THE SOVIET TRADE-UNIONS

During the Period of the Postwar Five-Year Plan

1951

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GREAT VICTORY OF THE SOVIET PEOPLE

The Soviet state, routing the German fascists and the Japanese imperialists, brought the Great Patriotic War to a victorious finish and returned to peaceful labour. The enterprises which worked for the front during the war were reconverted to produce machine tools, equipment, agricultural machines, implements and fertilizers, consumer goods. The output of these increased steadily.

The Soviet people, having emerged victorious in the deadly struggle against the fascist aggressors and having returned to peaceful labour, devoted all their energy to the rehabilitation of the national economy and to strengthening and further developing Socialism. All work in the country proceeded in accordance with Comrade Stalin's instructions on the immediate tasks of the Soviet state. "In the shortest possible time," said Comrade Stalin, "we must heal the wounds inflicted on our country by the enemy and restore the prewar level of development of the national economy, in order considerably to surpass this level in the nearest future, raise the material well-being of the peoples and still further strengthen the military and economic might of the Soviet state."

The Soviet people were confronted with the stupendous task of overcoming the dire effects of the war. The fascists had burnt and destroyed 1,710 Soviet towns and cities, more than 70,000 villages, over six million buildings. About 25 million men and women had become houseless. The Hitlerites had devastated important industrial and agricultural areas of the country, destroying the fruits of many years of strenuous labour on the part

of the Soviet people. Direct damages inflicted upon the country were estimated at 679,000 million rubles.

Under the circumstances any other state, not excepting the most developed, would have receded into the background and become a second-rate power. This, however, did not happen to the Soviet Union. The great Soviet people found sufficient strength and resources to heal the wounds caused by the war and bring about a further, powerful upswing in the national economy.

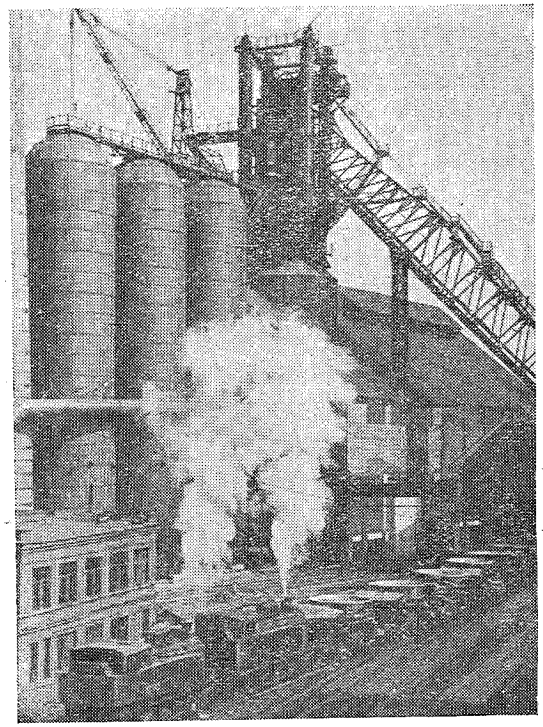
The transition of the Soviet Union from war to peace was not accompanied by the closing of mills and factories, curtailment of production and by unemployment as, for instance, in the U.S.A., Great Britain, Italy and other capitalist countries.

The Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R., adopted by the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. in March 1946, gave top priority to the rehabilitation and development of heavy industry and railway transport so as to ensure the successful restoration and development of the other branches of the country's national economy, the development of agriculture and the light industries, a rise in the material and cultural level of the Soviet people and further technological progress in all the branches of the national economy of the U.S.S.R.

In order to increase production and achieve a rise in the productivity of labour it was necessary to produce new, technically perfect machines and equipment, to mechanize still further all arduous and labour-consuming processes.

The Soviet people regarded the first postwar five-year plan as a plan of action fully answering their vital interests and were prepared, to a man, to bend their every effort in this grand program of creative labour. The country was swept by a wave of socialist emulation the aim of which was to fulfil the postwar five-year plan ahead of time.

In the Donets and the Moscow coal basins a movement began, on the initiative of hewers Lukichev and



A restored blast furnace at the Krivoi Rog Works

THE Soviet people, having successfully fulfilled the postwar five-year plan, scored new outstanding victories in the further development of the national economy in 1951, thus increasing the economic might of the Soviet state. The whole Soviet people rejoices in the remarkable achievements of the iron and steel workers who have considerably increased the output of metal. This year they will produce 2,700,000 tons of cast iron, 4,000,000 tons of steel and 3,000,000 tons of rolled goods in excess of 1950.

Boriskin, to speed up preparatory and rehabilitation mining work. A steelworker in Mariupol, Kucherin, led the emulation movement among steelworkers for increasing the output of open-hearth furnaces. Maria Volkova, a worker from the Orekhovo-Zuyevo Textile Mill, started the movement for higher labour productivity in her industry. The example of individual workers, men and women, was soon followed up by brigades, shifts, enterprises and whole professional groups. In the Ukraine emulation began among workers of the building industry. In the Urals an interregional emulation agreement was concluded among the working people of Sverdlovsk, Chelyabinsk and Molotov regions. Emulation among brigades, shops and plants grew into a countrywide emulation campaign for the fulfilment of the postwar Stalin five-year plan ahead of time.

In May 1946 the iron and steel workers of the Makeyevka plant proposed that a national emulation campaign be launched for the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the Stalin five-year plan. This patriotic initiative evoked enthusiastic response among the metallurgists of the entire country. The workers of metallurgical plants, iron ore and manganese mines and plants producing coke and fireproof material pledged themselves to fulfil the 1946 plan ahead of schedule.

The metallurgists were followed by miners, textile workers, railwaymen, workers of the automobile industry, oil workers, workers of the light industries and of other branches of the national economy, who gave concrete pledges in the emulation campaign for fulfilling and overfulfilling the great plan.

The labour enthusiasm of the masses ensured a high tempo of production and cut down the time set for the fulfilment of the plan's major tasks.

After the fascist invaders were ejected from the Ukraine the Zaporozhie Works, the pride of the iron and steel industry in the South, was nothing but a heap of ruins. The huge blast furnaces and the open-hearth furnaces had been blown up and the ruins of the shops were

overgrown with weeds. People were forced to live in cellars, pit-dwellings and shacks.

The selfless labour of Soviet men and women restored the Zaporozhie Works from the ruins in an incredibly short period. In 1950 the plant had already lost all resemblance to its former self. The equipment of its shops was far better than in prewar times.

Zaporozhie is well on its way to becoming a beautiful city. As a result of line production and all-round mechanization the rate of housing construction has considerably increased. The iron and steel workers, the workers and employees of the Dnieper Hydroelectric Station and other enterprises have moved into well-appointed apartments. The number of schools, hospitals, clubs and theatre houses and other cultural and welfare establishments is increasing rapidly.

The rehabilitation of the mines of the Donbas constitutes a major achievement. During the war the enemy destroyed 314 main mines in the Donets coal basin. The fascists flooded more than 2,000 kilometres of mines. Over 65 per cent of the housing facilities of the Donbas were destroyed. The rate of rehabilitation work in this region, the scale and scope of work done have no parallel. This work is a most striking demonstration of the power and the great advantages of the socialist system of economy.

The Donbas, rehabilitated, gives the country more coal than it did before the war, and its output is increasing steadily. The mines of the Donbas are larger, better equipped and more productive than before the war.

Rehabilitation work in the heroic city of Stalingrad also proceeded on a large scale. In a short period all prewar enterprises were again operating. Stalingrad is again a peacetime producer of tractors and high-grade steel, excavators, tug boats, derricks, etc.

The Soviet people worked not only to restore this world-famous city which has become a symbol of dauntless courage and will to victory, but to make it even more beautiful than it was before the war. In the first

several postwar years more than 900,000 square metres of dwelling space, 79 schools, 15 hospitals, 20 dispensaries, a theatre and several movie houses were built in the city.

The city's trade union organizations have at their disposal 25 clubs, 21 libraries and 183 Red Corners.

The rehabilitation of Stalingrad is the job of the whole Soviet people. From all the corners of the Soviet Union trainloads of building materials and equipment come to Stalingrad.

The Soviet people, bent on fulfilling the five-year plan ahead of time, worked with great patriotic fervour to increase the well-being of their Motherland.

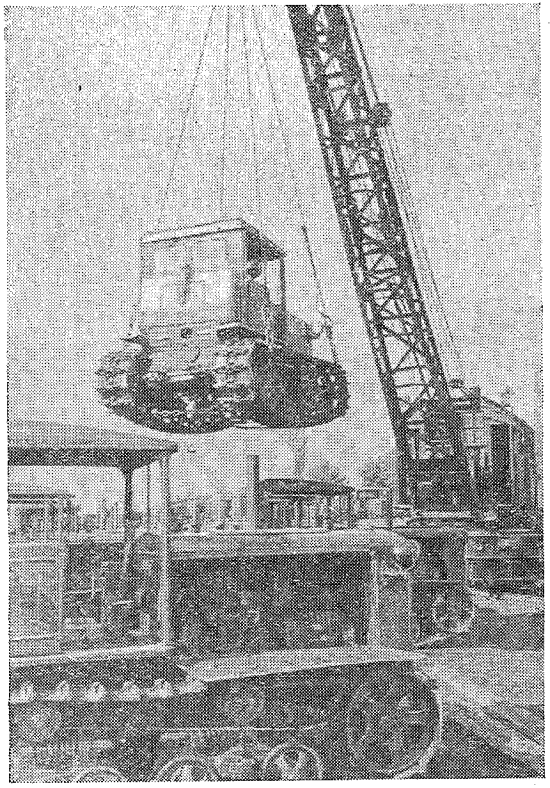
Socialist emulation, the Communist method of building Socialism on the basis of maximum activity on the part of millions of working people, was a powerful means of mobilizing the workers in the postwar five-year plan effort. It achieved great scope during the postwar years, embracing every branch of the national economy and becoming a truly nation-wide movement.

More than 90 per cent of the workers, the engineering and technical personnel and the employees are involved in the emulation movement. The working people of the Soviet country have shown what inexhaustible sources of energy are possessed by a victorious people, master of its own destiny.

