as 7 million unemployed, it never got under the 3 million jobless mark, even with the business pick-up of 1959. This did not worry the big capitalists; in fact they preferred to have a few millions unemployed, with which to use as a lever to keep down the wage demands of those workers still on the job.

As we note, the unemployed have now increased to 4,149,000 (the official figures). What are the chances of these jobless workers becoming rehired? Very poor indeed! Due to the rapid technological development, automation in industry, machines and electronic devices have taken their place. The battle of competition had compelled the capitalists to

cut their cost of production, especially the wages item, by continuing to replace men with machines. In so doing, they have created two kinds of surpluses: surplus labor (the jobless) and surplus products.

We recall how in the previous year the business pick-up resulted in an overproduction of commodities, particularly steel, thus again threatening a business slump. But then came the steel workers' strike in the summer of 1959. At first it was welcomed by the steel corporation capitalists, who saw in it a chance to do two things: 1st, to counter the wage demands of the workers, thereby weakening their union, and 2nd, to sell the surplus steel at a handsome profit through the "scarcity" created. However, when the strike reached its 116th day, the capitalists, fearful of the competitive imports of foreign steel, were eager to settle it. But, so were the workers, who by then had already exhausted their savings and were facing privation.

We also remember how the steel corporation capitalists complained about the "unfairness" of the strike settlement to them, of its possible inflationary effect in view of the wages being increased, and they threatened another rise in the price of steel. But, since then, the steel corporations have reaped a greater profit than ever before without raising the price of steel. So productive have been the workers that in one month alone, January, they produced over 12 million tons of steel, which was a record achievement. Steel production at present is at a high of around 95 per cent of capacity, and estimates of 70 million tons of steel for the first half of this year have been predicted. Thus, again, it is being produced faster than it can be sold. There is talk of curtailing production even before this month runs out. That would again mean the laying off of thousands of workers from their jobs. And now it will be labor's turn to complain: "how unfair!"

But overproduction has hit the whole of the nation's economy. The gross national product for 1959 was \$479 billion, and this year it is running at a higher rate, at \$510 billion. This makes some capitalists very happy, but dealers are complaining of unsold products, especially autos. Already there have been reports of cutbacks in the automobile industry, e.g., the General Motors' Buick division down to a 32-hour week. It won't be long before mass layoffs occur of auto workers, an unsavory phase of the "American way of life" that they had experienced many times before.

Capitalism cannot solve this problem of the recurring economic crisis of overproduction and its consequence: mass unemployment. The so-called present prosperity is being partly propped up by the annual expenditure of approximately \$40 billion for "defense" (the armed forces). Then there are the government's "public works," road-building, housing projects, etc., so reminiscent of the "WPA" of the Big Depression era of the 1930's. But this depression lasted around 10 years, in spite of all F.D.R.'s New Deal government efforts. It took World War Two to restore prosperity, with production for destruction during the war; and later, in the post-war period, reconstruction of the devastated economy of the capitalist nations involved in the war.

The United States was the most fortunate in escaping the destructive effects of the war and emerged the wealthiest capitalist nation in the world. She had enjoyed an unparalleled period of prosperity in her history, during the war and post-war years, a period lasting almost 20 years. This was bound to have its effect, especially on the "intellectual" defenders of capitalism (writers, professors, etc.) who now contend that this continuous prosperity has refuted the Marxist tenet of the recurring economic crisis of capitalism. However, they overlook or minimize the business recessions.

They also contend that the "well-fixed" American workers do not consider themselves as "exploited proletarians" but as members of the "middle class," and therefore will not respond to the Marxian rallying cry and solution viz., a revolutionary working class struggle to overthrow the capitalist ruling class, the taking over of the means of production under collective ownership through a working class State; the dictatorship of the proletariat.

However, the Marxists are quick to point out that American capitalism's 20 year period of so-called prosperity was just a brief moment of time, from the historical viewpoint. There is, of course, no denying that the American workers are not responding, as yet, to the Marxian revolutionary message. One must also admit that some of them are so "well fixed" that they have a "home with patio, two cars, and a swimming pool," and even the vast majority are getting by, "with 3 meals a day and a place to flop." Furthermore, the workers have been subjected to capitalism's coercive propaganda (a fitting caption for a satirical sketch), to wit: "Be loyal to your Boss, you never had it so good."