The heroic labour of the Soviet people scored yet another victory. The industrial assignments of the plan were fulfilled ahead of schedule, in four years and three months. Under the plan the volume of industrial output in 1950, the last year of the plan, was to be 48 per cent greater than in the prewar year 1940. Actually, it was 73 per cent greater.

The major targets of the plan were considerably exceeded.

In the course of 1946-50, more than 6,000 industrial enterprises, not to mention small state, cooperative and kolkhoz enterprises, were rehabilitated or newly built and put into operation.



Tractors of the rehabilitated Stalingrad Plant

STALINGRAD ... the symbol of dauntless courage and the glory of Russian military strength. The whole country is taking part in the heroic city's rehabilitation. In a short space of time all the prewar enterprises have been rebuilt. Stalingrad is once again producing tractors, melting high-grade steel, building excavators, derricks and other machines and equipment.

The engineering industry overfulfilled its plan, its output being two-three times greater than in 1940.

New successes have been achieved this year. The results of work in the field of economic construction for the first ten months show that the 1951 plan for the national economy will be fulfilled and overfulfilled. Industrial output will be double that of 1940.

The all-round application of the latest achievements of modern technology and a further rise in the professional skill of the workers, as well as the improved organization of production have considerably increased the productivity of industrial labour. During the postwar five-year plan period the productivity of labour increased 37 per cent as against the prewar level and surpassed the target set by the plan.

Signal success was achieved in the field of agriculture. The cereal crop area increased more than 20 per cent. The total grain crop exceeded the prewar level, constituting during the last several years over 7,000 million poods per annum. The Soviet Union alone now produces more cotton than three famous cotton countries—India, Pakistan and Egypt.

The great Stalin plan for the remaking of nature is being steadily put into effect: trees have been sown and planted on an area of 1,350,000 hectares.

On the initiative of Comrade Stalin, ever mindful of the welfare of the socialist state, and the living standards of the Soviet people, construction was launched of the Kuibyshev and Stalingrad hydroelectric stations on the Volga and the Kakhovka hydroelectric station on the Dnieper, of the Main Turkmen, South-Ukrainian, North-Crimea and Volga-Don canals. In magnitude and rate of construction these works have no precedent. The targets set by government plans are being fulfilled ahead of schedule at all of the construction jobs.

Already in 1952 the first of these construction works, the Volga-Don shipping canal, will be put into commission. The canal will be the final link in connecting

in one water transportation system all the seas of the European part of the U.S.S.R.

Problems of great national-economic import will be solved when the construction of these grand hydrotechnical developments is completed. The new hydroelectric stations alone will yield 22,500 million kilowatt-hours per annum of cheap power which is almost equal to the annual capacity of Italy's electric stations. The extension of irrigated and watered lands will give on top of the existing annual output of raw cotton three million tons of this product, that is, approximately more than one-third of the average cotton yield in the U.S.A.; it will also give 500 million poods more wheat, 30 million poods more rice and six million tons more sugar beet. The number of cattle in these regions will increase by two million heads, and sheep—by nine million.

Whereas in capitalist countries production lines the pockets of a handful of profiteering exploiters, in the Soviet Union it is in the interests of the working people that the national economy is planned and developed. During the postwar five-year plan period the national income increased steadily, serving as a basis for an increase in the incomes of the factory and office workers and peasants.

In 1950 the national income increased 64 per cent as compared with 1940 instead of the 38 per cent envisaged by the five-year plan. In the Soviet Union the entire national income belongs to the working people. In 1950 the working people received 74 per cent of the national income for the satisfaction of their material and cultural requirements, and 26 per cent were used for the expansion of socialist production and for other state and public needs, that is, for and in the interests of the people.

In the course of 1947-50 prices of items of general consumption were reduced three times, and a fourth price reduction was carried out in March of this year.

There has never been—nor is there—unemployment in the Soviet Union. The number of factory and office

workers climbs steadily. In the course of 1946-50 this number was increased by 7,700,000. The incomes of the working people are increasing and so are state expenditures on cultural and welfare services.

Great progress was achieved in the development of Soviet science, culture and art, the most advanced in the world, the improvement of the medical, sanatorium and prophylactic services, the expansion of Soviet trade and of housing construction. All this furnishes indisputable proof of the fact that systematic bettering of the living standards of the working people is a law in the development of socialist society.

A most significant aspect of the successes scored in the postwar five-year period is the spiritual growth of Soviet people, their conscious and ardent attitude towards the common goal—building for Communism.

TRADE UNIONS INSPIRE LABOUR ENTHUSIASM IN THE MASSES

The Soviet trade unions inspired labour enthusiasm in the masses and led them on in fulfilling the Stalin five-year plan ahead of schedule.

The tasks of the trade union organizations in fulfilling the Five-Year Plan for the Rehabilitation and Development of the National Economy of the U.S.S.R. were defined by the Fifteenth Plenum of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions held in April 1946.

There is now no task more important and honourable for any trade union organization, the Plenum resolved, than the task of drawing all the workers, the engineering and technical personnel and the employees into the fulfilment of the new five-year plan on the basis of socialist emulation.

The Plenum called for active participation on the part of all men and women workers, the engineering and technical personnel, of all trade union members in the struggle for the fulfilment and overfulfilment of production plans, for raising the productivity of labour as a major means of the successful fulfilment of the five-year plan.

Large-scale work was begun by the trade unions dealing with the all-round mechanization of labour-consuming jobs, with the utilization of the machinery of plants reconverted to peacetime work to its utmost capacity, with the elimination of defects in labour and production organization and with the organization of work strictly according to schedule.

The trade unions set up Stakhanovite schools in shops and factories and disseminated the experience of advanced workers in order to improve the skill of qualified workmen and, especially, that of young cadres.

In compliance with the instructions of the Fifteenth Plenum of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions, the central committees of the trade unions worked out together with the respective Ministries new conditions of the all-Union socialist emulation campaign, initiated during the Patriotic War. These new conditions were: fulfilment and overfulfilment of the state plan, high quality of production, fulfilment of plan in respect to the raising of labour productivity and the cutting down of production costs, fulfilment of the plans of housing and cultural and welfare construction, observance of safety measures and improvement of the general welfare of the workers and office employees.

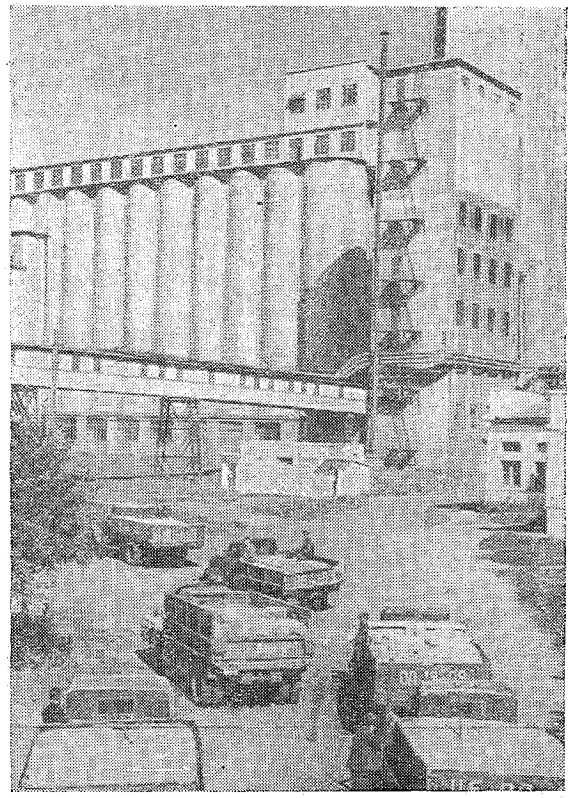
The central, regional, factory and other trade union committees acquainted every worker with the program of housing construction under the five-year plan and set up a public control system.

The Plenum mapped out a program of the development of sanatorium and cultural services for 1946-50. The Soviet Government assigned considerable sums for the construction and equipment of sanatoriums, rest homes, clubs, physical culture centres, Young Pioneer camps and libraries.

It is the job of the trade unions to see that the worker is well cared for, that his qualification is improved, that at his plant he has all the necessary safety guards, that all his housing, welfare and cultural requirements are satisfied.

TRADE UNIONS AND PRODUCTION TASKS

Soviet trade unions conducted extensive educational activities among the masses, rallying the workers, engineers, technicians and office employees for the successful completion of the Stalin postwar five-year plan. With the active support of trade union organizations



Deliveries of this year's grain

1951 will be a memorable year in the development of socialist agriculture. The kolkhozes and sovkhozes, which receive an increasing amount of up-to-date machinery from the state every year, have successfully coped with the harvest and given the country billions of poods of grain. In the course of the last several years the grain crop in the U.S.S.R. totalled 7,000 million poods.

different forms of socialist emulation became widespread; these included emulation among professional groups, the drive for excellent quality of output, for economy of raw materials and supplies in all operations, emulation for the mastery and better utilization of new equipment, for gaining the title of the best section, shop or factory.

In the Kuznetsk coal fields I. Golovin, renowned miner of the Tyrganskiye Uklony Colliery of the Prokopievsk Coal Trust, proposed to conduct the work involved in tunnelling the main drifts in eight cycles, and he successfully introduced his idea. As a result of the new organization of labour Golovin's brigade tunnelled in August 1950 as many as 381 linear metres of drifts with a section of nine square metres, while the quota called for 80 linear metres. This was a record performance for the Kuznetsk coal fields.

The initiative of this bold trail blazer was heartily supported at the other mines. Ninety-seven brigade leaders, engineers and technicians visited Golovin's pit. His brigade became a Stakhanov school for the study of high-speed tunnelling methods.

By the middle of November 1950, more than half of the tunnelling brigades of the Kemerovo Coal Trust were working according to Golovin's methods.

The movement for high-speed metal machining became widespread in the engineering industry. At machine-tool plants alone the number of workers using high-speed metal-cutting methods increased more than five times over in three years.

A movement for the application of Stakhanov methods of work on the scale of entire sections, shops and factories was started on the initiative of N. Rossiisky, senior foreman of the Kalibr Plant in Moscow, A. Vinokurov, senior foreman of the Stalin Auto Plant, and A. Borovikov, senior foreman of the Kirov Plant in Leningrad.

Emulation for attaining an average daily locomotive run of 500 and more kilometres, for accelerating

the freight turnover of the cars, for the repair of rolling stock by the train crews and economy of fuel assumed a large scale on the railways. More than 70 per cent of freight train locomotive engineers are now taking part in this emulation and one quarter of them already have reached the 500-kilometre daily run mark.

Socialist emulation for accelerating the pace of construction and for greater mechanization, for the improvement of quality and reduction of construction costs developed among workers of the building industry.

Highly productive methods of bricklaying which raise labour productivity two-three times were worked out and introduced by such innovators as P. Orlov, F. Shavlyugin, V. Korolyov, N. Olshanov, I. Rakhmanin and I. Shirkov.

An increase of labour productivity in plastering of 2-2.5 times was attained by I. Kutenkov as a result of the division of the work into separate operations and the employment of the latest machinery.

In light industry the emphasis in socialist emulation was on putting out goods of excellent quality, all-round economy of raw materials and higher production per unit of equipment.

A. Chutkikh, assistant foreman of the Krasnokholm Worsted Mill, initiated the movement for output of excellent quality which was rapidly taken up at all textile mills and in other industries.

Lydia Korabelnikova, head of a Komsomol brigade at the Paris Commune Shoe Factory in Moscow, and Fyodor Kuznetsov, senior foreman of a Moscow leather goods factory, were the first to propose a drive for economy of raw materials and supplies in all operations. This emulation was joined by factories and mills in all industries. Big quantities of output over and above plan were produced from the saved materials.

Last year 153 shoe, fur, harness and leather goods and felt factories produced articles worth more than 230 million rubles from materials saved as a result of this drive.

Hundreds of bold trail blazers have developed in every industry; these are advanced people whose labour exploits have gained glory for themselves and their plants, men and women whose deeds speak of lofty patriotism and devotion to the Socialist Motherland.

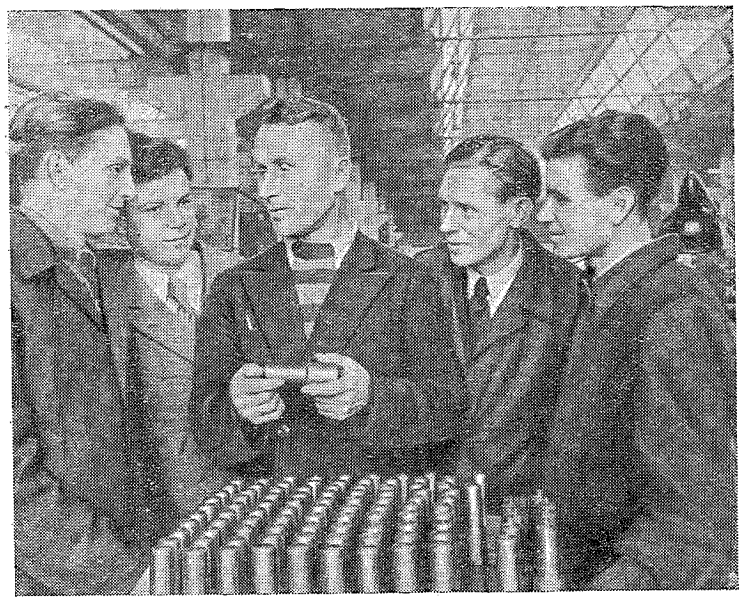
Factory and office trade union committees use different forms of encouragement in socialist emulation. The names of renowned workers, labour innovators, are inscribed on Honour Boards and Honour Rolls; they are given certificates of merit.

The personnel of factories, mills or mines who win first places in socialist emulation are presented Challenge Red Banners and awarded premiums.

The Bolshevik Party and the Soviet Government hold innovators in production, those who boldly introduce advanced methods of labour, in high regard. N.Kolupayev, chairman of the trade union committee at the Sinarsk Tube Mills, has been awarded a Stalin Prize for summarizing and popularizing the foremost Stakhanov methods of tubing production.

The trade union committee of this mill ably guides socialist emulation. On learning that Furmanchuk, a tube-drawing mill operator, who works under the same conditions as his shopmates, has attained high productivity and fine performance indices, the wages commission of the mill trade union committee, together with the shop management, studied the experience of this Stakhanovite and proposed that the mill management introduce his highly efficient methods. Furmanchuk's experience has been widely popularized, with the result that the other operators have raised their labour productivity 15-18 per cent.

Last year 455 production conferences were held in the main shops of the Sinarsk mill. A drive for rationalization proposals and their application sponsored by the trade union committee helped to perfect the technology of production. Hundreds of Stakhanov schools have been organized at the mill. Much has been done to popularize advanced Stakhanov methods of casting,



Stalin Prize winner Vasily Biryukov among a group of young workers whom he trains in high-speed methods

LIFE in the Soviet Union is daily replete with outstanding feats of labour. Every year the Soviet Government awards Stalin Prizes for exceptional achievement in the field of science, technology, literature and art. Among the recipients of these prizes, together with scientists and writers, engineers and inventors, are foremost workers and kolkhozniks. Vasily Biryukov, a turner at the Stalin Metal Works in Leningrad, is one of the outstanding innovators in production who have been awarded Stalin Prizes. Biryukov has elaborated a new geometrical design for cutters which greatly increased the speed of the processing of metal. These cutters are now used in many plants of the country.

rolling and welding and last year this enabled the mill's personnel to advance labour productivity 38.4 per cent above 1947.

Many plants throughout the country, working on orders for the grand construction projects of Communism, emulate to fill these orders ahead of schedule and on a high technical level.

Broader and deeper fellowship of Soviet scientists with workers in production is a significant recent development. While facilitating the introduction of the achievements of science in production, it enriches science with the experience and creative ideas of the vast army of trail blazers in industry, transport and agriculture.

Taking part in this mighty movement for closer cooperation between science and production are thousands of scientists from laboratories, institutes and higher educational establishments and engineers, technicians and foremost workers of the country's biggest factories and plants.

Here is what Savich, a milling-machine operator of the Kirov Plant, has to say on this score:

"Can you picture to yourself a worker in a capitalist country delivering lectures in a university or college? But in our country I, for example, have lectured three times on my methods of high-speed milling before students of the Technological and the Construction Engineering institutes. Many other Stakhanovites of our city have delivered lectures in institutions of higher learning.

"The fellowship of scientists, engineers and workers is unthinkable in capitalist countries, where the worker is not interested in promoting the enterprise owned by the capitalist. For us, Soviet workers, who are the owners of the enterprises, it is an indispensable condition for attaining technical progress.

"A big number of operations was to be changed over at once to high-speed milling in the tractor department of the Kirov Plant, where I work. For this purpose we

set up a big brigade in the shop which included workers, several engineers of the plant and Shcheglov, Docent of the Polytechnical Institute. Working in close cooperation, we were able in a short space of time to introduce high-speed milling in 75 operations. We succeeded in raising labour productivity five-six times over."

Pavel Bykov, renowned pioneer of high-speed turning of metal, rendered considerable help to Soviet scientists in solving the problem of superhigh-speed metal cutting.

"Professor V. A. Krivoukhov," says Pavel Bykov, "has asked me and my shopmate Boris Kulagin to deliver a lecture to the students of his institute about the new methods of high-speed metal cutting.

"The huge auditorium of the institute was filled to capacity. Besides the students there were instructors and professors in the audience. I spoke about the machining of steel with hard alloy cutting tools, and said that we Soviet turners can cut steel at speeds exceeding 1,000 metres per minute. Boris Kulagin described the machining of cast iron at high speeds.

"We saw how carefully the students were taking down our methodological principles and were happy that we were able to make this modest contribution to the advance of Soviet science."

The close bond and creative fellowship of workers of science and production is becoming the law of the swift technical progress of the Soviet Union. Such cooperation of scientists, workers, technicians and engineers signifies the effacing of the distinction between manual and mental labour and accelerates the triumphant advance of the Soviet Union towards Communism.

* * *

Collective agreements, concluded annually between the trade union committees and the managements of factories, mills and offices play a highly important part in trade union life.

In capitalist countries the interests of the parties to a collective agreement are antagonistic and irreconcilable. The capitalists strive to set up labour conditions advantageous for them and disadvantageous for the workers.

In the U.S.S.R. the interests of the workers and the interests of the socialist economy are identical. There can be no antagonism between them. In the Soviet Union the instruments and the means of production are public, socialist property, and cannot be used for the exploitation of man by man, for private profit. The Soviet state's policy is to ensure the steady advancement of the material and cultural standards of the working people on the basis of the development of the productive forces of Soviet society, of the development of the socialist economy.

The mutual obligations incorporated in Soviet collective agreements are designed to promote the successful fulfilment and overfulfilment of production programs; the realization of measures for improving the living conditions and cultural services enjoyed by Soviet workers and office employees.

In the postwar five-year plan period the collective agreements were an important means for rallying the creative activity of the broad masses for an early fulfilment of the state program, for completing the building of classless society and effecting the gradual transition from Socialism to Communism.

The adoption of collective bilateral agreements and the mass check-up of their fulfilment is done with the active participation of the working people. More than 1,200,000 people took part in the discussion at meetings and conferences which examined the draft collective agreements for 1950. The workers submitted a big number of proposals for raising productivity, improving labour conditions, mechanizing arduous and labour-consuming jobs and improving cultural and other services. Collective agreements provide for organizational and technical measures ensuring the successful fulfilment of production assign-

ments on a high standard as regards quality and assortment.

The collective agreements envisage also important measures for the building and repair of homes, of cultural and welfare institutions as well as children's institutions. Big funds are appropriated for these purposes.

To assure the carrying out of the obligations contained in collective agreements trade union committees in factories, mills and offices organize a mass check-up of their fulfilment every three months. The results are discussed at general meetings or conferences where reports of factory and office managers are made.

The results of the fulfilment of collective agreements are regularly examined at meetings of trade union central committees and of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions.