Nevertheless, once hit hard enough with the inevitable "boom, bust" periods of capitalism, especially like the big "bust" of the 1930's with its peak of 17 million jobless, the American workers are bound to respond and arrive at the same conclusion that the Russian and Chinese workers did: that any system that can't guarantee the masses real security, is only fit to be overthrown.

Of course, the capitalist ruling class does its utmost to prevent its revolutionary overthrow. One of the measures used is "feeding the hungry masses." Today it is highly systematized. But the so-called "social security" is really for the capitalists, security against a revolution. The retired aged workers trying to live off the pension that goes by that name soon discover that it was designed not so much to prolong their existence but to shorten it.

#### The Decline in Union Membership

Another method used by the capitalists goes by the name of "keeping labor in its place," aimed against all workers' organizations including the unions. As a result there has been a serious decline in total union membership, from 17,500,000 in 1956 to 17 million in 1958, a loss of 500,000 members. It's a fact that many members dropped out of the AFL-CIO and other unions when they became jobless and were not rehired because machines had taken their place. But the labor unions failed to make good the loss through organizing the unorganized, mainly because of capital's opposition. There was a revival of the old time practice of the employer firing any worker who attempts to organize his fellow workers in the open shops. Also the enforcement of capital's "right to work laws" was productive of many unfair labor practices against workers and their unions. But the picture of capitalism being in a prosperous enough position to grant working conditions and wages to the unorganized workers in some industries, comparable to those in a union shop, had more to do with keeping workers from forming or joining a union than any other factor.

Finally, the union leadership also is to blame for the decline. Not only the racketeering officials but the so-called "honest leaders," Meany, Reuther and Co. who have been cooperating with capitalism in expelling left-wing union members.

Nevertheless, slow as the workers' revolutionary movement is in the United States, changing conditions will favor its growth. To the left is the direction; to the day when the workers will wake up and get rid of all their misleaders and exploiters. —Al Wysocki.

## SCIENCE AND SOCIETY

In science, the idea is often firmly held that current knowledge takes the place of and supercedes all the knowledge of the past. While future discoveries may make present knowledge obsolete, for the present moment it is the best available. All that was useful in the earlier knowledge has been incorporated in the present knowledge, and what is omitted was the mistakes of ignorance.

Yet the history of science has shown that concrete relations exist between the advancement of science and society. The understanding of these relations will ultimately benefit society itself by making possible the maximum use of science and thereby increasing the material welfare of society as rapidly and as completely as possible.

What are the historical relationships which exist between science and society?

The Dialectical and Historical Materialism, which Marx founded, discovered that science had its humble beginnings in certain skills developed by early men in their attempts to control forces of nature, and to order their social life. These also were the general forms of the many attempts of man to solve specific social needs such as shelter, food, and transportation.

The step by step development of man's practical activity from the lower stages to higher stages, from the elementary to the advanced, from the one sided to the many sided was accompanied by an increasing knowledge of nature which was itself science. Science began when man attempted to test his theories of nature with practical activity. Thus, magic became transformed into science.

The aggregation of these productive forces forms the economic structure, the real basis on which the juridical and political superstructures are raised.

The definite forms of social consciousness also correspond to this basis on to the basis of earlier historical periods.

The method of production of material existence conditions the social, political and intellectual process of the life of society.

It is not the consciousness of human beings which determines their consciousness. At a certain stage of its development the material productive forces of society come into antagonism with the existing production relationships or with the property relationships within which they have hitherto developed.

From being forms of productive forces the productive relationships are transformed into fetters of those forces. Then follows the period of social revolutions. With the change of bases there occurs a transformation throughout the enormous super-structure.

In each epoch the level of natural science is determined in the last analysis, by the level of development of forces of production. However, natural science, being a part of the superstructure, is basically influenced by other parts of the superstructure, especially philosophy and religion, and at the same time exerts in its turn an influence on the development of the means of production. As a result of these reciprocal relations the history of natural science and its contemporary structure are extremely complicated.