The collective agreement, covering all the aspects of the life of an enterprise, is the dynamo that powers trade union activity at the enterprises; it enhances the responsibility of the management and trade union organizations for improving labour conditions and the cultural and other services enjoyed by the workers and office employees.

TRADE UNIONS WORK TO IMPROVE LABOUR CONDITIONS

The Soviet state displays great concern for the further improvement of factory and office labour conditions.

The Soviet state stints no funds for ensuring perfect and healthy working conditions. State appropriations for labour protection and safety guards increase from year to year.

New industrial construction and the reconstruction of old enterprises, effected during the postwar five-year plan period, were based on the introduction of the most advanced achievements of engineering: mechanization and electrification of production processes, introduction of automatic machinery and chemical devices.

Technical progress in the U.S.S.R. leads to the ousting of arduous physical labour by highly efficient machinery. This is the reason why Scottish miners who visited the Donets coal fields, in telling their fellow workers who had sent them to the Soviet Union about their trip, spoke with such admiration of the fact that there is no hard manual labour in Soviet pits and that coal can be mined by machinery and not at the price of human sweat and blood, as is the case in capitalist countries.

The industrial re-equipment of the coal industry in recent years has made it possible to mechanize such labour-consuming jobs as the hewing, stripping and delivery of the coal in the face, as well as the underground haulage and the loading of the coal into rail cars.

The Soviet Government and Comrade Stalin personally manifest constant solicitude for the utmost lightening of the work of the miners and improving their living conditions. Whereas in capitalist countries the miners are the most downtrodden and neglected people, in the Soviet state they enjoy particular attention and honour.

Highly efficient automatized plants are being developed in the Soviet Union. At the automobile piston factory all processes, from the charging of aluminium bars into the bunkers of the melting furnace to the delivery of the finished product, are performed by automatic machinery. The automatic plant is serviced only by eight highly skilled job-setters. Here the labour of the worker is actually being turned into the labour of engineer and technician.

Collective agreements concluded between factory trade union committees and managements contain obligations covering a wide range of measures to render working conditions more healthful, such as the arrangement of ventilation, the installation, repair or reconstruction of safety guards, improvement of the lighting system, the provision and proper functioning of baths, showers, etc.

Trade union organizations have every opportunity for exercising effective control over the strict observance of the labour protection and safety regulations. They have a large body of public inspectors and labour protection commissions functioning at factory trade union committees. They strive for the constant improvement of working conditions, watch over the proper state of ventilation installations, the timely and adequate provision of work clothes. Trade union organizations take steps to prevent accidents in industry and occupational diseases. More than one million active trade unionists take part in drawing up safety and labour protection plans in industry and verifying the utilization of funds assigned by the Government for these purposes.

Soviet laws reflect the constant care of the state for improving the labour conditions, health and social security of factory and office workers. Soviet labour legislation is the most progressive in the world.

In capitalist countries laws are adopted to suit the interests of the exploiters and are drawn up by the industrial and financial magnates to enable them to rob the working people and amass huge profits. Progressive, genuinely democratic legislation is possible only in a country where the people, liberated from the oppression of the exploiters, are themselves at the helm of the state.

Soviet trade unions take an active hand in drawing up laws affecting production and the working and living conditions, and they tirelessly watch over the undeviating observance of these laws.

The trade unions strictly control the observance of laws on labour, working time, weekly day of rest, vacations, the protection of the labour of women and the youth. Trade union central committees have technical inspectors. These are engineers or technicians well familiar with the working conditions in a given industry. A technical inspector of a trade union central committee is vested with imposing powers. He has the right to demand that managements eliminate detected shortcomings

in labour protection and can institute court proceedings against violators of labour laws.

The Soviet Government has also set up a State Mining Technical Inspection Service and a Boiler Inspection Service. The State Sanitary Inspection Service controls the observance of established rules of industrial sanitation and hygienic standards and the general state of sanitation at enterprises.

Problems of labour protection and safety are being solved in the U.S.S.R. along scientific lines. The trade unions maintain a considerable part of the country's scientific research institutions working in the sphere of labour protection. Five institutes and 14 laboratories belonging to the trade unions are working on the improvement of safety and labour protection.

In postwar years these scientific institutions solved a number of important problems. The theoretical principles of industrial ventilation and the raising of aeria' curtains around persons working under high temperatures have been worked out, as well as problems of eliminating dust in various production processes, the rational system of lighting, etc., have been solved. Measures for combating occupational diseases elaborated by scientific institutions are being applied in industry on a wide scale.

Labour protection institutes and laboratories are rendering great help to industry. They have trained more than 10,000 labour protection workers for trade union organizations and industry.

An important part in improving labour protection and safety is held by the extensive popularization of the proper methods of work. It is the duty of factory managements to provide regular instruction on the job, acquainting the workers with the specific features of their machines, the rules of their operation and safety measures. Trade union organizations display much initiative in popularizing safe methods of work. Safety stands with posters and other visual aids and special literature are set up in the shops of factories and mills. Factory and

shop trade union committees arrange lectures on labour protection and safety and hold public reviews which help to draw active trade unionists and all workers into the work of ensuring healthy and safe labour conditions.

New Soviet-made machinery contributes to healthful working conditions. In view of the great expansion of the technical facilities of Soviet industry the technique of safety is constantly being perfected. Intricate blocking devices, powerful inflow-exhaust ventilation systems, aerial curtains, aerial showers and local air and temperature conditioning units are being installed at industrial establishments. The moistening of cotton and yarn with a special emulsion has been widely introduced in textile mills, and this has sharply reduced the amount of dust in the air.

V. I. Lenin predicted that in a socialist country technical progress will "create more hygienic labour conditions, it will relieve millions of workers of smoke, dust and filth and will accelerate the process of turning filthy abominable workshops into clean, bright laboratories worthy of man." This prediction has come true.

Trade unions in the U.S.S.R. consider it one of their paramount tasks to help the Communist Party and the Soviet Government in the further improvement of working conditions.

THE TRADE UNIONS AND STATE SOCIAL INSURANCE

Social insurance in the U.S.S.R. is one of the most important gains the working class achieved as a result of the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution. The Stalin Constitution guarantees Soviet citizens the right to rest and leisure, and maintenance in old age, and also in case of sickness and disability. Article 120 of the Constitution of the U.S.S.R. reads: "This right is ensured by the extensive development of social insurance of factory and office workers at state expense, free medical service for the working people and the provision of a

wide network of health resorts for the use of the working people."

In 1927, in his interview with the first American labour delegation to the U.S.S.R., Comrade Stalin said:

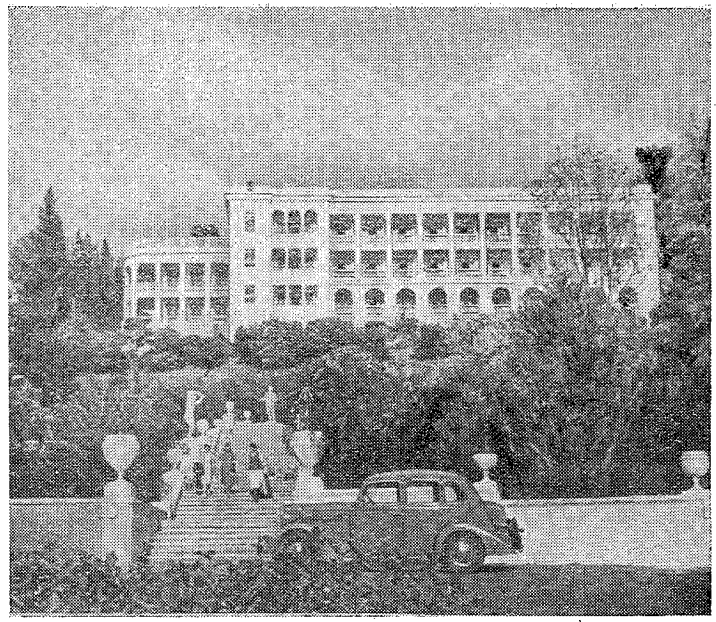
"...It will also be not superfluous to inform you that our workers in all branches of industry, besides their usual money wages, receive an additional amount, equal to about one third of their wages, for instance, welfare improvement, cultural needs, and so forth."

In the U.S.S.R. state social insurance is built up on a truly democratic basis. The state insurance fund is administered by the trade unions, which set up social insurance councils and shop committees right in the factories and offices, and the workers and office employees elect insurance delegates from among themselves.

The insurance councils, committees and delegates perform a very important public function. They strive to reduce sickness and accidents, supervise the medical services provided for the working people, visit the sick at their homes and render assistance when necessary, and see that the state social insurance funds are properly expended.

In conformity with Soviet law, factory and office workers are insured against all cases of disability. Out of the social insurance fund the trade union pays benefits in case of sickness or disablement, and also in case a worker has to stay away from his job to look after a sick member of his family. Sick benefit is paid from the first day of receipt of the sick certificate until the patient is able to resume work. The working people of the U.S.S.R. have no need to worry about old age thanks to state-paid old-age pensions.

A considerable part of the social insurance funds are paid out to mothers in the form of maternity benefit and nursery allowances. Soviet law provides mothers with up to 77 days maternity leave, with pay for the whole period, which comes out of the state social insurance fund.