Science differs from other professions in that it may not pay off immediately. A lawyer can plead or give a judgment, a doctor can cure, a minister can conduct marriage or give a spiritual consolation, an engineer can design a bridge or a washing machine—all are commodities and services which people are willing to pay for on the spot. Scientists, however, have had to find other means of support.

Very early in history, as early as in the Alexandria of Alexander the Great, science became a subsidized affair. Patrons, whether wealthy individuals, universities, corporations, or a department of state, perform the function

of providing the money on which the scientists must live and which will enable him to carry on his work. The patrons in return want to have a say in what is actually done, especially if the patron's ultimate object is commercial advantage or military success. Even if the patron is only operating from pure benevolence or in pursuit of prestige or advertisement, he will want spectacular results and yet results which are not too disturbing to his ideology or way of life.

Under capitalism the scientist must generally convince his patron that what he is working on will pay off. For capitalism the rejection of all but immediately useful science leads to useless gadgetry if not bombs, missiles and military production as the most advanced and utilized form of the science. Free medicine and education which ought to be the triumph of political science are regarded as impossible. Automation appears as the golden egg which threatens to rupture the capitalistic goose which lays it.

In Socialist societies today the function of the patrons is taken over by the organs of popular government at all levels, from the factory or farm laboratory to the academy institute, and the relation is drastically changed in the process.

In our days the Soviet Union, its peaceful policy, its great successes in the development of science and technology, and especially the Soviet cosmic rockets and artificial satellites orbiting around the Earth and the Sun are attracting general attention throughout the world. All progressive-minded people on our planet admire the unprecedented accomplishments of Soviet scientists.

This success has been achieved thanks to the socialist system. Under socialism there are no barriers to scientific progress to be found in the productive relations. Twenty-four years ago Konstantin Tsiolkovsky, the founder of Soviet space rocketry, wrote to the Central Committee of the Communist Party:

"All my life I have dreamed of using my efforts to help mankind make some little advance at least. Before the Revolution my dream could not come true. It was the October Revolution alone that brought recognition to my labor, which is that of a self-taught man.

"I give all my work in aviation, rocketry and interplanetary travel to the Bolshevik Party and the Soviet power, the genuine leaders of human cultural progress. I am confident that they will bring this work to a successful conclusion."

This wish of the scientist has come true. Soviet science is enriching mankind with more and more discoveries. Tsiolkovsky's great dream of interplanetary communication is increasingly close to realization.

This great success is due to the fact that a socialist government can and does take a long-term view; the work of scientists is recognized as intrinsically valuable. Their support and the furthering of their work is of prime importance on national and local budgets. In return the scientists are expected to understand their social responsibility, which is to co-operate in the plans for a better society, and so to order their work as to get the best results on both a long-term and short term basis.

The success of this plan is the triumph of mankind through socialism.

A. St. Maur

## A LOOK AROUND

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current book to prove a point. The book is "Inside the Khrushchev Era" by Giuseppe Boffa (published by Marzani & Munsell) and he says, among many other interesting things:

"The great advantage that socialism has is that it is a more rational system because it corresponds to the modern, complex methods of production that so imperatively require planning. Private enterprise cannot plan for the whole economy, and that is why, in wartime, capitalist governments must step in and do the overall planning and control of production. Socialist economies—with no crisis of production, no depressions, no recessions—can utilize resources to the greatest advantage

at all times. Even cost accounting can take place on a vaster scale with consequent economies, since industry as a whole is organized. Enterprises can be more specialized, because certain kinds of production can be concentrated and because co-operation can more easily be maintained between branches of industry. On the psychological level the Socialist system benefits from another great stimulus—the individual participation of its members, collective competition, the creative initiative of millions of people, all of whom have a direct stake in increasing the wealth of the community. This mass enterprise, substituted for private enterprise, is not only a privilege of the system but a necessity, and it guarantees its effective functioning." L.D.

The Proletarian Party of America, since its inception in 1920, has steadfastly pointed out the necessity of abolishing capitalism, the system that exploits labor, and replacing it with the new social system of collective ownership of the industry—mills, mines, railroads, factories and such—through the establishment of a working class State, the revolutionary political rule of the vast majority. We urge all the workers, who see the need for such a classless society of peace and plenty, to become members of the Proletarian Party.

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