Sanatorium for the textile workers in the city of Sochi on the Black Sea coast

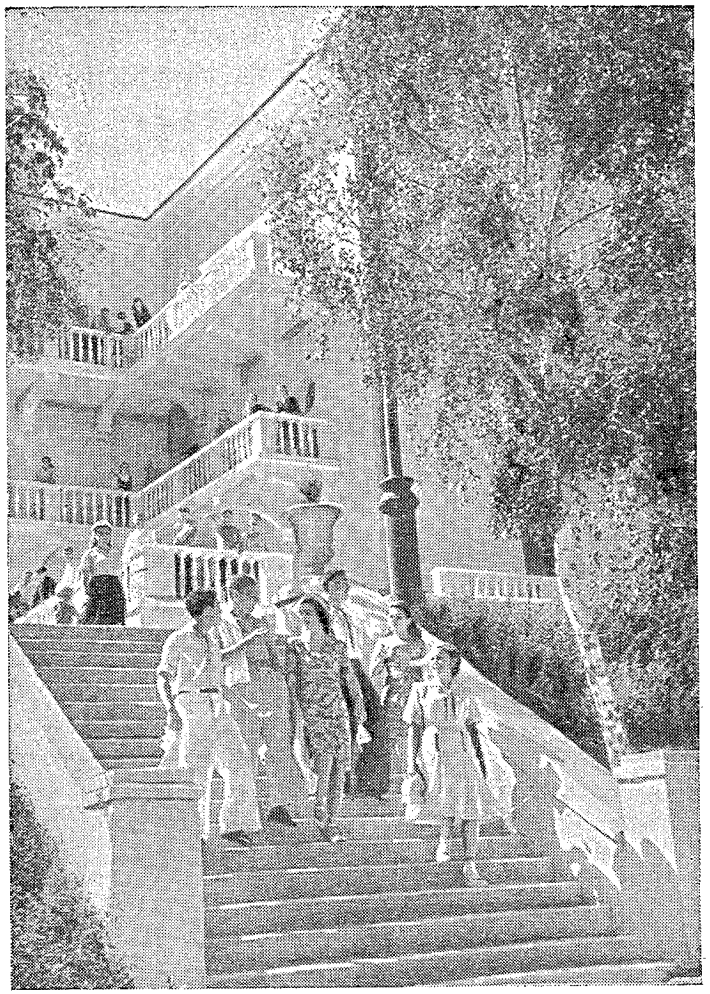
ENORMOUS attention is paid in the U.S.S.R. to the organization of the medical treatment and rest of the workers and office employees at the health resorts of the country. In the period of the postwar five-year plan the Soviet trade unions rebuilt all the sanatoriums and most of the rest homes destroyed by the German fascists. More than 7,000 million rubles were expended in the five-year period for the construction of health resort centres at the expense of the social insurance fund. This year they will service 200,000 persons more than they did in 1950.

The Soviet state surrounds the mother with constant care and attention. Motherhood in the Soviet Union is treated with the greatest respect and mothers of large families receive public recognition for the duties they perform in rearing our future citizens. During the five years that have passed since the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. issued its decree awarding titles of honour to mothers of large families, about 30,000 mothers have been awarded the title of Mother Heroine, and over 2,500,000 have been awarded the Glory of Motherhood Order or the Motherhood Medal. The allowances paid by the state to mothers of large families and unmarried mothers during the past five years amounted to the sum of 14,000 million rubles.

A popular feature of child life in the U.S.S.R. are the annual Young Pioneer camps organized in picturesque spots of the country at which all conditions are created for strengthening the children's health. There is scarcely a schoolchild who has not been at one of these camps during the summer vacation.

Here's an example of such a camp near the city of Molotov. It is situated in a pinewood and has bright and comfortable dormitories, a dining hall, a recreation club and a sports ground—everything necessary for a cultured and healthy holiday. At this camp over two thousand children of the employees of a plant in Molotov spend a merry summer every year.

The fee charged to parents who send their children to the camp amounts to less than a third of its total cost. Children whose fathers or mothers were killed or disabled in the Great Patriotic War, and children from large families, are sent to the camp free of charge. At the camp health-building measures are combined with pleasurable instruction. Excursions, music classes, children's libraries, and so forth, are organized, the entire cost being met out of the state social insurance fund. Thousands of such Young Pioneer camps are organized throughout the country. In 1950 alone, over 5,000,000 children spent their summer vacation at these camps. A considerable



The rest home of the Stalin Iron and Steel Works in Magnitogorsk

part of the cost of maintaining these camps is covered by the state social insurance fund.

Assignments for public health increase year after year. Every citizen of the U.S.S.R. knows that in case of sickness he is assured of treatment at medical centres and at home. The medical services in the U.S.S.R. are constantly expanding.

A gratifying feature is the reduction of mortality by 50 per cent and an even greater reduction of infant mortality compared with 1940, due to the improvement in the conditions of life of the people and to the successful operation of the Soviet medical services. For several years now, the net annual increase in the population has been greater than in 1940, amounting to over 3,000,000.

In capitalist countries the imperialist cannibals are busy inventing all sorts of "scientific" means of exterminating the best part of mankind and of reducing the birthrate. In the Soviet Union, however, the most valuable capital are the people, and the welfare and happiness of the people are the major concern of the state.

In the Soviet Union, unflagging attention is paid to the organization of health and holiday resorts for the working people. The trade unions have restored all the sanatoriums and most of the rest homes wrecked during the war; in addition, new ones have been built. The cost amounted to over 7,000 million rubles, and this was defrayed by the state social insurance fund.

Workers, office employees, engineers and technicians who need sanatorium treatment have no difficulty in obtaining it either free of charge or for a small fee. The subsidies paid by the state for this purpose amount to a very substantial sum. The trade unions provide places at sanatoriums and also at rest homes free of charge to disabled war veterans, to exemplary workers, and to expectant mothers.

Places at sanatoriums and rest homes are distributed by the social insurance council or by the trade union committee at each factory or office. When granting a place, the trade union organization is guided by the

opinion of the medical commission which examines the applicant, so that the most suitable place is provided.

It happens that the vacation of a person sent to a sanatorium at the expense of the state insurance fund is shorter than the period required for the course of treatment. In such cases, the medical commission issues a certificate which entitles the recipient to extended leave for the required period and to sick benefit for that period paid out of the state social insurance fund.

During the past five years the trade union organizations have sent about 9,000,000 people to trade union sanatoriums, rest homes and tourist and mountaineering camps. The trade unions also have one-day rest homes at which over 1,000,000 factory and office workers have stayed. Furthermore, during the same period, no less than 6,000,000 have stayed at sanatoriums and rest homes run by the public health authorities, economic organizations and administration offices.

The trade unions are systematically enlarging their network of health and holiday resorts. In 1951, the number of places available in sanatoriums and rest homes increased by more than ten thousand, with the result that they accommodated two hundred thousand more persons than they did last year.

The British labour delegation that came to the Soviet Union for the May Day celebrations in 1951 spoke highly of the Soviet sanatoriums.

During their visit to Sochi they stayed at the Red Moscow Sanatorium which belongs to the A.U.C.C.T.U., on whose invitation the delegation had come to the U.S.S.R. They inspected a textile workers' sanatorium and a coal miners' sanatorium. Sochi, they said, is a paradise for the workers.

Wilson, an English docker, said that his visit to Sochi helped him realize why the Soviet people so heartily cheer their government and their leader Comrade Stalin. Wilson saw ordinary workers resting in the miners' sanatorium—a regular palace. Even our king, said Wilson, would be pleased to rest in a palace like

this, adding that in his country the workers never rest in such palaces, for they did not have any.

State social insurance in the U.S.S.R. affords a striking illustration of the concern the Communist Party and the Soviet Government display for the working people.

TRADE UNION CONTROL OF HOUSING

The Soviet Government devotes constant care to the improvement of the housing conditions of the working people.

In the U.S.S.R. the building of dwelling houses went on even during the Great Patriotic War, but it assumed truly enormous dimensions in the postwar period.

In the course of the postwar five-year plan period the average rate of building was such that every minute a well-appointed three-room flat was ready for occupation in towns and industrial centres, and one cottage was ready in the rural districts. The total dwelling accommodation restored or newly built during the period amounted to a floor space of 100,000,000 square metres. In addition, 2,700,000 dwelling houses were built in the rural districts. The number of towns having motorbus, trolleybus and tramway services increased 80 per cent. Extensive work was done in the way of introducing gas for domestic purposes, of city improvement, and the planting of trees and gardens in cities. The towns and villages throughout the country are being improved and beautified every day.

The important successes achieved in housing are due to the new powerful machinery now being employed in the building industry, to the introduction of high-speed line production methods, the rational utilization of machinery and the extensive employment of improved methods invented by innovators.

An important factor has been the socialist emulation among the workers in the building industry that is or-



New apartment houses of the Stalinogorsk miners

THE Soviet Government has done a magnificent job in improving the housing conditions of the working people. In the period of the five-year plan new housing accommodation totalled 100,000,000 square metres of floor space in urban areas. In the villages 2,700,000 houses were built within the same period. In 1951 the workers and office employees are to get 27 million square metres of floor space in housing accommodations, while the kolkhozniks will move into 400,000 new houses.

ganized by the trade unions; this serves to accelerate building operations and to improve the quality of the work.

The trade unions supervise the execution of the housing and city improvement plans by the local authorities, see that the funds the state assigns for this purpose are properly expended, and check up on the quality of building and repair work. When houses are ready for occupation the trade unions take part in their inspection before they are handed over by the builders, and also in the distribution of the apartments. They regularly inspect the condition of dwelling houses and the operation of municipal public utilities and render help to people building houses privately. All this is an additional guarantee that the housing conditions and public services for the workers are kept satisfactory and are constantly improved.

This immense and diverse work is conducted by the housing and living-conditions subcommittees set up by the trade union committees in every factory and office. At the present time about 740,000 trade union members are active on such subcommittees, many of which have accumulated vast experience in this field.

The following description of the work of the subcommittee at the Molotov Automobile Plant in Gorky illustrates how this is done.

At this plant there is a group that supervises the building of dwelling houses and capital and current repairs, and inspects the living quarters of the plant's workers and the public utilities, such as the public baths, laundries, clothing and shoe repair shops, etc. The work of the subcommittee is carefully planned. The plans are drawn up every month and are discussed at meetings attended by other workers, engineers and technicians. This gives the subcommittee a better idea of what has to be done in the course of the month and how it is to be done. The subcommittee also calls regular meetings at which progress is reported on the fulfilment of building, repair and maintenance plans, and also on the storage and rational utilization of building materials. The trade union



In a Moscow bakery

THE output of food and consumer goods increases with each year.

committee at the plant devotes close attention to the improvement in the organization of building operations, to promoting socialist emulation among the builders and to the general introduction of the improved methods employed by the advanced workers.

* * *

The currency reform and the abolition of rationing carried out in December 1947, and the four price reductions in the postwar period, have greatly increased the purchasing power and the real wages of the factory and office workers.

This led to an immense expansion of Soviet trade. The following shows the increase in the sales of state and cooperative stores in 1950 over those of 1940 (the figures do not include sales of goods stocked from local sources): meat and meat products 38 per cent; fish products 51 per cent; butter 59 per cent; vegetable oil and other fats 67 per cent; sugar 35 per cent; confectionary 34 per cent; footwear 39 per cent; cotton, woollen, silk and linen fabrics 47 per cent; socks and stockings 39 per cent.

There was also an increase, as comparend with 1940, in the sales of cultural and domestic items as follows: clocks and watches by 230 per cent; radio sets 500 per cent; domestic electrical appliances 50 per cent; bicycles 190 per cent; sewing machines nearly 200 per cent; the sale of motorcycles increased 16-fold.

The trade unions exercise public supervision of shops, refreshment rooms and dining rooms, secure the elimination of defects in the work of the trading and public catering organizations, and see to it that customers are properly served.

This work is being done by hundreds of thousands of trade union members throughout the country, acting on workers' supply committees and auditing committees under the direction of the factory or office trade union committee. As a result, there is constant improvement in the work of the trade and public catering organizations.

CULTURAL WORK

In the Soviet Union the entire population is literate. In a short space of time an extensive network of schools and colleges was built up.

During the five years the number of pupils at elementary and secondary schools increased by 8,000,000. This year 2,720,000 students are attending colleges and technical schools, and in the 1951 term alone 463,000 young specialists graduated. At the present time there are in the Soviet Union, working in different branches of the national economy, over 5,000,000 specialists who have received a higher or secondary technical education, and an equal number of highly-skilled practical specialists who gained high skill at work and attended training courses after working hours.

During the postwar period there has been a further development in Soviet science, culture and art.

Soviet science is a great factor in the U.S.S.R.'s achievements. During the past few years Soviet scientists have solved a number of scientific problems of extreme importance for the country's economy and defence. In a number of branches of science, Soviet scientists occupy first place in the development of world science.

One of the most striking indications of the cultural progress of the Soviet Union is the efflorescence of literature and art, which, embodying the great ideas of Communism in concrete images, are a powerful means of educating the masses in the spirit of Communism, Soviet patriotism and internationalism. This year, as previous years, has witnessed the appearance of works of art and literature of high artistic merit depicting the great moral qualities of the Soviet people, their life and their efforts to increase still further the might of their Motherland, their struggle for peace and friendship among the nations, for the happiness of the people all over the world.

The noble aims of Soviet culture, the most advanced in the world, have nothing in common with decadent, misan-

thropic capitalist culture, which preaches race theories that recall the darkest days of the Middle Ages. Soviet culture is based on the lofty principles of equality and friendship among nations and is directed to the purpose of the communist education of the Soviet people. This explains why it is flourishing so splendidly in all the Republics of the Soviet Union.

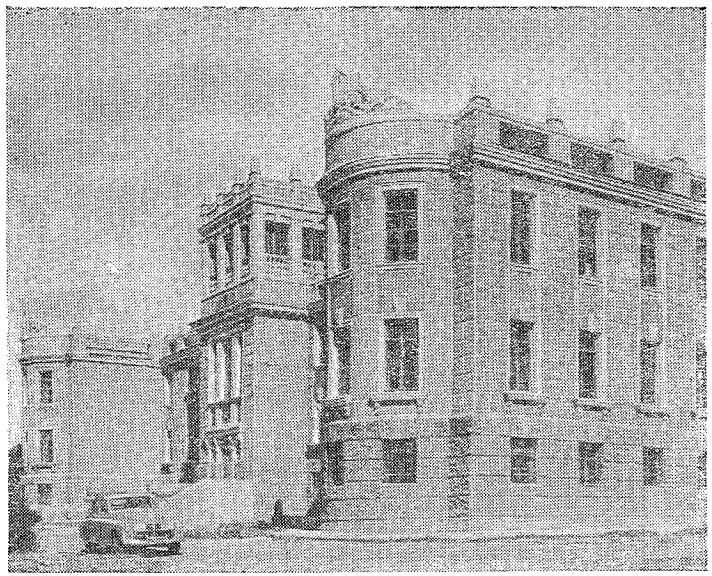
The trade unions in the U.S.S.R. perform immense work in raising the cultural level of the working people and in fostering their devotion to their Soviet Motherland and to the cause of Lenin and Stalin.

Important factors in this work are the trade union recreation clubs, houses and palaces of culture, Red Corners, and other cultural institutions.

Thanks to the enormous assistance received from the Bolshevik Party and the Soviet Government, the trade unions have been able in the postwar period to rehabilitate and enlarge their network of cultural institutions. At the present time the trade unions have over 8,000 recreation clubs and houses and palaces of culture, 9,500 lending libraries, over 80,000 Red Corners, about 1,500 recreation parks and gardens, and over 7,000 cinema installations. In the period of the postwar Stalin five-year plan about 600 new recreation clubs were built. In the past two years alone, 4,500 new lending libraries and 13,000 new Red Corners were opened.

Many of the trade union cultural institutions are important centres of mass political and cultural and educational work among factory and office workers, intellectuals and their families.

The Palace of Culture at the Chelyabinsk Tractor Plant, for example, is in itself a network of cultural institutions. It has a theatre, a concert hall, several lecture halls, recreation rooms, rooms for art and other circles, and classrooms. Over a thousand workers and office employees are members of dramatic circles, choirs, dance troupes, painting and sculpture circles, brass bands, folk-instrument orchestras, etc.



This Palace of Culture belongs to the Donbas miners

MINERS in the Soviet Union enjoy universal respect. The Government displays constant concern for the living standards of the miners and for the easing of their labour. In the last several years the coal industry was re-equipped and now such operations as hewing, stripping and bringing the coal to the face, as well as underground transportation and the loading of coal on the railways, have been mechanized. The construction of apartment houses and public and cultural buildings is proceeding apace in the coal cities and settlements. The miners become the owners of an increasing number of clubs and palaces of culture, libraries, reading rooms and gymnasiums.

The work of the trade union clubs and houses of culture is closely connected with production; they conduct extensive activities in spreading political, scientific and technical knowledge and render factory and office workers and intellectuals every assistance in raising their political and cultural level.

In 1949 a total of 2,500,000 lectures on diverse subjects were delivered in trade union clubs and houses and palaces of culture. In 1950, twice as many were delivered.

The managements of recreation clubs and houses and palaces of culture are assisted in their work by the voluntary efforts of a large body of active trade union members and the working people at large who are given wide scope for initiative.

Characteristic of the activities of the palaces of culture are those conducted at the Palace of Culture of the Kirovograd Copper Melting Plant in the Sverdlovsk Region. Regular lectures are arranged for those studying the history of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (Bolsheviks). Lectures are also delivered on the international situation, current politics, and on scientific and technical subjects. Special lectures are arranged on music and literature. The lectures are delivered by lecturers from the Sverdlov branch of the Society for the Dissemination of Political and Scientific Knowledge, and also by competent members of the staff. Many of the lectures are illustrated by films and concert performances. In many cases the subjects for lectures are proposed by workers at the plant. Careful preparations are made for the lectures, and charts, diagrams and exhibits appertaining to the subject are placed in the lecture hall. A popular feature are the monthly "vocal magazines," *News of Life* and *I Want To Know Everything*, consisting of articles, comments and other items read by their authors at meetings of "readers."

The rise of culture in the Soviet Union is vividly reflected in the mass circulation of books among the working people and in the unprecedented expansion of the

network of lending libraries. This is facilitated by the enormous editions in which books are published in the U.S.S.R. The total annual issue of books and pamphlets exceeds 600,000,000 copies. Throughout the country, over 7,000 newspapers are published with a total circulation of 31,000,000.

Books, magazines, newspapers, etc., are published in the languages of all the peoples of the U.S.S.R. This is a major achievement of the Soviet system. Every nationality in the U.S.S.R. is able to develop its culture in its own language. By 1947, the number of books printed in Russian had increased sevenfold over that of 1913, while the number printed in the languages of all the other peoples in the U.S.S.R. had increased 20-fold.

The great teachings of Marx, Engels, Lenin and Stalin have deeply permeated the masses of the people. The number of copies of the classics of Marxism-Leninism printed in the course of thirty years exceeds 736,000,000.

Since the Tenth Trade Union Congress was held, 15,000,000 books have been added to the stocks of the trade union lending libraries, and the total stock now amounts to about 50,000,000 books. The number of book borrowers increased by 2,000,000.

The trade union lending library at the Moscow Carburettor Plant, for example, has over 11,000 books, and books are borrowed by nearly all the workers at the plant. Last year the library issued over 20,000 books. The library staff is assisted by a group of twenty voluntary workers who keep the readers advised of the appearance of new books: fiction, politics, and scientific and technical subjects; they arrange book exhibitions and lectures on literature, have individual talks with readers, and in every way foster their love for books.

The lending library at the Kaluga Teachers' House renders great assistance to book readers in the city and in the rural districts of the Kaluga Region. Over 1,250 village schoolteachers are subscribers to the library and receive books by mail. It also has branch libraries in 108 schools in the Kaluga Region.

An important factor in the communist education of the working people by the trade unions is the cinema. During the five years, the number of people attending film shows in trade union recreation clubs increased by more than one third. In 1950, the trade union cinemas were attended by a total of 217,000,000 persons. In their trade union clubs and Red Corners, factory and office workers and members of their families see the best Soviet films depicting the life and peaceful labours of the Soviet people.

Another important means for the cultural education of the working people are the amateur art circles organized by the trade unions. Over 2,000,000 workers and office employees and members of their families take part in 114,000 amateur theatrical, singing, music, and other art circles. There are over 25,000 amateur theatrical companies and over 20,000 choirs at these trade union cultural institutions. In their spare time people of different ages and professions gladly participate in plays that depict the heroism of our times, depict the people who are building Communism.

Amateur art helps the Soviet people, particularly the younger generation, to raise their cultural level, to develop their artistic taste and talent. Last year these amateur art circles gave over 500,000 concert and theatrical performances, which were attended by over 100,000,000 people.

The all-Union review of the amateur art of factory and office workers held this year, 1951, was a revelation of the mighty efflorescence of artistic talent among the masses of the Soviet people, a striking demonstration of the diversity of their artistic interests and of the growth of the culture of the nationalities inhabiting the Soviet Union.

The trade unions are taking measures still further to improve the work of their cultural institutions with the aim of securing the fullest satisfaction of the cultural needs of the Soviet people.



The dance group of the Lenin Railwaymen's Club in Gomel (Byelorussia) performing the Byelorussian folk dance "Lyavonikha"

THE talents of the people are blossoming out in the Soviet Union. More than 2,000,000 Soviet workers, office employees and members of their families are associated with amateur circles. Amateur art raises the cultural level of the Soviet people and develops their artistic bents and tastes. In one single year these circles gave 600,000 performances to an audience of 100,000,000 spectators.

PHYSICAL CULTURE AND SPORT—AN IMPORTANT MEANS FOR THE COMMUNIST EDUCATION OF THE WORKING PEOPLE

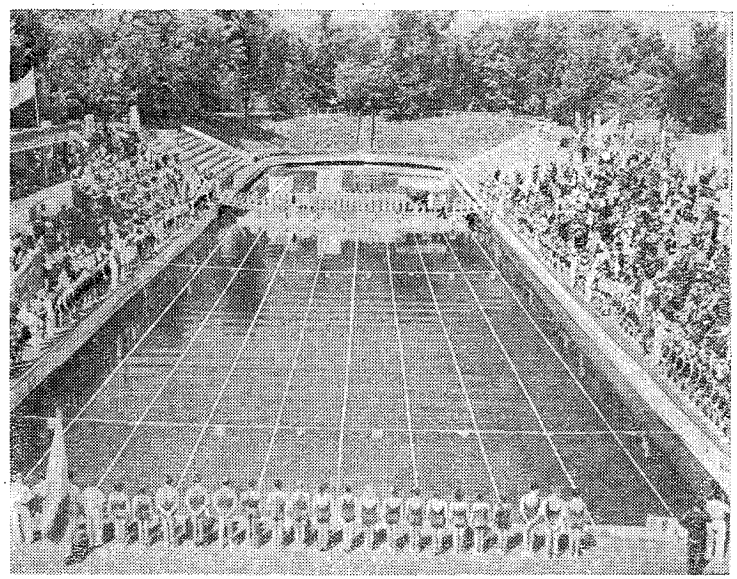
Physical culture and sport occupy an important place in the work of the trade unions. In the postwar period the physical culture movement has grown immensely throughout the country.

The Tenth Trade Union Congress called upon the trade unions to organize physical culture groups in all factories, machine and tractor stations, state farms and in educational establishments, to raise the sporting efficiency of the mass of physical culturists, and to enlarge the network of sports facilities.

The central, regional, factory and office trade union committees are now devoting increased attention to the physical training of factory and office workers and school and college students. In 1950, 8,430 new physical culture groups were organized in factories, machine and tractor stations, state farms, administration offices and educational establishments, and the total number of physical culturists increased by 1,120.000. During the year over 1,500,000 persons won their Ready for Labour and Defence Badge, and 420,000 sportsmen were given grades.

Important successes in raising physical culture and sport have been achieved, to give an example, at the Kharkov Transport Machine-Building Plant where thousands of factory and office workers are members of the Dzerzhinsky Sports Society. The athletic group at this plant has won a number of victories in city and republic competitions. Last year about 700 shop and plant competitions were held.

The physical culturists at the Militant State Farm in the Isil-Kul District, Omsk Region, work in the Stakhanov way. They excellently combine achievements in their work with high achievement in sports. For example, Ankudinov, a blacksmith at the farm, won the district



Aquatic sports station in Kiev

PHYSICAL culture and sports figure largely in the work of the Soviet trade unions. Last year 8,430 new physical culture groups were formed at enterprises and offices, machine and tractor stations, sovkhozes and educational establishments, with the result that 1,120,000 people were drawn into the physical culture movement. All in all, 7,000,000 workers and office employees took part in this year's sporting events. Trade union teams emerged victorious in several all-Union contests. Football, volleyball, swimming and many other forms of sport are highly popular in the Soviet Union.

ski championship, and tractor driver Sukhorukov came out on top in the shooting contests.

The trade union physical culture groups and sports societies have improved the organization of sports competitions: in 1949, 235,000 competitions were held, and last year there were 330,000; the number of participants rose from 5,300,000 to 7,000,000. Competitions among the trade unions in football, basketball, volleyball, gorodki (a variety of skittles) and other forms of sports, have assumed wider dimensions. Trade union teams have won leading places in Soviet Union championship competitions in field-and-track events, mountain skiing, skating, gymnastics and other forms of sport. During the past two years the A.U.C.C.T.U. roll of records was considerably augmented. In 1950, members of trade union sports societies topped trade union records 105 times, and all-Union records 73 times.

A great factor in the development of mass physical culture and sports is the work being done by the councils of the trade union sports societies and by the local trade union organizations in training physical culture cadres. During the past two years over 400,000 instructors, physical culture organizers, umpires and chairmen of physical culture groups went through special courses of training.

The state assigns large sums of money for building up sports facilities. In the postwar period numerous new stadiums, gymnasiums, swimming pools, etc., have been built. Tens of thousands of football, basketball, volleyball, gorodki and gymnastics grounds were levelled and fitted up by the physical culturists themselves, assisted by factory managements, and by trade union and Komsomol organizations.

Mass physical culture and sports have been greatly stimulated by the all-Union competitions organized by the A.U.C.C.T.U. in 1950 for the title of "Best Trade Union Physical Culture Group." About 14,000 groups took part in these competitions; many of them fulfilled their assignments for increasing membership and for training young people for the Ready for Labour and Defence Badge and grade sportsmen, ahead of schedule. The competition resulted in the award of the title "Best Trade Union Physical Culture Group" to 42 groups, and it gave a further impetus to the development of physical culture and sports among factory and office workers.

ORGANIZATIONAL MEASURES FOR CONSOLIDATING THE TRADE UNIONS

Soviet trade unions are rightly called a school of Communism. Underlying their work are the principles of educating, upbringing the masses, of drawing all the factory and office workers into the building of communist society.

In the postwar years the trade unions have been further consolidated organizationally, their membership has grown and the bonds of the trade union bodies with the broad masses have become stronger.

The number of factory and office workers engaged in the national economy of the U.S.S.R. increased considerably during the postwar five-year plan period. The ranks of trade union organizations grew correspondingly. At present the Soviet trade unions have more than 30 million members.

An important part in improving the organizational work of trade unions among the masses was played by the decisions of the Tenth Trade Union Congress held in April 1949, and the Constitution of the Trade Unions of the U.S.S.R. adopted at this Congress. The Constitution consolidates the broad democratic foundations upon which all the activities of trade union organizations are based.

The broad, consistently democratic nature of Soviet trade unions is expressed first and foremost in the fact that they unite on a voluntary basis workers and other employees of all trades, irrespective of race, nationality, sex or religious convictions.

Trade union bodies are elected by secret ballot, with the strict observance of the principles of democracy.

Reports and elections of factory, office, and shop committees and union group organizers have been held five times since the war ended. During this period regional, territorial and republican conferences and trade union conventions, where central committees gave an account of their work and were elected, have been held three times.

At election meetings held at the end of 1950, hundreds of thousands of trade union members took part in the discussion of the reports of their union bodies; they disclosed shortcomings, introduced valuable proposals for improving the work of trade union organizations and of enterprises.

More than 70,000 people took part in the discussion of reports of trade union committees of the primary organizations of the railwaymen's union.

In the case of the consumers' cooperative workers' union in Gorky Region, more than 20 per cent of the members who attended the meetings took part in the debate of the reports made by the trade union bodies.

Men and women from the workbench and office desk are elected to leading posts in trade union bodies. Spirin, the renowned milling machine operator, has been elected for the fourth time as union group organizer of a section in the second shipbuilding department of the Red Sormovo Plant. Spirin is known for his high labour productivity; he exceeds the production quota by more than 100 per cent. In his group every worker takes an active part in socialist emulation. The results of emulation are given all possible publicity: the production indices are posted up on a board and displayed in the wall newspaper after every shift. All workers steadily exceed their production quotas, employing high-speed metal cutting methods. On the initiative of Spirin veteran workers have taken patronage over the young workers and help them to raise their skill.

Belash, a Stakhanovite in the forge-shop of the Gomel Agricultural Machinery Plant, has been elected chairman of the trade union committee. In 1946 the workers elected

Belash as union group organizer and in 1948 he was entrusted with guiding the shop trade union committee. At the end of 1950 the workers chose him to head the plant's committee. There are tens of thousands of such trade union functionaries as Spirin and Belash.

Women comprise 42.8 per cent of the members of factory, mill and office trade union committees. About 70 per cent of the trade union committee members have a secondary or a higher education.

The trade unions rely in their work mainly on the body of active trade unionists, numbering more than 11,000,000 people.

Among the active trade unionists are Communists and people who are not members of the Communist Party, youth and the aged, Stakhanovites, and engineers, actors and teachers, students and physicians—representatives of the different trades and professions. Imbued with a lofty sense of public duty, they give their leisure hours to trade union activity, performing the duties of union group organizers, members of union committees and commissions, public labour protection inspectors, social insurance delegates, public controllers, members of the board of workers' clubs and mutual aid funds. While engaged in this work active trade unionists go through a school of public activity and acquire the ability to carry on organizational and educational work among the masses, and develop into important trade union, state and public leaders and business executives.

Union group organizers play an important role in the life of the primary trade union organizations. Elected in each brigade, and in each section of a factory or office, these union organizers help the shop, factory or office trade union committee in production work and spread their influence among all union members.

There are more than a million union group organizers at Soviet factories and offices. In the majority these are the foremost workers who set an example of a communist attitude to labour. At the same time they are

active in public affairs, are the initiators of valuable undertakings, the leaders in socialist emulation.

Trade union organizations strive to improve their work with the active trade unionists, further to strengthen the elected bodies and their commissions and to draw the rank-and-file into trade union activity on a large scale.

Effective aid to trade union organizations is rendered by regional, territorial and republican trade union councils, set up in the postwar years. They sponsor measures that involve different unions and direct the activities of cultural and sports institutions serving a number of unions, and pool the efforts of union organizations for the successful accomplishment of the tasks confronting them.

This organizational mass work of the trade unions is directed at strengthening trade union democracy and promoting the activity of the broad masses of union members who see in their union an organization close and dear to them, an organization that is accountable to them and is controlled by them.

THE PEACE WATCH

The Soviet Union invariably and steadfastly pursues a policy of peaceful cooperation with all the countries which desire such cooperation. The peaceful policy of the Soviet Union springs from the fundamental principles of the Soviet state social system and the interests of the Soviet people. The first decree to be signed by the great Lenin on that history-making night in November 1917 was a decree on peace. Ever since then the Soviet Union has been staunchly upholding the cause of peace.

The heroic exploit performed by the Soviet people in the Great Patriotic War will forever live in the memory of the nations. The Soviet people begrudged nothing for the defeat of the fascist invaders whose aggression presented a mortal menace to the freedom and independence of all peoples. By routing the fascist claimants to world

domination, the Soviet people freed mankind from the threat of enslavement and saved world civilization. Such is the inestimable service rendered by the Soviet people to all of mankind.

In the postwar years the Soviet people concentrated all their efforts and energies on peaceful constructive labour, on the consolidation of peace and friendship among the nations. The Soviet Union has no aggressive plans, it does not threaten any country or any people. The armed forces of the Soviet Union are not waging war anywhere. The peoples of the Soviet Union are working on grand tasks of peaceful communist construction.

The entire Soviet people ardently responded to the Stockholm Appeal for banning the atomic weapon and declaring as a war criminal the government that will first use this weapon of aggression and mass destruction.

Soviet men and women unanimously signed the Stockholm Appeal, once more demonstrating to the whole world their deep-rooted love for peace and staunch striving for peaceful cooperation with all the nations.

The peace policy of the Soviet Government is ardently approved by all the peoples of the U.S.S.R. because their interests are at one and are inseverably bound up with the interests of the socialist state.

The Peace Defence Act adopted by the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. in March 1951 is an irrefutable proof of the peace-loving nature of the foreign policy of the Soviet country, its unswerving resolve to pursue its policy of preventing war and preserving peace. By declaring war propaganda to be the gravest crime against humanity, the Peace Defence Act convincingly showed that the policy of the Soviet Union is in accord with the vital interests of all peoples fighting for lasting world peace.

Of late the pace of war preparations in the camp of the imperialists has been intensified. The United States expands in every way the aggressive Atlantic bloc, drawing into it by pressure, threat and bribe new countries, including those that are in no way connected geographic-

ally with the Atlantic zone; it sets up military bases in all parts of the world and feverishly boosts the production of all kinds of weapons and hunts for cannon fodder in all corners of the globe.

The United States of America is openly re-establishing two hotbeds of war—in the West, in Germany, and in the East, in Japan—whose destruction in the late war took a toll of millions of lives on the part of the freedom-loving peoples and demanded of them colossal material sacrifices and incredible suffering.

The Soviet people fight persistently for peace, not only because they do not want war, but also because the most just social system built up in the U.S.S.R. on the principles of Lenin and Stalin regards war as the gravest of crimes against humanity, the greatest calamity for the common people of the world. But if the imperialist pirates construe the Soviet people's love for peace as their weakness, a still more disgraceful failure is in store for them than the one sustained by their predecessors in military venture directed against the Soviet state.

Soviet trade unions fully support the Stalin peace-loving policy of the Soviet Union and help the Soviet state and the Bolshevik Party to uphold the cause of peace.

Taking an active part in the work of the World Federation of Trade Unions, this militant international organization of the working class of all countries, the trade unions of the Land of Soviets concentrate their efforts on the utmost consolidation of the unity of the world trade union movement, on the struggle against the imperialist warmakers, in the name of freedom, democracy and a better future for all working mankind.

The World Federation of Trade Unions is growing in size and strength, scoring fresh victories in the struggle for the unity of the working people of all countries notwithstanding the sabotage and undermining work of the enemies of working-class unity, the Anglo-American trade union splitters who on orders from Washington tried to break up the Federation and are doing everything to disunite the working class in order to disrupt the successful activities of the peace supporters.

Soviet trade unions have always been and will be a reliable mainstay of the World Federation of Trade Unions in its struggle against world reaction, against the instigators of another war.

Trade unions in the U.S.S.R. extend constantly their international ties with trade unions in other countries and are actively exposing the anti-Soviet lies and slander spread by the American-British imperialists and their agents.

An increasing number of workers' and trade union delegations from Eastern and Western countries visit the Soviet Union. Foreign trade union delegations are usually made up of people of different political and religious convictions. They represent the most diverse trade unions: metallurgists', miners', railwaymen's, engineering workers', textile workers', automobile workers', teachers', etc.

During their stay in the Soviet Union, workers and trade union delegations of foreign countries acquaint themselves with the labour and living conditions of Soviet workers, with the structure and activities of Soviet trade unions. They visit industrial enterprises, kolkhozes, construction sites, schools and higher educational establishments, theatres, museums, clubs, kindergartens and nurseries, workers' flats, rest homes and sanatoriums.

On returning home, they tell their fellow workers the truth about the epoch-making victories of the Soviet people and the building of the new, socialist life.

Alongside with delegations of working people in capitalist countries, delegations of workers, peasants and intellectuals from the friendly People's Democracies come to the U.S.S.R.

The successes of the peoples of the U.S.S.R. serve as an inspiring example for the working folk of the People's Democracies in Europe and Asia. The peoples of the New Democracies, the great Chinese people, who have wrested their destiny from the hands of imperialist enslavers, are successfully building, with the fraternal help of the

peoples of the U.S.S.R., their socialist economy and culture, are raising the living standard of the working masses.

The working folk of the People's Democracies are studying the rich and multi-sided experience of the Soviet people in order to apply it in their own lands. The Soviet men and women, brought up by the Party of Lenin and Stalin in the spirit of proletarian internationalism, share, in a fraternal way, the experience they have accumulated, helping the People's Democracies to traverse in the shortest possible time the path blazed by the Soviet people at the cost of tremendous effort and sacrifice.

The consolidation of friendly relations between the working people of the Soviet Union and foreign countries is facilitated by trips of Soviet trade union delegations abroad. The number of such visits is growing every year.

Soviet trade unions ardently supported the decisions of the plenary meeting of the Soviet Peace Committee to collect in the U.S.S.R. signatures to the Appeal of the World Peace Council for the conclusion of a Peace Pact between the five Great Powers.

Conferences of peace supporters have been held in all republics, territories and regions of the Soviet Union; local peace committees, and delegates to the Third U.S.S.R. Peace Conference have been chosen. Representatives of trade unions take an active part in the work of the peace committees and the local committees set up at all enterprises to assist them.

Expressing the thoughts and aspirations of the Soviet working people, the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions has issued a call urging all trade union members, all men and women workers, engineering and technical personnel, intellectuals and office employees of the Soviet Union to take an active part in the drive for signatures to the Peace Pact Appeal.

The Soviet people have once again raised their voice in defence of universal peace, have again demonstrated their unbending resolve to foil the criminal plans of the instigators of a new world war.

"We are against war, we oppose it with all our feelings, thoughts and deeds," declared I. Turtanov, senior foreman, at a meeting of workers in the Sickle and Hammer Steel Mill of Moscow. "No other country, no other nation, has suffered as much as the Soviet people. We have defended our socialist state in two hard wars imposed on us by the imperialists, these enemies of peace and democracy. War brings the peoples death and destruction, but we are for life, for the happiness of our children."

"We Soviet people say: war shall not be!" This statement was made by Deputy of the Supreme Soviet of the U.S.S.R. M. Materikova, a woman weaver of the Rabochy Textile Mill in Leningrad, on signing the Peace Pact Appeal. "The personnel of our mill is on a Peace Watch. Every day we turn out thousands of metres of fabrics over and above plan. This is our contribution to the cause of peace, this is our answer to the warmongers. Our labour asserts peace, and we will uphold it!"

The Soviet people exert greater efforts on their job, they strive to work still better, more productively in order to avert war and strengthen peace. They know that their selfless work strengthens the might of their Socialist Motherland, the reliable bulwark of world peace. That is why the campaign for signatures to the Appeal of the World Peace Council has aroused a fresh powerful labour upsurge in the Soviet Land. Millions of Soviet men and women reinforce their signatures to the Appeal by fervent Stakhanov labour.

It is with exceedingly high enthusiasm that the personnel of enterprises work these days on orders for the grand construction projects of Communism. Stakhanovites of the Urals Hydraulic Machinery Plant are daily manufacturing above plan hundreds of parts for powerful pumps which are being shipped to the Volga-Don Canal. Factories of Kiev are filling orders for the great projects ahead of schedule. Every Soviet working man tries to do his bit in the struggle for peace.

The powerful peace movement is called upon to torpedo the aggressive plans of the American-British imperialists, to prevent the warmongers from enmeshing the popular masses in a web of lies and inveigling them into another world war.

Peace!

This word lives on the lips of all Soviet men and women. By October 10, 1951, the Appeal for a Five-Power Peace Pact was signed by 96,729,946 Soviet citizens. The collection of signatures is still under way.

In their speeches at conferences, meetings and rallies Soviet people ardently approve the peace policy of the Soviet Government, they brand the American-British imperialists who are seeking to start another world war, they demand that an end be put to American intervention in Korea and resolutely oppose the remilitarization of Western Germany and Japan.

The successful collection of signatures in the Soviet Union to the World Peace Council's Appeal is a powerful demonstration of the moral and political unity of the Soviet people, of their devotion to the Bolshevik Party and the Soviet Government, to the great standard-bearer of peace Comrade Stalin.

Fully conscious of their strength and the correctness of the path they follow, the Soviet people are going on with their great constructive work with calm confidence and faith in the future. No force in the world can halt the victorious advance of the Soviet people to the final triumph of Communism.